

WYKON Monthly

FEBRUARY 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4: Sophomore tours @ Bay College/Tech Center
March 12: Freshmen orientation at 5:30 PM (current 8th graders)
March 12: Incoming Junior and Senior course selections
March 14: Espanolandia @ NMU
March 25-April 1: Spring Break



WINTER FORMAL PEP RALLY

The winter Homecoming pep rally was hosted on Friday, February 16th, during 7th hour. To start, we introduced our varsity basketball players via our homecoming video. Beginning with games, students first performed balloon poppers. Eight students and one teacher participated. With a balloon tied around an ankle, their goal was to pop others' balloons while keeping theirs intact. Quite a show!

The second game was a relay where each grade had a team of two. The first step was to put a baseball bat on your forehead and spin five times. Dizzily running to an open box, students put themselves through as quickly as possible. Next, they rush to the plungers. Using them to pull their bodies along the floor, they then approach a chair that they run around five times. Finally, they attempt a layup. Once they've sunk the hoop, they run to tag their partner on the opposite side of the gym.

The third game was Chicken in the Hen House. Two kids from each grade participate as partners. As the partners gather at center court and walk counterclockwise of each other, the announcer calls a position for the partners to recreate.

The final game was the hamster ball. Two students were chosen for each round to get into the hamster ball and knock down his or her opponent to win.

To end our assembly, the student body stood to sing our Wykon Fight song.



CURRENT Events



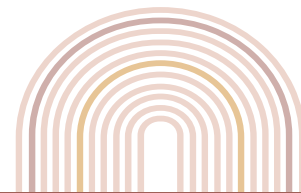
WINTER FORMAL DANCE

The Homecoming dance took place at the elementary school on Friday the 16th from 8:00-10:30 p.m. Most of the high school students attended, wearing their best dresses and attire. The dance allowed everyone to come together and enjoy a night together. Everyone was dancing, talking, laughing, and singing all night.

Our Homecoming attendants were announced halfway through the dance. The elementary princess and prince were **Eliza Rummelhoff** and **Isaiah Parker**. Our freshmen attendants were **Luella Lutes** and **Blayze Schueler**. Sophomore attendants were **Destiny Lemery** and **Leroy Olson**. Junior attendants were **Willow Kobriger** and **Randy Kroeger**. Senior attendants were **Lauren Shamion**, **Ethan Isaacson**, **Zoey Harris**, and **Andrew Spanos**. Our queen and king for our winter Homecoming were **Lauren Shamion** and **Ethan Isaacson**.

After dancing and having a good time, everyone began to gather their belongings and head out for the night.





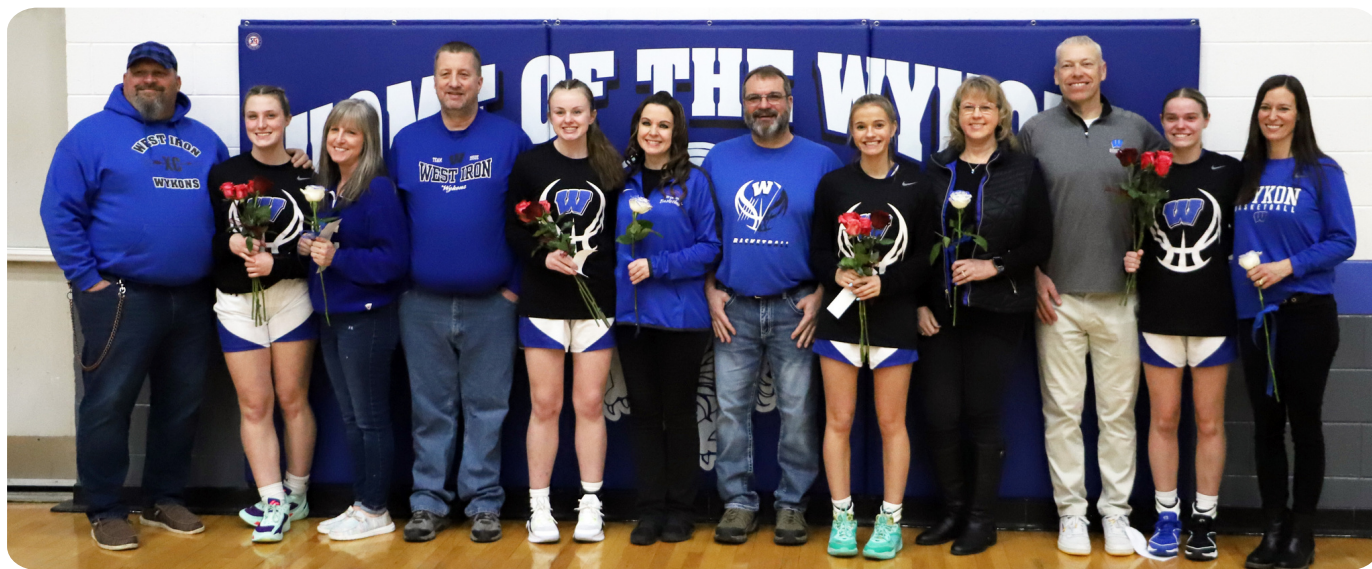
GIRLS SENIOR NIGHT

On Thursday, February 4th, our West Iron County girls basketball team went head-to-head with Hancock. It was Senior Night, and they celebrated along with their parents. The game ended with a win against the Hancock Bulldogs, and our seniors left feeling sentimental, for it is their last year and season.

One of our varsity girls, **Laycee Parson**, was interviewed about how she felt with it being her last basketball season and year of high school.

Q: How are you feeling about this being your last year in high school basketball?

Laycee: "I'm sad about it. I grew up really close to all the girls, and they became like family to me. I learned so much from playing basketball, and I'm very grateful for everyone that has helped me."

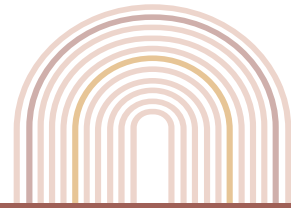


HOMECOMING THANK YOU

Shoutout to **Abby Farley, Rocky Farley, Piper Prior, Kylee Pollock, and Camryn Pollard**. These students are the hard-working ones behind this year's 2024 Homecoming video.

Also, we are thankful for our high school student council who put in the work for a great pep rally and Homecoming dance.



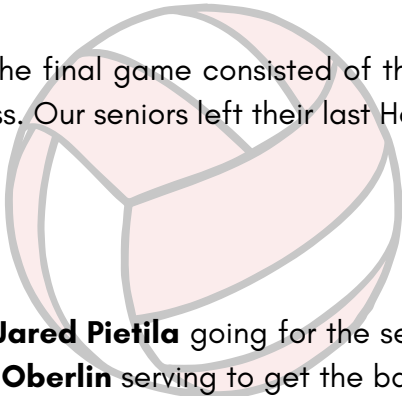


BOYS VOLLEYBALL

On Wednesday the 14th, our high school boys had the opportunity to play a game of volleyball. Like the girls who play powder puff football in the fall, the boys were up for the challenge to compete in a few sets during our winter Homecoming spirit week.

The first game was freshmen against sophomores, and the freshmen came through with the win. The second game was juniors against seniors. Though the juniors played hard, the seniors were the winners.

Lastly, the final game consisted of the seniors against the freshmen with the freshmen suffering a hard loss. Our seniors left their last Homecoming competition victorious!



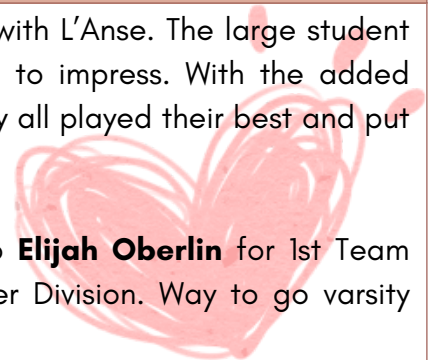
L - R: **Jared Pietila** going for the serve and **Elijah Oberlin** serving to get the ball to the seniors' side of the court.



BOYS HOMECOMING GAME

On Friday the 16th, our West Iron County varsity boys went head-on with L'Anse. The large student section for the basketball game was great as our Wykons dressed to impress. With the added ambiance for Homecoming, the boys felt an extra urge to win, so they all played their best and put forth the most effort.

The Wykons won their Homecoming game 79-31. Congratulations to **Elijah Oberlin** for 1st Team Copper Division and to **Abel Lundin** for Honorable Mention Copper Division. Way to go varsity boys!

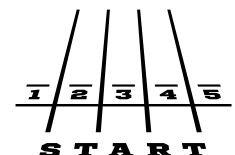


DON'T FORGET!



Girls basketball competes on March 4th for their district playoffs in Iron Mountain.

Also, remember to sign up for track, golf, and tennis at the end of March!



STUDENT Interviews

FRESHMEN

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO VALENTINE'S DAY SWEET TREAT AND WHY?



MASON AHOLA

"PROBABLY CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES BECAUSE LADIES LIKE THEM, AND YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH CHOCOLATE CHIPS."

KYLA ERICKSON

"CHOCOLATES BECAUSE THEY ARE BUSSIN."



SOPHOMORES

IF YOU WERE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES, WHICH ONE WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?



CHRISTIAN ROBLES

"I WOULD BE A SNICKERS BECAUSE I'M SWEET ON THE OUTSIDE AND CRUNCHY FROM THE INSIDE."

MADDISON CRONKRIGHT

"MILK CHOCOLATE BECAUSE THAT'S MY FAVORITE KIND OF CHOCOLATE."



JUNIORS

IF YOU WERE A VALENTINE'S CARD, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?



BLAKE FERRARA

"IF I WERE A VALENTINE'S DAY CARD, I WOULD SAY I'M A SMART COOKIE."

JULIA SWENSKI

"IF YOU WERE A FRUIT, YOU'D BE A FINE APPLE."



SENIORS

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO VALENTINE'S MOVIE?



ANTHONY SUCHOLL

"THE PROPOSAL, THE ONE WITH RYAN REYNOLDS."

ZOEY HARRIS-VIERA

"JUST GO WITH IT."



NEWSWORTHY Notes

GREAT 8 GAMES

For the 29th Great Eight Winter Games, students from Florence, Forest Park, Iron Mountain, Kingsford, Niagara, North Dickinson, Norway-Vulcan, and West Iron all joined together to compete in light-hearted competition.

Girls and boys from 4th to 8th grade have the chance to participate in archery, bowling, chess, giant slalom skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Additionally, there are basketball, dodgeball, and volleyball tournaments.

The annual Great Eight Winter Games are an amusing and spirited way for students from different schools to interact with each other!



6th grade volleyball team



STUDENTS GIVE BACK

Change for a Change

In an effort to give back to their community, our elementary students are raising money by dressing up every Friday. This month, all funds go toward families affected by a recent explosion.



Penny Wars

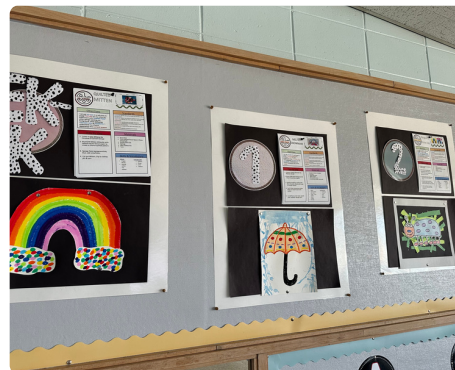
A fun way to raise money? A competition between the middle and high schools and elementary school. Penny Wars is simple: dollar bills and pennies are positive, and all silver coins are negative.

Filling jars and sabotaging the competition is a lively way to raise money for our community. All funds went to families affected by a recent explosion. Shout out to the elementary for their big win against the middle and high schools!

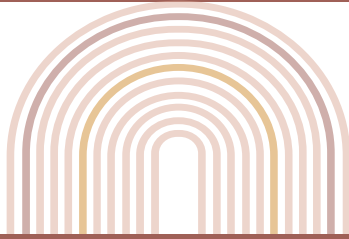
PAPER HEARTS AND STICKY FINGERS

In the spirit of Valentine's Day and warmer spring weather, the elementary have put together beautiful pieces of artwork to display on their walls.

Focusing on color, texture, and line design, the elementary students have created new ways to spice up their hallways and bring a fresh atmosphere for the coming spring season.



SENIOR Feature



DORM RECOMMENDATIONS

If you have a college roommate, it would be smart to talk and establish boundaries before you arrive in order to compromise and work through any potential issues you may have.

Being open and honest with each other is a must, so here are some things to consider:

- Space
- Furniture
- Food
- Guests
- Sharing
- Personal boundaries



DORM DO'S & DON'TS

If you plan on living on campus, here are some recommended dorm do's & don'ts to consider and discuss with your roommate(s) before packing. (Don'ts are mostly for space or won't be a necessity.)

Do's

- Electric cooking pot
- Mattress topper
- Vacuum/broom & dustpan
- Lidded bowls
- Personal cleaning supplies
- Under-the-bed storage

Don'ts

- t.v.
- printer
- your entire closet
- body pillow
- full kitchen sets
- lap desks



IMPORTANT INFO & DATES

March 15: Scholarships Due by 9 AM

March 15-16: Senior Class Trip

March 22: Senior Portraits & Quotes Due

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Trident Maritime Systems

Trident is located at 1520 W. Adams St., Iron River, MI, and has a selection of what they do and build, ranging from engineering to modernization. They focus on producing and delivering the best knowledge, value, quality, and speed to all their customers around the world. You can apply online at Recruitment@TridentLLC.com

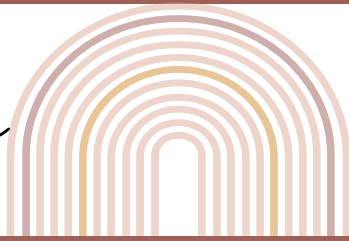


Aramark Uniform Services

Aramark, located at 204 Caspian Ave., Caspian, MI, is a nationwide leading supplier of uniforms and workplace supplies, including food services, facilities, and uniform services to hospitals, universities, school districts, stadiums, and other businesses around the world. You can apply online at careers.aramark.com



SENIOR Feature



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



FERRIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



FSU, located in Grand Rapids, MI, and home of the Bulldogs has a big selection of academic programs ranging from associate to doctoral degrees. They strive to be professional and fair and want to give you the best opportunity to build a career and be successful. Due to their low student-faculty ratio, they are able to give more one-on-one career advice, professional connections, and engaging information. With its many external partners, a majority of the students with bachelor's or more advanced degrees are able to participate in internships that support and help grow their careers.

You can learn all about Ferris State University on their website at ferris.edu.

KENDALL COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN OF FSU

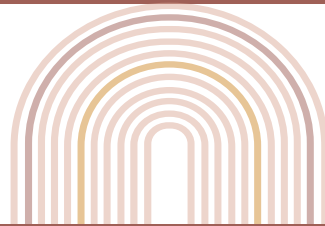


Kendall
College of Art and Design
of Ferris State University



KCAD is a college within FSU and offers a broad range of professional pursuits in design, art, and art history. Kendall's goal is to help and teach students with hands-on experience and focuses on creating individual creativity and fostering intellectual growth. Their facilities provide well-resourced studios, classrooms, labs, and exhibition spaces. Kendall faculty are also expert artists, designers, and scholars who help growing artists/designers, and with their 8:1 student-faculty ratio, they are able to spend more time with each student and give their own professional experiences and opinions. Visit their website to learn more at kcad.ferris.edu.

STUDENT Life



WHIMSICAL WALLS

SENIORS

Winning first place with their "Under the Sea" design, seniors worked diligently to show their support for our varsity boys.



JUNIORS

Despite schedule conflicts, our juniors came together and scored second place with this "Rainforest" design.



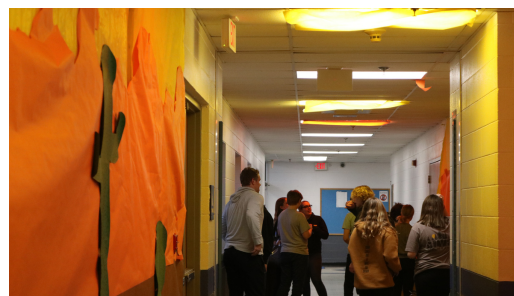
SOPHOMORES

Working hard or hardly working? Coming in third place, the sophomores put in the work with their "Tundra" design.

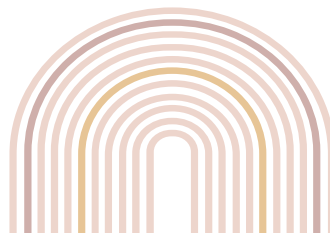


FRESHMEN

Even in fourth place, our freshmen came through for the varsity boys with their awesome "Sahara" design.



STUDENT Life



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

CATHARINA RYPSTRA-10TH



STUDENT OF THE WEEK CATHARINA RYPSTRA

Cat is a very caring person who is willing to sacrifice her own wants for the needs of others. She goes above and beyond in the classroom to achieve success, as that is also very evident in her life outside of school where she volunteers her time and gives back to her community. Cat is very deserving of this week's "Student of the Week" award for these reasons.

RACHEL FANOUS-12TH



STUDENT OF THE WEEK RACHEL FANOUS

Rachel excels in all her classes. She has chosen to enroll in rigorous classes including many Advanced Placement courses. All AP classes are online. She is the team captain on high school bowl and was the MVP at Nationals in Chicago last April. Her continued determination and perseverance toward her goals in the medical profession has been witnessed by both peers and teachers at West Iron; she has demonstrated exemplary performance in a variety of classes she has taken.

CHEVY CARLSON-7TH



STUDENT OF THE WEEK CHEVY CARLSON

Chevy is a dedicated student who is eager to learn and do what is asked of him and more. He is an active participant in class and a leader amongst his peers. His enthusiasm for learning and good nature towards all is a bright spot for his classmates and his teachers. Chevy's ability to think outside the box and find solutions to problems paired with his positive attitude are what makes him this week's student of the week.

JUNE MCCAULEY-7TH



STUDENT OF THE WEEK JUNE MCCAULEY

June is a fantastic student to have in class. She always comes to class with a smile on her face. She is extremely hard working and always willing to participate and help her fellow classmates. Her great attitude and determination make her a great example of what it means to be a Wykon.

CASARI CARES!

Students, please send along any photos you may have for the following: Summer pictures, 1st/2nd Homecomings, BeReals, and student section photos. These need to be sent in before Spring Break.

SWENSKI'S SECRETS

"We are making fantastic progress through the Sheetrock finishing at this time. I am more than pleased with the professional grade finish the boys are doing.

Finishing Sheetrock is as much an art as it is a skill, and the crew has been demonstrating an exceptional level of both. Soon we will move on to primer and paint in preparation for pine tongue and groove paneling in various areas."



ASA

January closed in with a new ASA winner. **Cheyenne Ritchie** painted a beautiful nautical scene with precise details. She and seven other student artists attended lunch at the Chippewa Club where visiting artist, Stephen Wysoki, painted oil portraits with them.



PICK-ME-UP Page



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

"Success is not final. Failure is not final; it is the courage to continue that counts."

-Winston Churchill



SHAMROCK SEASON

With the upcoming season, shamrock shakes are back in. A simple home made recipe is listed below:

Ingredients: 3 cups of vanilla bean ice cream, 1 ½ cup of whole milk, 1 ½ tsp. mint extract, 1 tsp. of vanilla extract, 9 drops of green food coloring (optional), whipped cream, cherries, and fresh mint sprigs, for garnish (optional.)

Directions:

- Combine the ice cream, milk, extracts, and food coloring in the base of a blender. Blend until thick and creamy, about 30 seconds.
- Pour the mixture into 2 tall glasses and top with whipped cream, cherries, and mint.



CHILDREN WITH CHEER

Cheer coaches **Becky Ahola** and **Mary Peruzzi Bofinger** host a youth clinic for juniors every basketball and football season, teaching the young kids all about cheers.

When asked why, Becky responded, "I was dance coach for six years before transitioning to cheer coach two years ago.

The dance team was always offered a junior dance clinic twice a year for football and basketball seasons.

So, we knew we had to offer the same thing to our cheerleaders. It is a nice way to get the younger kids involved in high school athletics. It also brings a lot of new families to our high school games.

With those things, you hope it will grow your program when those who anticipated in the youth clinic get to middle school and high school levels. It is almost one of the best nights in our season.

The younger kids are so excited to be part of something that "the big kids" are a part of. It makes them feel important and special."

COMMUNITY *Spotlight*

CONTRAST COFFEE

Contrast Coffee is a U.P. Michigan business and it is the perfect cozy environment to enjoy a special drink or snack. Come visit and support any of the branches located in Iron River, Iron Mountain, Ironwood, or Marquette!

The menu includes classic, pour-over, signature, and custom coffees. Additionally, there are teas, sodas, bakery items, and breakfast quiches.



INTO THE WOODS: THE MUSICAL

The West End Players will be performing the play "Into The Woods" at the Windsor Center. Auditions took place on February 5th and 6th, and the actors have been cast. This play features several Brothers Grimm tales that all intertwine to create a unique version of a story. It has many exhilarating songs and classic characters to experience throughout.

Come visit the auditorium and enjoy the show!

GRADUATES GIVE BACK

One 2023 graduate of West Iron, **Nick Mattson**, was asked how he contributes to the community. He discussed his work at the Iron County Road Commission and the Caspian-Gastra Volunteer Fire Department: "I plow and salt the roads so people can get to work and drive safely. I also work for the local volunteer fire department to help respond to people's emergencies and overall help the community."



WEST IRON DISTRICT LIBRARY UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

- **Tiny Art Challenge:** Take home a 3x3 inch canvas and use your own paint (or watercolor paint provided by the WIDL) to create a mini-masterpiece! Bring in your creation by 2/29 to be displayed for the month of March in a Tiny Art Show.
- **Cat in the Hat Scavenger Hunt:** All day February 27 through March 2nd. Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and see if you can solve the riddle by finding all the Seuss hats for a goody bag.
- **Lego Club:** On February 29, 3:00-4:30 PM, kids can create Lego sculptures that will be displayed on the book stacks until the next Lego Club.