

# WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL

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**TO:** Brian Charron, Superintendent  
Board of Education

**FROM:** Tim McDermott  
Waterloo High School Principal

**DATE:** December 2025

**SUBJECT:** Waterloo High School Board Report

## Building news:

- Mr. Biffar is the December Staff Member of the Month. Sydney Nonn and Drake Burgdorf are the December students of the month.
- WHS Students of Character were recognized this month for exemplifying Gratitude. A total of 54 students were honored for consistently showing appreciation, kindness, and a positive attitude toward others. We are proud of these students for setting a strong example and contributing to the positive, supportive culture at WHS!
- Advanced Biology students attended the Adventures in Medicine and Science program at St. Louis University. Students had the opportunity to learn from industry experts and saw firsthand how the material learned in class applies to the real world.
- Ms. Elaine Rudolphi is attending the National Association of Agricultural Educators conference. While attending, she is also presenting a workshop to agriculture teachers from across the country on the importance and value of collaboration in a multiteacher agriculture department.
- Building connections and positive relationships is an important part of academic success. We had teachers complete a survey indicating which students they have built a positive connection with. We also had all students complete a survey telling us which teachers they feel they have built a similar rapport with. We are still analyzing the data and will use the results in future staff discussions and planning.

## Extra-Curricular:

- Student Council hosted another movie night, giving students a fun way to get involved at WHS. *Home Alone* was shown to more than 80 students.
- WHS Wind Ensemble and Jazz bands held a Winter Pops concert to showcase their musical talents. They did a fantastic job!
- The esports team had a great first season and qualified a team for state. The team hosted an open play night to share their interest with parents and other students.
- The Spanish Club hosted a club trivia night for our students. The event generated 10 Thanksgiving baskets and \$160, which was donated to the House of Neighborly Service to help our community.
- Waterloo FFA has been busy providing students with several opportunities to connect their classroom curriculum to career and leadership development events. Students have competed in the Agriculture Business Management CDE, Agricultural Communications CDE, Job Interview, and Agricultural Sales.
- Ten FFA members attended the FFA BUILD (Being United in Leadership Development) Conference at Illinois State University, joining members from across Illinois.
- Student Council continues to represent WHS while supporting the community. They decorated a lamppost by City Hall, coordinated a Day of Giving that raised \$269 and collected canned goods, and are currently gathering toys to brighten the holidays for local families.
- The Engine Team is currently attending the PRI Show in Indianapolis and will compete on Friday, December 12.
- Ms. Hespen spent time with NHS students baking cookies and preparing to take them to Oakhill Nursing Home. The next day, Mr. Brueggeman took the students over to Oakhill and they spent two hours singing carols, spending time with residents, and providing cookies and refreshments to them. Mr. Keim also took the Art Club there the next day to paint the windows for the holidays.
- The Madrigal Dinner, hosted by Ms. Hollingsworth and the WHS Choir, will take place December 20–21.