



Waterloo Junior High

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WJHS Board Report - August 2026

Building Updates

Our building is looking great, and we are excited to welcome our students to the 2026-27 school year. We thank our custodians for all their hard work. I would like to thank Dave Woehlke, specifically, as he has been great to work with in my short time at WJHS and will be retiring at the end of August. Good luck to Dave in his well-deserved retirement!

WJHS welcomed students and families from all grade levels for our annual Supply Drop. Students had the opportunity to drop off supplies, find their lockers, walk through their schedules, and get ready for the start of the school year. Football players were also invited to come a little early so they could participate before heading to practice. It was a great way to welcome students and families back to WJHS and kick off the new school year!

Staff stayed very busy over the two-day teacher institute. We had some great conversations, and Dr. Smith and I were able to sit in on department and grade-level meetings and learned a lot about how things operate. We were also able to introduce ourselves as a leadership team to our teachers and paras and get to share some of what makes us tick as educators.

Students will be adapting to some new things around WJHS this year, but change can be a good thing. New cell phone and Chromebook policies are the big changes on paper, but new personalities and expectations will also be part of the mix. Administration will be meeting with students by grade level to go over our version of the Bulldog Basics, including hallway, locker, classroom, and cafeteria expectations.

Mrs. McBroom, Mrs. Kurth, Mrs. Bicklein, Mrs. Brandt, and Mr. Flick joined Dr. Smith and me for our district PD on Culture of Rigorous Learning. We had great discussions and are excited for continued PD and the implementation of Learning Walks at WJHS.

Athletics

The heat and rain have been causing some disruptions to the beginning of baseball and softball seasons. Hopefully Mother Nature will start cooperating more so that our WJHS Bulldogs can take the field and show off their talents!

Cross Country will begin shortly, and our Runnin' Bulldogs will set out to again show that Waterloo XC is one of the top programs in Southern Illinois!

Mitch North
WJHS Principal