



Waterloo Junior High

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WJHS Board Report - September 2026

Our Staff Member of the Month for September is our band teacher, Mrs. Jennifer Shaheen-Hoke!

Author John Schu visited for two assemblies at the beginning of September. His energy and passion for books and reading were phenomenal, but his story and way of connecting to the students were incredible. The time he spent at the meet and greet for students who ordered or received a book from him was even more inspiring to watch as he took the time to really speak to the students and remembered many of them with remarkable accuracy from his previous visit to Gardner when they were students there. Thank you to Mr. Mayer for all of his work to organize this event.

I would like to thank Nick Hergenroeder and the rest of the tech department, as well as Jeff Bert, for their help dealing with some camera issues at the JH in the last few weeks. Our capabilities are much improved from where they were at the start of the school year.

The custodians have also been doing a great job navigating some shorthanded times at the JH and we appreciate the assistance from custodians in other buildings as well.

We will have a popsicle incentive for students who have made it through the first half of the quarter with no tardies, no discipline referrals, and no working lunches. We were happy to reward so many students for showing up on time, being prepared, and behaving appropriately to start this school year.

Our JH Band did a fantastic job performing alongside the HS Band at the football game on September 11th. Thank you to Mr. Smith and Mrs. Shaheen-Hoke for coordinating this fun event for the band students. The JH staff also held a staff tailgate at the game to give staff a way to socialize outside of school and show up for our students past and present at the game! Over 30 staff members and their family members showed up and we had enough food leftover to feed a few hungry band members too!

Welcome to our new Stu Co members from the 6th grade class and congrats to this year's officer team: Thomas North, President / Lucas Vogt, VP / Ryan Hoffman, Secretary / Tripp Gardner, Treasurer

Athletics

All of our coaches, athletes, and their families have been on a weather related roller coaster ride this fall. We thank everyone for their patience and support. The baseball team is 7-7 and will play in the Regional next week. The softball team is 6-6 and will also play in the Regional next week. Cross Country hosted their invitational at Gardner and Rogers' campus on September 8th. There were 15 schools at the meet and the boys and girls teams both earned 3rd place in their races. Coach Vogel and Coach Augustine are meeting with students interested in basketball and preparing for the upcoming season.

Mitch North, WJHS Principal