

To: Dr. Weikle & The Board of Education
From: Angie Codron, Normal West High School, Principal
Re: Normal West High School Swim Team State Finish
Date: March 18, 2026



The Normal West Boys Swim & Dive team had an exceptional 2025-2026 season, culminating with a fantastic post-season performance. At the Big 12 Conference Meet, the team had 100% season best times, while the varsity team earned 2 second place relays, and 8 top 5 swimmers in individual events, leading the team to earn 3rd place in both the JV and varsity divisions.

At sectionals, the team once again placed third and had 100% season best times. They secured numerous state qualifiers, including:

- *the school record setting medley relay team of Cooper Franz, Pierson Odland, Joshua Sunkel, Jaxon Tomera
- *Cooper Franz in the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke
- *Pierson Odland in the 500 free and school record in the 100 breaststroke
- *Ethan Rocke in the athletes with disabilities 200 free, 50 free, 100 free, and 100 breast

At state, the team capped off an amazing season. IHSA swimming does not break schools down into classes, so it is a great honor to even qualify for the state meet. Pierson Odland placed 32nd in the 500 free and 33rd in the 100 breaststroke. Cooper Franz placed 18th in the 100 free and qualified for finals in the 100 back, scoring 10th overall. Ethan Rocke won all 4 of his Athletes with Disabilities events in the 200 free, 50 free, 100 free, and 100 breaststroke. With numerous top 16 performances at the State meet, the team earned the runner up trophy in the combined team division, the first state trophy in Normal West Swim & Dive history.

The parts that I am most proud of are 1) the story that I heard from the parents and board member Kelly Pyle whose son is Wade Pyle State Placing Swimmer from Normal Community about the swim parents from both high schools working together to get in the ticket line to make sure they all had tickets and plan the potluck of food to eat while in line since the line starts at 8am and doors don't open until late afternoon. And the second part that I am proud of is the story Coach Dawn Fudge shared with us following the State meet where she said, "It was such a fun weekend! We had so many coaches come up to us and say how impressive they were with West boys. Not only assisting Ethan, but then supporting all the other Athletes With Disabilities - moving across lanes cheering for all of them and supporting them on deck. I choked back a few tears over the weekend! So proud of them!!"