



Waterloo Junior High

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WJHS December 2025 Board Report

Growth Mindset

In December, we are focusing on the importance of using stress to our advantage. We are encouraging students to see stress responses (fast heartbeat, sweaty hands, tight stomach, etc.) signs that our bodies are preparing us to perform at our best. One of our main messages this month has been: "The more you train yourself to see stress as energy instead of panic, the easier it gets to perform well under pressure."

Staff Member of the Month

Our December staff member of the month is paraprofessional Mellisa Hogan. Mellisa was nominated because she is extremely helpful while working with students and always displays a positive attitude (even while doing crosswalk duty on a cold morning!).

Sports/Extracurricular Activities

- Our cheerleaders finished 2nd in their first competition at Pinckneyville and qualified for state in January.
- Boys Basketball- 8th grade record is 7-7 with a very challenging schedule.
- Girls Basketball- 8th grade is playing in the conference tournament. Our girls won the first game of the tournament on Dec. 8.
- Chess tryouts are being held on December 8 and 15. Matches begin in January.

2nd Quarter Students of Character

- **6th grade-** Gracie Bassler, Eleanor Snover, Mackenzie Wiegand
- **7th grade-** Ryan Hoffman, Brianna Kriete, Thomas North
- **8th grade-** R.J. Gagliardi, Dominic Johnson, Konnor McNeill

Community Service

- In November, we collected 2,498 items/dollars in our food drive. Students volunteered their time to help load, deliver, and sort them at local food pantries.
- In December, our community service activities are the Angel Tree and caroling at nearby living communities for the elderly.
- After school on December 16th, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Bicklein are taking a group of volunteer students caroling at local assisted living facilities. All students were encouraged to color and sign Christmas cards that will be handed out to residents during the visits to spread holiday cheer!