"Being positive isn't pretending everything is good. It's seeing the good in everything."

Wishing our Warrior Community a safe and joyful holiday season.

Happy Holidays
From Winton Woods City Schools
Winton Woods City Schools Football Team Gives Electrifying Performance, Wins Division II State Title

On Thursday, December 4, Winton Woods City Schools took home the Ohio Division II State Championship title over Archbishop Hoban with a final score of 21-10 in Canton, Ohio. It is their second state champion title since 2009. This was the first season with Chad Murray as head coach along with Carlton Gray, the new defensive coordinator, and Greg Forest, offensive coordinator, who were hired this past spring. Coach Murray brought a decorated background of football regional and sectional title wins already under his belt, and now can add state championship to that list - an honor only seven football coaches in Ohio get to experience each year.

“IT is surreal,” he said. “I could not be happier for these young men. So thankful they got a state championship, and that they reached the ultimate goal for a high school football player. Just to be a part of that this season is a special thing. This has been a great place for football for a long time, and I think this solidifies that it is going to continue to be. I am blessed to be a small piece of it.” Winton Woods senior Tyrek Spikes, senior quarterback Austin Ellery, and junior KC Spears each scored touchdowns. The Winton Woods defensive line was crucial to their success over the Knights, not allowing them to get any meaningful yards.

The best "band in the land" performing during halftime. Photos by Drew Jackson.
Coach Murphy thanked Superintendent Anthony G. Smith, Athletic Director David Lumpion, High School Principal Eric Martin, the Board of Education for the opportunity to coach these young men, and the community for the support. “Our Warrior Nation has kept us going,” he said. “At the game, it was an unbelievable atmosphere - from our band to the cheerleaders and the crowd. You couldn’t have written a better story.” Winton Woods community partners including the Village of Greenhills, the City of Forest Park, Skyline Chili, McDonald’s, Park Place and Frisch’s shared congratulatory words on signs and marques outside their businesses. Thanks to state representative Jessica Miranda the team was honored at the State General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio, on Wednesday, December 8. They were celebrated in the Forest Park Holiday Parade on Saturday and recognized at the Bengals game on Sunday.

Winton Woods football team celebrates after defeating Archbishop Hoban 21-10. Photos by Drew Jackson.

In addition to this season’s accomplishments, football players with a 3.5 GPA were Landen Anderson, TJ Buckman, Gary Dorsey Jr., Camden Fuller, Jaylen Gooding, Lorenzo Hudson, Cameron Jackson, Daelyn Jarman, Quentin Jenkins Jr., Henry Johnson Jr., Valdez Kankeu, Delan Massey-Wright,
How a Tech-Savvy Generation Benefits From Technology In The Classroom

As technology evolves, the influence that it has on society has made it clear that it is here to stay. How is Winton Woods implementing it in all classrooms to advance their scholarly academic careers? “At Winton Woods City Schools our instructional technology program extends well beyond providing each student with the device (Chromebooks),” said Winton Woods Director of Technology Rhonda Hobbs. “As an integral part of putting devices in the hands of our students, we prioritized putting a technology coaching team into place to support our staff and students as they utilize technology with a purpose. We envision our students researching and responding on their devices. It is important that they connect with others beyond the classroom walls to gain global perspectives and have interactions with people about their ideas and their future. The technology coaching team provides all students with tools and support to improve learning outcomes.”
Jennifer Haller is one of our incredible technology coaches. Ms. Haller works with students and teachers for the purpose of helping them to produce quality projects. She finds brilliant, innovative and creative resources that students can use. “I do the research, and find technology that can help enhance learning and engage students,” said Haller. She schedules class time to teach the new tools to students. Programs include WeVideo for editing video and creating podcasts, ClassVR, CoSpaces to build virtual realities, and Thinglink, to name a few.

“Just because students are digital natives does not mean they know how to use technology effectively, efficiently, and productively,” said Haller. For one of her workshops, she teaches the basics of google drive including cool hidden features, and organization tips and tricks for class such as creating and color coding folders. “Although students use technology almost everyday, we can not assume they know how to use it well, so we teach them how to take a deeper dive into technology.” Ms. Haller hopes to continue to close the gap between technology and academic stability. “Many of our students are already tech savvy. Our technology tools can be used to connect the school with their everyday lives. We are closing that gap. Students upload videos, incorporate photos, and create something amazing everyday while they are using Tik Tok. Now, they are taking those skills and using them in the classroom.”

Not only is technology benefiting students and engaging them in the classrooms, but it is something they are using to make a difference in the world. “Technology is a tool, not just a learning outcome,”
said Dr. Tamra Ragland, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning for Grades 7-12. “Through project-based learning, we want our students to raise awareness, change a mindset, make a difference, or drive change. The outcome is that they are making a difference in these ways. Technology is a tool that helps create the desired outcomes.”

When Haller meets with any student her hope is they will have a “Oh, I did not know I could do that with this.” This is when the light bulb shines brightly while students interact with technology. “These tools have opened doors of interest. It also has helped to enhance the learning of students in a variety of ways. Students are equipped to have a choice in creating incredible websites, innovative podcasts, and captivating video, as they transition from paper to 21st Century skills in technology.” She hopes all students will have continuous growth every time she meets with them, allowing them to stay motivated and inspired to learn more.

**Art: A Form of Expression and Voice for WWCS Students**

There are many outlets one can effectively communicate powerful messages. For Winton Woods Middle and High School students, they learned through art, as they clapped to the beat and learned history during a special musical performance by the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra (CCJO). Winton Woods High School Jazz Band instructor Jordan Habel collaborated with teacher and administrative teams to create lesson plans with subversive art pieces to show how they too can use their voice for change. Days prior to the performance, middle school students participated in a two-day lesson plan that explored the idea of art, discussed thought-provoking quotes and what the role of art is. Students watched a Ted Talk called “Using your voice is a political choice” and listened to music such as “Strange Fruit” by Billie Holiday, to comprehend the message and how it effectively achieved its historic purpose.
Shown l-r Winton Woods Jazz Teacher Jordan Habel on the saxophone, Jim Anderson on the bass, CCJO Music Director Eric Lechliter on the trumpet, Art Gore on the drums, CCJO Educational Director Spencer Merk on the trombone. Not pictured: Phil DeGreg who was on the piano. Photo by CCJO treasurer John Lieberman.

“Students and musicians enjoyed the experience and our staff was excited to bring another group of professionals and opportunity to our students. The CCJO is made up of some of the best jazz musicians in Cincinnati.” Seventh graders Brady Feldman and Jacob Keys said they enjoyed the performance. “They talked about where the instruments came from, the historic value, and how it was for more than just music,” said Keys. “I used to play the trumpet and seeing them encouraged me to want to perform again.” Feldman said it was great as he got to learn about the drums, his favorite instrument.

Zariah Clark “loved it” and learned about the history of jazz, how long the instruments had been around and said it was an engaging experience. Another student mentioned a mistake that happened during the performance but how the band disregarded it and continued to play as if nothing happened. “It was so professional.” That is what she learned. Students in Grades 7 and 8 attended the assembly and high school musicians.

“We didn’t know they used drums to communicate with each other,” said Theseus Morales, who after seeing the performance, hopes to join the jazz band. Brielle Donaldson said she appreciated them sharing how musicians throughout time changed the structure and sounds of music to what it is today. She also learned that there is no right or wrong way to create music. “Artists did whatever felt right.” Morales and Donaldson both said the experience changed the way they defined art and will change how they create and celebrate art in the future.

Mr. Habel thanked the middle and high school administrative teams, Warrior staff, Miami University ethnomusicologist Dr. Tammy Kernodle, middle school teacher Charlie Owens, and the Winton Woods
Middle School ECLASS faculty for being extremely supportive and instrumental in making it all possible.

**Winton Woods High School Welcomes 19 New National Honor Society Members**

Winton Woods takes pride in its academics and celebrating students who achieve academic success. That is why Winton Woods High School was thrilled to induct 19 outstanding scholars, who demonstrate excellence in and out of the classroom, into the National Honor Society (NHS) on Saturday, November 6. “The four pillars of the National Honor Society are scholarship, leadership, character and service,” NHS advisor Agnes Boateng. “Our selected students are now Winton Woods National Honor Society leaders. An effective leader seeks to serve the community, meet needs and implement strategies that successfully improve the lives of its members. Our students’ new role as ambassadors of Winton Woods NHS is to exhibit trust, respect, and responsibility and ensure that all it's members and student body attain their highest potential.”


NHS advisors Agnes Boateng and Claudia M. Brown began the ceremony with welcoming remarks, followed by the candle ceremony, reading of the pledge, new member presentation, and refreshments. Congratulations to these Warriors for their academic achievement.
Winton Woods High School Fall College Signing Day

Warrior family, friends, and staff were present to see two Winton Woods student athletes sign their letters of intent at the fall College Signing Day ceremony on Wednesday, November 10. Chance Gray committed to play D1 basketball at the University of Oregon and Taylor White committed to West Virginia University to play D1 soccer.
basketball player," said Lumpkin. “We know about the time she has put into the court and the classroom developing her skills to earn this scholarship offer to the University of Oregon. However, those of us close to her also know that the same dedication is given in the classroom - driven to excel at the same level is what makes her a true student athlete. We could not be more proud of the person that she is on the court, in the classroom, and in the community.”

“Taylor White currently plays for Cincinnati United Premier Girls Soccer Academy, a club that is ranked fourth in the nation,” said Lumpkin. “She led the region in scoring with 47 goals in a single season. She has been invited to US training and The Girls Academy Talent conference. She is an outstanding student and athlete. We are so proud of her.”

The young athletes are aware they would not be who they are without certain individuals who supported them along the way. They made sure to thank them. “I would like to thank my dad who taught me the game and shaped me into the player I am, my mom, and my sister,” said Gray. “I would like to thank
my mom, dad, brother, sister, and my club coach from CUP Girls Academy Kurt Fischer,” said White. The ceremony included a time dedicated to signing and a lot of photos.

**WWHS Inducts 27 New Tri-M Music Honor Society Members**

Winton Woods High School welcomed 27 musically gifted students into the Tri-M Music Honor Society at an induction ceremony at the North Campus auditorium. The prestigious and national society offers vast opportunities to students selected who must meet requirements that include academic achievement, music participation, leadership, service, and character. The newly inducted scholars participated in their first service project by teaching lessons to middle and high school students who wanted extra assistance. “A member of Tri-M Honor Society is one who sets a good example, is always willing to assist those students who are striving to better themselves in the music department, and always remembers that real honor brings responsibility,” said Chapter President Mickell Fiador.

New members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society are: Sareena Acharya, Ximena Alaniz, Nadia Ali, Surendra Bhadari, Gregory Burns, Caneshia Curry, Wynter Edwards, Andrew Escobedo, Mickell Fiador, Ke’yon Graham, Tia Griggs, Gabby Hall, Kaitlyn Jackson, Miranda Johnson, Mikayliah Lumpkin, Katy Martin, Aana Odola, Salina Oli, Hosanna Otchere, Lindsey Pineda, Jayden Potts, Marissa Robinson, Na’Ima Salaam, Alyssa Sears-Baldwin, Ndye Wade, Tonnia Williams, and Jamie Wilson. Congratulations Warrior musicians on your new journey and for your dedication to serve our students and community!
WWCS Superintendent Anthony G. Smith Receives Empowering Education Award

Shown l-r are Cincinnati NAACP President Joe Mallory and Winton Woods City Schools Superintendent Anthony G. Smith, who received the Empowering Education Award at the 2021 Freedom Fund Dinner.

Winton Woods City Schools Superintendent Anthony G. Smith was honored by the Cincinnati NAACP (National Association for Advancement of Colored People) at its 2021 Freedom Fund Dinner as the Empowering Education Award recipient. The theme of the annual dinner was “Resounding Resilience,” as a tribute to the perseverance and history of African Americans and the current times. Superintendent Smith along with nine other local distinguished leaders were awarded for their exceptional work and contributions to the community. Smith was recognized for his excellence and contributions in education. “I am honored to have received this award. However, this is definitely a team effort, and we will all continue to work diligently to be advocates and mentors for all students.”

The NAACP’s mission to “ensure political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all personas and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination,” according to the Cincinnati NAACP website. The annual dinner is an opportunity to award those whose hard work might otherwise go unrecognized. The dinner included a keynote speech by Dr. O’Dell Moreno Owens, M.D., M.P.H., followed by an award ceremony with a video honoring each recipient.
Winton Woods City Schools Administrators Addresses Ohio School Board Association

In 2021, Winton Woods City Schools opened two brand new innovative campuses designed for their progressive and high-quality teaching and learning style called project-based learning (PBL). It is for that reason Winton Woods Intermediate Principal Jeremy Day and Winton Woods High School Principal Eric Martin were invited to speak at the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Capital Conference about the PBL program, their insight on student-driven education, and how Winton Woods incorporated student voice into its newly designed buildings, with a visioning process led by architecture firm SHP. Winton Woods City Schools is one of two New Tech Network districts in the nation with all grades participating in this rich 21st-century skills-building educational program.

“I was honored to have an opportunity to share our story about the instructional platform we use at Winton Woods City Schools and how project-based learning has guided the process to building our brand new campuses,” said Martin. Day and Martin both spoke on a panel with Jeff Parker, project manager of SHP architect firm to fellow educators. “I would say that it was great to have the opportunity to share our District’s partnership with SHP in creating the kinds of learning spaces for our students,” said Day. The OSBA Capital Conference focuses on improving student learning and achievement.

This year’s OSBA conference included more than 150 sessions of panel discussions, workshops, informational seminars and nationally renowned speakers who addressed a variety of educational issues while inspiring, informing and enlightening attendees. Keynote presenters included Bart Conner and Nadia Comaneci, former legendary olympic gymnasts; Patricia Heaton, tv, film and stage star and philanthropist; Theodore Ginn Sr., Founder of the Ginn Academy and Ohio high school football and

Shown left to right is Winton Woods High School Principal Eric Martin and Winton Woods Intermediate Principal Jeremy Day speaking at the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Capitol Conference with Jeff Parker, project manager of SHP architect firm.
boys’ track coach; Brandon Miller, pro soccer goalkeeper; and Dr. James Mahoney, educational leader, entrepreneur and renowned expert on school leadership, culture, and staff and student engagement.

Weekly Warrior Highlights

Winton Woods Class of ‘02 alumni, author, actor, and screenwriter Jonathan Lee spoke to WWMS students and left a powerful message that they can go anywhere in the world from Winton Woods, if they believe they can. “Whether that’s working on a movie set or eating dinner in the Eiffel Tower. There is a massive world out there. It needs your gifts, talents, opinions, and insight. Do not be afraid to be great. Be clear about your values, use those to set your goals, work until you get what you want, and believe that you can do virtually anything.” Students wrote down their goals and steps to achieve them knowing that “failure is only another step towards success.” #OnceAWarriorAlwaysAWarrior

Our WWHS A Cappella choir and Jazz musicians spread holiday cheer while caroling and performing throughout our Cincinnati community including our Forest Park Kroger, the Cincinnati Art Museum, and the Fitton Center.
Hallelujah, we're finally all back together again! WWHS choirs and orchestras performed together at our annual Hallelujah concert last night featuring Forest Park, Greenhills, and Warrior Alumni. Photos by Elise Speeg.
The Winton Woods football team was honored at the Ohio state capitol building in downtown Columbus, Ohio, for their D2 state championship title. House representative and former WWCS board president Jessica Miranda presented the team with a plaque and congratulated them. #WWStateChamps

Winton Woods City Schools is hiring new bus drivers and bus aides for the 2021-2022 school year. To schedule an interview, please call (513)619-2300.

Our Child Nutrition Department is offering new job opportunities. To schedule an interview, please call (513)619-2300.
Do you still have questions or concerns about getting the COVID-19 vaccine? You’re not alone. Check out this helpful article for facts and information. #StaySafeWarriors https://bit.ly/2XTXMtN

Join us in creating a Warrior Community Cookbook! Submit your delicious, nutritious and cultural recipes for consideration at http://ow.ly/EZXE30o5BIC.

Júntanos con la creación de un libro de cocina. Entrega unas recetas deliciosas y nutritivas para nuestra consideración.