



COMMUNITY UPDATE

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION | AUGUST 2023



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Message from Dr. Ward



Dear Families,

It is hard to believe summer is wrapping up. I hope you all have had time to relax, recharge and spend time with loved ones.

This is my favorite time of year. The hope and promise of a new school year and the fresh start it provides is unique to education. Each year, we get to start again. As we begin the 2023-2024 school year, let us all commit to making this school year the best one yet.

In Willoughby-Eastlake we are a learning organization committed to a culture of excellence. Our students, their education and their future is our top priority. This year, let us all commit to staying focused on student achievement, student growth, student engagement and student well-being. Together, anything is possible!

As a school community, we have a great deal to be proud of. During the past several months I have had the pleasure to meet so many people. One theme keeps emerging: Willoughby-Eastlake is a special place. I am excited to continue to listen and learn in the months ahead. We will be hosting coffee talks throughout our communities during the next 100 days. Please stop by if you can. Our team remains committed to listening and learning about the hopes and dreams you have for our school system in the years ahead.

In closing, I believe that strong schools are the cornerstone of strong communities. When we work together, anything is possible.

As a proud member of our school community, my choice for a world class education is Willoughby-Eastlake! Thank you for entrusting your children to us.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Ward". The script is fluid and cursive.

Patrick Ward, PhD.
Superintendent

New Administrators

The school district is happy to introduce the community to some new administrators who are joining us and to celebrate those who have changed roles this year. Please take a moment to enjoy learning about these enthusiastic and talented team members. Everyone is looking forward to serving the community in their new positions.



Mr. Zach Weagley

*Assistant Superintendent
for Teaching, Learning and
Leadership Development*

Mr. Zach Weagley began his career in the Columbus City School District as an Intervention Specialist where he taught students with high-incidence disabilities and students with

emotional disturbances. From there, Zach transitioned to the Mayfield City Schools and served as an intervention specialist and was instrumental in some of the early work around developing a shared instructional vision for all students.

Mr. Weagley began his administrative career as the assistant principal at South High School in 2015 and quickly transitioned to the role of building principal where he served the Willoughby-Eastlake community for three years. During his tenure at South, Mr. Weagley led the design team for the new building, continued to build upon the positive academic culture and worked to lay the foundation for academic excellence still present today.

He recently served as the principal at North Olmsted High School where he was committed to developing leadership capacity around a shared vision including the creation of their portrait of a graduate, work around the 4Cs, commitment to the Ed Leader 21 network and work with the Schlechty Center on Student Engagement. In his new position, Mr. Weagley brings with him a commitment to collaboration, relationship building, knowledge of 21st century skills, an understanding of best instructional practices and a commitment to working to assure all students have access to world class cutting edge educational experiences.

Mr. Weagley loves staying active and involved with his family. He and his wife Kendra have four children, Ava, Camden, Adeline and Micah. They are very active in the community and enjoy participating and competing in a wide range of athletics that keep them on the move at all times. He is very excited to return to W-E because of the strong sense of community and family.



Ms. Gina Kevern

*Director of Communications and
Community Engagement*

Ms. Kevern has been the Director of Curriculum, Instruction Assessment for the Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools for ten years, having also served as a teacher, principal, and special education director. She earned

a Master of Arts in Teaching at Kent State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications at the University of North Florida. Prior to working in education, she worked as a public relations coordinator. Ms. Kevern received the Ohio School Public Relations Association Best of the Best Award and the Mark of Distinction Award for two school district print publications.

In addition to overseeing academic programming and special projects, she has secured \$1.2 million in grant funds, worked on strategic planning, and led the design of the School of Innovation. Ms. Kevern is proud of the collaborative efforts in the district that have led to an increased focus on standards-based instruction, high-quality instructional materials, best practices, literacy skills, technology integration and STEM education.

She is looking forward to supporting the work of the district to provide outstanding educational opportunities for students and increasing the engagement of staff, families and community partners in the vision of the school district.

Ms. Kevern is an avid reader, enjoys hiking in the MetroParks, abstract painting, and traveling to Denver and California to visit her twin sons.

New Administrators



Mr. Brian Patrick

*Director of Human Resources,
Student Safety and Student
Wellness*

Mr. Patrick has been a Willoughby-Eastlake School District resident for over 40 years. He has attended Thomas Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Royalview elementary schools,

as well as Willowick Junior High and is a 1988 graduate of Eastlake North High School.

After teaching science and math at Willowick Middle School for eight years, Mr. Patrick began his administrative career as the assistant principal at Eastlake Middle School. He was then the principal at Edison Elementary School in Willoughby for seven years before becoming the first principal of the W-E School of Innovation. Mr. Patrick spent six years leading SOI before taking over as principal of Willoughby South High School.

Mr. Patrick is always committed to helping others. He looks forward to continuing to assist students, staff, parents and members of the community as he transitions to service at the district level. He loves living here and looks forward to continuing to help the W-E School District grow and thrive! In his new role, Mr. Patrick will focus on supporting all staff as human resources director and will support student safety, student discipline and student wellness.

Mr. Patrick currently resides in Eastlake with his wife, Angel, and their three children, Madeline, Max, and Molly, and their three dogs. His wife and children are also Eastlake North High school graduates. In his spare time, you might see him refereeing basketball or umpiring baseball.



Mr. Ron Dahlhofer

Principal, Eastlake Middle School

Mr. Dahlhofer is a proud graduate of Eastlake North High School. His roots in the school district are strong as he grew up in Willowick and attended Royalview Elementary and Willowick Middle School. He is happy to say that his mother still lives in his childhood home in Willowick. During the course of his career, he has been a middle school math and science teacher and earned his National Board Certification in the area of Young Adolescence Science.

After ten successful years of teaching, Mr. Dahlhofer entered administration where he served as a principal for 15 years at the elementary, middle and high school levels. During his tenure as an educational leader, academics, attendance and student engagement improved as did the morale

of students and staff. Mr. Dahlhofer is committed to collaborative leadership and is passionate about supporting students' individual needs.

He is an avid sports fan, especially when it comes to the Cleveland Guardians. Mr. Dahlhofer lives in Kirtland with his wife and two sons. He is proud to return to his hometown and looks forward to serving the families of the Willoughby-Eastlake community.



Mr. Andrew Suttell

Principal, Willoughby South High School

Mr. Suttell joins the Willoughby-Eastlake School District with over 25 years of education experience. His career includes teaching at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

His extensive background has built his leadership style that prioritizes and fosters positive relationships within the schools and communities he has served.

Mr. Suttell's transition into school administration has also included successful leadership positions at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. He began at Arbor Elementary School, where he served as dean, supporting positive student behavior before transitioning into the role of assistant principal. Mr. Suttell then moved to Shiloh Middle School, where he served as principal for three years. He has spent the last two years as principal at Parma Senior High.

Mr. Suttell also has over 20 years of successful athletic experience coaching at the high school level, running clinics and leagues at various age levels, and serving in administrative roles. His dedication to athletics spills over into his personal passion for all Cleveland sports, specifically the Cleveland Browns.

Mr. Suttell and his wife, Lori, have been proud residents of Willoughby for the past 15 years. Together, they have raised four children. Allison is a proud 2020 graduate of Willoughby South High School, and Ashley, their youngest, is a rising 7th grader. Mr. Suttell's two older sons, Jake and Zach, live in the Akron area.

New Administrators



Mrs. Karen Pasquale

Principal, Longfellow Elementary School

Mrs. Pasquale has spent her entire professional life in the educational system after earning her degree in education from The Ohio State University. After graduating from Ohio State, she started her first year teaching in the Findlay

School District in Findlay, Ohio. One year later, she moved to Willoughby and began teaching in the Mentor Public School District. During her career in Mentor, Mrs. Pasquale started as an intervention specialist and eventually progressed into an instructional coach at Fairfax Elementary School, where she spent most of her career. While working in the Mentor district, she also obtained her Master's degree in Educational Administration from Cleveland State University.

Her Master's degree eventually led her to the Willoughby-Eastlake school system, where she split her time as an assistant principal between two schools, Longfellow and Jefferson, for four years. The many years spent in education have been nothing but gratifying for Mrs. Pasquale. Her passion for her students and staff drives her ambition to continue to make a difference in the educational system. That passion has led her to her current role as the principal of Longfellow Elementary School.

She currently resides in Highland Heights. Outside of work, she values time spent with her husband, four children, large extended family, and friends. She has fun vacationing, shopping, and watching Ohio State football, which holds a special place for her and her family as all four children have followed in her footsteps by earning their degrees at her alma mater.



Mrs. Cyndi Tomassetti

Principal, Royalview Elementary School

Mrs. Tomassetti began her career in the Riverside School District as a Title I reading teacher and then as a first grade teacher. After completion of her administrative license, she was hired by Newbury Local Schools where she served as an elementary principal and as a special education director for five years. When Newbury was consolidated by West Geauga Schools, she transitioned to Ashtabula Area City Schools as Director of Pupil Services and then to Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools, where she has been in that same position for the last three years.

She decided to transition back to the building level because she realized she wanted to be part of a community that holds the same beliefs that she does, her uncompromising view that all students can learn, given a positive learning environment. She has experience in program initiatives including building and implementing a Gold Medal Award Winning PBIS Program, transitioning to a standards-based report card platform, and creating a social-emotional curriculum for student support. She believes in strong student, staff, parent, and community relationships and plans to continue that in Willoughby-Eastlake.

Mrs. Tomassetti resides in Painesville Township with her husband. She has three grown children and two dogs. She volunteers her time teaching at her church and enjoys camping and traveling. She is excited to be able to serve the students and staff at Royalview Elementary.



Mrs. Courtney Lausin

Assistant Principal, Longfellow Elementary School and Thomas Jefferson Elementary School

Mrs. Courtney Lausin is a 23 year veteran teacher in the Willoughby-Eastlake School District. Her roots with the district run deep as a life-long resident of Willowick where she

was raised and has raised her own children. She earned her bachelor's degree from Cleveland State University, and a Master's of Elementary Education and a Master's of Educational Administration at John Carroll University.

Mrs. Lausin brings a wealth of experience to her new role, having served in various educational capacities throughout her career, most recently as a first grade teacher at Grant Elementary. From classroom teaching to curriculum development and student support, she has consistently demonstrated a rich understanding of teaching and learning that has been focused on the varied needs of diverse learners.

Her enthusiasm for elementary education will be evident in the halls and classrooms, at recess playing with the students, and at extracurricular activities such as performances, celebrations, and district-wide events. She is very student-centered and looks forward to supporting students, their families and staff members in this new role.

In addition to being an educator, Mrs. Lausin enjoys spending time with her family and friends, reading, and watching Cleveland sports teams. Mrs. Lausin and her husband, Dave, live in Willowick and they have three adult children, Josie, Jack and Ben. In Willowick, Mrs. Lausin is also a familiar face with the city's aquatic programs where she has served in multiple leadership roles supporting her community.

Bus Information

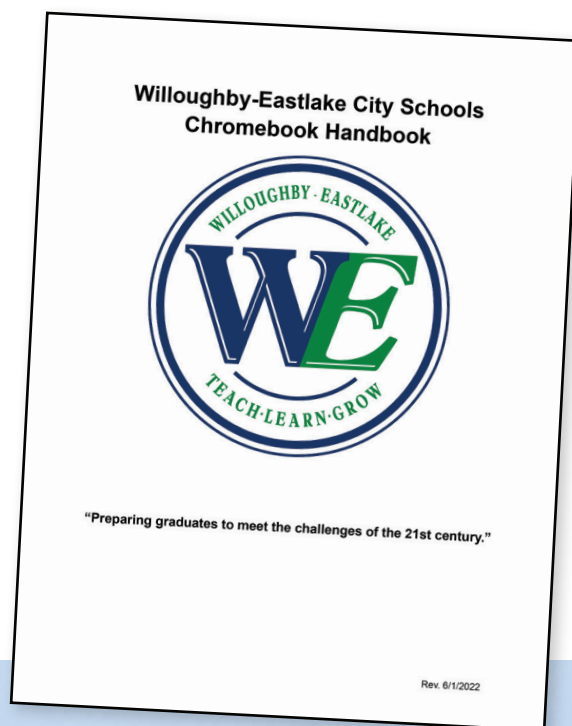
Access your child's bus schedule, including bus numbers and routes, by logging into your PowerSchool Parent Portal.

- Bus schedules are not mailed home for students attending Willoughby-Eastlake schools.
- Bus schedules must be accessed via the PowerSchool Parent Portal and can only be viewed through a web browser. (See the section about Technology for accessing your Parent Portal).
- Non-public school students do receive their bus information via the mail.
- Bus schedules will be available beginning August 14th.
- For new families, bus routes will be available 48 hours after registration is completed.

Technology

The department supports the 1:1 Chromebook initiative which ensures that all students have a device to use at school.

- All K-2 students use Chromebooks from dedicated carts for use throughout the school day.
- Students in grades 3-12 receive a Chromebook, case and charger and may use their Chromebooks at school and at home.
- An annual technology fee of \$20.00 will be required for all students to defray the costs of technology.
- Please refer to the [Chromebook Handbook](#) for important information.



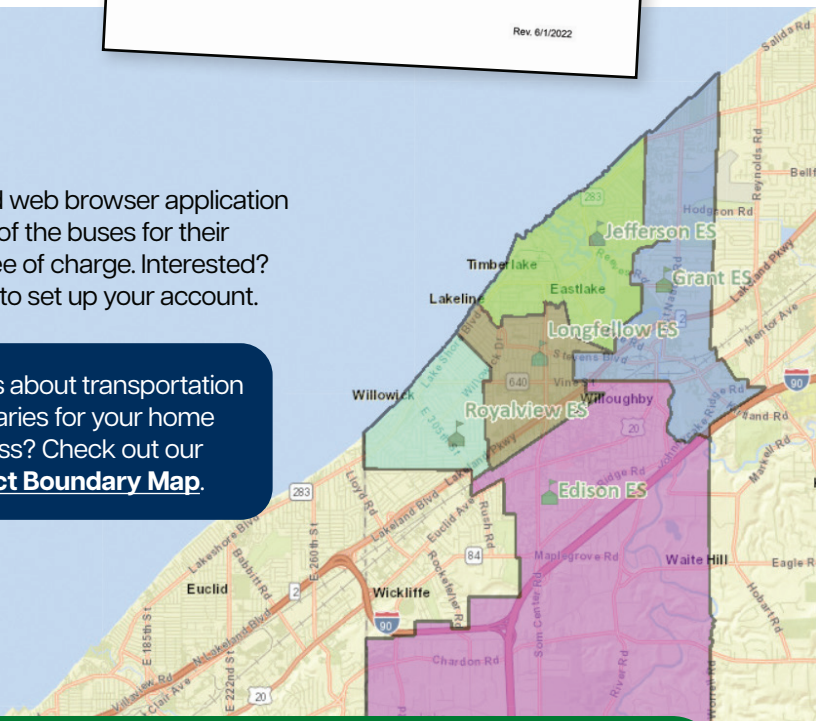
Petermann Bus Tracker

Our school bus partner, Petermann, has developed a phone and web browser application that allows parents and guardians to securely view the location of the buses for their children in relation to their assigned bus stop. This is available free of charge. Interested? Check it out by clicking on the logo below for directions on how to set up your account.



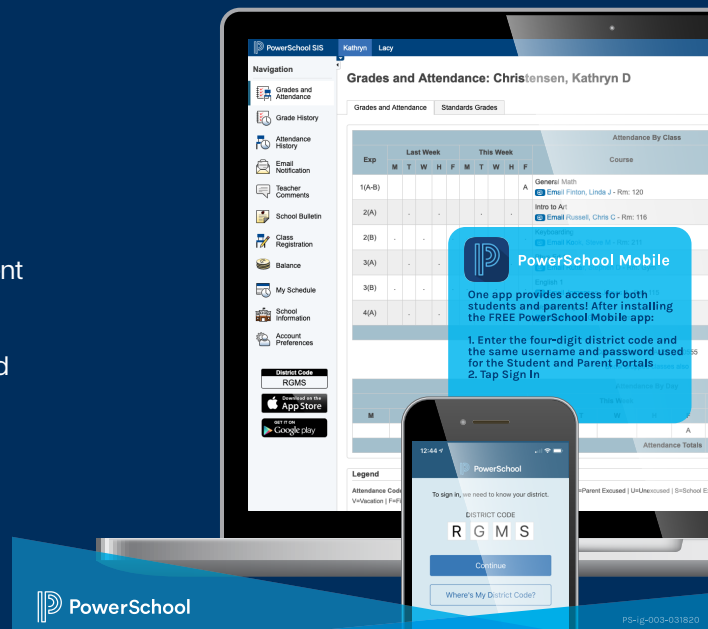
Questions about transportation boundaries for your home address? Check out our [District Boundary Map](#).

Questions about your child's bus?
Contact your child's building secretary.



PowerSchool Parent Portal

The district uses PowerSchool as its student information data management system. A great feature of PowerSchool is the Parent Portal. The Parent Portal allows parents to log into a web-based system to check their student's grade and assignments beginning with third graders. If you need help accessing your Parent Portal account, you can contact your child's building, and we have resources online that are linked to the right.



School Messenger

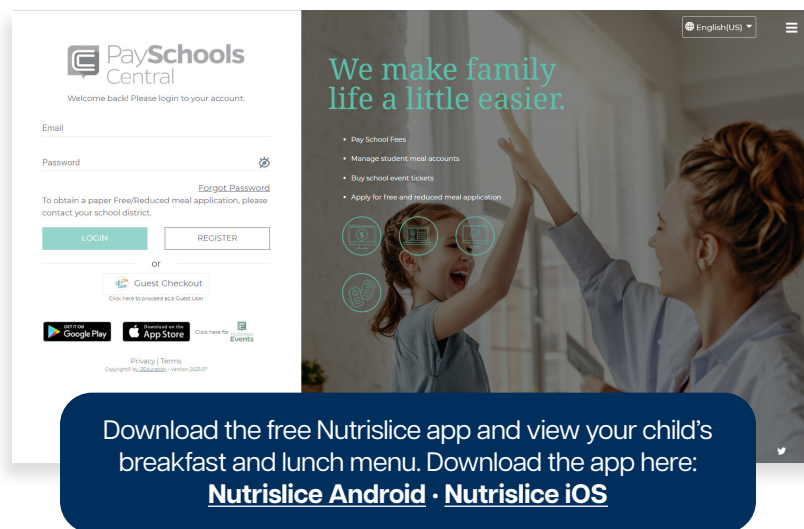
School Messenger is the mass call notification system that is used by the school district. The district utilizes this system to place informational calls and to send information via email to families about upcoming events. The system can also be used to notify parents of calamity days when they are necessary, or when critical and timely information needs to be shared. Your phone numbers and notification settings can also be updated from within the Parent Portal.



Food Services and the PaySchools Central System

Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools utilizes PaySchools Central, an online fee payment service. This enables families to manage their child's account for meals and school fees in one place. This service is beneficial because you can:

- Manage payments 24/7, at your convenience on any device
- Set up auto-replenish to automatically refill your child's food services account when they are running low
- Pay school fees
- Set reminders and alerts
- Review your child's purchases



Access [PaySchoolsCentral](https://www.weschools.org) now to get all set up!

Meal Prices for 2023-2024

PAID MEAL PRICES

Elementary

Student Breakfast	\$2.25
Student Lunch	\$3.25
Adult Lunch	\$3.75

Middle School

Student Breakfast	\$2.25
Student Lunch	\$3.50
Adult Lunch	\$4.00

High School

Student Breakfast	\$2.25
Student Lunch	\$3.75
Adult Lunch	\$4.25

Free and Reduced Meals

If a student qualifies for Free or Reduced meals, there is no charge for breakfast or lunch meals.

- All meals include one main entree and up to three total fruit and vegetable sides and milk.
- Additional ala carte items such as cookies, chips, drinks, etc. are purchased for an additional price.
- Parents and Guardians may use the PaySchools Central system to put money on a student's account, or pay via cash or check at the school. No change will be given at the point of service. Refunds can be requested if needed.
- Students may qualify for free or reduced priced meals. The Free & Reduced Meal application can be accessed online via the **PaySchoolsCentral** website or app. A paper application can be requested from your child's school and returned to the school upon completion. Please complete the application and return to the school as soon as possible in order for qualified services to begin.

Important Contacts

School District Main Numbers

Preschool 440-283-2220	Edison 440-942-2099
Grant 440-942-5944	Jefferson 440-942-7244
Longfellow 440-975-3720	Royalview 440-944-3130
School of Innovation 440-942-1525	Eastlake Middle School 440-942-5696
Willoughby Middle School 440-975-3600	Willowick Middle School 440-943-2950
South High School 440-975-3648	North High School 440-975-3666
Northern Career Center–Eastlake 440-602-5094	Northern Career Center–Willoughby 440-602-5092
Board of Education 440-946-5000	

Attendance Numbers

Please call the school to report your student's absence.

Preschool 440-283-2220	Edison 440-283-2176
Grant 440-283-4085	Jefferson 440-283-2177
Longfellow 440-283-4086	Royalview 440-283-2179
School of Innovation 440-283-2149	Eastlake Middle School 440-283-4084
Willoughby Middle School 440-283-2182	Willowick Middle School 440-283-2183
South High School 440-283-2180	North High School 440-283-2178
Northern Career Center–Eastlake 440-283-4087	Northern Career Center–Willoughby 440-283-4088

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2023-2024 School Calendar

Student Start Date – August 21st · Kindergarten Dates – August 23rd-24th (Staggered Start)
Preschool Start Dates – August 25th and 28th (Staggered Start)

		August - 2023 (11)					February - 2024 (20)						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
17	Teachers - First Day		1	2	3	4				1	2		
18	Professional Development	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9		
21	Students First Day	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16		
23-24	Kindergarten - Staggered Start	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	19	Presidents' Day - No school
25	All Kindergarten/Preschool - First Day	28	29	30	31		26	27	28	29			
		September - 2023 (20)					March - 2024 (16)						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
						1					1		
4	Labor Day - No School	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8		
		11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	13	End of 3rd Quarter
		18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	25-29	Spring Break - No School
		25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	29	Good Friday - No school
		October - 2023 (21)					April - 2024 (22)						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
		2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	1	Teacher Comp. Day - No School
13	NEOE Day - No School	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	2	Classes Resume
18	End of 1st Quarter	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	8	Professional Devel. - No Students
		23	24	25	26	27	22	23	24	25	26		
		30	31				29	30					
		November - 2023 (20)					May - 2024 (18)						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
				1	2	3			1	2	3		
7	Professional Devel. - No Students	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	23	End of 4th Quarter
23-24	Thanksgiving - No School	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	23	Students - Last Day
27	Teacher Comp. Day - No School	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	24	Teachers - Last day
28	Classes Resume	27	28	29	30		27	28	29	30	31	27	Memorial Day
		December - 2023 (15)					June - 2024						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
						1	3	4	5	6	7		
		4	5	6	7	8	10	11	12	13	14		
21	End of 2nd Quarter	11	12	13	14	15	17	18	19	20	21	19	Juneteenth
21	End of Semester	18	19	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28		
22-29	Winter Break - No School	25	26	27	28	29							
		January - 2024 (19)					July - 2024						
		M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F		
1-3	Winter Break - No School	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	4	Independence Day
4	Classes Resume	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12		
15	MLK - No School	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19		
		22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26		
		29	30	31			29	30	31				

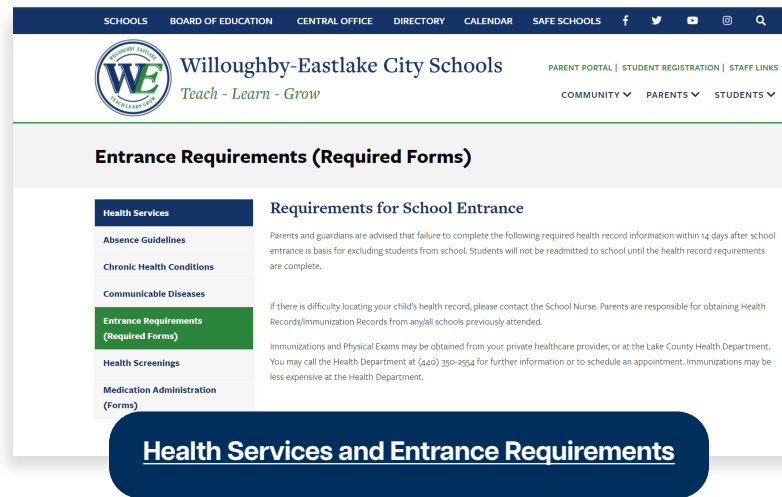
Important Health Forms Through Snapcode

We utilize a computerized program to manage student health information. One parent from each family will receive a Snapcode via email that will allow you to update all of your child's contact, medical and other essential information. These forms are important as it is your way to notify us as to your child's medical conditions, allergies, required medications and emergency contact information. Please complete this information promptly—help us keep your child safe while at school! If you do not receive an email with your code, please contact your child's school. It is important that this information is updated annually.

Here is the link to enter your [Snapcode](#) and access your forms.

Health Services and Entrance Requirements

All students must meet Ohio's immunization requirements in order to attend school. These requirements change annually, and may be found under the Health Services tab of our website, listed under Entrance Requirements. You may email or deliver paper copies of any updates to your child's immunization status to your school nurse. If you choose to sign an opt out letter for immunizations, it must be submitted at the start of each school year.



Medications

Whenever possible, medications should be administered during non-school hours. However, in the event your child needs medications during the school day, please contact your school clinic for further information. Prescription medications require a doctor's order and must be supplied in labeled pharmacy containers and must be delivered to the school by a parent/guardian. Do not send medication with students. Non-prescription medications (Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, cough syrup, etc.) require only written permission from a parent/guardian, and must also come in original containers. Forms for medications may be found under the Health Services tab, or are available in each of our clinics.



School Supply Lists

To access your school's supply list, click on the link below which provides access to all elementary and middle school supply lists. High school students will be provided with a list of school supply needs by their teachers. This link is accessible on the district website's Parent Page.

[School Supply Lists](#)

School Fees

School fees are charged for consumable items. These are items that students use each year that have to be replaced annually or can only be used by a single student and they will keep the item, such as headphones. Examples of consumable items include workbooks, learning magazine subscriptions, and course supplies (for science or art, for example).

The school fees and co-curricular fees are approved by the Board of Education annually and can be found at this link to [Student Fee Schedules](#) and [Co-Curricular Fees](#).

Elementary Y-CARE (Before and After School Care)

The district partners with the Lake County YMCA which offers before and after school programs for school age children. Please see the information below for the elementary schools where Y-CARE is available, or click on the YMCA logo for registration information and necessary enrollment forms. You may reach out to the contacts below, or to Pattie Ritt, Senior Child Care Director, **440-710-6754**, pritt@lakecountyyymca.org, with specific questions.

Edison Elementary

Before school care: 6:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

After school care: End of school to 6:00 p.m.

Edisonadmin@lakecountyyymca.org

Grant Elementary

Before school care: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

After school care: End of school to 6:00 p.m.

Grantadmin@lakecountyyymca.org

Jefferson Elementary

Before school care: 6:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

After school care: End of school to 6:00 p.m.

Jeffersonadmin@lakecountyyymca.org

Longfellow Elementary

Before school care: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

After school care: End of school to 6:00 p.m.

Longfellowadmin@lakecountyyymca.org

Royalview Elementary

Before school care: 6:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

After school care: End of school to 6:00 p.m.

Royalviewadmin@lakecountyyymca.org



[YMCA Y-CARE Website](#)






Willoughby-Eastlake Preschool

Did you know that our district operates its own preschool program for three and four year olds? The preschool helps our littlest learners gain the skills they need to successfully transition to kindergarten. The classes are usually filled in the spring and there is a waitlist.

If interested in learning more about the services and the tuition for your preschooler, check out the [Preschool Website](#).

[SCHOOLS](#) [BOARD OF EDUCATION](#) [CENTRAL OFFICE](#) [DIRECTORY](#) [CALENDAR](#) [SAFE SCHOOLS](#) [f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [i](#) [s](#)



Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools
Teach - Learn - Grow


[PARENT PORTAL](#) | [STUDENT REGISTRATION](#) | [STAFF LINKS](#)
[COMMUNITY](#) ▾ [PARENTS](#) ▾ [STUDENTS](#) ▾

NCI Information

Career and Technical Education
NCI Information
[Accreditation](#)
[Attendance Policy](#)
[Attendance Policy, Bus Code of Conduct & Media Release Form](#)
[Bus Code of Conduct](#)
[Bus Tracker Information](#)
[Excel Tecc Policies & Procedures](#)

Northern Career Institute

NCI - Eastlake Campus 34050 Glen Drive Eastlake, OH 44095 440-602-5094 Attendance Phone: 440-283-4087 Administrator: Vicki Morley vicki.morley@ncioh.edu	NCI - Willoughby Campus 34343 Euclid Ave Willoughby, OH 44094 440-602-5092 Attendance Phone: 440-283-4088 Administrator: Robin Hopkins robin.hopkins@weschools.org
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[Visit the Northern Career Institute Page](#)

Northern Career Institute

Willoughby-Eastlake offers career and technical education programs in partnership with the Excel TECC Consortium. This partnership allows us to offer our high school students quality education and career opportunities as they prepare for further education, employment or military enlistment following graduation. During the year, students in the 10th grade have an opportunity to learn about the program options and apply to join [Excel TECC](#) as a junior. If you have a high school student, you might want to plan ahead and check out this great option.