

Brooklyn Bridge

A monthly newsletter connecting you to Wetzel County Schools' County Office

VOL. 2, ISSUE 4



JASON
Argonaut
Program
2018



JASON
Recycling
Video &
Poster



American
Education
Week
Proclamation



Wetzel
County
Schools
Levy



Upcoming
Trainings

JASON LEARNING IS LOOKING FOR ARGONAUTS!

Who should apply?

Students who:

Will be between 13-18 years old on June 1, 2018

Demonstrate a strong interest and ability in science

Possess excellent leadership and teamwork skills

Are self-motivated, creative, and adventurous!

Teachers who:

Demonstrate outstanding performance working with students

Demonstrate a strong interest and ability in science

Possess excellent leadership and teamwork skills

Are self-motivated, creative, and adventurous

Have five or more years experience working with students

Applications due **January 15th**

[Click here to apply online!](#)

2018 USA Expedition Locations



Expedition locations, dates, and research topics subject to change

2018 International Expedition Locations



Expedition locations, dates, and research topics subject to change



JASON LEARNING AND ISRI PRESENT



2018 Recycling Video & Poster Contest

RECYCLING IS BIGGER THAN THE BIN

Calling all artists, filmmakers, and recyclers! Students in grades K-12 are invited to participate in a national recycling awareness contest sponsored by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) and JASON Learning. The theme of this year's contest is "Recycling is Bigger than the Bin!"

Most of the recycling we see today happens in the blue bin in your house. We recycle our paper, newspapers, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, and steel food cans by placing them in the blue bin and putting it on the curb once a week. That's easy!

But what about those things that are "bigger than the bin"—how are those recycled? All around us there are items that will not fit into that bin. Everything from bicycles to skyscrapers can potentially be recycled, but not in a blue bin.


Your challenge is to choose an item that is "bigger than the bin" and find a way to recycle it!

Create something amazing, and you could win our grand prize—a trip to ISRI's annual convention, which will take place in April 2018 in Las Vegas!

CONTEST DEADLINE
DECEMBER 15, 2017

VISIT WWW.JASON.ORG/RECYCLING-CONTEST TO SEE COMPLETE RULES AND GUIDELINES.
CONTEST SUBMISSIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.
ENTRIES CAN BE AS INDIVIDUALS OR TEAMS.





AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK PROCLAMATION

November 13-17, 2017

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing your people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, education employees, be they substitute educators, cooks, custodians, teachers, bus operators, secretaries, maintenance, mechanics, aides, or librarians, work tireless to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in a common enterprise.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Wetzel County Board of Education, serving as Wetzel County Schools, do hereby proclaim November 13-17, 2017 as the 96th annual observance of American Education Week.

As an expression of our gratitude, we will dismiss school staff at 12:30 on Friday, December 22, so that the holiday break can begin a half day early.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and rewarding school year.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Blain

Starr
Amy

Bird

JAB



WETZEL COUNTY SCHOOLS EXCESS LEVY RENEWAL

DECEMBER 15, 2017



What is the Wetzel County Excess Levy?

The Excess Levy is a five-year, 100% levy that will not increase the tax rates for Wetzel County citizens. This Levy generates 15.5 million dollars annually for the school system and provides programs and services for students and benefits for employees. Wetzel County citizens have approved the excess levy since the early 1950s.

How will the monies generated by the levy be used?

- \$750,000 for instructional materials such as textbooks, workbooks, supplies, and equipment for all students
- \$800,000 for technology hardware, software, infrastructure, repair, training, and funding for providing a lap-top or tablet to every preK-12 Wetzel County Schools student
- \$4,000,000 for facilities improvement, renovation, repair, and maintenance
- \$8,170,146 for employees' dental and optical insurance, salary supplements, fixed charges, substitute costs, and positions in excess of the state funding formula
- \$150,000 to support academic and athletic trips
- \$350,000 to provide curricular tutors and athletic coaches
- \$100,000 to support unfunded mandated positions
- \$70,000 for duplicating equipment and supplies
- \$200,000 to provide speech, occupational, and physical therapy services and athletic conditioning and training
- \$40,000 to support Wetzel County Public Libraries
- \$100,000 to annually purchase an additional school bus
- \$170,000 to place a school resource officer at each attendance area



- \$500,000 to continue providing free breakfast and hot lunch to all students
- \$70,000 to fund an ACT/SAT preparation and incentive plan which will provide test preparation courses to all students, and will provide book scholarships to successful completers of the course with qualifying scores

What are some specific benefits to the students and employees from levy monies?

The costs for instructional supplies have steadily grown over the years. During the 2016-2017 school year monies spent on supply requests totaled \$593,718. Textbook adoptions continue to be a large part of the budget, accounting for \$742,986 last year alone. Instructional supplies dollars also provide for furniture and equipment upgrades and replacement, math and science lab supplies, fine arts supplies, and magazines and updated reading materials for school libraries.

Over the years levy monies have contributed to improvements in technology capabilities. Interactive whiteboards have been installed in every classroom and new technologies have brought us closer to the replacement cycle. We are proud to be able to provide, through the passage of this levy, laptops or tablets for every student in Wetzel County Schools. The cost of maintaining and improving the infrastructure to best utilize these devices continues to rise.

Maintenance and repairs at nine separate sites is an expensive task. However, the facilities department continues to prioritize and complete needed projects. This past summer many facilities projects were completed, creating a safer environment both inside and outside each building. In order to continue to operate and improve our facilities an additional \$2,000,000 is proposed in the levy for capital improvements.

Student academic growth remains our focus in Wetzel County. Although technologies, tools, and programs contribute to the success of our students, nothing can replace the value of a well-trained, qualified, and hard working staff. In the past, we have lost good people to neighboring counties. We plan to use these levy monies to help remedy that problem by contributing to local pay raises and staff Dental and Optical benefits. We want Wetzel County Schools to be a destination for our state's best educators.

What happens if the Levy is defeated?

Without the income from the Levy the school system will suffer. Since it is required by law that Boards of Education operate within a balanced budget, many of the benefits to employees and students will either be eliminated or curtailed to a great extent. We ask for your support on December 15.



Guys and Dolls

The Griffin Players, comprised of students from Paden City, New Martinsville, and Magnolia, invite you to their production of Guys and Dolls. The production will take place December 7,8,9,and 10 at Magnolia High School. Performance times are 7:00 pm on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and 2:00 pm on Sunday. Tickets can be purchased at the door, or by [clicking here](#).

PAC Meetings

The following dates have been chosen for the Title I—Parent Advisory Committee meetings. All will fall on Thursdays, from 10:00 to 11:00 am at the Wetzel County Board Office in the Board Room.

January 11

March 8

April 12

Winter Menu Available Online

Wetzel County Schools – Fall Menu					
LUNCH Menu			August 21 – November 9		
WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
W	Chili Dog Crispy Beans Cantaloupe Applesauce	Chicken/Peas Casseroles Broccoli/Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Red Pepper Sticks	Pepperoni Chicken Corn w/Red Cdn. Green Beans Fresh Bread Watermelon	Spaghetti w/Meat Pasta Cup Casseroles Sticks Fruit	Under the Sea Shrimp w/Chili Sauce Fruit Sticks w/Chili Hot n' Cheesy Diced Beans Candy Sticks Fresh Apple Slices
E²	Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Broccoli/Potatoes Peas	BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich Tater Tots Fruit Sticks Candy Sticks Fresh Apples	Pepperoni Chicken w/ Dipping Sauce Corn Green Beans Candy Sticks Fresh Apple Slices	Delishious Ham w/Peas Hot Fries Candy Sticks or Cookies	Spaghetti Hot Fries Candy Sticks or Cookies
L	Shrimp w/Chili Crispy Beans Cantaloupe Fruit Cocktail	Casseroles Spring Mix Salad w/ Dressing Candy Sticks Fruit	BBQ Chicken w/ Coke Peas and Carrots Fruit	Orange Chicken Stir Fry Vegetable Mix Brown Rice Orange Sticks Fruit Cocktail	Pepperoni w/Meat Salad w/Dressing Candy Sticks Fruit Cocktail Shrimp Sticks Shrimp Sticks

Trainings

Don't forget to use the ERO system to register and check for updates!

<http://>

ero5.eschoolsolutions.com

District ID: 26155



Wetzel County Schools
return from break on
JANUARY 3