



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

HIGH SCHOOL

Nov / 2025

High School Office

Attendance and Unexcused Absences:

We want every student in class, learning, and supported — and we know families want the same. Thank you for all you do to help your student show up and stay on track.

An absence is considered **unexcused** if it isn't documented or allowed under West Delaware policy. Arriving **30 minutes or more late to class counts as an absence**.

The State of Iowa recognizes certain reasons as excused (as long as a parent/guardian contacts the school within 48 hours). These include:

- Court appointments or court orders
- Religious instruction/observance
- Medical needs, ongoing medical conditions, or a recommendation from the school nurse to stay home
- Military processing
- Family travel for a funeral or a wedding

When unexcused absences start to build, we step in early to offer support and keep students connected:

- **After 2 unexcused absences:** we meet with the student and give a reminder about expectations
- **After 4 unexcused absences:** a second reminder is given, parents/guardians are contacted, and our attendance team and administration are notified so we can work together
- **After 6 unexcused absences:** the student is referred to administration, we schedule an Attendance Contract meeting with the family, and we may review continued enrollment in the class to make sure the student is set up for success

Our goal is not to punish — it's to partner with you. Please call or email the office any time your student needs to miss; your communication helps us support them.



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

HIGH SCHOOL

Counselors' Corner

Early Graduation Requests:

Seniors who wish to graduate early, and who have met all graduation requirements, must apply. In order to graduate early, students must have the approval of the principal and WD school board. Early graduation request forms are available in the High School Office.

Deadline for applications is January 7th, 2026 for Term 2 requests and March 4th, 2026 for Term 3 Requests.

ACT Test Date:

The ACT is a standardized exam used in the college admission process. The next offering is December 13th, 2025 with a registration deadline of November 7th, 2025. Visit act.org for more information.

PICC Registration Ending Soon:

Students who are scheduled to take a PICC (Placement in College Credit Course) during semester 2 have received an informational email from Mrs. Piersch on how to select their course through NICC. This needs to be completed by November 4th, 2025. No late forms will be accepted.

Brain Health Bit:

Healthy eating plays a powerful role in supporting mental health. Nutrient-rich foods like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins help regulate mood, improve focus, and reduce stress by providing essential vitamins and minerals that support brain function. Over time, healthy eating habits can lead to better emotional resilience, reduced risk of anxiety and depression, and an overall sense of well-being. This is the focus of this month's Together We Are Brain Health Campaign at the high school. Be sure to wear your No Hawk Stands Alone shirt on Thursday, November 6th



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

HIGH SCHOOL

Notes from the Nurse

Albuterol Inhalers and EpiPens

If your student carries an inhaler for asthma or an EpiPen for severe allergic reaction/anaphylaxis, the health office needs to have the attached form signed and turned in to Mr. Timmerman. If your student keeps their inhaler and/or EpiPen in the health office, you do not need to sign this form.

9th Grade Dental Screenings

All 9th-grade students need to have a certificate of dental screening form turned in to the health office by November 15th, 2025. The screening form needs to be completed by a dentist or dental hygienist. A screening completed within one year prior to enrollment in 9th grade will be accepted. If your student had a dental screening during that time frame, please take the form back to your provider for their signature and return it to the school. Iowa Department of Public Health Certificate of Dental Screening forms can be found here: <https://w-delaware.k12.ia.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Certificate-of-Dental-Screening-3-1>

Activities Office

Winter sports are coming up fast, and we want our students involved. If your student plans to participate, please make sure they are registered in Bound and that their physical and concussion forms are current before practices begin. Getting this done early clears them to participate on day one and keeps everything running smoothly for coaches and athletes. If you're not sure about your student's status, reach out — we're happy to help.



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

HIGH SCHOOL

District Office

We Did It: WDHS is “High Performing”!

West Delaware High School has officially earned a **High Performing** rating on the 2025 Iowa School Performance Profile. This is a big deal. Only about 18% of schools in Iowa receive the High Performing designation, and our overall performance score continues to climb.

In the last three years, WDHS has moved from **Commendable (2023)** to **Acceptable (2024)** to **High Performing (2025)**, with an overall score of **681.15 out of 900** this year. That growth reflects the work of our students, our staff, and our families — showing up, learning, supporting each other, and refusing to settle.

West Delaware ranks #1 in the WAMAC and #12 in the state of Iowa!

We're proud of where we are, and we're not done. Our next goal is to keep pushing learning, attendance, and opportunity so every student leaves West Delaware set up for success.

Thank you for being part of this. **Next step is to reach the Exceptional Level!** Go Hawks!

Upcoming Dates

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[BOUND CALENDAR](#)

[FOOD SERVICE MENUS](#)

- 11/5, 11/12, 11/19 - Early Out
- 11/6, 11/8, 11/9 - Fall Musical
- 11/10 - School Board Meeting
- 11/26-11/28 - Thanksgiving Break