



# Wilmot Union High School WUHS TODAY

ISSUE 23 • JUNE, 2025



## To the Class of 2025 –

As you prepare to take your next big step, know that your Wilmot family is cheering you on every step of the way. We've watched you grow into thoughtful, resilient, and capable individuals, ready to leave your mark on the world.

Whether you're heading to college, the workforce, the military, or exploring new paths, we hope you carry with you the memories, friendships, and lessons learned here. Never forget the power of hard work, kindness, and staying true to yourself.

**You've made us proud. Now go show the world what Panthers can do.**

With all our love and support,

Your Wilmot Union High School Family

### BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS:

WORKING BOARD MEETING:  
JUNE 9 - 4:30 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING:  
JUNE 25 - 6:00 PM

[CLICK HERE FOR THE 25-26  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CALENDAR](#)

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE SMS ALERTS  
TO  
JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST**

*Congratulations!*



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## **Celebrating Three Years of Wilmot Pride!**

As the school year draws to a close, I'm filled with immense pride reflecting on what we've accomplished together over the past three years at Wilmot Union High School. It's been an incredible journey, and the progress we've made is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our students, staff, families, and the entire community.



Dr. Michael Plourde  
District Administrator

### **Academic Excellence and Student Growth**

When I look at our academic achievements, it's clear that our commitment to student success is paying off in remarkable ways. We've achieved the **highest 4-year graduation rate on record**, a truly inspiring milestone that speaks volumes about our collective efforts to support every student's journey.

This spring, our students showcased their incredible growth as **ACT scores reached the highest composite average since 2021-22**. This significant improvement demonstrates the effectiveness of our instructional practices and our sharp focus on academic excellence. We've also seen a **large increase in the number of students taking AP classes and the total number of AP tests taken**, signifying a growing pursuit of advanced learning and challenging coursework. Our academic prowess isn't just about test scores; our **Academic Decathlon (AcaDec) team** continues to dominate, once again clinching the **state championship!**

Furthermore, Wilmot has earned a statewide reputation as **a leader in secondary-level standards-based grading**. This recognition highlights our innovative spirit and willingness to embrace new approaches to teaching and learning that truly benefit our students.

### **A Nurturing and Engaging School Environment**

Beyond academics, the positive transformation in our school climate has been truly heartwarming. **Discipline referrals have decreased dramatically** over the last few years, a clear reflection of our collective dedication to creating a positive, safe, and supportive learning environment where every student feels valued.

We've also seen a fantastic trend in **student attendance**, with rates steadily improving over the past year. Most notably, we've achieved an **almost 50% reduction in absenteeism**, showing that more of our Panthers are engaged and present in their learning journey.



Dr. Michael Plourde  
District Administrator

Our commitment to holistic development shines through in our extracurriculars. **Student co-curricular participation is at its highest level since COVID**, a vibrant testament to our ability to engage students beyond the classroom and provide them with enriching experiences that foster teamwork, talent, and passion. Our arts programs are thriving, too, with our musical production of **"Grease" selling a record-breaking 2,222 tickets** – our best-attended musical ever! And the success of events like **Winter Fest** truly highlights our strong sense of community and school spirit.

This year, a group of **22 students embarked on an unforgettable trip to Panama**, thanks to the dedication of Ms. Youra, Mr. Bender, and Ms. Acosta. These invaluable global experiences broaden horizons and create lifelong memories.

### **Responsible Stewardship and Community Trust**

Sound financial management has been a cornerstone of our success. Our commitment to responsible stewardship allowed us to achieve a **six-figure surplus last year**, ensuring we can continue to invest in our students, programs, and facilities.

And of course, a monumental victory for our entire school community was the recent **passage of the \$22.9M capital referendum**. This significant achievement will enable us to improve our facilities for generations to come, providing modern and safe spaces for learning and growth.

## Looking Ahead

These past three years have been a period of remarkable growth and achievement for Wilmot Union High School. These successes aren't mine; they belong to each and every one of you - our exceptional educators, dedicated support staff, engaged parents, and most importantly, our incredible students. Your hard work, passion, and belief in what we can achieve together are truly inspiring.



Dr. Michael Plourde  
District Administrator

**Thank you for being an integral part of the Wilmot family. I am honored to have served as your District Administrator for the past three years.**

Go Panthers!

*Michael Plourde*

Dr. Michael Plourde  
District Administrator





Dear Wilmot Families,

As we bring the 2024-2025 school year to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared and to thank you for being such an essential part of our school community.

This year has been filled with academic growth, creativity, and joyful learning. From the energy of our students in classrooms to the enthusiasm at school events, assemblies, and extracurricular activities, it's been truly rewarding to see our school come alive each day. Our students continue to amaze us with their curiosity, kindness, and commitment to learning—and that is a direct reflection of the support they receive from home.

I also want to recognize the dedication of our outstanding teachers and staff. Their passion, professionalism, and tireless efforts help make Wilmot a place where children thrive. Thank you for trusting us with your child's education and for partnering with us throughout the year.

We are incredibly grateful to our entire school community for your support in passing the recent capital referendum. This investment in our district's future ensures that our students will benefit from safe, modern, and engaging learning environments for years to come. Your support demonstrates a shared commitment to excellence in education and to the success of every child in our care. Thank you for making this possible.

As summer begins, I hope your family finds time to rest, recharge, and enjoy some well-deserved fun together. Whether you're exploring new places or enjoying the simple pleasures of home, I encourage our students to stay curious, keep reading, and embrace opportunities for learning in everyday life.

We're already looking ahead with excitement to the 2025-2026 school year. It will be another year of building on our successes, deepening our commitment to every learner, and continuing to grow as a school community. Until then, I wish you a safe, joyful, and memorable summer.

With appreciation,

Rob Kreil  
Principal, Wilmot School



Rob Kreil  
Principal











WILMOT UNION  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Congratulations*  
**GENEVIEVE  
SPENCER**

VALEDICTORIAN

**CLASS OF 2025**

*Leading the Class,  
Inspiring the Future!*





WILMOT UNION  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Congratulations*

EVAN  
KERKMAN

SALUTATORIAN

CLASS OF 2025

*Leading the Class,  
Inspiring the Future!*





Care Solace has developed a Transition into Summer Kit with the following resources:

1. **Summer Tips for Families:** To aid the transition into summer.
2. **Summer Intention Setting:** A guided activity to help families foster purpose and joy.
3. **Healthy Summer Habits:** Tips on screen time, stress, and routine to encourage balance.
4. **How to Find a Therapist:** A guide to accessing support through the summer months.

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# PLTW

# **DISTINGUISHED HIGH SCHOOL**

2024-25

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REOPENING SOON

# THE PAW

🐾 *New Designs* 🐾 *New Prices* 🐾 *New Hours* 🐾  
🐾 *New Products* 🐾 *New Ways to Shop* 🐾



If you are interested in joining our team please email  
[boosterclub@wilmoths.k12.wi.us](mailto:boosterclub@wilmoths.k12.wi.us)

# Congratulations



## Happy Retirement

**DANNETTE CATES**

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Thank you for your invaluable contributions for the past 25 years.

We wish you joy, relaxation, and new adventures in this exciting new chapter of your life.



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# Congratulations



*Happy  
Retirement*

**DENISE MUHLENBECK**

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Thank you for your invaluable contributions for the past 21 years.

We wish you joy, relaxation, and new adventures in this exciting new chapter of your life.



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# STAFF *Spotlight*

With 24 years at Wilmot, Mr. Morrow brings passion, humor, and hands-on experience to our Tech Ed program. A UW-Stout and Lesley University grad, he's PLTW-certified and a Tony Tikalsky Award winner. In 2023–24, his students earned a 100% pass rate in Fusion and Revit—talk about excellence! Students call him “funny,” “awesome,” and “the best carpentry teacher.” Outside school, he's a devoted dad, lifelong Waterford resident, and fan of hunting, farming, and the Packers. Thanks, Mr. Morrow, for inspiring excellence every day! 💡🔧

#StaffSpotlight #WilmotPride

#TechEdChampion



**ERIC MORROW**

**TECH ED TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

With 33 years of teaching and a passion that never fades, Ms. Kerkman brings energy, heart, and excellence to Wilmot every day. From coaching cheer for 30+ years to leading college-level English classes (PACC & PIE and Interventions), she inspires students and supports her peers with unwavering dedication.

Students call her “cool,” “kind,” and always willing to help. Her wisdom and warmth make her a true Wilmot treasure!



#WilmotProud #StaffSpotlight  
#ThankATeacher #ELAExcellence  
#GoWilmot



**JULIE KERKMAN**

**ENGLISH TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

Ms. Kristina Braun is making her mark as a first-year teacher at Wilmot! Teaching Algebra I and II and coaching volleyball, Ms. Braun's passion for education shines through every day. Her students appreciate her caring nature and the welcoming atmosphere she creates in the classroom. Known for her kindness and understanding, Ms. Braun is always ready to help and even lets her students listen to music while they work! We're lucky to have such a dedicated and positive new teacher on our staff.



**KRISTINA BRAUN**

**MATH TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

Mr. Thomas Fabian is making a huge impact in his third year at Wilmot as a teacher of AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, and more. With a background as a National Park Ranger and ecologist, he brings unique insights into his lessons, making complex topics both accessible and engaging. Known for his kindness, humor, and commitment to students, Mr.

Fabian is beloved by all. Students appreciate his patience and clear explanations, and staff enjoy his fun, professional approach.

🏠 #WilmotProud #StaffSpotlight  
#EnvironmentalScience #APBio  
#TeachingWithHeart #StudentSuccess



**THOMAS FABIAN**

**SCIENCE TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

For 30 years, Don Serkowski has been inspiring students and shaping the future of Wilmot. As a passionate history teacher, coach, and Academic Decathlon leader (holding the record for most state titles in Wisconsin!), he engages his students in meaningful lessons that go beyond the classroom. Known for making history memorable and for offering life advice, Don is a teacher who truly cares. Whether it's his basketball stories or his commitment to student success, his impact is undeniable!

📱 #WilmotProud #StaffSpotlight  
#HistoryTeacher #AcademicDecathlon  
#Coach #LifeLessons



**DON SERKOWSKI**

**SOCIAL STUDIES  
TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

For 22 years, Mrs. Jessica Runte has been the heartbeat of Wilmot, expertly balancing her roles as a school counselor, volleyball coach (earlier years), department chair, and the mastermind behind the master schedule. Known for her leadership, expertise, and unwavering dedication to students, Mrs. Runte is often called the “glue” that keeps everything together. Whether it’s offering support, advocacy, or a bit of humor, Mrs. Runte makes Wilmot a stronger, more compassionate place for all. 🌟



**JESSICA RUNTE**  
**SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

[Full Information Here!](#)

🏠 #WilmotProud #StaffSpotlight  
#Leadership #StudentAdvocate

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# STAFF *Spotlight*

In her 28th year at Wilmot, English teacher Ms. Chike continues to inspire with her passion, humor, and unmatched ability to make tough material understandable. Students say she makes even their hardest class fun and engaging—and she always reminds them to enjoy the little things in life. Her classroom is filled with energy, compassion, and learning. Outside of school, she loves her grandson Grayson, her dog Scruffy, and cat Igor. Thank you, Ms. Chike, for being a rockstar educator and role model!

#WilmotProud #TeacherSpotlight  
#LiveLaughLoveChike #ThankATeacher



**DEB CHIKE**

**ENGLISH TEACHER**

[Full Information Here!](#)

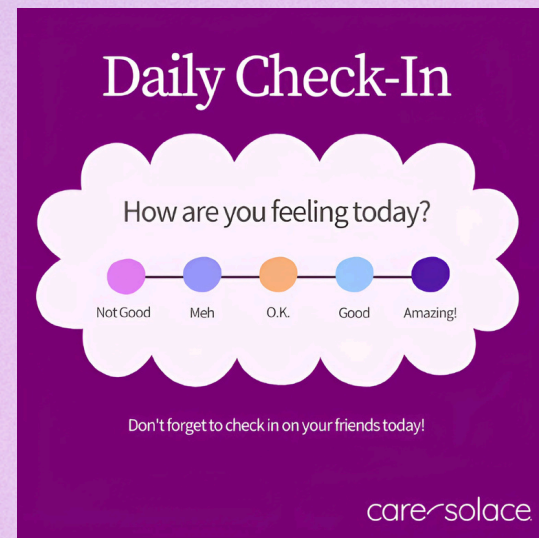
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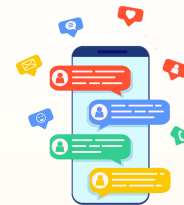
Wilmot Union High School is committed to the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and families.

We are proud to announce our partnership with Care Solace to support our ongoing commitment. If you or a family member are looking for help with mental health or substance use, Care Solace will quickly connect you to community providers matched to your needs.

Call 888-515-0595 at any time or search on your own at [caresolace.com/wilmot](https://caresolace.com/wilmot).



## STAY IN THE KNOW WITH BRIGHTARROW!



We are now using the BrightArrow system to keep you updated with urgent and important texts.

**Text YES to 79041 to opt-in TODAY.**

**Don't miss out—stay connected!**



**PARENT**  
**PANTHER**  
**NEWS**



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# *Congratulations* **CLASS OF 2025**

## CONTACT US TODAY

CLICK ON OUR PHOTO TO SEND AN EMAIL DIRECTLY



JESSICA RUNTE  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR  
A-F



KRISTEN PYE  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR  
G-MA



KARL RICHTER  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR  
MB-SO



MELISSA SWEATMAN  
SCHOOL COUNSELOR  
SP-Z



# 2025 PSAT/NMSQT Test Information

## Attention Sophomore Students & Families:

Students in the Class of 2027 have the opportunity to take the 2025 PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) this fall.


This OPTIONAL test measures critical thinking skills that are essential for success in college, including critical reading, math problem-solving, and writing skills.

The 2025 PSAT/NMSQT is also the qualifying test students must take to enter the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) competitions for college scholarships that will be awarded in 2027.


### Who Typically Takes the PSAT?


- Students planning to take the SAT
- Students who score very high on standardized tests
- Students whose parent is employed by a company participating in the NMSC

### Test Details


 Location: Wilmot Union High School

 Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

 Time: 7:30 a.m.

 Format: Digital test – students must bring a fully charged Chromebook

 Duration: Approximately 3 hours

 Cost: \$18.00 (payable by cash, check, or credit card via Skyward). Make checks payable to Wilmot Union High School.

### Registration:

- To register, complete the [\*\*2025 PSAT/NMSQT Registration Form\*\*](#) and submit your \$18.00 payment by June 6, 2025. Payment options are detailed on the registration form.

If you're unsure whether your student should take the PSAT, please contact their school counselor to discuss if it's the right fit.

## FEATURED RESOURCES

**Click on the WUHS logo below to visit our website!**



**Share a moment when a Wilmot staff member made a positive impact in your life by clicking on the photo below.**



**Don't miss out!  
Click the logo and  
follow our page  
for daily updates!**



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# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**BECOME A FITNESS  
CENTER MEMBER  
TODAY!**



**SCAN ME**



<b><u>Membership Pricing</u></b>	<b><u>Resident</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Resident</u></b>
Family Membership	\$180	\$280
Individual Membership	\$100	\$200
Individual 6 month Membership	\$60	\$120
Individual Quarterly Membership	\$35	\$70
College Student Membership	\$35	\$35
Wilmot UHS & Feeder School Retiree Membership	\$35	\$35
45 minute classes- 8 classes	\$45	\$45
60 minute classes- 8 classes	\$55	\$55
Drop in fee	\$8	\$8

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INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ONLINE WITH**

**GO  FAN<sup>®</sup>**



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# WILMOT UNION HIGH SCHOOL

## **Board of Education - Calendar:**

<https://www.wilmothighschool.com/BOE%20Calendar%202024%202025.pdf>

## **Newsletter Email & SMS List:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfP6W4NQCzyg4OdRT60MXWjPrSOXiCwcxyrt8CT2MNI4mgU0A/viewform>

## **CareSolace:**

<https://caresolace.com/site/wilmot>

## **Family Summer Survival Kit:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dqeVE5NoZ0ObsQeFC\\_Pkka dwkGRjP-ZA/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dqeVE5NoZ0ObsQeFC_Pkka dwkGRjP-ZA/view)

## **PLTW:**

<https://www.wilmothighschool.com/20242025%20PLTW%20Press%20Release%20.pdf>

## **Staff Spotlight Interviews:**

Morrow:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aGWa-KmZOB0UH7rA\\_KnAul8eaqrICoAnwC\\_vogoRVM/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.wcw6l54i2zyr](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aGWa-KmZOB0UH7rA_KnAul8eaqrICoAnwC_vogoRVM/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.wcw6l54i2zyr)

Kerkman:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UPAYVjIGMjydW84UkNUc-hq5BUnb93KheU9lIpVIZfs/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.xc3o6g4empx2>

Braun:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vgPqB6gbFq5ssifn4\\_09jwFC\\_uIt2tuVzMfH0Q3aMW0/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.vcnhv97v8ya](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vgPqB6gbFq5ssifn4_09jwFC_uIt2tuVzMfH0Q3aMW0/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.vcnhv97v8ya)

Fabian:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rx33RF\\_DENu5scCH5fij6jK\\_mqKFt2ssfwPFt881bVo/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.ji6xicu6fuwi](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rx33RF_DENu5scCH5fij6jK_mqKFt2ssfwPFt881bVo/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.ji6xicu6fuwi)

Serkowski:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vuF7SrmVPczxaodhDSTo3C4jz9S7Kt-Uh-gKYt3LL80/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.eaq0klcmkz5f>

Runte:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LeRA2r7tAlxtUe4fjjZjlhaPes84iJw-vflbaONoYR0/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.kt7czrgzdika>

## **PSAT/NMSQT Test Registration 2025:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdd9ri7RRKGjXb0wFUjOUkIXtnWHHJXhxiiJMuXSoOCkKsLFA/viewform>

## **Staff Appreciation:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf45d5rVaDgSnHO4Py\\_tFfTWXhbpNk2yOtJO2nteK46TKQdw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf45d5rVaDgSnHO4Py_tFfTWXhbpNk2yOtJO2nteK46TKQdw/viewform)

## **Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/wilmotuhs>

## **Instagram:**

<https://www.instagram.com/wilmotuhs/>

## **X (Twitter):**

<https://twitter.com/wilmotuhs>

## **Fitness Center Membership:**

[https://www.wilmothighschool.com/about/fitness\\_center.cfm](https://www.wilmothighschool.com/about/fitness_center.cfm)

## **Fitness Center Classes:**

[https://wilmothighschool.cr3.rschoolday.com/public/getclass/category\\_id/-1/program\\_id/6](https://wilmothighschool.cr3.rschoolday.com/public/getclass/category_id/-1/program_id/6)

## **Community Outreach - Class Registration:**

<https://wilmothighschool.cr3.rschoolday.com/public/home/>

## **GoFan:**

<https://gofan.co/app/school/WI19522>

## **ADDITIONAL LINKS:**

### **Athletics Calendar:**

<https://southernlakesconference.org/public/genie/86/school/1/>

### **School Calendar:**

<https://www.wilmothighschool.com/about/calendars.cfm>

### **Parent Panther Newsletter:**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YMyIADrct\\_mUcBFbaNahyJcM5Zjpf7T9ssXNU6OaKOk/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YMyIADrct_mUcBFbaNahyJcM5Zjpf7T9ssXNU6OaKOk/edit)

### **WUHS Newsletter:**

<https://www.wilmothighschool.com/wilmot-updates.cfm>

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