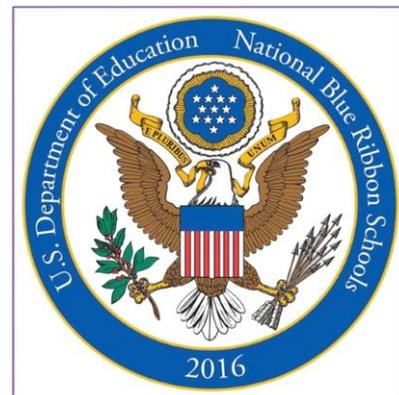


WATAUGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Address: 23181 Watauga Road Abingdon, VA 24211

Telephone: 276-739-3600 Website: wes.wcs.k12.va.us



Upcoming Events

January 3

Schools Reopen

January 9

Report Cards go home

January 10

PTA Board Meeting
(There is not a PTA program scheduled for the month of January.)

Watauga Elementary Welcomes SRO Gemmell

WES is happy to announce our new School Resource Officer, Scott Gemmell, who has been with the Washington County Sheriff's Department since 2014. In addition to serving as a School Resource Officer, Officer Gemmell also serves in the following capacities: Special Response Team, Project Lifesaver team member, and the Honor Guard. Please join us in welcoming Officer Gemmell.



Watauga Elementary Announces Teacher of the Year

Watauga Elementary is thrilled to announce our Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Angela Owens! Mrs. Owens has taught in Washington County and exclusively at Watauga Elementary for nineteen years. Mrs. Owens graduated from Emory and Henry College in 1999 with a Bachelor's Degree in Interdisciplinary English.

When asked what makes her teaching philosophy different from others Mrs. Owens replied, "I believe that fair is not everyone getting the same thing. Fair is everyone getting what they need to succeed. It is my job to make sure all students are treated fairly so they can achieve their maximum potential." Mrs. Owens also believes that she was destined to become a teacher. She feels that caring and encouraging students is the best way to reach students and help them excel. Watauga is so proud of our Teacher of the Year!

WES Teacher of the Year



Mrs. Angela Owens

Where Everyone Succeeds

WES Student is Washington County Spelling Bee Champion

On Thursday, December 6, 2018 spelling bee winners from the seven elementary schools in Washington County competed in the Annual Elementary School Spelling Bee at Rhea Valley Elementary School.

After several rounds and over eighty words, Elizabeth N. from Watauga Elementary School was declared county champion, correctly spelling "treason" and "lustrous". When asked about her favorite part of the spelling bee, she was quick to reply, "calling all of her family to tell them the great news". Elizabeth is now eligible to advance on to the Southern Appalachian Regional Spelling Bee, which will be held at the University of Tennessee campus in Knoxville, Tennessee in March. Congratulations to Elizabeth and all the school spelling bee champions!



Elizabeth Nichols, Washington County Spelling Bee Champion

WES Fifth Grader Competes in State 4H Horse Show

Jaylyn Whitman, a fifth grade student at Watauga Elementary, competed in the Virginia State 4H Horse Show in November. She competed in the Hunter division which means she and her horse had to jump a series of fences that are 2'6" tall. One class of the competition was an equitation class which includes no jumping and only the rider is judged.

Jaylyn is a junior rider, which means her class includes riders that range from 9 to age 14. Her classes were combined with the senior division and included students who are seniors in high school. She competed in four classes within the Hunter/Jumpers Division. The results of the competition are as follows: Intermediate Hunter 2'6" Course A – 9th Place, Intermediate Hunter 2'6" Course B – 10th Place, Hunter Equitation on the Flat – 6th Place, Intermediate Hunter – 9th Place.

Jaylyn's horse, Devoted Joy (DJ), has been with her since last Christmas. DJ is a five year old Thoroughbred. She has a sweet personality and gets excited when Jaylyn gives her banana treats. She rides DJ about four hours every week, especially during the summer because it is show season then. Her trainer works with Jaylyn on a regular basis to get the pair working as a team.

Congratulations, Jaylyn and DJ!



Jaylyn W. with Devoted Joy

