



Webster County Schools Host Opening Day Celebration

Webster County Schools hosted an opening day celebration to kick off the 2025-26 school year on Monday, August 11th. Dixon Elementary School earned the highest attendance award for the 2024-25 school year. After enjoying breakfast, school and departmental teams competed in the Trojan Trivia Challenge, with Webster County Middle School winning.

In his opening day message, Superintendent Aaron Harrell introduced the focus for this year, The Webster Way: Every Student, Every Family, Every Day. His opening day message emphasized the Webster County commitments to communicate clearly, consistently, and proactively, to treat every interaction as an opportunity to serve, and to always lead with empathy. He concluded his message with the challenge to the district to embrace those commitments so families and community know of the great things happening in the schools.

Fall Is Loaded With Opportunities To Have

It can be bittersweet to say farewell to summer. Months of warm weather and sunshine are hard to beat and provide plenty of opportunities to rest and relax.

Just because summer has come and gone doesn't mean the opportunity to enjoy recreation is in the rear-view mirror. Fall is awash in opportunities to enjoy the fresh, inviting air and take part in the various activities that go hand-in-hand with this time of year.

Apple and pumpkin picking

Heading to a nearby orchard or farm and choosing fresh fruit is a hallmark of fall. In fact, these are some of the most popular places to visit on the weekends, as crowds of people clamber to grab their Granny Smith or Cortland apples. Call ahead to learn which varieties are ripe and plan to arrive early before the trees are picked clean.

Apple orchards and pumpkin patches can be dusty, muddy or messy, so dress accordingly for the environment, including closed-toe shoes you don't mind getting dirty. Keep in mind that many of



these establishments are cash-only. Bring cash and expect to have your bounty weighed upon checkout.

Wine tasting

September and October are prime months for grape harvesting, which means local vineyards may host special tours and events to take advantage of their growing season.

Fall also is a great time to visit a vineyard that offers tastings, as you can sit out in the sun and cool weather and enjoy a glass or two of the latest vintage. Follow local vineyards

on social media or get on their email lists to stay on top of upcoming events.

Leaf peeping

The gradual depletion of chlorophyll in tree leaves is responsible for the amazing and colorful display Mother Nature puts on each fall. Everyone is treated to vivid panoramas of reds, oranges, purples, and yellows, making them ideal all-natural photo backdrops.

Plenty of people travel to more rural areas to witness leaves change color, and that means that country ar-

reas can get crowded. It always pays to plan a leaf-peeping excursion for early in the day to account for the possibility of traffic along the route. Make an entire day of it by seeing the sights, grabbing

lunch, and hitting a farmer's market while out and about.

Fall fair

Many towns hold off on their annual fairs and carnivals until the cooler months of the year. These are entertaining and boisterous events that can include everything from food and livestock contests to rides and amusements to musical performances.

As these fairs tend to last a couple of days

to a week, it could be fruitful to look into whether they sell multi-day passes at a discount, particularly if you plan to attend a few times and maximize the fun.

Opportunities for fun abound each fall. With inviting weather and calendars full of seasonal offerings, now is an ideal time to enjoy the great outdoors.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 405 KAR 8:010, Section 16(5), the following is a summary of permitting decisions made by the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Permits with respect to applications to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations in Webster County.

WEBSTER COUNTY COAL LLC 9175023 RN 3 7/25/2025

NOTICE TO WEBSTER COUNTY TAXPAYERS

The 2022 Unmined Coal taxes are now due and will be payable on September 1, 2025. If you feel you should have an Unmined Coal bill and did not receive one, please call the Sheriff Office at 270-639-5067. When mailing your payment, please include your copy of the tax bill or put the tax bill number on your check. If you wish a paid receipt returned to you, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The following are collection dates for 2022 Unmined Coal Tax:

- 2% Discount**
September 1 thru September 31, 2025
- Face Value**
October 1 thru October 31, 2025
- 5% Penalty**
November 1 thru November 30, 2025
- 21% Penalty**
After November 30, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In pursuit of KRS 132.027, the City of Slaughter will hold a public hearing. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss a tax rate increase for the 2025 tax year on personal and real property. The meeting will be held on Monday, September, 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Slaughter City Office building. All property owners inside the city limits are encouraged to attend.

Board Of Education

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under the umbrella of the county sheriff's department. While the school district will pay the bulk of the expenses, including the salary and benefits, the county/sheriff will prove equipment including a vehicle, uniforms, and weapons.

Before closing his comments Harrell noted that enrollment this year has reached 2047 students in the district.

During the course of the meeting the board received a list of personnel actions.

The board approved a consent agenda that included 16 fundraisers, three field trips, monthly reports and FMLA for three em-

ployees.

Before adjourning at 5:01 p.m. The board approved the fiscal year 2025 unaudited annual financial repost and balance sheets and okay

the new rate for adult meal prices for the 2025-26 school years.

The board's next meeting will be a work session on September 8, at 4:30 p.m.