

**West Branch High School**  
**14277 Main Street**  
**Beloit, OH 44609**  
**(330)938-2183**

WEST BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL

Ohio School Counselor Accountability Report

## Principal's Message

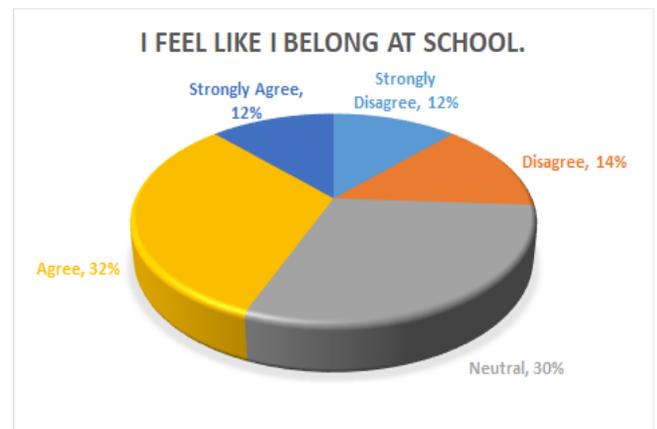
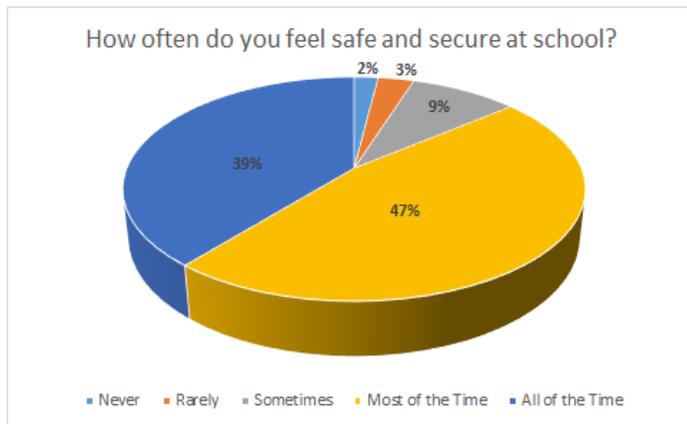
It is my pleasure to welcome you to the West Branch 8-12 campus, Home of the Warriors! We expect all students to come to school prepared and ready to give their best. We also encourage our students to be involved in our programs and help create a positive school culture! As school employees, it is our role to provide the best education possible, thus preparing our students for the future. It is also our responsibility to provide this education in a safe and nurturing environment.

Our counselors work closely with the students in all aspects of student life including mental health, scheduling, tutoring, graduation requirements, scholarships, work opportunities, and so much more. Adopting the American School Counselor Association standards has enabled our counseling program to define our needs and focus on developing a comprehensive program. As a result of looking at data and surveying students, programs have been established and a schedule has been created allowing all students to receive support or advancement throughout the school day. The INVEST schedule has created a unique solution to meet the needs of students; physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially. The West Branch Local School district has one of the largest land areas in the state of Ohio, covering 111 square miles in 4 different counties. This in itself creates many challenges, but also provides many opportunities. Thus, our community plays a big role in who we are and how we continue to move forward.

## Professional School Counselor Statement

Our team of counselors here at the high school work collaboratively to prepare all students in the areas of academics, career, and personal/social skill development. Together, the counseling staff has over 25 years of school counseling experience and continues to grow through professional development opportunities each year. Each member of our team is currently or has been a member of the Ohio School Counselors Association and the American School Counselor Association, professional organizations appropriate for our profession. The counseling department coordinates primarily with the staff and administrative team and West Branch's community counseling partners Pathways for Caring to best provide for all our students. The Student Support Personnel Team (SSPT) consists of our high school administration staff, the school resource office, the Superintendent, the Special Services Director and our team of three high school counselors.

## School Climate and Safety

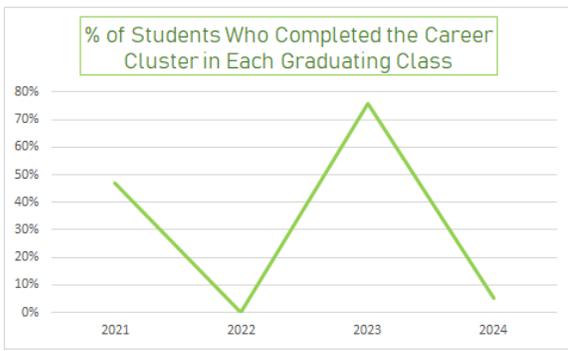


School climate and the safety of our students is an integral part of West Branch High School. We strongly feel that in order to enhance the academics, career, and social components of our students' lives, we must have a positive school climate and ensure the safety of all students. The West Branch PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) Team is directly involved in the improvement of school climate. They meet monthly to focus on implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of our school climate initiatives. The graph above (left) shows the results of a survey conducted in spring 2021. Our goals are to improve upon this data by implementing positive reinforcements as chosen by the PBIS team to get students more involved here at school. This data is to be collected regularly as part of our ongoing evaluation of school climate and safety.

The school safety plan is put together by a team of people including the Superintendent, Board Members, Administration, School Resource Officer, and selected staff. The staff at West Branch High School understands and stresses the importance of a safe school environment in which to learn. Counselors continually meet with at-risk students to assess student population concerns and needs. The graph to the left illustrates student responses from the OhYES! Survey conducted in spring 2021 concerning school safety. Students overwhelmingly indicated they felt safe at WBHS. Students also indicated that WBHS is a positive and welcoming place. This survey will be conducted again, in hopes of showing more improvement.

## Student Domain Outcomes

The counseling staff is dedicated to student success, by using a comprehensive student support program that addresses the academic, personal/social, and career/college needs of all students, which are based on the ASCA National Standards and OSCA State Standards for School Counseling. Evaluations of the benefits of some of the services we provide are frequently evaluated. Some recent successes and the domain in which they align to the OSCA State Counseling Standards are:



**Career Development - Standard 2.3:**

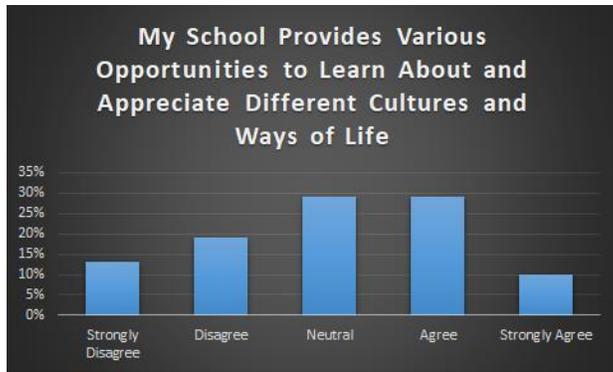
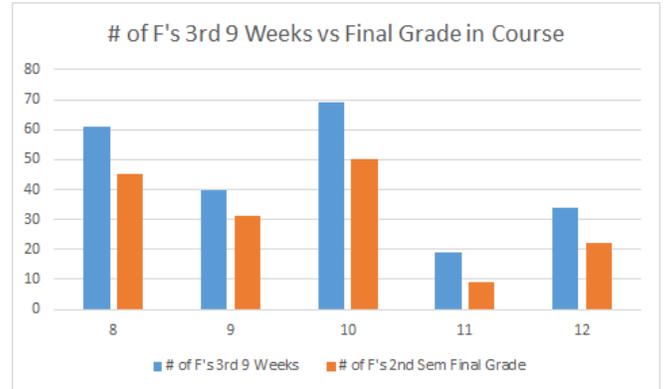
School counselors work directly with students to develop their college and career-related knowledge, skills and pathways.

All 10th grade students participated in the career exploration program in the 2020-2021 SY. This program allows students to explore career choices and begin to develop career plans. The graph to the left illustrates that 76% of 10th grade students (Class of 2023) were able to determine a career cluster they would like to pursue. It is our goal to increase that percentage for our current 10th grade students (Class of 2024) who create an account in Ohio Means Jobs, as well as complete the career cluster survey followed by investigating the careers in the paths that result from the career cluster. The data for the Class of 2021 is low due to the COVID shutdown and we have only just started for the Class of 2024, so this explains the low percentage thus far for the Class of 2024. The counseling department is also trying to make up from the shutdown for the Class of 2022, who has no data on file.

**Academic Development - Standard 2.2:**

School counselors work directly with students to support their academic progress and goals.

The counseling team identified a high number of failing grades upon looking at the midterm grades from the first nine weeks in October. The data is shown to the right as to how many failing grades were reported by grade for the first interim. After students were placed into Tier Two RTI (Response to Intervention), the number of failing grades drastically decreased by the end of the semester. There is a significant reduction in the number of failing grades due to the RTI process that was implemented.



**Personal/Social - Standard 5.2:**

School counselors take leadership in promoting a school environment that is inclusive of, responsive to, and safe to its diverse members.

The counseling staff believes in educating students about different cultures to help them understand and appreciate different ways of life. 406 students were asked if they felt West Branch provides these opportunities. 340 responses were received, with the results shown to the left. It is our goal to increase the knowledge of our students so more feel confident enough to report they have learned about other cultures. Through our recently implemented INVEST period, which is 25 minutes of open time each student has per day, we will begin these conversations and educational lessons.

West Branch administrators and counseling department strongly believe that their relationship with their community partners allows them to offer a meaningful array of services for students and their families. Community partnerships and resources provide valuable assistance that enhance the quality and effectiveness of the team in each of the three ASCA National Standards for Counseling Domains. These also align directly with the Ohio School Counselor Association standards.

DOMAIN	COMMUNITY PARTNERS
<p><b>Academic</b> The involvement of area colleges has played an essential role in our college course offerings for students through the College Credit Plus Program. The involvement of collegiate students at WBHS has also helped provide interventions and tutoring for struggling students. Together the collaboration between WBHS and area college campuses has helped provide a better outcomes for our upper level students and those who needed extra support.</p>	<p>University of Mount Union Kent State University, Salem Kent State University, Main Stark State College Eastern Gateway Community Youngstown State University</p>
<p><b>Career</b> The guidance and support of our community partners has helped many students become focused in school and has provided incentives for students to succeed in earning a diploma for the purpose of pursuing their career interests.</p>	<p>College/Career/Military Project Lead the Way Partners Mahoning County Career &amp; Technical Center Mahoning County STEM</p>
<p><b>Personal/Social</b> WBHS works with community agencies to ensure all students are safe, have their needs met, and improve the mental health of our students. The collaborative efforts by all have shown to be quite beneficial for our students over the years.</p>	<p>Pathway Caring for Children ALTA Department of Child and Family Services Akron Children's Hospital</p>

Each year it is our hope to get connected to the community to solicit additional volunteers through personal contacts and referrals. Interested persons may contact Cori Sands, administrative assistant, (330)938-2183 x37309. The West Branch District Leadership Team is one example of a volunteer activity that is strongly related to student support services.