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## **STARS FALL HARVEST!**



Wayne Township Public Schools and Wayne Special Parents Association (WSPA) co-sponsored a STARS Fall Harvest event on Saturday, October 22, 2016 at Wayne Hills High School.

Students Teaching and Reaching Students (STARS) is a program where students are paired with partners for special projects and events throughout the course of the school year. This collaborative approach provides individuals with increased opportunities to refine social skills, enhance peer relationships, and foster district wide integration. An overarching goal of the program is to foster awareness in students, staff, and the broader community in order to help us all embrace our differences and commonalities.

STARS Fall Harvest was focused on our middle school and high school STARS students in addition to those currently attending secondary out of district placements. The event was well attended by students, parents, and staff!

There were a variety of hands on activities such as pumpkin decorating, jewelry making and mason jar luminaries. Wayne Valley National Honor Society students volunteered during the event to help facilitate the activities. In addition, the Wayne Hills Photography Club was on-site with their photo booth to capture the fun and excitement throughout the day. Participants enjoyed taking pictures with friends and receiving their photo prints immediately. Face painting, music and dancing was another main attraction. Light concessions were available for those who worked up an appetite. Students from the Wayne Hills Life Skills class made many of the fall harvest edibles which were made available in addition to various goodies donated by our generous families. All proceeds were donated back to WSPA.

STARS prides itself on engaging with all groups throughout the community. We were thrilled to be able to incorporate participation from several in district clubs which made the event well rounded and ensured a wide ranging demographic. STARS Fall Harvest was such a feel good day where smiles were contagious, students were immersed, learning, and most importantly having fun alongside their peers!

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