



WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Highlights - October 2022



The following information is intended to inform staff and community members of recent action taken by the Board. The information included in this brief is not intended to be complete and does not replace official Board minutes. Please see the Board agenda on the District Website for the complete action of the Board.

ENROLLMENT: 2,812 as of October, 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT, DR. DREW RICCHIUTI:

The Board of Education would like to welcome all Alumni who will be returning to WDHS for Homecoming Friday night. Hopefully, our Eagles will prevail. We also would like to Congratulate the Marching Band on their continued success, as well as all of the Fall Sports teams for competitive seasons to this point.

There are many great things happening in the next few weeks. A few events the students are really looking forward to are:

- High School: Homecoming and the Homecoming Dance
- Middle School: 5th/6th Grade Night of Spooktacular Fun
- Elementary: Halloween Parades and Parties

The Board would also like to welcome our new Student Representatives to the Board, Ryann Iannotti and Yusef Abouelsaadata. We look forward to their reports on all the impressive things the WD Students are doing and are excited to hear the students' perspective on issues.

Enjoy the fall season and have a Happy Halloween!

Drew Ricchiuti, Board of Education President



STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Soaring Eagles

The West Deptford Board of Education recognized the following individuals at their October Meeting. These students have been selected by their teachers for demonstrating outstanding character and for their commitment to their schools.

Red Bank Elementary School

- Skylar Hutchins
- Hunter Sheppard

Oakview Elementary School

- Sadie Dreyer
- Brody Honeycutt

Green-Fields Elementary School

- Derrick Holmes
- Angelia Maldonado

West Deptford Middle School

- Timothy Holmes
- Cameron Savage

West Deptford High School

- Kathryn Pitts
- Malik Claudio



2022 WDHS ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to the 2022 WDHS Athletic Hall of Fame:

- Morgan Brown 2009-2013
- Samantha Budd 2012-2016
- Kevin Cianfarini 2010-2014
- Coach Mike Yarusso 2005-2021
- 2016 WDHS Baseball Team (Head Coach John Oehler)
- Contributors Induction - Mr. Raymond Kirschner

Please click [here](#) to view information about the induction ceremony at RiverWinds Restaurant on November 27, 2022. If you are interested in attending, please contact the WDHS Athletics Office for a ticket.

WDHS GIRLS SOCCER

WDHS Girls Soccer celebrated West Deptford Township Youth Soccer Night on Monday, September 26.



WDHS SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Business/Marketing Ed – Jaci Gismondi

Visual & Performing Arts – Adam Humeniuk

Mathematics – Thomas Beyer

Science – Aidan Hauenstein

Social Studies – Jescenia Diaz

Applied Technology – Ryan Cook

Guidance – Brady Clark

Health/PE – Katelyn Lee

English – Janiah Hamilton

World Languages – Nyla Tillman



WDMS SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - Part-Time CST Social Worker
 - District Bus Aide
 - Substitute Teachers
 - Substitute Custodian
 - WDHS Special Education Aide for Extracurricular Activity
 - GFES LTR Special Education Teacher
 - GFES Special Education Instructional Aide
 - GFES Day Custodial Leader
 - GFES Club Advisors
 - GFES G&T Parent Night Coordinator
 - OVES Preschool Teacher
 - OVES Instructional Aides (6) and Non-Instructional Aide (1)
 - RBES Instructional Aides (3)
- Resignations/Retirements:
 - Retirement CST Administrative Assistant
 - Resignation RBES Preschool Instructional Aide
 - Resignation RBES K/1 Instructional Aide
- Change of Status:
 - Transfer GFES 3d Grade Teacher to GFES 3rd Grade Special Education ICR Teacher
 - Transfer GFES Tier II Teacher to GFES 3rd Grade Teacher
 - Transfer RBES Preschool Instructional Aide to RBES Kindergarten Instructional Aide

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:

- School Business Days
- Cafeteria Donations
- Monetary Donation
- Amend Fund 20 Allocations 2022-2023 IA Salaries
- Clinical Affiliation Agreement - Rutgers
- Facilities Use
- Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1
- Delta Dental Plan Open Enrollment
- School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drills
- Public School Bus Routes
- Jointure Agreement with GRSD
- Parental Transportation Contract
- Nonpublic I.D.E.A. Student Contract 2022-2023

- Nonpublic Nursing Contract - Chapter 226
- Equipment Financing Lease
- Student Teacher Placement
- Various WDHS and WDMS Field Trips
- WDHS and WDMS Winter Athletic Schedules
- Staff Model for the Delivery of School Health Services
- [Revised 2022-2023 District Calendar](#)
- Policy & Regulation 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Program
- [Board Goals for 2022-2023](#)
- [District Goals for 2022-2023](#)

BUSINESS, FACILITIES, & FINANCE:

- The Board approved the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports, Transfers, Payroll, and Bills Lists.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Numerous other requests for approval for workshop attendance, student activities, and education items were approved by the Board of Education. These approvals will be reflected in the formal minutes of the meeting, which are available in the office of the Board of Education Secretary, as well as posted online after Board approval. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is an Action Meeting which will be held on November 21, 2022 in the West Deptford Middle School at 7pm. The date and time is subject to change.

COMMUNITY FLU FACTS AND PREVENTION TIPS FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The symptoms of influenza are: chills, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, headache, nausea, runny nose, sore throat, and vomiting. In the United States, flu season starts in the fall and lasts through the winter. Flu activity typically peaks between December and February, but it can last until May.

Flu viruses travel through the air in droplets when someone with the infection coughs, sneezes, or talks. You can become infected when you inhale the droplets directly or pick up the germs from touching an object and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. People with the flu can spread it to others up to about 6 feet away.



You can stop the spread of influenza by:

- Staying home if you are sick
- Covering coughs and sneezes
- Getting a flu vaccine each year
- Washing your hands

The seasonal influenza vaccine consists of three or four different strains of influenza, depending on the manufacturer. Each year, scientists from the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control, and the

Food and Drug Administration determine which strains will make up the seasonal flu shot based on the dominating strains the year before. You are encouraged to see your physician for flu vaccination, however, our local health department in Gloucester County also schedules flu shot clinics to help keep Gloucester County families healthy every flu season. Please click on this [LINK](#) to find a location to receive a free flu shot for your family. Let's all do our part to keep our community healthy!

VFW PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST-"MY PLEDGE TO OUR VETERANS"

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. All WDMS students are encouraged to participate in this national competition. The completed essays must be submitted to the main office no later than Tuesday, October 25, 2022. Our local VFW representatives will be collecting all submissions on Wednesday, October 26, 2022. Please see the attached [FLYER](#) for details including prizes!



WDMS STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The WDMS Student Council gives students an opportunity to participate in community service-based activities with benefits that extend well past the walls of WDMS. Under the enthusiastic guidance of advisors Amanda Donahue, 6th-grade LAL teacher, and Mia Burgos, 5th-grade teacher, students are given opportunities to demonstrate leadership, team building, and community service but most importantly, they have fun! This year the WDMS Student Council has several community service projects planned including Pennies for Leukemia and Breast Cancer Awareness Week and will soon be collecting food items for Operation Blessing which assists local families throughout the holiday season. Later this year they will partner with the WDHS Key Club in their Socks for Homeless Campaign and our local food bank for PJ's for Hunger Day.



In addition to service projects, Student Council hosts several activities throughout the year including grade level dances, a flag football tournament, Spirit Weeks, Holiday Door Decorating Contests, New Student Breakfast, and much more! Look for more info on each of these events as their dates approach.

Lastly, we are very excited to be bringing back the Staff vs. Soccer Game, tentatively scheduled for early November! Once details have been finalized we will send information home along with student/player permission slips.

"CAUGHT READING" CAMPAIGN

One of the annual goals of Red Bank is to create and encourage a love of reading in all students; preschool through 2nd grade. We also look for ways to connect school and home. This week was the kick-off to our favorite activity, "Got Caught Reading." Families, staff, and teachers are asked to keep a close eye on our young readers and when caught in the moment snap and share the picture. So far, we have had an overwhelming

response from our families. Pictures are printed and displayed on our Reading Rockstars wall. Yes, there are incentives. A bi-weekly lottery is held for two lucky winners. The readers get to “book shop” in the Principal’s office and the picture submitter is treated to a WaWa gift card for sharing! Our goal this year is to cover as many walls as possible! Pictures can also be shared using #WDRedBankreads



PTO FAMILY NIGHT AT DOT'S ICE CREAM

On Wednesday, September 28, our WDES PTO sponsored a fundraiser at Dot’s Ice Cream in Woodbury Heights. A portion of all proceeds went to our PTO to support the wonderful things they do for our students and teachers. Dr. Carvalho, along with the three elementary school principals made a surprise stop to “hang out” with our students. It was a huge success and a fun way to build those positive family relationships that are so important for our students’ success. It was wonderful talking with our families and spending fun-filled time with our students outside of the school setting. We appreciate the WDES PTO for all their support!

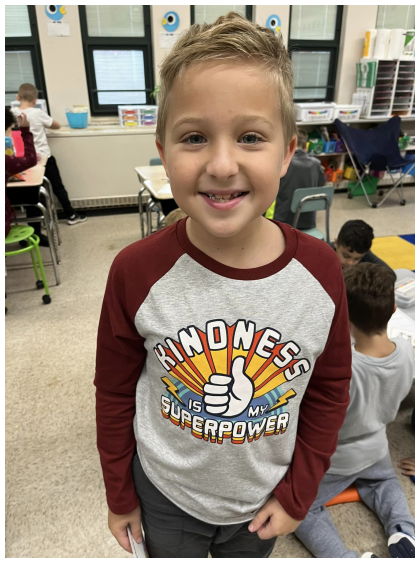




WEEK OF RESPECT

We remind our students that our differences make us beautiful. From October 3 through October 7, our district celebrated the Week of Respect. Each school had different themes throughout the week that centered around ways we can show respect to ourselves and others, including positivity, acceptance, being a good friend, respecting others, celebrating various cultures, bullying prevention and awareness, and school spirit. We hope you enjoy some of the pictures below that show off the different themed spirit days across our district.

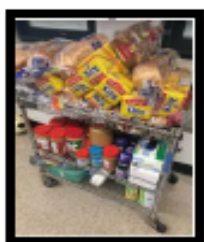






WDHS KEY CLUB NEWS

KEY CLUB – CATHEDRAL KITCHEN



Once a month, Key Club members make PB&J sandwiches for the guests at Cathedral Kitchen. To help with this project, Key Club is soliciting donations of creamy peanut butter, jelly, zip-close sandwich bags, disposable plastic rectangular tablecloths, and/or food-safe gloves. If you would like to help with this project, drop your donation at WDHS in a bag labeled with Key Club PB&J. Thanks so much for your generosity!

KEY CLUB – BRIGHTVIEW SENIOR LIVING

On Thursday, September 22, Key Club members returned to Brightview Senior Living for some Fall crafty fun. Students and residents painted ceramic dishes and made fall wreaths.



WDMS HISPANIC HERITAGE NIGHT

The first annual Hispanic/Latin Heritage Night at WDMS kicked off with a massively successful night! The night was highlighted by a musical performance from our WDMS Eagletones and members from the 8th grade choir class under the direction of Mrs. Manzano. Guests then enjoyed music by a local band, Son de 609, as they enjoyed a gallery-style set up of student projects and enjoyed sampling a variety of authentic food. This amazing community event had moments where mothers were dancing with their sons, fathers were dancing with their daughters, and small children attempted their best version of the salsa! The atmosphere was warm, welcoming, and full of happiness. A special thank you to Mrs. Manzano, Mrs. Arroyo, and Mrs. Baldwin for all of their hard work and dedication in preparing the event. [Click here](#) for a video highlighting the event!

CAMP OCKANICKON

On Thursday, October 6th, our 6th graders traveled to Camp Ockanickon! Students had the opportunity to try boating, rock climbing, high ropes, archery, and swamp, all while team building and making memories!!



WDMS VETS IN TRAINING

Last Wednesday was the first meeting of the Vets in Training Program. WDMS students had a chance to investigate, explore and discover several animals from the House Paws Mobile Veterinary Service. Students observed the behavioral patterns of guinea pigs, turtles, lizards and even a ferret. Pretty soon they will be wearing lab coats and nursing animals back to health.



ELEMENTARY FIRE PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

Thank you to the West Deptford Fire Department for presenting wonderful fire prevention assemblies to our Elementary students. The assemblies began with a visual presentation of the reason why fire safety is so important. They discussed smoke detectors for your home and how they sound, ways to safely escape smoke and fire, how to call 911, and the importance of a family fire escape plan.

The students loved the part when they demonstrated how to put the firefighter gear on. The highlight of the programs were the 2022 Fire Prevention Poster Winners. This contest is open to students in grades 1-4. After the presentation, our younger students had the chance to climb in and take a look around a real fire truck. The students were very respectful and engaged, which made the Fire Prevention Assemblies even more fun!



CAFETERIA INFORMATION

- Please click [here](#) to view your school's cafeteria menu.
- All parents are encouraged to fill out a Free/Reduced Lunch Application. For more info, click [here](#).

WEST DEPTFORD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

invites you to our 8th annual

Trunk or Treat



Come dressed in your costume or just as you are,
as you go trick-or-treating from car to car!

This is a **FREE** community event provided to you by
members of the West Deptford Education Association!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH
11:00-1:00 PM

West Deptford High School
Guidance Parking Lot
RAIN OR SHINE

GAMES~CANDY~CRAFTS~TREATS~PRIZES

for ages 10 & under ~ while supplies last

Questions? Email WDEAPride@gmail.com

*We have food allergy alternatives.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

District-Wide Events

- 10/30 [WDEA Trunk or Treat](#) - WDHS Parking Lot 11am-1pm
- 11/4 WD Police Department - [Punt, Pass, & Kick Competition](#)
- 11/9 Inservice Day
- 11/10-11/11 Schools Closed - NJEA Convention
- 11/17-11/22 Early Dismissal Elementary Only (Conferences)
- 11/23 Early Dismissal
- 11/24-11/25 Schools Closed - Thanksgiving Break

Red Bank Elementary

- 10/19 Preschool Trike-A-Thon 10:00-10:30am and 1:30-2:00pm
- 10/24-10/28 Red Ribbon Week - various themed activities throughout the week
- 10/28 Pumpkin Patch (Preschool, K, and 1) Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt (Grade 2)
- 10/31 Halloween Parade 1:00pm

Oakview Elementary

- 10/19 Unity Day - Wear Orange
- 10/21 Preschool Trike-A-Thon 10:00-10:30am
- 10/24-10/28 Red Ribbon Week - various themed activities throughout the week
- 10/26 PreK & K Pumpkin Pick at the OV Pumpkin Patch
- 10/27 Grades 1 & 2 Pumpkin Pick at the OV Pumpkin Patch
- 10/31 [Halloween Parade](#)

Green-Fields Elementary

- 10/20 Preschool Trike-A-Thon 10:00-10:30am and 10:45-11:15am
- 10/24-10/28 Red Ribbon Week - various themed activities throughout the week
- 10/27 Gifted & Talented Night 7:00pm
- 10/31 Halloween Parades - Preschool 10:15am and Grades 3/4 1:45pm

Middle School

- 10/20 WDMS PE Department Cross Country Run
- 10/21 Unity Day - wear orange!
- 10/24-10/28 Red Ribbon Week - See [FLYER](#) with details
- 10/28 Orange & Black Day
- 10/28 5th & 6th Grade Halloween Dance 6:30-8:00pm
- 11/8 WDMS Staff vs. Student Soccer Game - WD Park

High School

- 10/17-10/21 - Spirit Week
- 10/19 Unity Day - creating a school-wide "paper chain" around the building
- 10/21 Homecoming Game
- 10/22 Homecoming Dance
- 10/24-10/28 Red Ribbon Week