



## WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Board Highlights - January 2023



*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:** 2,811 as of January 2023

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

It's hard to believe that we are almost at the halfway point of the school year. The Holidays have come and gone and the students and staff at the High School and Middle School are wrapping up the second quarter, while the Elementary students are in the middle of the second trimester.

The Board of Education is looking forward to all the great things students will accomplish over the next few months. We would like to wish our winter sports teams all the best, and we encourage you that if you have time, please come out and support our athletes.

Dr. Drew Ricchiuti  
West Deptford Board of Education President

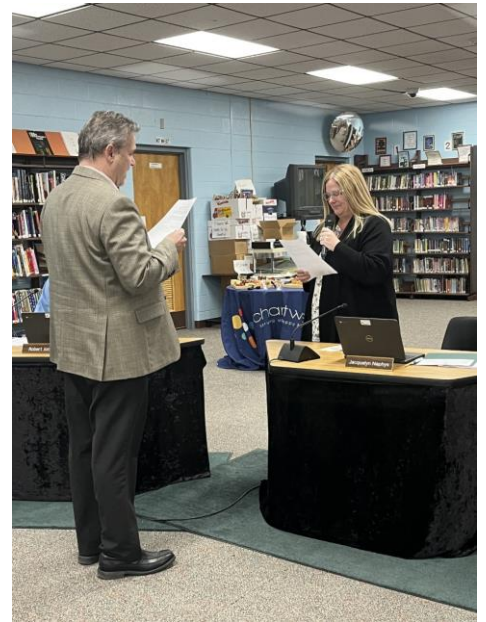


## BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION:

Congratulations to the Board Members who were sworn in at our January BOE Meetings. Thank you for your service to our District and our community!



Sworn in on 1/3/23, Left to Right: Mr. Steven Bagge (1-year term), Dr. Drew Ricchiuti (3-year term), Mrs. Nancy Barna (3-year term)



Sworn in on 1/17/23:  
Mrs. Jacquelyn Naphys (3-year term)

## STUDENT RECOGNITION:

### SOARING EAGLES

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

#### *Red Bank Elementary School*

- Charlie Johnson
- Harper Dunda

#### *Oakview Elementary School*

- Griffin Parsons
- Zohha Faisal

#### *Green-Fields Elementary School*

- Penelope Reagle
- Roman Quesada

#### *West Deptford Middle School*

- Addison Fronza
- Jiannalyz Caceres-Vega

#### *West Deptford High School*

- Danica Langjahr
- Dylan Welch



Congratulations!

## WDHS DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Business/Marketing Ed – *Brianna Green*  
Applied Technology – *Corey Baglivo*  
Guidance – *Aylissa Forbes* – not pictured  
Mathematics – *Jack Patten*  
Health/PE – *Ryan Iannotti* – not pictured  
Science – *Sadie Afflerbach*  
English – *Ryan Carr* – not pictured  
Social Studies – *Ciara Butler-Teszner*  
World Languages – *Arianna Martinez*



## RED BANK BUCKET FILLERS



## PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
  - Substitute Teacher
  - WDHS Volunteer Assistant Boys Tennis Coach
  - WDHS School Musical Costume Designer and Set Designer/Builder
  - WDMS Volunteer Drama Club Advisor
  - Elementary Music Teacher
  - OVES LTR Special Education Teacher
  - OVES One-Year LTR Tier II Elementary Teacher
  - OVES Special Education Instructional Aide

- OVES Instructional Aide
- RBES LTR Elementary Music Teacher
- Maintenance Leader
- Resignations/Retirements:
  - Resignation OVES One-Year LTR Tier II Teacher
  - Resignation OVES Instructional Aide
  - Resignation YEP Care Provider
  - Resignation Substitute Custodian
- Change of Status:
  - OVES Elementary Teacher to OVES One-Year LTR Tier II Elementary Teacher

**THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:**

- School Business Days
- Cafeteria Donations
- Jointure Agreement - GRSD
- Pending Bus Acquisition
- Early Childhood Education Field Placements with Rowan University Students
- Elementary PD Workshops
- WDHS, WDMS, & RBES Field Trips
- Policy 2417 and Policy 5460
- [2023-2024 District Calendar](#) and [Back Page](#)
- Leaves of Absence

**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 Tuesday, February 21, 2023, in the West Deptford Middle School at 7pm. The date and time are subject to change.

**NOTES FROM THE NURSES - ASTHMA INFORMATION**

Asthma symptoms can worsen in different environments and may vary throughout the year. For some students, asthma can be affected by the winter season. The dry, cold winter weather can irritate the airways. More time spent indoors means more exposure to indoor irritants, and if a student has allergic asthma, allergens like pet dander and dust can worsen symptoms. Winter also brings an increased risk of viruses that can aggravate asthma.

Seasonal variations in the indoor and outdoor worlds can cause inflammation in the lungs and trigger bronchospasm (sudden narrowing of the airways). These pulmonary changes result in asthma symptoms such as wheezing, shortness of breath, and a sensation of chest tightness.

If your child has a diagnosis of asthma or reactive airway disease, it is recommended that you have an [Asthma Treatment Plan](#) signed and submitted from a doctor and emergency medication available for use at school. Rescue inhalers are the recommended treatment for asthma attacks at school, however, the nurses can also do nebulizer treatments, if necessary.

## RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS MONTH AT WDHS

Our WDHS monthly theme is dedicated to Random Acts of Kindness. We are celebrating January by showing kindness in different ways around the building. Below are some ways students can participate.



Do you need a note of motivation? Stop by the word wall and “take what you need” to put a smile on your face! Can you give brightness or joy to others? Use a blank post-it note to leave a positive message for another person!

Have you seen another person doing something kind? Fill out a nomination form in the lunchroom or main office to acknowledge their good deed.



As January continues, be on the lookout for the Random Acts of Kindness BINGO board from the Renaissance Club. Win “BINGO” and earn a prize!

## WDHS DECA NEWS

This past week, the DECA gang took on the regional competition in Cherry Hill. It was a great learning experience for all involved. Congratulations to Colwyn Moser, Yusuf Abouelsaadate, and Jake Hartman, who all qualified for the State level competition. In the near future, we will also be participating in the Consumer Bowl competition.



## WDHS CBI PUPPY BOWL

Students and staff are encouraged to bring in donations for the PUPPY BOWL Fundraiser during the month of January. Donation bins for items will be in the main lobby vestibule. Monetary donations will be accepted in the main office. Donations will be given to the Homebound Adoption Center. Click [here](#) for a list of items to donate.

## WDMS STUDENT ACTS OF KINDNESS

Thank you to this amazing group of 8th graders who volunteered their time to help clean up the Animal Therapy Room and care for the animals!



## BUDDY BONDING AT OAKVIEW & RED BANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

We are excited to announce that Oakview and Red Bank have started a Buddy Bonding time for all of our students for the remainder of the school year. What is Buddy Bonding? Buddy Bonding is when our older students will have the opportunity to be mentors to our younger students. Our second-grade classes and some of our first grade classes will become Big Buddies to our younger classes. Even our kindergarten students are becoming the best learning partners with our preschool students. Every other week, these classes will come together so big and little buddies can read together, complete a craft, play outside, or do a project. At the end of the day, it's all about starting a friendship, providing guidance and inspiring them to reach their potential. Yes, there are academic benefits from this activity, but the impact it has on the social/emotional well-being of our students is remarkable. Providing our students the opportunity to be instructional leaders for each other builds a positive sense of community in our schools. We are so excited for this wonderful opportunity!



## OAKVIEW ORAL HEALTH ASSEMBLY

In early January, the pre-k through second-grade students at Oakview participated in an Oral Health Assembly to learn about hygiene, flossing, and proper teeth brushing. This was a wonderful hands-on presentation that modeled for our students how they can take care of their teeth. At the beginning of February, we will kick off our Teeth Brushing Challenge to support Children's Dental Health Month. This challenge is run by our school nurse, Mrs. Cobb. The goal of the challenge is to get the students into a routine of brushing their teeth every day.



## 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](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### *District-Wide Events*

- February - Black History Month
- 2/15 - SRO & Class III Officer Appreciation Day
- 2/17 - Inservice - no school for students
- 2/20 - Schools Closed in Observance of President's Day

**Red Bank Elementary**

- 2/27-3/3 PTO Scholastic Book Fair

**Oakview Elementary**

- 1/20 - WD Eagle Pride Day - Wear WD Eagle Colors and/or Gear
- Week of January 23 - Buddy Bonding Week
- 2/9 - Forces of Motion Assembly

**Middle School**

- 1/20 - Alicia Rose Victorious Foundation Bandana Day - Wear your favorite bandana!
- 1/23 - 2nd marking period ends
- 1/24-1/27 - Midterm Exams (Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish)
- 1/31 - Report cards distributed via email

**High School**

- 1/23 - 2nd marking period ends
- 1/24-1/27 - Midterm Exams; early dismissal for HIGH SCHOOL students ONLY!
- 1/31 - Report cards distributed via email
- 2/15 - Mr. West Deptford Contest 7pm