

WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

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West Deptford School District Board Highlights - April 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: 2,873 as of April, 2022

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Cappello updated the Board on a variety of topics related to the District, which included the following discussion item(s):

- We have a lot of exciting events planned over the upcoming months in our district. Please see the upcoming events section at the bottom of this communication for more information.
- We are planning a WDHS Baseball/Softball Family Night Event (in conjunction with the WD Little League) at the conclusion of the High School Baseball game on Friday, April 29, 2022 at the WD Little League Complex (rain dates May 2, 3, or 5, 2022). This event will culminate with a fireworks display. We hope you will join us!
- April 28 Take Your Child to Work Day
- May 2-6 Staff Appreciation Week

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Soaring Eagle Awards

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

Red Bank Elementary School Recipients

- Noah Mancuso
- Lorenzo Simon

Oakview Elementary School Recipients

- Dean Fisher
- Victoria Diaz

Green-Fields Elementary School Recipients

- Kali Dugan
- Eric Scipio

West Deptford Middle School Recipients

- Annegabrielle Alexis
- Amanda Wilson

West Deptford High School Recipients

- Mykia Oden
- Emma Lyons



WDHS Students of the Month

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



- APPLIED TECHNOLOGY – ***Kai Collier***
- ENGLISH – ***Aidan Hauenstein***
- HEALTH/PE – ***Robert “Austin” Ebaugh***
- MATHEMATICS – ***Katelyn Lee***
- SCIENCE – ***Jared (J.T.) Moffett***
- SOCIAL STUDIES – ***Natalie Currie***
- BUSINESS /Marketing E.D. – ***Aidan Hauenstein***
- WORLD LANGUAGES - ***Chitapon Chiangnow: ESL***
- GUIDANCE – ***Brooke Sorbello***
- FINE ARTS - ***Gracie Broglin***



WDMS Students of the Month



American Legion Coloring Contest Winners

Every Year, American Legion Post 100 sponsors a coloring contest for 4th to 6th grade students. Congratulations to this year's winners!

- 3rd Place (tie) - Bryce Long, 5th grade (\$15 award)
- 3rd Place (tie) - Presley Gardellis, 5th grade (\$15 award)
- 2nd Place - Jayley Morrell, 4th grade (\$25 award)
- 1st Place - Diana Carolina Gomez Chavez, 6th grade (\$50 award)

WDFPL Bookmark Design Contest

We always have a great amount of student participation in district-wide and community events, and this year is no exception. Each year, our own West Deptford Free Public Library sponsors a Bookmark Design Contest for all our elementary and middle school students. Children submit their designs (each a unique piece of art), and individual bookmarks are chosen either as a grade level winner or honorable mention. Winning designs are supplied to the libraries of each school and given to students as needed. This year, I'm happy to announce the following Green-Fields students as award winners for 2022:

Grade Level Winners

- 3rd Grade - First Place - Angelis Marrero
- 4th Grade - First Place - Catie Lamparelli

Honorable Mention

- 3rd Grade - Jeremy Wu, Paisley Moore, Evan Keller
- 4th Grade - Chloe Chan, Jaxon Strouse, Zoe Docimo



PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - WDHS Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach
 - WDHS Volunteer Assistant Boys Track & Field Coach
 - WDHS PM Custodial Shift Supervisor
 - GFES LTR Music Teacher
 - GFES Preschool Instructional Aide
 - OVES LTR Instructional Aide
 - OVES Special Education Shared Instructional Aide
 - OVES Instructional Aides
 - OVES Non-Instructional LPC Aides
 - Substitute Teacher
 - Custodial title transition from Permanent Substitute Custodian to Part-Time Custodian
- Resignations/Retirements:
 - Retirement WDMS 7th Grade LAL Teacher
 - Resignation District Media Specialist
 - Resignation WDMS 5th Grade Teacher
 - Resignation GFES Instructional Aide
 - Resignation OVES Health Office Assistant
 - Resignation OVES Special Education Instructional Aide
 - Resignation RBES Preschool Teacher
- Change of Status:
 - Voluntary Transfer WDMS Everyday Substitute to WDMS LTR Teacher
 - Voluntary Transfer OVES Everyday Substitute to OVES LTR Kindergarten Teacher
 - Voluntary Transfer WDMS PM Custodian to District Groundskeeper
 - Voluntary Transfer Permanent Substitute Custodian to WDHS PM Custodian
 - Voluntary Transfer Permanent Substitute Custodian to WDMS PM Custodian
 - Position Reduction - District PIRT Specialist Position
 - Permanent Substitute Custodians to Part-Time Custodians (Title Change)

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:

- Various Field Trips
- Amend Senior Trip Dates (May 30, 2022 - June 2, 2022)
- Amend End Date SOARing Through Summer (July 5, 2022 - July 28, 2022)
- Amend Preschool Orientation (GF & RB August 30, 2022; OV August 31, 2022)
- WDMS Elective Name Change
- Student Placements for 2022-2023 school year
- WDHS NJSIAA Membership Renewal
- Donations

- Participation in South Jersey Power Cooperative
- Lease Purchase Financing Agreement for school buses, vehicles, and handheld radios
- Lease Agreement - Canon
- Schools Health Insurance Fund Renewals
- BOE HIB Law Training
- Policy Alert 226, second reading
- Ratification of WDEA Contract (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025)
- 2022-2023 Staff and Substitute Rehire Lists

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 a Special Meeting (Final Budget Hearing and Adoption) on Monday, May 2, 2022 in the West Deptford Middle School at 7pm. The May Action Meeting will be held on May 16, 2022 in the West Deptford Middle School at 7pm. These dates and times are subject to change.

2020-2021 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORTS

On April 6, the NJDOE released the New Jersey School Performance Reports for the 2020-2021 school year. Our reports can be viewed [here](#). The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. We encourage you to use these reports to:

- Learn more about your school and district
- Start conversations with school community members and ask questions
- Engage with school communities to identify what schools are doing well and where they can improve

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the way the NJDOE was able to measure school performance and student achievement in both the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 School Performance Reports. While some data that was missing in 2019-2020 will be available again for 2020-2021 (e.g. attendance data), other data continues to remain unavailable or look different from prior years. The NJDOE also recognizes that our existing data can't begin to measure the hard work and perseverance of the students, families, educators, and community members during the past two years.

The NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the available data in the reports, along with other information collected directly within districts and communities, to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and continue to find ways to address the impacts of COVID-19 and ensure all students receive the support and resources that they need. The School Performance Reports can and should be used in conjunction with available school and district data to identify priorities for upcoming year planning and the use of state and federal dollars.

Notes are included throughout the School Performance Reports to explain where data is missing or impacted by COVID-19 and an updated [Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability resource](#) is available to summarize this information.

Enhancements to the 2020-2021 School Performance Reports


The 2020-2021 reports include changes that respond to stakeholder feedback, updated federal and state requirements, and the COVID-19 pandemic. These changes include:

- New career and college readiness data including Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and dual enrollment participation by student group and work-based learning participation;
- Expanded staff data including staff counts and information about teachers by subject area, as requested by stakeholders;
- New apprenticeship data that shows how many students register in apprenticeship programs after high school graduation; and
- Links to additional data such as Start Strong assessment results and opportunity to learn data, which includes information about learning environments and device data during the 2020-2021 school year.

The NJDOE continues to seek public input on ways to improve future reports. Please complete the [School Performance Report feedback survey](#) or email reportcard@doe.nj.gov with feedback and suggestions.

MR. WEST DEPTFORD 2022

Come out and see the Mr. West Deptford contestants compete for the crown! There will be dancing, talents, and more!



WEDNESDAY, MAY 11TH @ 7PM
WDHS AUDITORIUM

It is sure to be an entertaining show! Hope to see you there!

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Notes from Mrs. Sanford - HS Student Assistance Counselor

Take a look at the video below from ChildMind.org. Your kids will learn that better understanding and recognizing their emotions can be an essential first step toward healthy coping and deeper relationships.

- <https://childmind.org/healthyminds/understanding-feelings-parents-high-school/>

WD CENTER STAGE PLAYERS 2022 SUMMER THEATER



2022 Summer Theater

All shows and rehearsals INDOORS at WDHS

Welcome back to the stage for another amazing season!

For any questions or concerns, email us at WestDeptfordCenterStage@gmail.com

Auditions will be held in person on Thursday May 12th and Saturday May 14th.

Linka and info can be found at WDCSP.org

KIDS AND JR SHOWS

AGES 5-13. Performers will audition for both and directors will cast into the shows.

Siblings/Families will be cast in the same show.

Nights start Tuesday May 31st . DAY CAMP STARTS JUNE 20th. 9am-3pm. Mon-Thurs.

SHOW DATES JULY 14th(7pm), 15th(7pm), 16th (2 & 7pm)



TEEN SHOW

AGES 14-18.

Night Rehearsals start May 31st. 6-9pm

SHOW DATES JULY 28th, 29th, 30th @7pm

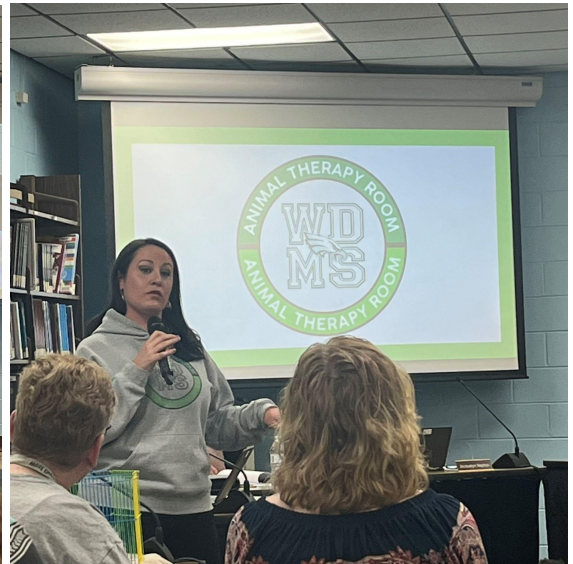
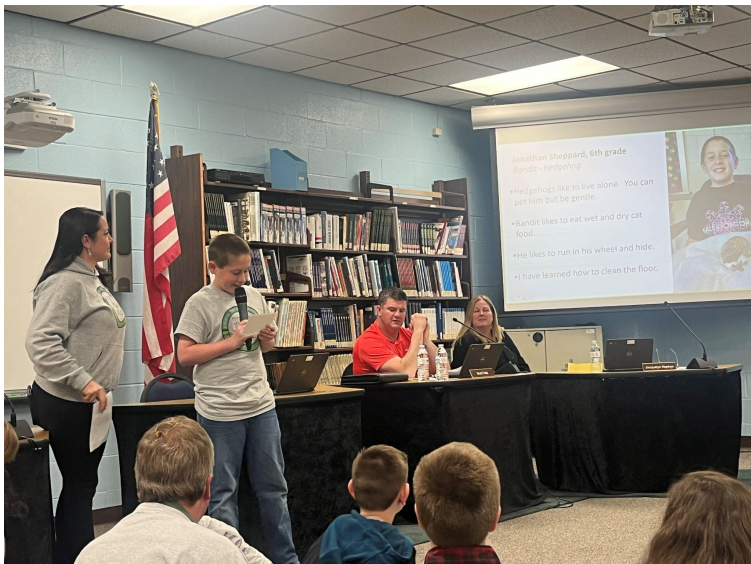
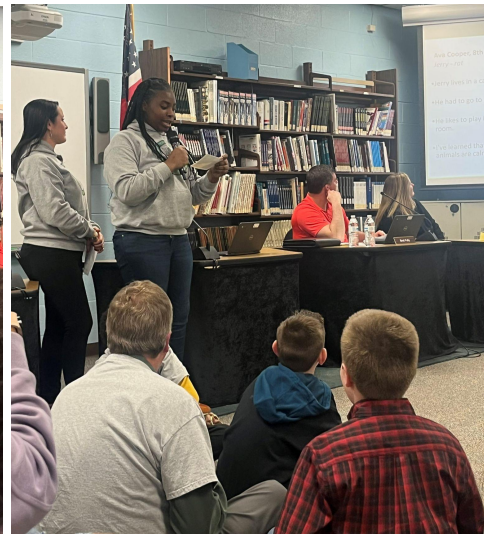
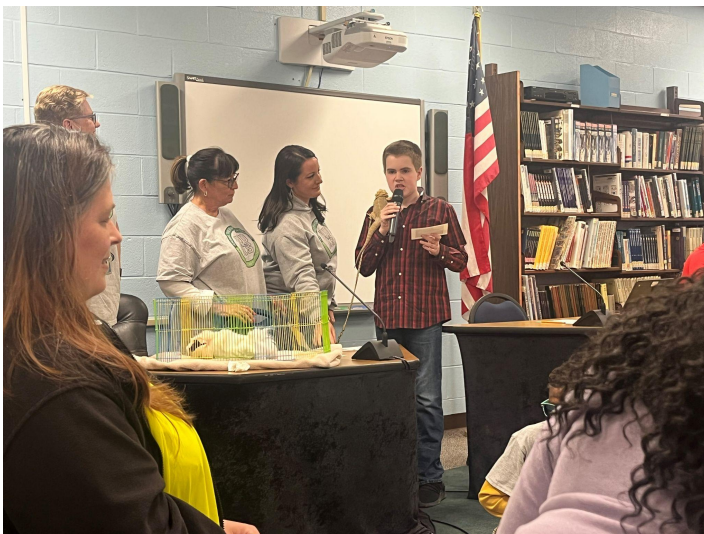
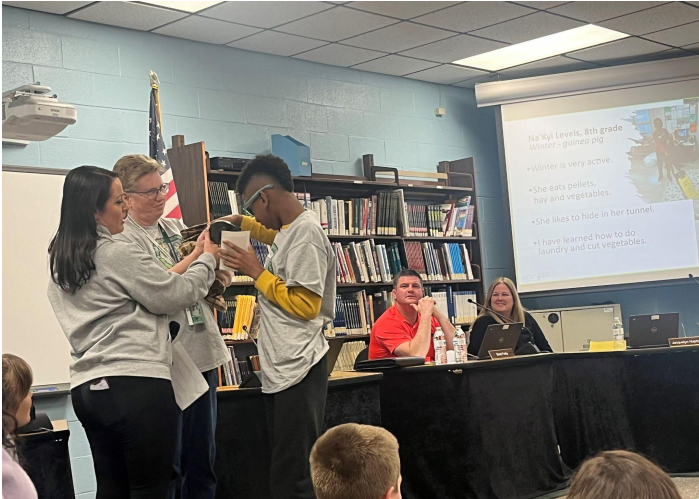


Registration closes June 7th

Go to www.WDCSP.org for more info!

ANIMAL THERAPY ROOM PRESENTATION

At the April 25 Board of Education Meeting, Dr. Alexis Walsh, along with a group of WDMS staff and students had a chance to present some of the exciting things happening in the WDMS Animal Therapy Room. The students did a wonderful job introducing the animals to the BOE and explaining the things they do daily to take care of the animals, as well as what they are learning and how they are giving back as a result of this program.



WEST DEPTFORD DISTRICT BAND DAY

Thursday, April 7th several of the Middle School band students took a trip over to the high school to participate in the West Deptford District Band Day. District Band Day was a positive and meaningful experience that our students will remember for years to come. Thank you so much to everyone who helped support this amazing event! It was a great day of learning, music making and friendship.

Click [here](#) for video and photos!

WOODBURY PD 5K RUN/1 MILE WALK AGAINST BULLYING

The Woodbury Police Department is a pilot program for the ACES Program which promotes education and partnership with schools and law enforcement as it relates to childhood trauma. As part of the program, they are hosting a community event on April 30, 2022, which is a 5K run or 1 mile walk against bullying. The Friends of the Child Advocacy Center of Gloucester County is a sponsor for the event. We have been advised they are considering donating monies raised for our new CAC building through our non-profit. Please sign up and support us!

- Here is the link to sign up:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Woodbury/WoodburyPD5K1MileRunWalkandRollAgainstBullying>

WD JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY IS BACK!

Please click [HERE](#) for information regarding West Deptford Police Department's Junior Police Academy. Dates are June 27 - July 1, 2022.

L.E.A.D. PROGRAM

We are fortunate to have our West Deptford L.E.A.D. Officers come meet with our 3rd grade students for a few weeks each year. L.E.A.D. (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) is a program that is supported by dedicated police officers, committed to protecting our youth and communities from the proliferation of drugs, drug related crimes, peer to peer/cyber bullying, and violence. We're seeing more than ever before the necessity of this type of program in our schools, even at early ages. It's always a benefit when children can have a positive connection with our local police, and we're grateful for their presence in our schools.



L.E.A.D. Officer Jiles with Mrs. Purvenas' class

GREEN-FIELDS ART EXHIBIT

Green-Fields held their annual Art Exhibit on Wednesday, April 13th. This was quite a departure from our regular Art Show for selected students each year at the West Deptford Free Public Library. This year, all students had a piece of art on full display at some place in the building, and all families were invited to come in and enjoy the show. Mrs. Kate Mathiesen did a wonderful job of choosing wonderful projects for our students and has worked very hard throughout our hallways to brighten up Green-Fields with the colorful artwork of our students. We had a fantastic evening with our Green-Fields Family.



OAKVIEW CELEBRATES WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY AND AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

Oakview celebrated World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st by learning the importance of inclusiveness. As a school, we wore brightly colored mismatched socks. We continued to learn about inclusiveness by celebrating Autism Awareness Day (April 1st). A few of our amazing special education teachers created a slideshow of information and a recorded read-aloud that was shared with preschool through first grade teachers to use as an instructional resource. We also lit it up blue for Autism Awareness Day, and as a school, we went outside to blow bubbles. The bubbles symbolized something that we can all enjoy and do together.



OAKVIEW YOUTH ART OPEN HOUSE

On Wednesday, March 30th Oakview had a great turnout at our Youth Art Open House. Our art teacher, Mrs. Hicks, did a wonderful job displaying our student's artistic talents and showcasing the work that aligns with her instructional units. The students were very eager to show their families their creativity and share what they are learning about in class.



RED BANK ART GALLERY

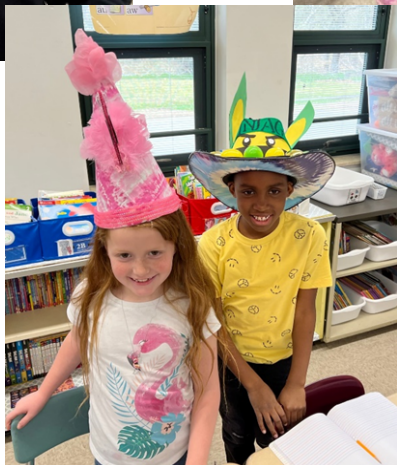
Two years ago, the Red Bank Art Show came to a screaming halt due to the pandemic. We were so excited to be able to bring it back this year on March 31. The hallways were filled with parents, grandparents, families, and friends enjoying the masterpieces hung throughout the halls. Thank you to Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Mathieson, and 2nd grade teachers for organizing the concept. Also big thanks to our preschool teachers who collected work from our youngest artists to add to the display. Preschool teachers also attended the evening to meet and greet parents and share stories of the learning happening in their classrooms.



TIARA'S HAT PARADE AT RED BANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Books and stories provide points of access for understanding other people's lives, to walk in someone else's shoes—or to try on a different hat! Over the last few weeks, every Red Bank student has had two stories read to them: *Aunt Flossie's Hats (and Crab Cakes Later)* and *Tiara's Hat Parade*. Both stories pay tribute to the inspiring African American tradition of hat making. We learned that many milliners and hat lovers believe that a good hat tells a story about the person who wears it. *Tiara's Hat Parade* is a colorful, engaging story that shows children how they can put their compassion into action.

In order to help our students make personal connections to literacy and celebrate our diversity, we held our first ever Red Bank Hat Parade on Monday, April 11. Students designed their own hats to “tell their story.” Parents and families were invited to join us as spectators for our parade. It was so much fun, and the community and family support was just amazing!



CARING KITS FOR VETS CREATED BY RED BANK STUDENTS

The character trait for March was “responsibility,” and what better way to help our young scholars develop this trait than by holding a community service-learning project? For the second year in a row, we created “Caring Kits for Vets.” Students donated kits to share with the Vineland Veterans Memorial Home. The kits included travel size hygiene products such as: toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, body wash, tissue packs, lip balm, lotion, and individually wrapped snacks (cookies, granola bars, crackers, etc.). Our goal was to put together 300 kits (one for each resident). We are proud to report that we reached our goal!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

District-Wide Events

- April 28 - Take Your Child to Work Day
- May 2-6 - Staff Appreciation Week
- May 11 - National School Nurse Day
- May 12 - WD Retirement, Recognition, and Year-End Celebration @ Masso's Inn, 6pm
- June 17 - Early Dismissal - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Oakview Elementary

- May 12 - First Grade School Trip (Philadelphia Zoo)
- May 19 - Kindergarten School Trip (Insectarium)
- May 23 - Preschool School Trip (Field of Dreams)
- June 1 - Field Day (rain date June 3)
- June 6 - Trimester 3 ends
- June 17 - Trimester 3 report card emailed to families

Red Bank Elementary

- April 27 - "Two Bite Club" classroom visits (We have invited a non-profit nutritional group to present a program to our students. The purpose of this presentation is to encourage our students to eat healthy.)

- April 29 - Red Bank's Celebration of Earth Day
- May 11 - 2nd Grade Field Trip to Philadelphia Zoo
- May 20 - Preschool Field Trip to Field of Dreams
- June 6-9 - Red Bank Student Appreciation Week
- June 7 - Field Day (2nd Grade AM, Preschool PM)

Green-Fields Elementary

- May 2 - May 6: NJSLA Grade 3
- May 9 - May 13: NJSLA Grade 4
- May 16 - May 20: NJSLA Make-up
- May 23: Grade 3 Field Trip to Philadelphia Zoo
- May 25: Pre-K Field Day
- May 26: Pre-K Field Trip to Field of Dreams
- May 26: Grade 3 Field Day
- May 27: Grade 4 Field Day

Middle School

- April 28 - People's Choice Awards 6pm
- April 29 - 7th Grade Dance 6:30-8pm

High School

- [WDHS Weekly Athletic Schedule 4/25/22-4/30/22](#)
- April 26-27 - WDHS Testing
- April 29 - WDHS Baseball/Softball Family Night Event at the WD Little League Complex
- May 11 - Mr. West Deptford 7pm WDHS Auditorium
- May 13 - Interims
- May 13 - Spring Pep Rally
- May 13 - Key Club Volleyball Marathon 6-10pm RiverWinds Community Center
- May 16-20 - WDHS Spring Spirit Week
- May 20 - Prom - Battleship NJ
- May 26 - Spring Fine Arts Festival
- May 27 - Renaissance Rewards Day
- May 30-June 2 - Senior Trip