

WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

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West Deptford School District Board Highlights - March 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: 2,866 as of March, 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!
- The Board had the chance to meet the new WDMS Assistant Principals at the 3/21 BOE Meeting. We are excited to welcome them aboard and are looking forward to great things from this new team!

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Soaring Eagle Awards

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

- Areesha Neaz - RBES
- Caroline Mielechowsky - RBES
- Violet Plata - OVES
- Preston English - OVES
- Samantha Fenuto - GFES
- Joseph Martino - GFES
- Mustafa Ocak - WDMS
- Madden Rauchut - WDMS
- Kelly Levensgood - WDHS
- Senaiye Ford - WDHS



CONGRATULATIONS to WDHS Swimmer April Avila who finished 4th in the State of New Jersey in the 100m Breaststroke at the NJSIAA State Championship Meet! In the process of earning her 4th place finish, she also destroyed her own school record in the 100m Breaststroke with a new time of 1:03.81! GREAT JOB APRIL!

CONGRATULATIONS to WDHS runner Jacob Cobb who finished 15th in the State in the 1600m at the NJSIAA "Meet of Champions!" Jake will be running for M.I.T in the Fall! GREAT JOB JAKE!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Indoor Color Guard on their FIRST PLACE finish at the Tournament Indoor Association's Competition at Woodbury HS. Currently, our Indoor Color Guard is currently ranked #6 out of 47 competing color guards.

WDHS DECA Officer, Yusuf Abouelsaadata, was featured in the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Global Youth article for March. What an honor!

<https://globalyouth.wharton.upenn.edu/articles/business/from-pizza-to-finance-students-talk-about-joining-the-family-business/>



WDHS Students of the Month



- APPLIED TECHNOLOGY – **Dylan Rosenfelt**
- ENGLISH – **Jasmin Gonzalez**
- HEALTH/PE – **Thomas Hart**
- MATHEMATICS – **Cameron Tracy-Sencey**
- SCIENCE – **Ammen Zaheer**
- SOCIAL STUDIES – **Jasmin Gonzalez**
- BUSINESS /Marketing E.D. – **Brianna Green**
- WORLD LANGUAGES – **Kayla Matthews**
- GUIDANCE – **Francis McDonald**
- FINE ARTS – **Destiny Davis**



WDMS Students of the Month



PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - District Transportation Coordinator
 - WDHS Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach
 - WDHS School Musical Choreographer
 - WDMS Cafeteria Worker
 - WDMS STAMP Mentor
 - WDMS Volunteer Assistant Track & Field Coach
 - OVES LTR Instructional Aide
 - OVES Everyday Substitute Teacher
 - Substitute Teachers (2)
 - Substitute Instructional and Non-Instructional Aide
 - Substitute Custodians (2)
 - Cafeteria Substitute
- Resignations/Retirements:
 - Retirement WDHS Music Teacher
 - Resignation WDHS Facilities PM Custodial Leader
 - Resignation WDHS Non-Instructional Aide
 - Resignation RBES Preschool Instructional Aide
 - Resignation YEP Care Provider
- Change of Status:
 - Voluntary Transfer of District Transportation Coordinator to District Transportation Supervisor
 - Voluntary Transfer of YEP Assistant Site Leader to YEP Care Provider
 - Voluntary Transfer of YEP Care Provider to YEP Assistant Site Leader

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:

- Field Trips
- 5th Grade, Kindergarten, and Preschool Orientations
- Foundations for Educational Administration/FEA
- National Wing-T Team Football Camp
- WDHS Baseball/Softball Family Night Event
- Revised Job Descriptions
- 2022-2023 Facilities Calendar
- Policies and Regulations (Policy Alerts 224 and 225, second reading and Policy Alert 226, first reading)
- Submission of the 2022-2023 PEA Budget

BUSINESS, FACILITIES, & FINANCE:

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

- Transportation Hiring Events (4/22-4/23 10am-12pm at WDMS and 5/13-5/14 10am-12pm at Riverwinds)

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 on Monday, April 25, 2022 in the West Deptford Middle School at 7pm. This date and time is subject to change.

PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:

Parents/guardians of our currently enrolled Preschool 4-year-olds were communicated via school messenger on 2/18/22 they will not be required to schedule a Kindergarten registration appointment or re-register for Kindergarten since their child is already enrolled as a student in the West Deptford School District. They will disregard the upcoming emails regarding Kindergarten Registration and they will receive a unique, individualized "Snapcode" via email in August to update their child(s) student information for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Please click the links below for more information on Preschool and Kindergarten Registration for the 2022-2023 school year.

- [Preschool Registration Information](#)
- [Kindergarten Registration Information](#)

WEST DEPTFORD HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL:



Tickets on sale NOW!
West Deptford High School
presents
ANASTASIA
THE NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL
Friday, March 25th & Saturday March 26th - 7:30pm
Sunday, March 27th - 2:00pm
\$12.00 Reserved Seating wdhs.booktix.com

EMBRACE THE DIFFERENCE:

WDHS celebrates and recognizes diversity and culture this year to honor our school community. To do this, we have created themes for each month of the school year to acknowledge and celebrate other cultures, populations, and awareness. **March is National Women's History Month.**

National Women's History Month aims to highlight the achievements and contributions made by various women in various fields: filmmakers, artists, engineers, and pioneers of all kinds.

Throughout time, women have played a vital role in U.S. history. Therefore, Women's History Month seeks to give credit where credit is due and recognize the women who have changed the world in so many different ways.

Here are a few **simple ways to celebrate National Women's Month on your own:**

- Buy from and support women-owned businesses
- Support (and play/watch!) women-led and -made films and songs
- Share what you've learned about women's history online with friends and family
- Read and buy books from female writers

Throughout our school, we will post information on our outdoor electronic sign, advertise celebratory figures using our indoor T.V. hall monitors, embed themes within the classroom lessons, and use the Parent Eagle News to share with our school community.

WDMS STAFF vs. STUDENT BASKETBALL GAME:

After 2 long years, our Staff vs. Students Basketball Game made a comeback! On March 11, 2022, in the big gym at Riverwinds Community Center, WDMS hosted its 6th Annual Staff vs. Students Basketball Game. This year's event helped support our Middle School student activity funds.

Student activity funds help to provide school-wide enrichment programs and grade-level trips. With the current state of the pandemic and schools returning to a more normal atmosphere, we are excited to be bringing back all of our grade-level trips this spring. Rising transportation costs will be the largest component in determining what each trip will cost per student. Student activity funds can help offset that expense. Later this spring WDMS will welcome Tim Shoemaker as he provides our staff and students with 4 separate assemblies on Vaping.



WDMS ANIMAL THERAPY ROOM:

The Animal Therapy Room will be supported solely by donations. Your support will help to jump-start the program for our students and cover the cost of feeding our community of animals who will be adopted/re-homed and cared for by our students. There are many ways to donate. Please click [HERE](#) to check out their Amazon Wish List. Gift cards to local grocery stores are also appreciated as the animals require fresh produce in their daily diet.

For questions, or if you would like to make a donation, please contact Dr. Alexis Walsh at awalsh@wdeptford.k12.nj.us.

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.

RECYCLING BOOKS IS GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:

In addition to many of our other activities for Read Across America, Green-Fields G&T Teacher, Mrs. Bosco is coordinating our annual Book Swap. Green-Fields students may bring pre-read books to trade for a new title that has also been donated through the Book Swap program. The books donated should be within the 8–12-year-old reading levels and are in generally good shape with no writing or rips. Students receive a ticket for each book that is donated and use these tickets to trade for new books. This is an optional activity for our students and as mentioned, is hosted by Mrs. Bosco's Enrichment classes. The program is running from March 17th through March 31st and will be utilized to honor our Earth Day celebrations in April.

GFES SERVICE-LEARNING NIGHT:

As part of our ongoing Character Education Initiative at Green-Fields, students, parents, and staff participated in our 4th annual Service-Learning Night supporting the Cathedral Kitchen of Camden, NJ. The Cathedral Kitchen located in Camden, NJ is a non-profit that serves over 300 people in need every day. They provide individuals and families with crucial services, support, and supplies. This is a GREAT opportunity to share the community service-learning experience with our Green-Fields children and families.

Throughout the evening, families made sandwiches, created placemats and centerpieces, and assembled hygiene kits that were delivered on Friday morning to the Cathedral Kitchen. The items will be distributed to individuals and families in need directly. Our school has come to look forward to this wonderful event each year and we're grateful that we can help others through the kindness and generosity of our Green-Fields Family. Click on the link for more information: [Cathedral Kitchen](#).



OVES KIDS HEART CHALLENGE:

Throughout the month of February, Oakview (as well as the other elementary schools) participated in the American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge. Ms. English did an amazing job teaching our students how exercise and being healthy helps our heart and brain. As a school, we raised \$10,942.30 for the American Heart Association. We also fulfilled all of the requirements for the Principal's Challenge of the Kids Heart Challenge so our school will be awarded \$500 by the American Heart Association to purchase new PE equipment!!!! Here is the link to our Oakview page ([Link](#)).

OVES BUCKET FILLERS:

The Oakview SEL Committee has been discussing how we can increase the ways in which we encourage good decision-making, positive social interactions, and model behaviors aligned with our character themes. In the second week of March we held mini assemblies for all students and staff to discuss how they can help fill a "bucket." During the assembly, Mrs. D., our school counselor, read the story, "Have you filled a bucket today?" The story utilizes a simple metaphor of a bucket and a dipper to illustrate the idea that when we choose to be kind, we not only fill the buckets of those around us, but we also fill out our own bucket with the positive feeling from our actions. Conversely, when we choose to say or do mean things, we are dipping into a bucket which makes others feel bad. This book was a springboard to the lesson that Mrs. D. taught that reminded our students that we ALL benefit from positive thinking and positive behaviors.

Students and staff have the opportunity to fill out bucket filler slips to express how someone in the school did something to fill their bucket. On Fridays, we will randomly read several completed bucket filler slips over the

PA system and have those students come to the main office for a small prize. We will also hang those slips on a bulletin board in the hallway to show pride and reinforcement for positive behaviors.



RBES AFRICAN AMERICAN GALLERY WALK:

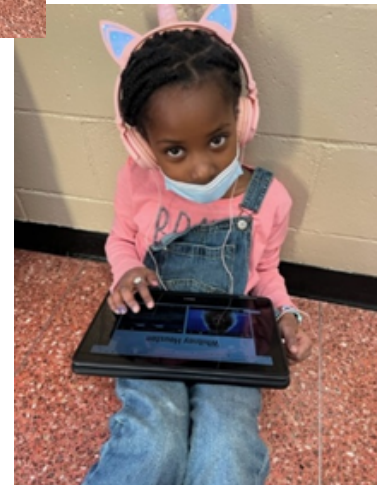
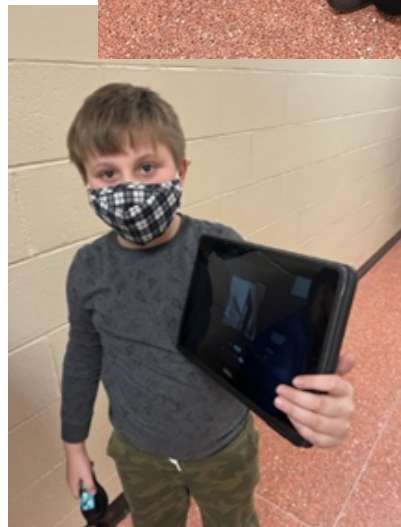
February is dedicated as Black History Month, honoring the triumphs and struggles of African Americans throughout U.S. history. As a culminating project, Red Bank students participated in an African American Gallery Walk. There were 15 different QR codes posted around the school. Students walked around the school with their class and used their Chromebooks to access tidbits of information about African Americans who have made some amazing contributions to our American society in the areas of Art, Dance, Music, or Sports. It was an enjoyable way for our community to move around, learn, and talk about people who have shaped our nation.



Scan to learn more about
Jackson 5



Scan to learn more about
Misty Copeland



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Oakview Elementary

- March 24 - School & Class Picture Day
- March 30 - Youth Art Open House at Oakview from 5-7 pm
- April 1 - Autism Awareness Day (lighting it up blue and blowing bubbles as an entire school as the culminating activity at the end of the day)

Red Bank Elementary

- March 31 - Red Bank Art Museum Open House night
- March (all month) - Read Across America - Various activities throughout the month
- March (all month) - Caring Kits for Vets

Green-Fields Elementary

- April 13 - Art Show Open House 5:30-7pm

Middle School

- March 22 - 8th-grade weight training begins, 2:45 @ WDHS
- March 28 - Spring Track & Field season begins
- March 28 - Gertrude Hawk Candy delivery-TENTATIVE
- March 30 - Lost & Found donated to a local charity
- April 1 - Q3 ends
- April 28 - People's Choice Awards 6pm

High School

- March 25-27 - WDHS Musical Production of "Anastasia"
- April 1 - Q3 ends
- April 2-5 - Senior Class Trip