



Wappingers Junior High School NEWSLETTER

December, 2021 -
January 2022

[WCSD School Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

WJH Vision Statement

At Wappingers Junior High School, we envision a school where all students have the opportunity to achieve their full potential in an academic environment through creativity, flexibility and accountability while being encouraged and supported by educators, administrators, parents and the community.

What's New:

Principal Message

Black History Month Student
Government Contest

Black History Month

Rotary Club Student(s) of the Month

Cinderella Cast

Honor Roll Quarter 2

Mrs. King Presents

WJH PTA Honor Roll Breakfast



Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation. Black History Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of our country's history.

This year's theme, [Black Health and Wellness](#), pays homage to medical scholars and health care providers. The theme is especially timely as we enter the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately affected minority communities and placed [unique burdens](#) on Black health care professionals.

"There is no American history without African American history," said Sara Clarke Kaplan, executive director of the [Antiracist Research & Policy Center](#) at American University in Washington, D.C. The Black experience, she said, is embedded in "everything we think of as 'American hCritics have long argued that Black history should be taught and celebrated year-round, not just during one month each year.

It was [Carter G. Woodson](#), the "father of Black history," who first set out in 1926 to designate a time to promote and educate

people about Black history and culture, according to W. Marvin Dulaney. He is a historian and the president of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History ([ASALH](#)).

Woodson envisioned a weeklong celebration to encourage the coordinated teaching of Black history in public schools. He designated the second week of February as Negro History Week and galvanized fellow historians through the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which he founded in 1915. (ASNLH later became ASALH.)

The idea wasn't to place limitations but really to focus and broaden the nation's consciousness.



Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950) was an American historian, a scholar and the founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Woodson was instrumental in launching Negro History Week in 1926. *Bettmann Archive/Getty Images*

"Woodson's goal from the very beginning was to make the celebration of Black history in the field of history a 'serious area of study,'" said Albert Broussard, a professor of Afro-American history at Texas A&M University.

The idea eventually grew in acceptance, and by the late 1960s, Negro History Week had evolved into what is now known as Black History Month. Protests around racial injustice, inequality and anti-imperialism that were occurring in many parts of the U.S. were pivotal to the change.



Colleges and universities also began to hold commemorations, with [Kent State University](#) being one of the first, according to Kaplan.

Fifty years after the first celebrations, President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black History Month during the country's 1976 bicentennial. Ford called upon Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history," [History.com reports](#).

"February was chosen primarily because the second week of the month coincides with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and

Frederick Douglass. Lincoln was influential in the [emancipation of slaves](#), and Douglass, a former slave, was a prominent leader in the [abolitionist movement](#), which fought to end slavery.

Lincoln and Douglass were each born in the second week of February, so it was traditionally a time when African Americans would hold celebrations in honor of emancipation, Kaplan said. (Douglass' exact date of birth wasn't recorded, but he came to celebrate it on Feb. 14.)

Thus, Woodson created Negro History Week around the two birthdays as a way of "commemorating the black past," according to [ASALH](#).

Forty years after Ford formally recognized Black History Month, it was Barack Obama, the nation's first Black president, who [delivered a message](#) of his own from the White House, a place built by slaves.

"Black History Month shouldn't be treated as though it is somehow separate from our collective American history or somehow just boiled down to a compilation of greatest hits from the March on Washington or from some of our sports heroes," Obama said.

"It's about the lived, shared experience of all African Americans, high and low, famous and obscure, and how those experiences have shaped and challenged and ultimately strengthened America," he continued.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS!!

The Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls recognized the Students of the month from Roy C. Ketcham High School, Wappingers Junior High School, Evans Elementary and Myers Corners Elementary. Each student received a certificate from the Rotary Club of Wappingers Falls, Town of Wappinger Supervisor Richard Thurston and a Letter from the Village of Wappingers Falls Mayor Rick Cerino. We again congratulate the students and their families.



December Winner belongs to 8th grade student Hannah Lindell.

She was nominated by her Science teacher, Mrs. Lawler.

Mrs. Lawler says: "Hannah is a very personal student. She is always friendly and compassionate to her classmates and teachers. She always tries her best to have success in her classes. She has had a couple of setbacks this school year but it has not changed her friendly personality. Ms. Parsons and I very much enjoy checking in with Hannah daily. She shares many of her struggles and perseveres throughout this school year. Hannah is an excellent candidate for the student of the month. I am honored to be Hannah's teacher this year."





Congratulations to RCK student Gianna Hyde and WJHS student Eva Adams for being the January 2022 Rotary Students of the Month!

January Winner belongs to 8th grader Eva Adams!

Eva was nominated by Mr. Pogemiller-Kermani & Ms. Price who said:

“We nominate Eva Adams as student of the month. Eva shows up to school every day ready to learn. When other students may become prone to distraction, Eva remains steadfast in her attention to the lesson at hand. She follows directions very well, works diligently on assignments, advocates for her educational needs, and works well in groups.”

“Eva also works quietly when that is expected of her, however, her quietness should never be mistaken for fragility or delicateness. Instead, Eva is powerful in her ability to speak up for herself and those around her. Eva has a positive influence on the students around her,

whether the students around her are friends or other peers. Our school environment is made better by students like Eva who work hard, have positive influence on those around them, and who are carving out a better world for all of us.”



Congratulations to the following students who will be performing in this year's Spring production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella.

Melissa Parra, Jayden Ras, Josie Dell'Olio, Kimora Braswell, Madison Williams, Ainsley Bosman, Dominick Cantalupo, Maya Moore, Russell Clark, Aidan Maffia, Amelia DeSa, Arianna Sloniker, Ciela Sotomayor, Emma Cruz, Jordyn Schwartz, Joseph Colucci, Joshua Gallman, Leah Schneider, Madisyn Spagna, Rowan Khleifat

Performances will be March 25 & 26, 2022



Mrs. King Presents

We are showcasing the literary works of students from Mrs. King's 8th Grade ELA class. From Mrs. King: "Allowing students the freedom to freely write, is the single most important action a student can take towards reducing the hesitancy some students have towards writing. Writing freely, without judgment, without criticism, provides a safe, healthy level of expression. We have quite a few, very talented writers in the classroom! Enjoy!"

POEMS

Directions: After reading and analyzing the poem "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost, think about a decision or choice you have had to make in your life and write a similar poem.

- Your poem must be at least three to four stanzas.
- It must have a title, capitalized and please use quotation marks.
- You will receive extra credit for a rhyme scheme that carries through the entire poem.

By : Richard Acosta

I sit on my couch

I have two paths to choose

One to decide

What to focus on

For going to after school help

Or Dedicating to soccer

If I go to the right I could fail

I need to choose a trail

That decides what will go on in life

But I need to choose

Im very confused

If I go to the left I'd have more of a chance

But less finance

And less of a risk

I have to think

I will take the risk

Because we only live once

So i took every opportunity

And went on the right path

And became successful

“Tin of Paper”

by Luca A. Fugo

Painful separated good
Dire separated romantic
A love letter and birthday cards
Ridged ornaments, green figures, and a
light bin separated a steel tin
Wind conducted off a ceiling fan blew
cards and paper away-
Day by day
However, the tin of steel lodged upon a
ring of dust stationery among all stirred
memories.
The steel tin held symbolic paper scraps
to my past
Despite the temptation to individuals
around, the tin of paper allowed dust to
pile upon it-
As it should
Take on the temptation
Fight the temptation
May only the willed turn away from the
worst of times
Steel sturdy
It should get dirty
Every layer of grime protects bad time
Eroded steel admitted a strong aroma
Circling the room and filling my nasal
cavity -
Distraction grew
I turned helpless, not knowing what to
do
The steel time capsule tempted me
Pulling my finger towards it, with it's own
field of gravity

Hot expelled air breached the steal
Vapor hit the tins paper
The time capsule called to my hand
Simultaneously I lifted the top off
Smearing grime as I exposed bad time
Painful memories of childhood
propaganda and helpless dilemmas filled
the room's atmosphere.
I began to tear on documents upon
documents
Paper upon paper
My eyes twitched from one scrap to
another
Written words on many of papers were
my childhood outlet to let it all out
Turning to the notebook
I then took
I felt tempted to write a book
Years of pain and lousy dinner sitting's
I just wanted a pitting
Against the world, my pen and I
unloaded both ink and a bad time
“This paper is nothing but mine.”
“I have served many of time - bad time.”
Packing the tin once more
Lid sealed
The tin peeled -
Away, it flew
Back to its ring of dusk
Back to its wood shelf, it must
Temptation always grows upon the
unwilling
Seeing old habit
You always must grab it
Pen, paper, kite, or great appetite.

"Owning A New Pet"

BY: Mia Kowalczyk

I walk along the lengthy shelves,
As I ponder about the decision ahead.
I was nervous but excited as I stood
there and read.
I read the contract as I watched the
people standing amongst themselves.
I watched the geckos, one of them
brightly colored red.

I pick up the tiny gecko,
Then I wonder if I should name it
echo?
I decided that it was time.
I took him home and thought he was
mine.

In his cage he does his little waddle.
I even got him a little water bottle!
I loved him with all my heart.
He was also very smart.
I also decided his cage needs a
remodel.

I worked hard and long,
As he walked along.
He drank out of his little cup.
At that point I decided, I will never
give him up.

"Cold morning air"

BY: KAYLEE MILIAMBRO

I wake up to get ready
Go to the closet
And get a hoodie
I chose one with a pocket

I put on my locket
I go down the stairs very steady
I get my shoes on
I go to see john

I eat spaghetti
My brother came in and threw confetti
I screamed what are you doing
He said i'm grooving

I had to decide if i wanted to go skiing
My brother kept disagreeing
He wanted to go snow tubing
I said no let's keep moving

"SPLIT ROAD"

By: Kevina Furman

I look down a road that turns into two

A

One road is red and one road is blue **A**

One road has a friend and one does not

B

But whether I want that friend is what

has me confused **A**

She was my best friend but she has

changed a lot **B**

She made me cry and made my

stomach lock **B**

She went down a path I wasn't sure to

follow **C**

But shes my bestfriend so how could I

not **B**

The more anger built up the more my

head hangs low **C**

When I stayed friends with her I felt so

small **C**

I look down the two roads I have to pick

one **D**

I'm going with the one that makes me

feel more whole **C**

The Choice

By Michael Batta

**There were two choices that endless
night.**

One blue, one red, neither light.

I heard his choice and stumbled a bit.

Then next morning I was hit.

**What I would have gave to change
my choice.**

When I saw them with such joyce.

I replay it in my head a lot.

He did something, I did not.

I had a duet of choices then.

One choice was to have some zen.

My other option I truly fear.

I chose not to interfere.

I still rethink about it sometimes.

It's right, but there are hard times.

**There were two choices that endless
night.**

One blue, one red, neither light.

Messages from

WJH PTA

HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST – February 23rd. – SAVE THE DATE!!

The WJHS PTA is requesting donations for the annual honor roll breakfast for our second quarter honor roll students. Event will be held during school on February 23rd. Items can be dropped off on February 18th or February 22nd at the school.

Please click this link to sign up to donate!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4AA8A82EA0F49-wjhs>

If you wish to volunteer at this event, please email wappingersjrhighpta@gmail.com





HONOR ROLL - QUARTER 2

Congratulations!!

High Honor Roll

In order to qualify for High Honor Roll students must have an average of 91 or above including Physical Education. No student with an average of less than 80 in English, Social Studies, Mathematics or Science will be considered. Students may not have any failures or incompletes, including Physical Education, to be eligible for High Honor Roll.

7th Grade

Jumana Abdelhady, Muhammad Ali, Derek Armijos, Isabella Asuncion, Karishma Baychoo, Mikaela Beaubrun, Justine Becker, Justin Bergman, Shabd Bhangoo, Christian Blake, Sofiya Borsch, Gabrielle Bramble, Kimora Braswell, Zaiden Brown, Ethan Caba, Aidan Cancel, Mason Cantele, Allison Carmona, Matthew Carroll, Mia Carvalho, Louis Ciancio, Russell Clark, Cameron Clyde, Alexa Cordero, Sophie Correa, Misleidy Cruz Cruz, Emma Cruz, Kevin Cutrupi, Jenna Dallara, Mikael Daniel, Eshaan Dave, Daniella Delgado, Grace DelRosso, Amelia DeSa, Natalia Dinardo, Rachel Douglas, Diego Duarte, Elliette Durso, Brooke Ercole, Cristian Esquivel-Solar, Samantha Evans, Vincent Fakhoury, Brianna Ferraro, Leah Figueroa, Ava Francisquini, Annalise Froedden, Luke Galgano, Joshua Gallman, Darlene Garcia, Romelia Gates, Vincent Goh, Felicianna Goncalves, Marianna Goncalves, Konnar Gropper, Kaylee Hartford, Natalie Hastings, Isaiah Hernandez, Alessandra Herrera, Charles Hershman, Logan Higgins, William Hollywood, Jenya Hostyeva, Sierra Hrouda, Christopher Hyde, Saira Khan, Layla Khleifat, Madelyn Kostenko, Alyssa Lange, Francesca Leone, Danny Lin, Esther Liu, Itzury Lozada, Daniel Lucas Jr., Ishmael Lunsford, Bailey

Magarelli, Cameron Maglio, Evan
Maher, Keira Malizia, Noah Manuel,
Julia Martin, Emma Masek, Aleena
Masseo, Katherine McGann, Saalih
McMahon, Aiden Mead, Anna Mezarina,
Samantha Muesser, Grayson Mylie,
Mason Nichols, Dominic Nicoletti,
Ashley Nocera, Madison Nunez, Kaylee
O'Neill, Gianna Orellana, Lila Ortiz,
Cassandra Palmietto, Emily Parker,
Raina Patel, Madison Phrance, Delilah
Picher, Mason Pinto, Chris Pinzon,
Alexa Pomilla, Nickolas Potthast,
Mikayla Price, Mike Quezada, Aiman
Rizwan, Matthew Roberts, Eliany
Rosario-Cabreja, Finnley Rundle, Talisa
Saint Albert, Isabel Saquicela, Ethan
Sardo, Genevieve Schaefer, Leah
Schneider, Maia Schiavone, Calleigh
Schilling, Isaiah Schmalz, Hayden
Schoenberg, Jordyn Schwartz, Kayleigh
Sharp, Benjamin Shutter, Shawn Shutter,
Eduardo Silva, Arianna Sloniker, Jada
Smith, Madisyn Spagna, Trent Staples,
Elena Stojkaj, Julian Striplet, Tyler
Sucharski, Purav Swaminarayan, Keira
Swanson, Ny'Sha Taylor, Marcia Toledo
Tito, Jade Trosa-Hooten, Valerie Tullo,
Yana Tykhanska, Christian Viala,
Raphael Viala, Alexander Victoria,
Haley Washall, Auden Werdal, Gianna
Williams, Sophia Williams, Adrian
Wong, Jeremiah Wood, Katherine
Zeidan, Jiatong Zuo

8th Grade

Vanessa Aboagyewaa, Richard Acosta
Escalante, Eva Adams, Judi Alassali,
Raia Allen, Luis Alvarez Garcia,
Domenick Amendolia, Danielle Antia,
Gift Arbuike, Alexander Arvelo,
A'Leyna Bassue, Angelo Battista, Julien
Battista, Erik Berg, Dominick Bodarky,
Kelsey Bollen, Kennady Boothe, Ainsley
Bosman, Kaelyn Brenner, Dominick
Cantalupo, Mackenzie Capurro, David
Carbone, Anthony Carino, Aylin
Carmona, Amber Carpenter, Angelina
Carroll, Grace Carroll, Donald Cheng,
David Chodan, Sabrina Chownwai,
Kaylie Conforti, Iago DaSilva, Josephine
Dell'Olio, Angelina DeRise, Liam DeSa,
Samuel Dolezal, Camryn Dorsman,
Isabelle Echeharay, Sophia Fakhoury,
Luca Fugo, Kevina Furman, Cole
Gallwitz, Alexandra Gonzalez, Braeden
Greene, Delal Gunes, Tyler Hall, Maria
Halvey, Ali Hamilton, Brenden Harris,
Katie Hayes, Miranda Hernandez, Lily
Hudson, Mohammad Ilaiyan, Ariel
Illescas, Allison Kaminski, John
Kennedy, Avery Kenny, Matthew
Kowalczyk, Mia Kowalczyk, Emma
Kozlowski, Anahi Landivar Yascaribay,
Oleisha Larrow, Madison Lee, Zoe Levy,
Donavon Lewis, Daniel Lipinski, David
Lynn IV, Ivon Machado, Jenna Maher,
Mallory Martin, Rhiannon Martin, Ava
Matus, Jack McCarthy, Gia Mejia,
Emma Mezarina, Julie Mignano,

,Zuleikha Moazzam, Sheila Moghaddasi,
 Madison Molina, Gianna Molinelli,
 Maya Moore, Nella Morgan, Dylan
 Mugnano, Dayanara Munoz Guzman,
 Arjun Murali, Christopher Napoli,
 Kaelynn Odums, Madison Ortiz, Melissa
 Parra, Ensley Perez, Madison Perez,
 Jacob Perino, Samantha Piazza, Julia
 Price, Jimena Priego Andrade, Makayla
 Renzo, Juliana Riguzzi, Samantha
 Santiago, Kevin Sarno, Katie Sauve,
 Edward Schiller, Tessa Schultz, Ilias
 Semri, Lauren Shook, Sebastian Singh,
 Adrianna Smith, George Soyka, Zachary
 Spadaro, Miranda Su, Sophia Tapia
 Mesias, Dylan Tapia, Ayden Toth, Grace
 Travis, Oriana Tsfasman, Jonathan
 Vasquez-Calixto, Alyssa Viggiano,
 Alona Vinod, Nathaniel Wagner, Jacob
 Weickel, Lorenzo Weinberg, Kimora
 White, Kaedyn Whyte, Madison
 Williams, Shea Williams, Jerry Wu,
 Timothy Zandstra, Ryan Zheng

Honor Roll

**In order to qualify,
 students must achieve a
 scholastic average of 85 to 90
 including physical education.
 No student with an average of
 less than 75 in English, Social
 Studies, Mathematics, or
 Science will be considered.**

**Students may not have any
 failures or incompletes,
 including Physical Education, to
 be eligible for honor roll.**

7th Grade

Anthony Alba, Bryan Alcantara,
 Kensington Barrett, Angelo Bodarky,
 Bojk Bojkaj, Derron Bonner, Jayden
 Brown, Aidan Browne, Anthony
 Buele-Brito, Shealen Carmichael, Janae
 Carrero, Logan Cerone, Dylan Culcay,
 Jermaine Curry Jr., Sarah Decicco,
 Jayden Delfi, Sean Douglas, Genevieve
 DuQuesnay, Nicholas Farrell, Ella
 Farrington, Dennis Ferris, Alivia
 Franklin, Enzo Fugo, Tyler Galligan,
 Elijah Garcia-Ruiz, Emily Glover,
 Michael Gnaore, Christian Gomez,
 Peyton Hamel, Cole Hannagan, Julie
 Hastings, Patricia Hernandez, Jayden
 Heywood, Desiree Hippias, Roisin
 Hynes, Christopher Jones, Sophia
 Jordan, Rylan Just, Anthony Kiesbye,
 Derek Lahl, DeJeane Lawrence, Brihana
 Lopez, Kailyn Lopez, Angela Marino,
 David Martinelli, Eliana Martinez, Aidan
 McCormack, Tristan McDonald, Patrick
 McGinnis, Corinne McRae, Alexis
 Miano, Decianna Miranda, Abdullah
 Moazzam, Samuel Montenegro, Anthony
 Nucifore, Julian Olmo, Eric Paccha,
 Camila Palma Martinez, Gabriela
 Palma-Ayala, Dyandra Peguero, Miguel
 Perez IV, Michael Pisano, Ty'reic
 Riddick, Yuvraj Singh, Jeremiah

Singleton, Ciela Sotomayor, Angel Suriano, Binta Susso, Emma Tasch, Nathan Thige, Ryheem Tinsley Jr., Matthew Trocino, David Valdovinos, Angel Vasquez Calixto, London Watkins, Kiera Weatherwax, Antaunas Wirszyla, Ethan Wood, William Yamamoto

8th Grade

Aiden Allen, Jayden Almanzar, Maryrose Angelo, Justin Aroche, Armando Ayala-Birriel, Michael Batta, Melody Bermeo, Dominic Best, Caleb Bieber, Jaclyn Borba, Sydney Bowman, Dane Bryan, Michael Cahill III, Andrew Castrejon Rodriguez, Julianna Cosentino, Natalie Deegan, Amy DeGroff, Isabella DeLuise, Anabelle Doering, Danielle Dugon, Giovanni D'Urbano, Tyler Durkin, Thomas Eglit, Jennah Elzogheir, Olivia Freno, Yah'Zir Galloway, Caroline Garnica Nieto, Isabella Garnot, Aidan Gauzza, Abigail Grimm, Jose Guzman, Jack Hannagan, Charlotte Harris, Sophia Haskins,

Giancarlo Henry, Aidan Hudson, Edgar Illescas, Isabella Indelicato, Toughidul Islam, JoJo Kaswer, Sophia Kidd, Emma Klopotoski, Catherine Koch, Kaleb Koch, Alyssa Kurlander, Gabriel Luongo, Christian Maltais, Lilly Masciola, Brayden McMaster, Connor McMillan, Isaac Menjivar, Allison Mercer, Jordyn Mikelic, Kaylee Miliambro, Lucas Noble, Peter O'Connor, Lucien Peters, Natalie Post, Jayden Ras, Gavin Reyes, Aliyah Rodriguez, Zachary Rodriguez, Josue Rosa Casanova, Gabriela Rosario, Jeremiah Schneck, Saina Sharma, Karanpreet Singh, Emma Sweet, Sienna Torres, Jazlyn Torruella, Jordan Turner, John Whitcomb, Indiria Williams, Lucas Wilson

Board of Education

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Peggy Kelland, Vice-President

Keri Cahill

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Keith Odums

Eddy A. Sloshower

James Spencer

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Dwight Bonk



SENIOR STAFF ADMINISTRATION

Daren Lolkema

Assistant Superintendent for Compliance and Information Systems

Dr. Michelle Cardwell

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Kristen Crandall

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Business Development

Richard Zipp

Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services and Accessible Education

Renee Harris

Director for Human Resources

Ronald Broas

Director of Facilities III

"The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community."