

InPrint

WAPPINGERS
Central School District
newsletter

May 2012 Volume 12.2

The Wappingers Central School District Newsletter



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VOTE

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fishkill Elementary
Fishkill Plains Elementary
Gayhead Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary
Vassar Road Elementary
Sheafe Road Elementary

If this newsletter was mailed to you,
please check the address label for your
polling location or call
298-5000 ext. 40145

2012-2013 Budget Issue

Message from Superintendent

While the economic outlook of the last few years has only recently began to slowly show signs of improvement, the watchword for school districts, businesses, and households continues to be fiscal responsibility. It is in this type of economic climate that our District undertook careful development of the 2012-2013 school budget. At the same time, the political climate has exerted a different kind of pressure. The belt-tightening of the last few years has taken place in the midst of federal and state educational reform initiatives that have generated still more mandates without the assistance of sorely needed financial aid from the state and federal governments. In fact, the amount of aid available has continued to erode and, in the case of some federal funds, the aid has vanished entirely and constitutes \$2.8 million dollar loss in funding. Advancing our educational program and caring for an aging District infrastructure has been and continues to be a challenging task, one that our Board of Education has taken very seriously. This year, in addition to the continuation of the same challenging conditions of recent years noted above, school districts were confronted with a tax cap.

The Board has approved a 2012-13 school budget that combines fiscal responsibility with a commitment to securing the best possible conditions for student learning. The budget will be presented to taxpayers for their approval on Tuesday, May 15, 2012. The budget carries a budget-to-budget increase of 4.35% and a tax levy of 2.78% through allowable exclusions to the cap. For more information on the tax levy cap, please see "Budget 2012-13" on the main page of the District's website.

The school budget for 2012-2013 provides for full-day kindergarten for the first time in our District's history, keeps intact all of our current academic programs, and, for the first time in three school years, does not call for any reductions in staff. The budget includes the addition of additional essential staff positions such as school nurses, teaching assistants, a night custodial supervisor, and an assistant principal for Myers Corners Elementary School. The budget also provides for the addition of ninth grade at

Orchard View Alternative High School, which will allow the District to further support high school students through early intervention as part of the long standing initiative to improve the District's graduation rates. Finally the budget supports our commitment to the prevention of bullying, now a matter of law through the Dignity for All Students Act. Our approach to this critical issue combines staff training, curriculum initiatives through "Peaceworks," and refining our student code of conduct and related practices to reflect the mandates of the new law.

In the event that the budget is not passed on May 15, the District could face a contingent budget under which we would be required by law to reduce the budget by \$3.7 million dollars. The Board of Education has approved contingency cuts to student supplies including textbooks, as well as to co-curricular activities, interscholastic sports, intramurals, field trips, and continuing education. All new positions added to the budget would be removed and we would also see reductions in teaching assistants and reductions in art and music at the elementary level.

Arriving at a contingency budget has been a difficult task. The Board of Education subjected the entire budget for a close review, attempting to make reductions wherever possible before turning to cuts in areas that will impact student programs. As has been the experience of the last two years, finalizing a contingency budget without any adverse effect on student programs was not possible.

Presentations regarding the budget are currently being made to community and staff at each of the schools so that we may provide the voters with the most accurate information they need to make their decisions on May 15th. For detailed information on the budget, please visit the District homepage. We hope that you are able to attend a presentation. You may also submit questions to: budget@wappingersschools.org.

Marco Pochintesta
Interim Superintendent

Wappingers Central School District Budget Notice

Budget Notice

	Budget Adopted 2011-2012 School Year	Budget Proposed 2012-2013 School Year	Contingency Budget 2012-2013 School Year*
Total Budget Amount	\$188,766,644	\$196,982,040	\$193,273,766
Increase/decrease for the 2011-2012 school year		\$ 8,215,396	\$ 4,507,122
Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget		4.35%	2.38%
Change in the consumer price index		3.2%	
School Tax Levy			
School Tax Levy Limit		\$134,932,051	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$134,494,373	\$133,273,655
Total Permissible Exclusions		\$2,307,556	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)	\$133,273,655	\$136,981,929	\$133,273,655
Component Breakdown			
Administrative component	\$ 19,333,154	\$ 19,221,770	\$ 19,025,708
Program component	\$148,117,768	\$156,643,244	\$153,464,033
Capital component	\$ 21,315,722	\$ 21,117,026	\$20,784,025
Total	\$188,766,644	\$196,982,040	\$193,273,766

*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2012-2013 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Budget

VOTE: YES NO

Shall a budget for Wappingers Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012, in the amount of \$196,982,040 be adopted, and the necessary taxes to meet such expenditures be levied and collected?

Proposition #1 - Bus Proposition

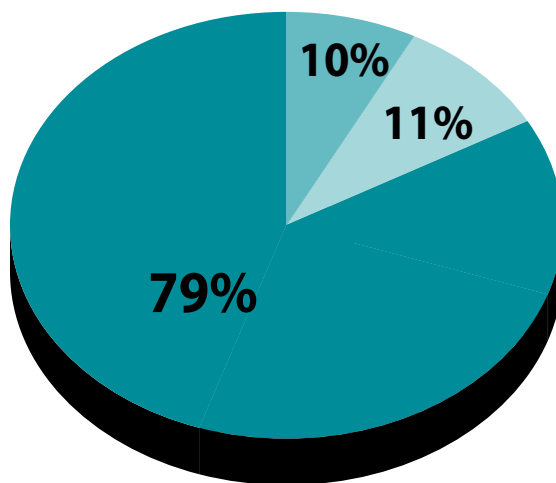
VOTE: YES NO

Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District, Putnam and Dutchess Counties, New York ("District"), be authorized to purchase the following student transportation vehicles: four (4) twenty passenger vans; four (4) seven passenger vans; and seventeen (17) seventy-two passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$2,013,000; which a total estimated maximum sum of \$2,013,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by law, and for which obligations of the District may be issued?

If the proposed budget is defeated the additional cuts would be made:

Student Supplies; Supplies District-Wide; Contractual Services; Orchard View - 9th grade; Field Trips; Continuing Education; Salary (OT, Mentors, etc.); Interscholastics; Co-Curricular Activities; Intramurals; RPNs - Additional needs; K-6 Arts/Music Reduction; Textbooks (partial cut); Night Custodial Supervisor; Teaching Assistants (new); Clerical (Coordinators Office); AV Technician; Teaching Assistants (Inclusion); 10 Month AP at Myers Corners Elementary

WCSD BOE Adopted Budget 2012-2013



- Administrative
- Capital
- Program

The polls will be open to vote by voting ballot or machine in the Annual Budget Vote for the fiscal year 2012-2013 by the qualified voters of the Wappingers Central School District, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York.

VOTE

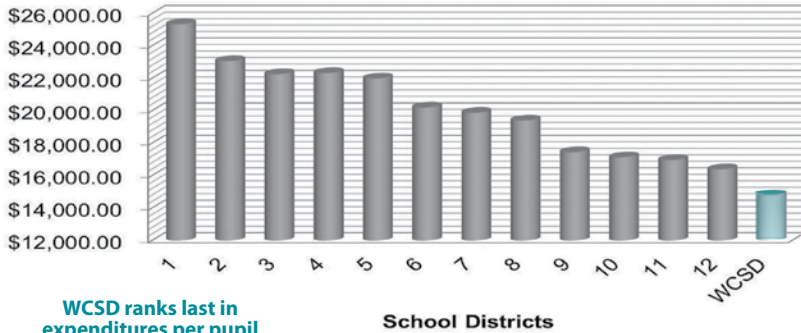
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**Fishkill Elementary • Fishkill Plains Elementary • Gayhead Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary • Vassar Road Elementary • Sheafe Road Elementary**

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★	STAR Tax Savings	Budget Adopted 2012-2013 School Year	★
	Basic STAR tax savings	\$644.21	

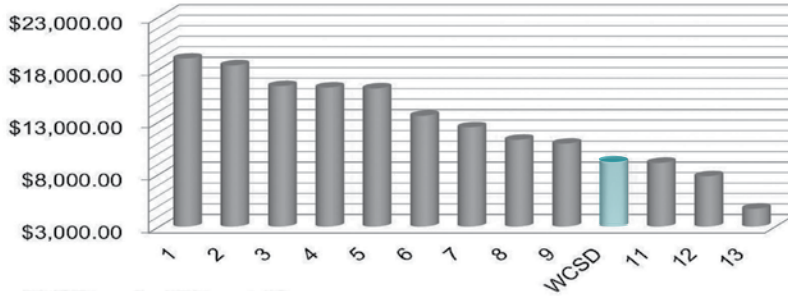
Total Expenditures Per Pupil 2010-2011



WCSD ranks last in expenditures per pupil in Dutchess County

Source: Dutchess County Fact Book 2012

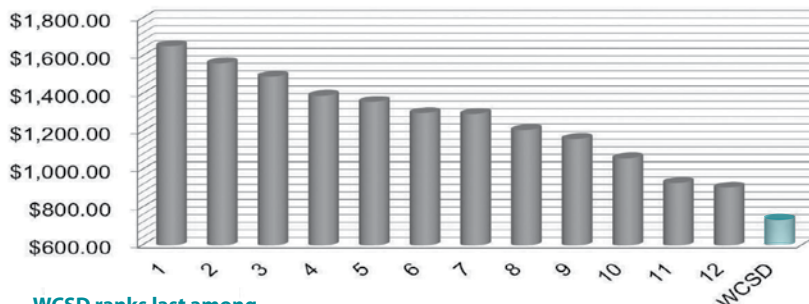
Property Taxes Per Pupil 2010-2011



WCSD ranks 10th out of 13 in Dutchess County

Source: Dutchess County Fact Book 2012

Total Administrative Costs Per Pupil 2010-2011



WCSD ranks last among Dutchess County School Districts

Source: Dutchess County Fact Book 2012

Contingency Budget

A contingency budget is prepared and adopted by the Board when the voters have rejected the proposed budget. The Board of Education may present a proposed budget to the community only twice.

The total spending authorization imposed under a contingency budget is limited by the Property Tax Cap Legislation. The tax cap of a contingent budget cannot exceed the prior year's levy, thus representing a zero percent increase.

The contingency budget calculated for the 2012-2013 school year would be \$193,273,766. If the proposed budget is defeated, the budget items listed below would be eliminated. The difference to the average homeowner, based on current assessment information, would be approximately \$0 per year.

If the proposed budget is defeated, the budget will be reduced by the following:

- Student Supplies (mandated)
- Supplies District-Wide
- Contractual Services
- Orchard View - 9th grade
- Field Trips
- Continuing Education
- Salary (OT, Mentors, etc.)
- Interscholastics
- Co-Curricular Activities
- Intramurals
- RPNs - Additional needs
- K-6 Arts/Music Reduction
- Textbooks (partial cut)
- Night Custodial Supervisor
- Teaching Assistants (new)
- Clerical (Coordinators Office)
- AV Technician
- Teaching Assistants (Inclusion)
- 10 Month AP at Myers Corners Elementary

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BOARD CANDIDATES

(as they appear on the ballot)

VOTE FOR THREE BY PLACING A ✓ OR ✕ IN THE BOX UNDER CANDIDATE'S NAME.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Aziz ASHAN ESQ.	Donna TORRISI	Rob RUBIN	Douglass BITTEKER	Daniel MILLER	Lori JIAVA

BOARD CANDIDATES STATEMENTS

1 Aziz Ashan Esq:

A local parent, taxpayer, and businessman, has lived in the district since 1989.

He is a Patent, Trademark, Internet, and Intellectual Property Law Attorney, with an office in Fishkill. He received his BS and MS in Engineering and MBA from the University of Minnesota. He received a JD from William Mitchell College of Law.

In 2010-11 as President of WCSD BOE he tightly managed costs and increased the Fund Balance from approx. \$4 million to over \$8.2 million, all without affecting the children's education. He instituted "pre-approval" for overtime, and reduced overtime expenses by over \$555,000. He also addressed the substantial backlog of work orders.

For over 39 years he has been involved with various organizations while living in MN, CT, and NY. His numerous articles and opinions on a variety of issues have been published in local, regional, national, and international publications.

Mr. Ahsan is also a member of East Fishkill Zoning Board of Appeals, Mid-Hudson Children's Museum Board, and Community Foundation of Dutchess County Advisory Board.

Mr. Ahsan's son graduated from John Jay (University of Chicago), and his daughter graduated from John Jay, and is a sophomore at Smith College, and his youngest child is a junior at John Jay.

2 Donna Torrissi:

I have been a parent for 23 years, a resident of the Wappingers Community for 17 years and an educator/administrator for 26 years. My objective for Wappingers is to restore the recognition that this district once had as a Blue Ribbon School District. Our BOE goal should be to bring the best programs to our students and to be fiscally responsible to our community. Now is the time that the community should have more of a voice. My role is to use what I know as a parent, taxpayer and most of all as a building level administrator to evaluate and create programs that we can be proud of. It has taken too long to bring in full day kindergarten. The BOE has wasted our time and money with their fighting. We need to look at the developments that have come to our community and the impact in our schools.

Dedicated to Excellence in Community and Education

3 Rob Rubin:

I am recently retired after a nearly 40 year career in the healthcare industry as a professional Purchasing Agent. During that period I viewed my prime responsibility to my employer as insuring the institution's monies were spent as wisely and frugally as possible, a task I took personally and seriously. As a WCSD board member I would use my training to your advantage in reviewing expenditures of taxpayer money.

Since my retirement I have attended many Poughkeepsie Town Board meetings, Arlington Fire District meetings as well as a number of Wappingers Central School District meetings. In each case I have followed through on a promise I made to district voters to let them know what these respective governmental organizations are doing by forwarding agendas via email where possible, sending my summary of main points discussed during said meetings and soliciting community input on any and all topics. I continually strive to know what the community wants and report back the status of things. I pledge to continue these actions as your board representative.

On a more personal level, I am married for 40 years to my wife Eileen, have two grown children that were successfully educated in the WCSD, have resided in the town of Poughkeepsie for 35 years, volunteered at the Castle Point V.A., and am an Assistant Chaplain as well as Adjutant for a local Jewish War Veterans Post. I am also a member Commissioner of the Town of Poughkeepsie's Historic Preservation Commission.

Thank you for considering me as one of your next WCSD board members. I look forward to working with and serving you.

4 Douglass Bitteker:

My wife, Nancy, and I have resided in Hopewell Junction since 1987. Our two children, Emily and Drew, were educated in the WCSD, those graduating from John Jay High School. My only educational experience was completed with my graduating from Colgate University.

In my business career I was the CEO and owner of three printing companies. At the time of my retirement, I was a printing consultant in NYC for Brodock Press, a major national printing firm.

My education experience within our district includes substitute teaching for nine years and membership on our BOE from 2007-2010 (President 2008-2010). As a substitute teacher, I am known as Mr. "B" and the word is **respect**.

Having worked both sides of education, I feel that I have the expertise and knowledge which are critical in these uncertain economic times. We need to restore plausibility to our board and bring a sense of belonging among students, parents, teachers and district administrators.

Some of my objectives include character education, review of the code of conduct in areas of contention, maintenance of strong art, music, and athletic programs to go along with our academic curriculum.

VOTE

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7	8	9
Write-in	Write-in	Write-in

5 Daniel Miller:

Daniel Miller is a 28 year old private-practice attorney and father from East Fishkill. Like many East Fishkill residents, Daniel attended Fishkill Plains Elementary, Van Wyck Junior High School, and John Jay High School. After graduating from John Jay in 2001, Daniel earned an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Dutchess Community College, a Bachelors Degree in Public Administration from John Jay College, and Juris Doctorate with a concentration in Litigation from Thomas Cooley Law School.

Daniel is a former Americorps/City Year Chapter leader. As a Chapter Leader Daniel, taught Service Learning Curriculum in five high schools, developed city wide programs in numerous schools while working along side non-profit organizations and government agencies, and coordinated afterschool programs for elementary and middle schools.

Daniel is also a former Assistant County Attorney from the Litigation Bureau from the Westchester County Department of Law. As an Assistant County Attorney, Daniel represented numerous County Departments, including but not limited to: the County Police, the Department of Mental Health, and Child/Adult Protective Services. In addition to providing efficient and effective legal services, Daniel has developed an impressive track record of aggressively safeguarding municipal tax dollars during administrative and legal proceedings.

As a WCSD board member Daniel will prove to be a strong advocate for both fiscal discipline and academic excellence. For more information please check out www.MillerDaniel.com

6 Lori Jiava:

I am the current board president. I was born and raised in Wappingers Falls. I am a proud product of Roy C. Ketcham. I went on to college at DCC, where I studied Business Management & Labor Studies. I continued my studies in Public Administration at SUNY Empire. I've owned and operated my own business for the past 21 years. My husband, Chris and I have 2 school aged children. Being a parent of young children, you see education first hand. I am aware of the new Common Core standards and the importance for professional development for our educators. I am cognizant of assessments and the direct correlation between student achievement and our district's success. To be a parent and a board member is key and critical in order to have an understanding of the nuances in education.

As a board member I have been very involved. In my first election, I promised to fight for FULL DAY Kindergarten, and it was delivered! I was instrumental in bringing this district toward financial stability and I pledge to NOT do mass REDISTRICTING! I am asking for your support again, so that I can be your voice on the board.

"Bridging the Community with our Schools"

If you are unable to vote in person, you can vote by absentee ballot. Applications are available on line or in the office of the District Clerk. Please call 298-5000, ext. 40145 or 40124.

Message from BOE President

I can't believe we are in the last quarter of the school year. The Board has worked very hard to deliberate and craft a budget that keeps all programs intact while still being under the allowable tax cap. This budget has had several new additions that the board felt were important for student achievement and their well being. We have implemented a full day Kindergarten for the first time in the history of Wappingers, added 9th grade to Orchard View Alternative High School to reach out to more at risk students, and we have added additional nurses to help in areas where we need an extra pair of hands. The board is also putting in additional TA's to ensure better student ratio and have addressed some issues that are critical to our facilities. With all of that said, I feel that this board took conservative measures to implement programs that were necessary yet fiscally sound. For that, I applaud the board, the superintendent and our business manager, Mrs. Crandall. There is a lot of tough decisions that go into crafting a budget so that we are in compliance with State Ed while honoring our contractual obligations.

Because of the nature of the cuts and the painstaking decisions, our board worked into the wee hours of the morning, deciding that we would come back to discuss it again. A contingency budget is painful. Not one of us wants to take anything away from the students, but where can we cut since the past two budgets have had to sustain enormous cuts in state aid and now, we are faced with a tax cap? Please understand that we too are parents of school aged children, we understand how painful it is for everyone. Understand that no matter what cuts are presented, they were very tough decisions on all of us and this is a painful procedure. My only advice to you is to attend a budget presentation and use our website so that you are informed and can vote accordingly.

cont'd pg 6...

**WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE
MAY 15, 2012
BUDGET AND ELECTION VOTE**

___ YES ___ NO

BUDGET

Shall a budget for Wappingers Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012, in the amount of \$ 196,982,040 be adopted, and the necessary taxes to meet such expenditures be levied and collected?

___ YES ___ NO

PROPOSITION #1 – BUS PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District, Putnam and Dutchess Counties, New York ("District"), be authorized to purchase the following student transportation vehicles: four (4) twenty passenger vans; four (4) seven passenger vans; and seventeen (17) seventy-two passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$2,013,000; which a total estimated maximum sum of \$2,013,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by law, and for which obligations of the District may be issued?

BOARD CANDIDATES
(VOTE FOR 3 ONLY – PLACE AN X OR √ IN THE BOX UNDER THE CANDIDATES NAME)

1	2	3	4	5	6	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Aziz Ahsan, Esq.	Donna Torrisi	Rob Rubin	Douglass Bittaker	Daniel Miller	Lori Jiava			

After you have marked your ballot, fold it and enclose it in the envelope. SIGN THE BACK OF THE OATH ENVELOPE. This ballot is void if you enclose any paper or article in the folded ballot or deface or tear the ballot or make any erasure thereon.

BUDGET INFO

Q&A THE PROPERTY TAX CAP

Does the tax cap mean my annual property tax can not increase more than 2%?

Not necessarily. New York's Property tax cap law establishes a tax levied limit for each school district. The tax levy limit allows school districts to increase their property tax levy from one year to the next by 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less, based on a multi-step

formula. School districts are then allowed to take certain exemptions that made boost their tax levy limits to more than 2% or the inflation rate.

If a school district's proposed tax levy increases within its limit, a simple majority of voters is needed for budget approval. If a school district's proposed tax levy increase exceeds the tax levy limit, a super majority of voters (60% or more) would be required for budget passage.

What may school districts exempt from their tax levy limit?

There are a limited number of specific exemptions to the tax cap that school districts may take. They include growth in "brick and mortar" development that increases the value of a school district's full taxable property, contributions toward employee pensions above a certain amount, expenditures for some court orders, and the local portion of capital expenditures.

Does the tax levy indicate how much my taxes will rise?

No. The tax levy is the amount of money the school district can raise through property taxes. The amount and individual will pay to contribute to the levied amount is the tax rate. Tax rates paid by individual taxpayers may differ greatly from one household to another based on such things as equalization rates and assessed property values, and may exceed 2%.

What if voters reject the proposed tax levy?

If voters in the district reject the proposed budget the school board may put up the same or a revised budget for second vote, or adopt a contingency budget with a tax levy no greater than what was levied the previous year. If voters reject the spending plan twice, schools must adopt a budget with the same tax levy as the prior year – essentially a 0% cap.

Voting by Optical Scan

The Budget Vote and Board of Education Election that will be held on May 15, 2012 marks the introduction of the new Optical Scan technology for voters in the Wappingers Central School District.

With the new technology, voters will continue to sign the Poll Register as before, at which time they will also receive their ballot, along with a "privacy sleeve" to cover the ballot while moving about the room.

Once the voter has the Ballot and privacy sleeve in hand, he or she will move on to one of the privacy booths where a marker pen will be available. The voter uses the marker pen to fill in the oval next to the selection the voter wishes to make in voting on the budget and for the candidate(s) for Board of Education. Be sure to mark completely inside the oval and do not make any extra marks on the Ballot.

Be careful to note: the Propositions on the Budget will be on one side of the ballot and the Proposition for election of Board members will be on the reverse. **BE SURE TO LOOK AT BOTH SIDES OF THE BALLOT!**

Once marked, bring the Ballot, covered by the privacy sleeve to maintain confidentiality, to either one of the two optical scanners and feed the ballot gently into the appropriate slot. The LED panel on the right-hand side of the machine will indicate when the Ballot has been successfully cast. Do not leave the machine until the message indicates a successful vote. If you need assistance, trained personnel will be available to help.

For a demonstration of voting by optical scan technology, you can visit the Dutchess County Board of Elections' website at <http://www.dutchesselections.com/>.

Message from BOE President cont'd...

On another note, spring time is filled with so many exciting events and Wappingers shines brightly in every way. Please visit our district website, check out the schedule of calendar events and enjoy our concerts, drama productions and recognition ceremonies. I would especially like you to mark your calendars for our annual Art in the Park Festival on May 12th at Meiser Homestead starting at 10am. This event has been a part of the Wappinger's culture for years. This is the time when we can see first hand the learning and the the talent that Wappingers has to offer. Also on that same day, a committee in which I started in 2010, the Anti Bullying Committee, is going to be hosting our very first 'Safety Awareness and Anti-Bullying Saturday'. We will be hosting this at Myers Corners Elementary from 1pm to 4pm. Miss New York, Kaitlin Monte, will be in attendance that day. She has dedicated her term to educating and speaking to students about bullying and it's devastating effects. The day is planned with children and parents in mind. Please come out with your families and take part in activities and witness the new programs we are instituting around our district. Character education is a critical part of the 'well rounded child'.

With so much going on in the district, I think it is important to point out another initiative that the Anti Bullying Committee has undertaken. On May 11th, we are hosting a 'Black-Out Bullying Day'. This was a request from a junior high student who recognizes the struggles for children and social networking. In honor of the new law Dignity for All Students Act, effective July 1, 2012, our district officials, administrators and schools have invited dignitaries from all over to take part in our pledge to educate our students and to embrace this new law. We have requested that students and faculty alike wear black and shut down their electronic devices while they join hands and participate in team building activities. This day will be unforgettable as we make our rounds to each building and have a ribbon cutting ceremony acknowledging our pledge to 'doing the right thing'.

I sincerely hope this newsletter has found you well and I want to thank you for your continued support for our school district. "It takes an entire community to raise one child."

Yours in education,
Lori Jiava
President

ROY C. KETCHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Robert Verkuil, *Valedictorian*



When you read Robert Verkuil's academic resume you will see evidence of his accomplishments and brilliance. What you will not see are Robert's greatest strengths as a person. Robert has always been concerned with others. He is just as excited about helping other students as he is when working on his own projects. He is concerned with solving humanity's problems from a scientific and engineering perspective. Robert works tirelessly. There is no question that Robert is one of those rare high school students who will achieve great things for humanity. It would be no surprise to turn on the news in 10 years and see a breakthrough with Robert explaining how it was done, why it was done, and what will be done next.

Although he is strong in all areas, he has distinguished himself in math and science. Robert won the Dutchess County Science Fair last year and went to the Intel Science Fair in Los Angeles where he placed second. His project explanation is posted on YouTube. The project was based on finding a green method of refrigeration. Robert is a National Merit Finalist.

Teachers have shared how much time he takes to help others. Robert's ability to think on the fly and make adjustments in the middle of a project for presentation has also been noted. No doubt he will contribute the same qualities to his college community.

Robert has a long list of innovative projects and activities. If Robert thinks that something needs to be done, he makes it happen; he is a true catalyst. He founded and taught a youth science camp last summer and has spent countless hours tutoring fellow RCK students after school in the learning center. One cannot fathom how Robert accomplishes his work in the classroom along with the rest of everything else, but he does.

Vinny Varghese, *Salutatorian*



Vinny Varghese is a hardworking and driven young man who has compassion and concern for others. He will be missed next fall at Ketcham High School and will definitely be a welcome addition to his college community. His parents and relatives are very proud of his hard work which has resulted in him achieving the number two ranking in his graduating class. Vinny has kept an ultra-rigorous academic schedule and demonstrated strength across all subjects. Assuredly he will find similar success at the college level. Vinny's efforts and

strong personal character have resulted in him being inducted into the National Honor Society and he plans on pursuing a degree in Chemical Engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology. There is no doubt he will accomplish this and any other goal he sets for himself.

Vinny has been involved in many activities outside of school. He co-founded a successful video and game editing business with his cousin, VNSTUDIOS, still in operation today. Vinny has participated in both the Science Olympiad and the Math Team. He has participated in IBM's Master the Mainframe Competition and has volunteered many hours at Vassar Brothers Hospital. Vinny has been very active in his church. He has been an altar server for years. He is the secretary (student president) of the Mar Gregorios orthodox Christian student movement in Dutchess county. He's also the chief editor for the church newsletter. Through his activities, Vinny has proven he can participate in a variety of community activities while prioritizing his academics.

He comments, "I enjoyed the connections you make with World History and the logic of Calculus, analyzing literature was my least favorite. Getting the grades? It's not about being smart, but actually working hard and trying your best!"

JOHN JAY HIGH SCHOOL

Louis Hwang, *Valedictorian*



Louis is the kind of student who has a beat on what is happening both in the building and within the community. He will often spearhead a movement to set things in motion. While many students are involved, Louis has taken it to a whole new level. Louis is currently the Secretary of the National Honor Society.

In matters of the classroom, Louis is self-reliant and has been in an accelerated mathematics and science program since 8th grade.

As a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society he has participated in many prestigious local and state competitions. In 2011, he had the honor of participating in the American Chemistry National Exam Qualifier. Through the Science Olympiad he has won many medals at the regional and state level. Louis had the amazing experience participating in the Science Honors Program at Columbia University three years in a row.

Louis is constantly looking for ways to improve not only himself but those around him. Volunteering is something Louis takes great pride in. For many years he has tutored many of our district students through his membership in the Spanish Honor Society. He also earned silver on the National Spanish Exam. There are a multitude of areas Louis has volunteered his time to; including but not limited to food banks and nursing homes. Great care and time has been given to volunteering at Vassar Brothers Hospital and performing free piano concerts for area organizations.

Louis will be attending Cornell University in the fall. With so many options available to him he is sure that his undergraduate work will most likely be focused in bioengineering. However, post-graduate he is considering either becoming a medical doctor or an engineer. Either way, Louis is bound to make a substantial impact in whatever field he decides to pursue.

"Getting the grades?" Louis remarks, "Be prepared and get help if you need it. There are a lot of resources out there."

www.wappingersschools.org

Gabrielle Robert, *Salutatorian*



Genuine, honorable, passionate, caring, gifted and intelligent begin to paint the picture of this special young lady. Gabrielle Robert has such a wonderful demeanor and air of approachability, it is no wonder she is adored by the John Jay staff and students alike. She has an impeccable character and an equally strong academic record. Her continued pursuit of excellence, in and out of the classroom has resulted in several outstanding achievements and accolades.

Gabrielle has found success in many different roles here at John Jay High School. Academically, her record is impressive. She holds a 96.94 grade point average and is ranked 2 in the Senior class of 2012. Gabrielle has taken 12 Honors and 10 Advanced Placement/College level courses. One striking characteristic that sets her apart from most, is her extraordinary consistency in all subjects. Gabrielle has never scored below a 93 in any course and has just one that was below a 94. Her courses are typically in the 96-98 range.

Outside the classroom, Gabrielle is very involved in the John Jay Community. She is a member of the National and Math Honor Societies, The Science Olympiad and has been a 3 time Captain of the John Jay Cross Country, Winter and Spring Track Teams. Annually, she runs in The Susan G. Komen Race for Breast Cancer Cure. She was selected and attended The HOBY Conference and attended an IBM Engineering Seminar in which she received an award for Best Public Speaker at the event.

Seemingly everything Gabrielle does, she is committed to dedicating herself to succeed to the best of her abilities. Whether she is helping others, contributing to the community or simply striving to be the best she can be. For her efforts, she has been recognized for several outstanding achievements. She is a 2 time National Scholastic Indoor Championship Qualifier, 2 time Poughkeepsie Journal All-Star Athlete and a Cross Country MVP. Gabrielle will attend McGill University in the fall.

Congratulations Congratulations **RETIREES** *Congratulations Congratulations*

2011-12 Retirees:

Mary Ann Boylan
Library Media Specialist
Patricia D'Amato
English Teacher
Mary Duvivier
Music Teacher
Marylalice Goodall
Business Teacher
Barbara Kowitski
Reading Teacher
Rita Langva
Science Teacher
Victoria Marrone
ESL Teacher
Kathleen Murphy
Art Teacher
Madonna Ray
Grade 2 Teacher
Robin Rose,
Special Education Teacher
Barbara Rothman
Grade 5 Teacher
Tina Schmitz,
Foreign Language Teacher
Ronald Shields,
Science Teacher
Jane Stockslager
Family & Consumer Science Teacher

Robert Stockslager
School Psychologist
Pamela Tann-Callens
In-School Suspension Teacher
Philip Milone
Custodian (3rd Shift)
Robert Sannasardo
Head Custodian-40Rm/Secondary
Gerard McCluskey
Bus Driver 10 Month
Sandra Urciuoli
Bus Driver Hourly
Victoria Ferris
School Monitor-Pre12/9/94-2.5
Dorothy Bushek
School Monitor-Pre12/9/94-2.75
Victoria Hendershot
Bus Driver 12 Month
Laura Taylor
Bus Driver 12 Month
Monica Cooper
Cook Mgr 20 Room 6 Hr Alt
Robert Angioletti
Bus Driver Hourly
Brenda Vonburg
Teaching Asst - Sped Local
Roy Vingoe
Custodian (3rd Shift)
Jeanne O'connor
Teaching Asst - Ais

Charina Macdonald
Teaching Asst - Sped Federal
Frances Devall
Health Aide/Typist
Mary Nicoletti
Coordinator of Special Education
& Student Services
Kathleen Romanovsky
Typist B
Susan Meyer
Typist B
Johanna Hudak
Director of Special Education
& Student Services
James Cardascia
Shop Foreman
Karen Meilleur
Supervisor of Transportation
Dennis Dengel
Special Programs Systems Specialist
James Parla
Superintendent of Schools
RoseMarie Gioggia
Registered Professional Nurse
Frances Rizzi
Senior Typist
Sharon Urquhart
Typist
Margot Wilson
Health Aide Typist

2010-11 Retirees:
(not previously published)

Terence Cunningham
Science Teacher
Theresa Langer
Grade 5 Teacher
Linda Leopardi
Family & Consumer Science Teacher
Lynn Paraskeva
Science Teacher
Janet Petrone
Grade 4 Teacher
Leslie Seigle
Special Education Teacher
Katherine Vafakas-Smelter,
School Psychologist
Virginia Young
School Social Worker

Thank You Thank You **25 Years of Service** *Thank You Thank You*

ARNETT, STEPHEN – GA
BAUMANN, JUDITH – RC
BILSBACK, MARTHA – MC
BOGEN, ANNE – VW
BOGUMIL, BONNIE – JJ
BONIFATI, LOUIS – GA
BOOTH, CHRISTINE – FI
BRODBECK, KELLY – GT
BROWN, SHIELA – GAP
BULSON, JAMES – JJ
CAPOGNA, JOSEPH – GM
CARSON, PETER - GAP2
CATALANO, KIM – TR
CLARK, LOUISE – AN
CLARKE, ELIZABETH – AP
CUTCHIN, CORINNE –GT
DEPPE, BARBARA – JJ
DICKMAN, KATHLEEN – TR
DILULLO, SUSAN – GAP

DUGAN, DARREN – GM
DUNAY, MARIANNE – FI
EMMONS, BARBARA – AN
FASULO , DONNA – VW
GARDNER, ADELA – GA
GENOVESE, LINDA – VW
GLASER, LEOPOLD – VW
HACK, ANN – GA
HARE, RONALD – AN
HOERT, MIRIAM - GAP2
HOGAN, ROSEMARY – DO
IORLANO, TARYN – MC
KELLER, CATHERINE – VW
KELLER, CATHY – GA
KENNEY, STEPHEN – RC
KNAPP, WALTER – AN
KNIFFIN , KEITH – AN
KREBS, ROSEMARY – RC
LANGERT, MARY – VW

LYONS, MICHAEL – SR
MILLIKEN, TERESA – MC
MORAN, MARY ANN – MC
MORETTI, KAAREN – GAP
NARDONE, PATRICIA – JJ
NEEVEL, JOHN – BR
NEEVEL, KAREN – BR
NEWKIRK, GARY – AN
NEWMAN, JOSEPH – GM
OHLIGER, EVELYN – DO
PARKER S, ANDRA – VW
PIGGOTT, MARK – GA
PIGNATARO, BARBARA – WJ
PISANELLI, LORRAINE – MC
PITTS, DONNA – JJ
PLESS, AUDREY – MC
POOLE, EILEEN – DO
RONDEAU, MAXINE – JJ
SCHREINER, DONNA – GT

SINCLAIR, SUSAN – VW
SMALLEY, JENNIFER – GA
STANFORD, SUZANNE – GAP
STAPLETON, KARIN – DO
SWANSON, KAREN – FI
TEMPLE, MARY – GA
THOMPSON, CARLA – GT
VANZUTPHEN, CHARLES - GM
WOOD, ROBERT - RC

High School Athletics

John Jay Sports Information

League Champions

Boys Soccer; Girls Soccer; Field Hockey; Football; Gymnastics; Girls Golf

Section Champions

Softball

Individual All Section Athletes

Mike Laffin, John Repetto, Alex McKeon (Baseball); Nick Dillo (Boys Golf); Allie Elmes, Kaela Garrett, Sawyer Goerg, Jenna Lassaponara (Field Hockey); Bobby Henderson, Tom Hagan, Dan Bogucki, Nick Langford, Gino Ruotolo (Football); Darren Gomez, CJ Pourakis, Tyler Poggiogalle, Alex Tolman, Matt Mahoney (Boys Soccer); Samantha McGuire, Samantha Emery, Kelsey Malles (Girls Soccer); Megan Theiller, Rachel Sabatini, Melissa Spears (Volleyball); Luke Minasi, Dale White, Brett Perry (Wrestling); Calli Balfour, Brittney Gullo (Girls Basketball); Jacqueline Zee, Alyssa Vidulich, Kayla Gumina, Haleigh Dennett (Gymnastics); Taylor Michaud (Girls Golf)

Individual All County Qualifiers

Track: Mike Turi, Kevin French, Valliappan Lakshmanan, Claire Gomba, Gabrielle Robert, Samantha Gisinni
Volleyball: Megan Theiller, Rachel Sabatini, Melissa Spears
Boys Golf: Nick Dillo
Baseball: Alex McKeon, Mike Laffin

Roy C. Ketcham Sports Information

League Champions

Boys Bowling; Field Hockey; Gymnastics; Baseball; Softball; Girls Golf

Section Champs

Gymnastics; Baseball

Individual All Section Athletes

Mike Brought, John Savas (Boys Bowling); Roland Archie (Boys Basketball); Alexis Mena (Gymnastics); Jenna DeRario, Casey Herzog, Carly Kyte, Erin Grogan (Field Hockey); Kevin Duke (Football); C. Boyes, C. Herzo, M. McCarthy, Marlene Cuevas (Softball); Kelsy Malles, Brianna Quijano (Girls Soccer) Alex Tolman, Matt Mahoney (Boys Soccer); Seth Lamando, Dan Rokitowski (Baseball); Carly Kyte, Danicia Berroa (Girls Golf)

Individual All County Qualifiers

Track: Gabby Cuccia, Ryan Tancin, Josiah Zoodsma, Tom Primrose, Elon Walters, Manny Ofori, Marcus Alston, Aaron Morgenstern, Tyler Vanderlinde, Sal Montes, Brian Trabucco, Rose Cardascia, Roxan Smith, Lindsey VanZandt, Erin Grogan, Jen Magahey, Christina Ogunti, Lauren Acevedo, Maria Cardascia
Boys Basketball: Roland Archie
Baseball: Kevin Lawrence, Joe Credendino, Seth Lamando, Steve Bizzaro, Dan Rokitowski

2012 Accolades and Kudos

John Jay

Elena Peratikos-Meritorious Service Award

from the Dutchess County Counseling Association; 6 National Board Certified Teachers: **Anchala Sobrin** – math, **Maryellen Bova** – Eng, **Shahna Newton** – Eng, **Rena Finsmith** - Exceptional Needs, **Diane D. Di Chiara** - Exceptional Needs, **Karrie Brenner** - School Counseling; **Jessica Jones**, a senior, got a silver medal for the Scholastic Art and Writing Award, a national competition. It will be awarded June 1 at Carnegie Hall; **Casey Silvestri** - Junior, won a spot on "The Directors Cut" on MSG Varsity for your video titled "Sockumentary";

NYS PHAA AA SOFTBALL

2011 First Team All State - (JJ) **Amanda Gisinni**; 2011 Second Team All State - (JJ) **Nadia Kemp**; 2011 NYS Coach of the Year - (JJ) **Bonnie Schilling**; Poughkeepsie Journal Softball Player of the Year - (JJ) **Amanda Gisinni**; Poughkeepsie Journal Softball Coach of the Year - (JJ) **Bonnie Schilling**; MSG Varsity 2011 Hudson Valley Spring Sports Team of the Year - **2011 State Champion John Jay Varsity Softball**; 2012 "Night Of Champions" Team Award Recipient - **2011 John Jay Varsity Softball State Champions** 2012 "Night Of Champions" Coaching Achievements - **John Jay High School Softball - Bonnie Schilling**;

National Spanish Exam Competition

- **Gold Award**: Laura Casaregola / **Silver Award**: Rachel Covert Matthew D'Addario, Abigail Paglia, Tatia Pagán / **Bronze Award**: Leena Ahsan, Louis Hwang, Alejandra Alvarez / **Honor Award**: Pawan Angara, Sumeet Bhinder, Emily Brundage, Elena Ciardullo, Sarah Cremins, Abigail Evans, Tyler Hendricks, Annie Kibrick, Cayla Kieran, Marissa Legnini, Brittany Lisowski, Erin McHugh, Zain Nesheiwat, Jasmine Parmar, Lyanne Ramirez, Heather Robinson, Jacqueline Zee, Lyssette Cordova, Sam Dahdal, and Christina Di Donato

James S. Evans Elementary

Received \$5,000 from Home Depot earlier this school year to revitalize school grounds. The students worked to help paint, plant and clean up around the school. The students participated in Make-A-Difference Day where students learned about different ways to give back to the community. As a result they collected over **\$400** for the **Make-A-Wish Foundation**, donated food and blankets to the local SPCA, collected over 50 coats for **Dutchess Outreach**, and collected food for Food Drive of the Hudson Valley.

Awards- Rotary Student of the Month: **Marquis Amerel**; **Shannon Kelly**;

Roy C. Ketcham

Semifinalists in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Competition - **Michelle E. Hannon, Robert H. Verkuil**
Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Program - **Lindsey N. Chew, Charles C. Knight, Keith S. Loh**
2011-2012 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar - **Glen Morrice**
Conference All State (Music)
Lindsey N. Chew, Charles C. Knight, Bryan J. O'Hearon

• 29 students participated in Regionals Taconic Region Reflections Competition - **Zachary Cox, Malysa Peterson, Jill Schwartz**
Two Students recognized by Cablevision for Cyber-bullying PSA - **Gabrielle Cuccia, Brooklyn McGann**
RCK's Literary Magazine - "Odyssey"
Columbia Press Association Gold Medal 2011 (top honor), plus All Columbian Honors for Organization.
National Council of Teachers of English: **Outstanding (top honor) 2011**
American Scholastic Press Association: **First Place 9 (top honor) 2011**

James S. Evans Elementary cont'd...

Kaylah Phillips / Southeastern Zone of the NYS Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation Honors: **Jonathan Pagan; Kristin Caetano; Alyssa Martinez; Jonathan Foster**; 2011-2012 Art Education of the Year, Elementary Division by NYSTA Region 7: **Monica Shore**

Fishkill Plains Elementary

Healthy Steps: 350 students, parents, staff members, and teachers walked the Dutchess Rail Trail to promote health and wellness as a family and community. The school raised:

\$7,890 for their **St Jude Math-a-thon**
\$2,613.38 for the **Leukemia Society's Pennies-for-Patients**,
\$9,000 for the **American Heart Association** during their Jump-Rope-for-Heart and Hoops-for-Heart campaigns. The teachers raised **\$250** for the **American Heart Association** during Wear Red Day and **\$300** for the **American Cancer Society** during Daffodil Days. Special thanks to **Brad Bengel, Steve Schwartz, Denise Lombardi**, and all who contributed.
100% PTA Teacher Membership!
Collections: Soup-er-Bowl collection of soup cans for a senior at John Jay – for hungry in our area; Girl Scouts-collected pet supplies for ASPCA; Also collected eye glasses, coloring books, food; Toys-for-Tots – toys for local families during the holiday

High School Athletics

Roy C. Ketcham Sports Information

Individual All State Athletes

Field Hockey: Jenna DeRario
Gymnastics: Alexis Mena

Individual State Qualifiers

Girls Bowling: Kerry Rawald
Boys Bowling: John Savas
Gymnastics: Alexis Mena
Boys Swimming: Brad Thomas, Patrick Alderson

Track: Gabby Cuccia

Individual Highlights

Amanda Wall- Lisa Moray and Spackenkill Classic Tournament Award (Girls Basketball)
Xavier Boyd - DCBBCA Holiday Tournament Award (Boys Basketball)
Allison Ginter - Lisa Moray Tournament Award
Sam Alonzo - Holiday Classic Tournament Award
Mark Settembrino RCK Wrestling – 100 Career Wins
Jenna DeRario RCK Field Hockey – All-State
Brittney Gullo

John Jay Girls' Basketball – Signed with American International College
Mike Turi John Jay Boys' Cross-Country: 2nd Team All-State; 8th Place NY Cross-Country State Meet; 7th Place NY Federation Meet.
Darren Gomez John Jay Boys' Soccer – All-Region All-American
Gabby Cuccia RCK Girls' Cross-Country / RCK Girls' Indoor Track: Set School Record – Bowdoin Park – Cross-Country; Set School Record – 1000 Meter - Indoor Track ; Set new Dutchess County/RCK record: **1500m -- 4:31:01**; This time is 6th in Section I. She is ranked 10th in NY and 15th in the country for the 1500m!
Ryan Tancin RCK Boys' Indoor Track Set School Record – 1000 Meter
Ameera Bhanji RCK Girls' Swimming Set School Record – 100 Butterfly
Bobby Henderson John Jay Football 2nd Team All-State; Section One Class "AA" League 1 Back-of-the-Year
Tom Hagan John Jay Football 4th Team All-State; Section One Class "AA" League 1 Lineman-of-the-Year; Section One Championship game – Most Outstanding Lineman

League Coach of the Year

Melissa Zehr (Softball)

Poughkeepsie Journal All Stars

Alexis Mena (Gymnastics); Brad Thomas, Keith Carlino, Jeff Hong, Patrick Alderson, Brian Lee, Kyle Mabry, Matthew Rodriguez, Alex Simeoforides, Brandon Heitmann, Sean Sullivan, Zachary Ashburn, Joe Cirillo, Peter Hajosch (Boys Swimming); Kevin Duke, D'Vonte Peters, JJ Mulvey (Football); Mike Gilmartin, Lucas Carr (Boys Golf)

WAPPINGERS SCHOOLS

Elementary Schools

- Brinckerhoff..... 897-6800
- Evans..... 298-5240
- Fishkill..... 897-6780
- Fishkill Plains..... 227-1770
- Gayhead..... 227-1756
- Kinry Road..... 463-7322
- Myers Corners..... 298-5260
- Oak Grove..... 298-5280
- Sheafe Road..... 298-5290
- Vassar Road..... 463-7860

Secondary Schools

- Van Wyck JHS.....227-1700
- Wappingers JHS.....298-5200
- John Jay HS.....897-6700
- Roy C. Ketcham HS.....298-5100
- Orchard View
- Alternative HS.....298-5000

WCSD OFFICES 298-5000

167 Myers Corners Road, Suite 200
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

ADMINISTRATION

Interim Superintendent
Marco Pochintesta

**Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum and Instruction**
Dr. Kathleen Walsh

Assistant Superintendent for Administration
Interim - Joseph Corrigan

**Director of Special Education
and Student Services**
Joseph Simoni

Director of Human Resources
Joanne Sereda

School Business Manager
Kristen Crandall

Director of Technology
Daren Lolkema

Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations
Ronald Broas

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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AROUND THE SCHOOLS

Van Wyck Junior High School

Van Wyck Junior High School Awarded the Coveted National and New York State Essential Elements: School to Watch Designation

On February 14, 2012, Van Wyck Junior High School Faculty, Staff and Administration received notification that they were awarded the designation of Essential Elements: School to Watch. This prestigious designation recognizes the District's and school's commitment to enhancing middle level programs and practices. Only 300 schools nationally have received this award. Van Wyck Junior High School has developed a model education program in New York State that is consistent with the Regents Policy Statement on Middle Level Education, the Essential Elements of a Standards Focused Middle Level School and the National Forum's Schools to Watch criteria.

The school will be formally recognized and honored at the upcoming National Schools to Watch Conference on June 21st – June 23rd in Washington, D.C.

Designated "Essential Elements: School to Watch"
Member Statewide Network of Middle Level Support Schools

A Window on Learning



Excerpt taken from Poughkeepsie Journal article: A Window on Learning

Fishkill Elementary

Artist and students create mural at Fishkill Elementary. When Nestor Madalengoitia shares his talent with kids, he believes he is opening a window in their lives, one that may someday lead to a future in the arts. And now, thanks to Madalengoitia's help, students at Fishkill elementary have a beautiful new window in their cafeteria. For two weeks in mid-February, second graders at Fishkill were busy painting plexi-glass panels that were installed to form a stained glass style mural over the windows of the school cafeteria.

It was during a recent visit to Fishkill that he conceived the idea of the window mural after seeing students bothered by the intensity of the early morning sun streaming through the east facing windows of the caf-

eteria. With funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, Madalengoitia and the school's five classes of second graders got to work using Golden brand fluid acrylic paints to create a vibrant primary color scene depicting life in the village of Fishkill with their own school occupying the pride-of-place center of the mural. Most of the classes did not realize there was more to the mural than the one panel they were working on. When the finished product was ceremoniously unveiled before of all of the second grade classes on the morning of February 22, the students "oohed" and "aaahhed" and pointed, breaking out into spontaneous applause as winter sunshine poured through the panels, creating a band of color on the polished cafeteria floor. "I was awestruck," said Dr. Andy McNally, the school's principal. "What a great depiction of Fishkill."

WAPPINGERS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Jeffrey Behnke, Coordinator Kathy Theiller, Secretary

Driver Education

Two Summer Sessions

First Session Starts – June 25, 2012

Second Session Starts – July 23, 2012

This 48 hours of instruction leads to a NYS driver education certificate (MV285). This certificate, in most cases, assures students a reduction in their auto insurance for three years which practically covers the cost of the program. Students are also then eligible to receive their senior license at 17. Applications are now available on the Wappingers website. The cost is \$395 and is open to WCS D students. Students must be 16 years of age by the start of the first class and have a valid learner's permit. Applications are processed on a first-registered, first-served basis. You must pre-register for these sessions. Deadlines for acceptance of applications are listed on the website.

Look for Driver Education Summer Class Schedule on the Wappingers website NOW

Go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on the Continuing Ed link.

For more information call 298-5000, J. Behnke ext. 40130 or K. Theiller ext. 40137.

Summer Camps

Offered through
Wappingers Continuing Education

Art Camp

June 25 - June 29

Hands-On-Science

June 25 - June 29
July 9 - July 13

Spanish Camp 1st/3rd

June 25 - June 29

Spanish Camp 4th-6th

July 9 - July 13

Lego Robotics

July 30 - August 10

Tae Kwon Do

July 16 - July 20
July 23 - July 27

Musical Theater

June 25 - June 29
July 2 - July 6
July 9 - July 13

Band Camp 6th/7th

Dates TBD

Zumba Camp

July 10 - August 7

For additional camps, specific times, locations, costs and grade levels, go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on Continuing Education

First Safety Awareness & Anti-Bullying Saturday

The event will be hosted at Myers Corners Elementary **May 12th, 1pm to 4pm** (*same day as art festival*). Miss New York, Kaitlin Monte, will be in attendance that day. She has dedicated her term to educating and speaking to students about bullying and it's effects. Bring the family and come take part in the activities of the day.

Relay For Life Fundraising Walk

Join the Dutchess County American Cancer Society's **11th Annual Relay for Life** event on **Friday June 15th from 3pm-midnight at All Sport Fishkill**. This is an event where 60% of the monies received are raised for our **Dutchess County ACS**. These monies will go towards local support groups, the ACS call center website, Reach-to-Recovery, and other programs which benefit cancer patients, their families, and caregivers. **Several Wappingers schools are participating. Won't you join them? Together we can all make a difference!**

Contact **Gail Buckle at 896-5087** for additional information.

Important District Announcement Regarding Megan's Law

"... From time to time local law enforcement officials will notify the District when an individual with a history of sex offenses against a child is being paroled or released into the community. Upon written request to the principal, notification will be provided by the principal to the community members who have made the request

of the fact that such an individual has been paroled or released into the community. Requests for particulars about the individual being released will be referred, at the request of local law enforcement, to the hotline number or the website provided..." **1-800-262-3257**
(www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/index.htm)



Roy C. Ketcham High School 2012 Summer Sports Camps

Boys Basketball: Grades 1-9

July 23 - July 26
July 30 - August 2

Baseball: Boys, Grades 1-9

June 25 - June 28
July 9 - July 12
July 16 - July 19

Girls Basketball: Grades 1-9

July 23 - July 26
July 30 - August 2

Fied Hockey: Girls, Grades 1-9

June 25 - June 28

Field Hockey: contact erin.mulligan@wappingersschools.org
Baseball and Basketball: contact patrick.mealy@wappingersschools.org

Free seminar on Caring for Aging Parents being offered on 05/23/12 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at RCK. Please check the WCSD website for more details.

GRADUATION DATES

John Jay High School

Friday, June 22 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

Roy C. Ketcham High School

Saturday, June 23 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 11:00 a.m.

62nd Annual Festival of the Arts

Mesier Park, Wappingers Falls

Saturday, May 12, 10 - 4 Rain date: Sunday, May 13, 10-4

Presented by The Wappingers Central School District
Fine & Performing Arts Department