

A Publication of the Westhill Central School District

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Graduatíon Honors

Valedictorian



With a cumulative academic weighted average of 103.303, Charlotte Roth is the Westhill High School Class of 2023 Valedictorian. Charlotte has maintained an extremely rigorous course schedule throughout high school and is a member of the National Honor Society and the Tri-M National Honor Society for music. She is a recipient of the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award, the NYSED Academic Excellence Award and is a finalist in this year's National Merit Scholarship Program. Outside of the classroom, Charlotte is an accomplished athlete and musician, participating in varsity golf and band. Charlotte plans to attend Northeastern University in the fall, majoring in biology and mathematics. Congratulations to Charlotte Roth for becoming the Westhill High School Class of 2023 Valedictorian!

Salutatorian

With a cumulative academic weighted average of 101.588, Karlie McGann is the Class of 2023 Salutatorian. Karlie has challenged and excelled in the most difficult courses offered at Westhill High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the Tri-M National Honor Society for music. She is a 2023 recipient of the NYSED Academic Excellence Award, the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award and the Yearbook Co-Editor's Award. Karlie is a talented musician and performer, leading the percussion section of our symphonic band and playing important roles in our fall plays and spring musicals during her time at Westhill High School. Karlie was also a member of our NYS Champion Academic Decathlon team, our Mock Trial team and was one of our strongest DECA competitors, earning a spot in the National finals in Florida in 2023. Karlie will attend Binghamton University in the fall majoring in industrial and labor relations with the intention of finishing her degree at Cornell University and entering the field of employment law. Congratulations to Karlie McGann for becoming the Westhill High School Class of 2023 Salutatorian



Most Outstanding Senior

Bohdan Centore was selected as the Class of 2023 Most Outstanding Senior. Bodie graduated with a 101.056 academic GPA and will attend Penn State in the fall, majoring in Engineering with the intention of pursuing a career in Aerospace Design. Bodie completed Honors level, OCC and AP course work during his high school career and is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and Tri-M Music Honor Society. Bodie won the Old English "W" Award for the second year in a row and was the recipient of the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award, the NYSED Academic Excellence Award and was a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship program. Bodie has also been recognized for his efforts in the community, winning the American Citizenship Award for School & Community Service & Civic Responsibility, in connection with his charity work for St. Baldrick's Foundation in support of childhood cancer research. Outside of the classroom, Bodie is a talented athlete, musician and performer participating in varsity soccer, varsity track, varsity lacrosse, concert choir and jazz ensemble, as well as playing a lead role in our spring musical. In addition to all of Bodie's efforts at school and in the community, he has found the time to become an accomplished pianist, performing three solos with the New York State School Music Association with all solos graded above 90. Congratulations to Bodie Centore for being selected as a 2023 Westhill High School Most Outstanding Senior!



Old English "W" Recipients

The Old English "W" is a traditional Westhill award bestowed on the individual students who have earned the highest academic grade point average for their respective grade levels for the current school year. The Old English "W" is one of Westhill's most honored traditions. Listed below are this year's recipients and their academic GPA for this school year.

9th grade John Bruzdzinski III Kayleigh King	102.76 102.58	11th grade Elizabeth McPeak Cade Caloia	103.225 102.3	(3rd year in a row) (2nd year in a row)
10th grade Oluwafeyisike Ajagk Helena Sipley	0e 104.18 (2nd year in a row) 104 (2nd year in a row)	12th grade Iris Markham Bodie Centore	103.666 102.866	(2nd year in a row)

Senior Scholar Athletes

On Monday, June 12, at The SRC Arena at Onondaga Community College, Section III recognized two of Westhill's finest student athletes. Surrounded by their families and coaches, Westhill seniors, Bohdan Centore and Ashley Bolesh, were honored by Section III as Senior Scholar Athletes. This event is an opportunity for Section III to honor selected scholar athletes for their accomplishments in academics and athletics. Ashley is a three-sport varsity athlete participating in soccer, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field. Ashley will be furthering her academic career at the University of Richmond where she will be running for the Spiders. Bohdan, is also a three-sport letter winner in soccer, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field. Bodie will be continuing his education at Pennsylvania State University. We would like to congratulate Ashley and Bodie for their exceptional achievements throughout their high school careers and wish them much success in the future



Doug Hutson Leadership Award

The Doug Hutson Leadership Award was established in 2012 to honor Mr. Hutson for his dedication of nearly 20 years as Onondaga Hill Middle School's principal. The winners who are chosen by the faculty, represent the values Mr. Hutson tried to instill in his students; making good choices, being respectful and showing character to name a few. This year's winners were James Moore and Owen Wilmot.



Tara McMahon Award

The OHMS Parent Council established the Tara McMahon award in memory of Tara, a beloved OHMS student, who passed away. The school and Parent Council wanted to remember the characteristics of Tara with two annual winners from the 8th grade class. The faculty selected two students that exemplified her passion for music, displayed a caring attitude and included their peers in activities. This year's winners were Hazel McNeilly and Matt Henesey.



Kathy Tompkins Positive Spirit Award

The Kathy Tompkins Positive Spirit Award has been established by retired and current staff members of Onondaga Hill Middle School to honor the enduring legacy of Kathy Tompkins. As a beloved teacher and friend, she inspired those around her, especially young singers and theater lovers during her twenty-four year career as music teacher at Onondaga Hill Middle School. Mrs. Tompkins was known by all for her kindness and compassion, as well as her tenacity in inspiring students to shine. The selection criteria:

- 1. Views each day with a positive attitude.
- 2. Motivates those around him/her with spirit and enthusiasm.
- 3. Provides support to others who are working to achieve their goals.
- 4. Encourages others to be more confident and to believe in themselves.
- 5. Treats others with respect and compassion.
- 6. Shows an interest in/appreciation for music and the arts, especially theater.

This year's winners were Elliette Ryan and Sam Colangelo.



Onondaga Hill Middle School

Regional Battle of the Bands

The Book Gladiators battled to the very end in the first ever Regional Battle of the Books! It was a very tight contest between the 5th and 6th graders from Central Square and Westhill. The battle went into a sudden death tie breaker, where the Book Gladiators answered the first question correctly but missed the second question. We are so proud of our team's work and their second-place finish. They received medals for placing second in both the OCM BOCES and Regional Battle of the Books. Please congratulate Audrey Mahoney, Reagan Collett, Ella Morgan, Evelyn Hennigan and Coach Castracane on a hard-fought battle!



Students of the Month

May

<u>5th Grade</u>: Ethan Freund is a dedicated and kind student. He is conscientious about his work and demonstrates his best effort in everything. Kindness comes naturally for Ethan, and this is shown in the way he helps and supports others. He brings cheerfulness and zest into the classroom, and makes insightful connections to learning. He is a wonderful role model and is humble in everything he does.

<u>6th Grade</u>: Bryan Quattrocci is a hard worker and a positive role model. He is consistently putting in effort to do his best both in and outside of the classroom. Bryan is kind, helpful and respectful to his classmates and teachers. Bryan can always be counted on to make a positive contribution to the class and school.

<u>7th Grade</u>: Shahd Almamari is always kind to others and works very hard to do her best at all times. She advocates for herself when needed and always has a smile on her face.

<u>8th Grade</u>: Serenity Ruski is conscientious and takes responsibility for her learning. She perseveres and advocates for herself. Serenity also treats her peers with respect and kindness every day.

June

<u>5th Grade</u>: Shiloh Holt has such a vivacious personality. She is inclusive and kind towards her classmates. She consistently perseveres with her assignments, and is not afraid to get out of her comfort zone. Her confidence and positive outlook on life are very contagious. She is an exemplary role model for her peers.

<u>6th Grade</u>: Aedan Schilling is an excellent scholar and young man. He works extremely hard and continues to go above and beyond classroom expectations. He is kind and compassionate towards his classmates, and is always willing to support others. He is resilient in the face of adversity, and continues to persevere through challenges with a very positive attitude.

<u>7th Grade</u>: McKenzie Schug works very hard and tries her best in the classroom. She doesn't give up when things are challenging. McKenzie has a positive attitude. She is kind and tries to help others when needed.

<u>8th Grade</u>: Aaliyah Enright is awesome to her classmates, always doing the right thing and always helping others. All around, she's a great student and peer.

Onondaga Hill Middle School

Chorus and Music Wrap Up

It has been a fun, exciting and busy year for the OHMS choirs, harmonizers, general music classes and musical students! Throughout the year, students were busy making and learning about music. A few highlights include:

<u>General Music</u>: African and Latin drumming, guitar playing, bucket drumming and exploring theater through the *Newsies* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

<u>Chorus</u>: Members performed in a variety of music events throughout the year. A group of 6th to 8th grade chorus members sang for the Syracuse Mets. Fifth grade students worked through chorus karate, and both 5th and 6th grade chorus members had a chance to participate in Open Mic Club!

<u>Harmonizers</u>: On Mondays throughout the year, Harmonizers rehearsed and sang at a variety of events including Syracuse Mets Game, Syracuse Crunch Game, OHMS Pep Rally, Westhill Day of Jazz, Chorus Concert, Holiday Nights at the Zoo, Paint Westvale Purple and more!

<u>OHMS Musical</u>: Seventh and eighth grade students had a chance to participate in the OHMS musical, *Seussical*. Bravo, student cast and crew!

It has been a full year of music making, and we are so proud of you. We wish all our singers and music students a fantastic summer and can't wait to see you in the fall!





Rocket Team Challenge

On Saturday, June 3, four teams from OHMS made their way to Jamesville Beach and competed in this year's Rocket Team Challenge. Each team built, painted and added an "eggstronaut" to their rocket. All teams had successful flights and all "eggstronauts" made it back without a scratch. Team "Eggtech" scored enough points to place 2nd in the competition. Eggtech team members included Stone Jaquint, Danny Carroll, Leo Ritz, Dean Francisco, Adrien Marceau, Danny Ganley and Dylan Gridley. Other team members included Samantha Colangelo, Isabella Domick, Mary Kinney, Lottie Rose Bruzdzinski, Evan Chaddock, Lucas DeLine, Jimmy Moore, Hannah Columbus, Sophia DeFabbio, Jade Eldred, Sofia Savelesky and Kaleigha Spinner. Congratulations to all for a great launch.



IDEAS Club

In June, the IDEAS Club held their last meeting with a book signing for family and friends. The book, "IDEAS Worth Spreading Vol 1", that they worked incredibly hard on was released. It is available for everyone to read in the Diversity and Inclusion section on the Westhill website. The book is a compilation of the journal entries students answered about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Thank you to the Westhill community for all of your support with IDEAS. This has been a great year, a lot was learned, a lot of empathy shown, but most of all a lot of ideas were shared. Please be kind to one another and take care.

WHS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2022-2023

Grade 12 Honor

Ajagbe, Oluwafeyisore Alt, Leonard Antoine, Olivia Bealer, Morgan Belcamino, Ashleigh Bendall, Katherine BenYehuda, Ella Bergett, Alexis Bleskoski, Julianne Bolesh, Ashley Bryant, Keegan Caccamo, Mackenzie Carter, Ashley Carter, Brooke Centore, Bohdan Colon, Gisselle Conley, Shannon Curtis, Julian Cusimano, Zantana DeFabbio, Michael Dillabough, Karly Doss, Mia Avery Freeman, Alyvia Galante, Joseph Gilhooley, Rachel Gonnella, Olivia Goode, Aidan Graf, Simon Hagrman, Katelyn Heagerty, Finnbarr Heise, Mackenzie Holowinski, Olivia Hopkins, Ileanna Horner, Lizzie Hynes, Lee Kelly, McKenna Kinsella, Lilvanna Klamm, Domenica Lowery, Adelaide Lubel, Margaret Markham, Iris Mayes, Shawn McGann, Karlie McKeon, Madison McQueeney, Lia Mersfelder, Mia Nicoll, Baillie Olesh, Timofey Pawelczyk, Amanda Polcaro, Elizabeth Popp, Keara

Richardson, Brady Richmond, Olivia Robinson, Janiah Roesch, Teresa Rogers, Sean Rose, Kennedy Rosenberger, Anna Roth, Charlotte Ryan, Aidan Schmitz, Hannah Scrimale, Nicoletta Singh, Sukhmanjit Sisson, Caitlin Kelly Snyder, Mary Sondej, Andrew Starowicz, Emmet Stephenson, Sean Stewart, Sincere Taber, Bradyn Thabet, Ilham Thomas, Brady Vaughan, Abbey Walker, Delaney Williams, Nazaire Young, Devin

Grade 11 Honor

Allen, Bridget Claire Altheblah, Avesha Altheblah, Hasan Borne, Gavin Burdick, Bryce Caloia, Cade Campanella, Jack Campbell, Ryan Cognato, Nina Cottrell, Catherine Curriden, Morgan Darling, Damon DeMore, Charles Deno, Peyton Dimovski, Sofia Enriquez, Grace Etoll, Owen Evans, Rachel Falcone, Taylor Finnerty, Sean Formica, Lauren Goodness, Hannah Gratien, Joshua Gray, Gracelyn Herrera, Elle

Hogan, Jameson Johnson, Isabella Kleberg IV, David Kleberg, Elena Knohl, Caitlyn Knohl, Connor Knoll, Caroline Kohanski, Morgan Korrie, Alexa Kurgan, Michael Lancette, Alison Leonardo, Isabel Lopez, Cameron MacLachlan, Nathan McClave, Miley McGlynn, Grace McPeak, Elizabeth Medeiros, Steven Mueller, Elizabeth Nagraj, Luciana O'Reilly, Andrew Pens, Grady Pickett, Luke Rewakowski, Mary Roth, Helaina Sainsbury, Katelyn Sava-Pucello, Adriana Simmons, Alexandria Smithers, Samuel Smyth, Shay Sparks, Julia Spasevski, Gianna Stanton, Jane Stiner, William Stiner, Zero Suddaby, Jackson Taylor, Veronica Terek, Julianna Thomas, A'my Thompson, Molly Thornton, Ellie Tjaden, Hannah Walsh, Maggie Young, Isabel Zawadzki, Dominic Zema, Rose Marie

Grade 10 Honor

Abdelfatah, Amana Aboushanab, Abdelmeguid Agley, Lucas Ajagbe, Oluwafeyisike Allen, Tate Alt, Maille Antoine, Ava Balduzzi, Emily Bergett, Grace Burkett, Samantha Burns, Phoebe Caputo, Jocelyn Cardoso, Anthony Cecile, Annabella Colangelo, Anabelle Coss, Makaila Detor, Claire Donegan, Sophia Dorfman, Molly Eldred, Zane Esposito, Stephen Fitzgerald, Nora Goral, Mya Gorman, Emma Griffin, Maxwell Gumaer, Phoebe Hamam, Israa Hange, Georgia Hayes V, Robert Heise, Morgan Henesey, Luke Holowinski, Aubrey Jetter, Siena Joyce, Camaryn Kelly, Caleigh Kimball, Lauren LaReau, Abigail MacBain, Sydney Mathews, Camryn McGann, Julie Medeiros, Sydney Merrick, Thomas Metzgar, Julian Moro, Brevanna Mulholland, Owen Pease, Jack Ryan Pirong, Joseph Popp, Edward Ramsing, Cadence Robinson, Omar Rodriguez, Olivia Roesch, Elizabeth Rose, Conor Rosenberger, Kara Scanlon, William Scheel, Nicholas

WHS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2022-2023

Sheridan, Riley Sipley, Helena Stanton, Laura Starowicz, Avery Sullivan, Grace Tarolli, Evangelina Taylor, Emily Thabet, Ramzi Thabet, Sabri Valenti, Claire Valenti, Sophia Ann

Grade 9 Honor

Aguayo, Isabella Amidon, Aiden Anderson, Elizabeth Bruzdzinski III, John Campanella, Tyler Carruthers, Adelynn Clark, Riley Paige Cognato, John Cowin, Maxwell Czaplicki, Benjamin Eckert, Anna Faigle, Grace Patricia Forian, Gage Ganley, Caroline Goode, Delaney Goode, Hadley Goodness, Jackson Goodwin, Zachary Gorman, Grace Hoffman, Sophia Jackson, Anna Kaczor, Stella Kenny, Ronan Kenny, Tiernan Kincaid, Cormac

King, Kayleigh Langham, Allison Lopez, Collin Militi, Eva Mondo, Andrew Mullen, Eileen Napolitano, Stella Olesh, Anita Ortiz, Leila Pens, Kellen Perry, Alexa Pope, Sienna Prince, Elias Reilley, Olivia Roach, Meara Rudiger, Abigail Ryan, Molly Sadowski, Andrew Sainsbury, Claire

Sainsbury, Ryan Satalin, Erin Scarfino, Dominic Schmitz, Lily Shephard, Madicine Shepherd, Ellis Soule, Madelyn Speer, Trinity Stotler, Adam Thabet, Laval Thabet, Rudayna Turner, Braelyn Tyszka, Alexander Valerino, Angelina Vaughan, Margaret Ward, Alexis Wilbur, Jena Young, Katherine

OHMS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2022-2023

Grade 8 High Honor

Alberts, Adeline Altheblah, Brahim Bagnell, Tatum Bruzdzinski, Lottie Cardoso, Nicolas Choe, Austin Colangelo, Samantha Conley, Colleen DAgostino, Claire DeLine, Lucas Destito, Isabella DeTomaso, Giana Domick, Isabella Gallardo, Isabella Gehm, Tyler Henesey, Matthew Horning, Grace Ide, Caitlin Johnson, Sophia Kelly, Claire Kelly, Teagan Kimball, Samantha

Kinney, Mary Kodoe, Andrea-Ann Krenrich, Kaitlin MacLachlan, Thomas McGee, Felicity McRae, Ayanah Montalto, Adelina Murphy, Lucy Nagraj, Mariana Pawelczyk, Allison Primiano, Eulalia Rouse, Brielle Scanlon, Charles Shephard, Mathew Sobotka, Mariusz Soule, Eva Spasevski, Ivana Thabet, Dhuha Vashchishin, Samuel Walker, Elvse West, Emma Wilmot, Owen Zuckerman, Zoe

Grade 8 Honor

Allen, Brooke Allen, Max Austin, Nevaeh Clarry, Bryson Conroy, Mackenzie DeMore, Lucy Detor, Mary Ellis, Christine Enright, Aaliyah Finnerty, Ryan Frasier, Jackson Gray, Owen Headd, John-Paul Herne, Louis Jackson, Jake Johnston, Liam Judge, Charles Lasher, Sophia McGann, Sean McNeilly, Hazel Moore, James Murphy, Kaylin

Pease, Logan Pendergast, Cooper Rogers, Reagan Ruski, Serenity Ryan, Elliette Taylor, Addison Thabet, Edhem Young, Daniel Young, Trevor

Grade 7 High Honor

Almamari, Shahd Athanas, Andrew Auringer, Schuyler Carruth, John Centore, Angelina Chaddock, Evan Coleman, Reilly Collacchi, Emma Columbus, Hannah DeFabbio, Sophia Delay, Clare Dixon, Reagan

OHMS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2022-2023

Grade 7 High Honor cont'd

Donegan, Redd Dowd, Cameron Eldred, Jade Flegel, Julia Francisco, Dean Gaines, Lyla Ganley, Daniel Gerasimovich, Isabella Glover, Charles Gridley, Dylan Jaquint, Stone Lin, Cayla Maestri, David Marceau, Adrien Marinelli, Joseph McMahon, Emmett Mondo, Melissa Morse, Shealyn Napolitano, Sabine Pichoske, Nicholas Platt, Hayden Powless, Shaniya Presley, Alexandra Rewakowski, Andrew Root, Addison Savelesky, Sofia Scott, Khloe Scozzari, Samuel Spinner, Kaleigha Starowicz, Fiona Straub, Emily Stroman, Grace Tjaden, Julia Tolbert, Peychenze Tremblay, Addyson Tyszka, William Viscome, Cailin Zheng, Winnie

Grade 7 Honor

Abraham, Bilal Belcore, Rosella Brunson, Jasmine Buckman, Skylar Buell, Sydney Cassalia, Patrick Cecile, Elsie Cognato, Averie Cordova, Christian Culligan, Brea Davidson, Owen DelRio, Stef'Fonie Dunbar, Teagan Fogarty, Emma Franco, Maxwell Fuller, Emma Fuller, Tyler Gaffney, Liam Glover, Henry Grosso, Eva Hamam, Aiham Hange, Brooke Hubler, Evan Ibrahim, Ahmad Kelly, Quinn Ketchum, Hayden MacMaster, Kaylie Maines, Dawson Martin, Scott Mathews, Leigh Morales, Willa Ososkalo, Matthew Parry, Evangeline Pratt, Jackson Ritz, Leo Ross, Caleb Satalin, David Scarfino, Stella Schug, McKenzie Seitz, Noah Tarolli, Thomas Ziober, Beckham

Grade 6 High Honor

Auringer, Giada Barcak, Natalie Battista, Jacqueline Besaw, Jacob Brown, Juliana Brown, Miraja Burns, Madigan Campanella, Luke Canavan, Luna Canavan, Virginia Carroll, Elliott Carson, Landon Cobb, Logan Colangelo, Carmella Coleman, Reagan Collett, Reagan Condon, Madigan Cook, Jack Czaplicki, Kate Danboise III, Real DeLine, James

Destito, Amelia Detor, Bridget Dhamoon, Gurtej Dimovski, Luka Ellis, Nicholas Engle, Isabella Etoll, Keira Flegel, Jackson Fowler, Tyler Durant, Clark Fraser, Brady Friend, Connor Fuller, Owen Gallardo, Sophie Giannino, Arianna Green, Dylan Greenfield, Gavin Gregory, Na'Zariah Grenton, Lamere Gumtow, Evey Horning, Anne Hubler, Audrey Hughes, Elizabeth Jackson, Griffin Johnson, Lyric Judge, Antonia Konkol, Khaya Krenrich, Emily LaSalle, Amelia Mahoney, Audrey Mann, Gabriella Manning, Kierra Marshall, Spencer McGann, Reese Montalto, Eliana Morgan, Ella Naima, Salma Olesh, Sofia Paparo, Morgan Pendergast, Tanner Pratt, Tyler Preville, Nicholas Primiano, Adelina Quattrocci, Bryan Ramos, Cielo Rogers, Brian Scanlon, Michael Scheirer, Gianna Schermerhorn, Kiley Schilling, Aedan Sisack, Brynna Soule, Charles Speer, Madilin

Sprouse, Eamon Stoddard, Franklin Storinge, Harry Tjaden, Trey Valenti, Michael Walsh, Reagan Walsh, Riley Wright, Beckett Young, Elizabeth Zhdan, Yuliia Zuckerman, Alexander

Grade 6 Honor

Abdelfatah, Sela Altheblah, Yusuf Bleskoski, Everett Boatman, London Brown, Lloyd Castle, Josephine Chase, Livia Donegan, Daniel Eurich, Lucas Gumtow, Vita Hagan, Albert Haynes, Maddison Headd, Matthew Hoegler, Bravden Johnson, Owen LeFever, Alaina Liedka, Gabrielle Meola, Nicholas Obernesser, Charles Peck, Cameron Primerano, Dominick Rashid, Teffero Reynolds, Abigail Robinson, Cassius Rowley, Mya Rufus, Levaja Sales, Simone Sampo, Dominic Sierotnik, Lillian Sobotka, Stockton Taylor, Matthew Terek, Addison Thabet, Alvaa West, William White, Layla Wright, Liam Zema, Nic

Cherry Road School

Marion Parsons Achievement Award

The Marion Parsons Achievement Award is awarded to two students in the fourth grade class that exemplify the qualities Mrs. Parsons held most dear to her; having a high moral character, being a well-developed citizen, achieving scholastically across the year and having a set of diversified interests all make students eligible for this award. The award recipients are determined through a collaboration between the second, third and fourth grade teachers, along with specials teachers, teaching assistants and the administrator at Cherry Road School. This year's winners are Somayah Altheblah and Joseph Widrick.



Communication Friendly Playground

This spring, Cherry Road had some exciting updates! We have added a double-sided "communication board" to the playground where students have pictures to help them in communicating various wants and needs to teachers, as well as fun things between friends. This is especially helpful for our students who utilize a communication device to help them speak throughout their day, which can be a cumbersome item to carry around the playground. The first day it was installed, our students were already putting it to use during recess. They are loving it and now all communication levels can utilize it to bridge interactions between all peers and adults. A special shout-out to the speech team (Kelli Carsten, Rose Bianchetti and Kathlene Hunter), special education team (Shelby Dusart and Marianna Politis-Tacea) and the grounds team (Steve Luvadis) and many others, but most importantly, the Westhill Educational Foundation for making this all possible.

Ron Hill School Spirit Award

The Ronald Hill School Spirit Award is awarded to two fourth grade students that demonstrate exemplary character traits that Mr. Hill exemplified while principal at Cherry Road School. Some of these traits include kindness, patience, empathy, a sensitivity towards fairness, a willingness to help others and being able to persevere when presented with challenges as well as demonstrating a good sense of humor. The award recipients are also determined through a collaboration between all fourth grade teachers, specials teachers, teaching assistants and the administrator at Cherry Road School. The 2022-2023 winners for the Ronald Hill School Spirit Award are Connor Collacchi and Ellen Obernesser.





Walberta Park School

Juneteenth Celebration

Moving Up Day

WPS Students read the story, A Flag for Juneteenth, by Kim Taylor. In the story, formerly enslaved people celebrate their freedom by making flags. The students made their own Juneteenth flags to celebrate the holiday. Pictured below students from Mrs. Francisco's class holding flags they made.



On June 16, students, staff and families celebrated first graders' accomplishments during the moving up ceremony. Students will be moving on to CRS in the fall. WPS staff are so proud of all the hard work these students have done. We will miss them, and wish them well in second grade!



Flag Day

Due to inclement weather, students celebrated Flag Day with an indoor parade. WPS students did not let the rain get them down! They celebrated in the gym with a rousing sing along led by music teacher, Mrs. Colaluca



Beloved Teachers Retire

After many years of service, teachers, Teresa DeMatties and Wendy Snyder, are retiring. Mrs. DeMatties most recently taught kindergarten and has taught 2nd grade in the past. Mrs. Snyder has taught 1st grade and served as the 1st grade distance learning teacher during the pandemic. The pair will be greatly missed, and we wish them well in retirement!



Westhill Educational Foundation

The Westhill Educational Foundation is pleased to announce our grant recipients for the 2022-2023 academic year. Due to the continued support of our donors and community members the Foundation was able to award nearly \$30,000 to Westhill educators throughout the fall and spring, benefiting student learning and supplementing the curriculum in new and interesting ways. The winners of this years grants are:

Chicks Experience, Jen Stanton

First grade students at Walberta Park were given the chance to learn about the life cycle of a chick and see baby chicks hatch and grow. Teachers connected this experience to students' EL lessons on birds as well as their science unit on how to care for living things.

Westhill Day of Jazz, Liz Buell

This grant supported Westhill Day of Jazz featuring CNY based Jazz combo ESP. The day-long event included two in-school performances by ESP for students in grades 5-12, two hands-on afternoon workshops with instrumental and vocal jazz students in grades 6-12 and concluded with a public performance on the evening of April 11.

Virtual Reality...Coming to a Classroom Near You!, Karen Fenner

Four virtual reality headsets and educational apps were purchased for use at Westhill High School. Headsets will be loaded with educational apps in specific content areas and teachers will be able to borrow the headsets to provide an immersive experience that complements the content that they are teaching.

Insights and Inspirations an Author Visit with Victoria Jamieson, Penny Feeney

This spring, author Victoria Jamieson visited OHMS. Funding from this grant helped to create excitement prior to the event and support the author visit.

Revisiting the American Revolution in Historic Philadelphia, Sarah Starowicz

This grant helped WHS students participating in the Academic Decathlon an opportunity to go on an immersive learning trip to explore and study "The American Revolution and the New Nation" in the birthplace of our Nation, Philadelphia PA. With this experience students were able to gain a better understanding of The American Revolution through hands-on, engaging experiences.

<u>PS I Love You, Diane Maglente</u>

Students at OHMS benefitted from this grant, which provided a school-wide day of activities to promote positive self-worth and encourage healthy choices. In addition, students had the opportunity to listen to two speakers, Marc Mero, founder of Champion of Choices, and Kayla McKeon, Special Olympian and lobbyist for the National Down Syndrome Society as they addressed students with messages of compassion, acceptance, positive relations and self-worth.

Nature Exploration Snowshoes, Alaina Weinsztok

This grant provided funding for a class set of snowshoes to be used for animal trekking, bird watching, and winter exploration. They will be used at Westhill High School for students in environmental science and biology classes and can also be used in physical education classes.

DECA State Conference, Erin Ryan

This grant helped to support WHS students who competed in the DECA State Conference in Rochester this past March. Students attended various workshops relating to business concepts and participated in role-plays of real-life business scenarios.

Supply Closet, Westhill Diversity Committee, Beth Kramer, Beth Piorkowski and Tammy Hollis-Breen

This grant helped to implement supply closets at each of the four schools in the district. The objective is to provide students access to school and personal supplies and is intended to both increase access to these items for all students and reduce the burden on staff who typically purchase these items for students when needed.

Manga Magic, Penny Feeney

Through this grant, the OHMS library was able to build its graphic novel collection by adding a series of Manga books. This grant provided funds to purchase the first 25 books of the Manga series Hikyu!!! By Haruichi Furudate.

Representation Matters, Karen Fenner

This grant will create a special collection of books at both the Onondaga Hill Middle School Library and the Westhill High School Library that address the language needs of students. The collections will consist of books that support English Language Learners (ELL) and books in Spanish and French to support our World Language curriculum in both buildings.

BOARD OF EDUCATION Westhill Central School District 400 Walberta Road Syracuse, New York 13219-2214 Non-profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 3523 Syracuse, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION Lisa M. O'Reilly, President Roseanne Scrimale, Vice President Andrew Starowicz Patrick Cassidy Andrew Hunter

The Westhill Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, sex or race in its employment practices or educational programs.

Congratulations, Retirees!



Nancy Gorman, Lee Roscoe, Sue Demski, Deb Gehan, Tom Kelly, Deb Musak, Wendy Snyder, Karen Fenner, Kristin Schahczenski and Teresa DeMatties