

Graduation Honors

Valedictorian



With a cumulative academic weighted average of 103.068, Elizabeth McPeak is the Westhill High School Class of 2024 valedictorian. Elizabeth has maintained an extremely rigorous course schedule throughout high school and is a member of the National Honor Society, DECA, Academic Decathlon and Editor of the Yearbook. She is a three time recipient of the Old English W award and the Citizenship Award. Outside of the classroom, Elizabeth is an accomplished athlete, participating in Varsity Tennis and Basketball. Elizabeth plans to attend Binghamton University in the fall, majoring in Accounting. Congratulations to Elizabeth McPeak for becoming the Westhill High School Class of 2024 Valedictorian!

Salutatorian

With a cumulative academic weighted average of 102.662, Cade Caloia is the Class of 2024 Salutatorian. Cade has challenged and excelled in the most difficult courses offered at Westhill High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the Vice President of the Senior Class. He is a 2022 and 2023 recipient of the Old English W award, as well as receiving the RIT Math and Science award. Cade is a talented performer participating in the spring musicals all 4 years and was cast as a lead in this year's show. Cade also participated in Varsity Soccer, Indoor and Outdoor Track. Cade will attend the Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall majoring in Engineering. Congratulations to Cade Caloia for becoming the Westhill High School Class of 2024 Salutatorian!



Westhill High School

Most Outstanding Senior

Drew O'Reilly was selected as the Class of 2024 Most Outstanding Senior. Drew graduated with a 102.00 academic GPA and will attend Worcester Polytech Institute in the fall, majoring in Biomedical Engineering with the intention of pursuing a career in Engineering or Medicine. Drew completed Honors level and AP course work during his high school career and is a member of the National Honor Society, as well as the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Drew has won the American Citizenship Award and the United States History Book award. Outside of the classroom, Drew is a talented athlete participating in Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track making it to the State Meet on multiple occasions. He has also won a total of 15 Sectional Championships in his time at Westhill High School. Additionally, Drew is a musician playing the French Horn in the Wind Ensemble and Jazz Lab, as well playing the piano outside of school. Drew was a participant in the Health Occupations Students Association (HOSA), which started this year and has also been involved in Student Government. Congratulations to Drew for being selected as the 2024 Westhill 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.

11th grade

12th grade

9th grade

Samantha Colangelo (102.42) Austin Choe (101.82)

10th grade

Jenna Wilbur (103.28) Kayleigh King (103.24) (Second year in a row)

Westhill Athletes Honored

On Monday, June 10th, 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, Andrew O'Reilly and Elizabeth McPeak 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. Andrew is a three-sport varsity athlete participating in cross country, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field. At the event Andrew was announced as the winner of the Mountain Goat Foundation Award, a \$500.00 scholarship. Andrew will be furthering his academic career at Worcester Polytechnic Institute where he will study biomedical engineering and running cross country, indoor and outdoor track. Elizabeth, is a two-sport letter winner in tennis and basketball. Elizabeth will be continuing her education at Binghamton University where she will study accounting in the fall. We would like to congratulate Andrew and Elizabeth for their exceptional achievements throughout their high school careers and wish them much success in the future.

Rection III Scholar - Alete Dinner

Oluwafeyisike Ajagbe (105.32) (Third year in a row)

Elizabeth McPeak (104.96) (Fourth Year in a row)

Laney Sipley (104.22) (Third year in a row)

Cade Caloia (103.86) (Third year in a row)

Onondaga Hill Middle School

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 presented with their award on Moving Up Night. Congratulations to Jack Carruth and Grace Stroman!



Kathy Tompkins Positive Spirit Award

The Kathy Tompkins Positive Spirit Award has been established to honor the enduring legacy of Kathy Tompkins by retired and current staff members of Onondaga Hill Middle School. 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. This year's winners, announced at Moving Up Night, are Christian Cordova and Katherine Pluff.

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 school activities. Congratulations to Evan Chaddock and Sofia Savelesky!





Flag Day

Flag Day was a success! The rain held out and we were able to have a beautiful, fun-filled parade with the students from Walberta Park and Cherry Road. The Kindergarten students had so much fun participating in their first Flag Day celebration and are already excited for next year! A big thank you to Mrs. Colaluca, Mr. Auge, and Dr. Kramer, as well as our SROs and the Geddes Police Department for making it such a great event!







Walberta Park & Cherry Road Schools

Special Education Classes Attend Olympiad

Cherry Road's exceptional athletes participated in the Onondaga County Special Olympiad on Thursday, June 6th. The events included shot put, running on the track, long jump, broad jump, football and softball throw, and soccer shoot out. Events are modified so that people with many different abilities can participate! This event also included some fun yard games, a sensory tent, and a resource fair for parents to get connected in the community. Congratulations to all of the athletes on a day of effort, positivity, and celebration!



Senior Walk-Through at WPS

Westhill seniors walked through WPS one last time before graduation day. Pictured are seniors Jack Van Epps, Connor Knohl and Keegan Sexton along with kindergarten students Madison Mulpagno, Kaia McCauley, Jane Kowalczyk, Ariana Hawley and Patrick Hurley.



Fun at Santaro Park!

4th grade students enjoyed a fun day at Santaro Park for a 4th grade field trip. The students had a lot of fun there for the day and enjoyed a picnic with their friends and classmates.





Onondaga Hill Middle School

United in Diversity

This spring, Onondaga Middle School celebrated the first ever "United in diversity" event. IDEAS club and Henna Club collaborated on a successful celebration of our differences. This event took place during IA, with over a hundred students and staff attending. There was food from different businesses in the community. Thank you Yamasho Sushi Steakhouse, Leader Market, Sardo's Pizza and Fish Fry, and Beijing Chinese Food. This was a great event to show unity within each other. Staff showcased their cultural dances. Students also shared their cultural dances. We also had students from Henna Club do henna on other students! It was very heartwarming to see everyone participating and trying out different dances. It was a great afternoon of celebrating each other and a wonderful learning opportunity for the students and staff. Thank you everyone for everything you contributed to make this a success! "IDEAS Worth Spreading" book signing took place after the "United and diversity" event. During the celebration, the 5th graders were able to sign copies of their "IDEAS Worth Spreading" book signing, we did a 6th grade graduation/celebration from IDEAS. A lot of the 6th graders have been participating in IDEAS since the 4th grade! They were given a T-shirt made by O'Neill Screen Printing in Syracuse. The 6th graders gave speeches about their growth in school and around the community. We are very proud of all of the leadership they have shown to the school and the future of IDEAS. The amount of empathy and respect that was present this year has given everyone so much hope.









Westhill High School

Seal of Civic Readiness

Westhill High School has 59 students receiving the NYS Seal of Civic Readiness. This is the first year we are offering it at Westhill.

The Seal of Civic Readiness is a formal recognition that a student has attained a high level of proficiency in terms of civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences. The Seal of Civic Readiness distinction on a high school transcript and diploma:

- shows the student's understanding of a commitment to participatory government; civic responsibility and civic values;
- demonstrates to universities, colleges, and future employers that the student has completed an action project in civics or social justice; and recognizes the value of civic engagement and scholarship.
- Civic-ready students use civic knowledge, skills, and mindsets to make decisions and take actions to help improve and enrich our culturally diverse, democratic society.

The students receiving this honor are:

Allahar, Gabrielle Allen, Bridget Amorese, Vincent Battista, Megan Borne, Gavin Burdick, Bryce Caloia, Cade Carson, Kendall Cottrell, Catherine DeMore, Charles Deno, Peyton DeSanto, Emma Dimovski, Sofia Enriquez, Grace Evans, Rachel Finnerty, Sean Formica, Lauren Forian, Reagan Goodness, Hannah Hogan, Jameson

Infanti, Luke Johnson, Isabella Kaczor, Carrie Kleberg IV, David Knohl, Caitlyn Knohl, Connor Knoll, Quinn Kohanski, Morgan Korrie, Alexa Lancette, Alison Leonardo, Isabel Mahoney, Rosemary Martin, Nathan McGlynn, Grace McPeak, Elizabeth Medeiros, Steven Mueller, Elizabeth Nagraj, Luciana O'Reilly, Andrew Paetow, Emma

Pens, Grady Phillips, Marissa Plochocki, Alexander Robbins, Regan Rogers, Kathleen Sainsbury, Katelyn Saya-Pucello, Adriana Schneider, Brynn Sexton, Keegan Spasevski, Gianna Suddaby, Jackson Taylor, Veronica Terek, Julianna Thomas, A'my Thompson, Molly Wilsch, Emma Young, Isabel Zawadzki, Dominic Zema, Rose



WHS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 12 Honor

Allahar, Gabrielle Allen, Bridget Altheblah, Ayesha Altheblah, Hasan Amorese, Vincent Andrella, Kyle Battista, Megan Borne, Gavin Burdick, Bryce Caloia, Cade Campanella, Jack Campbell, Ryan Carson, Kendall Chandler, Willow Cognato, Nina Cosby, Pierreonna Cottrell, Catherine Craven, Ryley Curriden, Morgan Dabbiero, Joshua Dacko, Alexander Darling, Damon DeMore, Charles Deno, Peyton DeSanto, Emma Dimovski, Sofia Edlund, Shamus Enriquez, Grace Evans, Rachel Falcone, Taylor Finnerty, Sean Formica, Lauren Gacek, Chloe Goodness, Hannah Gratien, Joshua Gray, Gracelyn Herrera, Elle Hogan, Jameson Johnson, Isabella Johnston, Brendan Kaczor, Carrie Keyes, Connor Kleberg IV, David Kleberg, Elena Knohl, Caitlyn Knohl, Connor Knoll, Caroline Korrie, Alexa Lancette, Alison Lasher, Ava Leonardo, Isabel Lopez, Cameron MacLachlan, Nathan Madigan III, Michael Mahoney, Rosemary McClave, Miley McGlynn, Grace McPeak, Benjamin McPeak, Elizabeth Mueller, Elizabeth Nagraj, Luciana O'Reilly, Andrew

Paetow, Emma Pens, Grady Petrone, Sophia Pettiford, Ni'Jhay Phillips, Marissa Pickett, Luke Rewakowski, Mary Katherine Rinaldi, Emily Robbins, Regan Rogers, Kathleen Saad, Basma Saini, Danish Sainsbury, Katelyn Saya-Pucello, Adriana Schneider, Brynn Sexton, Keegan Shanahan, Maggie Sheridan, Patrick Simmons, Alexandria Small, Chloe Smithers, Samuel Smyth, Shay Sparks, Julia Spasevski, Gianna Spencer, Taylor Stanton, Jane Stiner, Duke Stiner, William Suddaby, Jackson Talucci, Reagan Taylor, Veronica Terek, Julianna Thomas, A'my Thompson, Molly Thornton, Ellie Tjaden, Hannah Van Epps, Jack Walsh, Maggie Wilsch, Emma Yockell, Alexandra Young, Isabel Zawadzki, Dominic Zema, Rose

Grade 11 Honor

Abdelfatah, Amana Abedrabbah, Razan Aboushanab, Abdelmeguid Abraham, Sarah Adams, Alexandra Agley, Lucas Ajagbe, Oluwafeyisike Allen, Tate Alt, Maille Andrella, Dylan Antoine, Ava Balduzzi, Emily Baty, Ava Bender, Alice Bergett, Grace Burkett, Samantha Burns, Phoebe Campbell, Miracle

Caputo, Jocelyn Cardoso, Anthony Cecile, Annabella Ciaramella, Francesca Colangelo, Anabelle Cole, Chloe Cusimano, Rocco DeLine, William DeMore, Timothy Detor, Claire Donegan, Sophia Dorfman, Molly Eldred, Zane Esposito, Stephen Ferrer-Menendez, Emma Fitzgerald, Nora Geiger, Angelyna Goldman, Adyson 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 Juman, Eli Kelly, Caleigh Kimball, Lauren Klamm, Jeremiah Loveless, Lillian MacBain, Sydney Macko, Jacob Mathews, Camryn McCloat, Abrianna McGann, Julie Medeiros, Sydney Merrick, Thomas Metzgar, Julian Mulholland, Owen Murphy, Emma Pease, Jack Ryan Pichoske, Thaddeus Popp, Edward Ramsing, Cadence Rienhardt, Emily Roesch, Elizabeth Rose, Conor Rosenberger, Kara Sampo, Anthony Sauer, Tripp Scheel, Nicholas Sheridan, Riley Shiel, Colin Sipley, Helena Sisack, Emlyn Stanton, Laura Starowicz, Avery Sullivan, Grace

Swierk, Ryan Tarolli, Evangelina Taylor, Emily Thabet, Ramzi Thabet, Sabri Uwase, Sadia Valenti, Claire Valenti, Sophia Vashchishin, Anna

Grade 10 Honor

Amidon, Aiden Amorese, Gabriel Anderson, Elizabeth Bruzdzinski III, John Buell, Addison Campanella, Tyler Carruthers, Adelynn Clark, Riley Cognato, John Cordova, Vincent Cowin, Maxwell Cruthirds, Caleb Currier, Tahjiar Curtis, Fenris Czaplicki, Benjamin D'Agostino, Elizabeth Eckert, Anna Faigle, Grace Franco, Mason Ganley, Caroline Goode, Delaney Goode, Hadley Goodness, Jackson Goodwin, Zacharv Gorman, Grace Hatch, Milo Hayes, John Hayes, Selina Hill, Jael Hoffman, Sophia Holleran, Liam Holstein, Eric Hunt, Thomas Jackson, Anna Kaczor, Stella Kenny, Ronan Kenny, Tiernan Kincaid, Cormac King, Kayleigh Kohanski, Adriana Langham, Allison Lopez, Collin Maines, Aiden Mann, Mackenzie Mason, Je'Mia McGann, Rylee McKeon, Hunter Militi, Eva Mondo, Andrew Mullen, Eileen Napolitano, Stella

WHS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Olesh, Anita Ortiz, Leila Parry, Eleanor Pellegrino, Brandon Pens, Kellen Perry, Alexa Petrone, Calvin Pickett, Ella Pope, Sienna Poston, Aryanna Prince, Elias Ramos, Carlos Reilley, Olivia Rice, Lorenzo Richardson, Carter Roach, Meara Rudiger, Abigail Ryan, Molly Sadowski, Andrew Sainsbury, Claire Sainsbury, Ryan Satalin, Erin Scarfino, Dominic Schmitz, Lily Shephard, Madicine Shepherd, Ellis Shewchuk, Aurora Sierotnik, Christopher Sisson, Kevin Snyder, Amie Snyder, Meghan Somers, Adelynn Soule, Madelyn Sparks, Olivia

Speer, Trinity Stotler, Adam Stroman, Peter Talucci, Gage Thompson, William Turner, Braelyn Tvszka, Alexander Valerino, Angelina Vaughan, Margaret Wallace, Caleb Ward, Alexis Wilbur, Jena Wilson, Carter Winkler, Avery Wright, Reagan Young, Katherine

Grade 9 Honor

Abdallah, Sadeen Abraham, Sophia Alberts, Adeline Allen, Brooke Allen, Max Altheblah, Brahim Bagnell, Tatum Bruzdzinski, Lottie Campbell, Mireyah Cardoso, Nicolas Chandler, Samantha Choe, Austin Colangelo, Samantha Conley, Colleen Conroy, Mackenzie Crawford, Lane

D'Agostino, Claire DeLine, Lucas DeMore, Lucy Destito, Isabella DeTomaso, Giana Domick, Isabella Edlund, Kiera Ellis, Christine Enright, Aaliyah Finnerty, Ryan Frasier, Jackson Gallardo, Isabella Garcia, Jamil Gehm, Tyler Gray, Owen Headd, John-Paul Henesey, Matthew Herne, Louis Hodkinson, Anna Horning, Grace Ide, Caitlin Jackson, Jake Johnson, Sophia Kelly, Claire Kelly, Teagan Kimball, Samantha Kinney, Mary Krenrich, Kaitlin Lasher, Sophia MacLachlan, Thomas McGann, Sean McGee, Felicity McNeilly, Hazel McRae, Ayanah

Montalto, Adelina Moore, James Mulligan, Ava Murphy, Kaylin Murphy, Lucy Nagraj, Mariana Pawelczvk, Allison Pease, Logan Piel, Alexander Primiano, Eulalia Roberts-DuMont, Cadeanne Rouse, Brielle Ruski, Serenity Ryan, Elliette Sauer, Parker Scanlon, Charles Shephard, Mathew Singh, Harjot Sobotka, Mariusz Soule, Eva Spasevski, Ivana Taylor, Addison Thabet, Dhuha Thabet, Edhem Thompkins, Amora Vashchishin, Samuel Walker, Eli West, Emma Williamson, Cayden Wilmot, Owen Young, Daniel Young, Trevor Zhdan, Vitalii Zuckerman, Zoe

OHMS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 8 High Honor Almamari, Shahd Athanas, Andrew Carruth, John Chaddock, Evan Coleman, Reilly Collacchi, Emma Columbus, Hannah DeFabbio, Sophia Delay, Clare Dixon, Reagan Dowd, Cameron Eldred, lade Francisco, Dean Gaines, Lyla Ganley, Daniel Gerasimovich, Isabella Gridley, Dylan Grosso, Eva Jaquint, Stone Lin, Cayla Maestri, David Marceau, Adrien

Marinelli, Joseph McMahon, Emmett Mondo, Melissa Morse, Shealyn Mower, Addison Napolitano, Sabine Platt, Hayden Pluff, Katherine Presley, Alexandra Rewakowski, Andrew Ritz, Leo Satalin, David Savelesky, Sofia Scott, Khloe Scozzari, Samuel Spinner, Kaleigha Starowicz, Fiona Straub, Emily Stroman, Grace Tjaden, Julia Tyszka, William Viscome, Cailin Zheng, Winnie

Grade 8 Honor Auringer, Schuyler Belcore, Rosella Buckman, Skylar Buell, Svdnev Cassalia, Patrick Centore, Angelina Cognato, Averie Cordova, Christian Culligan, Brea Davis, Jada DelRio, Stef'Fonie Diaz, Naomi Donegan, Redd Dunbar, Teagan Flegel, Julia Franco, Maxwell Gaffney, Liam Glover, Charles Glover, Henry Hamam, Aiham Hange, Brooke Ibrahim, Ahmad

Kelly, Quinn Ketchum, Hayden Mathews, Leigh Morales, Willa Ososkalo, Matthew Parry, Evangeline Pichoske, Nicholas Powless, Shaniya Pratt, Jackson Root, Addison Ross, Caleb Scarfino, Stella Scheel, Annabelle Schug, McKenzie Seitz, Noah Tarolli, Thomas Tolbert, Peychenze Tremblay, Addyson Wilbur, Corinne Wilson, Blake Ziober, Beckham

OHMS Quarter 4 Honor Roll 2023-2024

Grade 7 High Honor

Anderson, Eliana Auringer, Giada Barcak, Natalie Brown, Juliana Burns, Madigan Canavan, Virginia Carroll, Elliott Cobb, Logan Colangelo, Carmella Coleman, Reagan Collett, Reagan Cook, Jack Czaplicki, Kate DeLine, James Destito, Amelia Dimovski, Luka Durant, Clark Ellis, Nicholas Engle, Isabella Etoll, Keira Fraser, Brady Gallardo, Sophie Giannino, Arianna Green, Dylan Greenfield, Gavin Horning, Anne Jackson, Griffin Judge, Antonia Konkol, Khaya LaSalle, Amelia Mahoney, Audrey Olesh, Sofia Paparo, Morgan Pluff, Shanley Pratt, Tyler Quattrocci, Bryan Ramos, Cielo Rogers, Brian Scanlon, Michael Scheirer, Gianna Schermerhorn, Kiley Schilling, Aedan Sisack, Brynna Soule, Charles Sova, Jeremy Sprouse, Eamon Tjaden, Trey Valenti, Michael Walsh, Reagan Walsh, Riley Zuckerman, Alexander

Grade 7 Honor

Abdelfatah, Sela Altheblah, Yusuf Battista, Jacqueline Besaw, Jacob Campanella, Luke

Canavan, Luna Carson, Landon Chase, Livia Condon, Madigan Danboise III, Real Detor, Bridget Dhamoon, Gurtej Flegel, Jackson Fowler, Tyler Friend, Connor Fuller, Owen Gumtow, Evey Hagan, Albert Headd, Matthew Hubler, Audrey LeFever, Alaina Manning, Kierra Marshall, Spencer Montalto, Eliana Morgan, Ella Obernesser, Charles Pendergast, Tanner Preville, Nicholas Primiano, Adelina Rashid, Teffero Reynolds, Abigail Robinson, Cassius Rowley, Mya Sierotnik, Lillian Stoddard, Franklin Storinge, Harry West, William White, Layla Young, Elizabeth Zhdan, Yuliia

Grade 6 High Honor

Abedrabbah, Muhammad Aiduk, Mya Aladwar, Malik Allen, Daniel Almamari, Ahd Alsofari, Ahmed Amidon, Alexander Auge, Cooper Bagnell, Clive Baracco, Isla Brooks, Judah Carlyle, Kathryn Carroll, Kathryn Carruth, William Carruthers, Jasper Cass. Joseph Cenajko, Elliot Chang, Samantha Clark, Avery Clyne, Landon Collins, Joseph Connelly, Quinn

Couse, Vincent DAgostino, Hailey Dixon, Maura Donegan, Ella Eischen, Jane Esposito, Jocelyn Francisco, Juliana Freund, Ethan Gehm, Julia Goodwin, Kelly Gridley, Luke Grome, Macie Henderson, Aiden Hennigan, Evelyn Hicks, Blin Holowinski, Lucas Holt, Shiloh Ibrahim, Janelle Ireland, Madilyn Jackson, Colin Jackson, Owen Jaquint, Atticus Kalinowski, Elliott Kelly, Quest Killoran, Kellan Kimball, Michael Kinney, Caroline Klamm, Dilynn Konkol, Tobi LaRosa, Olivia Loucks, Gabriel Maestri, Emilia Maguire, Kendall Mamorella, Isabel Marceau, Oliver Mathews, Max McNeilly, Harrison Morse, Malachy Nugent, Jackson O'Brien, Helena ONeil, Molly Padula, Ana Parr, Kendall Past, Lily Pautz, Peyton Pillari, Patrick Platt, Jayden Pope, Deja Presley, Clare Primiano, Alana Pucello, Ella Redmond, Julia Richardson, Iillian Romano, lack Root, Seamus Rotella, Lyla Satalin, Gehrig Satalin, Kathleen Savelesky, Aurora

Scozzari, Alexandra Seitz, Eden Seymour, Lyla Sisson, Charles Stash, Ella Streiff, Chiara Thomas, Zahle Tyszka, Benjamin Walts, Belle Weinsztok, Noah Wells, Ava Wells, Karah Whipple, Mason Woodring, Emma Worden, Nora Zheng, Suri Grade 6 Honor Abraham, Nina Agley, Logan Armani, Joviana Burns, Charles Campbell, Miehara Cassidy IV, Charles Connell, Taylor Connelly, Griffin Crawford, Trenton Culhane, Finnegan Fogarty, Connor Grobosky, Rowen Harris, Terry Herne, Charles Hope, Lilly Huggins, Jahsai Kearney-Tiano, Lilianna Kimball, Julia Kincaid, Megan King, Xander Kline, Tatum LaFramboise, Naomi Maldonado-Royer, Madeline Montague, Benjamin Mosleh, Maysa Nicholson, Shaniy O'Brien, Mason Omar, Asha Pickett, Jack Scanlon, Henry Singletary, JaLani Sow, Ahmad Stokes, Lucas Thabet, Jenna Viavattine, Francesca Williams, Isabella Wilmot, Lily

Feedback from Future Fans: 9th Graders Collaborate with 3rd Graders

Ninth-grade students in Honors English embarked on a thrilling historical adventure through the "History Remix" project. After examining how authors tailor their work for different audiences, these students worked in teams to begin their own journeys exploring local historical figures and events to write historical fiction and nonfiction books targeted to appeal to Cherry Road Elementary School third-grade students.

The project kicked off with a fun local history trivia day with Westhill High School librarian Ms. Regitano, and it was followed by a presentation by Robert Searing, Curator of History at the Onondaga Historical Association, who shared his expertise on local history to spark ideas. Students Allie Pawelczyk and Grace Horning wrote a grant that was funded by the Westhill Educational Foundation and Arts In Education that allowed students to gain valuable insights from Vanessa Johnson, a local griot/storyteller, who presented a Jerry Rescue Re-Enactment and explained the process she goes through to create engaging but historically accurate stories.

Students then transformed into detective teams, researching fascinating local figures and events that shaped their communities. By digging into primary sources, reading online articles, exploring local history print books, interviewing local experts, and channeling their creativity, students crafted captivating books aimed at interesting young minds in third grade. Figures covered included: legendary wrestler and coach Gene Mills, basketball player Jim Tucker, the members of the Syracuse 8, SpongeBob voice actor Tom Kenny, and activist Matilda Jocelyn Gage among many others. Events included disasters such as the 1918 Split Rock Explosion, the 1943 Solvay Wastebed Disaster, the Blizzards of 1966 and 1993, and the Leland Hotel Fire. Some students even decided to explore popular urban legends including the supposed hauntings of the 13 Curves, Landmark Theater and the Wayside Inn.

Drawing inspiration from popular series like I Survived and Who Was ____?/What Was ____?, these projects promised to transport readers back in time for a firsthand experience with history. To confirm that their narratives resonated with their target audience, students took collaboration to the next level by working with 3rd graders at Cherry Road School. In early June, all of the third-grade students listened to the students' book drafts and gave feedback to the authors. This valuable feedback helped students refine their first draft and ensured their historical journeys would spark young readers' imaginations. This combination of expert guidance and hands-on experience helped students develop their research, writing, and storytelling skills, ensuring their "History Remix" projects came alive!







Spring Accolades for Outdoor Track & Field

The 2024 Girls' Outdoor Track and Field team finished the season strong with an OHSL Title and the Class B-1 Sectional Title. Derricka Trotman (high jump) and Emma Murphy (100m High Hurdles) qualified to participate in their events at the NYS Championship Meet.

The following boys and girls were individual Sectional Champions:

Mary Kate Rewakowski - Pole Vault Emma Murphy - Long Jump Jael Hill - Shot Put Allison Langham, Reagan Talucci, Derricka Trotman and Emma Murphy- 4x100 Relay Andrew O'Reilly - 1600m Run





Westhill Earns School of Distinction Honor

NYSPHSAA has named Westhill as a recipient of the School of Distinction Award for the 2023-2024 school year. The purpose of the School of Distinction Award is to unite athletic departments in challenging their teams to achieve a statewide academic honor. Schools can apply for School of Distinction status by having 100% of their varsity teams qualify for and receive the Scholar-Athlete team award during their respective sports seasons. Congratulations student athletes on your outstanding accomplishments in the classroom this year!

Athletics

Outdoor Track & Field Champions



Mary Kate Rewakowski - Pole Vault



Allison Langham, Reagan Talucci, Derricka Trotman and Emma Murphy- 4x100 Relay



Jael Hill - Shot Put



Andrew O'Reilly - 1600m Run



Emma Murphy - Long Jump

SAVE THE DATE! The Westhill Educational Foundation CHIP IN FOR EDUCATION New Date and Location Saturday, October 5th, 2024 Bellevue Country Club



For more information please visit: https://westhillfoundation.com/ The Westhill Educational Foundation is pleased to announce our grant recipients from the spring 2024 grant cycle. This spring, grants were awarded to expand learning opportunities for students throughout all four schools and allowed students opportunities to grow their knowledge and skills in areas such as the arts, language and cultural studies, history and STEM related fields. These grants could not be awarded without the continuing support of our community. We are especially grateful this year to receive our largest one-time donation of \$256,887.10 from the Lupine Haven Organization which will allow the Foundation to continue to award impactful and innovative grants for years to come. Congratulations to all of our recipients! Winners for spring 2024 are:

Belgian Student Cultural Exchange, Nancy Amerault

In April the Westhill Community hosted 42 Belgian students from Athenée Royal de Visé, a high school in Visé Belgium, for cultural exchange. In addition to spending time at WHS attending classes and school events, students were able to interact with Westhill students and host families throughout their 3 day visit. This grant helped provide opportunities for students, chaperones, hosts and families to interact outside of school at events including laser tag at APEX and dinner at the Dinosaur BBQ. The exchange provided a unique cultural, educational and personal opportunity for many of our Westhill students and enabled them to learn about each other in a meaningful way.

Solar Eclipse STEM Night, Jessica Regitano

This grant supported the District-wide Solar Eclipse STEM Night, organized by Westhill secondary librarians Penny Feeney and Jessica Regitano and earth science teachers Tracy Derrenbacher and Jean Pounder. The event was designed to provide an educational experience for families in anticipation of the once-in-a-lifetime eclipse. Attendees were able to participate in a variety of astronomy-themed STEM activities catering to different grade levels. Interactive demonstrations, workshops, and presentations were conducted to engage students and their families in learning about solar eclipses and astronomy.

History Through Storytelling, Grace Horning and Allison Pawelczyk

Students from Sarah Starowicz's English 9 honors class wrote this grant as a way to further their understanding on topics studied in class. The grant allowed them to bring Vanessa Johnson, a griot/storyteller in the West African tradition, to meet with English 9 honors classes. Ms. Johnson performed some of her "tells" including her "Jerry Rescue Re-Enactment" and also talked to classes about the process she goes through with her research to transform it into a narrative story performance. After her visit, the classes chose local historical topics to research and created narratives to explain the information to a target audience of third graders in a more interesting way. The project ended with students creating books using BookCreator and visiting third graders at Cherry Road to read their stories as well as providing access to the stories on a digital platform.

Erie Canal Museum, Melissa Prior

This grant allowed all fourth grade students at Cherry Road School the opportunity to extend their learning about the importance of the Erie Canal in New York state history. By visiting the Erie Canal Museum, students were able to enhance and further develop their understanding of the ways in which the Erie Canal helped shape New York's culture and economy.

Butterfly Larva-Investigating Pollinators/life-cycles, Kristie Kisselburgh

Second Grade students at Cherry Road School had the opportunity for hands-on learning during their Plants and Pollinators Module. Through this grant, teachers were able to purchase butterfly larvae for classrooms. This allowed teachers and students an opportunity to discuss the life cycle and how they can be pollinators to help the plant life cycle. Students had fun watching the process of the caterpillar turning into a butterfly.

John Farrell Singalong, Stephanie Merritt

This grant provided funds to bring John Farrell to Walberta Park School to meet with classes and conduct sing-a-longs. Students had the opportunity to learn sign language to accompany their singing and helped to create verses in various songs. Mr. Farrell's song themes promote kindness, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Social and Emotional Learning.

Red Grammer Performance, Patsy Vercillo

Red Grammer is a widely known musician and entertainer of children. His music focuses on

character strengths such as kindness, self-esteem, and bucket-filling. This grant provided funding to bring Red Grammer to Walberta Park for a performance for the entire school.

Thursday's Dead Debut Album, Brendan Van Epps

This spring, students at Westhill High School were able to record an album with the WHS Modern Band Studio Music (rock ensemble), Thursday's Dead. This grant allowed students in the Modern Band Studio Music and APEC (audio production/engineering club) the opportunity to record and perform at Subcat Studios in a real recording studio environment. The Studio Music and APEC students gained hands-on experience, guided by professional audio engineers, setting up various aspects of recording including microphones and other audio equipment. These students were also involved in the actual recording process and had the opportunity to produce the album. 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

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Congratulations, Retirees!



Mary Roulston, Patricia Vercillo, Mark Bednarski, Mary Beth McAvoy and Rosemary Bianchetti Not Pictured: Donna Lee, Marybeth Cumming, Doug Heath, Ricky woods