



Kindergartners Learn How to Be “Bucket Fillers”

Kindergartners at Walberta Park School are learning how to be “bucket fillers”. They read the book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids* by Carol McCloud. We are bucket fillers when we: show love to someone, say or do something kind, give someone a smile, make others feel special, or care for someone. Kindergartners made their own buckets to take home to their families!



Onondaga Hill Middle School



Lunchtime!

OHMS is very thankful for our hardworking cafeteria staff! We have broken several district records for the amount of lunches served in one day. Our current record is 317 lunches served (not counting seconds!) with Pizza Crunchers for lunch. Thank you to our staff for keeping our students fed and happy.

STEM Activities

Mrs. Martin's class had a blast with their STEM activity! Working in pairs, they became real-life problem solvers, tasked with rescuing their gummy friend, Fred, from a tricky predicament. Using their critical thinking skills and a little creativity, they worked together to devise solutions that would bring Fred to safety.



Ready, Set Recess!

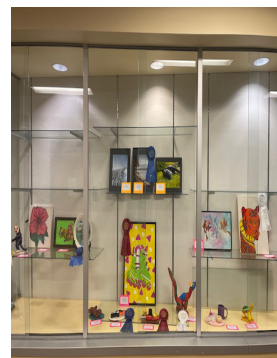
Fifth graders have enjoyed having recess at OHMS. It has given them a chance to see their friends and join in on some fun games. Whether it be to run around, talk with friends, or just take a brain break, this has been a win for all! We have enjoyed the spectacular fall days outside; but when inclement weather arrives, we will bring the fun inside for recess in the classrooms.



Awesome Art



Westhill art students were recognized for their talents and hard work at the NYS Fair this summer. 17 middle school students had artwork on display, along with some middle and high school students. Many of the submitted art pieces were awarded prizes. We are very proud of our students and excited that their artistic abilities were recognized by many within and outside of our Westhill school community.



Westhill High School

High School Students Happy to be Back

Our students are happy to be back at Westhill High School this fall! Our courtyard is now open to upperclassmen during lunches and our classrooms and sports fields are in immaculate shape thanks to our custodial, maintenance and grounds crews. A special thank you goes out to our Instructional Technology team for working so hard to ensure all of our devices are connected to a safe and secure network where we can continue to innovate as teachers and learners. The athletic teams are all well into their seasons, the Fall Drama has selected its cast members, and the Music Department is rehearsing for their first concerts of the new school year. We are so excited for the opportunities ahead of us this year.



Welcome New Staff Members



Dalia Abdellatif
WHS
Teaching Assistant



Linda Abear
CRS
Teaching Assistant



Safa AlQuraishi
OHMS
ENL



Jessica Ammersen
WHS
Cafeteria



Andre Beal
WHS
Custodial



Brooke Bidwell
OHMS
Cafeteria



Dino J. Caloia
WHS
Mathematics Long-Term
Substitute



Harmony Collins
OHMS
Special Education



Gina Couse
OHMS
Special Education

Welcome New Staff Members



Kevin Donath
WPS
Teaching Assistant



Abby Feyerabend
WPS
1st Grade Long-Term Substitute



Bekka Garbry
WPS
Teaching Assistant



Morgan Gravlin
OHMS
Science



Emily Greeley
WPS
Teaching Assistant



Emily Johnson
OHMS
Science



Adam Linden
CRS
Special Education



Natalie Lyons
OHMS
Grade 6 Long-Term Substitute



Carly McMichael
WHS
Special Education

Welcome New Staff Members



Sarah McNamara
OHMS
Cafeteria



Shauna Modrow
WHS
Library Aide



Brianna Murphy
WPS
Special Education



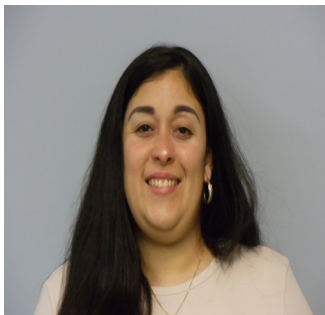
Michelle Orbino
OHMS
Cafeteria



Tara Osterdale
WPS
Special Education



Linda Paris
WHS
Technology



Angelica Perez Torres
WPS
Teaching Assistant



Chloe Regan
CRS
Teaching Assistant



Casey Ryan
CRS
Teaching Assistant

Welcome New Staff Members



Liam Smith
CRS
Custodial



Jeffrey Spradlin
WHS
Science



Christopher Stogsdill
WHS
Teaching Assistant



Bree Stornini
WHS
Cafeteria



Antonina Volkova
WPS
Teaching Assistant

Important Announcement

Annual Emergency Release Drill Early Dismissal

Tuesday, November 26, 2024

K-12 students will be released from school fifteen minutes prior to the normal dismissal time.

Please mark your calendar!



Substitutes Needed

Teachers
Teaching Assistants
Nurses
School Bus Drivers
School Bus Attendants
Custodial

Applications can be found on our website, www.westhillschools.org, under the District Tab.

Please submit application to:
Personnel Office
Westhill Central School District
400 Walberta Road
Syracuse, NY 13219

Chain of Command: Whom to Contact with Questions

By following this chain of command, parents/guardians, students and residents can have questions or concerns addressed quickly and efficiently. If you are unable to reach the first contact or your issue is not resolved, please move on to the second contact and so on until your concern has been addressed.

Contact information for individuals below can be found by using the "Contact" link on the district Website.

Athletics

- Step 1: Coach
- Step 2: Jennie Smarrelli, Director of PE, Health & Athletics
- Step 3: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Attendance

- Step 1: School Main Office or Nurse
- Step 2: Building Principal
- Step 3: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Budget

- Step 1: Steve Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration
- Step 2: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Classroom Concern (curriculum, instruction, technology or issue tied to an individual student)

- Step 1: Classroom Teacher
- Step 2: Building Principal
- Step 3: Rick Chapman, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
- Step 4: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Food Services

- Step 1: Rich Gunther, Food Services Director
- Step 2: Steve Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration
- Step 3: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Medical Concerns

- Step 1: School Nurse
- Step 2: Building Principal
- Step 3: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Scheduling

- Step 1: Building Principal or School Counselor (if student is at the middle school or high school)
- Step 2: Rick Chapman, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
- Step 3: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

School Activities & Clubs

- Step 1: Activity or Club Advisor
- Step 2: Building Principal
- Step 3: Steve Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration
- Step 4: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

School Policy

- Step 1: Building Principal
- Step 2: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Special Education

- Step 1: Case Manager
- Step 2: Building Principal
- Step 3: Marietta Lachenauer, Director of Special Education
- Step 4: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Transportation

- Step 1: Building Principal
- Step 2: Michele Rether, Transportation Director
- Step 3: Steve Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration
- Step 4: Steve Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

Registration/Residency

- Step 1: Cathy Madigan, Registrar
- Step 2: Rick Chapman, Assistant Superintendent

How to Stay Connected at Westhill

District Website

The district website is updated with information about district and building activities, including quick links to important resources.

Check it out:

www.westhillschools.org

School Calendar

Up-to-date event information about district and school events can be found on a comprehensive, online calendar at www.westhillschools.org.

Because you are able to select the calendar settings, if you have children in multiple schools, you can view events in each building on one calendar.

ParentSquare

ParentSquare allows the district, buildings, teachers and coaches to send messages via an app, text and/or email to notify families and staff of upcoming events, emergency situations, closings and delays, general information, etc. Attendance notices K-12 are pushed out through ParentSquare each day.

Social Media

Get up-to-date district news, view photos and videos of school events and receive the latest about district, building, student and staff achievements and activities through our various social media platforms.



Follow us on X

[@WesthillCSD](https://twitter.com/WesthillCSD) - Westhill CSD

[@WCSDAthletics](https://twitter.com/WCSDAthletics) - Westhill Athletics

[@SdunhamWesthill](https://twitter.com/SdunhamWesthill) - Superintendent

[@rceducation20](https://twitter.com/rceducation20) - Asst.

Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

[@WCSDHighSchool](https://twitter.com/WCSDHighSchool) - Westhill High School

[@OnondagaM](https://twitter.com/OnondagaM) - Onondaga Hill Middle School

PowerSchool

The district's parent portal is a password protected, secure website that offers parents and students online access to personalized information about a student's academic program and progress. Student report cards, interim reports and academic schedules are posted for students in grades 6-12. Assignments and grades for students in grades 6-12 can also be viewed through the parent portal.

Sharing With Us

If a matter is urgent, please contact the main office of your child's school or the Westhill District Office:

Westhill District Office
315-426-3272

Westhill High School
315-426-3100

Onondaga Hill Middle School
315-426-3400

Cherry Road Elementary School
315-426-3300

Walberta Park Elementary School
315-426-3200



WesthillCSD

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 2024
WESTHILL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

GALA

JOIN US FOR:

COCKTAILS, DINNER, & FIREWORKS

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

LITTLE JOYS BAND

COMEDIAN MOODY MCCARTHY

AWARD RECIPIENTS

COLONIAL LAUNDROMAT

SYRACUSE MAYOR, BEN WALSH

OHMS LIBRARIAN PENNY FEENEY

THE LUPINE HAVEN ORGANIZATION

OCTOBER 5TH, 2024

6PM - 10PM

BELLEVUE COUNTRY CLUB

PURCHASE BY 9/20

COUPLES - TWO FOR \$120

SINGLE TICKET \$65

AFTER 9/20

TICKETS \$75 EACH

TICKET SALES END ON 10/1



BUSINESS ATTIRE - CASH BAR - LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

District News

I. Introduction

Providing an orderly plan for dealing with an emergency is part of the responsibility of Westhill Central School District officials. Emergency situations range from man-made problems such as power outages, fires, and bomb threats, to nature-made situations like windstorms, ice/snow storms, and floods. Emergencies range from highly dangerous, life-threatening situations to problems that are mere inconveniences. Schools and parents need to have general plans for dealing with a wide range of emergencies. The following information is intended to familiarize you with our general procedures for school emergencies.

II. Possible Response Actions

The nature of the emergency will determine the type of response action. If possible and timely, an emergency response team will convene at a command site to implement response actions. If possible and appropriate, the assistance of the fire department, ambulance, and police will be sought. The primary consideration in determining response actions will be the health and safety of students and staff.

- A) Cancellation of School - School officials may determine that school will not be in session for one or more days due to an emergency.
- B) Evacuation - Evacuation is necessary for situations ranging from routine fire drills to conditions where it is no longer safe or appropriate to have students in the school building. Evacuation requires all building occupants to exit the building and wait a safe distance from the building until the danger has passed. In some circumstances, however, the nature of the emergency may deem that the students be transported and held temporarily at another location.
- C) Early Dismissal - An early dismissal is announced in the event of a system failure such as loss of heat or other utility in the building, or in response to inclement weather. In inclement weather, due to the time it takes to coordinate early dismissal, many times it is better to wait until dismissal time to send students home. Road crews normally schedule their time to coincide with the dismissal time of schools.
- D) Sheltering in Building - School officials may decide to keep students in school in an emergency until the situation returns to normal or until dismissal or evacuation can be arranged, if it is determined that it is not safe to send them home. A lock down drill is a type of sheltering situation where students remain in their classrooms and windows and doors are locked.

III. Communication Systems

Internal: Communication inside the building will be via the public address system if possible. Otherwise, messengers will be used to relay warnings. Administrators have access to cell phones/radios to assist them with emergency communications.

External: In the event of an emergency, we will notify the following television stations: 3 - NBC, 5 - CBS, 9 - ABC and 10 - YNN.

Westhill CSD uses ParentSquare to keep in touch with you via text message, email or through the app regarding important events, closings, and alerts. Please ensure that your information is up to date in PowerSchool. If you are not currently receiving communication via ParentSquare, please contact the main office at your student's school building.

IV. Emergency Planning Committee

- Steven Smith Emergency Management Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration
- Thomas Curtis 1st Alternate Coordinator
- Richard Chapman 2nd Alternate Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
- Stephen Dunham Superintendent of Schools
- Daniel Dolan Westhill High School Principal
- Meghan Snell Westhill High School Assistant Principal
- Kathryn Ta Onondaga Hill Middle School Principal
- Meaghan Stanton Onondaga Hill Middle School Assistant Principal
- Jeremie Auge Cherry Road School Principal
- Beth Kramer Walberta Park School Principal
- Marietta Lachenauer Director of Special Education
- Kyle Rogers Food Service Director
- Michele Rether School Transportation Supervisor
- Beth Nagraj Coordinator of Health Services
- Jennie Smarrelli Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics
- Katie Harmon Director of Instructional Technology

We hope we will never have to implement our plans, but we will strive to be prepared just in case. It is very important for every family to have a contingency plan explained to students should an unplanned early dismissal occur. Calls directly to or from parents would not be practical in a true emergency. We urge families to plan ahead for possible school related emergencies, especially early dismissal.

V. Communication Liaison for the District: Stephen Dunham, Superintendent of Schools

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
Andrew Starowicz, Vice President
Andrew Hunter
Christopher Haigney
Kelly Ristoff

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.

School Board Recognition Week October 14 - October 18, 2024



In appreciation of your dedicated service to our
students, families, staff and community!
