



BUDGET 2020

# Washingtonville

A PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTONVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Washingtonville High School Names Valedictorian and Salutatorian

**SUPERINTENDENT LARRY WASHINGTON AND WASHINGTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL (WHS) PRINCIPAL BRIAN CONNOLLY ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE** that Elissa Miller has been named valedictorian of the class of 2020, and Andrea Neporanny is this year's salutatorian.

Elissa, the daughter of Michael and Gail Miller of Campbell Hall, earned top honors with a GPA of 101.534. During her time at WHS, she maintained an active course schedule, taking Advanced Placement (AP) Biology, AP United States History, AP Calculus BC, Syracuse University Project Advance (SUPA) Writing, SUPA Public Affairs, College Chemistry, College Spanish 4 and 5, and College MacroEconomics. She excelled in her math and science classes throughout her high school career.

This fall, Elissa will be attending Skidmore College, where she plans to major in Health and Human Physiological Science. While there, she will be swimming for a Division III team.

Elissa is the vice president of the Science Honor Society and a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Art Honor Society. For the last six years, Elissa has been a swimmer on the school's Varsity Swim team. This year she was the team captain, a State qualifier for freestyle relay, and a school record-holder. She also participates on the school's Varsity Outdoor Track team, and has for the last five years.

Outside of school, Elissa is a lifeguard during the summer months at Brookshire Condominiums in Washingtonville. In addition, she has been a member of the Viking Aquatic Club since childhood, and recently



*Washingtonville High School names the Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2020. From left, Salutatorian Andrea Neporanny and Valedictorian Elissa Miller.*

## 2020-2021 Proposed Budget Focuses on the Future of Washingtonville

**T**he Washingtonville Central School District Board of Education has adopted a \$106,875,135 proposed budget for the 2020-2021 school year. The proposal reflects a 2.1 percent tax levy, the total amount of local taxes that support the budget, and is within the District's allowable limits under the New York State tax levy calculation, or "tax cap" as it is more commonly known. Washingtonville Schools have been operating within their calculated State "tax cap" every year since it was implemented in 2012.

The District's main focus for this year's spending plan is continuing fiscal conservancy while also paving the way for a sustainable future. In 2020, this includes considerations for many unknowns, including different COVID-19 recovery/reopening plans, related State aid cuts, and potential enrollment changes. According to Superintendent Larry Washington, "Our overall objective is to have a solid financial plan in place that positions us best for what lies ahead."

### Focus on Students

The proposed budget focuses on aligning financial decisions with student enrollment trends, the overall interests of the student body, and educational movements. For example, after analyzing which courses and programs interest Washingtonville students most, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## Washingtonville High School Names Valedictorian and Salutatorian

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

volunteered in the nursing unit at Orange Regional Medical Center.

Andrea, daughter of Eugene and Anna Neporanny of Washingtonville, earned her salutatorian title with a GPA of 101.366. While attending WHS, she took AP United States History, AP Literature, AP Environmental Science, AP Calculus AB, College Chemistry, and College Spanish 4 and 5. She also shined in all of her math and science classes.

Andrea is the president of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and Foreign Language Honor Society. She is a part of the President's Council for Student Council, Student Coalition, Best Buddies, Special Olympics, and Peer Tutoring. She was chosen for the Area All-State and All-County choruses. She has been a member of the school's Varsity Swim team for the last four years and has competed for the Seahawks (a local swim club) since childhood.

In addition, Andrea is a part of the Ukrainian American Youth Association and has worked as a camp counselor for the association during the summer months. She's also a lifeguard and swimming instructor for the Seahawks.

Andrea will be attending the State University of New York at New Paltz next year on a Presidential Scholarship. She plans to study pharmaceutical sciences, with the ultimate goal of pursuing a Doctorate in Pharmacy.

Principal Connolly envisions a bright future for Elissa and Andrea. "We are honored to have these two as students," he said. "They have made us proud during their time at WHS, and we look forward to seeing what lies ahead for them."

## Distance Learning Inspires at Washingtonville

Once again, Washingtonville has proven to be Wizard Strong! The transition to the temporary world of virtual learning was not an easy feat, but we are inspired by the dedication and perseverance shown by the entire Washingtonville school community during these trying times.

Our faculty and staff members have come together to deliver quality education and continued support through relevant and thoughtful learning experiences from a distance. Our technology team has successfully mobilized to support the increased needs of our instructional staff and students as they utilize online tools.

Given these efforts over the past few months, K-12 students have had a number of ways to engage in learning while they are away from school. Various platforms are available to aid in the delivery of these distance learning methods, which look different for different ages and academic levels. We appreciate that throughout this entire process, our students and their families have worked extremely hard to adapt. We commend you for your flexibility, patience, and support this past spring.



## Little Britain Wizards Unite Via Virtual Spirit Weeks



In an effort to help keep students connected while learning remotely, our elementary schools introduced various forms of Virtual Spirit Weeks.

Little Britain Elementary School Principal Sagrario Rudecindo-O'Neill shares, "It's been a great way to stay connected and positive and engaged with one another." In partnership with its PTO, Little Britain has hosted everything from Reading Day and Crazy Hair Day to Healthy Snack Day and Wizard Wednesday.





## Washingtonville Seniors Receive Arts and Humanities Achievement Awards

**ORANGE-ULSTER BOCES PRESENTED TWO WASHINGTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL (WHS) STUDENTS** with Senior Arts and Humanities Awards. Matthew Martinez and Madison Mitchell were selected for the awards by WHS teachers and administrators.

Matthew was recognized for his commitment to theatre and the arts. He is the president of the school's Masque & Mime Society and is involved in several other local music organizations. He has been in every school play and musical since third grade, and since 2014 he has performed at Radio City Music Hall with the Garden of Dreams Organization. Matthew has also participated in numerous All-County Music Festivals. After graduation, he will be attending the Academy of Musical and Dramatic Arts, where he plans on majoring in Musical Theater.

Madison was selected for her musical talents and overall commitment to the Washingtonville Central School District. She is a member of the National Honor Society, TRI-M Music Honor Society, and the Student Coalition program. She avidly participates in the Safe School Ambassador program, which encourages a safe environment for students and faculty. She enjoys mentoring young musicians throughout the District via volunteer opportunities. Madison has been in countless musical performances, including the OCMEA festival, NYSSMA, Area All-State, and the Hudson Valley Wind Ensemble. Her primary instrument is the flute, but she also plays piccolo, guitar, piano, and saxophone in the school's Jazz Band. This fall, she will be attending Ithaca College, where she will major in Music Education.

WHS Principal Brian Connolly is proud of these two students and their accomplishments. "Matthew and Madison have truly left their marks at WHS," he states. "We look forward to following along as they enter the next chapter of their artistic careers."



*Madison Mitchell*



*Matthew Martinez*

### *Message from Superintendent Larry Washington*

**I** am pleased to share with you the proposed 2020-2021 Washingtonville Central School District budget. We encourage you to thoroughly review the information in this newsletter as you prepare to participate in the mail-in budget vote and school board election on June 9, 2020.

In the midst of the pandemic, administrators and Board of Education members spent a great deal of time developing this proposed budget. While the start of 2020 has brought many unforeseen challenges that have affected both our school year and our budget, we have a plan in place that will help guide us through this difficult chapter.

I want to thank our parents and the community for their continued support of the District and our students, not only during these trying times but year after year. The sense of community that Washingtonville shows when faced with obstacles is truly inspiring. The way our faculty and staff, parents, students, and community members have worked together over the past few months in support of the District makes me proud to be a Wizard. It takes resilience to recover after a tough bout, however Washingtonville has proven our strength many times. I look forward to our future together because I believe these circumstances will ultimately help bring about change that will make our District even stronger.

If you have any questions about the budget proposal, please don't hesitate to contact me at [lwashington@ws.k12.ny.us](mailto:lwashington@ws.k12.ny.us). We are proud of our Washingtonville students and grateful to the community for participating in these important decisions that affect their futures.

Thank you and remember to vote on June 9!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Larry Washington  
Superintendent of Schools



## 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

### 2020-2021 Proposed Budget Focuses on the Future of Washingtonville

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

administration is planning course schedules and staffing accordingly to align with what is important to students and supports their success. "Even though we are in the midst of a pandemic, ensuring our expenditures support and align with our students and their needs is priority," said Superintendent Washington.

#### Savings Strategies

In order to contain the tax levy under the allowable NYS cap, reductions needed to be realized. The proposed budget includes savings in expenditures across a number of areas. Purchase of supplies is being reduced by ten percent. Where possible, the use of external consultants for staff professional development will be replaced by internal staff with expertise in key areas. The proposed budget also includes allowances for not replacing a number of staff who are retiring, and either absorbing the savings or reallocating some of those funds to other student programs and expenses.

The proposed budget also includes applying \$3,500,000 from the fund balance and \$3,286,243 from reserves to offset some of the tax increase.

#### Contingency Budget

Because the proposed budget carries a tax levy that falls within the NYS cap, a simple majority is required to pass (50% of voters plus one). If the budget does not pass, the District will be required to adopt a contingency budget. Based on NYS formulas, this would require reducing expenditures by an additional \$1,258,437, including purchasing of any equipment and providing the community use of school facilities without fees.

#### Voting by Mail

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, voting in school budgets and Board elections across New York State is being conducted entirely by absentee ballot this year. No in-person polling will take place. Eligible voters are being mailed paper ballots with postage paid return envelopes. Ballots must be received no later than 5 PM on June 9, 2020 to be counted. In addition to voting on the proposed budget, the community will also elect two members to the Board of Education. "Even though this year's voting process looks different, we encourage every eligible voter to participate in the school vote and elections," said Washington.

#### Washingtonville Proposed Budget Highlights

- Planning for the future to ensure fiscal solvency
- Applying fund balance and reserves to help contain tax levy increase
- Aligning budgetary allocations with student needs
- Replacing external consultants for professional development using internal expertise
- Absorbing staff reductions through retirements

#### WHAT YOU'LL SEE ON THE 2019-2020 BALLOT

Shall the Board of Education of the Washingtonville Central School District be authorized to expend the sums of money that will be required for the school district's purposes for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$106,875,135 (the budget) and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

YES OR NO

#### Election of Board of Education Members

Vote for two (2) of the candidates listed or write in the name of another person(s) in the spaces provided.

Colleen Doyle

Robin White



## 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

### Washingtonville Students Receive Sojourner Truth Award

**MORE THAN 70 WASHINGTONVILLE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVED SOJOURNER TRUTH AWARDS** during a county-wide ceremony held at SUNY Orange on March 6. The students were honored in the areas of good citizenship, athletics, diversity, creative arts, perseverance/effort, technology, sciences, foreign languages, English, and mathematics. The award recipients were nominated by their teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators.

For the past 30 years, SUNY Orange has honored Sojourner Truth—the highly regarded 19th century African-American woman who lived in the Mid-Hudson Valley region after escaping from slavery—by giving out awards in her name. The awards recognize the achievements of deserving Orange County students who are traditionally underrepresented. It is a celebration of youth, accomplishment, and culture.

Washingtonville Grade 10 student Jade Sampson received a scholarship during the ceremony (in addition to her award) after being nominated by her teacher, Kevin Calderin.



*In addition to the official event, Washingtonville Middle School held an in-school ceremony to celebrate the students' continued hard work.*

### Congratulations to the Washingtonville High School Class of 2020!

**W**e are so proud of our graduating seniors and all of their accomplishments. The Washingtonville High School Class of 2020 will go down in history as one of the strongest and most resilient groups of individuals. Your community loves and supports you, and wishes you the best of luck in your future endeavors. Just remember, "Once a Wizard, Always a Wizard!" Please visit [hs.ws.k12.ny.us/classof2020](https://hs.ws.k12.ny.us/classof2020) for a full list of students expected to graduate from Washingtonville High School.



# VOTE!

**Voting will be conducted by Absentee Ballot only. Ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 PM on June 9.**



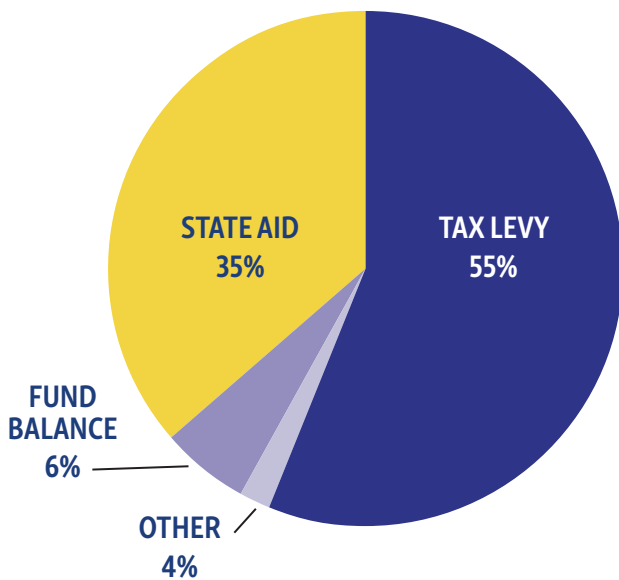


# 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

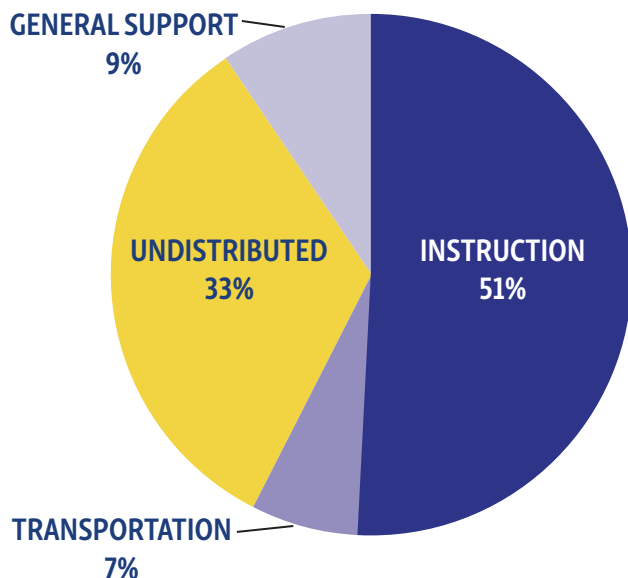
## Budget Summary

	Budget 2019-20	% 2019-20	Proposed 2020-21	% 2020-21	Increase/(Decrease)
Administration	\$10,062,598	9.8%	\$9,764,528	9.1%	(\$298,070)
Program	\$76,848,565	74.6%	\$81,287,852	76.1%	\$4,439,287
Capital	\$16,137,694	15.7%	\$15,822,755	14.8%	(\$314,939)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$103,048,857</b>		<b>\$106,875,135</b>		<b>\$3,826,278</b>

## Where Does the Money Come From?



## How the Money Will Be Spent



## Revenue Summary

	Budget 2019-20	Proposed 2020-21	\$ Change
Tax Levy	\$58,022,464	\$59,280,901	\$1,258,437
Other Revenue - includes BOCES refund, Interest, Charges to other districts, Rentals, Donations, Sale of Equipment	\$1,951,487	\$5,709,730	\$3,758,243
State Aid	\$37,286,664	\$37,892,746	\$606,082
Federal Aid	\$84,000	\$491,758	\$407,758
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$97,344,615</b>	<b>\$103,375,135</b>	<b>\$6,030,520</b>
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$5,704,242	\$3,500,000	-\$2,204,242
Appropriated Reserves	\$0	\$3,286,243	\$3,286,243
<b>Total Revenues and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$103,048,857</b>	<b>\$106,875,135</b>	<b>\$3,826,278</b>
<b>% TAX LEVY INCREASE</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	

## Expenditure Summary

	Budget 2019-20	Proposed 2020-21	\$ Change
<b>GENERAL SUPPORT</b>			
Board of Education	\$50,470	\$63,638	\$13,168
Central Administration	\$323,658	\$301,553	-\$22,105
Finance	\$761,087	\$714,007	-\$47,080
Staff	\$614,272	\$720,890	\$106,618
Central Services	\$6,617,534	\$6,486,073	-\$131,461
Special Items	\$1,108,433	\$1,064,433	-\$44,000
<b>Total General Support</b>	<b>\$9,475,454</b>	<b>\$9,350,594</b>	<b>-\$124,860</b>
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>			
Administration & Improvement	\$4,068,030	\$3,449,747	-\$618,283
Instruction - Teaching	\$42,366,066	\$43,453,548	\$1,087,482
Instructional Media	\$1,795,225	\$2,418,207	\$622,982
Pupil Services	\$4,445,150	\$4,482,627	\$37,477
<b>Total Instruction</b>	<b>\$52,674,471</b>	<b>\$53,804,129</b>	<b>\$1,129,658</b>
<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</b>			
District Owned Transportation	\$5,330,928	\$6,024,987	\$694,059
Buses	\$960,000	\$732,000	-\$228,000
Contract Transportation	\$498,000	\$800,000	\$302,000
<b>Total Pupil Transportation</b>	<b>\$6,788,928</b>	<b>\$7,556,987</b>	<b>\$768,059</b>
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED</b>			
Employee Benefits	\$26,510,949	\$28,607,530	\$2,096,581
Debt Service	\$7,374,055	\$7,305,895	-\$68,160
Interfund Transfers	\$225,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
<b>Total Undistributed</b>	<b>\$34,110,004</b>	<b>\$36,163,425</b>	<b>\$2,053,421</b>
<b>Grand Total All Expenditures</b>	<b>\$103,048,857</b>	<b>\$106,875,135</b>	<b>\$3,826,278</b>



# 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

## ABOUT VOTING

Voting will be conducted by Absentee Ballot only. Ballots must be received by the District Clerk by 5 PM on June 9.

### Are you Qualified to Vote?

In order to vote you must be:

- 18 years of age or older.
- A citizen of the United States.
- A resident of the Washingtonville Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

## COUNT ME IN! CENSUS 2020

### DID YOU KNOW?

Census data is used to extend billions of dollars in funding for hospitals, school lunch programs, Medicaid, and other resources that are needed every year, especially in uncertain times. Make sure everyone in your home is counted! Visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) for more information.

## Washingtonville Central School District Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$103,048,857	\$106,875,135	\$105,616,698
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$3,826,278	\$2,567,841
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.7%	2.5%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$58,022,464	\$59,280,901	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$58,022,464	\$59,280,901	\$58,022,464
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$2,487,247	\$1,624,843	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$57,630,650	\$57,656,058	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - F - D)	\$55,535,217	\$57,656,058	
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$2,095,433	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$10,062,598	\$9,764,528	\$9,651,269
Program Component	\$76,848,565	\$81,287,852	\$80,331,440
Capital Component	\$16,137,694	\$15,822,755	\$15,633,989

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Should the budget not pass, the district is required to adopt a contingency budget. A contingency budget would require cuts totaling \$1,258,437. Equipment purchases and community use of the facilities could be prohibited.

\*\*List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
<b>NO ADDITIONAL PROPOSITIONS</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

### Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$825.00
---	----------

In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order No. 202.26, the annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 will be held on June 9, 2020 by absentee ballot only. All ballots must be received by 5 PM on June 9, 2020. No in-person voting or registration is permitted and all qualified voters are eligible to vote and receive an absentee ballot with a postage paid return envelope.



## Washingtonville's Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

**FOR THE SEVENTH YEAR IN A ROW, WASHINGTONVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (WCSD)** has been honored with a "Best Communities for Music Education" designation from the NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education.



The Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate special achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify, WCSD answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, and support for the music programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by the Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

This award recognizes that the District is leading the way with learning opportunities, as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act, which highlights music and the arts as important elements of a well-rounded education for all children. Grade 11 Washingtonville High School (WHS) student and Wind Ensemble saxophonist John Kaste is in agreement. "I've been so lucky to receive music education since elementary school," he said. "Music can connect the world in ways that language alone never can. It is important that music continues to be taught in schools all around our country."



WHS Wind Ensemble Director Ari Contzius explained that instrumental students receive weekly small group lessons to focus on techniques specific to each student's needs and that more than 150 WCSD student musicians are selected each year into state, regional, and county honors festival bands and choruses. "I am very proud to be working in a school district that has great support for music education by administration, parents, and community," he said. "Positive, life-shaping musical experiences are at the heart of our program."

WHS Principal Brian Connolly is proud of his school community for the recognition. "I would like to congratulate our very talented music students and their dedicated teachers. Being honored seven years in a row is reflective of not only our students' talents, but also their hard work and passion for music," he said.

## Food Service Efforts & Meal Distribution

**WE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANT ROLE** the District plays in providing vital daily nutrition to our students. It is inspiring to see the effort and care that our Food Service, Monitors and Transportation teams continue to demonstrate week after week during the closure. Their commitment to providing daily meals to children throughout the community is heartening. As this newsletter went to print, more than 24,308 meals have been prepared and delivered.







## Grade 5 Taft Students Connect Via Student Newspaper

### **PRIOR TO THE SCHOOL CLOSURE, GRADE 5 TAFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

teacher Gina Hannon began an enrichment project titled Taft Times-Student Edition. Students approached Hannon with the idea for the newspaper, which she took as an opportunity to enhance their learning experience by keeping them motivated and engaged.

Taft Times began in the fall as a book review bulletin board. A mailbox was created for Taft students to submit book reviews. Once the bulletin board proved successful, the concept was expanded to a full-blown newspaper this spring.

Given the pandemic, Hannon found it even more important that this project came to fruition. "I thought it would help students stay connected and be inspired to share their emotions on



*Grade 5 Taft Times Editor Anna Richland works hard from her home on the latest edition of the school newspaper.*

a positive platform," she said. "It is so important that these children have a sense of normalcy and ways to socially connect to their peers."

Originally, the Taft Times team (Hannon and the Grade 5 students) did not plan for the paper to be completely digital. However, once the school made the transition to distance learning, Google Slides proved to be the easiest platform. The first edition of the Taft Times was shared with Taft families at the end of April. Student poems, jokes, the weather forecast, and how-tos are just a few of the creative features that have been published to date.

While at home, Hannon communicates with the students who spearheaded this project via Google Meet and email. Grade 5 student Anna shares, "I love creating each issue of Taft Times-Student Edition because I get to express my creativity."

## WASHINGTONVILLE MASQUE AND MIME SOCIETY BRINGS ORIGINAL PRODUCTION TO LIFE

### **WASHINGTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MASQUE AND MIME STUDENT PERFORMERS**

showed off their theatrical talents in the newly renovated Jodi S. Davis Auditorium earlier this spring. The school presented Pink Slip, an original play written by Washingtonville Music teacher Paul Davis and his friend Mark J. Williamson.

The production told the story of nerdy accountant Percival Pink, who fears death. When fate hands him a chance at immortality, he must risk losing his fiancé, his job at the zany Mother Nature Corporation, and the earth's destruction to seize it. Audience members gave the show a standing ovation.





## BGTV Production Continues!

**BGTV (BLUE AND GOLD TELEVISION)**, the Washingtonville High School (WHS) student news channel, combines English and art curriculums through two courses, Media and Journalism. When school is physically in session, students write, shoot, edit, and publish stories and media every week. The ongoing pandemic has not stopped the BGTV crew.

Twenty-four students are currently enrolled in the two classes, which rotate through four sections of curriculum: Newsletter, Podcasting, Studio, and Field Crew. WHS has cameras, lights, microphones, a studio, and more for recording. For editing, the students have a Mac Lab, where they learn and utilize Final Cut Pro.

Distance learning puts a new spin on production, given BGTV's limited access to equipment and editing software. Many students have taken to using their phones to record and edit their videos, while others are using iMovie on their computers to edit.

At first, BGTV teachers Kelly Connolly and John Waldie were hesitant to allow their students to produce content from home. "The students were insistent. So, we decided to let them give it a try," Connolly shared. "The outcome was far better than we ever expected. This just goes to show how truly dedicated these students are to the course, and we are beyond proud of them."

While everyone is operating from home, the planning process is taking place over Google Meets. "We

brainstorm ideas on Mondays, and then figure out how we will compile segments into a show on Thursdays," said Connolly.

Grade 12 student Emily Gorczynski is BGTV's Coordinating Producer, a role that was never on her radar until she joined BGTV. Classmates send Emily their segments, and she compiles everything into a workable show. Despite the school closure, Emily is still able to continue her role at home thanks to Mrs. Connolly's MacBook. "There have been challenges, as I don't have my usual editing software. We have such great quality equipment at our school, it's definitely something I miss during this quarantine," Emily said. "Even though I don't have my fancy programs and cameras, I've decided that it's the ideas and artistic view that make for a show great."

Emily is proud of her fellow news producers. "Each and everyone of my classmates has worked so hard on their segments from home," she said. "Even though I compile everything, it's those individual segments that truly make the show great. Not to mention our wonderful anchors, Dimitra Mouterous and Gianna Cancelleri, who really are the glue of this whole operation. They are a big help to me as well."

In addition to the weekly YouTube show, BGTV produces a weekly newsletter and podcast, which also continue while students are learning remotely. All aspects of BGTV can be found on our High School website.



## A Send-Off for Our Retirees!

**A**s the 2019-2020 school year comes to an end, Washingtonville Central School District administrators would like to honor this year's retirees. Thank you for your dedication to the District during your time here and remember, "Once a Wizard, Always a Wizard!"

Our 2019-2020 retirees include: Diane Avila-Velez, Rosa Ayers, Robin Berry, Ellen Gunser, Mary Pinkala, Rochelle Andretta, Betty Barnitt, Judy Biagini, Joseph Bucco, Leanne Bucco, Rosemarie Dembeck-Winslow, Lynn Eismont, Denise Evans, Hugh Gallagher, George Gebert, Mary Graziano, Jean Halahan, Felice Kiel, James Kolar, Maureen Limperopulos, Marybeth Maesano, Kathy Manngard, Barbara Maraday, Kathy Martin-Brown, Theresa McGovern, Deborah McIntyre, Lori Messina, Ingrid Narken, Victoria Parraud, Deb Pyzza, Steve Reil, Marie Romulus, Jennifer Ryan, Sandra Ryan, Michael Savini, James Sayre, Bernice Schrader, Jaime Soto, Donna Swanson, and Lynn Tagliaferro.





# Wizard Pride! Washingtonville Winter Athletes Shine

A total of 544 students from Washingtonville participated in the winter sports season. This includes Modified, Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity teams.

## Here are some of the Wizard highlights:

- The Boys Indoor Track team won the OCIAA Division Championship and finished second in the OCIAA Meet.
- The Boys Basketball team finished second in their division and advanced to the Section IX Semifinals.
- The Wrestling team had one of its most successful seasons in history, as 20 wrestlers qualified for the State Qualifier match and Section IX tournament. One student-athlete became a State Qualifier.
- The Boys Swimming team finished with a league record, including a second place finish in the OCIAA and Section IX Swim Meet. The team also had six State Qualifiers.
- The Indoor Track and Field team had eight State Qualifiers.
- Congratulations to the following Washingtonville coaches for receiving honors:
  - ▶ Mike White was named the 2019 Track and Field Coach of the Year by the National Federation for High School Sports
  - ▶ Matt Anastasi was named the 2020 United States Professional Tennis Association Eastern Division High School Coach of the Year
  - ▶ Jim Frisbie was named the 2020 Boys Swim and Dive Coach of the Year as voted by OCIAA Coaches



Grade 12 Washingtonville High School Girls Varsity Basketball players were honored during a home game.



The Washingtonville High School Boys Swimming and Diving team swooped in and triumphed at the Section 9 finals, finishing their season with a league record.

## WASHINGTONVILLE ATHLETES SELECTED FOR THE VARSITY 845 ALL-STAR SECOND TEAM

Kudos to Washingtonville High School student-athletes Romeo Aquino and Ryan Graham for being selected for the Varsity 845 All-Star Second Team. Congratulations!



Grade 10 student and Section IX Champion Andrew Marchese earned a 5th place medal at the New York State Wrestling Tournament.





**Washingtonville**  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
52 West Main Street  
Washingtonville, NY 10992

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 145  
Newburgh, N.Y.

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Dr. Larry Washington

**Board of Education**  
Jennifer Dellova, *President*  
Robin White, *Vice-President*  
Sharon Williams, *Secretary*  
David Brunner, *Trustee*  
Colleen Doyle, *Trustee*  
Kevin McIntyre, *Trustee*  
Kevin Radday, *Trustee*

## Residential Customer

*Washingtonville Central School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, national origin, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or against any other legally protected group.*

[www.ws.k12.ny.us](http://www.ws.k12.ny.us)

 [www.facebook.com/  
Washingtonville.Schools](http://www.facebook.com/Washingtonville.Schools)

 @wcsd

 [www.instagram.com/  
washingtonvillecsd](http://www.instagram.com/washingtonvillecsd)

## Round Hill Students Tackle STEM Challenges At Home!

**S**tudents are relishing their Friday STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Challenges remotely. Round Hill Elementary School teachers have modified typical projects to a more flexible format, so students can use what they have in their homes while still practicing their problem-solving and engineering skills.

Grade 2 teachers Allison Goodge and Kristina Hernandez are impressed by their students' imaginations. "The amount of creativity we see in these at-home STEM projects is truly amazing," remarked Goodge. "They always look forward to STEM Friday in our physical classroom, so this is one way to add that sense of routine and normalcy during this time."

Some remote projects have included students creating their own egg drops, building a marble maze that could be modified with any round ball, and producing a structure that can hold a book. Using items such as toys, food, and puzzle pieces, students have risen to the various challenges!



# VOTE!

**Voting will be  
conducted by  
Absentee Ballot  
only. Ballots must  
be received by the  
District Clerk by  
5 PM on June 9.**