

DON'T MISS OUT!

THE WOODLAND HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY DAY IS SATURDAY, AUGUST 20 FROM 10AM TO 4PM. ENJOY GAMES, ACTIVITIES, FOOD AND MORE WHILE MEETING LEADERS FROM THE DISTRICT'S PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS.



INSIDE THIS EDITION!

NEWS FROM DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, THE HIGH SCHOOL, DICKSON, EDGEWOOD, TURTLE CREEK, AND WILKINS. PLUS UPDATES ON IMPORTANT SUMMER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES OVER THE BREAK.

THE WOLVERINE

A regular publication from the Woodland Hills School District





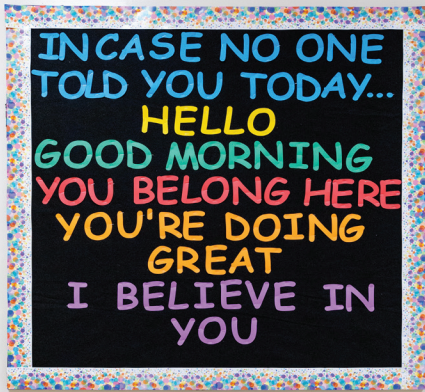
TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT SCHOOL VIOLENCE AND OTHER TRAGIC EVENTS

In light of recent tragic events throughout the country, including the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, students may have questions or concerns about violence, trauma, or more stemming from these incidents.

The Woodland Hills School District has several resources available to help parents, guardians and students navigate the discussions around these challenging topics.

Many of those resources can be accessed by visiting us at [whsd.net](https://www.whsd.net) and clicking on the Resources tab on the main menu of the web site. The district partners with local and regional healthcare providers that offer counseling, guidance, and more for those families and students in need.

Additional resources are available at <https://www.whsd.net/0/Content/148>.



REGISTRATION STILL OPEN FOR 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration is still ongoing for the 2022-23 school year. Parents or guardians interested in registering a student for kindergarten, as a transfer, or as a new resident can download a registration packet at <https://www.whsd.net/0/Content/148>.

Completed registration packets with supporting documents can be emailed to registration@whsd.net.

They can also be returned in person by making an appointment. Registrations are currently being accepted in person at Woodland Hills High School. Registration appointments can be made for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit us at <https://www.whsd.net/0/Content/148>.

PARTNERSHIP WITH VEX ROBOTICS ADDS TO STEAM CURRICULUM

The district has approved a partnership with Vex Robotics to implement a district-wide STEM/Robotics program. The curriculum will be added in the fall for all students K-12.

Younger students will learn the basics of robotics and STEM concepts, while older students will tackle larger projects and more difficult concepts.

Vex hosts an annual international competition and Woodland Hills students will have an opportunity to work on projects that could lead to competitions against students from other districts and states.



NEWS FROM WOODLAND HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

The Crazy Cat Coders consisting of Maddie Douglas, Brandon Donaldson, Juliana Connelly, Ash Conti, and Angela Zhang won the \$12,000 Community focused app award for their app TSharing.

PNC hosted the event on April 29 in a virtual environment where they competed against Montour and Penn Hills students at the annual Young Innovators "Code for Your Cause" event.

TSharing was developed to help people find, recycle, or reuse gently used school supplies. The team worked to complete the app in four months. They were rewarded with some swag that included an Amazon Fire tablet, a Raspberry Pi 4, and water bottles.

Additionally, the students were rewarded for their app with a choice of an Apple Watch, a Nintendo Switch, or an Oculus VR headset.



SHREK: THE MUSICAL WINS FIVE GENE KELLY AWARDS

Shrek: The Musical won big at the 2022 Gene Kelly Awards, which recognize local excellence in high school musical theater. Shrek won awards in Budget 4 for Best Musical, Best Vocal Ensemble, Best Crew/Technical Execution, Best Scenic Design, and Best Lighting Design.

The Department of Music also was selected as a Best Community for Music Education for the third year in a row.

The recognition puts Woodland Hills in the top four percent in the country for music education.



HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CREDIT RECOVERY OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Woodland Hills High School is offering a free credit recovery program this summer over two sessions. To be eligible for credit recovery, a student must have already taken the course. The original course could have been in 2021-2022 or during any prior school year.

A student cannot take a credit recovery class if they have never taken the original course. The first session is already underway, but there is still time to register for the second session from July 11 to August 12. The session is five weeks long. Students may take one or two classes per session.

If you have specific questions regarding whether credit recovery is needed, please contact Dr. Pamela White at whitpam@whsd.net or 412-244-1100 ext 5125



NEWS FROM DICKSON PREPARATORY STEAM ACADEMY

The 2022-23 school year at Dickson Preparatory STEAM Academy concluded with a pair of promotion ceremonies for the eighth graders. The Class of 2026 will be headed off to the high school in the fall.

The end of the school year also brought the Dickson spring concerts. Videos of all of the spring concerts are available to watch on the Dickson page on the district website.

Incoming seventh and eighth graders interested in fall sports can see sign up information on Schoology and the district website.

Also, summer school is being offered at Dickson. Parents should have been contacted if their student is required to attend summer school. Summer school notice letters should have been received by June 10.

Students in summer school will receive instruction online using Google Classroom. Summer school will run Monday through Thursday from July 5 through July 29.



DICKSON STUDENTS SHINE AT JUNIOR ENVIROTHON COMPETITION

Several Dickson students participated in the Junior Envirothon competition, which was held at South Park on April 22. This environmental science competition focused on wildlife, aquatics, forestry, soils and current events. The 8th grade team of Avee Farrar, Nathan Fitzgerald, Jordan Abrams, Connor Abrams and Logan Summers finished in third place, while the 6th grade team of Lydia Brown, Levi Drake, Luke DeVore, Ascher Holleran, and Ellie Willson were the highest scoring team in the Soils and Land Use category.

SIX STUDENTS SELECTED AS PART OF DO THE WRITE THING CONTEST

Dickson is proud to announce that six students have had their Do The Write Thing submissions selected to represent the school. Seventh graders Niyah Brown, Cora Spear and Beckett Ciocco and eighth graders Victoria Starr, Andre Barlow and Landon Akins were all recognized at a dinner celebration in downtown Pittsburgh on June 2.

The Woodland Hills School District has participated for several years in the Do The Write Thing Challenge, which is part of an initiative from the National Campaign to Stop Violence.

It invites middle school students to write about how violence has impacted their lives. Teachers lead discussions in the classroom about violence and finding resolutions, while the students write essays from their perspectives.

Niyah Brown's submission, entitled "Youth Violence", earned her special recognition and consideration to be a National Ambassador to represent the Pittsburgh area.



EDGEWOOD FIFTH GRADERS CELEBRATED AT PROMOTION CEREMONY

The Edgewood fifth graders are off to middle school following their promotion ceremony on May 26.

Students were recognized for their academic excellence and then received their promotion certificates. Students were individually recognized for their promotion during the ceremony and congratulated for their achievements.

Ms. Chardae Jones stopped by to provide the graduating fifth graders with some words of wisdom and encouragement as they take the next step in their education.

The ceremony was held at the Edgewood auditorium with parents and guardians in attendance. A special video was played during the ceremony and can be re-watched on the school Facebook page.



FOOD SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

A number of programs are offering free, healthy food options for students and families in need this summer.

The Allegheny County Summer Food program is offering wholesome and delicious breakfasts and lunches during summer recess. Call 1-800-340-3572 or check the Allegheny County website for details.

Citiparks' Summer Food Service Program begins Wednesday, June 22. It offers healthy food options for children up to 18 years old. More information available at 412-571-3291.

More resources are available at whsd.net.

NEWS FROM EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY STEAM ACADEMY

Edgewood students wrapped up the 2021-22 school year in style, with exciting final projects and field trips occurring all throughout the month of May.

In preparation for the summer, Mr. Meredith's second grade class used virtual STEM bins to learn how to build the best sand castle. Mrs. Facetti's fifth grade class spent several weeks doing research before presenting their final projects on ocean life.

The Edgewood Girls on the Run team completed months of training to run their first 5K as part of an event at The Waterfront in Homestead. The Junior Garden Club under the supervision of Mrs. Raszewski and Mrs. Shipley worked hard preparing the soil and planting a variety of flowers and vegetables in the Learning Garden.

First graders took a trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium while Mrs. Mittica, Ms. Kelly, and Mrs. Garver's students brushed up on their dining manners and etiquette while enjoying a lunch at Asti's Italian Steakhouse.

The Edgewood STEAM Academy band, orchestra, and chorus put together a spring concert for the community that was a wonderful display of their talent.



TURTLE CREEK STUDENTS COMPETE IN K'NEX STEM DESIGN CHALLENGE

Rosie Moon, Jonas Divelbiss, Aila Langston, and Ryleigh Wagner teamed up to finish in third place in the K'Nex STEM Design Challenge state championship. They advanced to the state championship after winning first place in Allegheny County.

They designed Yellowstone's Bio Bus. It is a large form of transportation that runs on alternative energy sources and is made from recycled materials. It is a double decker bus that allows visitors to view Yellowstone's beauty while reducing car traffic in the park.

It runs on biofuels from plants that are grown in the park. Yellowstone's Bio Bus will help to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.

Congratulations to them all!



FUN DAY A BLAST FOR TURTLE CREEK

Thanks to the assistance of PIE, a number of volunteers, and the Turtle Creek staff, students at Turtle Creek Elementary STEAM Academy enjoyed a fantastic Fun Day to celebrate the end of the school year.

The students were able to experience a petting zoo, obstacle course, many Minute to Win It games, ice cream, temporary tattoos, yard games, bounces houses, a magic assembly, a science assembly, and signing each others fun day shirts.

NEWS FROM TURTLE CREEK ELEMENTARY STEAM ACADEMY

Students at Turtle Creek had a busy end to the school year with all kinds of field trips and activities.

Elephant and Piggie stopped by on May 22. The characters from the Mo Willems children's books brought a smile to everyone they met. Mrs. Zanic's class had a Reading Celebration Luau. Every student worked hard to read at least 25 books. The luau included hula dancing, volcanoes, coconut bowling, food and prizes.

First graders visited Simmons Farm where they learned about plants, met some farm animals and took a hay ride. Fourth grader went out to Keystone State Park, where they had a cookout and explored some hiking trails. They also visited the Laurel Caverns where they learned all about caves. Earlier in May, the fourth graders went on a tour of the Carrie Furnace.

The fifth grade gifted students sailed on the Explorer boat to study environmental science on the three rivers. They conducted water quality analysis tests, collected and identified macro invertebrates, zooplankton, and phytoplankton, and searched for aquatic birds.



WILKINS FIFTH GRADERS CELEBRATE PROMOTION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Wilkins community celebrated the promotion of the fifth grade class to middle school with a ceremony in the gymnasium.

Students were recognized for their academic excellence, academic improvement, achieving attendance milestones, their displays of citizenship and leadership, participation in the Strong Women, Strong Girls program, and showcasing extra effort. Students in the chorus also performed.

The students accomplished quite a bit while at Wilkins Elementary STEAM Academy. Now, they will join the rest of the Class of 2029 at Dickson Preparatory STEAM Academy in the fall for the start of their middle school experience.

NEWS FROM WILKINS ELEMENTARY STEAM ACADEMY

Wilkins Elementary STEAM Academy hosted the Wilkins Science Festival this spring and invited families and students to experience a night of scientific learning.

Thanks to contributions and help from the Wilkins PTA, the National PTA, and Bayer STEM + Families, Wilkins was able to design an event that featured 14 stations all demonstrating various scientific principles.

At each station, students and their families had an opportunity to observe, interact and participate in experiments that showcased a number of scientific concepts. Students were able to make their own mini-rockets using Alka Seltzer tablets, water and sealed plastic caps. They explored the basics of circuits and electricity.

Students were also able to experiment with making large bubbles, discover how various ingredients interacted and reacted with each other, and much more.

Besides the opportunities to experiment and learn, students also had a chance to showcase what they had previously learned in science class by displaying their STEAM projects in the cafeteria.



FUN DAY A THRILL FOR WILKINS

The Wilkins Elementary STEAM Academy PTA helped put together a fantastic Fun Day experience for the students.

Mother Nature tried to rain on everyone's parade in the morning, but the students still had a fantastic time with the petting zoo, a slew of games, some fun races, creative crafts, a dance party, snocones, and much more.

Check out highlights from Fun Day on the Wilkins Facebook page.



WOODLAND HILLS CLASS OF 2022 CONQUERS ADVERSITY, RECEIVES OVER \$8.8 MILLION IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Woodland Hills Class of 2022 received over \$8.8 million in college scholarships and also featured a number of students pursuing military, vocational and technical schools, and immediate job offers.

During the 2022 commencement ceremony, Josiah Martin, President of the National Honors Society, reminded his classmates of the power of dreams even in the face of adversity.

"I'm confident that the power of dreams is vested within each and every one of us," Martin said. "It drives us. It molded us into the determined and powerful individuals that we are today."

Vice President of Student Council Lynnsie Hagman commended her classmates' diligence and courage.

"With the COVID-19 pandemic came immense struggles. To list just a few: Virtual instruction,

social distancing, and the countless canceled activities such as homecoming, which got moved not once, not twice, but three different times," Hagman said.

Class President Madeline Douglas said the students' resiliency has enabled it to do great things and will continue to provide the Class of 2022 with opportunities.

"Our resiliency is the reason we're graduating today and is the reason we are able to continue to do great things," Douglas said. "Whether it be on the court on the field on the stage or in the classroom, the 2022 Woody seniors know how to do it and we know how to do it the best."

The ceremony also recognized three members of the Class of 2022 who left us too soon. The families of Jaiden Brown, Naomi Dutko and Micah Graham received posthumous diplomas from Principal Shelly Manns honoring their memory.