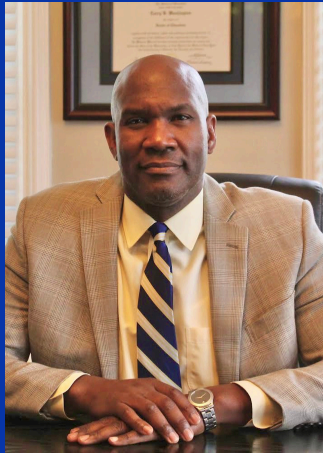


WASHINGTONVILLE



WIZ

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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Larry Washington, Superintendent of Schools

We are so thankful for the tremendous support the Washingtonville community has given our school district. It is this support that has made the Washingtonville Central School District and Wizard Nation so great. After lengthy discussions and planning throughout this school year, we have put together another responsible budget as well as three bond propositions. One to purchase five buses and two bond propositions for a Capital Project that improves the learning environment for our students in significant ways at a very reasonable cost to taxpayers. We are “futureproofing” our school district. **Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on May 21 at the Washingtonville High School gymnasium.** We encourage you to learn the details about the budget and bond propositions on our website at

www.wcsdk12.org/budget/2024-25 and www.wcsdk12.org/budget/capital-project. Also, look for our newsletters on both the budget and the capital project that will arrive in your mailbox in the coming weeks.

2024-25 BUDGET: The \$129,056,416 proposed budget for the 2024-25 school year reflects a 3.27% tax levy increase, the total amount of local taxes that support the budget is within the allowable limits set by the New York State tax levy calculation, or “tax cap” as it is more commonly known. The school district has been operating within its calculated state tax cap every year since the cap was implemented in 2012. The budget shows an investment in teachers, instructional programs, student services, curriculum development, and instructional technology. All of which are critical to achieving the school district’s Priority Areas – Student Experience, Academic Excellence and Communication Connection, which were explained in the last newsletter and can be found at www.wcsdk12.org/district/mission. The budget also allows for increases in salaries and benefits due to contractual obligations and changes in enrollment, inflation for products and services like utilities and transportation, the September expiration of pandemic stimulus funding that will shift some staffing costs to the general fund, the new BOCES capital project and unfunded mandates by the state.

CAPITAL PROJECT: We are also very excited to present our proposed Capital Project to the voters this year. Providing a safe, healthy, and meaningful educational experience has always been a top priority of the school administration and Board of Education. This capital project is designed to enhance the physical and mental well-being of our students, faculty, and community as a whole through improvements to our educational, support, and athletic spaces. Our proposed capital project is intended to improve the academic environment for our students. The project encompasses several key components, including infrastructure, upgrades and renovations, health and safety measures, renovations to the pool area, enhancements to multipurpose fields, upgrades to heating systems, and improvements in security. For several years, our district has prioritized long-term financial planning that can support a capital project while minimizing the burden to our taxpayers. Through a combination of funds saved in the voter-approved capital reserve, bonding, and State Building Aid to cover a portion of eligible project costs.

Please be sure to vote on Tuesday, May 21st from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. in the High School Gymnasium.

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND TEAMS IN WORLD FINALS

Washingtonville High School and Washingtonville Middle School Odyssey of the Mind teams, who won in the state competition in April, advanced to the World Finals competition in Ames, Iowa on May 21-24! The teams will compete against international teams for a chance to win a gold medal. The WMS team is a Problem 3 team and competed against 19 other teams in states to place first. Problem 3 consists of students writing and performing original theatrical performances based on a work from classical literature, artwork, music, culture, or history. WHS is a Problem 4 team. This is their second year competing and winning in the state competition. One of the key factors of Problem 4 is "Structure," which requires team members to engineer something that can hold hundreds of pounds of weight. The structure, made of balsa wood, has to weigh only 15 grams. The team created a set to hold 596 pounds!



WCSD A BEST COMMUNITY FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

The National Association of Music Merchants organization (also known as NAMM) has recognized Washingtonville Central School District for their 2024 - Best Communities for Music Education Award. This national award is given to school districts for their outstanding commitment to music education. This is the 11th year in a row that Washingtonville CSD has received this honor. To qualify for the Best Communities for Music Education Award, WCSD answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. This award demonstrates Washingtonville's commitment to music education.

[Learn more here](#)



Music students honored at BOE meeting

Students were honored at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024, for their outstanding achievements in music beyond the classroom. Scholars who were recognized have participated in All-County, regional festivals as well as All-State Honors ensembles.

WHS Band Students Compose Concert Music

Junior Andrew Dahlstorm, and seniors Ryan Godfrey, Jack Carola and Ella Dueck all created their own compositions that will debut at the spring concert at 7 p.m. May 16 at Washingtonville High School. Come on out!



[Learn more here](#)

WHS STUDENTS CLOSE OUT MOCK TRIAL SEASON

The Washingtonville High School Mock Trial team defeated Port Jervis, Middletown, Warwick, and Monroe-Woodbury with two victories in the preliminary rounds, followed by victories in the quarterfinals and semi-finals of the countywide competition before falling in the final round in April.



"We are extremely proud and fortunate that this year we were able to have 22 students as part of our team," said Scott Lerner, one of the coaches for the team. "This number cannot be understated, as many times those in backup roles or research roles were called upon to step up to help us prepare. It has been clear that having this foundation played a big part in us being able to get back to the finals."

[Click here to read about the WHS 2023 - 2024 mock trial season!](#)

THE SPORTS PAGE: WIZARDS NATION

Congratulations to senior girls basketball player Kathryn Argenzio, who was recently named to the Basketball Coaches Association of New York Top 50 All-Star team.

In April, seven WHS students and one WMS student participated in the Special Olympics at West Point. Students competed in events including the 50-meter run, standing long jump, and javelin throw.

Congratulations to all athletes who were honored at the April 18 Board of Education meeting for their hard work and dedication throughout the Winter 2023-2024 season. Please view the presentation [here](#)



WIZARDS... LET'S GOOO!

Interested in joining a Summer Athletic Camp? Click on the links below for information on how to sign up

- [Girls Lacrosse Camp](#)
- [Wizard Tennis Camp](#)
- [Wizard Basketball Camp](#)



UPCOMING DISTRICT DATES

May 8

- Meet the Candidates night (hosted by Round Hill PTA)

May 9

- BOE work session (Budget Hearing and Capital Project Presentation)

May 16

- Voter registration (Last Day to Register to Vote)

May 21

- Budget and Capital Project vote

May 22

- Budget Adoption / Business Meeting

May 27

- Memorial Day - no school

May 28

- Wizard Wellness Expo

May 28-31

- Incoming Kindergarten screening

June 3

- Incoming Kindergarten Parent Orientation, 6 p.m. at Round Hill
- 2024-25 Universal Pre-kindergarten virtual lottery, noon

June 19

- Juneteenth - no school

June 25

- Last day of school

June 26

- No school for students - Superintendent's Conference Day

USEFUL LINKS

[District Website](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Little Britain Calendar](#)

[Round Hill Calendar](#)

[Taft Calendar](#)

[WMS Calendar](#)

[WHS Calendar](#)

