

# WHITESBORO

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## BLUE & WHITE WEEK HOMECOMING PARADE

On October 7, Whitesboro CSD gathered for a Homecoming Parade where they demonstrated their school spirit. Band students played their instruments, the cheer team waved their pom-poms as they chanted in support of the Whitesboro Warriors and others painted their faces with school colors. A football game followed the parade and spectators cheered the teams on.

Turn to page 11 for more photos!

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

### Dear Parents, Guardians and School Community Members:

We have had a very busy and productive beginning to our school year. As you can see in this issue, we have so much taking place in our schools; from academic and athletic achievements to the continued development and implementation of our Five-Year Plan; to forging new partnerships to assist and support students and families academically, socially and emotionally with strategies and programs to be fully engaged with our District.

We have made excellent progress on our Capital Project work. Some highlights include slate roof replacement at the Parkway School, athletic locker replacements at the high school, audio/visual upgrades to the middle school auditorium, facade work at Hart's Hill Elementary and the completion of the Wadas Field House at the high school. Additional information on our projects can be found on our website.

As you know, capital improvements are essential to providing the best opportunities for our students. Our District and Board of Education are committed to continued and ongoing improvements that address all facets of our District. While we have done extensive work in recent years, it is incumbent upon us to continually update and improve our facilities to meet the evolving needs of all learners. To that end, we have begun the process of identifying potential scope items for our next Capital Project. As was the case with the current project, there would be no tax increase associated with this new project. The work would be completely funded via state building aid and by leveraging our debt service schedule. You will hear more about this in the coming weeks.

With the holiday season nearly upon us, I would like to thank each of you for your commitment to our District and programs. Working together, we will continue to provide the best educational opportunities for our students. I wish you a wonderful holiday season and look forward to our continued collaboration in the new year.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Brian K. Bellair**

*Superintendent of Schools*



2023 PROPOSED

# CAPITAL PROJECT

Based on instructional and facility needs, the District is looking to complete a new Capital Project. The new proposed project would address work to be completed at each of our facilities. The identified scope of work for this project would address various electrical, mechanical and plumbing needs, as well as impactful work that targets improvements to instruction, athletics and the arts. The District would also experience health and safety improvements and upgrades.



# WHITESBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Below is a description of the New York State standardized terminology that the District is using during emergencies. Depending on the nature of the incident, the school will implement one of the following protective actions:


**S** **SHELTER-IN-PLACE**  
Used to shelter students and staff inside the building in the event it is safer inside the building than outside. For example, this response might be implemented in the event of severe weather.

**H** **HOLD-IN-PLACE**  
Used to limit movement of students and staff while dealing with short-term emergencies, such as maintenance issues or medical emergencies.

**E** **EVACUATE**  
Used to evacuate students and staff from the building. When an evacuation is necessary, students can be moved outside on school grounds or to a predetermined shelter site depending on the situation, such as in the event of a fire.


**L** **LOCKOUT**  
Used to secure school buildings & grounds during incidents that pose an imminent concern outside of the school.

**L** **LOCKDOWN**  
Used to secure school buildings & grounds during incidents that pose an immediate threat of violence in or around the school.



## BLUE LIGHTS

External and internal blue lights are used to inform students, staff, and visitors that the building is in Lockdown. The Lockdown may be a drill or in response to an actual emergency. Prominently posted signs regarding our blue emergency lights are located at each main building entrance. These signs advise all visitors to leave the campus if the lights are on. (Call the main office to confirm it is safe to return to the building in the event it was just a drill).



## EMERGENCY AWARENESS FOR PARENTS

**PREPARATION FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS:**

1. Make sure emergency contact information is correct: mailing address, phone numbers, and pick-up information. Your child will only be released to parents and persons identified on the emergency contact list.
2. Keep medical information and medications up to date with the school nurse.
3. Review the emergency response information with your child. Remind them to listen to their teacher/staff for instructions and to remain calm. Explain to them that they may be moved to a different location in the event of an emergency. Talking with your child ahead of time can help to ease anxiety and fear if an emergency occurs.
4. Keep alert. Report any suspicious behaviors or activities to school administration or law enforcement.
5. "See Something, Say Something!"

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY AT SCHOOL:**

1. If an emergency occurs, student safety is the first priority.
2. **DO NOT RESPOND TO THE SCHOOL UNTIL NOTIFIED TO DO SO.** Listen for further instruction. Monitor the District's school messenger system and the District's website for official information. Be accessible through the emergency phone numbers you provided to the school.
3. **Students will be held in school custody until the emergency has been declared safe.** If your child will be dismissed directly to your custody or the custody of persons identified on the emergency contact list, they must be signed out.
4. When picking up your child, ensure that you have proper identification with you. During an emergency, pickup procedures may be different and ID may be required to release your child.

## DISTRICT INFORMATION

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
(315) 266.3303  
(315) 266.3306

**DEERFIELD  
ELEMENTARY**  
(315) 266.3410

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
(315) 266.3200

**HART'S HILL  
ELEMENTARY**  
(315) 266.3430

**PARKWAY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
(315) 266.3175

**MARCY  
ELEMENTARY**  
(315) 266.3420

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
(315) 266.3100

**WESTMORELAND  
ROAD ELEMENTARY**  
(315) 266.3440

# COMMUNITY/LOCAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

## INFO - REFERRAL SERVICES

**MVCAA/Runaway and Homeless Youth Program**  
315.624.9930

**Neighborhood Center**  
315.272.2630

**Oneida County Dept. of Social Services**  
315.798.5804

## FOOD - CLOTHING - SHELTER

**Food Bank of Central New York**  
315.437.1899 or visit [www.foodbankcny.com](http://www.foodbankcny.com)

**Connected Community Schools**  
*Located in each elementary building*

**Evelyn's House**  
*Serves pregnant/parenting women ages 16-24*  
315.733.0236

**Housing Info & Referral Center**  
315.735.5246

**It Takes a Village Diaper Bank**  
315.841.8512

**Oneida and Herkimer County  
Department of Social Services**  
*HEAP, SNAP, medical assistance, rental assistance*  
315.798.5700 or 315.867.1291

**\*Rescue Mission**  
*Serves males 18+, 212 Rutger St.*  
315.735.1645

## WHERE TO GET A MEAL

**\*Hope House**  
*112 South St., Mon.-Sat.: 10-11 a.m.,  
12-1 p.m. & 4-5 p.m.; Sun.: 12-1 p.m. & 4-5 p.m.*  
315.793.3723

**\*Rescue Mission of Greater Utica**  
*201 Rutger St., Mon.-Fri.: 7-7:30 a.m.,  
12-12:30 p.m. & 4-4:25 p.m.; Weekend: 8-8:30 a.m.  
12-12:30 p.m. & 4-4:25 p.m.*  
315.735.1645

## COVID-19

**COVID-19 Therapeutic Locator**  
1.800.232.0233

**Oneida County Health Dept.  
COVID-19 Hotline**  
315.798.5431

**COVID-19 Hotline for Individuals  
Without Insurance** 888.873.2869

## SUPPORT SERVICES

**ACR Health: LGBTQ Support Group**  
315.475.2430

**Catholic Charities**  
315.724.2158

**Empowered Pathways**  
315.724.1718

**Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York**  
315.793.7000

**On-Point for College**  
315.790.5588

**The Salvation Army (Utica)**  
315.724.8736

**Underground Teen Center**  
315.733.7768

**Working Solutions**  
315.793.2229

## HEALTH: ADDICTION, COUNSELING & WELL-BEING

**Addiction Stabilization Center**  
315.735.1645

**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
315.732.6880

**Beacon Center**  
315.366.4100

**Behavioral Services**  
315.798.8868

**Center for Family Life & Recovery**  
315.733.1709

**Central New York Health Home Network**  
315.624.9670

**Clinton Therapy and Testing Center**  
315.859.1973

**Health Friends**  
315.724.0988

**Integrated Community Alternatives  
Network (ICAN)**  
315.792.9039

**Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center**  
315.738.3800

**Maria Horan and Associates**  
315.724.5344

**New Hartford Associates**  
315.765.0121

**Oneida County Dept. of Mental Health**  
315.768.3659

**Planned Parenthood**  
315.724.6146

**Resource Center for Independent  
Living RCIL**  
315.797.4642

**Samaritan Counseling Center**  
315.724.5173

**Utica Community Health Center**  
315.793.7600

## CHILDCARE

**The Neighborhood Center**  
315.272.2600

## OTHER SERVICES

**Affordable Connectivity Program**  
*(\$30 savings per month through Spectrum)*  
<https://www.fcc.gov/acp>

**Government Phone Program**  
[www.assurancewireless.com](http://www.assurancewireless.com)

**Initial Response Team (IRT)**  
*Located at the middle and high school  
(attendance issues/truancy)*

**Mobile Crisis Assessment  
Team (MCAT)**  
315.732.6228 or 1.844.732.6228

**Oneida County Child  
Advocacy Center**  
315.732.3990

**Oneida County Child  
Protective Services**  
315.798.5364

**PINS and Pre-PINS**  
*(Persons in Need of Supervision) for  
incorrigible and/or truant youth*

**For more information,  
visit [www.211midyork.org](http://www.211midyork.org)**

## HOTLINES

**American Pregnancy Hotline**  
1.866.672.2296

**Child Abuse Hotline**  
1.800.342.3720  
text "START" to 88788

**LGBTQ National Hotline**  
1.888.843.4564

**MVCAA Runaway and  
Homeless Youth 24hr Hotline**  
315.624.9930

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**  
988

**National Runaway Safeline**  
1.800.RUNAWAY

**NYS Domestic Violence 24hr Hotline**  
1.800.942.6906 or text 1.844.997.2121

**Teen Line**  
1.800.852.8336 or text "TEEN" to 839863

**YWCA Confidential 24hr  
Crisis Hotline  
(Domestic Violence)**  
315.797.7740

**In an Emergency - Dial 911**



## District Staff Participates in Ride for Missing Children

The Whitesboro Central School District is pleased to congratulate Brett Bostic, Teale LaBarbara, Sarah Linck, Kate Radell, Diane Sarus and Abbie Sutliff on participating and completing the 24th annual Ride For Missing Children on September 28.

The 80-mile journey started and ended at the Sauquoit Valley Middle School with four school stops along the way. The Ride For Missing Children continues to raise awareness of the plight of missing children, educate children and parents on child safety issues and raises funds to support the services of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) across New York and beyond. Congratulations to our Whitesboro riders and all participants who made this ride so successful.



## BLOOD DRIVE

On October 31, the Red Cross Club held a blood drive for students and staff. Many students volunteered their time and we had many first time donors.

The commitment to help save lives is truly appreciated and makes a difference in the lives of patients in need. We truly hope everyone had a great donation experience and will donate again when eligible.

The next blood drive will be held in March 2023.



## Outstanding Educators Awarded

The District is proud to inform you that the following Whitesboro staff and administration members were selected by the Genesis Group as Outstanding Educators for the 16th Annual Celebration of Education.

### MICHAEL DEUEL

Retired Director of Health,  
Physical Education and Athletics

### KIM NEWTON

Marcy Elementary Principal

### MICHAEL SPOST

Middle School Assistant Principal

### SUE ELLEN WILLIAMS

Middle School Art Teacher



A dinner and award presentation will take place on Thursday, November 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Hart's Hill Inn. Congratulations to our award winners on this outstanding accomplishment!

## Whitesboro Student Named Commended Student in the 2023 National Merit® Scholarship Program

On September 19, Principal Jeffrey Kuhn announced that Ayush Patel has been named a Commended Student in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2023 competition by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

"Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our Nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

Congratulations, Ayush!



Clear nights are sometimes a rarity in upstate New York. Mr. Eramo and some of his physics students decided to take advantage of the good weather recently and throw a "star party." Students met behind Wadas field, Mr. Eramo brought his telescopes and binoculars and together they looked at various stars, the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn.

Students discussed the physics behind the operation of the telescopes and binoculars, were taught how to operate them and then had a really fun time spotting objects in the night sky all on their own. There was a great turnout in which many of the students got their first real exposure to the celestial giants in our night sky!

### TEACHER FEATURED IN NOVEMBER 2022 EDITION OF TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING TEACHER



First-year Whitesboro High School technology teacher Mr. Cameron Ott is featured in the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association November 2022 edition of Technology and Engineering Teacher. Read the full story on our District website.



## Warrior Welcome Day

On September 29, the high school hosted a Warrior Welcome Day in the library during periods five through seven. All transfer students were invited to attend during their specified lunch periods and lunch was provided for students and staff. Each new student received a welcome gift bag and informational stations were set up. Here's to a great school year!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL "GOES GOLD"

Amazing Gracie's Gift Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization created in memory of Gracie M. Lawton, a 21-month-old who fought cancer courageously before losing her battle in January of 2012. In an effort to keep her memory alive, Amazing Gracie's Gift Foundation was formed to help children and their families who find themselves in the same terrible situation.

On September 30, Whitesboro Middle School Campus held a dress down day and wore gold to show their support.



## ELA, Social Studies, Art and Science Co-Curricular Unit on Greece

In May, Mrs. Dote's sixth grade science class began their weather unit by studying lightning. The students were reading "The Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan in their English class and learned to create lightning using static electricity.

To further enhance the Greek experience, social studies classes researched ancient Greek culture and mythology. Each student studied a specific element of Greek mythology to prepare a proper research project relevant to the concepts and characters presented in "The Lightning Thief."

Students in art created their own Greek vases using paper mache, creating their own Greek design or basing their project upon a Greek God or Goddess.

"The Lightning Thief" charts the reader on an odyssey of hope, adventure and growth. Through the synthesis of the NEXTGEN standards, ELA students demonstrated their expertise in writing and reading skills such as the identification of character traits, theme and literary elements.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTS 62



Whitesboro Middle School held its Fifty-Seventh National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Induction Ceremony on Oct. 27, and 62 new members were inducted.

Congratulations to each of the new NJHS inductees, and thank you to all of the teachers, administrators and parents who have supported these students and helped to prepare them for this accomplishment and celebration.



SCAN HERE FOR THE LIST OF INDUCTEES

## EMOTION INTO Art



On Oct. 27, students gathered together to watch as Tom Varano, a speed painter, used interesting techniques such as fingertips, palms and multiple brushes to paint custom portraits and famous faces on a four foot by five foot canvas to convey messages through his work. Varano's emphasis was to teach students how to use their emotions to create art.

"The Emotion Into Art™ performance is described as taking my audience through an amazing journey of excitement, suspense, motivation and surprise. My ability to captivate my audience and share the experience of color, music and action, brings everyone into the world of art, inspiration and creativity."



# NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH



October was National Bullying Prevention Month. On October 19, students, teachers and faculty members of Deerfield Elementary School wore orange to raise awareness, showing their determination to unite the nation in kindness, unity and inclusion for all. Each classroom also made posters to visibly show how to demonstrate kindness towards others.

To coincide with Unity Day, students participated in a poster contest held by Connected Community Schools. Each classroom designed an anti-bullying poster to demonstrate students' commitment to ending bullying, and their ideas were truly impressive!

October 3 was "World Day of Bullying Prevention" and Hart's Hill Elementary School united together to show their spirit by wearing blue shirts to help bring awareness to bullying prevention around the world. Each classroom chose a message from Jared Campbell's lyrics and created signs to line the loop behind the school for the annual bullying prevention walk!

Also, each day of the month in October, students from every grade level participated in daily announcements to bring awareness and to learn ways to become part of the change to help stop bullying!



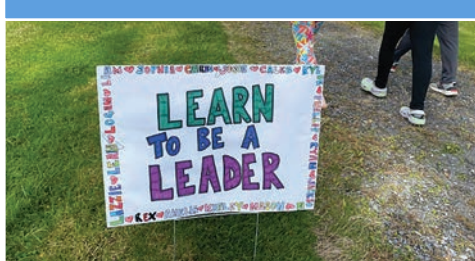
*Jared Campbell*

Jared Campbell is an award winning singer/songwriter from upstate New York and has been traveling the country performing for thousands of people and hundreds of schools over the past decade. He reaches his audience through music with songs he's written about some of the most crucial elements to living out your life with purpose. His message focuses on overcoming obstacles, anti-bullying, respect, leadership and having an amazing outlook on life.

Jared makes regular visits to Hart's Hill Elementary School and recently visited Marcy Elementary School to share his message and encourage positivity! As Jared Campbell performs, the students in the audience actively participate by singing, dancing in their spots and even playing the air guitar!



## BULLYING PREVENTION WALK





# FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



As a part of Fire Prevention Week, members of Maynard Fire Department visited Marcy Elementary School students with their apparatus and equipment on October 14.

Students got to learn about the gear and equipment needed by firefighters, go inside a firetruck, safely navigate their way through an inflatable "smokehouse" and practice what it would be like to jump through a window-like structure if needed to exit safely during an emergency situation.

Thank you to the Maynard Fire Department for taking the time to teach fire prevention and safety to the students in the Whitesboro School District!

**Big Apple Crunch** 

Hart's Hill faculty, staff and students sampled apples during the Big Apple Crunch event on October 27. Thank you to our Food Service Department for coordinating the event and to our local orchards for supplying apples for us to enjoy!



## Utica University Hockey Players Read to West. Rd. First Graders

On October 5, the Utica University Hockey players visited Westmoreland Road Elementary School to read to the first grade classes. Students were excited to see the players and were given a book and free hockey tickets to a Utica University home hockey game!



# POTATO HILL FARM

*Field Trip*

On October 19, Deerfield Elementary School fifth grade students went on a field trip to Potato Hill Farm in Boonville, arranged by the physical education teachers Mr. Destito and Mr. DiMaggio. Students were able to hike the trails, feed and experience the many animals and surround themselves with nature. They were led on a very informative guided tour, where the Potato Hill coach talked about the variety of trees, the importance of mushrooms growing from trees, different types of animals, identification of animals based on markings left and many other incredible things! The students had a wonderful time and truly enjoyed the trip.



## WEST. RD. Crazy HAIR DAY



# MARCY

ON THE MOVE



Marcy on the Move kicked off at Marcy Elementary on October 5! Students in grades 3-5 were very excited to join and participate in the after-school program. Marcy students worked on building their endurance and fitness while having fun and even doing dance fitness! We will end our fall session with a fun run.







# GYMNASTICS

## SENIOR NIGHT

The Whitesboro girls varsity gymnastics team celebrated their Senior Night on October 8 against East Syracuse Minoa. Congratulations to Emma Fasolo, Delaney Jennings and Kiara Khamdavanh. They also celebrated their night with two other seniors from local schools that train and travel with the team. We will miss this terrific group of girls that have brought leadership and dedication to our team!

# HOMECOMING PARADE PHOTO GALLERY





65 Oriskany Boulevard, Whitesboro, New York 13492

**Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Brian K. Bellair

**Board of Education, 2022-2023**

Mr. Michael Head, *President*

Mr. Brian McQueen, *Vice President*

Mr. Steven Farr

Dr. Jonathan Henderson

Mrs. Cheryl LaValley

Mr. Thomas Schoen, Jr.

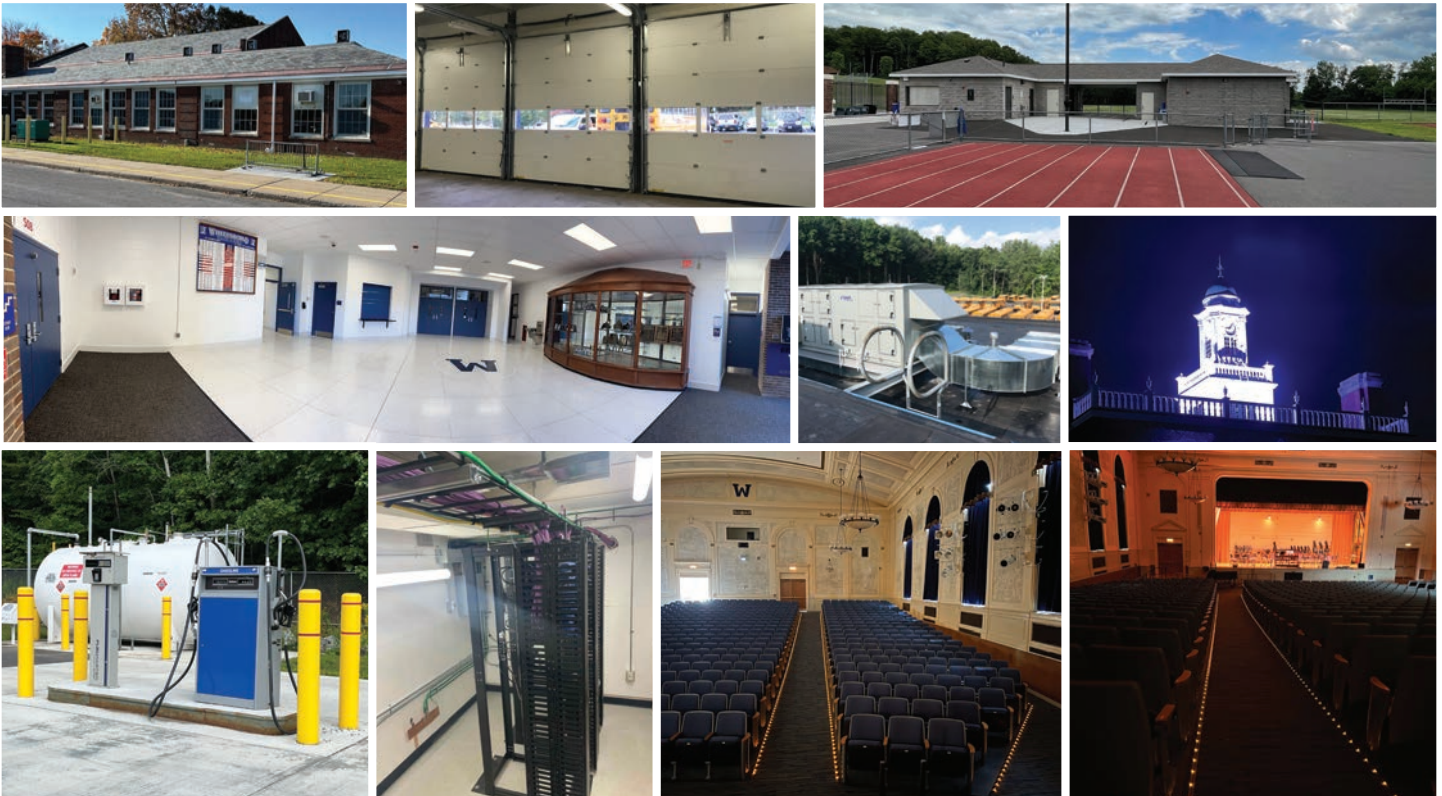
Dr. Steven Szatko

**Postal Patron  
Local**

Non-Profit Organization  
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Whitesboro, New York  
Permit No. 18

The Whitesboro Central School District Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m., unless noted otherwise. Meetings are held at the Administration Building at 65 Oriskany Blvd. in Whitesboro, or at one of the school buildings in the District. Visit [www.wboro.org/boemeeting](http://www.wboro.org/boemeeting) for the complete meeting schedule.

**CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE**



As we near the completion of the 2020 Capital Project, above are images of some of the work that has been accomplished over the last several months. This includes work on the Parkway roof, transportation facility, Wadas Athletic Complex, high school gym entrance lobby, middle school clock tower, fueling station, instructional technology and middle school auditorium.