

Let Every Voice Empower



# NEWSLETTER 24-25

## SEPTEMBER

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### September 2024 Monthly Report

September 2024 Enrollment Data

Enrollment-86 (9/25/24).

New Students-23.

Disenrollments-2 (1 GED & 1 moved out of state).

Emergency Drill-9/19/24 (Active Shooter).

Fire Drill-9/10/24.

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### *A Message From The Principal*

As the principal of Hillcrest Academy South Campus (HAS), I would like to welcome everyone back to the 2024-2025 school year. We are excited to implement our district theme "Let Every Voice Empower!" With this in mind, HAS started a student-led AV Media Club as well as reintroduced our Student Council. We look forward to see what our students will create this year. At your convenience, please review our newsletter for all the exciting news we would like to share with you.





# September Important Dates

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Labor Day	3 Welcome back Faculty & Staff!	4 Professional Development	5 Professional Development	6 Welcome back Students!	7
8	9	10 National Suicide Prevention Day	11 9/11 Memorial Red/White/Blue Spirit Day	12	13 School Colors Spirit Day	14
15 Hispanic Heritage Month begins	16 Rock the Vote Registration begins	17	18 Genesis student/parent portal goes active	19	20 Fall Colors Spirit Day	21
22	23	24 First Department Meeting	25	26 Back to School Night	27 Hispanic Heritage Month Spirit Day/ Movie Day	28
29	30					

## 8/22/24 New Student Orientation

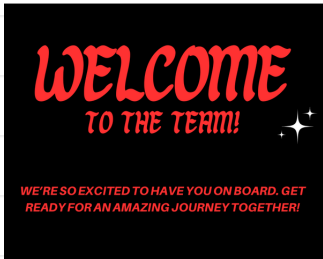
The New Student/Family Orientation provided individuals to meet with staff, tour the school, and complete required paperwork before school officially began! HAS also contacted potential students and families to attend this event in order to conduct their interview.

## New To The HAS Family!



### Mr Shandroff

Mr Shandroff has become a member of the HAS family as a leave replacement for English. In getting to know our new English teacher, we have learned a few interesting facts about Mr Shandroff:



### Miss Pradel

Ms Pradel is also new to the HAS family and is the new TA at HAS! In getting to know her, we have learned a few interesting facts about Ms Pradel:  
- She is Haitian American

- Spoken Word Poet & Hip Hop Artist
- World Traveler & U.S. Hip Hop Cultural Ambassador
- Graduated from Kean University for Radio, TV & Film and took the alternative route to teaching
- Has 3 dogs he loves to play with and 12 fish
- for fun he enjoys football, basketball, ping pong, chess, reading, gym, sauna, movies, hiking, nature, and drawing

- She is in nursing school to be a be a school nurse
- loves to travel
- attended Catholic school her whole life
- used to play basketball, volleyball ,and cheerleading

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## *Student of the Month*

### **September - Ashley**

Congratulations to Ashley for being our overall Student of the Month! She has worked hard and been very dedicated in her classes to receive this honor. Keep up the excellent work!



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## *Faculty "Getting to Know You"!*

### **Mrs Flores' Favorites**

Favorite movie: Breakfast at Tiffany's  
Favorite food: Baked Salmon with vegetables  
Favorite color: Lilac & Pink  
Favorite book: Diana  
Favorite travel spot: Lisbon in Portugal  
Favorite tv show: I Love Lucy  
Favorite exercise: Body Balance, Kickboxing, Dance



# *"Let Every Voice Empower" Teacher Recognitions*

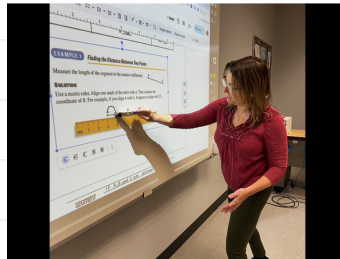
## **September - Listen**

Kicking off our district theme of "Let Your Voice Empower", teachers are awarded pins in different areas of empowerment. As role models for our students, it is important to be an example of what empowerment looks like and how we can empower others to do the same.

This month is about Listening. The faculty/staff picked for this honor have shown what it means to listen; not only listening to our students but our fellow faculty and staff as well! Congratulations!



**Mr Shandroff**



**Mrs Ferrari**



**Mr Whitehead**

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## **Bedazzlement!**

Dr. Balsamello has stated that the staff at HAS, once again, are the best in his career. With that said, it has been difficult to identify specific individuals for recognition since everyone goes above and beyond for our students and to assist HAS. However, this month Ms. Fernandez-Siejack (who earned a beloved Advocado pin) has produced a wonderful Newsletter and Ms. Vlastaras (who earned a ? pin) organized and facilitated the Hispanic Heritage Cultural Incentive Movie day. Thank you both and thank you all for your hard work and dedication!

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## *Teacher's Corner: Mathematics*

### **Mrs Ferrari - Algebra 1 & Geometry**

Algebra 1 and Geometry students have been productive in completing their assignments on the fundamentals of Mathematics. Lessons and worksheets have been prepared from the abundant materials I have acquired through the years. The students in the classes are engaged and are provided with immediate feedback on what they know. The class is also creating a pamphlet about the fundamentals of mathematics, so that they can use it as a reference as we delve further into the concepts of Algebra 1 and Geometry.

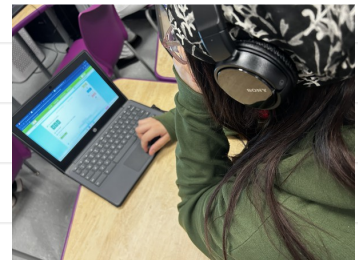
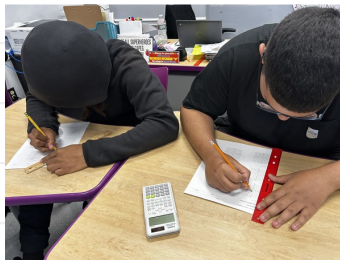
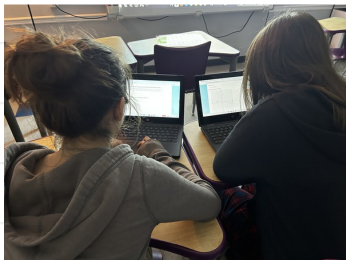
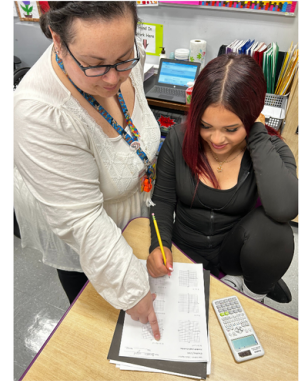






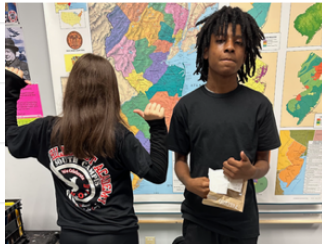
## Mrs Fern - Algebra 2 & Probability/Statistics

The beginning of the school year is usually review time in Mrs Fern's classes. Coming back from summer vacation, students were able to get back into the swing of things before diving deeper into Algebra 2 and Prob & Stats. In Algebra 2 students reviewed solving multi step equations in preparation for working with linear equations. Students learned how to write the equation of a line with various pieces of information given (Slope and point, two points) before graphing those linear equations which will lead to graphing quadratic equations. In Probability and Statistics Students reviewed basic arithmetic skills especially with fractions. From there they learned what an outcome is which lead to finding the probability of events. Students then learned the difference between Theoretical and Experimental Probability before learning compound probability.



## School Spirit Days

Every Friday, HAS hosts a spirit day for staff and students to celebrate different holidays/events that are happening. Staff and students dress up according to the theme of the spirit day and any student that participates gets invited the following week to the cafe at Westlake.



9/11

School Spirit

Fall Colors



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## *The Beginning of Hispanic American Heritage Month*



### **Where are you from?**

Students were able to represent their heritage during Hispanic Heritage Month by wearing the attire of their countries with so much pride. Our hallways were filled with shirts from South America, Central America, Mexico, The Caribbean, and even Spain and Portugal!

### **Sombreros de los países**

Our amazing Spanish teacher Mrs Flores has gotten the ball rolling on Hispanic Heritage Month in her classes by having students decorate and color hats in the style of Hispanic/Latino flags! Definitely a unique and creative way to celebrate the varieties of cultures that celebrate this month proudly.

### **Movie Day!**

HAS had our celebration movie day about Hispanic/Latino culture. Students earlier in the week filled out a survey to pick from the following list of movies:

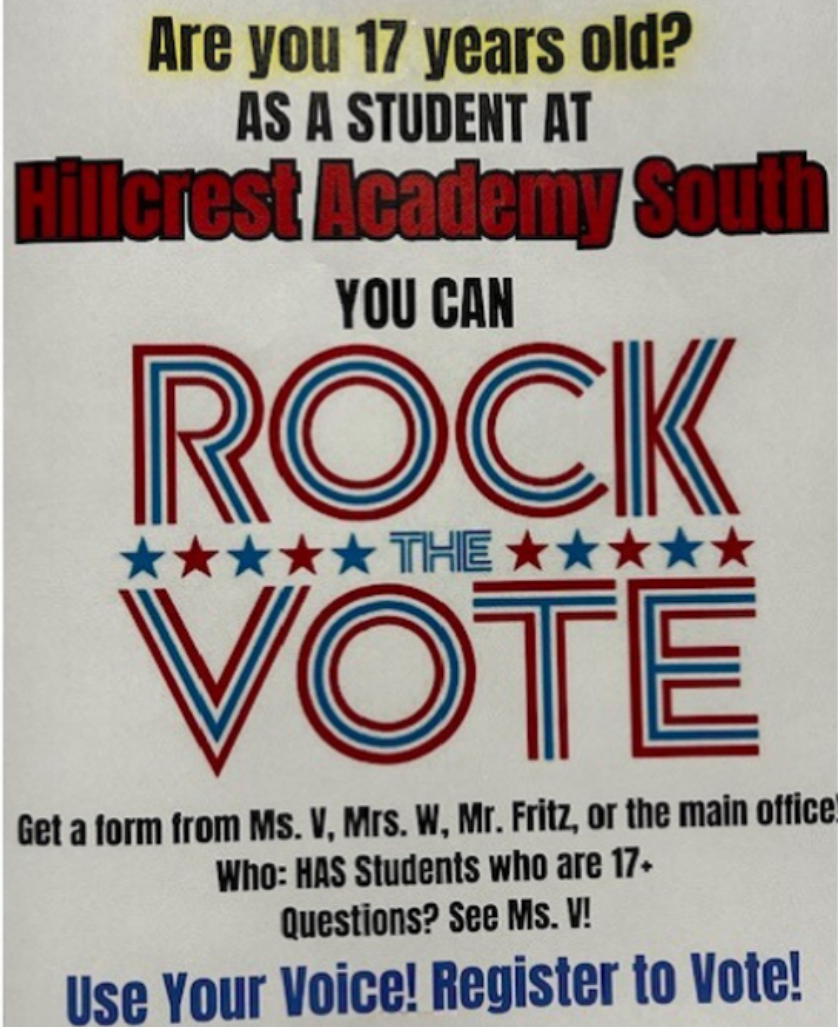
- *Coco*
- *Selena*
- *Encanto*
- *In The Heights*
- *McFarland USA*

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## *Rock the Vote*

Rock the Vote has begun and students are really interested in signing up to vote. Democracy is not a spectator sport. It requires continual work to protect it and keep it strong. And the best way to protect and strengthen our democracy is to participate in it!

**YOUR VOICE MATTERS!**



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## *Students Outside of School*

### **AV**

Diego is very much into A/V Media Video Editing and because of this passion he has started a brand new A/V club right here at HAS! His love of editing videos began in 2021. It was towards the end of quarantine and everyone around Diego was making YouTube and gaming videos. His friends encouraged him to get into A/V saying "make a video man, we're all doing it and it's easy". So one day, he booted up Premiere Pro and learned by playing around with it. His encouraging friends also gave him some helpful tips. Diego has learned to edit videos, photo editing, and filming videos which include camera usage, knowledge of camera angles and lighting. Doing A/V does have its challenges, but Diego says that the finished product is well worth it!



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### **About Us**

Hillcrest Academy South is an alternative high school for students from the Elizabeth Public School District. Students are referred to HAS by their Elizabeth Academy guidance counselor and administration for an interview at HAS. We provide a small educational learning setting with opportunities to make up courses through our Credit Retrieval Program in a caring environment in order to meet Elizabeth's graduation requirements.

**Website:** [www.ucesc.org](http://www.ucesc.org)

**Instagram:** [ucesc\\_has](https://www.instagram.com/ucesc_has)

**Facebook:** [Hillcrest Academy South](https://www.facebook.com/HillcrestAcademySouth)

**Location:** [1571 Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, NJ, USA-Door 3B](#)

**Phone:** [908-233-9317](tel:908-233-9317)

**Visit us on Instagram**



**HAS Smore**

HAS is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



# HAN September Newsletter

September 2024

## Principal's Message

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Dear Hillcrest Academy North Campus (HAN) Students and Families:

Welcome back!

It was so wonderful to open our school doors a couple of weeks ago and see all our "superstars" enter into the building. HAN comes alive when we have our students back in action! All students have really made an effort to start off the school year right. They are attending school regularly, enjoying learning in their scheduled classes, completing their daily academic exercises, and adhering to our code of conduct especially regarding respect, technology, and health safety. There is such a sense of community in the building which adds to our positive school culture. Students and staff are feeling safe, supported, and empowered everyday which makes my job so rewarding! Keep it up, HAN!

Please feel free to contact our main office with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Marquet  
Principal



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# Upcoming Dates

October 3rd & 4th - No School - Rosh Hashanah  
October 14th - No School - Staff Development Day

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## Teacher Spotlight

### New HAN Staff

We welcome Ashley Walgren, Logan Castro, and Madeline Silva to our HAN family. They are our Social Studies teacher, Security Guard, and Science teacher, respectively. We are so happy they are here with us.



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## In the Classroom

## George Mojovich, Physical Education

In the month of September, in Physical Education class, we started discussing the rules and regulations of basketball. When the weather permits, the students go outside to Jerseyland Park, where they practice skills such as layups, free throws and 3 pointers. Students are actively engaged and cooperate well with each other.



## Jeremy Kaplan, Social Studies

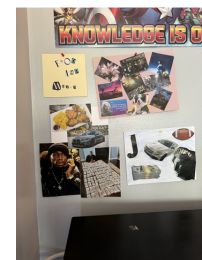
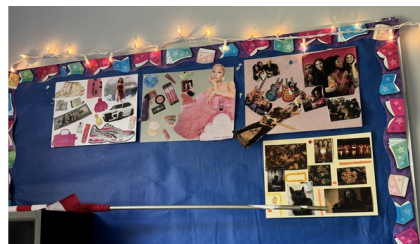
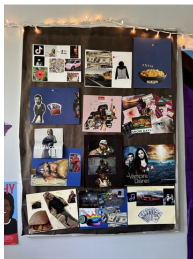
For US1 and US2 the school year started with students expressing their goals for the class. Students are often asked to do things without speaking on what they want from it. With this "goals" assignment, students are asked to determine what they want from our class. Students then put their goals in a set location for them to regularly check in on to see if they are on pace or if their goals have changed. Once that was determined the US1 students began breaking down primary source documents about the empires of pre-European America. Students in the US2 class broke down primary sources on the impact and reasons behind the "industrial revolution."



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## Self Reflection Collages

Students in Ms. Killeen's English class created posters to show who they were, their personality, and the things that were important to them. Her students were creative in their reflections, and proved how talented and self-aware they are.



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## STOPit Solutions

Students and staff were introduced to STOPit Solutions, a program that allows students and staff to report any concerns about unsafe, harmful, or inappropriate behavior to the HAN Safety Team. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to download the STOPit App onto their phones.





## About HAN



Hillcrest Academy North assists students from the Elizabeth Public School District in reaching their full potential by providing an alternative to the traditional high school setting. We offer smaller class sizes with a rigorous and challenging high school curriculum that is aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and prepares students for college and career. Our goal is to provide a safe, supportive, and empowering school

environment that fosters lifelong learning, mutual respect, creativity, and the joy of learning, with an effective, caring, innovative staff, in partnership with home and the community.

Mr. John Marquet, Principal

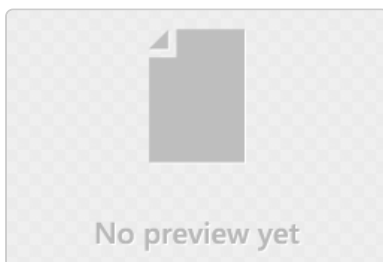
Mr. Thomas Van Cleef, Supervisor of Instruction

Location: [2630 Plainfield Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076](#)

Phone Number: (908) 233-9366

Website: [https://ucesc.org/schools/hillcrest\\_academy\\_north](https://ucesc.org/schools/hillcrest_academy_north)

**Visit Us On Instagram**



### Mission Statement

It is the mission of Hillcrest Academy North that all graduates have demonstrated the following attributes: Responsibility and accountability for themselves by routinely producing quality work through high academic standards now and in the future A sense of pride in who they are and what they can contribute as a

[ucesc.org](https://ucesc.org)



**John Marquet**

John is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters







# Lamberts Mill Academy

THE MILL



September 2024 Newsletter

*You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great*  
– Alex Simon Manorek

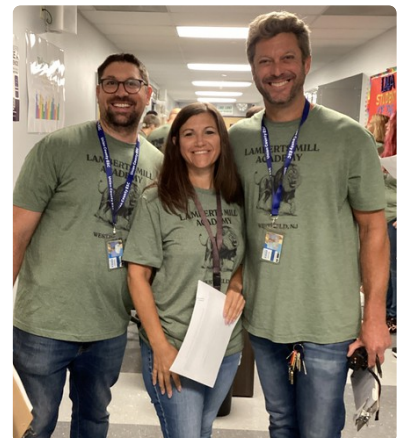
## Administrators' Message

### Welcome Back to the 2024-2025 School Year

Greetings,

Welcome back to another school year, as we complete the month of September at The Mill! We hope this newsletter finds you well, and that routines have been established with a smooth start of the school year! LMA has lots of great changes, and new staff to welcome as we start the school year. This summer we really spent time reflecting on the needs of the student population, and in an effort to continue improving the school climate, have made adjustments to our school schedule, and the way our therapeutic group sessions are implemented.

We are also excited to announce LMA now has a full time Guidance Counselor providing support and assistance to all LMA students in multiple areas. In addition to expanding with Guidance, LMA is now offering a new course called WIN (What I Need) to help support students academically outside of their core classes. Lastly, all students will work with an academic advocate monthly to



complete a Student Success Plan, a living document in which each student will complete and work on throughout the year that encompasses academic and therapeutic supports both inside and outside the classroom. While there is a lot of excitement, and change; LMA will continue to keep the academic and therapeutic needs at the forefront of each LMA student.

We hope everyone has had a great start to the school year, and we look forward to working with all of you this school year! As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Reed, Danielle & John

## LMA School Calendar for 2024-2025 Academic Year

### October 2024 Important Dates

- October 7-11 - Week of Respect
- October 14 - No School (Staff Professional Development)
- October 21 - Field Trip - Grounds for Sculpture
- October 28 - Field Trip - Gravity Vault



September '24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October '24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November '24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December '24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January '25

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2024-2025

District Calendar

Sep 2 Labor Day

Sep 3 - 5 Staff Development Day

Sep 6 School Opens (Students & Staff)

Oct 3 - 4 Rosh Hashanah

Oct 14 Staff Development Day

Nov 4 Early Dismissal (1pm)/Staff Development

Nov 7 - 8 NJEA Convention

Nov 27 Early Dismissal (1pm)

Nov 28 - 29 Thanksgiving

Dec 20 Early Dismissal (1pm)

Dec 23 - 31 Winter Recess

Jan 01 New Year's Day

Jan 13 Early Dismissal (1pm)/Staff Development

Jan 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Feb 17 President's Day

Mar 10 Early Dismissal (1pm)/Staff Development

Apr 18 - 25 Spring Recess

May 26 Memorial Day

Jun 19 - 23 Early Dismissal (1pm)

Jun 23 Last Day of School

Total Days for Students: 180\*\*

Total Days for Staff: 184\*\*

\*Three emergency days are built into the calendar.

Should extra days be needed they will be added at the end of the year.

If all emergency days are not used, the days will be reduced at the end of the year.

February '25

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March '25

April '25

May '25

June '25

Emergency Closing Information

☐ First/Last Day of School - Students

☐ School Closed - Holiday

☐ Early Dismissal

☐ School Closed - Staff Development

Approved 03/06/24

In the event of a delayed opening, all UCESC Schools and Programs will be delayed by 90 minutes.

\*Delayed opening, early dismissal and school closing announcements will be posted online at [www.ucesc.org](http://www.ucesc.org) and sent via the First Alert system.



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## Staff Spotlight

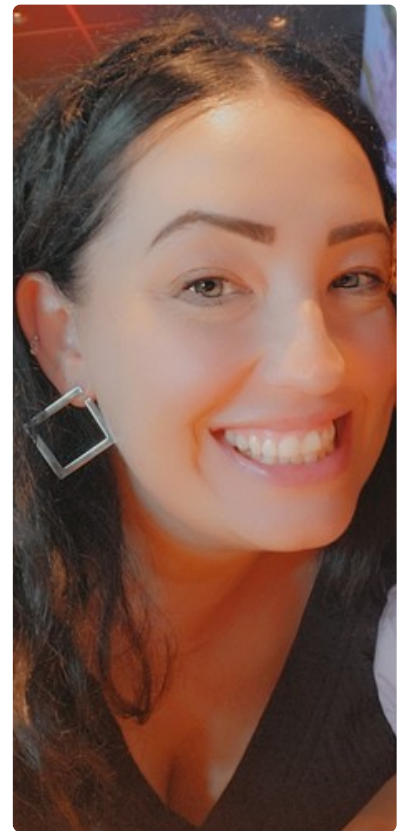
### LMA welcomes Ms. Floroff, our New Guidance Counselor

LMA is happy to announce the addition of Ms. Floroff, our new school Guidance Counselor at LMA. Below is getting to know Ms. Floroff on our personal level. We are excited for her to help support our older students in so many academic and SEL ways!

Prior to coming to LMA, I've been a mental health therapist for about 15 years. I've worked at residential facilities, an outpatient clinic, various school districts, and I've worked with children and families in their homes. I really enjoy helping students to achieve their goals, as well as work with students and their families to have successes!

Some fun facts about me:

- I've been on 4 different cruises, one of which was a 10 day cruise. It made 6 different stops. My favorite was St. Maarten.
- I love to complete escape rooms.
- My favorite food is sushi, but I like trying different types of food.
- As a kid, my favorite show was Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.
- My dream vacation is Bora Bora.

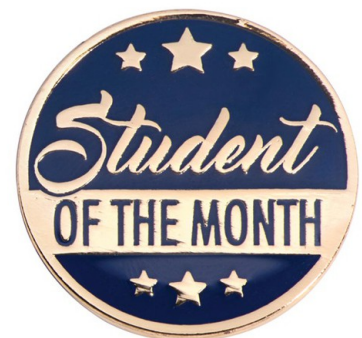


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## LMA Student of the Month - September 2024

### Jabari F.

LMA is proud to announce our September Student of the Month as 12th grade student, Jabari. He is no stranger to LMA, and received the most amount of staff votes for progress, growth and responsibility in the month of September. Coming back to The Mill after summer break, Jabari has been focused on his senior year, and transitioning out of high school. We hope Jabari can continue this great progress, and best support him for his future plans!



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## Classroom Spotlights



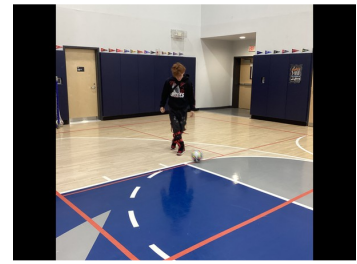
### **Ms. Schneider Blends 'Zones of Regulation' with Music**

Students started the school year infusing SEL into music. Using “The Zones of Regulation”, students discussed the various feelings in each zone and completed playlists for each zone, including one song to return to the calmer “green zone”. Throughout the year during our daily music appreciation time, students will hear a randomly selected song from a peer’s playlist and we will discuss what zone they think it reflects and why they feel that way. Additionally, students have been working on musical rhythms, time signatures, and sight reading rhythms as a foundation for their music theory skills.



### **Ms. Miller's Social Studies classes are off to a great start!**

Social Studies students spent time learning classroom routines and expectations before diving into course specific content. Middle School Social Studies started learning about Early Humans and how cave art was used to tell stories. Students created their own cave art paintings depicting “A Day at LMA.” World History students have been focusing on geography skills including identifying continents, oceans, and analyzing the importance of different landforms. Students created “Geography Landform Cubes” to hang around the classroom. US I History students have been learning about the early European explorers and the impact they made on Europe and the Americas. US II History students began studying the Industrial Revolution and how the boom in advanced inventions and technology influenced the 20th Century. Economics students have been studying the term Economics and how it impacts their everyday lives.



### **Updates from Mr. Peter's PE & Health Classes**

Students have been working hard In Physical Education to start the year at Lamberts Mill Academy. We began the school year with the Fitness Unit where students participated in multiple fitness activities. Exercises include yoga, pilates, cardiovascular training, strength training, and stretching. Students were introduced to all the new and exciting machines and equipment that were purchased over the summer. Students loved the variety and challenges faced during the activity and all enjoyed themselves. For Health we have started Unit 1: Health and Wellness and are discussing topics such as the health triangle, health risks and behaviors, and promoting health and wellness. Students will be creating comic strips in class focusing on strategies for avoiding risk behaviors spoken about in class.



5 ways to have a positive school year!

1. Follow school/classroom norms
2. Be kind and respectful to staff and peers
3. When you are having difficulties ask to speak to a trusted adult/staff member
4. Make attendance a priority
5. Celebrate achievements big or small



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## LMA 'The Mill' Merch

*Show your LMA Pride!*



The coveted LMA T-Shirt is still available for direct sale. Newly designed graphics on front and back, and a stylish army green color; this fresh, new LMA shirt looks like it would have been prominently displayed in the window of any Lord & Taylor department store!

If you would like to buy your own The Mill T-shirt, you can order directly from the Custom Ink below.



### Custom Ink Design 'lma24'

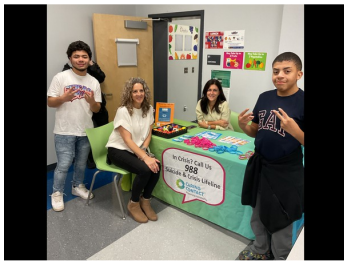
View this Custom Ink design, make changes, share it with friends, or order for yourself.

[customink.com](https://www.customink.com)

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## Learning Activities around LMA

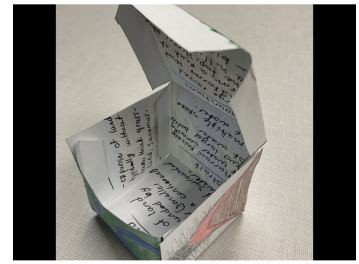




**Caring Contact Revisits  
LMA on 9/24**



**Problem Solving in  
Computer Science to  
make a boat float and  
hold pennies!**



**Geography Landform  
Cubes created in World  
History**

## Group Therapy

During the first month of the school year, we focused on self awareness and self management interventions. Students are beginning to acclimate to the LMA program, getting to know new students, and beginning to establish group norms and cohesiveness. Throughout our daily groups students have been working on team building, consequential thinking, goal setting, and processing their emotions.





## Students Outside of the Classroom / Alumni



### **LMA Graduate Tyshawn H.**

LMA Graduate, Tyshawn, class of 2021 has been busy working security at the Prudential Center in Newark. This job has been really special for Tyshawn, since he has the opportunity to work alongside former LMA Safety and Security Monitor, Mr. Bromell. The two of them had a special bond while Tyshawn attended LMA as a student, and now they continue to strengthen their relationship as they provide the Prudential Center with a safe and secure environment.

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## Upcoming Community Events

THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PRESENTS

2024 CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS



2024 CALENDAR  
OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER  
**16**

**FLAG RAISING**

4:45 PM  
UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
2 BROAD ST, ELIZABETH



**MOVIE NIGHTS**

THE BOOK OF LIFE  
6:30 PM • KAWAMEEH PARK  
DAVID TER & THOREAU TER, UNION

SEPTEMBER  
**27**



DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD  
4:30 PM  
WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
427 DARROW AVE, PLAINFIELD

OCTOBER  
**2**

OCTOBER  
**5**

**FAMILY FUN DAY**

2:00-6:00 PM, WARINANCO PARK  
IN CASE OF RAIN, THIS  
EVENT WILL BE HELD INSIDE  
WARINANCO SPORTS CENTER



**HISPANIC LEADERSHIP EVENT**

11:30AM-2:30PM  
FEATURING ANNA D. MARTINEZ  
DIRECTOR, NJ DIVISION ON WOMEN  
UNION COLLEGE OF UNION COUNTY  
CRANFORD



OCTOBER  
**10**

OCTOBER  
**12**

**MEXICO BEYOND MARIACHI:  
TREKKING MEXICO**

PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF RAHWAY  
3:00 PM • UCPAC, 1601 IRVING ST, RAHWAY  
TICKETS \$6 EACH • BUY ONLINE @ UCPAC.ORG



**HISPANIC  
ART EXHIBIT**

FEATURING COMMUNITY ARTISTS  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY  
10 ELIZABETHTOWN PLZ, ELIZABETH

**ALL  
MONTH  
LONG**

Follow [ucnj.org/hhm](https://ucnj.org/hhm) for more info or call (908) 527-4388

A SERVICE OF THE UNION COUNTY



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

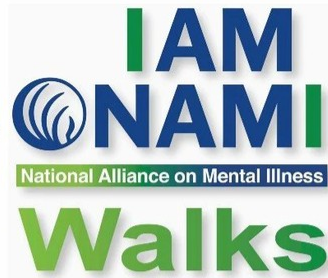
<https://ucnj.org/hhm/>



NAMI Walks  
New Jersey

Saturday,  
October 5 - 10AM

Middlesex College  
Edison, NJ



Learn more at  
[namiwalks.org/newjersey](https://namiwalks.org/newjersey)



<https://allevents.in/edison/nami-walks-new-jersey/80005746165084>



Essex County South Mountain Recreation Complex | 9 Cherry Lane, West Orange, New Jersey

[RWJBH.ORG/RUNNINGWITHTHEDEVILS](https://www.rwjbh.org/giving/rwjbarnabas-health-foundation/running-with-the-devils/)

<https://www.rwjbh.org/giving/rwjbarnabas-health-foundation/running-with-the-devils/>

Community Resources



# 988

SUICIDE  
& CRISIS  
LIFELINE

If you or someone you know  
needs support now,

**CALL OR TEXT: 988**  
**CHAT: 988lifeline.org**

*Talk with us.*



<https://988lifeline.org/>

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When your child is facing challenges to their functioning and well-being, finding the right services and support can be overwhelming.

If you have concerns about your child's mental health and/or are interested in learning more about what help is available, call

Performcare @ 1-(877)-652-7624

or visit

[www.performcarenj.org](http://www.performcarenj.org).



<https://www.performcarenj.org>

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<https://www.2ndfloor.org/>  
(888)-222-2228

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## School in the Community

1. Field trips to various locations
2. Monthly Community Meetings celebrating student awards.

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## About Us

### **Contact Information:**

*Phone:* (908)-233-7581

*Address:* 1571 Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, NJ, 07090

*Website:* [https://ucesc.org/schools/lamberts\\_mill\\_academy](https://ucesc.org/schools/lamberts_mill_academy)

*Instagram:* [https://www.instagram.com/ucesc\\_lma/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/ucesc_lma/?hl=en)

Lamberts Mill Academy is a school within the Union County Educational Services Commission. We are an out of district public school for students with psychiatric disabilities. We continue to partner with RWJ Trinitas Regional Medical Center to provide clinical services for our students. Our school community prides itself on our relationships with all stakeholders: students, staff, parents, families and community partnerships. Being a public school, we adhere to all NJDOE assessment and curriculum mandates. Our professional learning community strives to increase student achievement and improve classroom instruction to provide students with the most effective educational, social and emotional learning environment possible.



## LMA Smore

LMA is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



# Work Readiness Academy

September 2024 Newsletter

## Message from the Administration



To our WRA & Project SEARCH Community,

The new school year is here and we could not be happier to be back in session working with your children. We hope the first few weeks of the new school year are treating you and your family well. We know this can be a busy, and sometimes stressful season, as we all re-adjust to new schedules and routines. We have hit the ground running here at the WRA, catching up with former classmates and staff as well as getting to know all of the amazing new additions to our program this school year!

Later in the newsletter you will be introduced to some of our new staff at the WRA, but we do want to let you know that Nicole DellaVecchia, our new Social Worker, will be reaching out to all of our families to introduce herself over the first two months of the school year. Nicole will also be on hand for Back to School Night to share information about a new Parent Workshop Series we will be offering for the first time.

Our days this month have been focused on and filled with, self discovery, empowerment and team building. We have also been working on establishing an understanding of what our work together this school year will look and feel like. Students have been hard at work creating, exploring and discovering who they are today and who they would like to become in the future. Our classroom teachers have created engaging and innovative lessons for our students to practice their critical thinking, interpersonal skills, communication, and teamwork. Students have participated in a variety of hands-on work based learning assessments to help guide internship placements, as well as a variety of preference assessments to encourage and support that self advocacy and student voice be at the forefront of what we do each and every day. Our students have gained familiarity and confidence each day as they establish and practice their new routines and procedures. We cannot wait to watch them all continue to learn and grow this school year. We are honored to be a part of their unique and individualized journeys.

Our Work-Based Learning Experiences will be launching over the next two weeks. Each student will be assigned at least two internship experiences & will be placed in the community at least 3 days per week. We have sent paperwork home for parents/guardians to sign and return. Please keep an eye out for it. Our talented team of Teaching Assistants are looking forward to supporting our students in the field! Students at Project SEARCH have also started their first internship rotations! See more in our SEARCH update below.

We are confident this is going to be a successful year rich in learning and growth. We look forward to seeing our WRA parents and guardians at Back to School Night tomorrow night (Tuesday, October 1st) beginning at 6:30pm. Our building is located at 970 Suburban Road in Union (we are the school building next to the church).

Please enjoy the rest of this September edition of our newsletter.

Sincerely,

**Josh Bornstein, Director**

**Rachel Richer, Supervisor of Instruction**

**UCESC Work Readiness Academy**

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### Dates to Remember

**October 1, 2024** - Back to School Night, 6:30-8:00 PM

**October 3-4, 2024** - School Closed - Rosh Hashana

**October 14, 2024** - School Closed - Staff Development

**October 29-31, 2024** - Project SEARCH Employment Planning Meetings



### New Attendance Reporting Email!

In the event that your child will be absent, arriving late, or picked up early, **please send us an email at [AttendanceWRA@ucesc.org](mailto:AttendanceWRA@ucesc.org).**

You may also call our main number at (908) 633-2704. If it is before 8am, please leave a message.

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## *New School Year Snapshots*



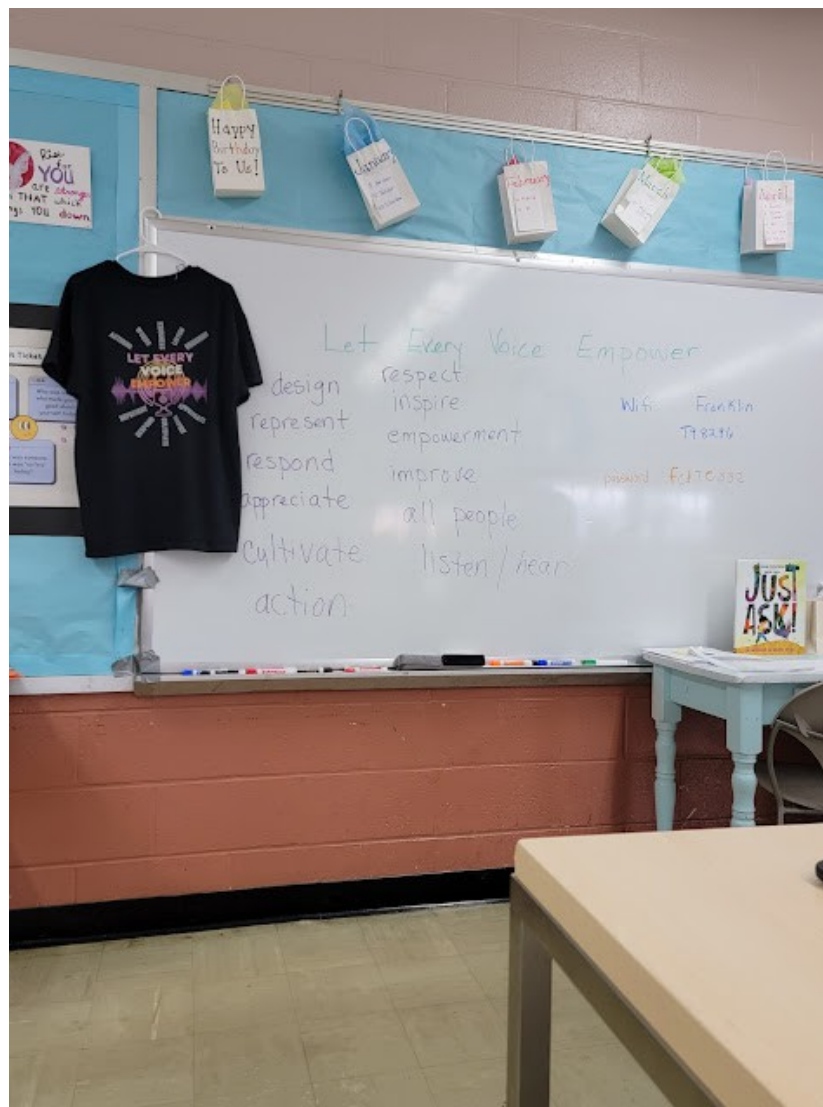
















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## *New WRA Staff*

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members for the 2024-25 School Year!

**Diane Blajsa**, School Secretary

**Nicole DellaVecchia**, Social Worker

**Carina Servello**, Teaching Assistant









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## *Project SEARCH*



The Project SEARCH interns the Class of 2025 have started their year-long journey at Overlook Medical Center in Summit! Lauren Yedvab, Overlook's Chief Operating Officer, stopped by to greet and welcome the students on behalf of the hospital's leadership team.

The first internship rotation started the last week in September and will run for approximately twelve weeks. This is the 9th Project SEARCH cohort at Overlook since the program first launched in 2016.











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## ***Pet Palooza Returns!***

We are thrilled to be able to offer a new series of Parent Workshops this school year. Please see below and save the dates! More specific information about each event will be sent home with students and via email. If you have questions or would like to register, please contact WRA Social Worker Nicole DellaVecchia at [ndellavecchia@ucesc.org](mailto:ndellavecchia@ucesc.org)

Back by popular demand, the WRA will once again be showcasing our pets on one of our bulletin boards during the month of October. If you have a pet at home and feel comfortable sharing a picture of your child with the pet, we would love for you to participate. Please email the picture to Sharlene McQuade at [smcquade@ucesc.org](mailto:smcquade@ucesc.org). Please also include the name of the pet!



Barks & Meows,

The WRA Bulletin Board Team

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2024-25

## PARENT WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

ALL WORKSHOPS BEGIN  
AT 7PM!

Wed  
Oct 16

### DDD SERVICES: **ONLINE!**

What is DDD and How Do I Apply?

Thurs  
Nov 14

### SSI & MEDICAID: **ONLINE!**

The Key to Unlocking Adult Services

Wed  
Jan 15

### "LIFE AFTER 21" PROVIDER FAIR **IN PERSON!**

Representatives from 21+ Programs  
will be in attendance

Wed  
Feb 19

### GUARDIANSHIP: **ONLINE!**

Is Guardianship right for my family?  
What options are available?

To register for any of the events above please email Nicole DellaVecchia at [ndellavecchia@ucesc.org](mailto:ndellavecchia@ucesc.org)



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## *Understanding Supported Employment Options Available AFTER Graduation*



# SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT IN NEW JERSEY

Supported Employment helps individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) secure and maintain **competitive employment**, or work in a setting to prepare for competitive employment. An individual's interests, likes, and dislikes are important factors when considering a job or career path.



## KEY TERMS

### Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Federal legislation signed in 2014 to help individuals access education, training, and support services to succeed in the workplace.

### **Competitive Employment**

Work performed on a full-time or part-time basis in an integrated setting that is compensated at or above minimum wage.

### Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)

The state agency which provides vocational services for individuals with IDD or other barriers to employment.

Check out our DVRS Go Bag: [bit.ly/DVRSGobag](http://bit.ly/DVRSGobag)

### "Employment First" State

An initiative that outlines that competitive employment is the preferred post-education activity. It presumes that all individuals, including people with IDD, are capable of integrated employment.

## EXAMPLES OF SERVICES

### • **Pre-Employment Transition Services**

- Offered to high school students to plan and prepare for entering the workforce.

### • **Job Development**

- Assists individuals with a job search, interview skills, and resume development.

### • **Job Sampling**

- Gives the individual the opportunity to explore different types of employment and identify areas of interest and ability.

### • **Job Coaching**

- Provides assistance with learning essential job tasks, transportation training, social skills, and can act as a liaison between the employer and employee.

### • **Long-Term Follow Along**

- Ongoing support through worksite visits designed to help individuals maintain skills built during job coaching.

### • **Trial Work Experience**

- A workplace readiness assessment administered by a Supported Employment provider agency, such as [Project HIRE](#).

\*This is not a fully inclusive list. Services may vary between agencies, school districts, and funding sources.

## REQUIREMENTS OF COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT

### Wages

Individuals are compensated at or above minimum wage, and at a comparable rate to coworkers without IDD performing similar duties with similar experience and education.

### Benefits

Individuals receive the same benefits as other employees in a similar position with a similar level of service.

### Scheduling

The schedule is determined by the needs of the employer, not the availability of the individual.

### Integration

Employment takes place in a setting where individuals with and without disabilities have the opportunity to interact and work alongside each other.

### Advancement

The same opportunities for promotion and advancement are available for employees with and without disabilities in similar positions with similar experience.

## NJ WORKABILITY

NJ WorkAbility offers people with disabilities who are working, and whose income would otherwise make them ineligible for Medicaid, the opportunity to receive full Medicaid coverage.

Through NJ WorkAbility, individuals can earn up to \$65,196 of gross annual income and maintain less than \$20,000 in assets without threatening their Medicaid status. A couple cannot exceed \$87,900 in gross income and \$30,000 in assets. Learn more about NJ WorkAbility and eligibility requirements at: [bit.ly/njworkability](http://bit.ly/njworkability)

April 2022



### Supported Employment Fact Sheet Final.pdf

Click the link to download the attachment

Download

641.9 KB

## Guardianship Resources

At 18 years old all individuals, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, reach the legal age of majority. This means that parents can no longer make decisions legally on behalf of their children. See the attached fact sheet from the Arc of New Jersey for more information about Guardianship and various alternative options.



### Updated Guardianship Fact Sheet (3).pdf

Download

107.0 KB

## *Spotted in the Community!*

Former WRA student Michael working as a prep cook this Fall at Applebee's in Union, New Jersey!



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## *Picture of the Month*

Some impromptu "Chalk Art" in the school parking lot during a break from the very talented Matt!





### About the Work Readiness Academy

The Work Readiness Academy serves students ages 18-21 with disabilities and provides a comprehensive employment training experience that incorporates both classroom-based instruction and community-based work-learning experiences. While in the training classroom, students work cooperatively with similar aged peers to learn critical skills related to employment and socialization. Students also work on career exploration and planning, including the development of a person-centered, post-secondary vision and plan with clear goals and action steps. Program staff remain on-site during the internships to provide and fade support and assistance as needed. Students also participate in field trips focused on career discovery, independent living skills, recreation and independent travel training.

For more information or to make a student referral, please email Josh Bornstein at [jbornstein@ucesc.org](mailto:jbornstein@ucesc.org)

**Email:** [jbornstein@ucesc.org](mailto:jbornstein@ucesc.org)

**Website:** [https://www.ucesc.org/schools/the\\_work\\_readiness\\_academy](https://www.ucesc.org/schools/the_work_readiness_academy)

**Location:** [970 Suburban Road, Union, NJ, USA](#)

**Phone:** [908-633-2704](tel:908-633-2704)



[Click Here to Visit the WRA on Instagram!](#)



**WRA Smore**

WRA is using S'more to create beautiful newsletters





# CROSSROADS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September 2024

## Message from the Administration

Dear Crossroads Families,

We are off to a fast start, and it's hard to believe that October is almost upon us! The school year has been full of excitement, and we're looking forward to all the activities we have lined up over the next month at Crossroads.



First and foremost, we want to remind you that Back to School Night is scheduled for **Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 6:00 - 7:00 PM**. From **6:00 - 6:30**, you will have the opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet their teachers. Then, from **6:30 - 7:00**, we will gather in the conference room to meet with the administration and discuss plans for the year ahead. We're excited to see everyone there!

Looking ahead to October, we will be celebrating the **Week of Respect** from **October 7 - 11**. Throughout the week, we will have spirit days and themed activities that focus on improving school climate, bullying prevention, and fostering kindness and respect across our community. Following that, **School Violence Awareness Week** will take place from **October 16 - 20**, with activities designed to promote a safe school environment. On these days we will focus our attention on conflict resolution, celebrating diversity, and teaching tolerance. October is also **Fire Prevention Month**, and we are excited to welcome the **Westfield Fire Department** to Crossroads on **October 18th**. The students will have the opportunity to explore the fire truck and learn about fire safety.

Lastly, we know Halloween is just around the corner on **October 31**! We will be sending out additional information soon with details about the day's festivities.

We look forward to partnering with you for another successful school year and appreciate your continued support.

Warm regards,  
Matt, Danielle, and Stacey

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## Upcoming Dates

**September 26, 2024** - Back to School Night (6:00PM - 7:00PM)

**October 3-4, 2024** - School Closed - Rosh Hashanah

**October 7-11, 2024** - The Week of Respect

**October 14, 2024** - School Closed for Students - PD Day for Staff

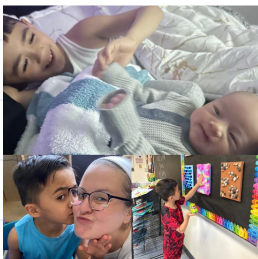
**October 16-20, 2024** - School Violence Awareness Week

**October 18, 2024** - Fire Truck visit to Crossroads School

**October 31, 2024** - Halloween (information to be sent home soon)

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## CROSSROADS STAFF AND STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



### Student of the Month - Logan

Room 103 is excited to start off the 2024-25 school year honoring our student of the month, Logan P!! Logan has been in Miss Allison's since July of 2023 and we could not be more proud of how far he has come in that short amount of time! Logan is a silly ball of energy that brings joy to our class each and every day. He thrives on movement and loves to parkour any chance he gets! In the last few months he's had some big life changes like moving and welcoming his new baby brother, Mateo! He hasn't let these events slow down his progress in focus areas like functional and group skills. Logan's favorite learning activities include Art, Cooking and exploring the OT Room. We can't wait to see what our little love-bug will achieve this school year!



### Staff Spotlight - Lynn Ferrante - School Nurse

#### 1. How long have you been working at the commission?

I've been at Crossroads for 9 months.

#### 2. What would we be surprised to find out about you?

It may be a surprise to hear that, prior to my present nursing job, I worked in graphic design and photojournalism. I spent two years doing mission work in Mexico and nine months living in a homeless shelter in Brooklyn to document powerful, real-life experiences that



demonstrated the need for assistance and action. My job did not end with photography; my photographs were published, used in public awareness and marketing efforts, and eventually helped children find better lives and opportunities.

### **3. What is your dream vacation?**

Traveling to Tibet is my ideal vacation destination because it is a holy land full of revered temples and monasteries. For a brief time, I would want to live in a monastery to regularly practice meditation, chanting, and mindfulness. It would be a transformative journey, a life changing adventure to detach from the outside world.

### **4. What is your favorite meal?**

My favorite meal is any meal that I don't have to cook; a meal where I can just sit down and enjoy without all the effort of cooking and cleaning up.

### **5. What is your greatest accomplishment?**

My greatest accomplishments are my kids! As a parent, raising children is one of the most rewarding yet challenging experiences. It's about nurturing, teaching and guiding them through life, providing a stable and loving environment so they can grow to their fullest potential. Each milestone—whether it's their first steps, school achievements, or simply the way they develop into compassionate individuals—reflects the love and effort I've put into being their support system.



## **Staff Spotlight - Daniel Figueroa - Teacher's Assistant**

### **1. How long have you been working at the commission?**

I've been working with crossroads since January of 2023.

### **2. What would we be surprised to find out about you?**

I enjoy playing video games.

### **3. What is your dream vacation?**

My dream vacation would have to be Santorini, Greece.

### **4. What is your favorite meal?**

2 amazing chicken sandwiches, 1 amazing burger, and a side of some amazing mac n cheese!

### **5. What is your greatest accomplishment?**

My daughter is my greatest accomplishment.

## Ms. Peggy's Classroom

We hope you had a wonderful summer break! The preschoolers in 102 have been busy establishing daily routines to help them feel comfortable and secure. A major component of our routine is developing Activities of Daily Living (ADL) skills. These essential skills include tasks such as dressing, unpacking personal belongings, feeding, toileting, and personal hygiene. Learning these skills fosters independence and confidence.



Another part of our daily routine is morning circle time. Our circle time integrates language development, socialization, conceptual learning, fine and gross motor development, cognitive skills, attention span and focus, cultural and diversity awareness, and emotional development into a fun, structured, and engaging daily routine.

Sensory exploration is a fundamental part of our classroom curriculum. The students have had opportunities to engage with different textures, sounds, and sensory experiences tailored to their needs. This helps build sensory awareness and regulation skills crucial for learning and everyday life.

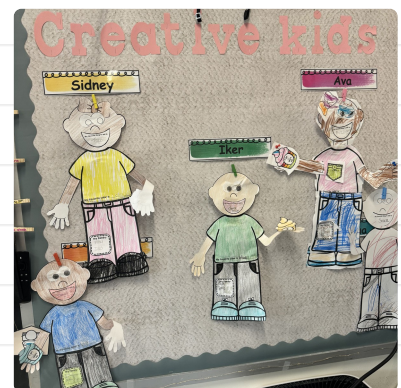
Play is an essential part of our preschool day. Through play-based activities, the students are learning social skills, problem solving, and creativity. The preschoolers are encouraged to play cooperatively, and they are provided a variety of stimulating activities to foster growth in all areas of development.



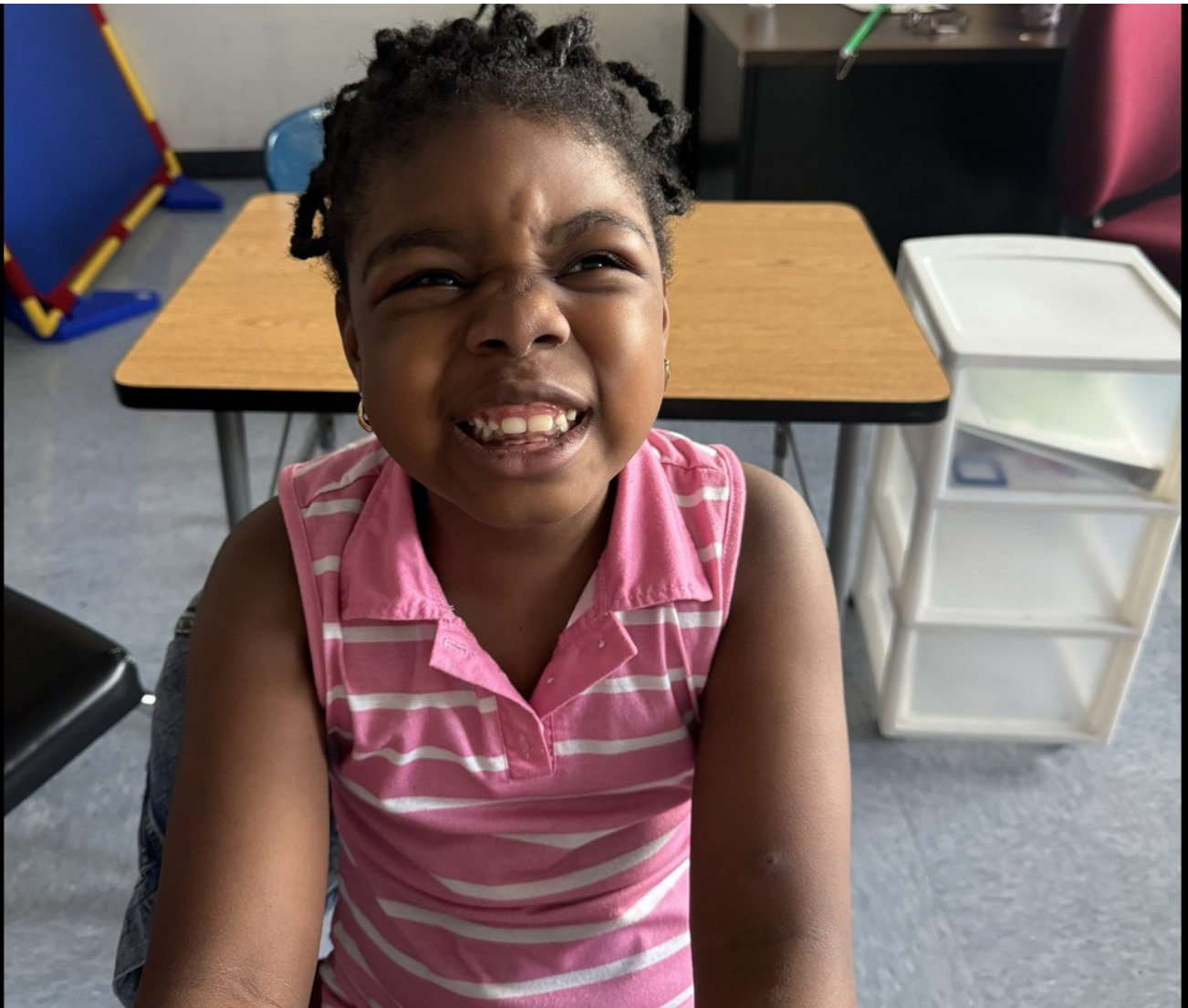


## Ms. Anna's Classroom

Happy September! We are having a great time getting to know our staff and students in room 108. Our students, Ava, Sidney, Joshua, Jose and Iker are adjusting well and getting to know the classroom routine. Our team in our room is Leo, Kim and Karen. We are getting to know our students by doing an All About Me Projects to learn what our students favorite things are. We also would like to introduce a new student to the school Iker. He is a great addition to our classroom. We are looking forward to a great school year with everyone!







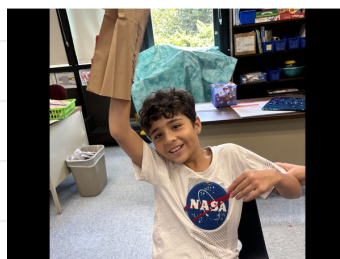
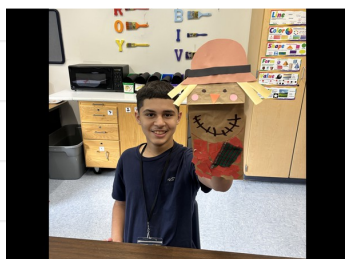
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**SPECIALS SPOTLIGHT – MS. GRACE – ART**



Welcome back to Art with Miss Grace! I am super excited to kick the year off focusing on back-to-school and the start of fall crafts! We have changed art rooms, but the students have been working hard to transition into the new space while staying CRAFTYYY as ever! They continue to work on their fine motor skills by practicing cutting, ripping, gluing, and drawing. I can't wait to see all they create this year!

*As a reminder, although we use temporary paint, art can get messy! Please consider sending in an old t-shirt to use as a smock during our painting days. I do supply some disposable smocks, but it would be greatly appreciated to have a more permanent solution so your kids can be limitless with their creativity!!!*





## Flu Season is Here!

The period of time when the influenza virus is most contagious is commonly referred to as "flu season" which typically starts in October and peaks between December and February. Getting the flu vaccine is the first step in protecting yourself. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has designated Oct. 5 as the start of flu season and say most people should get vaccinated between mid-September and late October.

NJ law mandates that children 6 months up to 5 years old attending school shall annually receive at least one dose of influenza vaccine between September 1 and December 31 of each year. So, Crossroads will need documentation for students 5 and under indicating that they received the flu vaccine. Please contact your child's physician as soon as possible to schedule an appointment and forward the documentation to the School Nurse.

And here's just some simple tips to help stay healthy this flu season:



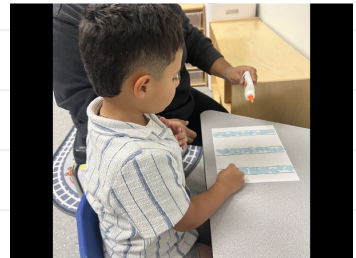
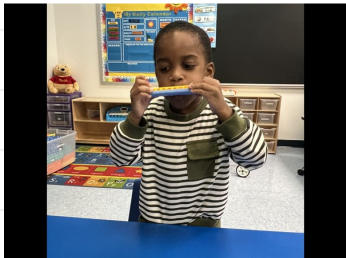
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## SEPTEMBER AT CROSSROADS



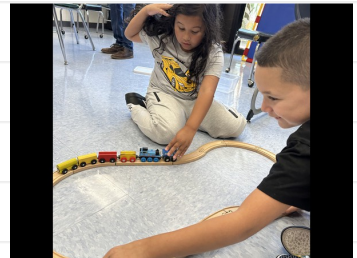






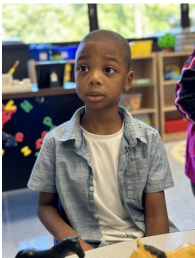




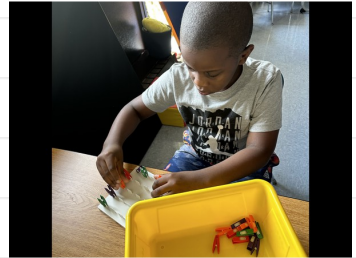
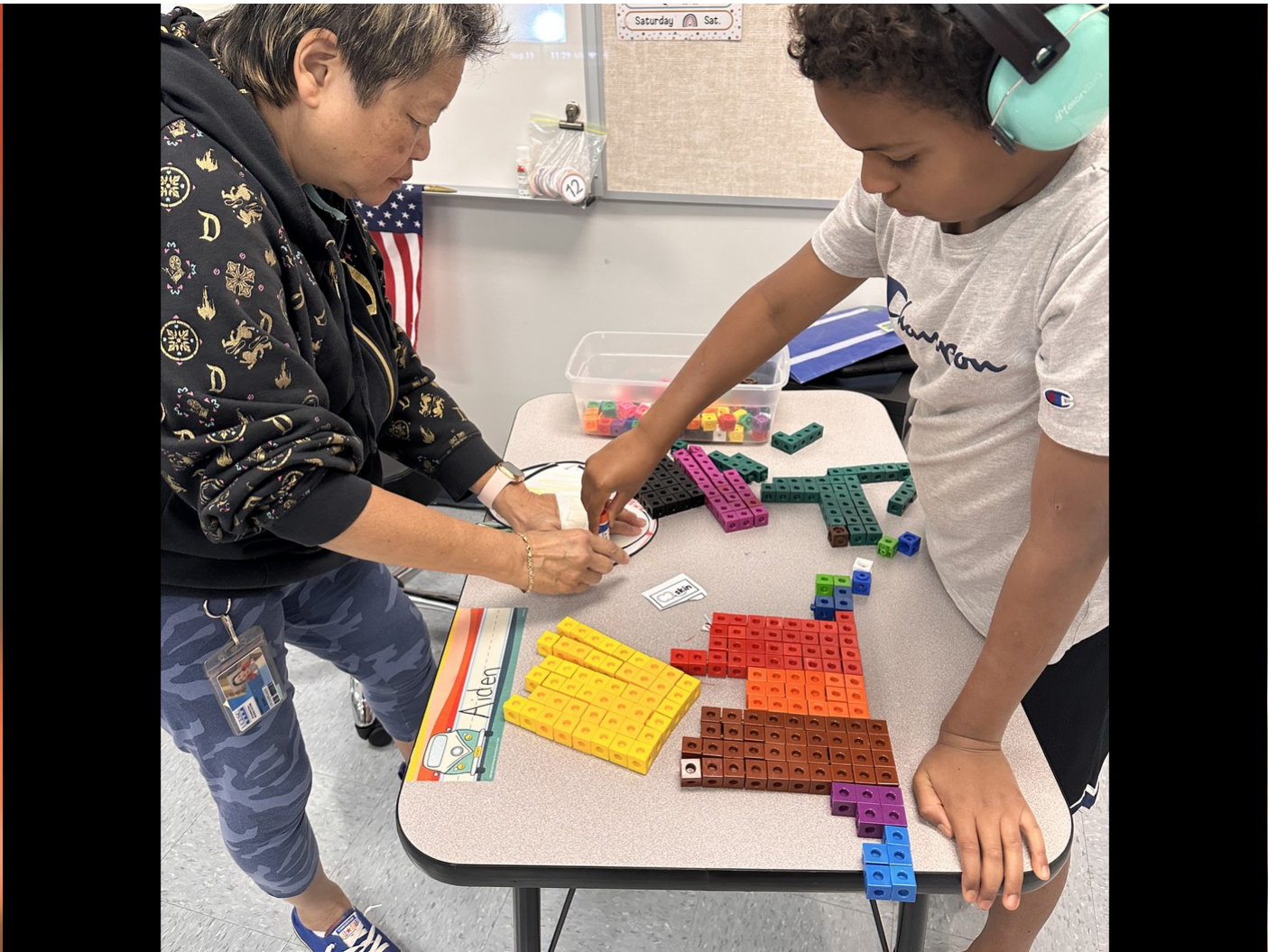




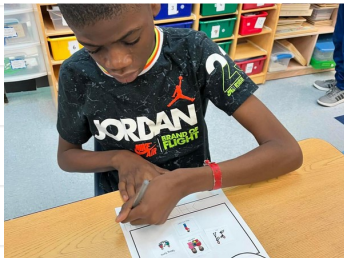




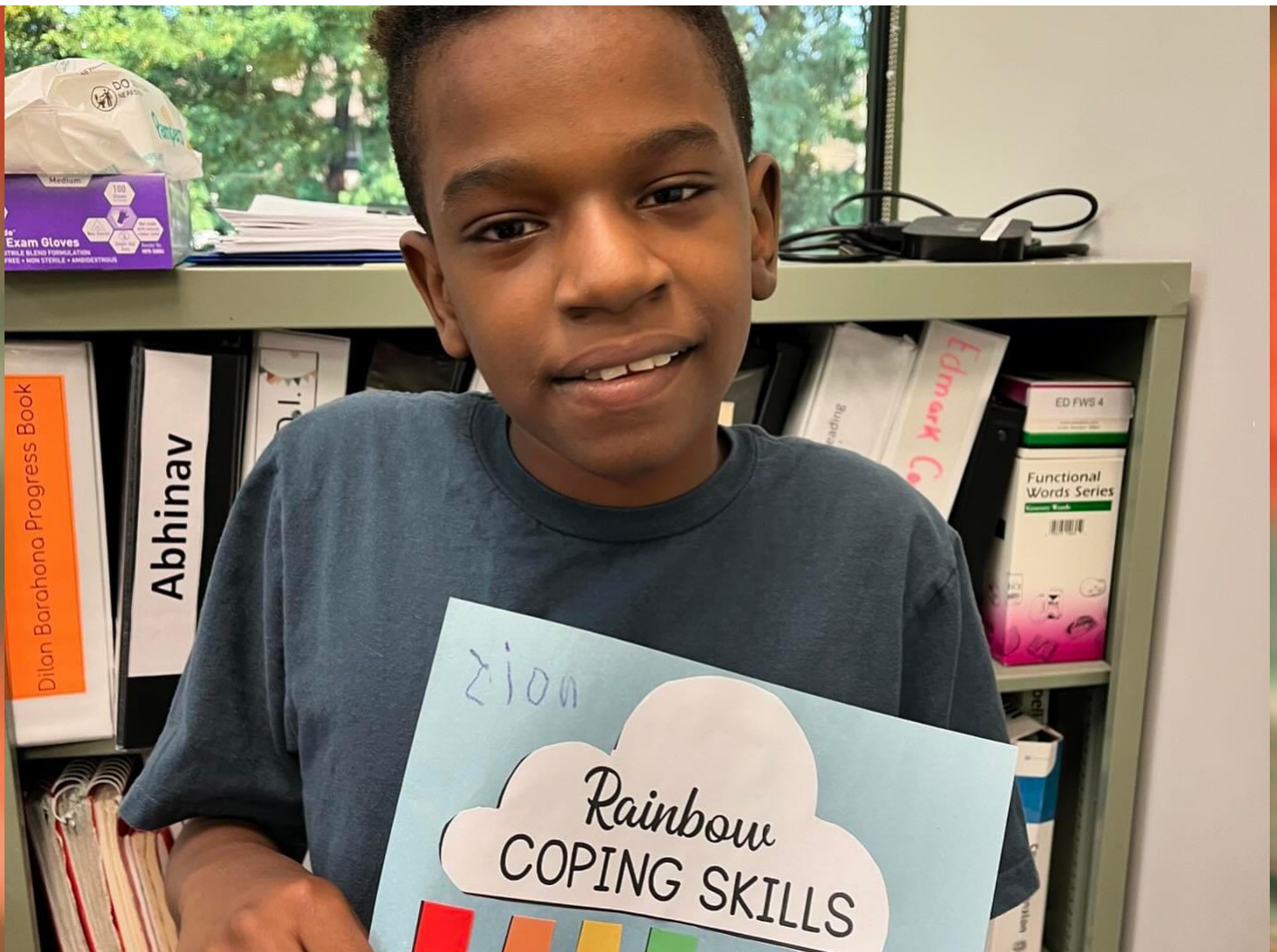












## About Us

**Website:** [https://www.ucesc.org/schools/crossroads\\_school](https://www.ucesc.org/schools/crossroads_school)

**Location:** [45 Cardinal Drive, Westfield, NJ, USA](#)

**Phone:** [908-233-9317](tel:908-233-9317)

[Visit us on Instagram](#)



**CR Smore**

CR is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters





# Westlake September Newsletter

## **Message from the Westlake Administrators**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the start of another exciting school year! We have many new faces at Westlake school this year and we welcome each and everyone student. At Westlake, we are committed to creating a learning environment where all children feel safe, valued, and empowered to reach their fullest potential. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare for a year filled with engaging, meaningful learning experiences. Whether your child is returning or just starting their journey with us, we are excited to foster their academic, social, and emotional growth.



In October, we will be celebrating the Week of Respect from October 7th - 11th. We have themed days scheduled throughout the week. We also have School Violence Awareness Week from October 16th - 20th, where we will discuss and promote a safe school environment.

We believe that collaboration and communication between school and home is essential for student success. Throughout the year, we encourage you to stay connected and actively



participate in your child's educational experience. Back to school night will be held on **Thursday, September 26, 2024 from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**. We are looking forward to seeing everyone then!

Warm Regards,  
Claudine Tantillo, Principal  
Robert Peneno, Supervisor of Instruction  
Stacey Kodack, Supervisor of Behavior Department



## ***Westlake Information***

- September, 26, 2024** - Back to School Night (6:30PM - 8:00PM)
- October 3-4, 2024** - School Closed - Rosh Hashanah
- October 7-11, 2024** - The Week of Respect (Theme days-information to be sent home)
- October 8, 2024** - HIB Assembly with **Omegaman**
- October 14, 2024** - School Closed for Students - PD Day for Staff
- October 16-20, 2024** - School Violence Awareness Week
- October 31, 2024** - Fall Dance and Halloween



## ***September Spotlight!***

### ***Principal's Award Winner!***



## *Principal's Award*



L.P. is a new student at Westlake, during her first few days, she has been showing everyone her positive and friendly attitude! Awesome job!

***Sunshine Cafe Employee of the Month!***



# SUNSHINE CAFE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



M.K. was nominated for his hard work, his initiation, his respect and kindness for others. His willingness to learn new skills!



***First Day of School!***



We welcomed our students back to school on September 6, 2024.





**We were excited to meet new friends!**







**The staff of the Sunshine Cafe have been busy! They spent the first half of September getting inventory together, stocking the new display case, and baking lots of treats! They are still running the SNACK SHACK for Hillcrest Academy South and all staff everyday!**



***Westlake Garden!***





**Ms. Mund's class has been taking care of the garden. They picked a few bunches of flowers and brought them to a local nursing home. She brought smiles to a lot of patients!**





# WolfPack Press



Welcome to the first edition of the Wolfpack press for the 2024-2025 school year.

We took a poll of our staff & students at Westlake.

Our question was: What was the best thing you did this summer?

Here is a sample of your answers: There were many family vacations to places like... Nantucket, Massachusetts, North Carolina, California, and places as far away as Portugal, Spain, Greece, and the Dominican Republic.



Others went to the beach, the zoo, a baseball game in Philadelphia, and Universal Studios in Orlando.

Others did Home Projects, went to church, rode a ferris wheel, played video games, and watched Netflix.

But the most exciting one was that a staff member got married in the Dominican Republic! Congratulations!

Interview by Elijah K. & Liam W.

Written by Jonathan D.



## ***Ms. Wilson's Class***



My name is Nazirah/Ms. Wilson and I am a new teacher here at Westlake School. I have been a teacher for 2 years with high school students, but this is my first year teaching elementary students. I am very excited to see what the school year will bring, but I can already say I love being a Westlake Wolf! I like to practice having a positive and optimistic attitude when I do most things because that typically helps my day get off to a good start and it usually helps to put others in a good mood, too. My teacher's assistants and students share that same attitude, which has made the first couple weeks of school amazing! We have been having fun getting to know each other and the things we have in common. I can't wait to see what else is in store as I continue getting to know my amazing bunch and everyone else here at Westlake!





The class in speech group!



We celebrated J.K's birthday!



***Ms. Grace's Art Class!***







Welcome back to 2024-25 Art with Miss Grace! I am super excited to kick the year off focusing on back-to-school and the start of fall crafts! In the classroom, we continue to work on our fine motor skills by practicing cutting, ripping, gluing, and drawing. All students attend art class once a week and never fail to impress me with their hard work and crafty abilities. Many of their projects get displayed at school, but they will all be sent home at some point so you can see all they can do too! I can't wait to see all they create this year!

*As a reminder, although we use temporary paint, art can get messy! Please consider sending in an old t-shirt to use as a smock during our painting days. I do supply some disposable smocks, but it would be greatly appreciated to have a more permanent solution so your kids can be limitless with their creativity!!!*











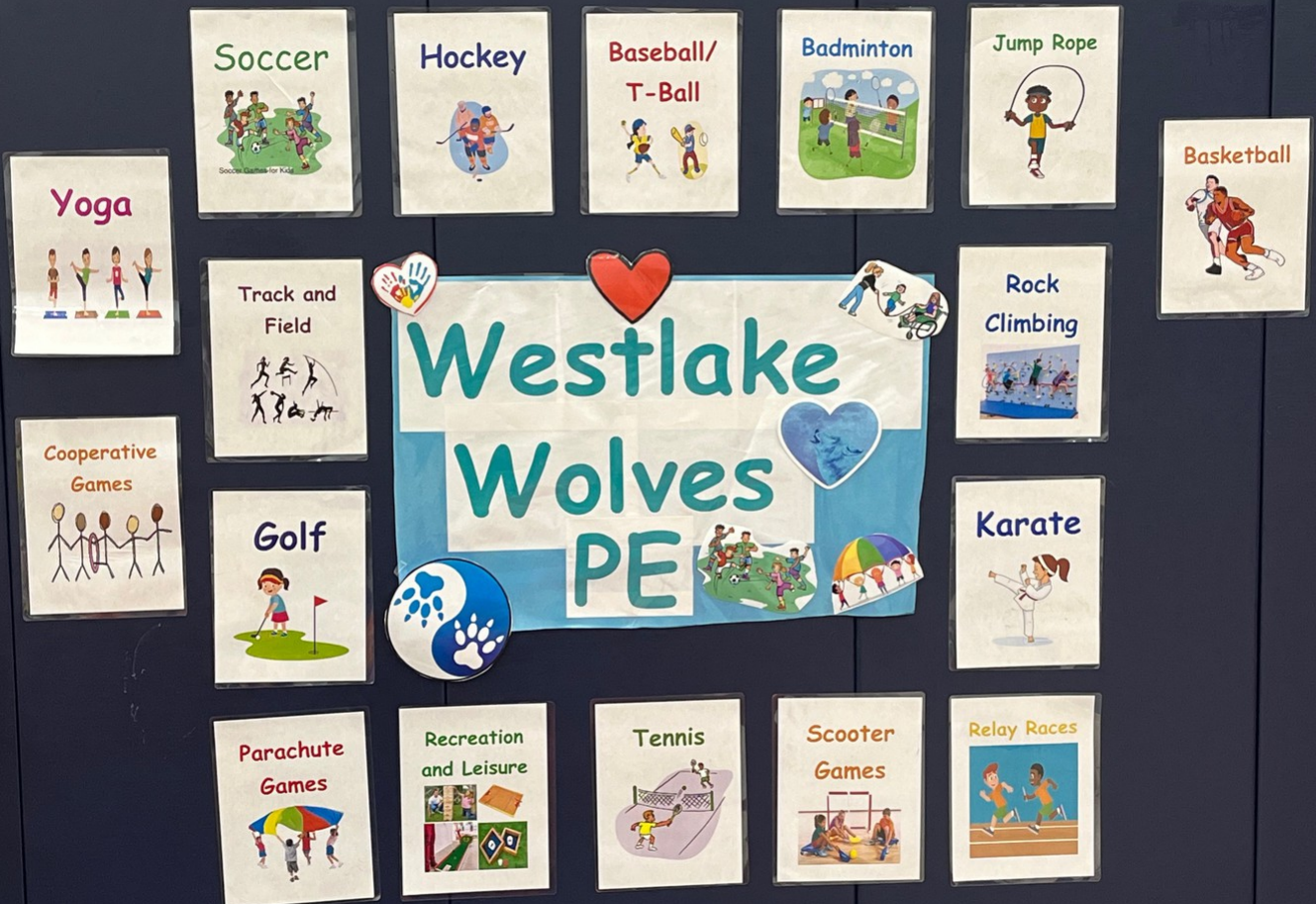
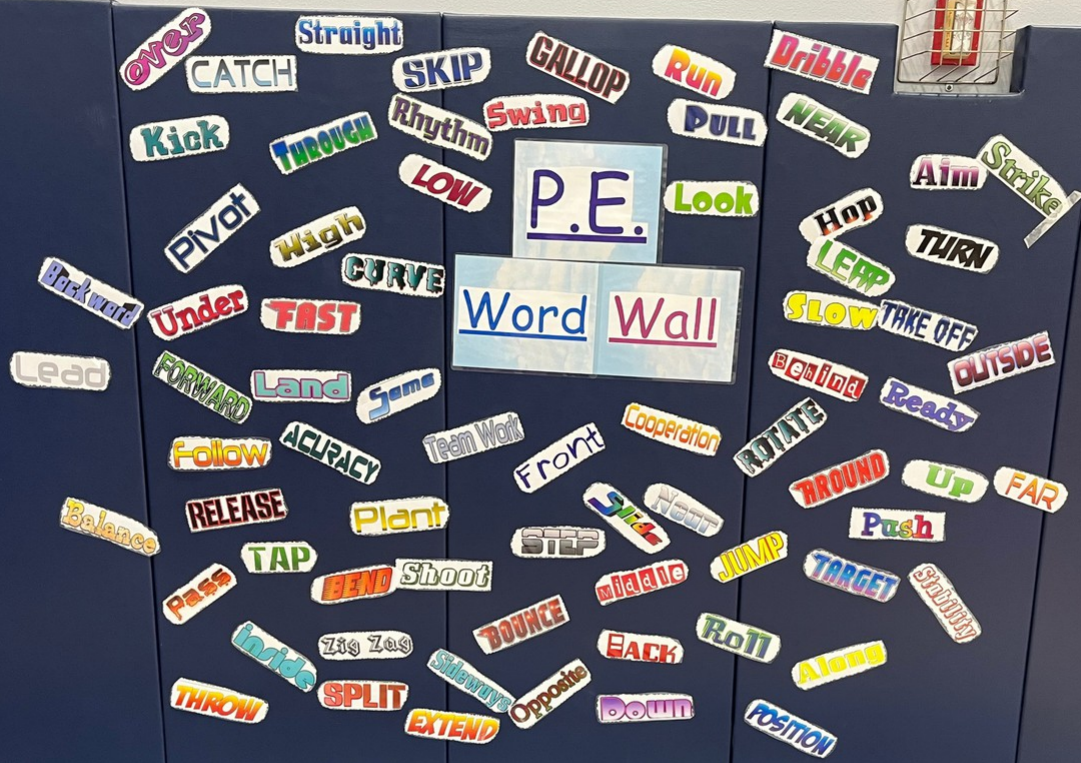
My name is Jeffrey Shanfield the Health and Physical Education Teacher at Westlake School (GO WESTLAKE WOLVES!). As the Health and Physical Education teacher I will be guiding your child to learn healthy habits and foster a love of physical activity. The lessons will be tailored to your child's needs all while being fun and engaging. Together I hope we can make a lasting impact in your child's life that will reach far beyond the years they spent at Westlake School..

These past two years I wrote three Grants one from Provident Bank Foundation and two through the Union County Educational Services Foundation. These Grants have given our students access to an incredible amount of resources and activities for the students. Some of the new equipment I was able to obtain through the Grants include, obstacle course activities (gross and fine motor activities), speed stacking cups, half length bowling lanes, miniature golf, standing scooters (along with safety equipment), tennis and badminton equipment (multi-purpose nets, various size balls, various size rackets). I truly believe that it takes a "team" to develop and foster learning and that is why I love teaching at Westlake School.











## ***Ms. Sara our OT!***



Welcome to the 2024 - 2025 school year! The Occupational Therapy department is excited to work alongside our amazing colleagues and with our wonderful students and their families. In OT sessions, your child will be working on essential skills to increase their independence in the home and school settings, while also having fun! Examples of skills we work on include but are not limited to, fine motor, sensory organization, self regulation, visual perceptual, and activities of daily living skills. We are starting to see our students for OT sessions, welcoming them back to the motor and ADL rooms as well as establishing therapeutic rapport with our new students, making sure they get accustomed and comfortable with the therapy rooms to ensure positive therapeutic experiences. The OT department is looking forward to working on all the OT skills this year and shining a light on our students' strengths!





***Parent Resource!***

## **PARENT WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

**ALL WORKSHOPS BEGIN  
AT 7PM!**

Wed  
Oct 16

### **DDD SERVICES: ONLINE!**

What is DDD and How Do I Apply?

Thurs  
Nov 14

### **SSI & MEDICAID: ONLINE!**

The Key to Unlocking Adult Services

Wed  
Jan 15

### **"LIFE AFTER 21" PROVIDER FAIR** **IN PERSON!**

Representatives from 21+ Programs  
will be in attendance

Wed  
Feb 19

### **GUARDIANSHIP: ONLINE!**

Is Guardianship right for my family?  
What options are available?

To register for any of the events above please email [Phyllis Sandrock](mailto:PhyllisSandrock@ucesc.org) at [psandrock@ucesc.org](mailto:psandrock@ucesc.org)

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So, your child has been found eligible  
for services with the Division of  
Developmental Disabilities.



**This webinar will provide:**

- Information about the NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool.
- How to interpret the results.
- The DDD Budget.
- An overview of the different services available.



**Special Needs Division  
Hosts:**

**Webinar Series**

*Transition Made Easy:  
The Step-By-Step Process to  
Assessing Services with NJ's  
Division of Developmental  
Disabilities*

**WHERE:**

Zoom Video Conference

**WHEN:**

Thursday Sept. 26th, 6:30 PM

**PRESENTER:** Trisha Bailey  
Community Liaison & Trainer  
New Jersey Support Coordination  
at Caregivers of NJ

Please RSVP at (908) 713-0469 or  
[epedersen@newroadsfinancial.com](mailto:epedersen@newroadsfinancial.com)  
to receive the Zoom link and password!



Earl A. Pedersen



Barry Friedman, CFP, CFA

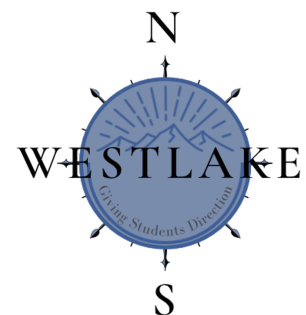
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## Contact Us!

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Robert is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

