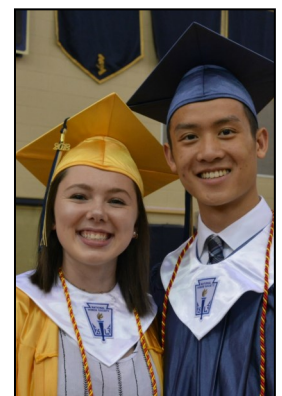


Did You Know?

The West Chester Area School District has a lot to be proud of! Take a look at the info below, which notes program and activity highlights, accomplishments, and historical facts.

- The WCASD educates over 12,100 students in 17 school buildings. The WCASD encompasses 75 square miles in Chester County and a portion of Delaware County, covering seven townships and the Borough of West Chester.
- **In addition to transporting its own students, the WCASD transports 4,000 non-public students each day.**
- The oldest operating building with active classes in the WCASD is Exton Elementary School; the original section of five classrooms was built in 1941. The newest school, Greystone Elementary School opened its doors in September 2021.
- **More than 1,700 people are employed by the WCASD, serving in roles that include teachers, aides, support staff, custodial workers, and administrative staff.**
- Approximately 94% of WCASD graduates go on to college, community college, and vocational programs, with another 2% choosing to serve our country in the military.
- **Juniors and seniors can enroll in college-level courses while earning high school advanced placement elective credit and college credit concurrently via a unique collaboration with West Chester University.**
- A Career Exploration Program provides students with the opportunity to explore future career choices by taking a career education course and/or participating in an internship, externship, community service, or job shadowing experience.
- **The WCASD offers a Senior Tax Reduction Incentive Volunteer Exchange Program (STRIVE) designed to assist Senior Citizens with the burden of Real Estate Taxes. We also offer Senior Gold Cards to attend district events for free.**
- Technology resources, including iPads, whiteboards, and laptops, are available in schools across the District. Students in grades 6 through 12 receive laptop computers to use at school and home as part of the district's 1:1 computing initiative.
- **There are more than 920 wireless access points available throughout the 17 schools and in the Spellman Administration Building.**
- The WCASD has the lowest property tax rate in Chester County.
- **The WCASD budget totals \$322.5 million for the 2024-25 school year.**
- The West Chester Area Education Foundation, established in 2010, has provided more than \$306,000 in mini-grants that fund unique and impactful real-world programs, projects, experiences, and activities for students.
- **The West Chester Area School District's Preschool Parents Group's mission is to attract and transition children and parents into the West Chester Area School District. We offer a free program that provides educational and fun activities for preschool-aged children.**
- The arts are alive in the WCASD! All elementary, 6th, and 7th grade students take an art class, and 1367 8th grade students and 671 high school students choose to take an art elective class. 1670 elementary students, 711 middle school students, and 460 high school students choose to play an instrument. 620 elementary students, 1108 middle school students, and 345 high school students choose to join chorus.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As the Superintendent of the West Chester Area School District, it is my pleasure to extend a heartfelt welcome to both our returning families and those who are joining our District for the first time.

Each year, our mission drives us forward and renews our commitment to providing an exceptional educational experience for every student. Our daily focus ensures that we, “educate and inspire our students to achieve their personal best.”

Our District has a rich history of academic excellence that is rooted in ensuring our students are ready to succeed in life when they graduate from our schools. Our longstanding traditions are also an integral part of our local community and have helped to shape West Chester’s well-deserved reputation as one of the best places to live in the country.

As a new resident, I am deeply thankful for the collaborative and supportive culture that defines our community. Here, being neighborly means more than just living next door to one another—it’s about fostering a sense of belonging and support that permeates all 17 of our schools. This sense of community is one of the reasons West Chester such an amazing place.

In a district with such a rich history, it would be easy to not be forward focused but our goal is to continue to be an innovative place of learning. We live in a complex, rapidly-changing world, and we must adapt our practices to meet the evolving needs of our students. I am grateful that our teachers and administrators are some of the best anywhere, and that they are ready and eager to continue to improve our schools so that they can continue to be the pride of our community.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools, our staff, and our students. We look forward to seeing you as we walk the West Chester way together.

Sincerely,

David E. Christopher, EdD, Superintendent

SCHOOL BOARD



The West Chester Area School District's School Board (from left): Karen Fleming, Daryl Durnell, Dr. Karen Herrmann, Gary Bevilacqua, Dr. Laura Detre, Katy Frey, Stacey Whomsley, Alex Christy, Dr. David Christopher. Not pictured Jewell Parkinson.

As required by the Pennsylvania School Code, the West Chester Area School District is governed by a School Board comprised of nine directors who serve four-year terms. The directors are elected from three voter regions within the school district. Elections are held every odd-numbered year. Four to five directors are generally elected at any one time.

At an annual organization meeting held during the first week of December, the School Board chooses a President and Vice President for the upcoming calendar year. At that time, any newly elected members of the Board are also sworn into office. The annual monthly board meetings are scheduled at this time and can be viewed through the online calendar available on the District’s website. Agendas may be obtained through the calendar links as they become available.

A primary responsibility of the Board is to set district policy, which is then implemented by the administration. Another major responsibility is to approve the annual budget and set tax rates. The fiscal year covered by the budget runs from July 1 to June 30.

The School Board operates under a committee structure. Each committee meets on an as needed basis to discuss agenda items for School Board meetings and to receive informational updates from the Administration on matters within the committee’s area of concern. Committee chairs and members are appointed by the Board President after the President’s election in December. The School Board President also appoints Board representatives and liaisons in various areas. These persons report back to the Board on matters of general concern at the regular monthly Board meetings. All public committee meetings are advertised as required by law.

The School Board has several additional non-voting members, including a secretary, an assistant secretary, and a treasurer. Secretaries are appointed by the Board for four-year terms that run concurrent with fiscal years. Treasurers and assistant secretaries are appointed by the Board for one-year terms that run concurrent with a single fiscal year.

In addition, the student body of each of the district’s three high schools elect a student representative for a one-year term that runs concurrent with the fiscal year. These representatives serve in a non-voting, advisory capacity.

For School Board meeting dates, information on policies, and much more, please visit www.wcasd.net and click on School Board.

WCASD Fast Facts



1:1 Device Program: Grades K-5 iPads and Laptops for 6-12



Increase to 12 Full-Time Mental Health Specialists

Dual Enrollment Opportunities with West Chester University and the University of Pittsburg



Bridging Spanish-Speaking Families with Our Schools



In-house WC Cyber Program taught by our teachers

Senior & Veteran Gold Cards for Community Members



Pathways to Success with Career Education



Additional Learning Opportunities in Summer

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024!



2024-25 DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT serves a 75-square-mile suburban, urban and rural area in central Chester County known for its diversified industries and beautiful historic countryside. West Chester Borough, the county seat, is the hub of the district. The surrounding townships of East Bradford, East Goshen, West Goshen, West Whiteland, Westtown, and Thornbury (all in Chester County) are part of the district, as is Thornbury Township in adjacent Delaware County.

A \$322.5 MILLION BUDGET for the 2024-2025 school year supports instruction for close to 12,200 students in 11 elementary schools (kindergarten through grade 5), 3 middle schools (grades 6 through 8), and 3 high schools (grades 9 through 12). The district also provides services to nearly 4,000 non-public school students.

THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF, headed by Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kalia Reynolds numbers nearing 1,100. Seventy percent hold a master's degree or higher. Teachers, librarians, reading specialists, guidance counselors, nurses, psychologists, and specialists in art, music and physical education comprise the instructional staff. An administrative staff works in each school and at the District's Central Office.

OUR DIVERSE STUDENT BODY has an ethnic distribution of 71.4% White, 8.9% Asian, 9.6% Hispanic, 4.8% Black, 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and 5.2% Multiracial. Class size averages 25 students.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT is evident by the College Board SAT scores our students receive which are consistently above state and national averages. In the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Pennsylvania Keystone tests administered annually in the areas of english language arts, literature, mathematics and science, our students consistently score above state averages with the majority of students scoring advanced. Approximately 93% of our graduates seek higher education.

CURRICULUM IN ALL SUBJECT AREAS is based on national, state, and local standards and reviewed on a regular basis. Curriculum development is coordinated from kindergarten through grade 12 to ensure continuity across schools and grades. District and state assessments measure how well the curriculum is mastered.

WC CYBER COURSES are taught by WCASD teachers using our curriculum and materials. In high school, students have the option of creating a more flexible schedule by enrolling in some classes.

TECHNOLOGY resources are used extensively throughout the district to enhance teaching and learning. Wireless technology mediates flexible connection to the internet in all schools and interactive smartboards, laptops, and iPads are used to create a dynamic learning environment. Students in grades 6 through 12 receive laptop computers to use at school and home as part of the district's 1:1 computing initiative.

FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN is a dynamic, hands-on program that allows children time to play – in both directed and non-directed ways – as a critical part of their school day. Our kindergarten curriculum was built with the knowledge that play is a central component of children's growth. We believe that play-based learning forms the foundation for future academic success by helping our youngest students develop language skills, social and emotional skills, problem solving skills, and the ability to work effectively in groups.

GIFTED PROGRAMS are provided for individuals who possess outstanding intellectual and creative abilities as defined by state mandates. Each year, individual programs are developed for students that provide enrichment and/or acceleration in specific areas when the student's needs are not met through the regular education environment.

SPECIAL EDUCATION programs are provided for all exceptionalities through district-run classes, private entities, and the Chester County Intermediate Unit.

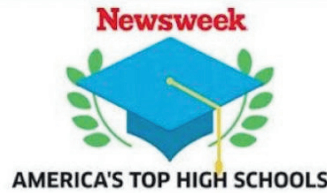
HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS reflect the diversity of the student body. Students can take classes in business, technology, science, distributive education, music, and art courses, among many others, as well as enroll in advanced placement, accelerated honors, honors, and career & college prep-level courses. In addition, students can take college level courses through the dual enrollment program collaboration with West Chester University, where they can earn high school advanced placement credit and college credit at the same time. The District also offers blended learning courses, where students learn part of the time at school and part of the time through the online delivery of content and instruction. Other educational options are available at the Chester County Intermediate Unit's Technical College High School, which help prepare students for a variety of careers.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION PROGRAM links parents, private individuals, civic organizations and businesses with all grade levels. The district also enjoys a partnership with West Chester University, which makes its resources available in a variety of ways.

Top Rankings



East, Henderson, & Rustin High Schools are consistently ranked among the top public schools in the nation according to U.S. News & World Report.



Newsweek ranks East, Henderson, & Rustin High Schools among the top high schools locally, regionally, and nationally.



WCASD schools have been awarded the U.S. Department of Education's coveted National Blue Ribbon Award multiple times.



Multiple recognitions as a Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.



WCASD is considered a top-rated school district according to Niche.com and Schooldigger.com users.



Multiple WCASD elementary schools recognized for having superior, federally-funded school programs.

Charitable Connections





Points of Pride

Educate and Inspire our Students to Achieve their Personal Best.

Student Assessment



Graduation Year	Composite		
	District	State	National
2020	25.9	23.7	20.6
2021	24.7	25.0	20.3
2022	25.1	24.4	19.8
2023	22.5	23.9	19.5
2024	26.4	23.9	19.6



	WCASD	WCASD	WCASD	WCASD	WCASD	PA	National
Test	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2024	2024
Reading	578	582	568	584	596	559	524
Math	579	592	579	568	578	540	507

In 2024, 35 WCASD students were named National Merit Scholars and 403 students earned AP Scholar Awards

National Merit Scholars

- 8 National Merit Finalists
- 8 National Merit Semi-Finalists
- 19 National Merit Commended



AP Scholars



AP Scholars

- 151 AP Scholars
- 167 AP Scholars w/ Distinction
- 81 AP Scholars w/ Honors
- 4 Capstone Diplomas

WCASD Financial Fast Fact\$

The WCASD maintains the **LOWEST SCHOOL TAX** rate in Chester County

	Act 1 Index	WCASD % Increase
3 Year Average	4.3%	1.0%
5 Year Average	3.7%	1.0%
10 Year Average	3.0%	1.7%

The **2024-25 final budget is below the Act I Index** (at 5.3%). The district utilized savings from the 2023-24 operations to help offset the need for millage increases for the 2024-25 budget.



Certificate of Excellence (COE) in Financial Reporting from The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)

ASBO International's COE recognizes WCASD's high standards for financial reporting and transparency.

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE

Superior Aaa Credit Rating from Moody's Investors Service. The rating is based on **WCASD's history of conservative budget management and strong fiscal controls.**

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Spellman Education Center, 782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341
Phone: 484-266-1000 ~ Fax: 484-266-1175 ~ Website: www.wcasd.net

Dr. David Christopher, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Kalia Reynolds, Deputy Superintendent & Chief Academic Advisor
Dr. James Conley, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Mr. John Scully, Director of Business Affairs
Dr. Sara Missett, Director of Elementary Education
Dr. Stephen Brown, Director of Teaching and Learning & Equity

Mr. Wayne Birster, Director of Facilities & Operations
Dr. Jeffrey Ulmer, Director of Human Resources
Mr. John McGowan, Director of Information Technology
Mrs. Melissa Kleiman, Director of Pupil Services
Mrs. Molly Schwemler, Manager of District Communications

SECONDARY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION

West Chester East High School

Principal: Dr. Sarah Graham
450 Ellis Lane, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-3800 ~ Fax: 484-266-3899

West Chester B. Reed Henderson High School

Principal: Dr. Jason Sherlock
400 Montgomery Avenue, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-3300 ~ Fax: 484-266-3399

West Chester Bayard Rustin High School

Principal: Dr. Michael Marano
1100 Shiloh Road, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-4300 ~ Fax: 484-266-4399

J. R. Fugett Middle School

Principal: Dr. Steve Werner
500 Ellis Lane, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-2900 ~ Fax: 484-266-2999

E. N. Peirce Middle School

Principal: Dr. Joseph DiAntonio
1314 Burke Road, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-2500 ~ Fax: 484-266-2599

G. A. Stetson Middle School

Principal: Mrs. Mary Kay Puchalla
1060 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-2700 ~ Fax: 484-266-2799

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION

East Bradford Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Christopher Alston
820 Frank Road, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-2100 ~ Fax: 484-266-2199

East Goshen Elementary School

Principal: Mr. TJ Seidenberger
800 North Chester Road, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-1500 ~ Fax: 484-266-1599

Exton Elementary School

Principal: Mrs. Kristin Bulgarelli
301 Hendricks Avenue, Exton, PA 19341
Phone: 484-266-1400 ~ Fax: 484-266-1499

Fern Hill Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Jennifer Southmayd
915 Lincoln Avenue, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-1600 ~ Fax: 484-266-1699

Glen Acres Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Donna Ryan
1150 Delancey Place, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-1700 ~ Fax: 484-266-1799

Greystone Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Erin Stephen
1195 Aram Avenue, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-2300 ~ Fax: 484-266-2399

Hillsdale Elementary School

Principal: Mrs. Paige Merten
725 West Market Street, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-2000 ~ Fax: 484-266-2099

Mary C. Howse Elementary School

Principal: Ms. Jackie Pavlo
641 West Boot Road, West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: 484-266-1300 ~ Fax: 484-266-1399

Penn Wood Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Michael Garvin
1470 Johnny's Way, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-1900 ~ Fax: 484-266-1999

Sarah Starkweather Elementary School

Principal: Mr. John Meanix
1050 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-2200 ~ Fax: 484-266-2299

Westtown-Thornbury Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Shawn Cruice
750 Westbourne Road, West Chester, PA 19382
Phone: 484-266-1800 ~ Fax: 484-266-1899



West Chester Area School District

Comprehensive Plan 2022-25

*“What do we want to be able to say
three years from now that we
cannot say today?”*



Planning for the Future Comprehensive Planning Process

During the comprehensive planning process, the WCASD gathered feedback from District stakeholders to effectively set goals related to the visions that we want to make realities over the next three years. There are five goal areas with distinct strategies or focus areas that will guide the District as it looks toward the future.

1 Access to District Programming

Expand access to comprehensive district programming to provide equitable opportunities for all students.

1. Improve recruitment, hiring, and retention
2. Develop coherent and aligned assessments
3. Increase engagement

2 Innovative Teaching and Learning

Use engaging and effective instructional strategies to advance student learning, achievement, and agency.

1. Provide structures for a cross-curricular and collaborative teaching and learning approach
2. Embed innovative and technological resources
3. Develop and expand pathways for learning
4. Establish a curriculum review cycle

3 Student Involvement

Create more opportunities for students to engage in school academically, socially and emotionally.

1. Increase student participation
2. Create opportunities for positive interactions
3. Foster engaging academic opportunities

4 Fiscal and Capital Planning

Create a financial plan that provides annual budgets that adhere to Act 1 regulations, responds to 21st century learning needs and preserves the current level of educational excellence.

1. Compile balanced budgets
2. Review and update the capital plan
3. Increase sustainable revenue sources

5 Special Education Planning

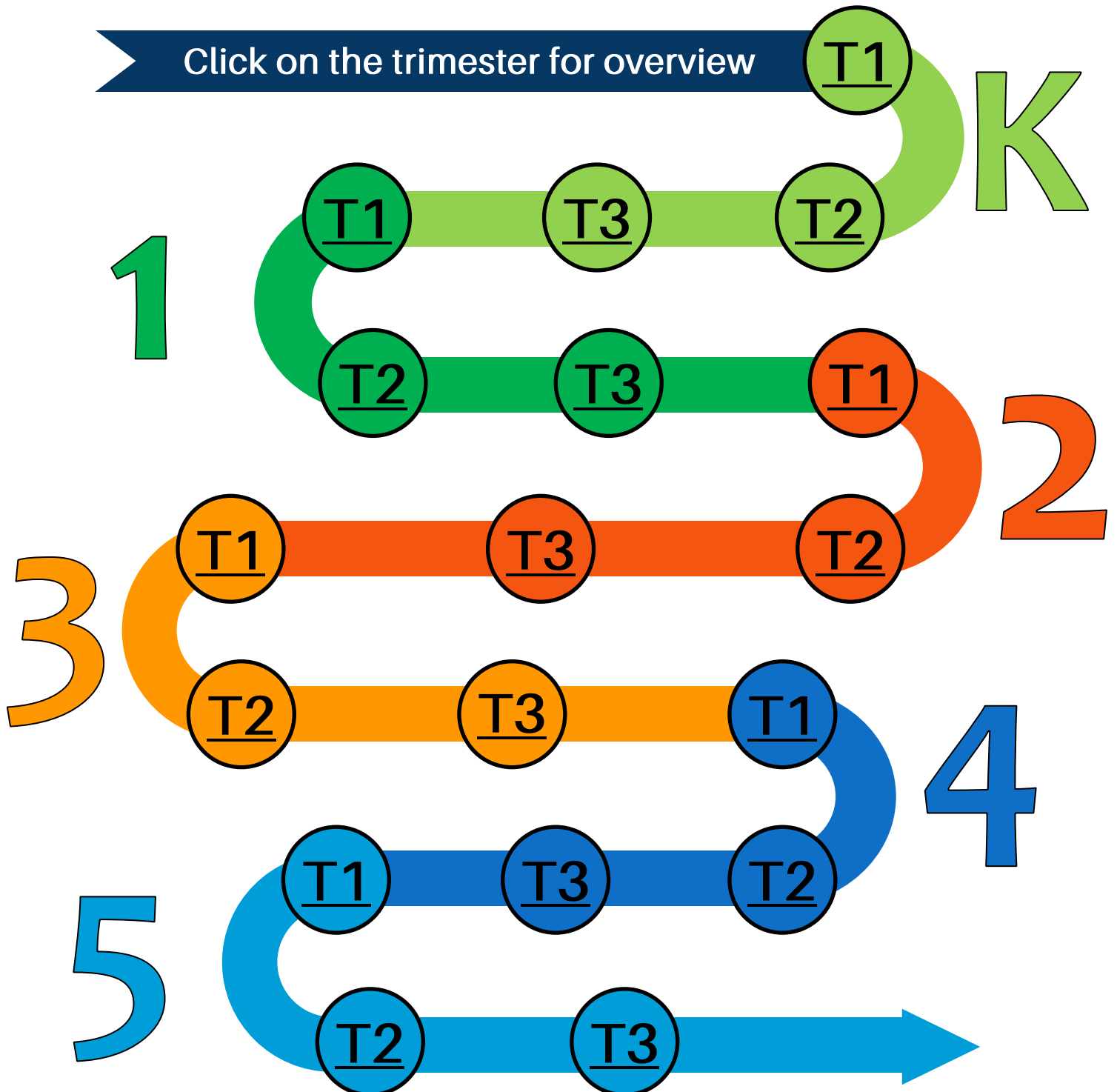
Meet the needs of all students in the least restrictive environment.

1. Indicators of Improvement and Planning
2. Disproportionality
3. Least Restrictive Environment
4. Positive Behavior Support
5. Personnel Professional Development



Trimester Overview Roadmap by Grade Level

The elementary curriculum is designed to build foundational knowledge and skills in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.





West Chester Area School District's Career Exploration Program

The West Chester Area School District's multi-faceted Career Education Program connects high school students with real-world experiences, serving as a critical link between classroom learning, both in curriculum content and skill acquisition, and in the world of work. Deeper learning occurs through the purposeful integration of rigorous academic content with diverse experiences to build knowledge, intentionally cultivate skills, and broaden perspectives for students to become lifelong learners and purposeful contributors to our community and beyond. Business and community connections positively impact students through the sharing of practical work experiences and learned life lessons that help students make informed career decisions. Through these meaningful interactions, community leaders also help students identify and hone the future-ready skills needed to compete and succeed in the workplace. Our goal is to provide awareness to students and families of the spectrum of post-secondary career and education and training opportunities including school to work, apprenticeship, certification, and two year and four-year college/university programs. Purposeful and rewarding careers abound in both the skilled trades and those requiring a college degree and may be achieved at various levels of financial cost.

Career Education Components – Grades 9 - 12

- **Personal Interest & Aptitude Exploration:** Students identify and develop personal interests through course selection including an array of elective course offerings, participation in extracurricular clubs, sports, and activities, and engagement in our comprehensive career exploration software program.
- **Future-Ready Skills:** Classroom and community-based experiences focused on learning, literacy and life skills. Learning skills focus on the “Four Cs”: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Literacy skills also called “IMT,” include information, media, and technology skills that focus on digital comprehension. Life skills (“FLIPS”) include flexibility, leadership, initiative, productivity, and social skills.
- **Career Awareness via Field Trips, Community Events, and Career Showcases:** Students may participate in a variety of curriculum-related field trips, events, and showcases in various career clusters and post-secondary educational institutions. Collaboration with leadership and mentoring organizations such as Junior Achievement (JA), Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW), Youth Leadership Program (YLP), and others is included. Students complete a reflection of their experience(s) which is housed in their individual career portfolio, allowing each experience to shape their future vision.
- **Job Shadowing and Internship Program – Grades 11, 12:** Job shadowing is a career exploration activity in which students gain exposure to careers that they are interested in pursuing by working with business/community volunteers for part of a work day. By visiting a workplace, investigating a career field and industry, and experiencing a typical day on the job, students can determine if the career and industry fits their interests, skills, and career aspirations. Students may initiate their own experiences or in coordination with the Career Education Counselor.

Internships provide juniors and seniors a deeper understanding of, and experience within, a business/institution/non-profit organization, over a minimum time period of 60 hours. This may be completed throughout the school year, summer, or during the last four weeks of senior year, in coordination with the Career Education Counselor. Students must procure their own internship-site, find the associated transportation, secure a faculty advisor, and the business must obtain the required Pennsylvania clearances. Each student is required to maintain a journal with reflections within their career portfolio, and provide an oral presentation that summarizes their experience at the conclusion of their internship.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

THE West Chester Area School District offers a variety of sports to high school students at the freshman, junior varsity, and varsity levels. Freshman sports, open to ninth graders, encourage a high level of interscholastic competitive participation. Junior varsity sports, open to grades 9 through 11, give students the necessary experience to move to the varsity level, which is the highest level of competitive sports. All high school varsity teams compete with schools in the Ches-Mont League. Intramural sports are offered to sixth grade students in the district's middle schools. In grades 7 and 8, students play interscholastic sports against neighboring districts.

Middle and high school students must meet academic eligibility requirements to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities per district and Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association policy. Physicals are required of student athletes. They may elect to obtain a comprehensive initial pre-participation physical once per calendar year (dated after June 1) or a minimal pre-participation physical evaluation prior to every season. Students must also meet school attendance requirements. The following sports are offered each season. Please note that individual sports are not necessarily offered on all levels. Tickets for high school games are only available online using HomeTown Ticketing. Scan the QR Code below to get the app.

Fall (starts August 5 for Football and Golf and August 12 for all other sports):

Cross-Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Soccer, Tennis (Girls), Volleyball (Girls)

Winter (starts November 15):

Basketball, Indoor Track, Swimming, Wrestling

Spring (starts March 3):

Baseball (Boys), Lacrosse, Softball (Girls), Tennis (Boys), Track & Field

Contact the athletic director at each high school if you have questions:

East High School: Ryan Zehren - 484-266-3925

Henderson High School: Steve Fitch - 484-266-3431

Rustin High School: Devon Landgraaf - 484-266-4339

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE
**HOMETOWN
FAN APP**



ACTIVITY FEES

THE West Chester Area School District has instituted an activity fee structure in an effort to offset the growing costs associated with extra-curricular programs.

Elementary School:

Band, Chorus, Orchestra, After School Intramurals

Middle School:

Activities: District Honors Band, District Honors Chorus, District Select Strings, School Jazz Band, Dramatics, Science Olympiad

6th Grade Athletics: Basketball, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Track, Volleyball, Wrestling

7th/8th Grade Athletics: Baseball, Basketball, Cross-Country, Field Hockey, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Girls Volleyball, Wrestling

High School:

Activities: Academic Team, Debate Club, DECA Club, District Senior Strings, Fall/Spring Drama, Literary Magazine, Marching Band & Color Guard, Musical, Newspaper, Robotics Competition, Science Competition

Athletics: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross-Country, Field Hockey, Football, Girls Volleyball, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Wrestling.

TIER	TIER ONE-ELEMENTARY	TIER TWO-MIDDLE SCHOOL	TIER THREE-HIGH SCHOOL
Annual fee per student	\$28	\$84	\$112

FAMILIES will be assessed the following fees per student per year, which will allow that student to participate in one or more funded activities and/or sports: The maximum cost a family may incur in activity fees is \$250. Students who qualify for the national Free and Reduced Lunch Program will not be required to pay activity fees. Families experiencing financial hardships may apply for a waiver through the office of secondary education by calling 484-266-1016. More information on the Activity Fee Policy may be found on the District's website at www.wcasd.net under Families & Students.

WCASD Preschool Parents Group

The West Chester Area School District Preschool Parents Group is a free program that offers educational and fun activities for preschool-aged children and education sessions for parents to attract and transition children and parents into the West Chester Area School District

Our goal is to:

- ◇ assist parents in preparing their children for school
- ◇ help families become familiar with the school district
- ◇ provide opportunities for parents to connect with other parents



**Join us for educational parent presentations and fun events for kids.
You can attend any event that interests you - there is no obligation.**

Go to www.wcasd.net and click on the Community tab

If you have questions about the Preschool Parents Group contact Sara Missett, the West Chester Area School District's Director of Elementary Education
smissett@wcasd.net 484-266-1070

**Sign-up
to receive emails
from the WCASD
PPG today!**

Let Us Entertain You!

Senior Citizens receive free admission
to events with an...

ELINOR Z. TAYLOR

SENIOR GOLD CARD

Gold Cards are available to residents of the West Chester Area School District (WCASD) aged 60 and above. This card enables its holder to be admitted free of charge to WCASD events, which include sporting contests, high school musicals, drama productions, and concerts.

To receive a Gold Card, you may either 1) email the form information below to ehayes@wcasd.net, or 2) complete the form below and mail it to the WCASD Communications Office: 782 Springdale Court, Exton, PA 19341. Please allow two weeks for processing. If you would like to pick up your Gold Card from the Spellman Education Center, or if you have any questions about the Gold Card, please contact the WCASD Communications Office: 484-266-1171.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

THE GOLD CARD IS NAMED IN HONOR OF ELINOR Z. TAYLOR FOR HER DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO SENIOR CITIZENS. TAYLOR SERVED AS A PENNSYLVANIA STATE LEGISLATOR FROM THE 156TH DISTRICT FROM 1977 TO 2006.

The West Chester Area School District Veteran Gold Card

Any resident of the West Chester Area School District (WCASD) who is a military veteran is eligible to receive a Veteran Gold Card. This card enables its holder free admission to WCASD events including sporting contests, high school musicals, drama performances, and concerts.

To receive a Veteran Gold Card, visit our website at www.wcasd.net and fill out the online form located under the Community tab, or mail this completed form to Spellman Education Center at 782 Springdale Drive, Exton, PA 19341. Please allow one week for processing. For any questions, please contact the WCASD Communications Office at 484-266-1200.

**WCASD proudly honors the brave men and women
in our community that have served our country!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Branch of Military: _____

To honor and recognize veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II, Korea or Vietnam, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who attended high school between 1937 and 1946 during WWII or between 1947 and 1955 during the Korean Conflict or between 1958 and 1975 during the Vietnam War. For any questions, please contact the WCASD Communications Office at 484-266-1171.

Thank you for your service!

Senior Tax Reduction Incentive Volunteer Exchange Program



**A SCHOOL TAX
REBATE PROGRAM
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

IT'S EASY TO GET STARTED!

- (1) Application packets are available at the Spellman Education Center, 782 Springdale Drive, Exton or by contacting the District's Human Resources Department at 484-266-1007. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. In addition to the RSVP application, packets include relevant forms and information on the program.
- (2) Background checks are required for all participants in the RSVP Program. These checks are easily accomplished by completing two brief forms and mailing them to the authorities listed on the forms. There is a \$10 processing fee for each form, which participants are required to pay.
- (3) Completed application forms, background checks, and a copy of your social security card should be submitted to Human Resources. Following the completion of your paperwork, your name will be added to our list of volunteers.
- (4) Participants must have the ability to provide their own transportation.
- (5) For additional information, please contact our Human Resources Department at 484-266-1007.

*More information on this program
may be found on the district
website under the Community tab
www.wcasd.net*

*Choose a time and place to help
a child become a valuable
asset
to our community!*

*Opportunities for you to
volunteer are available at our
administration
building or in our schools!*

*Earn valuable tax rebate dollars
while helping a child learn!*

For more information on helping us
shape the future by volunteering
your time, please contact us at:

West Chester Area School District
Human Resources Department
Spellman Education Center
782 Springdale Drive
Exton, PA 19341
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*The West Chester Area School District is an equal opportunity
employer and educational agency and affirms that it does not
discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age,
sex or handicapping condition.*

WHAT IS THE RETIREE SUBSTITUTE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)?

The West Chester Area School District offers a volunteer service program for senior citizens (RSVP) designed to reduce their real estate taxes.

Through this program, seniors perform a variety of services in offices and classrooms throughout the district. In exchange, participants may be entitled to a rebate of property taxes in accordance with the following guidelines.

- √ Participants must be a home owner in the West Chester Area School District.
- √ Participants must be at least 62 years of age by December 31st of the year in which they volunteer.
- √ Tax rebates apply only to property owned by participants.
- √ The maximum tax rebate is \$560 for 70 hours of service. Participants may volunteer for more than 70 hours, but they will not receive a larger rebate.
- √ The rebate amount can never exceed the actual amount of taxes paid.
- √ Participants may opt to donate their rebate to the School District by checking that option on their application.
- √ Rebate checks are mailed to participants by the end of February in the year following volunteer service.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following list represents only a sampling of the opportunities available for volunteers in our district schools and administration building.

IN THE CLASSROOM:

- Reading to or with students
- Tutoring students in writing and mathematics
- Assisting technology associates with troubleshooting
- Teaching word-processing or spreadsheet skills to students
- Assisting Family and Consumer Science classes with cooking, sewing, and other tasks
- Upgrading students' basic skills
- Helping students with disabilities
- Presenting a particular area of expertise and/or interest to classes



IN THE OFFICE:

- Stuffing envelopes for district mailings
- Assisting office personnel with general duties
- Greeting visitors at the front door of the schools
- Typing and computer entry

GENERAL SUPPORT:

- Monitoring cafeterias during lunch periods
- Assisting with playground duty at the elementary schools
- Working in school libraries (filing, shelving books, reading to elementary students)
- Volunteering to chaperone field trips



*Share your knowledge of the past with our leaders of the future!
Enrich the lives of our students by giving your time and sharing your talents!*