

# WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

*School and Community Working Together*

VOLUME 26, No. 4

DECEMBER 2020



## REMOTE INSTRUCTION

*MR. DANIEL AMODEO, PRE-K-12 PRINCIPAL*

We have been able to complete almost the entire first quarter of the school year using our In-Person model. This is a testament to everyone in our school community doing their very best to follow our Health and Safety protocols. Although we have had a short period of time where we have needed to utilize our Remote Learning model, we are hopeful that as you read this newsletter we are back to our In-Person model. In the event we need to move to Remote Learning again, either short-term or long-term, I would like to share some basic expectations and practices to make this as successful as possible.

### Remote Learning Expectations and Practices

- Provide a comfortable and consistent space for students to receive Remote Instruction
- Utilize devices for instructional purposes only
- Follow the Remote Learning schedule posted on our website
- Ensure that students are connecting to their classes every day during their class time as regular attendance is being taken
- Communicate any technology or internet connectivity issues to the school

We understand that given the uncertain times our instructional format may be required to change from time to time. We truly appreciate the flexibility and understanding of our families, students, and teachers. With communication and all of us working together we have the opportunity for our students to obtain the best instruction possible under these circumstances.

## DRIVE-THRU BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**Sunday, December 6, 8:00 a.m. - Noon**

St. John's Hall

*To benefit the WVCS Class of 2021*

Take-out Meals: Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Pancakes (gluten-free also), Potatoes, Coffee, Milk, and Juice.

**Small meal = \$5.00**

**Large meal = \$7.00**

Come enjoy a great breakfast with family and friends, get your picture taken with Santa, and test your luck in our Basket Raffle! \$5.00 per raffle number that is entered for a chance to win each basket. Buy more tickets to increase your chances of winning!

See a member of the senior class or contact Mr. Lembke at [DLembke@wvalley.org](mailto:DLembke@wvalley.org) for tickets!



## COMMUNITY CLOSET

St. John the Baptist Church has a *Free Community Clothes Closet* located behind the church in Bingham Hall from 1-4:00 p.m. every Wednesday or by appointment.

Clothing, shoes, bedding, household items and books are available for Cattaraugus County residents.

Donations of gently worn, clean seasonal items are always welcome.

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment, please call Jacque Conrad at 942-3836.

Thank you very much for the continued support and a successful year.

# DISTRICT IS WORKING ON THREE SEPARATE PROJECTS

BY MARK J. WARD, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

The District is continuing to work on three separate projects that will update our facilities, improve technology and increase safety. The projects come in the form of two capital projects (one was approved in June 2020) and one technology project that is the result of Smart Funds provided to the District by the State of New York. The other capital project is being prepared for a vote on March 30, 2021.

The **first project** is a **Capital Outlay Project** that was approved by the voters in June 2020, not to exceed \$100,000 and that must only address only one of the “trades.” The District has targeted masonry work on the school as well as a safety fence around the dust collector. The details are still being finalized with Young & Wright Associates (our Architects) as we prepare

to send the project to the State Education Department.

Now that the District residents have approved this type of project, the District will be able to do one each year and then receive 85% of the expenditure back the following year. Thus, if you spend \$100,000 you will receive \$85,000 back in building aid the following year. This is a great way to make small repairs and timely upgrades to take advantage of this form of State Education Department funding. Doing small projects and getting an immediate return on our money the following year makes perfect sense.

This project will be submitted soon to the State for approval with contracts and work completed in the spring and summer of 2021. The funds for this project are available from the District’s Capital Reserve and will have no impact on the tax levy.

The **second project** revolves completely around **technology**. As part of the New York State Smart Schools Bond Act, the District was awarded \$436,946 that can be used on technology equipment, improvements, wiring, switches and capital improvements. Currently the Committee has identified the following items that will be addressed in the project scope: upgrade wire fiber and add new switches, upgrade the access control system software and hardware, upgrade WLAN, replace optical fiber cabling with CAT 6A, install 47 new cameras outside and inside the school building

for safety and security, renovations to server and electrical rooms, new network drops and rewiring the building to CAT 6A.

This project is scheduled to be submitted in late December or early January. Currently, the review and approval process as well as the timeline are unknown. We are hoping that we can start work on this within a year. If more information becomes available, we will keep you informed.

The **third project** will be a new **Capital Project** that we have been in the process of developing since the 2019-20 school year. The Board is continuing to define the size and scope of the project with finalization taking place later in December. The Board is looking at several different options based on the dollar value. They are developing a project that includes items that need to be replaced, repaired and are also focusing on items related to health and safety in an effort to upgrade the facilities, much like homeowners do their own homes. The current range of the project is between \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000.

Some of the highlights of the project that are under consideration include replacing the bus garage roof, replacing the playground, lighting improvements (inside and outside), water storage tank, ventilation in weight room, new fire alarm system (required), re-definition of some spaces, and a redesigned entrance that addresses multiple safety issues.

The Board has determined that any project they present to the voters will have no impact on the tax levy. The local share of the project will be covered out of the District’s Capital Reserve Fund. The Board has tentatively scheduled March 30, 2021 for a vote on this project.



## FAMILY NIGHT

West Valley United Methodist Church

Wednesday, December 16  
from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Watching The Grinch (the new one) and  
dinner will be provided. Taco in a bag.

Space is limited and masks are required

To R.S.V.P please text 716-353-6193  
no later than December 12.



## HALLOWEEN PARADE



## WALMART GRANT

West Valley Central School was recently awarded a \$1,500 Community Grant from the Springville Walmart. The funds from the grant will go toward the annual 8th grade field trip to Washington, D.C., paying the way for 11 students to attend.

“The trip gives West Valley students the opportunity to meet students from around the country,” said high school social studies teacher, and DC trip advisor, Rachel Mychajluk. “It is a 4-day, 3-night trip where students visit a variety of museums and tour monuments around the National Mall. Students learn about the historical background that has shaped our nation, learn how government works, and even participate in a Mock Congress.”

Over the past 3 years, West Valley has received a total of \$5,500 in grants for the trip, enough to pay the way for 11 students to attend. The trip takes place in May of each year. Last year’s 8th graders were unable to attend because of the pandemic. And while next spring’s trip is still tentative at this point, Mrs. Mychajluk’s intention is to reschedule any classes who missed the trip for some time during their high school career.

## EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

West Valley Central School District uses the Blackboard Connect system to send an automated message regarding school closings and cancellations of after school activities. The message is sent to your household phone number and to the emergency contacts that you listed at the beginning of this school year. If this information has changed or you would like to verify what is on file, please call Dana Westfall at 942-3100 extension 4111. The District also contacts the following radio and television stations:

Channel 2  
WBEN 930 AM

Channel 4  
WPIG 95.7 FM

Channel 7  
WYRK 106.5 FM





## THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

BY MARK J. WARD, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

With the Christmas season right around the corner, it is a wonderful time of the year to reflect on the impact that the Covid-19 virus has had on our lives. Sometimes it takes situations like this to appreciate what we have and what is truly important.

During the past nine months our world has literally been turned upside down with many people losing family and friends, economic hardship, our inability to visit loved ones in nursing homes and hospitals, shortages of basic items, the need to wear masks, business restrictions and the disruption of many things we have simply taken for granted.

It is often said that living in our fast-moving world does not give us time to think about what is important, so this time of the year is a perfect time to step back, take a breather and reflect. In life we are often faced with many challenges, but we are also afforded many blessings. Life will throw us many “curves” and it is how we respond that tells the most about who we are.

Christmas is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians consider to be the Son of God. Today it is a religious and cultural celebration often associated with gifts, lights, cookies, decorations and cards.

However, Christmas is also a very special time of the year when people seem to go out of their way to help each other. Whether it comes in the form of a gift, money, volunteering time, making or donating food, visiting friends or relatives in a nursing home or simply reaching out to help a person in need, there are countless stories that bring the season to life!

It is this “special feeling” that seems to bring out the absolute best in people. It is this spirit that seems to guide us no matter what personal troubles or hardships we face.

So, as we draw closer to the Christmas season, we are all faced with a time of reflection as we find comfort in the many blessings we have. Whether it is family, good health, good friends, economic stability or being loved there are many things we often take for granted.

Regardless of your religious beliefs, this year—maybe more than any one before—seems to carry with it special meaning as we continue to cope with the impact that the virus has had on our lives.

On behalf of West Valley Central School, may everyone in the West Valley community continue to be safe and well during this special time of the year. May you and your family experience a very healthy New Year!



## SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH INFORMATION

View details about the search process on the West Valley website. (Look for the “Superintendent Search” link in the top navigation bar.)

Application Deadline	November 16, 2020
Preliminary Interviews	January 4, 5, & 6, 2021
Final Interviews	January 19, 20 & 21
Board Meeting for Appointment	On or before February 9, 2021
New Superintendent to Assume Duties	On or before April 5, 2021

## FIRST QUARTER HONOR/MERIT ROLL

**Announcing the following students in grades 7-12 have been named to the honor roll for the first quarter.**

### High Honor Roll

Grade 8 – Maggie Parish, Jack Tharnish

Grade 10 – Chris Amodeo, Ben Fisher

Grade 11 – Kayleann Kowalski

Grade 12 – Chloe Chai, Leah Seltzer



### Honor Roll

Grade 7 – Payton Ehnes

Grade 8 – Isabella Gibson, Walker Herbert, Eve Niesyty

Grade 9 – Samantha Kowalski

Grade 10 – Jacob Coluci, Kasper Heitman, Zander Smith, Nolan Spencer, Zach Westfall

Grade 12 – Rodney Boberg, Alex Fisher, Aaron Ignatowski

### Merit Roll

Grade 7 – Brandon Nye, Presley Soderlund, William St.Clair, Liliana Toms

Grade 8 – Victoria Parish, Hailey Robbins

Grade 9 – Nick Peters

Grade 10 – Colleen Keller

Grade 11 – Janette Calkins

Grade 12 – Isabella Draine-Soto, Kyle Hickey, Grace Keller, Kaley McCracken





## OUTDOOR RECREATION CLUB

On Monday, November 10, the Outdoor Recreation Club attended their first outing at "The Griffin," Springville's new disc golf course. Students were able to build on the skills that they learned during their recent disc golf physical education unit.

Altogether, 10 students participated and were able to get in 2+ rounds during the unseasonably warm November day.

The club has five more activities planned throughout the year so keep an eye on the announcements or swing by Mr. Lembke's room for details.

Our tentative outings include: An early winter hike/snowshoe, X/C ski day, fishing excursion, bike ride, kayaking, and possibly going to a ropes course.



## LIVE NATIVITY DRIVE-THRU

We are excited to announce that the West Valley Clever Clovers 4H joined with St. John's and St. Paul's Church Youth to create a "Covid safe" drive-thru live nativity!

**Friday, December 18, 6 - 8:00 p.m.**  
St. John's Catholic Church in West Valley

Come and experience the true Christmas story unfold with our youth and live animals!! Enjoy a heartwarming evening safely from your vehicle as you drive through starting on School St. and ending on Depot St.

Any donations collected will go to the WV Community Clothes Closet.

**Rain/snowstorm date will be December 19.**

For more information please contact Shannon Niesyty at 716-983-5026 or Tracy Ploetz at 716-381-7189.



## NAMI ONLINE COURSE FOR FAMILIES

Statistics show that about 20% of adults and over 15% of youths (ages 6-17) experience a mental health disorder every year. That means that many of us, or someone we care about, face the challenge of living with a mental health disorder. Because of the pandemic, people are struggling even more. And yet so few of us talk about it.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) is an organization that provides education and support for families dealing with a mental health condition like depression, anxiety, bi-polar disorder and more.

After participating as a member of the class last year and training as a support group leader this fall, Mrs. Lewis just completed the training to be a leader for the NAMI Family to Family class.

*"Family to Family is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program. This means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition. NAMI Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there, and includes presentations, discussions and interactive exercises."*

Mrs. Lewis said, "The class was a great source of information for me that helped me prepare for the journey I've been on for the last year with a member of my family. I thought I knew a lot about mental health and mental illness but there was so much more to learn, and I found a lot of emotional support by talking with other people who understood because they've been walking this journey too. Learning about local resources and navigating the system of treatment helped me not to feel so lost in the midst of our family's crisis."

Because of COVID, all NAMI programs are currently meeting online instead of in person. This winter, after the holidays, a new Family to Family class will be starting on Zoom. Mrs. Lewis and another volunteer from the Buffalo and Erie County NAMI affiliate will be leading it. In order to take the course, you must be 18 years old and have a person that you care about who lives with a mental health condition.

If you are interested in finding out more about participating in the free Family to Family class, send an email with your contact info (email address and phone number) to [Online@namibuffalony.org](mailto:Online@namibuffalony.org). Include "Subject "F2F 2021 class interest" in the subject line. Or you can call the local NAMI Office (716-226-6264) and leave your information. When there is more information about when the class will start, someone will reach out to you.

Statistics and quote from <https://nami.org>.

*Informational Graphics on Page 6 and 7.*

# Common **WARNING SIGNS** of Mental Illness

Diagnosing mental illness isn't a straightforward science. We can't test for it the same way we can test blood sugar levels for diabetes. Each condition has its own set of unique symptoms, though symptoms often overlap. Common signs and/or symptoms can include:

- 
- ! Feeling very sad or withdrawn for more than two weeks
  - ! Trying to harm or end one's life or making plans to do so
  - ! Severe, out-of-control, risk-taking behavior that causes harm to self or others
  - ! Sudden overwhelming fear for no reason, sometimes with a racing heart, physical discomfort or difficulty breathing
  - ! Significant weight loss or gain
  - ! Seeing, hearing or believing things that aren't real\*
  - ! Excessive use of alcohol or drugs
  - ! Drastic changes in mood, behavior, personality or sleeping habits
  - ! Extreme difficulty concentrating or staying still
  - ! Intense worries or fears that get in the way of daily activities

\*Various communities and backgrounds might view this sign differently based on their beliefs and experiences. Some people within these communities and cultures may not interpret hearing voices as unusual.

## WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT?

? If you notice any of these symptoms, it's important to ask questions



Try to understand what they're experiencing and how their daily life is impacted



Making this connection is often the first step to getting treatment

## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



Talk with a health care professional



Learn more about mental illness



Take a mental health education class



Call the NAMI HelpLine at 800-950-NAMI (6264)

**50%**  
of all lifetime mental illness begins by age  
**14**

**75%**  
by age  
**24**

Data from CDC, NIMH and other select sources. Find citations for this resource at [nami.org/mhstats](http://nami.org/mhstats)

 NAMI HelpLine  
800-950-NAMI (6264)

 NAMI

 NAMICommunicate

 NAMICommunicate

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

 **nami**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness



# You are NOT ALONE

Millions of people are affected by mental illness each year. Across the country, many people just like you work, perform, create, compete, laugh, love and inspire every day.



1 in 5 U.S. adults  
experience  
mental illness

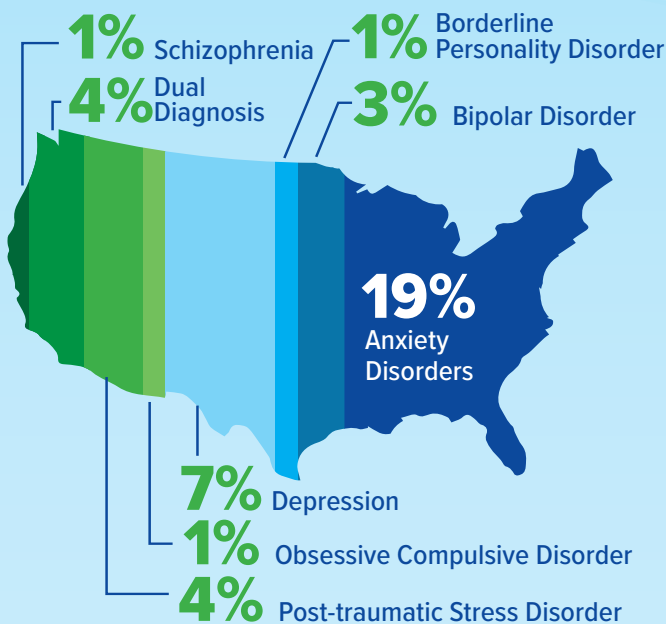
## 1 in 25

1 in 25 U.S. adults  
experience serious  
mental illness

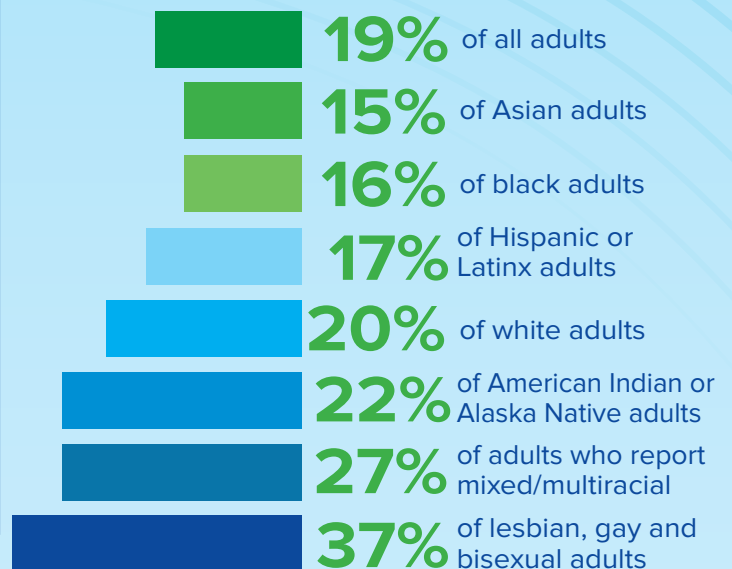
## 17%

of youth (6-17 years)  
experience a mental  
health disorder

### 12 MONTH PREVALENCE OF COMMON MENTAL ILLNESSES (ALL U.S. ADULTS)



### 12 MONTH PREVALENCE OF ANY MENTAL ILLNESS (ALL U.S. ADULTS)



### WAYS TO REACH OUT AND GET HELP



Talk with a health  
care professional



Call the NAMI  
HelpLine at  
800-950-NAMI (6264)



Connect with  
friends and family



Join a support group

Data from CDC, NIMH and other select sources. Find citations for this resource at [nami.org/mhstats](http://nami.org/mhstats)

NAMI HelpLine  
800-950-NAMI (6264)

f NAMI

Twitter NAMICommunicate

Instagram NAMICommunicate

www.nami.org

**nami**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness



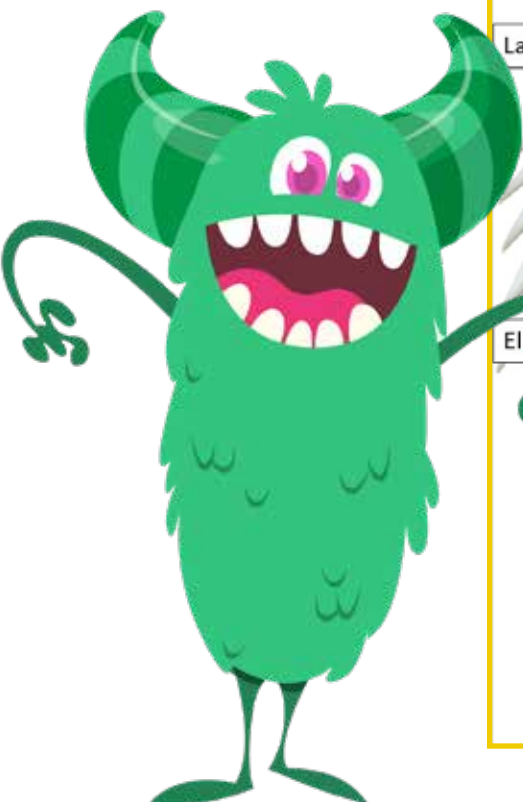
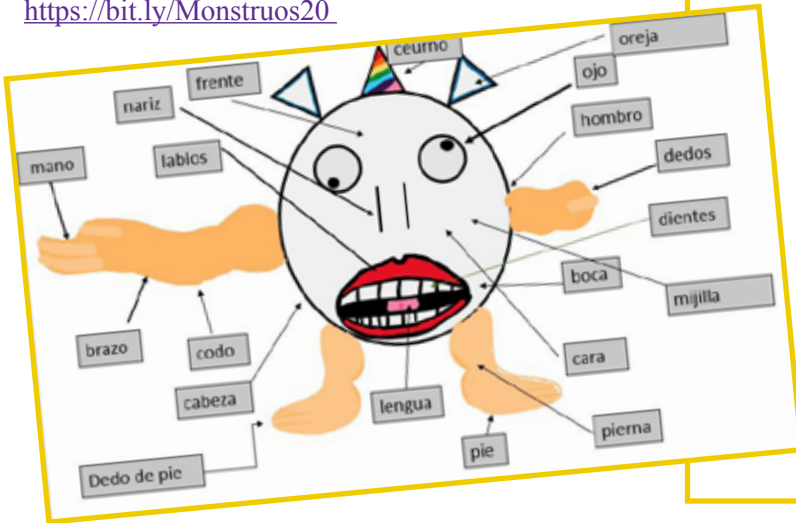
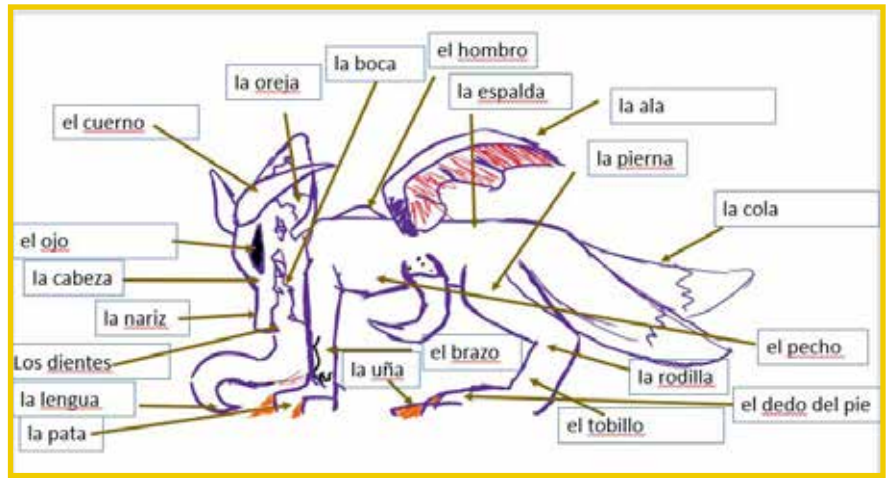


# NUESTRO MONSTRUOS

Eighth grade Spanish students completed a monstrous project in October. In order to practice the Spanish words for parts of the body, students created a monster, labeled it, and wrote a short paragraph describing the monster in Spanish. Students enjoyed this project because it gave them a chance to be creative!

Here are a few of our monsters:

Check them all out with the QR code or by going to:  
<https://bit.ly/Monstruos20>



El monstruo tiene dos brazos.  
 El monstruo tiene dos orejas.  
 El monstruo tiene dos dientes.  
 El monstruo tiene uno cola.  
 El monstruo tiene dos alas.

El monstruo tiene diez dedos.  
 El monstruo tiene dos muñeca.  
 El monstruo tiene dos ojos.  
 El monstruo tiene lengua rosado.  
 El monstruo tiene pelo café



# YEARBOOK PERSONAL ADS

*Place a personal ad in the yearbook  
for one of our seniors!*

Making your ad is simple. Just fill out the form, include any pictures you'd like us to use, and attach payment. Return this form along with your pictures to Mrs. Mumbach, to the office, or to Mrs. Mazzuto by January 15, 2021

**Prices:** 1/2 Page (8.5" x 5.5") = \$50.00  
1/4 Page (4.25" x 5.5") = \$25.00  
Full Page (8.5" x 11") - \$100.00

These ads can include pictures and text or just text. They can be hand-written or emailed. All work will be recreated AS IT WAS WRITTEN. Photos may be digital or actual photos. Photos will be returned. If photo is scanned, please make sure the resolution is at least 300 dpi. Ad size may limit space.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Photos included for this Ad  
(please put your name on the back of all photos)

Text wanted in the ad: (i.e., "We love you Suzy!")  
Write it below or attached a typed version or email to:  
jmumbach@wvalley.wnyric.org

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment options:

Bring your payment with this form to the front office in an envelope with your name on it, send it with your student, or mail it to WVCS, 5359 School St., West Valley, NY 14171, ATTN: J. Mumbach (checks payable to WVCS Yearbook)

Type of ad (i.e., full page ad)

Amount (Price Paid) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

***\*\*Please do not create your own ad. it may not be compatible with our software.***

## YEARBOOK SALES

**The last day to order a yearbook will be  
March 31, 2021.**

**There will be only a few extras ordered so  
please get yours soon.**

The cost of this year's FULL COLOR yearbook is \$50.00. A deposit of \$25.00 will hold your yearbook. The final payment of \$25.00 will be due by March 31, 2021.

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Date Ordered \_\_\_\_\_



# STAY INFORMED & CONNECTED!



**West Valley Central School**  
Home of the Wildcats

**WWW.WVALLEY.WNYRIC.ORG**



# HEART BEAT

It's hard to believe the first quarter has come to an end! It seems like just last week we were going over the new rules and procedures that take place in the art room. The first ten weeks have been different than what our school has been used to in the past, but it has not changed the spirit of our art students. They have been eager to get back to making and creating, and their enthusiasm shows through in their work.

Our first and second graders have been studying different designs originating from Native American tribes. They

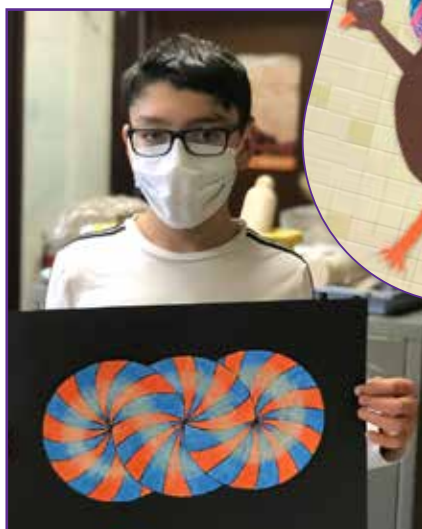
used those designs as inspiration when creating feathers for a large, collaborative turkey. Fourth and fifth grade students are completing a unit on radial designs, learning the difference between symmetry and radial symmetry. Studio in Art students recently completed a project with the focus on cubism and shape. Learning about Pablo Picasso and abstract art, students drew their own abstracted images. Ceramic students learned a new technique of drawing into their clay, revealing the clay body beneath a glazed layer, called sgraffito. Students in graphic design are well on their way to expanding their digital art skills and are designing

gift cards for the holiday season.

Our featured artist for the month is junior Kayleann Kowalski. She is one of West Valley's remote learners but it has not ceased her academic and artistic development. Some of her favorites include "The Girl in the Moss" book series, Fast & Furious, KitKats, and summer and fall. Kayleann's favorite thing to do in art is drawing and painting. "She was new to the district two years ago and I was instantly amazed with her artistic ability," says art teacher Hannah Mazzuto. "She puts forth so much effort into everything she does and it's a pleasure to be her teacher." Outside of school, Kayleann loves kayaking, mudding, gardening, and camping. Great job, Kayleann!



Addy Smith



Cole Holstein



- Featured Artist - Kayleann Kowalski



Fox by Kayleann Kowalski



By Bethany Stanier



Fish by Kayleann Kowalski



Lion by Kayleann Kowalski



## DECEMBER 2020 - GRADES PREK-12 - BREAKFAST MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Nov. 30</b> Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>1</b> Pillsbury Cinni Mini, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>2</b> Assorted Muffins, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>3</b> Sausage, Egg, & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>4</b> Raspberry Churro, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk
<b>7</b> Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>8</b> Bacon, Egg, & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>9</b> Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>10</b> Rich's WG Donut, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>11</b> Open Face Chicken & Gravy Sandwich w/creamy mashed potatoes, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk
<b>14</b> Ham, Egg, & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>15</b> Pillsbury Cinni Mini, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>16</b> Raspberry Churro, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>17</b> Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>18</b> Assorted Muffins, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk
<b>21</b> Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>22</b> Pillsbury Cinni Mini, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>23</b> Rich's WG Donut, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	<b>24</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>25</b> <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK
<b>28</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>29</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>31</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>Jan. 1</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK

**MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGES**

**REMEMBER, if you are approved free for Lunch, you are automatically approved for Breakfast!**

## DECEMBER 2020 - GRADES PREK-12 - LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Nov. 30</b> Hamburger or Cheeseburger on a Bun with choice of Lettuce and Tomato or BLT ----- French Fries	<b>1</b> 8" Soft Shell Taco w/ Seasoned Rice or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Corn / Salsa 1/4 cup	<b>2</b> Chicken Fajitas with Sautéed Peppers & Onions and Rice or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Broccoli	<b>3</b> Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad / Mixed Veggies	<b>4</b> Meatballs & Garlic Bread w/Rotini or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Green Beans / Carrots
<b>7</b> Sweet & Sour Pork w/Rice or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Green Beans	<b>8</b> Taco in a Bag with all the toppings or BLT ----- Buttered Corn / Salsa	<b>9</b> Chicken Fingers w/Dip & French Fries or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Carrot	<b>10</b> Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad	<b>11</b> Open Face Chicken & Gravy Sandwich w/ Creamy Mashed Potatoes or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Peas
<b>14</b> Bacon Burger on a Bun or Chicken Salad Sandwich ----- French Fries / Peas	<b>15</b> Nacho Grande w/ Tostito Chips or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Corn / Salsa	<b>16</b> BBQ Pulled Pork on a Bun or Egg Salad Sandwich ----- Pasta Salad	<b>17</b> Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad	<b>18</b> Oven Roasted Chicken & Creamy Mashed Potatoes or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Green Beans / Warm Dinner Roll
<b>21</b> Mac & Cheese w/ Roll or Egg Salad Sandwich ----- Buttered Green Beans	<b>22</b> Taco Chili: Ground Beef w/ Peppers, Tomatoes, Onions, and Taco Seasoning or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Carrots / Roll	<b>23</b> Chicken Patty on Bun or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Broccoli / Seasoned Noodles	<b>24</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>25</b> <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK
<b>28</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>29</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>31</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	<b>Jan. 1</b> NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK

**MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGES**



# WEST VALLEY CONTINUES WORK ON IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

**MR. DANIEL AMODEO, PRE-K-12 PRINCIPAL**



West Valley continues to work with various stakeholders to evaluate our programs, systems, and instruction to improve our students' achievement. We know the value in this work but also understand that continuous improvement is a long-term process that will lead to sustainability in future years.

## Family Engagement

We would like to thank all the families that attended our Parent/Family Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) meeting on October 29th that was facilitated by Tim Cox, Assistant Superintendent at CA BOCES. This presentation provides valuable information for our families with respect to our school's performance and our ESSA designation for this school year. A link to the presentation is on our website for families to view. All that attended had a chance to complete a survey to assist us in our planning for school improvement. Currently, that survey is no longer available. However, we plan to provide another opportunity for families to complete the

survey and provide us with additional information that we can use in formalizing our improvement plans.

## Continuing to Improve Student Achievement

Our teachers' work with CA BOCES instructional coaches has continued through November. Presently, all our teachers in grades K-6 have had the opportunity for one-on-one coaching sessions. These sessions will continue throughout the year and are focused on implementing the NYS ELA Modules as our consistent curriculum resource for delivery of student standards. In the very near future CA BOCES will be working with our 7-12 ELA teachers to align the work being done in the Elementary with our Middle and High School students. Our 7-12 Math teachers have begun their work with CA BOCES coaches during November and we will plan the scope of our work moving forward.

## Formalizing our School Improvement Plan

Throughout October and November and in addition to our collaboration with CA BOCES, we have been working with Erie 1 BOCES on gathering data, reviewing our programs, and determining areas of improvement with the current systems we have in place. This work is moving rapidly and will eventually lead to the formal development of our District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) and our School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP). We will continue to engage stakeholders, seek input, and share ideas throughout this process as we strive to improve our student's achievement.

# WEST VALLEY FOOD BANK - DATE CHANGES

The West Valley Food Pantry will be open by appointment only until further notice. To make an appointment call Kris Aldrow at 942-6690. If you need emergency food please call and I will arrange a pickup or delivery time.

Most orders will be filled on normal food bank days.

- **December Food Bank** will be open:
  - Regular Food Bank Wednesday December 9 from 1-4:00 p.m.
- **Christmas boxes** will be given out:
  - Saturday, December 19 from 10:30-12 noon
  - Monday, December 22 from 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- **Produce Drive Thru** for the month of December is Wednesday, December 23 from 1-2:30 p.m. - **ALL WELCOME!!**

*Remember the blessing box located at st. Paul's united methodist church in west valley is available and open all day and evenings. The blessing box has many non-perishable items.*

### The food pantry is in need of the following items:

Canned fruit: especially pears, mandarin oranges, pineapple;  
Noodles; canned vegetables: carrots, corn (no green beans);  
cream soups; salad dressing including mayonnaise; paper  
towels; toilet paper; laundry detergent

We would also like to thank the community for their support during the pandemic our needs have increased. Your support is allowing us to serve: 28- 30 Families, 27 children, 36 adults and 17 seniors every two weeks.

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting  
Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Early Winter Break  
December 24, 2020 through  
January 1, 2021





## IDENTITY PROJECT

Sixth graders in Mrs. Mazzuto's art class worked on an "Identity Project" in which they drew a self-portrait (with and without a mask) and wrote positive characteristics about who they are.



Strong A Good Friend  
Kind Funny Silly  
Friendly Energetic Brave  
Love Confident Loving  
Smart Peace Great  
Respectful





# WEST VALLEY ATHLETICS

## *Student-Athletes to watch for!*

### JACK THARNISH

Jack is an 8th grade student running on the Varsity Boys Cross Country team. Jack ran in the team's 5 races this season including the ECIC qualifier at East Aurora high school. He finished the season as one of the team's top runners. Jack accomplished his personal goal of a sub 20-minute 5k race by running a 19:10. His continued hard work and dedication is truly what makes Jack so special.

### MARA SWAN

Mara is a 9th grade student swimming on the Girls' Varsity Swim team. This is her first season swimming with Springville and she has become one of the team's sprinters. Mara's top time for the 50-meter freestyle is 31.28 and in the 100-meter freestyle, 1:11.88. Mara's favorite part about swimming is being put in races against her friends because she enjoys the competitive nature. Mara made a major impact as the Girl's Swim team finished the season 6-2.

### MAGDALENA PARISH

Maggie is an 8th grade student in her second season with the Girl's Varsity Swim program. Maggie swam in many different events this year. She was able to finish the 100-meter freestyle in 1:16, the 100-meter backstroke in 1 minute and 30 seconds and her personal best in the 500-meter, finishing in 7 minutes and 14 seconds. Maggie continues to be a leader in the classroom and in the pool; we look forward to her accomplishments in the coming years.

West Valley had athletes participating in Varsity Boys Soccer, Modified Girls Soccer, Varsity & Modified Boys/Girls Cross Country and Varsity Girls Swim. We are very proud of our athletes representing the West Valley Way both in the classroom and on the athletics playing field. For the upcoming winter season West Valley will combine with Springville in Wrestling, Boys Swimming and Boys/Girls Indoor Track. West Valley will continue our own Boys & Girls Bowling team. Please stay tuned for more great athletic accomplishments.

# 2020 VIRTUAL NYSCTAE CONFERENCE

Kim Lewis, Spanish teacher at WVCS for over twenty years, presented six sessions at the 2020 Virtual NYSCTAE Conference.

- Redefine Student Projects with Sway
- One place! One Hub! Microsoft Teams Best Practices (Recorded poster session with fellow WVCS teachers Bryan Hansen, Rachel Mychajluk, Allison Kloepper)
- Rejuvenate Twitter with Tweet Deck
- Nearpod Your Digital Swiss Army Knife
- Like Chocolate & Peanut Butter – Microsoft Teams & Nearpod are better together
- Student Engagement Vol 1 – Nearpod (with Laurie Guyon)



## TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

If you are in need of any technology support, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Bryan Hansen at 716-942-3100 ext. 4108 or by email [bhansen@wvalley.org](mailto:bhansen@wvalley.org). Please remember to explain your problem in as much detail as possible.





## CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY (PRE-K)

Students from Miss Pfeffer's Pre-K class posed in front of the monument dedicated to the men and women from the Town of Ashford who have served in the Armed Forces.

The pictures will be made into cards that the class will send to local veterans. They will also be used to make placemats for The Station Bistro.

*(Special thanks to Matthew Proctor, WVCS Class of 2016, for editing the photos for Miss Pfeffer so the flag would pop!)*



## PARENT DASHBOARD

The New York State Education Department developed a Parent Dashboard to increase transparency and make school-level data easier for parents and the public to access. Find information about West Valley Central School and provide feedback here:

<https://data.nysed.gov/parents>.



New York State  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

## VETERANS DAY BULLETIN BOARD

*Special thanks to Mrs. Mychajluk for putting together our Veterans Day Bulletin Board.*





## WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

5359 School St.  
West Valley, NY 14171  
(716) 942-3100

NON PROFIT  
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Permit No. 5  
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## ADMINISTRATION

**Mark J. Ward**, Interim Superintendent  
**Mr. Daniel Amodeo**, Pre-K–12 Principal  
**Ann O'Brien**, Business Official  
**Shawna Gugino**, Director of Special Education

[WWW.WVALLEY.WNYRIC.ORG](http://WWW.WVALLEY.WNYRIC.ORG)

