



DISTRICT PLACES FINISHING TOUCHES ON \$3,875,000 CAPITAL PROJECT

BY MARK J. WARD, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

**SAFETY | SECURITY |
NEW COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND |
MAINTAIN FACILITY | IMPROVEMENTS**

When the Board, administration and staff started to assess the need for a project during the 2019-20 school year they used the District's Building Condition Survey as a guide to identify areas and items that needed updates or improvements. The Building Condition Survey is a study performed by architects every five years as a way for the State Education Department to monitor and track the potential needs of school districts across the State. It provides the District a guide for items that need to be replaced, improved or fixed. Planning for the capital project was started last year but with COVID-19 and other changes it was placed on hold. In the last few months, the project has been activated once more.

Since the District has not done any substantial work to the buildings since 1999, there are a lot of items that need to be addressed. Like our own homes, after 21 years of letting things go, the list of items that need to be addressed has grown much longer. As you review the scope of the project, you will see that many of the items simply need upgrades and in some cases replacements. Lighting, flooring, roof, doors, lockers, sinks, heating units, ventilation and the fire alarm system are many of the items the project will address.

As the project started to take shape, it became abundantly clear that establishing a secure single point of entry was something the school was missing. Everyone felt strongly that changes were needed to improve District safety and security. These changes will require some remodeling inside and outside the building in order to establish a secure entrance for all students, staff, parents and visitors.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Students in grades 4-12 have had the opportunity to practice their archery skills in Physical Education class this semester. This is the first time West Valley has participated in an archery unit and many of the students have been thrilled and successful. Archery is an excellent individual activity that promotes a safe environment and allows students to develop new skills while working on developing math and other educational skills. Mrs. Lindberg has led the archery unit and is constantly finding new ways to challenge her students. She has placed different objects on the archery targets such as balloons and stickers and has given away countless prizes. Students have learned about archery safety, different parts of the bow as well as the archery scoring system.



Initially, another \$1,700,000 to \$2,000,000 worth of items were identified by architects on the Building Condition Survey and reported to the State as areas that require attention. When the Board started to review the list, they narrowed the scope to those things that needed the most immediate attention.

The District plans to bring the capital project before the voters on Tuesday, March 9, 2021.

Project Highlights (major items):

- Remodel several science classrooms upgrading lab areas
- Construct a new playground
- Remodel nurse's office
- Replace lockers and install ~130 new ones
- Reconfigure the general office areas to take better advantage of the space.
- Add a secure entrance canopy and vestibule between the original building and the gym.
- Replace some flooring (carpet and tile)
- Install new LED lighting in classrooms
- Remove existing ACT and replace ceilings and grid
- Fire Alarm System: add classroom strobes, replace wiring and power supplies
- Replace gym and auditorium lighting with energy efficient LED lights
- Remove and replace exhaust fan in kitchen
- Replace classroom sinks (elementary)
- Provide ventilation for weight room
- Add air conditioning to library

Bus Garage

- Replace entire roof
- Provide new insulated overhead doors

Beyond the costs associated with safety, security, as well as a new community playground, most of the project deals with general maintenance, upgrades and improvements. The Board has a responsibility to maintain the building for the benefit of the students and staff who are here every day. As nobody knows what the future holds, it is important to maintain the value and integrity of the building by keeping it up to date.

In the future, there will be several public meetings scheduled with Zoom capabilities also available. If you have questions about the project, please do not hesitate to call me at the school (716-942-3100).

The entire project will result in no increase in taxes as the Board will use money from the "Capital Reserve Fund" to cover the local share. A more detailed publication about the project will be sent out in February.

SOFTBALL AND TRACK & FIELD ARE BACK!!!

West Valley Central School is happy to announce the addition of Boys' Track & Field and Girls' Softball to our athletics program starting in the Spring of 2021. This is first time since 2014 either program has been run at West Valley. Athletic Director Chris Schiumo is very excited to have these opportunities for the West Valley students and community. "It has been my number one goal as Athletic Director at West Valley to increase the interest of sports within our student body and to establish more sports teams here," said Schiumo. "It's important to me that our students can participate in sports. It's even more important to me that they have the opportunity to put on a West Valley uniform and create those memories with their friends that will last forever."

Athletics have so many benefits besides just being physically active. With athletics, young adults have the chance to develop teamwork, communication strategies, commitment and leadership just to name a few. With the support of the Board of Education, administration, teachers and staff, we are very excited to begin this new journey and hope to establish these teams for years to come. Spring sports are slated to begin in April.

Collecting Can Tabs

To benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities



Please send to WVCS

Attention: Mrs. Ford

Happy New Year!



TARGETED SUPPORT PLAN APPROVED AT WEST VALLEY

MR. DANIEL AMODEO, PRE-K-12 PRINCIPAL

Throughout the last several months and while continuing to provide in-person instruction, West Valley has been working with Erie 1 BOCES and the New York State Department of Education to develop a support plan towards improving our students' achievement and performance.

Support Plan

A comprehensive needs assessment with our facilitators from Erie 1 BOCES included a review of our school's data, instruction at the classroom (Tier 1), remediation (Tier 2), and special education levels (Tier 3). The needs assessment conducted also investigated our processes and procedures for monitoring and addressing student achievement.

In completing the needs assessment, we were able to identify our priorities and activities for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Determined Priorities and Activities

Instruction

- Establishing a Leadership Team and Coordination between the Leadership Team, K-6 General
- Education Faculty, K-6 Special Education Faculty, CABOCES Instructional Coaches and the Partnership
- Differentiated Professional Development to include: Explicit Instruction (EI), Specially Designed Instruction (SDI), IEP implementation
- Coaching in the use and implementation of instructional strategies
- Technical assistance for finding, selecting, and implementing evidence-based practices (EBP) to address instructional problems

Data-based decision-making

- Technical assistance for developing and implementing data and progress monitoring tools
- Professional development and coaching for implementation of data-based instructional decision-making
- Individual and group learning based on ongoing assessment and feedback

This Support Plan is complementary to our overall District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) that will be submitted to NYSED for review later in the month. Our designation as a Targeted School for student performance in 3-8 ELA and Math in the student subgroup of Special Education requires that we work with multiple agencies. Therefore, the Support Plan developed with Erie 1 BOCES satisfies the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) portion of what we need to do. The DCIP will satisfy the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) part while Mrs. Gugino is working with the Special Education Quality Assurance department (SEQA) through NYSED to ensure effective processes and procedures within our Special Education Department.

We are excited to move forward with improving our students' performance and recognize that what we put into place now will form the foundations for future successes in the short term and successes that are sustainable.



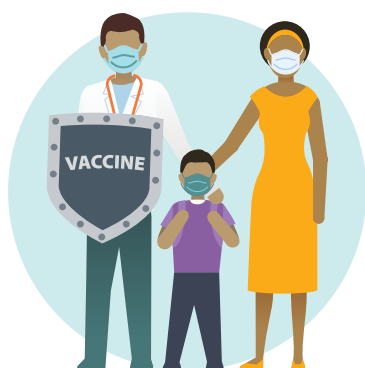
Facts about COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccines (shots) are one of the tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.



To stop this pandemic, we need to use all of our prevention tools. Vaccines are one of the most effective tools to protect your health and prevent disease. Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses so **your body will be ready to fight the virus**, if you are exposed (also called immunity). Other steps, like wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you don't live with, also help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Studies show that COVID-19 **vaccines are very effective** at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. These vaccines cannot give you the disease itself.



The vaccines are safe. The U.S. vaccine safety system makes sure that all vaccines are as safe as possible. All the COVID-19 vaccines that are being used have gone through the same safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines produced through the years. A system in place across the entire country that allows CDC to watch for safety issues and make sure the vaccines stay safe.



Different types of COVID-19 vaccines will be available.

Most of these vaccines are given in two shots, one at a time and spaced apart. The first shot gets your body ready. The second shot is given at least three weeks later to make sure you have full protection. If you are told you need two shots, make sure that you get both of them. The vaccines may work in slightly different ways, but all types of the vaccines will help protect you.



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines





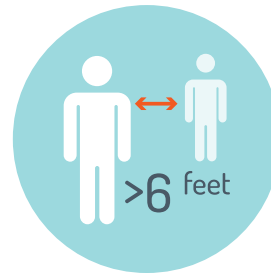
The vaccines may cause side effects in some people, like sore muscles, feeling tired, or mild fever. These reactions mean the vaccine is working to help teach your body how to fight COVID-19 if you are exposed. For most people, these side effects will last no longer than a day or two.

Having these types of side effects does NOT mean that you have COVID-19. If you have questions about your health after your shot, call your doctor, nurse, or clinic. As with any medicine, it is rare but possible to have a serious reaction, such as not being able to breathe. It is very unlikely that this will happen, but if it does, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.



When you get the vaccine, you *and* your healthcare worker will both need to wear masks.

CDC recommends that during the pandemic, people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth when in contact with others outside their household, when in healthcare facilities, and when receiving any vaccine, including a COVID-19 vaccine.



Even after you get your vaccine, you will need to keep wearing a mask that covers your nose **and** mouth, washing your hands often, and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you do not live with. This gives you and others the best protection from catching the virus. Right now, experts don't know how long the vaccine will protect you, so it's a good idea to continue following the guidelines from CDC and your health department. **We also know not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away, so it's still important to protect yourself and others.**

FIFTH GRADERS LEARN TO CODE IN LIBRARY

The fifth grade students have started working on a coding unit in library. West Valley received a set of 10 Microbits (small codable microcomputers) from the Eisenhower Grant. As an introduction to the unit, the students practiced creating codes and downloading them to their Microbit. We have been discussing what data is, what types of data exist, and how to protect our data. As part of this unit, students will be learning how to code their Microbit into a sensor that will collect temperature data throughout the school. The students are developing 21st Century Skills and learning all while having fun and being creative.



Aaron Stoops



Dominic Fuller



Gavin Stanier

To all donors and supporters of the
WVCS Senior Class Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser:

THANK YOU

The morning was a success, and together we served around 100 take-out breakfasts and raffled 50 donated baskets from local businesses and community members. Altogether, we raised a total of more than \$1,300. This money will go far in helping our class go on a senior trip and to cover other senior expenses. Thank you for donating and for weathering the cold. We couldn't have done this without your support and generosity!

- WVCS Class of 2021



COIN WARS 2020

**1, 2, 3, 4 we declare a winner of the
3rd Annual Coin Wars!**

The 8th Grade won Coin Wars with almost 53,000 points! All told West Valley raised almost \$600 for charity! The 8th Grade will donate the money to Riley's Warriors which supports a former student from West Valley that is fighting cancer. The 8th Grade will also enjoy a movie and pizza party night. The Student Council thanks everyone who got involved. We're so proud of our West Valley Family!



POETRY AT WEST VALLEY

NATALIE GALVIN

Every week my class takes five of their spelling words and composes them into a short story. Every week, Samantha goes above and beyond and blends five of her spelling words into a beautiful poem! I wanted to share how great of a sixth-grade writer she is!

Poem by Samantha Fisher

Transitioning seasons

The brown corn in the fall
reminds us all
that the summer is starting to fade
On the ground lay
the sad crops
that couldn't make it another day
And as winter returns
the browning ferns
start to get covered in frost
The evening comes, and I begin to get lost
in the white blanket's gaze
The coating of frost
covers the forest
and the hazy mist starts to spread
and it starts to downpour, yet again.
Watching the sky's tears fall,
knowing they'll soon freeze,
reminds me of this knowledge.
that I could make a wreath.
The branches of pine trees,
the berries of bushes,
the leaves of mistletoe,
those are what I should grow.
To embrace the winter,
shining and bright,
you have to see it in light.

WEST VALLEY COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY



Those of us serving the West Valley Food Bank would like to thank community members who contributed to the WVSC National Honor Society Food Drive. The Honor Society collected over 200 pounds of food. We would also like to thank the staff that donated food, supplies, and monetary donations throughout the year. The donations made to the Food Pantry were distributed to many families and individuals in the West Valley School District during and after the holiday season. With your help and support our pantry was able to provide over 10,000 meals in our community this past year. Thanks for your continued support.

The West Valley Food Pantry
KRISTINE ALDROW PANTRY COORDINATOR

LOCATED AT FOX VALLEY ROAD
ASHFORD TOWN BARN
SERVING THE TOWN OF ASHFORD AND THE
WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
OPEN THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH
FROM 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

OR FOR EMERGENCY NEEDS CALL
KRIS 716-942-6690
Or
AMY FRANK 942-6657

IF W.V. SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR WEATHER
W. V. FOOD PANTRY WILL NOT BE OPEN

YEARBOOK NOTICE

Parents/Guardians of remote students:

If you would like your picture in the yearbook please send a head shot.

If you would like your children on the sibling page in the yearbook, please send a group shot to jmumbach@wvvalley.org.

Thank you!





HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK



TECH AND WOODWORKING

MR. STEAD

Tech 7

Students in Tech 7 made a peg board game by following a layout drawing, measuring, using a bandsaw, belt sander and drill press. They hand sanded the game before finishing with their choice of stain and/or clear coat.

Tech 8

Students in Tech 8 have been learning about various types of bridges, their importance for our transportation infrastructure, along with engineering concepts and terms. The students designed and built model balsa bridges and then tested each bridge in order to determine its structural efficiency.

Students are also making small toolboxes and using lathes to turn exotic wood blanks into their own pen or mechanical pencil.

Woodworking

Students in woodworking are working on various projects this quarter, including cutting boards, fishing pole racks, entertainment centers, and wall shelves.



THE FRACTIONAL INCH				
NAME	Length	Width	Area	Volume
Gracie	19.0g	20.0in	472.5	
Walter	18.3g	16.7in	404.0	
Eve	15.3g	25.6in	754.0	
Madge	25.3g	24.6in		
Hayley	27.1g	18.2in		
Nashale	17.6g	15.6in		
Maddie	20.0g	16.0in		
Jack	25.2g	18.0in		
Josh				



A Word from Mr. Stead:

"I feel now more than ever that it is important and beneficial for students to have the opportunity to work hands-on with tools and machines to make projects without being on a computer."

Eve Niesyty is pictured with her bridge before we tested it. She came in 1st place in the bridge efficiency competition.

NEW CONFERENCE ROOM

We are pleased to be able to show you the results of transforming what was once a maintenance room into a new multi-purpose Conference Room. The conference room received new flooring, furniture and a fresh coat of paint. Pictures from the District's archives were printed and installed with some photos dating back to the original West Valley schoolhouse.

A grant from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) funded technology upgrades in the West Valley Conference Room. The grant allowed for the purchase and installation of a Zoom Cart that increases our video conferencing capabilities. The cart features two 55" interactive touch screen TVs, JBL speakers and a microphone sound bar.

It certainly is a great addition to the school and is already being used for CSE meetings and small group gatherings.



STAY INFORMED & CONNECTED!



West Valley Central School
Home of the Wildcats

WWW.WVALLEY.WNYRIC.ORG

PTO Meetings

The PTO will be having its monthly meeting on January 5th at 7:00 p.m. February's meeting will be on February 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Please consider joining us on Zoom for these meetings.

Contact Jody Thiel at jthiel@wvalley.org for the link to the meeting. Thank you for your continued support of the students at West Valley Central.



THE ARTISTS OF WEST VALLEY

The Art Department is excited to ring in the New Year and start 2021 off with some exciting projects.

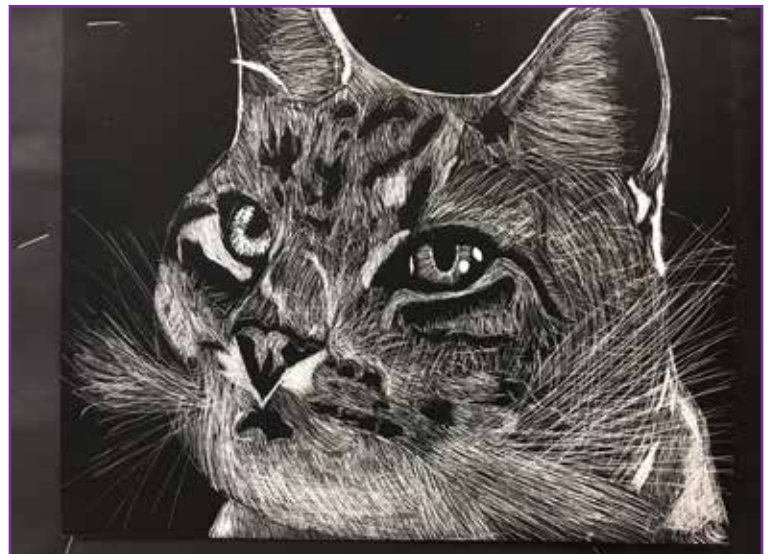
Mrs. Lechner has started off the new year focusing on a winter theme. Her students have been drawing out different views of snowmen. Kindergarten did some experimenting with crayons and watercolor for the background around the closeup of their snowmen. The first graders are learning all about penguins. They had fun using bright colors for the background of the penguins and placing them on an iceberg. The second and third grade have been drawing out different views of a snowman. Fourth and fifth grade have been creating their own snow globe. They had to research some information about the snow globe and create their own theme.

Mrs. Mazzuto's Graphic Design class is currently designing their own t-shirt and will then screen-print it. Ceramics is collaborating on a school quilt where each student is designing 4 tiles about West Valley. The 7th graders are picking a positive or inspirational word and designing a zentangle around the word. 8th graders are illuminating letters with zentangles and Painting and Drawing is working on their self-portraits.



ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Our artist of the month is Mila Georgic who is currently in Kindergarten. When I was interviewing her, she told me she has a little sister at home that she loves to play with. Some of Mila's favorite things are ice skating and riding her bike in the summer. She loves the colors pink and purple. Her favorite movies are Frozen and the Princess Bride. Mila's favorite food is pizza. I asked her what she wanted to be when she grew up. Her response was to be a doctor that takes care of animals.



FEBRUARY 2021 - GRADES PREK-12 - BREAKFAST MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	2 Pillsbury Cinni Mini, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	3 Assorted Muffins, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	4 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	5 Raspberry Churro, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk
8 Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	9 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	10 Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	11 Rich's WG Donut, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	12 Breakfast Burrito, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk
15 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	16 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	17 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	18 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	19 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK
22 Pillsbury Frudel, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	23 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	24 Rich's WG Donut, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	25 Breakfast Burrito, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk	26 Pillsbury Cinni Mini, Cereal or Bagel ----- Juice, Fruit, Non- or Low-Fat Milk



MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGES

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

FEBRUARY 2021 - GRADES PREK-12 - LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 HALF DAY NO LUNCH WILL BE SERVED	2 Nacho Grande or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Corn, Salsa 1/4 cup	3 Chicken Tenders/Dip or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Carrots, Dip	4 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad, Mixed Veggies	5 Meatballs & Garlic Bread w/ Rotini or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Green Beans, Carrots
8 Chicken Patty on Bun or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Green Beans	9 Taco in a Bag with all the toppings or BLT ----- Buttered Corn, Salsa	10 Open Face Chicken & Gravy Sandwich w/ Creamy Mashed Potatoes or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Peas	11 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad	12 Chicken Nuggets w/Dip & French Fries or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Carrots
15 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	16 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	17 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	18 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK	19 NO SCHOOL MID-WINTER BREAK
22 Chicken Tenders/Dip or Chicken Salad Wrap ----- Butter Noodles, Buttered Green Beans	23 Nacho Grande or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Corn, Salsa	24 Chicken Patty on Bun or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Peas, Pasta Salad	25 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Romaine Salad, Carrots	26 Wild Cat Burger or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Baked Beans



MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGES



WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

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

**NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION**

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West Valley, NY**

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Charlie Davis, Vice-President
Michael Harmony
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Heather Klahn
Brad Frank

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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

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AERIAL PHOTO TAKEN BY CA BOCES

