

# WHS Student Orientation



2025-2026

# WELCOME TO WHS!



# 2025-26 WHS Leadership Team



Alicia Denniston  
*Principal*



Bill Naas  
*Associate Principal*



Kurt Frederick  
*Assistant Principal*



Erika Seymour  
*Assistant Principal*



Denver Wade  
*Assistant Principal*



WESTFIELD  
HIGH SCHOOL

# 2025-26 WHS Leadership Team



Dan Doherty  
*Director of Counseling*



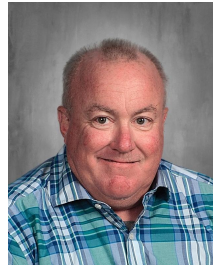
Andy Tebbe  
*Athletic Director*



Ginny Smith  
*Assistant Athletic Director*



Lynn Newsome  
*Dean of Student Support Services*



Kevin Scanlon  
*Dean of Students*



Jocelyn Dugan  
*Dean of Students*



WESTFIELD  
HIGH SCHOOL



**WESTFIELD  
WASHINGTON  
SCHOOLS**

### **Mission**

Our mission is to ensure high levels of learning and growth for each student.

### **Vision**

Our commitment is to prepare all Rocks to be Life Ready!



Westfield Washington Schools has defined **LIFE READY** in three areas and is guided by commitments in these areas:

#### **Academic Leaf**

We are committed to equipping All Rocks with essential skills in **literacy** and **problem-solving** in order to develop critical thinking, effective communication, and a passion for learning.

#### **Career Leaf**

We are committed to equipping All Rocks with **employability skills** in order to successfully work independently and interdependently to produce positive outcomes.

#### **Wellness Leaf**

We are committed to equipping All Rocks with essential skills in **emotional intelligence, physical well-being, and social connectedness** to cultivate a strong sense of belonging and positive relationships.

[www.k12.in.us](http://www.k12.in.us)

# **Mission**

To ensure high levels of learning and growth for each student.

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# **Vision**

All rocks are life ready!



**WESTFIELD  
HIGH SCHOOL**

# Do *you* Have The Skills Indiana's Employers Are Searching For?

INDIANA EMPLOYERS WANT HIGHLY-SKILLED EMPLOYEES. DEVELOPING THESE 18 EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS CAN HELP YOU LAND YOUR DREAM JOB!

## MINDSETS

### Lifelong Learning

Demonstrate willingness to work and learn, and continually apply new knowledge.

Possess belief in own ability to succeed and assert self when necessary.

### SELF-CONFIDENCE

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### Effective COMMUNICATION

Apply skills to clearly, effectively, and convincingly express ideas and messages to others appropriate to the environment.

### DECISION-MAKING

Utilize critical thinking skills and perspectives of others to make informed decisions based on options, rewards, risks, limits, and goals.

### INITIATIVE

Apply self-motivation and self-direction to work and learning.

### Problem SOLVING

Apply critical and creative thinking skills to resolve problems.

### ATTENTION TO DETAIL

Achieve thoroughness and accuracy when accomplishing a task.

### APTITUDE Awareness

Identify and communicate individual interests and skills that align coursework and experiences to potential career paths and to in-demand occupations.

## WORK ETHIC

### Self-Discipline

Demonstrate self-control and behave in accordance to rules with minimal direction.

Successfully carry out expectations with minimal supervision.

### INDEPENDENCE

### PERSEVERANCE

Demonstrate endurance and capacity to complete tasks.

### Time Management & Organization

Plan and organize long and short-term goals while understanding how to balance school, home, and community activities.

### ADAPTABILITY

Manage transitions and adjust to changing situations and responsibilities.

### INTEGRITY

Act in a trustworthy and honest manner.



### PROFESSIONALISM

Demonstrate skills and behaviors appropriate for school and work.

## SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS



### CONNECTION

Demonstrate the ability to network with others through social awareness and cultural sensitivity.



### REGULATION

Recognize and manage one's emotions.

### Collaboration

Work well with others in a team.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
STEM Certified School

Want to learn more?  
[www.employabilityskills.in.gov](http://www.employabilityskills.in.gov)



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**Senate Enrolled Act 297:** each school (K-12) shall include interdisciplinary employability skills standards in the school's curriculum. (2019)

The standards are arranged within **four key areas:**  
**Mindsets, Learning Strategies, Work Ethic, & Social and Emotional Skills.**

## WWS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Honesty
- Compassion
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Hard Work



• **Developed in class, clubs, sports, & CORE.**



# Get Involved

- *What was your favorite part of high school?*
- Westfield High School is an incredible place where students can pursue their passions and gifts, all while preparing them for their future.
- While academics at WHS will provide a rich foundation for their success, getting connected and involved beyond the classroom will shape them even further.
- From theatre to government, to culinary arts to academic competition teams, WHS offers an array of ways to connect and get involved.
- [WHS Extra-Curricular Activities](https://whs.wws.k12.in.us/students/clubs)
  - [whs.wws.k12.in.us/students/clubs](https://whs.wws.k12.in.us/students/clubs)



**AUGUST 29**  
**Club Fair**

# CORE

Connections Opportunities Relearning Enrichment

- **Purpose Statement:** To provide needed CORE supports to ensure ALL students are developing the skills to be Life Ready.
- **What:** Dedicated time that allows students to pursue and teachers to direct high quality learning opportunities for ALL.



# Parent Pick Up and Drop Off

**East Side of the Building**



**West Side of the Building**



# Attendance

- Westfield High School strongly believes that a student's daily interaction with staff and peers maximizes the student learning experience in preparation for Life Readiness.
- Westfield Washington Schools has the expectation that students attend at a rate of 95% or higher (guided maximum of 9 or fewer absences, excused or unexcused, within the 175 day school term)
- Please communicate when your child must miss school:
  - You may now report your child's (children's) absences over PowerSchool!
  - [Please see video instructions on this simplified process](#)
  - While reporting through PowerSchool is preferred, you may also call our attendance line by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the absence.
  - Phone: 317-867-6800, opt. 1
  - Messages may be left in English or Spanish

# Attendance

- We strongly value attendance in the learning process
- **The average GPA of a WHS student is 3.6. Students who are chronic absentees (absent 10% of the year (17.5 days or more) for any reason) have an average GPA of 2.87. Students who are habitual truants (10 or more unexcused absences in the year) have an average GPA of 2.24**
- Both chronic absenteeism and habitual truancy can affect a student's ability to participate in field trips as well as co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
- Monthly attendance challenges, coupled with recognition and awards will be implemented for the student body this year

# Health Clinic

- Located in the Main Hallway, across from the Counseling Center
- Nurses are here tonight if you need to speak with them about your student's medical concerns or to drop off medication
- \* If your student will be carrying ANY medication at school, you will need a medication authorization form on file
- Forms and contact information for the nurse clinic are on the handouts table
- [whsnurse@wws.k12.in.us](mailto:whsnurse@wws.k12.in.us)      317-867-6800 ext. 11005

# Cell Phones

- Indiana Senate Bill 185
- No phones during instructional time (includes CORE)
  - Expectation is that they are silenced and stowed in backpack, phone caddy, or other designated location
  - Consequence is an after school detention
- Phones may be used before/after school, during passing periods, and at lunch

# WHS Counseling Center Staff

**Dan Doherty** - Director of Counseling, R-Sn

**Stephanie Vondersaar** -Counselor, A-Ce and Applied Program

**Kristen Wenger** - Counselor, Cha-Fra

**Christy Ulsas** - Counselor, Fre-I

**Lyndsay Corya** - Counselor, J-McI

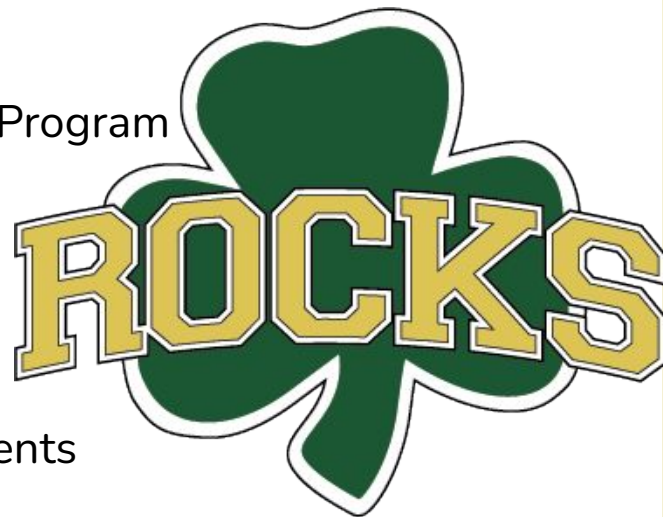
**Eric Zabonick** - Counselor, McK-Q and Exchange Students

**Lani Johnston** - Counselor, So-W

**Anuar Velazquez** - Counselor, X-Z, and EL Services

**Nancy Babb** - Registrar

**Tara McCrary** - Administrative Assistant





# What to Expect on the First Day

- Report to 1st Period
- Lockers are not assigned. Students may use daily lockers.
- Bell Schedule
  - 8:35 AM—3:39 PM
  - Five class periods
    - 65 minutes long
  - 7-minute passing periods



# What to Expect on the First Day

- Lunch—we have 3 lunches: A, B, and C
  - Lunch is assigned based on your 3rd period teacher and may change each trimester
- School Supplies—There is no “list” as you may have had in past years.
  - Each teacher will go over what students need for classes.
  - Be prepared on the first day with some basics: pens and pencils, paper, a binder or folder, and your device.



# Chromebooks



- All students are 1:1 with Chromebooks
  - Students must use their school-issued Chromebooks at school. No other devices may be used.
  - Students who do not have a Chromebook will receive their device on the first day.
  - Bring your charged device and charger each day.
- Students may get a loaner Chromebook from the Tech Office if necessary, but are limited to doing so four times.

# PowerSchool

- Online portal for students and parents
- Can be used to:
  - Check on assignments and grades
  - Contact teachers
  - Enroll in classes for next year
  - Set up email notifications to receive a Summary of Current Grades and Attendance regularly
- Link from the WWS homepage or at <https://wws.powerschool.com/public/>
- Please keep all demographic and contact information up-to-date
- Report cards/grades are not mailed home.
  - You must access PowerSchool in order to see grades.



# Canvas Basics

## Canvas is the platform we use to:

- House all classes and course work for students
- Connect students to teachers and staff
- Post weekly agendas, class announcements, and due dates
- Allow parents/guardians to monitor student agendas/syllabus, view due dates, and submitted assignments
- Courses created for each grade level (Class of...), your Counselor and many clubs.

## Links to Canvas Tutorials and Instructions:

[PARENTS](#)

[STUDENTS](#)

	Ch. 11-1: Dynasty Chart assignment (due today) -class notes	Ch. 11-1 Quiz (due Tuesday 8/22 11:59 pm) "section quizzes are weighted in the "Test" category, can be taken multiple times and are due the evening prior to our class review sessions. This is how it will be ALL Trimester ALL Chapter 11 Quizzes due by Tuesday 8/22 11:59 pm Ch. 11 Test Thursday 8/24
	Agenda	Homework/Resources
	Review Dynasties (notes) -Foot binding <a href="#">(primary source)</a>  --Read the primary source and answer these questions (include them on your dynasty chart). 1. Describe the process that the young girl went through. Be specific. 2. What social & economic reasons did families have to bind their daughter's feet? 3. While we don't practice foot binding in the U.S., how does this practice compare to Americans' attempts to change themselves physically. 4. What do you still want to know about this process?	--Begin working on Ch. 11-2 Guided Notes
	Agenda	Homework/Resources
	Ch. 11-2 Confucianism/Buddhism class notes 11-2B guided notes (KEY)	Guided Notes Ch. 11-2 Quiz (due Tuesday 8/22 11:59 pm)
		Homework/Resources
	Ch. 11-2 Mongol DBQ activity	Mongol notes
	Agenda	Homework/Resources
	Mongols activity due today	ALL Quizzes due by Tuesday 8/22 11:59 pm Ch. 11 Test Thursday 8/24

# Communication from The Counseling Center

## Email Updates

- Email is used most often to communicate with both students & parents.
- You may get email from any member of the counseling staff. Don't delete, and make sure we aren't going to your spam folder.
- Be sure we have the most up-to-date email address in PowerSchool
- Students or parents previously in WWS should contact their counselor if they cannot access their account.

## Sign-up Sheets for Students

- The Counseling Center has a Google Form to sign up to see a counselor. Links online and in Canvas, and QR codes throughout the building. Counselors will send a pass at their earliest opportunity.



# Stay Connected with the WHS Counseling Center

- Presentations, counseling calendar and important information posted to [www.whscounselingcenter.com](http://www.whscounselingcenter.com)
- WHS Social Media: Be sure to follow WHS Social Media on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

We are excited to see our  
students again and are looking  
forward to a wonderful  
2025-2026 school year!

