

# THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

## A Note from Dr. G

Volume 5 Issue 4



### Superintendent's Corner

From math to science to the arts, Columbus students are exploring, creating, and problem-solving in exciting ways this fall. In 3rd grade, Mrs. Talusan and Mrs. Scarangella end each day with *On the Road* with Steve Hartman, a CBS series that highlights acts of kindness. This daily ritual leaves students with positive takeaways and real-life examples of compassion in action. In 4th grade, Mrs. Suraci's students are strengthening reading comprehension with the "Stop and Jot" strategy, jotting down questions and connections after a read-aloud to deepen their understanding. Meanwhile, Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Azad's class is investigating the big question: "Why don't the same trees grow everywhere?" Through hands-on science lessons, students are learning how plants' internal and external structures help them adapt and thrive in different environments. In 5th grade, Mrs. Galbo and Mrs. Lulgjuraj's students are exploring number relationships with Eureka Math<sup>2</sup>. Small group instruction helps them practice shifting digits to understand powers of 10 and how place value impacts number sense. Meanwhile, Mr. Enoch's trumpet students are already playing with confidence and precision just three weeks into the school year. They recently performed "Hard Rock Blues" and even convinced their teacher to join in on percussion! Whether through kindness, literacy, science, creativity, math, or music, Columbus students are engaging in meaningful learning experiences every day. Our UPK Wildcats have settled into routines and are busy learning every day. Today, Mrs. Landi-Lopez's class celebrated their progress with a pajama stuffy day.

### Noticing the Good

The Career Research Academy is off to a strong start this year. Year 2 students have welcomed the new Year 1 class, and together they are building skills that connect classroom learning to real-world careers in the skilled trades.

After beginning the year with lessons in measurement, payroll, and workplace systems, students were introduced to their major fall project by Town of Mount Pleasant Building Inspector, Sal Pennelle. Under his guidance, along with oversight from CRA staff and Electrical Inspector Mr. Gallo, students will construct a full-size kitchen. The project will require them to frame walls, install electrical and plumbing, and complete sheetrock to code.

"This project ties in many aspects of the skilled trades working collaboratively to produce a complex product," said Nick DiPaolo, K-12 School Counseling Coordinator.

The experience offers students a unique opportunity to apply their learning in a meaningful, hands-on way, preparing them for future success in the workforce.

### Inaugural Betsy Groat Memorial Volleyball Game



October 3, 2025 4:30pm  
Edgemont @ Westlake

5\$ donation to receive a ticket to Silvio's where a portion of your lunch/dinner proceeds will be donated to the Betsy Groat Memorial Scholarship Fund

### The Week Ahead

9/23 & 24 - Schools Closed for Rosh Hashanah

9/25 - WHS Back to School Night  
\*\*New Time\*\* 6:30 p.m.

9/26 - Spirit Day in Schools

9/28 - Spirit Day

Can't attend the Betsy Groat Memorial Volleyball Game? Send a check to Tina Marie Nicodemo or Nick Romeo. Make it out to: Mount Pleasant Central School District. Memo: Betsy Groat Memorial Scholarship

### In Awe of the Paw - More National Merit News

Congratulations to WHS seniors Isabelle Chacko, Tycho Force, and Nareh Hovsepyan, who have been named Commended Students in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program.

They are among the top 50,000 students nationwide recognized for their outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT, taken by nearly 1.3 million juniors last fall.

This distinction reflects their hard work and academic excellence, and we are proud to celebrate their achievement.

