

WAMS School Governance Council
Nov 25, 2025

Attendance: Jazmin Alves (student), Mr. Cheatam, Mr. Cocchiola, Hanalei Cocchiola (student), Mrs. Labbe, Mrs. Terhune, and Dr. Stasaitis

Welcome - 9:08

Dr. Stasaitis

- WAMS is walking through a very difficult tragedy with the loss of one of our students.
- Doc will be bringing a fully cooked Thanksgiving meal to the family on Thursday.
- Aliza Cocchiola suggested a dress down day today. All proceeds will be donated to the family.
- Chicago* was AMAZING! Congratulations to the cast and crew on an absolutely wonderful show.
- Polar Express/Clara Dreams of Snow* will take place December 4th.
- You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* auditions took place on Monday, November 24.
- Works of Edgar Allen Poe, Mr. Schulte's middle school show will be December 17th and 18th.
- today we held our 6th and 7th grade community meeting.
- London trip goes before the Board of Education on December 4th.
- Grade 8 is planning their trip to New York City.
- Seniors will be going to Boston this year.
- Exciting things are happening at WAMS.

Jazmin Alves

- Thanksgiving Giveaway was held Monday night in our gym. Over 75 people responded. Some of the prizes given out were from Cherry Valley, Lakewood Lanes, Texas Roadhouse, and Urban Air.
- CONGRATULATIONS on being selected for the Global Leadership Institute.
- Physical Education field trip to Rocky Hill for rock climbing.
- Band and Orchestra concert on Monday, December 8th.
- Jazmin was selected for Kids Core Academy which is through CHRO.
- Joe the Poet will be at WAMS Dec. 16th.

Hanalei Cocchiola

- National Junior Honor Society will be putting together stockings filled with all kinds of items for WAMS families in need.
- NJHS will be holding a rock, paper, scissors tournament. All funds raised will go to St. Jude's.
- Tri-M will be selling roses at all the concerts.
- special thank you to Doc for how she has handled the tragedy in our school and being our fearless leader.

Dan Cocchiola

- parent pick up and drop off has been off this year.

- the flow of traffic seems different this year.
- there has been some contention with parents.
- is it possible for someone on staff to help with this?
- Doc will look into this.

Peggy Terhune – Palace Theater
November 2025

- WAMS' production of *Chicago* was on stage last week for 6 days of load-in, rehearsals and 3 performances, which by all reports were very successful!
- December is a busy month for the Palace, and we're looking forward to having WAMS join us onstage for:
 - *Polar Express/Clara Dreams of Snow*, 4 days, with performances on 12/4
 - *Winterfest* (Band & Orchestra), 12/8
 - *Ring Those Bells* (Choir), 12/11
- The "Learning in the Wings" technical theater internship schedule was sent over to WAMS at the start of the school year but has not yielded any WAMS sign-ups yet. This is a great learning opportunity for students who are interested in technical theater.
- We offered 20 student tickets to WAMS to see *Clue* in December. I will let you know if any more become available.
- The next Honors Society recycling date will be in December, and with all the activity we have in the building, hopefully, they will net a big haul!

Jessica Gaddis

At WAMS - November

- Shakespeare class doing *Macbeth*. They had auditions already.
- Middle School doing an Edgar Allen Poe script that includes: *The Conqueror Worm*, *The Masque of the Red Death*, *The Raven*, *The Oval Portrait*, and, *The Tell-Tale Heart*. Its concept is based on the cyclical and theatricality of life. Staging for the first three pieces is complete. The actors are getting more tablework than they normally would for a middle school production.
- Encore or after-school

At Shakespeare

- Bringing back *The Gift of Peace* this December. Show dates are December 11-13
- WAMS alum Clark Atkinson is doing workshops with us

The Waterbury Symphony Orchestra's Education Committee visited Waterbury Arts Magnet School yesterday for an on-site look at the mentorship sessions taking place throughout the building. Committee members had an excellent experience sitting in on the orchestra and band classes and were deeply impressed by the quality of the work happening at WAMS.

During their brief classroom observations, committee members noted the strong engagement of students and the evident passion, care, and professionalism demonstrated by staff and mentors alike. The visit reinforced the value of ensuring our board members see firsthand the meaningful learning experiences being offered to WAMS students.

Because of the positive feedback from this visit, we plan to extend the opportunity to the full Symphony board next semester.

Additionally, we will be inviting our Board to the WAMS December 8th concert at the Palace Theater. I have a flyer for the concert and hope several members of our Board will attend with me.

Wishing everyone a very happy Thanksgiving!

Respectfully Submitted.

Doug Donato

Executive Director Waterbury Symphony Orchestra

Pictured below, members of the WSO Education Committee: (L to R: Lois Fiftal, Don Fiftal, James Chittum (Education Chair), Regina Duchin Kraus, Dr. Michael Feinberg)



PTSO will be holding their annual Quarter Auction on Saturday, December 6th.

Next Meeting - Jan 7, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 9:31.

Past Events - November

Monday, November 3 – B Day

- Advisory #2 during 2B class
- Let's extend a warm welcome to **Mr. Belade**, who is joining our **PE Department**!

Tuesday, November 4 – No School (Election Day)

- School is closed for Election Day. Please take this opportunity to engage with your community and vote!

Wednesday, November 5 – A Day

- **Final Open House** for prospective students and families from **5:00–6:30 PM**. We look forward to showcasing all the wonderful things happening at our school!

Thursday, November 6 – B Day

- A big welcome to **Ms. White**, our new **High School English Instructional Tutor**. We're thrilled to have her join our team!

Friday, November 7 – A Day

- **Homecoming Dance** for high school students only, from **6:30–9:00 PM**. We can't wait to celebrate school spirit together!

The Chicago Promo is here!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsh8b6MrtVQ>

Past – November Highlights

- **November 11:** No School – Veterans Day
- **November 12:** Financial Literacy Family Night
- **November 17:** Report cards will be live on PowerSchool to view
- **November 20:** Picture Retakes for students who missed Picture Day or would like a retake (bring your purchased package if applicable)
- **November 21–23:** Chicago at the Palace – don't miss this exciting performance weekend!
- **November 24:** Thanksgiving Giveaway
- **November 26:** Early Dismissal
- **November 27–28:** School Closed for Thanksgiving Break



Reminders

- **Dress Code:** Please remind students to arrive each day in proper dress code.
- **Yondr Pouches:** All technology should be secured in **locked Yondr pouches** during the school day.
- **Please use the garage drop off area in the morning!**

Your continued support helps make our school community strong, safe, and successful. Thank you for partnering with us as we guide our students toward a great second quarter!

1st week of December:

Monday, December 1 – B Day

- Advisory #3 – Period 3B

Tuesday, December 2 – A Day

- Grade 11 & 12 Community Meetings – *Recital Hall* for students interested in information about *Study Abroad* in college
- **PTSO Gingerbread House Event – 6:00–7:30 PM**

Wednesday, December 3 – B Day

- **Early Dismissal**
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences – 5:00–7:00 PM**

Thursday, December 4 – A Day

- Superintendent Advisory
- **Clara/Polar Show:** Grade 6 attends during the school day
- **Clara/Polar Show – 6:00 PM**

Friday, December 5 – B Day

Grades 6-7- SAVE THE DATE Bowling Field Trip 12/22/2025

Upcoming December Events

Date	Event	Time/Location
Dec 2	🎄 PTSO Gingerbread Houses - Canceled	6:00–7:30 PM
Dec 3	🕒 Early Dismissal & Parent/Teacher Conferences	5:00–7:00 PM
Dec 4	💃 Winter Dance Show (Clara)	6:00 PM @ The Palace
Dec 6	🔨 PTSO Quarter Auction	6:00 PM @ The Atrium
Dec 8	🎵 Winterfest – Band & Orchestra Concert	7:00 PM @ The Palace
Dec 10	🎨 Early Dismissal – NAHS Family Paint Night	5:45 PM
Dec 11	🎤 Chorus Concert	7:00 PM @ The Palace
Dec 16	📖 Poetry Night	5:00–7:00 PM

🎭 THEATRE DEPARTMENT SPRING AUDITIONS

Please review all dates and times carefully:

👑 Rogers and Hammerstein's **CINDERELLA** — Spring Musical👑

✦ Middle School Auditions

Monday, December 15 | 2:00–4:30 PM

✦ High School Auditions

Tuesday, December 16 | 2:00–5:00 PM

✦ Callbacks

Wednesday, December 17 | 2:00–4:00 PM

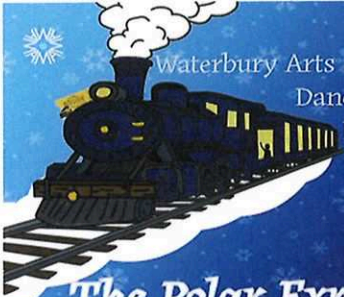
Moillere- THE MISANTHROPE — Spring Play

✦ Auditions

Wednesday, December 17

The Apron Stage

Waterbury Arts Magnet School
Dance Department
Double Feature



**The Polar Express
&
Clara Dreams
of Snow**



Thursday, December 4, 2025
6 PM at the Palace Theater

\$10 In Advance
\$13 At the Door

Waterbury Arts Magnet School Music Department
presents

Winterfest' 25



Guitar Ensemble,
Orchestra, and
Band

Featuring:

Monday, December 8 th	7:00pm	\$10 In Advance \$12.50 At the Door
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THEATRE DEPT \$20.00
Cash or
check

NEXT ORDER DECEMBER 10

WAMS
Theatre

2025-2026
SEASON



THEATRE

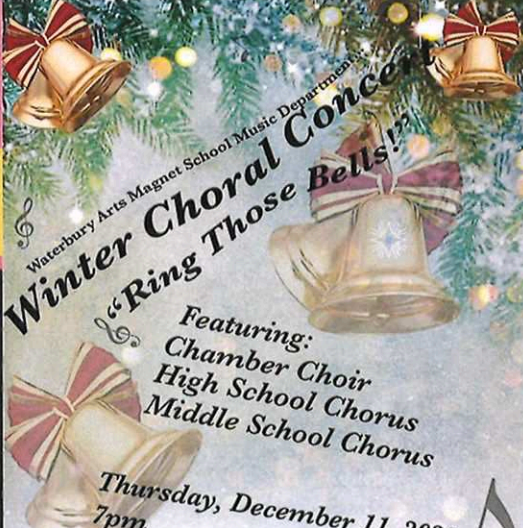
CHICAGO *Misanthrope* LEAD LEE
Capitoline CHARLIE BROWN KICKS
DOWN

Order Forms at
the Callboard &
the /chool/fore

Designed by Isa Parajon &
Sarah Hernandez

Waterbury Arts Magnet School Music Department
presents

Winter Choral Concert
"Ring Those Bells!"



Featuring:
Chamber Choir
High School Chorus
Middle School Chorus

Thursday, December 11, 2025
7pm
Palace Theater

\$7.50 at door, \$5.00 in advance
children 5 and under are free

**PJ BOTTOM
DRESS DOWN
DAY**

ON DECEMBER 12TH

- Pay \$1 to wear Pajama BOTTOMS to support the Connecticut Children's Hospital






**AUDITIONS
THEATRE**

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S
CINDERELLA

MIDDLE SCHOOL 12/15
HIGH SCHOOL 12/16
CALLBACKS 12/17

**WEDNESDAY
12/17**

THE MISANTHROPE

PLEASE SEE PA CALLBOARD FOR
MORE DETAILS & PERMISSION
SLIPS






Waterbury Arts Magnet School Theatre Dept. Presents...

Mad Men Nothing

The Short Stories by
Edgar Allan Poe

December 17 and 18
6pm in the Apron Stage
Tickets: \$5




Directed by Isabella Purnajon
Faculty Directed by Mr. Scott Schulte

Donation organization

Soda Can Tab Wars

LOCATION

Soda can tabs will be collected in the cafeteria during lunch and in Mrs. Farrell's classroom

ADVICE

Collect soda can tabs during festivities from Thanksgiving through New Year's

PRIZE

The winning grade will receive a special sweet treat during lunch

All tabs are due by January 9, 2026



Organized by
National Junior Honor Society