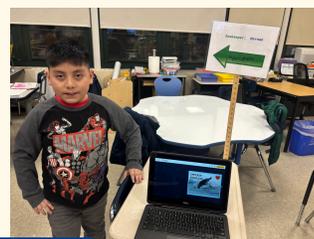


THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

Volume 5 Issue 20



Superintendent's Corner

From classrooms to assemblies to family events, this week reflected the many ways learning takes shape across our schools.

At WHS, Earth Science students in Nikki Sklar's classes took on a complex design challenge: creating a fully realized hiking trail system using topographic maps. Students applied contour lines, elevation changes, gradient calculations, and land-use planning to design trails that were both accurate and realistic. The project pushed students to think carefully, follow precise criteria, and see how science skills translate far beyond the classroom.

Columbus Elementary students gathered for The bGreat Show, an engaging assembly led by educator and performer Brian Richards. Through humor, storytelling, and audience participation, students explored what it means to act with character — focusing on respect, responsibility, fairness, and empathy. The message echoed ongoing conversations from Community Meetings and reinforced shared expectations about how we treat one another. Each 7th grader in Hailee Steinberg's FACS class brought creativity into the kitchen during the Westlake Food Truck Showdown. Working in teams, students designed food truck concepts, built menus, planned ingredients, and prepared a signature dish for judges. The experience required collaboration, organization, and problem-solving, and students rose to the challenge with confidence and enthusiasm.

The week concluded at Columbus with a Celebration of Learning, where fourth graders shared nonfiction books they wrote in English and Spanish, and illustrated using Book Creator! Families had the opportunity to see students present their work, reflect on their learning, and take pride in their growth. It was an energizing start to our Celebration of Learning season.

Noticing the Good

We are just about halfway through the winter athletic season, and there is so much to celebrate. Our boys basketball team are League Champions, and our cheerleaders earned second place at the County Center competition. We are especially proud of Jillian Lyden, this year's Annette Hroncoch Scholarship winner, along with Fiona, Joelle, Leila, Jordana, Leah, and Megan, who all earned All-League honors.

In the pool, Joseph Bangali qualified for both Sectionals and States in the 500 freestyle. On the mat, the Mannello brothers continue their impressive season — Vincenzo earned his 100th career win and placed third at the Eastern States Classic, while Marcarlo captured the Eastern States championship and was named Lohud Wrestler of the Week.

We are also proud of our indoor track, girls basketball, and hockey teams, who continue to represent Westlake with pride every time they compete.

Please save the dates for our upcoming senior nights: Girls & Boys Basketball and Swim on 1/23, Hockey on 1/30, and Indoor Track on 2/11.

The Week Ahead

1/19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - SCHOOLS CLOSED

1/21 - BOE Meeting 7:30 PM

1/23 - WMS WHS 2nd Quarter Ends

IF I CANNOT DO GREAT THINGS, I CAN DO SMALL THINGS IN A GREAT WAY.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



WESTLAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS

Disney NEWSIES JR.

2026

THU, JAN 29 @ 7 PM
FRI, JAN 30 @ 7 PM
SAT, JAN 31 @ 7 PM
SUN, FEB 1 @ 1 PM

TICKETS: \$10.00 GENERAL ADMISSION

Tickets:

cur8.com/22038/project/136518

JOHN S. WHEARTY THEATRE

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL
825 WESTLAKE DRIVE, WESTLAKE, NY 10994

In Awe of the Paw – Mt. Pleasant has Heart

Mount Pleasant will honor the community members who care for, protect, and support us each day, including police officers, firefighters, veterans, EMTs, healthcare workers, and educators.

Families may purchase a Hearts for Heroes T-shirt for students to wear to school. All proceeds benefit Maria Ferrari Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House.

Purchase here:

<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/hearts-for-heroes/items>

