

THE WILDCAT WEEKLY

A Note from Dr. G

Volume 5 Issue 24



Superintendent's Corner

Last Saturday, WHS competed at the Regional Science Olympiad Competition hosted by Byram Hills High School, earning impressive results among 31 teams representing 15 districts across lower Westchester County. Westlake students medaled in several challenging STEM events, including a first-place finish in Astronomy by Serena Shim and Nareh Hovsepyan. Additional honors included fourth place in Entomology (Elise Hurdis and Keira Borello), sixth place in Anatomy & Physiology (Yunning Mao and Isabelle Chacko), seventh place in Codebusters (Serena Shim, Nareh Hovsepyan, and Elise Hurdis), and ninth place in Remote Sensing (Bethany Tso and Logan Pineiro). We thank advisors Raymond Szczerba and Tom Hall for their continued leadership and support.

Across the district, students were equally busy celebrating milestones and global connections. Hawthorne marked the 100th day of school with creativity and enthusiasm. Kindergartners counted collections of 100, first graders designed shirts featuring 100 objects, and second graders arrived dressed as centenarians, sharing imaginative "When I Am 100" stories. Fifth-grade families capped off the celebrations by conducting science experiments and commemorating their 1,000th day of school at their Celebration of Learning with families last night!

Today, Columbus third graders welcomed visitors from EF Academy representing China, Mexico, Japan, Germany, and Russia, gaining firsthand insights into world cultures.

Noticing the Good

Mount Pleasant CSD proudly hosted its second annual Hearts for Heroes event, giving students across all grade levels the opportunity to create heartfelt Valentine's Day messages for local police officers, firefighters, EMTs, healthcare professionals, and veterans. Heroes visited our schools on February 13 to receive students' messages and connect with them in meaningful ways. As part of the celebration, our community also raised \$1,288 each for Ronald McDonald House and Maria Fareri Children's Hospital. We are proud of our students for showing gratitude, kindness, and #WildcatPride. Thank you to our WHS TV students for documenting the entire event!



The Week Ahead

2/16-2/20 - WINTER RECESS,
SCHOOLS CLOSED

2/16 - Presidents Day

2/17 - Lunar New Year



In recognition of Ramadan, Mount Pleasant CSD will offer free breakfast and lunch to students who are fasting while attending school.

Meals will be available on school days from February 23 through March 19.
(Schools are closed for Winter Recess, February 16-20.)

Meal Requests
Please submit meal requests by 3 PM for the following school day. All meals must be pre-ordered at this link: <https://forms.gle/pX49RRL7iUPv5MjB7>

Pick-Up Information
WMS and WHS: Pick up in the school cafeteria until 1:30 PM.
HES and CES: Pick up in the school cafeteria until 2:00 PM.

For questions, please contact Jackie Houatchanthara in Food Service at jhouatchanthara@compass-usa.com

In Awe of the Paw - Excellence in Spanish

Westlake High School junior Valerie Rufo has been selected as this year's Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (SHH) Travel Award recipient. Each year, SHH awards travel scholarships to outstanding junior members, with only one application accepted per chapter. In 2026, 18 students nationwide will travel to Ecuador from July 20-28 for a cultural immersion experience. Valerie's selection reflects her dedication to the study of Spanish and academic excellence. Congratulations Valerie!

