



The Spartan Standard

Winter 2025-2026

Super Suppon: The New Superintendent

Authors: Tallulah Morreale and Asher Dicton

What candy always makes the Student of the Month? Smarties!

Recently we had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Suppon about how he is liking working in Wyoming Valley West. Dr. Suppon recently joined the district in early July, 2025, which is also coincidentally his birthday month. If you see him in the halls feel free to say hello! Now, some of you may be wondering what a superintendent actually does. Superintendents are in charge of co-creating policies, emergency rescheduling and mediating conflicts and issues between parents and staff. Dr. Suppon had to prove he had a minimum of six years of basic work in the educational field of which three years had to be spent as an administrator. It also requires a master's degree. The number of students in the WVV district is approximately 5,270 kids, and he has to help manage all of them!

Q: How do you enjoy being the Superintendent of WVV?

A: I absolutely love it! WVV is home and I value and appreciate every day. We have the best students, teachers, community, administration, and staff! I look forward to continuing to support WVV in being



special for years to come, which is a team effort from all stakeholders!

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Green

Q: What do you enjoy about your job?

A: Being able to make a positive difference for the students, staff, and the community.

Q: What do you not enjoy about your job?

A: There is nothing I don't enjoy. I am grateful to be in the position I am in with the students, staff, and community. I

know together as a team we are going to do great things!

Q: Do you think that the school year is going well so far?

A: I do, I think every school in the world has areas of strength and areas of improvement. We are going to continue to look at ways to improve where needed, continue to thrive in areas of success, and do all we can to make sure we succeed for years to come. I think the year has been fantastic so far and again it's because of the team working together!

Q: How tall are you?

A: 6'5"

Q: What is your favorite football team?

A: James Madison University-College and Philadelphia Eagles-NFL

Q: What is your favorite baseball team?

A: Phillies

Q: What is your favorite basketball team?

A: Sixers

Q: What college did you go to?

A: James Madison University

Q: Did you play any sports in high school and/or college?

A: High School: football, basketball, and track; College: football

In conclusion, this has been our interview with Dr. Suppon. Dr. Suppon is an energetic member of the administration and our district. Be sure to make him feel welcome.

The New School Resource Officer

Authors: Wade Lipkin and Talon Shaffer

Do you know how hard it is to be a School resource officer? Let's investigate what our new School Resource Officer is like. How does a police officer travel? By using a heli-**cop**-ter, that is enough joking, let's jump into learn about our new School Resource Officer.

When interviewed Detective Gibson said "It's a lot different than what he's used to, but it's a lot better being an SRO than a detective." SRO is an acronym for School Resource Officer.

When interviewed Detective Gibson said that "I haven't been in an

officer suit for a long time, so I saw the job opening and wanted it." He's been an officer for 26 years; 22 years for Kingston Police Department and he stopped being an officer a short time ago to switch to a detective hence the name Detective Gibson. Detective Gibson's favorite part about being a School Resource Officer is that he gets to see all the kids and all the teachers in the school. When interviewed Detective Gibson said that being a School Resource Officer is hard at times but for the most part it is actually really fun! Detective Gibson said being a School Resource Officer means making sure the students and staff are safe, making sure

the building is safe, and we have Detective Gibson to thank for that. Thank you Detective Gibson!



Holiday Helpers

Authors: Tallulah Morreale

Well, folks the holiday season is upon us and with it the imminent arrival of Jack Frost and all the winter weather he brings with him. The Social Studies department has had a field day for the past few weeks because of their coat and food drive. Students were asked to donate canned goods, cereal, oatmeal and an assortment of boxed foods including macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and tuna and other canned meats.

I spoke with Mr. Whalen, one of the eighth grade social studies teachers and the Social Studies Department Chair about the food drive.

Q: Recently you had a coat and food drive. What inspired the Social Studies department to host this drive?

A: Part of our Social Studies mission is to not only teach or learn from the past but to help them become the best version of themselves.

Q: How many coats were donated to the school?

A: 80 coats.

Q: Is this fundraiser associated with the fundraiser that WNEP does every year?

A: No, it is an independent fundraiser.

Q: How many canned goods were donated to the school?

A: I think they collected 40 boxes.

Q: What is your favorite part of helping with the fundraiser?

A: Not only the fundraiser, but my job is to feel the appreciation of the students that we truly care.

Q: Do you know how many families this program has helped this year?

A: Probably 100-110. The coats donated are able to help 75 families and the food goes to the food bank and they distribute the donations there.

Q: For future reference, how can donors be aware that the donation period has started?

A: The food drive is always the week before Thanksgiving. The coats we get after Black Friday.

We would like to thank everyone who participated and we wish you all a safe and happy holidays.

The Marvelous World of Music

Authors: Wade Lipkin and Talon Shaffer

Are you in band? If not, here's what happened at the annual holiday concert, but first why did the clarinet player knock on the door? Because they didn't know when to come in. How do you make a band stand? Take away their chairs. The concert was on December 9th at 7:00 pm. Let's get into what happened at our middle school band concert.

At the band concert 6th grade went first and their songs in this order were: Gingerbread Men on P-ade by Len Orcino, Winter Winds by Randall Standridge, Christmas Fun by John O'Reilly, March into Christmas by Carl Stromenn, and Winter Wonderland by Arr. Michael Story. All of the songs sounded great if you were not there. Then 7th grade performed and they played these songs in this order: Abominable Snowman Chase by Robert W. Smith, Bobsled Run by Lloyd Conley, Holiday Flutecake by David Shaffer, A Song Of Hanukkah by Arr. Robert Sheldon, and Bell Carol Rock by Arr. Ryan Fraley. Those songs are really nice, especially Bobsled Run. Last, but

definitely not least, 8th grade played long and great! These are the songs they played in order: How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Arr. Michael Story; soloists: Christian Kwiatek, trumpet, and Skylar Gibbons, tenor saxophone, A Carol Triptych by Pierre La Plante, Music from Home Alone by Arr. Johnnie Vinson, Son of Santa the Barbarian by Randall Standridge; soloists: Bella Gwynn-Flute, and narrator: Mr. Whalen. Those were great songs, but you are probably wondering who directed it. Our great band teacher Mrs. Schneider was the director of the band.



The Dribble Goes On

Authors: Wade Lipkin and Talon Shaffer

Were you at the game on Saturday 20, December 2025? If you were not in attendance here is a game recap. First, why do fish not play basketball, because it is afraid of the net.

The game is against Lake Lehman. Number 31 on the opposing team steals the ball from WWV number 6 and then shoots, but misses. WWV number 17 shoots and makes it. The score is now 5-0. Lake Lehman number 50 shoots and misses. WWV number 20 steals the ball and runs to the other side, he passes the ball to WWV number 34 and he tries to shoot but misses. The score is now at 6-2 favoring Spartans. WWV number 35 passes the ball to WWV number 6 and he scores. Now the score is 8-2, Spartans. Lake Lehman number 42 shoots and misses. Then Lake Lehman number 31 tries again and scores. The score is now 8-5, Spartans. Lake Lehman number 34 shoots and scores. The score is now 8-6, Spartans. Lake Lehman number 40 shoots and scores 9-8, Lake Lehman. Lake Lehman number 53 steals the ball and shoots but misses. Lake Lehman number 50 shoots and scores. Now the score is 11-8, Lake Lehman. The Spartans shot and made it. The score is now 11-10, still in favor of Lake Lehman. Lake Lehman number 21 shoots and the

score is 14-10, Lake Lehman. Lake Lehman number 21 scores. The score is 15-10, Lake Lehman. Our Spartans are not doing that well today. The score is currently 15-12 in favor of Lake Lehman. The opposing team shoots and makes it. The score is 17-12, Lake Lehman. The opposing team scored again, so currently at 20-12, favoring Lake Lehman. Hopefully our Spartans will have better success next game, but the score was 29-16 upon student reporter departure.



6th Grade Spotlight

Authors: Tanasia Smalls and Penelope Morreale

Do you want to learn what others do for their holiday traditions in sixth grade? To get this information we surveyed a few students to get their opinion on the holiday season.

Q: What do you do for the holidays?

A: Shelby Kennedy reports she goes to her gram's and aunt's house to hang with

family. Akeyzia Myers likes to decorate and make hot chocolate.

Q: What types of holidays do you celebrate?

A: Both Shelby and Akezia celebrate Christmas.

Q: What food do you eat at your family dinner on the holidays?

A: Shelby enjoys chicken, ham, turkey, green beans and mashed potatoes while Akeyzia has steak and mac-n-cheese.

Q: Do you watch or do anything special?

A: Akeyzia said she likes to watch Christmas movies and Shelby stated her family looks at family photos and watches football.

Q: What is your favorite holiday tradition?

A: Akeyzia was excited to report her favorite holiday tradition is to decorate the Christmas tree while Shelby was

happy to relay she likes to look at family photos.

Q: Do you have a gift in mind that you really want?

A: Akeyzia is hoping to receive a Jellycat for Christmas while Shelby is looking forward to art supplies.

Q: Is there anything you do not like about the holidays?

A: Shelby indicated she does not like icy roads and Akeyzia suggested she does not like the cold temperatures.

As you can tell, people have different traditions, so we like to share and maybe add a few new traditions to your holidays. We wish all of our Spartans a happy holiday!

Teach. Thrive. Inspire.

Authors: Emily Examitas and Sophia Mason

Welcome new teachers and staff! First, we would like to offer thanks to our new teachers for allowing us to interview them and provide a warm welcome to the Wyoming Valley West Middle School. While there are several new faces at the Middle School this year this article focuses on new teachers Ms. Pealer and Ms. Robinson. Both teachers were interviewed on six questions as detailed below for your reading. First, we interviewed Ms. Pealer, our new sixth grade Art teacher.



Q: Where is your room located?

A: My room is Room 19, located on the basement floor.

Q: What is one thing you like in school?

A: I love all the art supplies provided for the year.

Q: What is one thing that you may not like in school?

A: How crowded the hallways can be. The students accidentally knock the artwork down from the walls.

Q: What period is your favorite period?

A: I love all of my classes. I especially appreciate any class that has terrific classroom behavior because it makes Art much more fun!

Q: What was one of the most confusing things about the school when you started?

A: The grading software is tricky.

In addition, Ms. Robinson was interviewed, our new sixth grade Special Education teacher. She was asked the same questions as Ms. Pealer.

Q: Where is your room located?

A: My room is Room 109, located on the main floor.

Q: What is one thing you like in school?

A: I like the rotating schedule and most of the staff here is very friendly and helpful.

Q: What is one thing that you may not like in school?

A: When kids run in the halls I almost get knocked over.

Q: What period is your favorite period?

A: This is a secret! (ha ha)

Q: What was one of the most confusing things about the school when you started?

A: The rotating schedules and the copier machines.

In conclusion, we have several new teachers and staff at our Middle School.

Ms. Pealer and Ms. Robinson are among our newest teachers. Please look forward to our next article in the spring that highlights additional new teachers and staff.

