



# WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

*School and Community  
Working Together*

VOLUME 32, No. 1

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025



On Friday, June 27, West Valley Central School honored the graduating Class of 2025 in a commencement ceremony held in the school auditorium.

Led by Superintendent Daniel Amodeo, the event recognized the achievements of this year's graduates and celebrated their hard work and commitment throughout their educational journey.

Class president and valedictorian Magdalena Parish and salutatorian Isabella Gibson shared their reflections on their experiences at West Valley while encouraging graduates as they embark on their futures. The evening also featured the presentation of diplomas by Board of Education President Heather Klahn, musical performances by the Class of 2025, and a keynote address from Mr. Vincent Venitelli.

The evening concluded with the singing of the Alma Mater and a recessional set to "Everlong" by Foo Fighters, chosen by the Class of 2025 to close out their high school careers.

The Class of 2025 includes 17 graduates, with 10 planning to attend college and seven entering the workforce.

**GRADUATION CONTINUES ON PAGE 3.**

# SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

BY MR. DANIEL AMODEO, SUPERINTENDENT



## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS!

The 2024-2025 school year has come to an end. Congratulations to the Class of 2025 for all your accomplishments. We wish you all the very best in your future endeavors and thank you for your contributions to our school and community throughout your time at West Valley Central School.

I want to thank the Board of Education and our community for the opportunity to lead West Valley Central School as superintendent.

Although I'm new to the role of superintendent, I've been part of the West Valley community for the past 14 years. Together, we have navigated through many challenges and changes. From changes to curriculum and assessments to the challenges of a global pandemic, we have continued to maintain focus on providing the best opportunities for our students.

Changes and challenges in our world will continue and I look forward to working with you all on creating a future and school that is able to adapt to create the best for our school community. In this work together I will give everything I have to the district. We will not always be right, and we will make mistakes, but we will be accountable for decisions good or bad. I can also share that we will be honest and upfront while sharing as much information as a given situation allows.

Finally, the foundation for our decisions will always be rooted in what is best for our students.

As we head into the summer we are working diligently on preparations for a new school year. One of those preparations that we must undertake is drafting a school-based policy to align with New York State's Distraction Free School law. In short, this law requires:

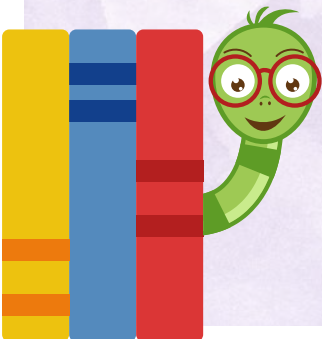
1. Schools develop a plan to ensure that students do not access non-school issued internet-enabled devices such as cell phones, smart watches, or other wearables from the beginning to the day to the end.
2. The plan must have a process for storing such devices.
3. The plan must include provisions to allow for internet-based devices to be used for students who have a medical need and/or documented need through the Committee on Special Education.

This will no doubt be a significant change for all involved. Although the law does not provide ways to allow cell phones throughout the day for most students, there will be upcoming opportunities for students, parents, and teachers to participate in the development of our process and plan for internet-enabled devices.

There will be other preparations and planning around the start of the new school year. However, it is summer for our school community, and I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer break!

## PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration appointments are being scheduled now for the 2025-26 Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes. If you have a child who will be four (4) years old **before December 1**, they are eligible for our pre-K program. Children who will be five (5) **before December 1** are eligible for kindergarten.



Please call our **Central Registrar, Mrs. Dana Westfall**, at **716-942-3100 ext. 4170** to schedule your appointment now.

## JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**BOE MEETING**  
**7/22**

### FARM MARKET

**EVERY SATURDAY THIS SUMMER FROM 10:30-11:30 AM**



# GRADUATION NIGHT



## VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN



*Valedictorian*  
**MAGDALENA PARISH**

**Magdalena Parish**, daughter of Michael and Barbara Parish, is the Valedictorian for 2025 with a weighted GPA of 102.00. Magdalena has taken several college classes through the BOCES New Visions program including, Anatomy & Physiology, Sociology, Psychology, English Composition, Introduction to Disease, Calculus, and various other college credit classes totaling 43 college credits. Magdalena has earned an Advanced Regents Diploma with Designation for her studies. She devoted time to participating in extracurriculars including six varsity level sports, National Honor Society, Student Council, and Yearbook. She has held several different class officer positions and was voted President her senior year. Outside of school, Magdalena is a member of the West Valley Volunteer Hose Company, and a member of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. After graduation, Magdalena plans on attending SUNY Cortland, majoring in Biomedical Sciences.



*Salutatorian*  
**ISABELLA GIBSON**

**Isabella Gibson**, daughter of Eva Gibson and David Gibson is the salutatorian for the class of 2025, with a weighted GPA of 94.5. While attending WVCS, Isabella has been a part of the community and participated in many clubs. Isabella has participated in NHS for three years, Art Club for four years, and Yearbook Club during her senior year. Isabella volunteered at the Pines with Art Club for a whole day and has done much more for NHS. After High school, Isabella will attend Bowling Green State University in Ohio to major in paleontology and archeology.



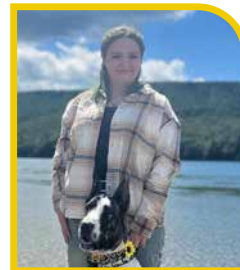
## CLASS OF 2025



*Addison Smith*



*Baily Fuller*



*Emily Quinn*



*Hailey Robbins*



*Walker Herbert*



*Jack Tharnish*



*Joshua Kowalski*



*Justis Kapp*



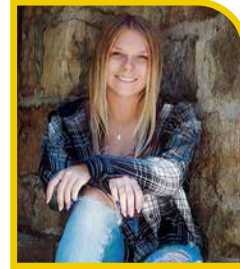
*Lemuel DiGiorgio*



*Madelynn Winsor*



*Natalie Stanier*



*Onnalee Caswell*



*Slater Smith*



*Tyler Trimm*



*Victoria Parish*



# AWARD & SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

|                                            |                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Valedictorian.....                         | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| Salutatorian.....                          | Isabella Gibson                                                  |
| Academic Excellence.....                   | Magdalena Parish / Jack Tharnish                                 |
| Bette Aldrow Medical Award.....            | Emily Quinn                                                      |
| Alfred State Pioneer Leaders Award.....    | Annabelle Proseus/Olivia Harmony                                 |
| Irwin Ahrens Memorial.....                 | Victoria Parish                                                  |
| Alumni Association Award.....              | Jack Tharnish                                                    |
| Louis Armstrong Award.....                 | Jack Tharnish                                                    |
| AU Scholar Award.....                      | Annabelle Proseus                                                |
| CANY Scholastic Recognition.....           | Payton Ehnes                                                     |
| CCB Academic Scholarship.....              | Hailey Robbins                                                   |
| Catt. Co. Youth Citizenship.....           | Magdalena Parish, Isabella Gibson,<br>Victoria Parish            |
| Mary Lou Chappell Memorial Award.....      | Natalie Stanier                                                  |
| Clarkson University Achievement Award..... | Payton Ehnes                                                     |
| Clarkson University Leadership Award.....  | Annabelle Proseus                                                |
| Community Service Award.....               | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| Doug Ford Memorial.....                    | Jack Tharnish                                                    |
| English.....                               | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| God and Country.....                       | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| Theron Hotaling Memorial.....              | Hailey Robbins                                                   |
| Barb Nagel Memorial.....                   | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| NHS Outstanding Member.....                | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| NHS Distinguished Service.....             | Victoria Parish                                                  |
| NHS Schoastic Excellence.....              | Isabella Gibson                                                  |
| OAG Civic Ambassador Award.....            | Magdalena Parish                                                 |
| Outstanding Vo-Tech Student.....           | Slater Smith                                                     |
| Rensselaer Medal.....                      | Annabelle Proseus                                                |
| RIT Science & Math Award.....              | Annabelle Proseus                                                |
| Russell Sage College Award.....            | Payton Ehnes, Annabelle Proseus,<br>Olivia Harmony, Liliana Toms |

|                                                       |                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Pete Scherer Memorial.....                            | Victoria Parish                                    |
| Anna Schroeder Memorial Servant Leadership Award..... | Nicholas Klahn                                     |
| Anna Schroeder Memorial.....                          | Emily Quinn                                        |
| John Phillip Sousa.....                               | Jack Tharnish                                      |
| St. Bonaventure University Bonnie Award.....          | Payton Ehnes/Annabelle Proseus/<br>Olivia Harmony  |
| State of NY Comptroller.....                          | Isabella Gibson/Jack Tharnish/<br>Magdalena Parish |
| Supt Award for Perfect Attendance.....                | Addison Smith (4 total years)                      |
| Triple C Awards.....                                  | Magdalena Parish, Isabella Gibson                  |
| U of R. Bausch & Lomb Science.....                    | Annabelle Proseus                                  |
| U of R. Fred Douglas/Susan B. Anthony.....            | Payton Ehnes                                       |
| U of R. George Eastman Young Leader.....              | Olivia Harmony                                     |
| U of R. Xerox Award for Innovation.....               | Liliana Toms                                       |
| Liz Wiley Memorial.....                               | Victoria Parish                                    |
| Keith Young Memorial.....                             | Slater Smith                                       |

## SCHOLARSHIPS

|                                            |                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Leo Bernhoft Memorial.....                 | Victoria Parish                                                                                       |
| Janda Lee Hunt Memorial.....               | Victoria Parish                                                                                       |
| Jack Nuthall Memorial.....                 | Jack Tharnish                                                                                         |
| Delmont K. Pfeffer Memorial.....           | Magdalena Parish/Isabella Gibson                                                                      |
| Grover Reifler Memorial.....               | Baily Fuller                                                                                          |
| Gilbert Snyder Memorial.....               | Hailey Robbins                                                                                        |
| WVTA Scholarship.....                      | Jack Tharnish                                                                                         |
| CH2MHill WXT West Valley, LLC Science..... | Onnalee Caswell, Isabella Gibson,<br>Magdalena Parish, Emily Quinn,<br>Natalie Stanier, Jack Tharnish |

# CLASS OF 2025 POST SECONDARY PLANS

|                       |                                                                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Onnalee Caswell.....  | Attend: Bryant & Stratton College<br>Major: Health Studies                            |
| Lemuel DiGiorgio..... | Attend: Rochester Institute of Technology<br>Major: PreLaw – History/Chinese Language |
| Baily Fuller.....     | Attend: Alfred State College<br>Major: Heavy Equipment                                |
| Isabella Gibson.....  | Attend: Bowling Green University<br>Major: Archaeology                                |
| Walker Herbert.....   | Enter the Workforce                                                                   |
| Justis Kapp.....      | Enter the Workforce                                                                   |
| Joshua Kowalski.....  | Enter the Workforce                                                                   |
| Magdalena Parish..... | Attend: SUNY Cortland<br>Major: Bio Medical Sciences                                  |
| Victoria Parish.....  | Attend: SUNY Niagara<br>Major: Baking/Pastry Arts                                     |

|                      |                                                                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Emily Quinn.....     | Attend: University of Pittsburgh at Bradford<br>Major: Emergency Medicine |
| Hailey Robbins.....  | Attend: Alfred State College<br>Major: Game and Interactive Design        |
| Addison Smith.....   | Enter the Workforce                                                       |
| Slater Smith.....    | Enter the Workforce                                                       |
| Natalie Stanier..... | Attend: Trocaire College<br>Major: Veterinary Technician                  |
| Jack Tharnish.....   | Attend: SUNY Geneseo<br>Major: Engineering 3+2                            |
| Tyler Trimm.....     | Enter the Workforce                                                       |
| Madelynn Winsor..... | Enter the Workforce                                                       |



## HONOR ROLL

West Valley Central School Principal, Daniel Amodeo, announced the following students in grades 7-12 have been named to the honor roll for the fourth quarter.

### HIGH HONOR ROLL

- Grade 7 – Nicholas Klahn, Dalton Otto, Lily Quinn
- Grade 8 – Finley Ford-Grover
- Grade 9 – Alayna Kinney
- Grade 10 – Samantha Fisher, Noah Klahn
- Grade 12 – Magdalena Parish, Jack Tharnish

### HONOR ROLL

- Grade 7 – Lorelai Fish, Savannah Griffis, Braydan Mitchell, Makayla Richardson, Connor Washburn
- Grade 8 – Madison Lawrence, Julienna Robbins, Delia Shoup, Abigail Tucker
- Grade 10 – Isabella Mitchell
- Grade 11 – Annabelle Proseus
- Grade 12 – Lemuel DiGiorgio, Isabella Gibson

### MERIT ROLL

- Grade 7 – John Atkinson, Emily Gestwick, Cullen Shaw
- Grade 8 – Ryan Bartz, Kolin Holstein, Matt Ignatowski, Nia Schoepflin
- Grade 9 – Karly Otto
- Grade 10 – Scarlett Clarkson, Kara Troutman, Elizabeth Winsor
- Grade 11 – Payton Ehnes, Olivia Harmony, Liliana Toms
- Grade 12 – Justis Kapp, Victoria Parish, Emily Quinn, Hailey Robbins, Slater Smith, Madelynn Winsor



#WeAreWestValley



**Mission 20 was such a success!  
Your cards and letters for Mail Call  
were a highlight of the trip! Thank  
you so much for supporting  
America's Heroes!**



## KINDNESS CLUB

During Kindness Club this year our students colored pictures, made cards, and wrote letters to veterans participating in the Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight to Washington DC. The veterans received our cards, pictures, and letters during Mail Call. This was the Honor Flight's 20<sup>th</sup> mission. We received this beautiful thank you note with pictures of the veterans reading their mail. We are so grateful to all who served our country and were happy to participate in this amazing program.





**PRE-K**

**GRADU  
ATION**



**2025**



# END OF THE YEAR INTERACTIVE SHOWS

On June 24, classes were treated to the showing of two interactive videos by Kit's Interactive Theatre. An interactive video is a show where the audience gets to play a part in the production. The younger classes enjoyed "Cinderella's Fairy Godmother". During this performance, each student had a prop and part as they sang and danced through Storyland to solve a riddle. The older classes enjoyed "The Mysteries of Ancient Egypt" where they learned about pyramids, relief painting, and Egyptian rulers. Students even learned how to do the Dance of the Luxor.

A special thank you to the PTO for sponsoring the videos, SADD for donating the popcorn, and WVCS for donating the bottled water. Everyone had a great time!



## 6th Grade Maid of the Mist & Aquarium Trip!



# Biography *Wax Museum*



On the evening of Wednesday, June 18th, Ms. Westfall's third grade students brought history to life with their very own "Wax Museum," held in the school gymnasium.

In preparation for this event, each student selected a famous figure to portray—ranging from athletes and political leaders to historical icons and beyond. They immersed themselves in research, gathering facts from a variety of sources about their subject's childhood, education, achievements, and legacy. From there, they composed and typed thoughtful research reports and created note cards to support their oral presentations. It was a true collaborative effort, combining time spent in the classroom and in the library with Mrs. Thiel.

The big night brought these figures to life—literally. Dressed in costume, the students stood still as statues, waiting for visitors to press the buttons they'd each designed. Once "activated," each "wax figure" delivered a brief, engaging summary of their chosen individual, impressing audiences with their poise and preparation.

The students' hard work and enthusiasm shone through in every detail of the event, leaving families and guests inspired and proud.



End of the  
Year Fun!



7th grade science students finished up their year learning about the rock cycle and broke open some geodes! They each took turns breaking open their own geode to take home. These Moroccan geodes are millions of years old and contain quartz crystals. Many students exclaimed "It smells salty!" after breaking open the geode. They learned that this observation helps explain how the crystals were formed from mineral-rich water seeping into the cavities of the rock and slowly forming the beautiful crystals.



# COLOR RUN 2025!



# MIDDLE SCHOOL STEAM

Middle school STEAM finished up the year with choice projects! Some of the creative projects included: a movable 3D model of shark, pipe cleaner flower bouquets, optimizing the height of film canister rockets, and discovering the optimal time to leave on bleach for a reverse tie dye!



## POLE VAULT CLINICS

*Learn drills  
and become  
a better vaulter*

### DATES

- 07/10
- 08/07
- 08/14
- 08/21

5-7:00 PM

### LOCATION

West Valley Track  
(and possibly at  
Franklinville)

PARENTS MUST  
PROVIDE  
TRANSPORTATION

Scan to  
Sign Up





# Kindergarten Field Trip!



# WATER SAFETY: WHAT TO KNOW

Summer has finally arrived and is in full swing. The weather is warm, which makes water activities a summer favorite for many families. Water offers endless possibilities from swimming, fishing, canoeing, boating, skiing and simply floating on a tube. But, before you head out the door, it is important for everyone to practice water safety. One of the best things you can do is to learn and follow the recommended water safety guidelines because drowning is a leading cause of injury-related death, particularly in young children and teens.

In the U.S., children ages 1 to 4 have the highest drowning rates. In fact, more than 150 people drown in New York state every year according to the New York State Department of Health. By taking part in water safety activities and knowing how to spot dangers before they happen, you can help keep everyone safe around the water.

- **WATER SAFETY TIP #1: Always Choose a Water Watcher - Stay focused.** Make sure the watcher is an adult. Pay special attention to new swimmers. Check the water first if a child is missing. Have a phone ready. Never leave your post.
- **WATER SAFETY TIP #2: Don't Rely on Water Toys** - By law anyone under the age of 12 must wear a life jacket while on a boat, however even if you are on a dock or by a body of water children should wear a life jacket. Make sure the life jacket is the right size. Follow the manufacturer's instructions - all straps should be fastened, and the life jacket should not be loose. Anytime you are on a boat, adults should set a good example and wear a life jacket, too.
- **WATER SAFETY TIP #3: Get Swimming Lessons** - One of the best water safety activities you can do to protect your kids is to take water safety training - swimming lessons! Research has shown that formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning among children ages 1 to 4 years.
- **WATER SAFETY TIP #4: Be Safe at the Waterpark or Public Pool** - If you plan to take children to a waterpark or public pool, make sure you know their swimming abilities so they don't end up on a ride, attraction or area that could be dangerous for them. Know the rules of the park or pool and understand each ride or attraction before you allow a child to participate.
- **WATER SAFETY TIP #5: Other Ways to Stay Safe** - To avoid slips and falls, teach kids not to run around the pool area. Many germs are killed by the pool chemicals, but kids should know not to drink pool water. Teach kids not to pee or poop in the pool. Check swim diapers frequently and take kids on bathroom breaks at least every hour. Be sure no child who is having diarrhea gets in the water. After swimming, teach kids to tilt their heads back and forth several times to help water drain from their ear canals, and dry their ears with a towel. This can help prevent swimmer's ear and ear infections. Take extra snacks to prevent meltdowns - kids burn more energy when they're swimming and playing in the sun. Take plenty of water to make sure everyone stays hydrated. Wear sunscreen, and re-apply frequently, even if it's a cloudy day. Pick a meeting spot in case you get separated.



Kids ages 18 and under can get **free, healthy meals** this summer at places nearby. No sign up needed—just drop by when meals are served!



## Find Summer Meals:



Visit [SummerMealsNY.org](https://SummerMealsNY.org)  
Call 211 or 1-866-3-HUNGRY



**HUNGER SOLUTIONS**  
NEW YORK  
UNITING POLICES AND  
PROGRAMS TO END HUNGER



*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

# FREE COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET

St. John the Baptist Church  
Location: behind the church in Bingham Hall  
Wednesday from 1-4:00 p.m.  
(or by appointment)

Besides clothing and shoes, we accept bedding, kitchen and household items, and books for Cattaraugus County residents. Donations of gently worn undamaged, clean, and seasonal items are welcome. Upon request, we can fulfill a need of furniture items.

For questions or to make an appointment, please call Jacque Conrad at 716-942-3836.



# WEST VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry Hours:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays  
Open from 3-7:00 p.m.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays  
Open from 12 -4:00 p.m.

If you need emergency food, please call Amy Frank at 716-942-6657 and she will set up a day and time.

The food pantry is located at the Ashford Town Barn, Fox Valley Rd., West Valley.

We would like to thank the community for their continued support.



love fresh fruits and veggies?

Stop by to purchase fresh, healthy, affordable and locally grown produce!

LOCATED AT:  
West Valley Central School  
5359 School St.  
West Valley, NY 14171

EVERY SATURDAY  
10:30 am - 11:30 am



The Farm Market accepts credit, debit, cash, SNAP, and Apple Pay!

**FeedMore  
wny**

FeedMore WNY  
www.feedmorewny.org  
(716) 822-2002

## WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

5359 School St. • West Valley, NY 14171

(716) 942-3100

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

George Kazmierczak, President

Heather Klahn, Vice President

Jonathan Boberg

Tracy Chai

Charlie Davis

Adam Fisher

Melissa Pearl

### ADMINISTRATION

**Daniel Amodeo**, Superintendent

**Barbara Sporyz**, Business Administrator

**John Collins**, Assistant Principal, CSE/CPSE/504 Chairperson

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Permit No. 5  
West Valley, NY

**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**POSTAL PATRON LOCAL**

## HEALTHY KIDS AT WEST VALLEY ELEMENTARY



### MEET SAVANNAH

I'm excited to welcome you and your child to our program! This is my second year at West Valley with Healthy Kids, and I've worked in early childhood education for over five years. I'm passionate about creating a safe, positive, and nurturing space for children to learn and grow. I hold an Associate degree in Human Development and Family Studies and am currently pursuing my CDA and a Bachelor's in Early Education through Empire State University. I look forward to a great year together!

 [srandolph@wvvalley.org](mailto:srandolph@wvvalley.org)

### FUN BEFORE & AFTER THE BELL

#### HEALTHY KIDS BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

6:30AM-School Start  
Dismissal-6:00PM

Our Extended Day Programs provide a safe, supportive space where children can thrive beyond school hours.



"My son felt safe, excited and eager to learn every day. He has learned sharing, routine, and had huge emotional development gains. The Healthy Kids Program is such a wonderful addition to the West Valley community and will be a staple in their development for any child that joins!"

### FUN ALL DAY LONG

#### HEALTHY KIDS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

7:00AM-6:00PM

Our Preschool Program is a full day program for kids 3 years by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> that balances academic learning with emotional, social and cognitive skills to help prepare for the transition into Kindergarten.



"My daughter attended The Healthy Kids Preschool Program at West Valley this past school year and had an amazing experience. Ms. Savannah made her feel welcomed, loved and worked on academics as well as social emotions skills with her all year long. I would definitely recommend this program to others"

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM

We plan on offering classes/workshops this fall. The program is open to all members of the West Valley community and surrounding areas.

We would like to know your ideas of classes that we can offer. Know someone willing to teach a class or workshop? Maybe you are interested in teaching? Are there any classes that you would like to be offered again?

Please contact Carolyn Boberg, Superintendent Secretary/District Clerk, at [cboberg@wvvalley.org](mailto:cboberg@wvvalley.org) or call **716-942-3100, extension 4102.**

### REGISTER NOW!

Visit our website or get in touch with our team today!

 [registration@healthykidsprograms.com](mailto:registration@healthykidsprograms.com)

 [healthykidsprograms.com](http://healthykidsprograms.com)

 845-330-0200

