



WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

*School and Community
Working Together*

VOLUME 33, NO. 3

OCTOBER 2026

OCTOBER EVENTS

FALL FEST • 10/2

HOMECOMING DANCE • 10/3

WNY COLLEGE CONSORTIUM
10/7

PICTURE DAY • 10/9

15 MINUTE EARLY DISMISSAL
10/9

COLUMBUS DAY-NO SCHOOL/
OFFICES CLOSED • 10/12

BOARD MEETING • 10/13

HALLOWEEN PARADE • 10/30

TRUNK OR TREAT • 10/30

SCAN TO VIEW
EVENT CALENDAR





OFF TO A GREAT START

BY MR. DANIEL AMODEO, SUPERINTENDENT

Thank you to our entire school community for a fantastic start to the school year. It was great to see our families and students at our second annual "Meet the Teacher Night" on September 2nd. This event at the beginning of the year really helps set the stage for a smooth first day for students.

2024 CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

Our students, families, staff, and Board of Education could not be more thankful to our voters for approving our 2024 Capital Project. This project was funded through a voter approved Capital Improvement Reserve. The district used approximately \$1.37 million dollars of the capital reserve and will receive 85% in state aid on all eligible expenses of the total \$6,095,000 project cost. Construction completed thus far includes:

- Community Playground & Enclosed Basketball Court
- STEAM Classroom renovation
- Full Library renovation
- New energy efficient lighting and shades throughout the building
- Gym repainting and graphics
- Venting of a Cardio fitness room
- Air conditioning for the weightroom
- Rear parking lot excavation and repaving
- Bus garage roof
- Bus garage maintenance repair pit renovation

CONTINUED FOCUS ON REGIONALIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

West Valley is committed to meeting our mission and vision. Now more than ever, small rural school districts need to work together to find, create, and offer opportunities to our students. Currently for the 2026 school year we are partnering with Ellicottville, Franklinville, Pioneer, and Springville on everything from student programs and athletics to professional development and shared staff.

West Valley has recently partnered with Franklinville and other CA BOCES districts to participate in a Mental Health Awareness Training grant. The grant will provide up to \$600,000 shared by participating districts for training in mental health awareness over a three-year period. We are thankful to Don Putnam, Superintendent of Franklinville, for spearheading this effort.

SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION WEEK

October gives the community an opportunity to recognize the school board with School Board Appreciation Week, from October 12-16. Our school board members volunteer their time and put their heart into serving our school. When you see a board member, please thank them for their service to our school and students. Their dedication is truly appreciated.



STARTING FRESH THIS FALL

BY MRS. MYCHAJLUK, PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are already a month into the school year! This is such an exciting time of year. Education is one of the few professions where we have the opportunity to start fresh each year with renewed energy, new goals, and endless possibilities.

Our students and staff are settling into their routines, and our calendar is already filled with exciting events! **Fall Fest** will be held on **Friday, October 2, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.**, followed by our **Homecoming celebration on Saturday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m.** We will also hold our annual elementary **Halloween Parade on Friday, October 30**. We look forward to celebrating these special traditions with our students, families, and community!

In September, students completed their first NWEA MAP benchmark assessments of the year. Individual results are now available to families in the Portfolio+ section of eSchool. These results help our teachers identify each student's strengths, monitor growth, and plan instruction and support throughout the school year.

Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in a student's success. Every day of instruction matters, and frequent absences can make it difficult for students to keep up with assignments, participate in classroom learning, and maintain academic progress. We appreciate our families' continued support in helping students arrive at school on time and attend each day whenever they are healthy.

The first five weeks of the school year end on Friday, October 9. At that time, we will review student grades and assign students in grades 7 through 12 to Extended Learning if they are failing one or more courses. Extended Learning provides students with additional time and support to complete assignments and improve their academic standing.

Extended Learning calendars can be found in the **Extended Learning Calendars** section near the bottom of the district's **Parents webpage** (www.wvalley.org/parents). The calendar is updated regularly by teachers. Students participating in Extended Learning may take the late bus home.

Thank you for helping us begin the year on such a positive note. We are looking forward to a wonderful October at West Valley!

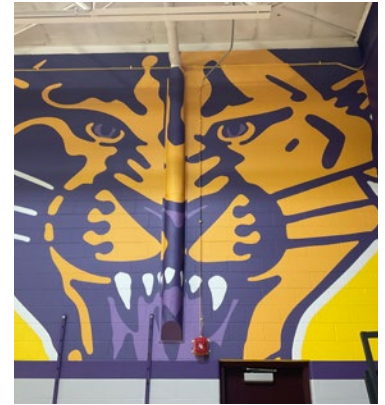
#WeAreWestValley





SUMMER IMPROVEMENTS AT WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

It was a busy summer at West Valley! While students were away, our staff worked hard to refresh several spaces around the building. Improvements include: a brand-new playground along with new West Valley branded decals in the gymnasium. The nurse's office also received updates to better serve our students, and the library has a refreshed look as well.



SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED

West Valley Central School is looking for dependable, enthusiastic substitute teachers to support our students in grades UPK-12. If you enjoy working with kids and want a flexible way to make a difference in our school community, we'd love to have you join our team!



Learn more and apply here:



OUR NEWEST WILDCATS!



SAM KELLOGG

*Mechanical Technology
Teacher*

A graduate of Franklinville Central School, Mr. Kellogg comes to us from the heavy equipment industry. He will be teaching technology, woodworking, and small engine courses to middle and high school students.



MADISON TILYOU

Math Teacher

Mrs. Tilyou joins us this year and will be teaching Math 7, Math 8, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Precalculus, and AIS. She earned her bachelor's in Math/Math Education and master's in Math Ed 7-12 from SUNY Fredonia. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her family, running, and cross-stitching.



MEGAN ANDERSON

1st Grade Teacher

Mrs. Anderson was previously an elementary teacher at Cuba-Rushford. She graduated from Niagara University with a degree in Early Childhood and Childhood Education (with a minor in American Sign Language and Deaf Studies) and attended Western Governors University for her master's in Curriculum and Instruction. In her free time she enjoys reading, spending time outdoors, painting, and anything Taylor Swift.



STACIE ERMER

Elementary Art Teacher

Mrs. Ermer brings 13 years of teaching experience from Monroe 2 BOCES and Olean City Schools. She studied Communication Design and Art Education at FIT and Nazareth College, and earned her master's in Literacy and Learning from Empire State College. Her goal is to help students explore their creative abilities and build a strong foundation in visual art. In her free time she enjoys traveling, playing team trivia, and spending time with animals.



Varsity Volleyball Media Day



The Digital PSAT/NMSQT Wednesday, October 21, 2026

On Wednesday, October 21, our school will administer the Digital PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) for 10th and 11th graders using their own school-issued device. The cost per student is \$18.00, and checks are to be made payable to WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL. The deadline to sign up and pay for the test is Friday, October 9, in the guidance office or with Mrs. Westfall in the main office. Even if your child is not considering college now, they should take the PSAT/NMSQT. Just taking it can encourage a student to start thinking seriously about life after high school, goals, and the education necessary to achieve those goals.

Scan the QR code for reasons to take the PSAT/NMSQT, tip on preparing for the Digital PSAT/NMSQT, what to expect on test day, and scholarships to help pay for college.



WNY Consortium of Higher Education Common Recruitment Fall 2026

**October 7, 2026
8:00 – 8:35 a.m.**

The WNY Consortium Common Recruitment Committee is excited to visit and meet with our students this fall. The WNY Consortium is comprised of approximately 20 colleges and universities across the Western New York region. On Wednesday, October 7, 2026, from 8:00 – 8:35 a.m., the WNY Consortium will be in the auditorium. This is a free event for students in grades 10-12.

SAT & ACT Information 2026-27

<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration/dates-deadlines>

SAT Test Date*	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration**
Nov. 7, 2026	Oct. 23, 2026	Oct. 27, 2026
Dec. 5, 2026	Nov. 20, 2026	Nov. 24, 2026
March 6, 2027	Feb. 19, 2027	Feb. 23, 2027
May 1, 2027	Apr. 16, 2027	April 20, 2027
June 5, 2027	May 21, 2027	May 25, 2027

*Students who need to borrow a device from College Board will need to register and request their device earlier than the registration deadline—at least 30 days before test day.

**Late registration is available worldwide. Additional fees apply.

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

CROSS COUNTRY *(at West Valley)*

VOLLEYBALL *(at West Valley with Franklinville)*

-VARSITY

-JV

FOOTBALL *(at Franklinville)*

-VARSITY

-MODIFIED



**Fall Sports Awards Night
in the Auditorium:
November 9 • 6:30 p.m.**



FREE Community Clothes Closet



Location: Behind St. John the Baptist Church in Bingham Hall

The Community Clothes Closet will be open Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 1-4:00 p.m. (or by appointment).

They are currently not accepting donations at this time

For questions or to make an appointment, please contact Jacque Conrad at 716-244-7059 or Elise at 716-942-3291.



WEST VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

FOOD PANTRY HOURS:

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

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

If you need emergency food, please call
Amy Frank - 716-942-6657 or
Kristine Aldrow - 716-942-6690
and they will set up a day and time.

LOCATION

9348 Route 240, West Valley

FEEDMORE WNY WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM

The goal of the Weekend Backpack Program is to provide nutritious and easy-to-prepare meals for children to take home on weekends. This program is provided to you **completely free of charge!**

Each week your child will be provided with a bag of nutritious, non-perishable food to be eaten over the weekend. The food will be placed in your child's backpack at the end of the school day and is intended to be opened once your child is home. The program will continue throughout the 2026-27 school year. Participation in the Weekend Backpack Program **will not affect your family's eligibility for other food assistance programs** (such as SNAP, WIC, or food pantry access).

To enroll your child/children in the program, contact Mr. LaBrake. Please call with any questions at 716-942-3100, ext. 4148 or send an email to mlabrake@wvalley.org



FREE COMMUNITY DINNER WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

(There will be no dinners in November and December because of the holidays)

Serving buffet style from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
West Valley

Everyone is welcome!

Join us for a hot meal, good conversation, and help build community. Dessert too!
We host a community dinner on the 4th Wednesday of every month (except Nov. And Dec.) All are welcome to attend. Donations are accepted but not expected.



ACCESS WEST VALLEY'S FOOD SERVICE MENUS ANYWHERE!

View daily breakfast and lunch menus, check nutrition information, download a printable version, or save to your phone.

Scan the QR code or visit:

www.wvalley.org/departments/food-service



Cooler Days, Healthy Ways

WVCS HEALTH CORNER

October is here, bringing cooler mornings, colorful leaves, busy school schedules, and of course, the beginning of cold and flu season. As we settle into the school year, this is a great time to help students build a few simple habits that can keep them feeling their best.

One of the easiest ways to prevent the spread of illness is also one of the most important: [good handwashing](#). Encourage children to wash their hands with soap and water before eating, after using the restroom, after coughing or sneezing, and when they come home from school.

Sleep is another important part of keeping our students healthy and ready to learn. With practices, homework, activities, and busy family schedules, bedtime can sometimes get pushed later and later. A consistent sleep routine can make a big difference in a child's mood, concentration, immune system, and overall well-being.

As respiratory illnesses begin making their seasonal rounds, please remember to keep your child home if they

are experiencing a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or are simply too ill to comfortably participate in the school day. Giving children time to rest and recover helps them feel better sooner and also helps protect classmates and staff.

October also means Halloween fun! Whether your family is trick-or-treating, attending community events, or celebrating at home, a few reminders can help keep the evening safe: choose costumes that are easy to see and walk in, carry a flashlight or glow stick after dark, stay together, watch carefully for traffic, and have an adult check treats before children dig in.

Finally, please remember that the Health Office is here to support our students and families throughout the school year. If your child has had a change in health, medication, allergies, or medical needs, please reach out so we can help make their school day as safe and successful as possible.

**WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY, HEALTHY,
AND COLORFUL OCTOBER!**



WEST VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

5359 School St. • West Valley, NY 14171

(716) 942-3100

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Adam Fisher, Vice President

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Melissa Pearl

Noah Klahn, Student Ex Officio

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Daniel Amodeo, Superintendent

Jennifer Schultz, Business Administrator

Rachel Mychajluk, Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Permit No. 5
West Valley, NY

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

West Valley Central School District uses Parent Square to send an automated message regarding school closings and cancellations of after school activities. The message is sent to your household phone number and to the emergency contacts that you listed at the beginning of this school year. If this information has changed or you would like to verify what is on file, please call Dana Westfall at 716-942-3100 extension 4111. The district also contacts the following radio and television stations:

Channel 2
WBEN 930 AM

Channel 4
WPIG 95.7 FM

Channel 7
Big Oly 107.1
& 105.5 FM

Back-to-School Update from Tobacco-Free Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany (TF-CCA)

As students return to school, health experts are encouraging families to have conversations not only about the physical dangers of vaping and nicotine use, but also their impact on mental health.

Talk openly with children and teens about vaping, nicotine pouches, and mental health. Help having conversations can be found at [TalkItOver.org](https://talkitover.org) and Stanford Medicine's "Becoming a Trusted Adult: Foundations for Effective Drug Education."

Watch for signs of nicotine dependence, including irritability, restlessness, difficulty concentrating and cravings.

Encourage healthy coping strategies for stress, anxiety, and depression, such as physical activity, social support and counseling.

Seek professional help if a young person is struggling with mental health concerns or nicotine addiction.

