

One Webster

Students First. District Proud.

Webster Central School District - Spring Newsletter 2022-23



Families & Community Asked to Take Communications Survey

To best determine how Webster CSD continues to share important messages and information with its community, the district is engaging in a district-wide communications audit of students' parents/guardians and the community at-large. The online Communications Survey is currently open and available for completion by parents/guardians and community members through Friday, April 14, at surveymonkey.com/r/WCSDcommunications. Parents/guardians and community members are asked to please take a few moments to answer the questions posed in the survey, which takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Garth Fagan Dance to Perform at Community Arts Day

Community Arts Day (CAD) is Saturday, April 15, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Webster Schroeder High School, 875 Ridge Road, and this year's event promises to be the best yet!

The day is filled with performing groups, community group exhibits, student art displays, crafts, treats, vendors, and more!

Webster Central PTSA, CAD Committee, and One Webster Equity are excited to announce that this year Garth Fagan Dance will present a free spotlight performance from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. This is a major cultural experience that will enrich our understanding of traditions outside the typical performances hosted in the Webster community. This opportunity is not just entertainment, but also education through dance and culture.

Admission to CAD is free and proceeds raised from the day support cultural arts programs in Webster CSD. To learn more about CAD, please go online to websterptsa.org/cad.

From the Superintendent

I'm hoping by the time you read this, spring has officially sprung! There are definitely signs of the changing seasons throughout the One Webster district community with the start of spring sports, musicals, concerts, art events, and more!

One sure sign of spring is Webster Central PTSA's Community Arts Day. Webster Schroeder High School will be a hub of activity on Saturday, April 15, from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and YOU are invited. This annual event began in 1976 and showcases cultural arts in our district and community; it is not to be missed. Community Arts Days features artwork and musical performances by our talented students, demonstrations (karate, gymnastics, etc.), games, delicious food, and countless community organizations' information tables throughout Schroeder. This year, CAD will also welcome internationally acclaimed Garth Fagan Dance for a performance.

This community-wide event follows Music In Our Schools/Youth Art Month, recognized annually in March... yet another opportunity to celebrate Webster CSD's talented student musicians, artists, and incredible music/fine arts staff and programs. We congratulate all students who were recently honored with music and art accolades.

Lastly, when I reach out to you again in early May, I will share information about the district's proposed budget and board of education election, scheduled for Tuesday, May 16. Please watch your mail for that important newsletter.

Enjoy the spring issue of our district's community newsletter. As you'll read, there is much to highlight and celebrate as we work together to support our students and staff!

All my best,

Brian Neenan

Superintendent of Schools



Superintendent **Brian Neenan** chats with Spry Middle School students **DeAngelo Bell** and **Ava Hatfield** in the school's newly renovated library.



The mechanics of Webster CSD Transportation literally keep the buses going. These hard-working individuals persevered through the challenges of working on the buses as the transportation building and parking lot were remodeled around them. They were even recently recognized by the New York State Department of Transportation for having a perfect service rate in the previous year. This means that, upon inspection, every one of the district's school buses passed.

WCSD Students Roc2Change

Students from Webster Schroeder and Webster Thomas high schools and Edison Career & Technology High School (Rochester CSD) welcomed approximately 250 Rochester area high school students to the Fall 2022 Roc2Change Student Summit on November 22 at St. John Fisher University. Led by students for students, Roc2Change inspires and empowers high school youth across boundaries of geography, race, and life experiences to become effective change agents. It elevates the authentic voices of youth through student-organized, region-wide Student Summits on Race and year round experiences, preparing them to create anti-racism movements within their home schools and the broader community.

Program Creates TIES Between Students

Together Including Every Student (TIES) provides students with developmental disabilities ages 8-21 the opportunity to join extracurricular and community activities of their choice, such as a sport or club, music or dance class, scouts, a drumming circle, any inclusive activity with support from trained student volunteers. Volunteers are Webster CSD students grades 8-12 who receive training and valuable information about the importance of belonging, disability awareness, friendship building, and effective support strategies.

TIES encourages independence and socialization and promotes connections in school and community. If you would like to know more about the program, how to participate, or volunteer please contact WCSD TIES Coordinator Carolyn Maciag at tmaciag@rochester.rr.com or call (315) 317-6377.



Names in the News

DO THE RIGHT THING - Congratulations to Spry Middle School's **Abigail Bielemeier** and **Nicholas Cameron** for



receiving Rochester Police Department's Do the Right Thing Awards! This awards program recognizes youth for their bravery, courage, and valor, such as volunteering, aiding



law enforcement, or other first responders, acts of heroism, leadership and positive role model behavior.

DANCE - **Kara Schenk**, a Webster Thomas High School student, was selected as a member of Youth America Grand Prix's (YAGP) first International Contemporary Youth Ensemble in collaboration with YAGP Israel. Acceptance into this program was by audition or invitation and only 30 dancers were selected from around the world. YAGP is the world's largest non-profit international student ballet competition and scholarship program. Kara traveled to Israel to participate in the professional contemporary dance training and immersion program.



ART - One hundred four Webster Schroeder and Webster Thomas high schools artists submitted a combined 161 pieces of art to the jury of renown artists in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Of these, Webster Schroeder students received 23 awards, including three Gold Keys, five Silver Keys, and 15 honorable mentions, and Webster Thomas students received 42 awards, including 11 Gold Keys, 14 Silver Keys, and 17 honorable mentions. Gold Key winners have advanced to the national level where a jury will review them and announce winners this month.

Four One Webster students were selected to have their art on display February 10-March 5 at the *Shared Spaces* students and teachers exhibition at Nazareth College. The exhibit allows teachers to choose a student and display a work of their own alongside the student work. Among this year's participants are Webster Thomas' **Gabi Balch** with teacher **Todd Stahl**, **Sophia Giorgione** with teacher **Cathy Morrill**, **Charlotte Park** with teacher **Katherine Harrison**, and Webster Schroeder's **Madeleine Tischner** with teacher **Danielle Zatkowsky**.

The *START HERE* high school and middle school students exhibition was January 20-February 4 at Rochester Institute of Technology. Fourteen student works were submitted from Webster Thomas and Webster Schroeder combined: from Webster Thomas **Gabi Balch**, **Lilly Benfante**, **Adriana Delallo**, **Trinity Humphreys**, **Ahava Jones**, **Sophia LaBorde**, and **Jessica van Wichen**; and from Webster Schroeder **Maura Ugine**, **Devon Gersh**, **Emily Lippa**, **Abby Fish**, **Maddi Siwik**, **Aspen Russell**, and **Alexandra Zilist**. Of the 30 awards presented at the exhibit, three were to Webster Thomas students! Lilly Benfante received the school of design's Graphic Design award, Ahava Jones earned the private donor Purchase Prize award, and Jessica van Wichen was bestowed the school of design's Industrial Design award.

MUSIC - Webster Thomas High School Select Choir students **Shanna**



Petitions Available for BOE Candidates

The Webster CSD Budget Vote and Election of Candidates is Tuesday, May 16 at Webster Schroeder High School. Anyone wishing to run for the board may pick up a nominating packet from the district clerk's office, 119 South Avenue, Webster, weekdays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Petitions must be returned to the district clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will each serve three-year terms beginning July 1.

Questions about candidacy or eligibility may be referred to District Clerk Cynthia Cushman at (585) 216-0001 or cynthia_cushman@webstercsd.org during the office hours noted above.

Important Dates to Remember

- April 18 - BOE adopts budget to be put before voters, 6:00 p.m.
- May 2 - Public hearing on proposed 2023-24 budget, 6:00 p.m.
- May 16 - WCSD Budget Vote and Election of Candidates; polls open 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Webster Schroeder High School gym, 875 Ridge Road.

Smith, Lauryn White, and **Mya Vanderbrook** (pictured below) have been selected to participate in the prestigious National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All Eastern Honors Festival, to be held this year in Rochester. April 13-16, these exceptional musicians will gather with over 700 students in six different ensembles, selected from across 12 eastern states.

Students from across Webster's music program had the opportunity to audition for the Monroe County School Music Association (MCSMA) Honors Festivals. Two hundred One Webster students took the challenge to put their musicianship and dedication to the study of their instrument or voice in front of accredited professional music adjudicators this past January. Ninety-one Webster CSD students were selected, plus 16 alternates, to make amazing music in large ensembles during Music In Our Schools Month in March. Our musicians will be participating in MCSMA Festivals for elementary (grades 5-6), junior high (grades 7-9), senior high (grades 9-12), and jazz (grades 7-12).

BUSINESS -- Thank you to **John Gabriele** of Marina Auto-group, **Jerry Christopher** of State Farm, **Kelly Bush** of Bossy Rochester, **Ben Austin** of West Herr NY, and **Rick Thomas** of Thomas Landscape and Design for participating in the Webster Young Entrepreneurs Academy CEO Roundtable Luncheon. The CEOs shared their business expertise and answered student entrepreneurs' questions.



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WCSD Community Invited to Convening on Equity in Education

Webster CSD in partnership with Webster Families Igniting Racial Equity (F.I.R.E.) invites parents, families, and community members to a Convening on Equity in Education on Saturday, March 25, 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. at Spry Middle School, 119 South Avenue, Webster. The program will feature guest speakers and Webster CSD student participants involved in diversity and equity efforts in the Webster community. Webster CSD and F.I.R.E. thank the following organizations for their collaboration and support of this event: Webster Central PTSA, Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute, BOCES, Regional Equity Network, Being Black in the Burbs, and Webster Thomas/Webster Schroeder High Schools' Demonstrating Real Equality for All Mankind (DREAM) Clubs.

Interested parents/guardians, families, and community members are asked to register, as breakfast will be served. For more information, please visit websterschools.org/familyengagement.

WCSD IS HIRING



Bus Drivers - Bus Monitors - Teaching Assistants -
 Student Aides - Cleaners - Food Service Staff -
 Substitutes - Health Office Aides - Tutors -
 WonderCare Staff - Cafeteria Aides - Clerical Positions

APPLY ONLINE:

WEBSTERCSDJOBS.ORG

**NYS
RETIREMENT**

**TUITION
DISCOUNTS**

**COMPETITIVE
PAY AND
BENEFITS**

**GROWTH
OPPORTUNITIES**



Winter Sports Roundup

This winter was hot for Webster athletes as they set fire to tracks, courts, and ice this past season!

- Webster Schroeder girls indoor track team, Section V Class A1 champs. **Corintia Griffith**, Section V and state triple jump champ; **Camryn Cole**, Section V 55m hurdle, long jump, and high jump champ, state long jump and high jump champ; **Shelby Boise**, Section V 600m champ.
- Webster Schroeder girls basketball team, Section V, Class AA champs heading to state regionals as this newsletter went to press. **Mariah Watkins** eclipsed 1,000 points, achieving 1560 as of early March.
- Webster Schroeder boys ice hockey team, Section V Class B champs.
- Webster Schroeder cheerleading, Monroe County Division 2 champs.
- Webster Schroeder boys basketball, Monroe County Division 2 champs.
- Webster Lakers (Schroeder and Thomas combined) boys alpine, **Blake Preston**, state champ (slalom and giant slalom combined).
- Webster Thomas cheerleading, Section V Co-ed Division champs.
- Webster Thomas boys indoor track, **Gerald Lewis**, Section V 1000m champ; **Evan Lacey**, set a school record in the mile while competing at states with a time of 4:18.94.



Schroeder girls basketball Section V Class AA champs!