



# The Journal

### **WCS: Our family, our community, our future**

by Megan E. Papasian-Broadwell  
Board of Education Secretary



In 2007, I began my search for the perfect school for my soon to be kindergartner. As

young parents, with our first child entering school, my husband and I were determined to find the very best in education. After numerous school visits and open houses, we arranged for a tour at our neighborhood elementary school. Wow! We knew from the moment we stepped into Green Acres Elementary that it was in fact the very best...and it didn't stop there.

In 2020, we have a graduating senior who reached for the stars...and caught them. The opportunities and exemplary programs offered in Warren Consolidated Schools have been a catalyst in shaping our then kindergartner into a successful, well-rounded, soon to be alumni of Warren Mott High School. Twelve years later I still believe this was the very best decision.

Warren Consolidated Schools has provided educational opportunities that have exceeded my expectations! The administrators, teachers and staff in Warren Consolidated Schools provide a first class education. In the past twelve years new programs have been launched, innovative technology has been added and curriculum has

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### **Macomb County Education Enhancement Millage Proposal on the March 10 Ballot**

On March 10, 2020, Macomb County residents will be asked to vote on a 1.9 mill, ten-year regional educational enhancement millage for all Macomb County students.

An educational enhancement millage must be proposed on a county-wide basis. If approved, the money is collected by the Intermediate School District and distributed equally to all public school districts and charters on a per student basis.

With a regional enhancement millage, WCS would

have control over how the money is spent and tailor their programs and curricular support to best fit their student/community needs.

This millage would provide approximately \$55 million annually for all school districts in Macomb County.

Warren Consolidated Schools would receive more than \$400 per student in additional resources—an investment in our students' success.

The additional funds would benefit WCS students by expanding and maintaining programs and course offerings for students; update instructional materials; invest in teachers and support staff; and protect and increase our extra-curricular activities for students.

According to the 2019 Equalization Report, the average Macomb

County home is valued at close to \$200,000. The 1.9 mill Macomb County Enhancement Millage would cost approximately \$190 per year on a home valued at \$200,000 or approximately \$95 per year on a home valued at \$100,000.

"Warren Consolidated Schools has a long-standing reputation for providing quality programs, while serving as good stewards of our

taxpayer's money," Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said.

Livernois said the state has failed to fund public schools for several years. The regional educa-

tional enhancement millage gives Macomb County communities an opportunity to provide a stable source of funding that goes directly to WCS students and will attract and retain a talented workforce, Livernois said.

Strong schools and strong communities attract new businesses, support existing small businesses and bring new families to our district, creating a desirable community where people want to live and raise a family.

Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm on March 10, 2020. Absentee ballots and voting locations are available at your local clerk's office.

To learn more about the **Macomb County Education Enhancement Millage**, visit [www.misd.net](http://www.misd.net) or [www.wcskids.net](http://www.wcskids.net).



**Macomb County Education Enhancement Millage**

### **2020 Outstanding Teachers of the Year**

Warren Consolidated Schools named Noha Agini, Denise Kudra, and Amy Rovner the district's Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients for 2020.

"It is with great pride that the district recognizes these three educators for their outstanding commitment to our district, the high standards they set for themselves, and their dedication to ensuring all students have the opportunity to learn," Chief Academic Officer John Bernia said.

#### **Noha Agini**

is a 5th grade teacher at Cromie Elementary School. She has taught in the district for the past nine years.



Noha Agini

#### **Denise Kudra**

teaches Algebra 2 and Accelerated Algebra 2 with Trigonometry at Warren Mott High School. She has been with the district for the past 17 years.



Denise Kudra

#### **Amy Rovner**

teaches 7th grade math and 8th grade science at Grissom Middle School. She has been with the district for the past 19 years.



Amy Rovner

Agini, Kudra, and Rovner will be honored at the MISD this spring.

## 2019-20 Calendar

**March 6**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM report in AM

**March 10**—NO SCHOOL; Election Day

**March 12**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE; afternoon and evening Parent Teacher Conferences

**March 27**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**April 3**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM

**April 6-13**—NO SCHOOL; Spring Break

**April 14**—Classes resume; MS/HS Testing Day

**May 1**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**May 22**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM

**May 25**—NO SCHOOL; Memorial Day

**May 26**—Classes resume

**June 6**—High School Graduation Ceremonies

**June 9**—9-11 half day; High School exams

**June 10**—9-11 half day; High School exams

**June 11**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM; High School exams

## *Papasian-Broadwell continued from page 1*

expanded offering students a multitude of dynamic paths and opportunities to choose from. The plethora of choices in Warren Consolidated Schools have worked to engage, empower and inspire a unique path that has prepared my soon to be graduate as a global learner ready who is ready for the next adventure!

In reflection, I believe that the Warren Consolidated Schools has provided a supportive community that puts students first. With a mission that supports a growth framework, this school district has sought to provide not only my student, but every student with a first class education that prepares them for their future and ours. The last decade has been a testament to the continual dedication, insight, and innovation necessary to prepare students for a global economy. Warren Consolidated Schools is our family, our community, our future.

## What are your top ten?

by Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D.—Superintendent of Schools



If you made a top ten list of the greatest innovations of all time, what would be on your list? I think about things like the tele-

phone, printing press, television, automobile, and more recently, technological advances like the Internet, iPhone, Amazon.com, Alexa, and all of the conveniences and opportunities, good and bad, that they have brought our world.

However, at the very top of my list would be public schools like WCS because they truly are the one opportunity available to ALL children- an opportunity that is anchored by extraordinarily committed people who serve our children each day.

In fact, as the world continues to develop new innovations, our schools have remained the one constant for children and families. From teachers, princi-

pals, and support staff, to parents and community members who support our schools, WCS has been such an important part of the lives of so many children and families.

As you browse this edition of the WCS Journal, please take note of how important public education is in the lives of the thousands of children we serve in our district. The opportunities we provide our children are an investment in our future because one day those children will be our next bank teller, plumber, doctor, airline pilot, or any other important profession in our community.

All things considered, while we somehow celebrate that Amazon's Alexa can order a pizza or tell us anything we want to know, it still cannot teach our children how to read or to say please and thank you – only committed adults in the lives of our children can do that, which is why public education is one of the most important innovations of all time. In fact, your ability to read this article is most likely due to a teacher who taught you how to read.

## WCS celebrates School Board Recognition Month



special group of elected officials in education.

“Our board members dedicate countless hours to attending meetings, school functions, and other district related activities, Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said. “We proudly join the community in saluting our education advocates as they provide vision and leadership for student achievement, academic programs, district funding, and school facilities.”

WCS recognized the month of January as School Board Recognition month.

The observance of School Board Recognition Month is an opportunity to acknowledge a

## Enhancement Millage Fast Facts:



- On Tuesday, March 10, Macomb County residents will be asked to vote on a 1.9 mill, ten-year regional educational enhancement millage for all Macomb County Students.
- If approved, the money is collected by the Intermediate School District and distributed equally to all public school districts and charters on a per student basis.
- The millage would provide approximately \$55 million annually for all school districts in Macomb County.
- WCS would receive more than \$400 per student in additional resources.
- The additional funds would benefit WCS students by expanding and maintaining programs and course offerings for students; update instructional materials; invest in teachers and support staff; and protect and increase our extra-curricular activities for students.
- The 1.9 mill Enhancement Millage would cost approximately \$190 per year on a home valued at \$200,000.
- The 1.9 mill Enhancement Millage would cost approximately \$95 per year on a home valued at \$100,000.
- WCS has a long-standing reputation for providing quality programs, carefully serving as stewards of funds provided by state, federal, and local revenue sources.
- A comparison of neighboring counties, utilizing MDE Bulletin 1014, demonstrates that Macomb County schools receive on average several hundred dollars less per student, leaving many districts behind.

## Around the District...

### WCSPA STUDENTS AWARDED \$1.945 MILLION AT FESTIVAL

Warren Consolidated School of Performing Arts students were awarded \$1.945 million in scholarship money at the Michigan Thespian Festival in Detroit. WCSPA joined 1,600 students from 60 high schools from across the state. WCSPA students also showcased their work, as they performed the musical, *Curtains*, to a house of 2,000 Thespians at the Detroit Music Hall.

### COUSINO STUDENT NAMED NATIONAL GRAND PRIZE WINNER FOR ESSAY

Cousino High School student Chloe Malagar was named one of 10 National Grand Prize winners in the PAYBACK Challenge Essay Contest

sponsored by Next Gen Personal Finance. Malagar will receive a \$5,000



scholarship from NGPF to be used for educational purposes. Malagar's essay was about how she would make better financial choices when planning for college.

### DISTRICT PARTICIPATES IN GO RED HEART CHALLENGE

The WCS Wellness Committee, in partnership with the American Heart Association, participated in the National Go Red Heart Challenge on February 7. Staff and students were encouraged to wear red to show their support for healthy habits that support healthy hearts.



Students in Ms. Jamie Hilliard's Chemistry class at MMSTC wore red to support the National Go Red Heart Challenge.

### SUSICK DONATES FUNDS TO STERLING HEIGHTS PD K-9

The Susick Elementary school community donated \$1,463 to the Sterling Heights Police Department K-9 program for the purchase of a ballistic vest for the department's newest K-9, Rich. The money was raised during a school penny drive. K-9 Rich is named after SHPD K-9 trainer Richard Heins who passed away last year.



Susick Teacher Elaine DeGroot pets K-9 Rich during the check presentation. DeGroot organized the school penny drive.

### SHHS STUDENT GROUP HOSTS MIX IT UP DAY

Stomp Racism, the largest SHHS student-led school group, SHHS Leadership, and Teaching Tolerance hosted Mix It Up Day—a day dedicated to creating change. The group, in partnership with the school, hosted multiple events that allowed students and teachers to interact with people they don't normally interact with. Mix It Up Day included interactive games in the classroom, diversified videos, and a lunch-in where students and teachers sat together to get to know each other.



SHHS students participate in Mix It Up Day—a day dedicated to creating change..

### WARREN MOTT HOSTS BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

Warren Mott High School celebrated student academic achievement at the annual Breakfast of Champions awards ceremony on February 14. Students in grades 10-12 were recognized for achieving a 3.5 or higher accumulated grade point average.



### STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN HOUR OF CODE INITIATIVE

Third through fifth grade students in Ms. Schachermeyer's media class at Green Acres Elementary participated in the nation-wide Hour of Code initiative as part of the district's media curriculum. Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code," and broaden participation in the field of computer science.



Ms. Schachermeyer's third graders work on their coding assignment during the nationwide Hour of Code initiative.

WCSPA presents

**Annie Jr.**

March 27th & 28  
Showtime: 7:30 pm

To purchase tickets call:  
586.825.2525

## CPC students shine during CTE Month

In celebration of Career and Technical Education Month, the Career Preparation Center hosted its annual Program Showcase. Guests were introduced to 14 in-demand career paths with demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Programs at the CPC include EMT, Marketing, Metal Tech, Culinary Arts, Cyber Security, Graphic Design, Dental Science, Health Science, Building Trades, Collision Repair, Health Science Internship, Health Science Exploration, Computer Information Systems, and Pre Engineering/Computer Aided Design.



Collision Repair



Dental Science



Emergency Medical Technician



Health Science Exploration

**Warren Consolidated Schools**  
31300 Anita Drive  
Warren, MI 48093  
**1.888.4WCS.KIDS**  
**WCSKIDS.NET**

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## Stay connected...



## Register TODAY for Early Childhood and Transitional Kindergarten classes for the 2020-21 school year

WCS is proud to offer our community high-quality preschool and transitional kindergarten programs.

Beginning in March, the district will begin accepting registration for these programs which focus on kindergarten preparation.

The programs also focus on early childhood objectives for development and learning including: social-emotional, physical health, language, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, the arts, and English Language Acquisition.

The following Early Childhood programs are available:

### Transitional Kindergarten—

- FREE full-day program
- Five days per week
- For students who turn 5 and are born between September 1 and December 1, who would benefit from an additional year of growth between preschool and kindergarten, or who have limited early childhood experiences
- A program that combines academics with critical social and emotional development standards for students not quite ready for traditional kindergarten

### World of Fours—

- Must meet income eligibility guidelines and be a Macomb County resident to qualify
- Half-day and full-day programs available
- Must be 4 years old on or before September 1

### Tuition-based Preschool—

- 30 week program
- Classes held at Siersma, Susick, and Wilde Elementary Schools
- For students who will be 3 years of age on or before September 1; Class meets two

days per week for two hours

- For students who will be 4 years of age on or before September 1; Class meets four days per week for three hours

### Early Childhood Special Education—

- Special Education preschool program for children ages 3-6 with a current IEP
- Offers half-day programs and one full-day program
- Classes taught by a certified special education teacher with one paraprofessional per classroom
- Skills taught include: communication, behavior training, fine motor, gross motor, and preschool academics individualized to the student

### Project Find—

- Concerns about your preschooler's communication, behavior, physical or cognitive skills?
- Concerns that your preschooler is developmentally delayed or might have autism?
- Call 586.698.4129 to request a Project Find preschool-age child screening today

For more information on the district's Early Childhood programs, call 586.698.4046 or visit [www.wcskids.net](http://www.wcskids.net).



*WCS early childhood programs focus on early childhood objectives for development and learning including: social-emotional, physical health, language, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, the arts, and English Language Acquisition.*

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2020-21 school year will be held at the Administration Building from 9 am - 3:30 pm on the following dates and times:

**Monday, March 2—**Wilkerson Elementary

**Tuesday, March 3—**Wilde and Willow Woods Elementary Schools

**Wednesday, March 4—**Wilde, Wilkerson and Willow Woods Elementary Schools

**Thursday, March 5—**Susick Elementary

**Monday, March 9—**Jefferson and Siersma Elementary Schools

**Tuesday, March 10—**No Registration

**Wednesday, March 11—**Susick and Lean Elementary Schools

**Thursday, March 12—**Jefferson and Siersma Elementary Schools

**Monday, March 16—**Black and Holden Elementary Schools

**Tuesday, March 17—**Green Acres and Harwood Elementary Schools

**Wednesday, March 18—**Black, Cromie, and Holden Elementary Schools

**Thursday, March 19—**Green Acres and Harwood Elementary Schools

**Friday, March 20—**No Registration

**Monday, March 23—**Cromie Elementary

**Tuesday, March 24—**Lean Elementary

**Wednesday, March 25—**Any School—Late Day Registration from 10:30 am - 6:30 pm

**The WCS Administration Building is located at 31300 Anita Drive, Warren, 48093.**

Beginning Wednesday, April 1, all elementary schools will be able to register at the WCS Administration Building every Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm.  
No registration on Fridays.

**For more information, call 586.698.4478.**