



The Journal

Warren Consolidated Schools

Strong Schools = Strong Community

by Susan G. Trombley
Board of Education



As we close out the 2015-16 school year, I think back to all the wonderful district events and activities I had the privilege to participate in this year. It truly is amazing to witness the various accomplishments of the students who attend Warren Consolidated Schools.

I recently had the honor to award high school diplomas to more than 1,100 students throughout the district. Seeing the excitement and pride on the faces of our students and their families as they move on to the next chapter of their educational careers is very fulfilling.

So many highlights from the past school year stand out in my mind and make me proud to serve as President of the Board of Education for a district that prides itself on student achievement, high expectations and strong relationships.

On May 3, 2016, WCS voters approved a \$134.5 million bond proposal to preserve the district's facilities and remain comparable and competitive as one of Macomb County's leading school districts.

Thanks to the support of our district families, staff, and community members who champion public education.

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\$134.5 million Bond proposal approved

Warren Consolidated Schools voters approved a \$134.5 million bond proposal on May 3, 2016, to preserve the district's facilities and remain comparable and competitive as one of Macomb County's leading school districts.

The bond will provide essentials for a 21st century learning environment, address district safety and security, technology, and facilities.

"Thank you to the voters for being committed to keeping Warren Consolidated Schools strong, Superintendent Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said. "Not only is the passage of the bond an investment in our schools, it also is an investment in our neighborhoods and community."

The bond is focused on improving educational opportunities by creating modern learning environments so all students may benefit, providing school safety and security enhancements, and reducing utility costs via environmental smart upgrades.

A total of \$25.3 million will be used for technology upgrades that include upgrading technology and infrastructure to support learning, enhancing technology in each classroom, mobile learning devices for students, replacing obsolete computers, and updating the wireless network.

District-wide facility and security improvements worth \$75.1 million will include secure entry vestibules, security card reader systems for doors, security cameras, roofing and flooring replacements, upgraded fire alarm panels, replacement of interior and exterior doors where needed, improvements to HVAC, plumbing, and lighting/electrical systems, renovations to restrooms, locker rooms, and cafeterias, energy enhancements, and LED exterior light upgrades in buildings and parking lots.

\$21.2 million will go toward sites, fields, and playground improvements such as re-paving deteriorating parking lots and sidewalks, replacement of worn fences where needed, upgrades to athletic fields, tennis courts and high school tracks, as well as upgrades to playground areas.

The remaining \$12.9 million will be used for the replacement of worn classroom furniture and 60 new school buses, and to fund band, athletic and recess equipment.

The first series of bond work is expected to begin during the 2017-18 school year, with renovations and upgrades to security cameras at school campuses, elementary playground mulch and drainage systems, athletic renovations at Cousino and Warren Mott, upgraded high school message boards and the purchase of 10 new school buses.

Warren Consolidated Schools will continue to update the community on bond work progress through the district website WCSKIDS.NET.

Congratulations WCS Class of 2016



SHHS graduate Kevin Milhim, one of 1,137 students awarded a high school diploma during commencement exercises, is congratulated by Treasurer Brian White. Milhim graduated Summa Cum Laude and will attend Rochester College in the fall.

A total of 1,137 graduates received diplomas from the district's three high schools during commencement exercises at Macomb Community College & Sports Expo Center on June 4.

The Class of 2016 included 337 students from Cousino, 346 students from Sterling Heights, 382 students from Warren Mott, and 72 students from Community High.

The Class of 2016 was awarded \$18,288,150 million in academic and athletic scholarships: Cousino—\$5,385,608 million; Sterling Heights—\$4,474,795 million; Warren Mott—\$8,417,747 million; and Community High—\$10,000.

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Superintendent's Corner: *Moment in Time*

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



To the Class of 2016:

I would imagine that nearly everyone has a favorite song... maybe even more than one favorite song. Think for a moment how many times you have listened

to that song, whether on your iPhone, in your car, or maybe even on an old fashioned stereo in your home. A hundred times? A thousand times? Regardless of how many times you have listened to it – every time you listen to it – you are listening to the same recording that was captured in one, single moment in time most likely in a recording studio somewhere.

Think for a moment how one, three or four minute performance at one moment in time somehow has the ability to affect us emotionally every time we listen to it for the rest of our lives. And the part that has always fascinated me is that separate from the musicians who recorded the song, there were people present in the studio who heard, or shall I say witnessed, this song being recorded. Can you imagine being in the studio to witness JT's *Can't Stop This Feeling?* Or maybe *Sign Of the Times* by Prince? Can you imagine standing behind the glass in the studio to witness the actual performance that makes it on iTunes?

For me and maybe you too, that means something because of what music does to

us. When I was a young boy, I found a copy of the Beatles' album *Beatles for Sale*, which most likely belonged to one of my older brothers, and if you ask my mother, she will tell you that I played the song *Rock and Roll Music* literally non-stop until I wore the vinyl right off the record. The song's melody was so infectious that I would sit in my bedroom and play the air guitar or the air drums or sing into a hairbrush for hours. And sometimes I would lie on my back and push myself along the carpet just like Michael J. Fox did in *Back to the Future*. Sound familiar?

As you reflect on your school career, I challenge you to think about how your moments in time have been like these musical performances. WE ALL HAVE THEM -- what has been your one, single moment in time that has affected people? Whether you caught a touchdown pass to win the big game, graduated with honors, or maybe even cared for a sick relative, somewhere in your school career you made a masterpiece -- EVERYONE OF YOU.

Even more important than the past is the future that is before you – think of it as one giant recording studio waiting for you to record the next hit record that will inspire people and make them play air guitar or sing into a hairbrush. Whether you believe it or not – you all have the capacity to do it. Just go on out and get it because if you don't somebody will! All the best to each of you! Congratulations Class of 2016.

STEM classes offered at the elementary level

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education is an essential literacy for the 21st Century by promoting critical thinking, problem solving, communication, creativity, and collaboration within the classroom.

Throughout Warren Consolidated Schools, STEM education is available to all K-12 students, providing learners with the opportunity to apply their knowledge of science, technology and math to engineering practices.

Although STEM initiatives are incorporated throughout the curriculum, our elementary students now attend STEM classes each week to engage in hands-on activities that incorporate the grade level expectations for science and math. The STEM educators utilize the eight

Mathematical Practices as well as the eight Engineering Practices to help students connect the content they are learning in their classrooms to real world situations.

STEM teachers develop weekly lessons to meet the needs of the students and strive to implement the buildings' School Improvement initiatives designed to raise overall student achievement.

Additional STEM courses are available to middle and high school students to provide specific problem solving opportunities beyond the core classes. Students can select elective courses that are centered around Mathematics and Engineering Practices and challenge the students to strengthen their problem solving and communication skills.



Students in Ms. Hilobuk's STEM class at Black Elementary are focusing on renewable energy, with each grade level creating different solar objects. (Left) Students in 5th grade created solar ovens out of shoe boxes and tin foil and baked s'mores. (Right) Evelyn Fuller, 5th grade, shows off the finished product. STEM classes are offered at all WCS elementary schools.

Acre, LaDuke, and Wendt named WCS 2016 Teacher of the Year recipients

Warren Consolidated Schools honored Scot Acre, Kerri LaDuke, and Jessica Wendt as the district's Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients for 2016.

Acre, LaDuke, and Wendt were among 61 Warren Consolidated teachers nominated for this award by fellow teachers, administrators, support staff, parents, and students.

Nominated teachers are evaluated in ten categories such as, teaching style, motivational expertise, life-long learner, mission-driven and passion, and community focus.

"These three educators have achieved, through their effort and example, the highest standards of excellence in their profession and we are very proud of them," Chief Academic Officer Joseph

Konal said. "They work tirelessly to make sure their students succeed."

Scot Acre is an Integrated Geometry and Advanced Placement Calculus instructor at the district's Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center. He has taught for the district for the past 11 years.

"I am overwhelmed and humbled to be chosen as one of the Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients," Acre said. "There are so many great teachers in this district; I am honored to be thought of as one of them."

Acre holds a Bachelor's degree from



Wayne State University and a Master's degree from Michigan State University.

Kerri LaDuke is an Early Childhood Special Education teacher at the Hatherly Educational Center. She is currently in her third year with the district.

"I was excited and surprised to be named a Teacher of the Year recipient," LaDuke said. "My favorite part of teaching is getting my students to enjoy learning and love school. I enjoy working with my students and their families to support them while engaging them in the learning process."



LaDuke holds a Bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan and a Master's degree from Saginaw Valley State University.

Jessica Wendt is a Science teacher at Carleton Middle School. She has been with the district for the past 11 years.

"My favorite part of being a teacher is that every day and every year brings new challenges and adventures," Wendt said. "I am passionate about Science and absolutely love to share that passion and enthusiasm with my students."

Wendt holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree from Wayne State University.



Around the school district—

COUSINO YEARBOOK INDUCTED INTO GALLERY OF EXCELLENCE

The 2016 Cousino High School yearbook was recently inducted into the Walsworth Yearbook Gallery of Excellence for the third consecutive year.

Yearbooks in the Gallery demonstrate comprehensive coverage, innovative design, and superior copy and photography. Walsworth sales representatives loan Gallery yearbooks to local schools as inspiration. Gallery books are also displayed at regional, state and national conventions and workshops, and are used as examples in Walsworth's educational materials.

"The Gallery of Excellence is a showcase of the best yearbooks published by Walsworth," said Don Walsworth, President of Walsworth Yearbooks. "The Cousino yearbook staff can be proud of this accomplishment, as only a small percentage of our company's yearbooks are selected for Gallery each year."

Under the direction of Cousino High Schools instructor Lise Blades, thirty-five students from the school's advanced Yearbook 1-4 classes produced the 2016 yearbook.

WAYNE STATE C² PIPELINE IS DEDICATED TO YOUNG FUTURES

Warren Mott High School is proud to be one of 15 Metro Detroit schools to operate C² Pipeline.

C² Pipeline is a 21st Century Community Learning Center funded program through the Michigan Department of Education and sponsored by Wayne State University's College of Nursing.

The program focuses on increasing graduation rates, improving academics, and helping to ensure students are college and career ready.

C² Pipeline consists of three main components: 15 after-school programming centers, annual summer programs, and the Innovation & Curiosity Center. The program's overall goals include the following: Preparing students to be college and career ready; increasing academic achievement in student learning; expanding student awareness through enrichment activities and other non-traditional learning; provide a safe and nurturing environment for all students; and provide family services.

At the Warren Mott center, programming runs over two hours, Monday through Thursday. Students are served dinner or a snack and have a chance to participate in academic centers and enrichment. C² Pipeline's academic center offers students assistance with homework, projects, and any school related work in a small group setting.

The enrichments cover topics in a fun and exciting, hands-on atmosphere. All enrichment curriculum is aligned to Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, and state curriculum standards.

ALL ELEMENTARY LIBRARIES RECEIVE LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN ENDORSEMENT

The Library of Michigan recently awarded all WCS elementary school libraries a certificate of completion for meeting the qualified or exemplary status of the Measurement Benchmarks for Michigan School Libraries for 21st Century Schools.

To earn this recognition, each library demonstrated its competence in three categories for school library program evaluation; teaching for 21st Century learning, building the 21st Century learning environment, and leading the way to 21st Century learning.

"We are proud that our elementary libraries have done such outstanding work in providing services deemed qualified/exemplary by the Library of Michigan," Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said. "By focusing efforts on these key areas, our libraries have shown a strong commitment to information literacy and student achievement."

Michigan School Libraries for 21st Century Schools is a voluntary management standards program that assists K-12 libraries by setting benchmarks in the areas of instruction, student achievement, technology, facility, staffing, budget, instructional materials, curriculum development, school improvement, community engagement, and advocacy.

SUSICK STUDENTS RECEIVE SUMMER READING BOOKS

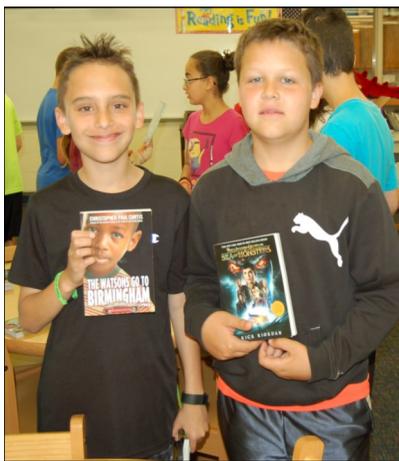
Students at all grade levels at Susick Elementary received four free books for summer reading as part of a recent book giveaway.

The Susick PTO generously funded three of the free books as a way to encourage students to read during the summer. The fourth book was funded by Scholastic.

Susick was selected by Scholastic as the winning school in Michigan for the Dave Pilkey "Be a Reading Superhero" Educator Contest and received a new book for every student in the school to bring home during the summer.

The contest is in support of the 2016 Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge that helps students take a leap into books and keeps them reading all summer.

Susick will continue its annual Summer Bookmobile program providing two free books to students throughout the summer.



HOLDEN NAMED TOP OVERALL SCHOOL IN MACOMB COUNTY

Holden Elementary was named top overall school in Macomb County at the 2016 Renewable Energy Green Schools Award Celebration sponsored by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners and the Macomb Intermediate School District.



Holden Green team led by Christina Kozłowski and Tanya Norkiewicz.

More than 128 schools participated in the program, with Warren Consolidated Schools being the largest school district to have participation from its schools.

Schools are eligible to receive a Green, Emerald or Evergreen environmental stewardship designation. Points are awarded in 29 activities based on proper documentation describing how the school performed a minimum of two activities from categories such as recycling, energy, environmental protection and a miscellaneous category.

The following schools earned designation in the Green Schools program:

Green—Lean, Hatherly, Grissom, Mott, Cousino, Sterling Heights

Emerald—Willow Woods, Siersma, Green Acres, Cromie, Black, Beer, Carleton, Career Prep Center

Evergreen—Wilde, Jefferson, Susick, Wilkerson, Holden, Harwood, Angus, Carter, MMSTC/MS²TC, Community High

Trombley continued from page 1.

tion, our district will continue to focus on improving educational opportunities for all students by creating modern learning environments through technology, providing school safety and security enhancements, and reducing district utility costs via environmentally smart upgrades.

I am so grateful that the bond passage will not only benefit the students who currently attend WCS, but will benefit future generations yet to walk the halls of our schools. Our strong schools continue to create strong neighborhoods and communities, and for that I could not be more proud!

The Board of Education and I are very thankful to the numerous parents and staff who worked tirelessly to provide information and support for the bond. Your dedication and commitment to our students is to be commended.

I am anxious for the bond work to begin during the 2017-18 school year and I will continue to update our community on bond work progress.

May the entire WCS community have a safe and happy summer and I look forward to seeing our students return to classes on Tuesday, September 6.

District Calendar

June - September 2016

June

27—HS Summer School Semester 1 begins

July

11-14—HS Summer School Registration from 9 am - 12 pm - Semester 2

18—HS Summer School Semester 2 begins

August

8—Year-Round classes begin; Half Day
31—Year-Round Break; NO SCHOOL

September

1-5—Year-Round Break; NO SCHOOL
6—All classes resume



Students benefit from Detroit Zoo partnership

Warren Consolidated Schools is continuing its partnership with the Detroit Zoological Educational Program to bring first grade students a meaningful curriculum focused experience at the Detroit Zoo.

The experience is connected to the district's Common Core Standards and Next Generation Science practices for first grade.

During the months of March, April and May, each elementary school first grade visited the zoo to learn, observe and explore.

During the visit to the zoo, students experienced the Monarch Way-station, Butterfly Garden, otters, National Amphibian Conservation Center, camels, and great apes.

Students also experienced a zoo staffed component during their visit that

included hands-on activities literature connected to life cycles, practicing observations using aquatic invertebrates, sorting and organizing stations using sequencing skills and processes, writing components, comparing different

types of life cycles, and introduction to citizen science using Journey North.

The citizen science theme continued for the remainder of the school

year, as students made comparisons between their gardens and the garden at the zoo through continued contact with the Detroit Zoo. Pictures were sent for student comparisons throughout the year and logged in journals.

"This is such an enriching educational experience for our first graders," Chief Academic Officer Joseph Konal said. "Our students are truly benefiting from this partnership with the Detroit Zoo"



Rosalena Karoumi and Keyara Ross take part in the Detroit Zoo experience as part of a partnership between WCS and the zoo.

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Warren Consolidated Schools

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Register NOW: Free Transitional Kindergarten

Warren Consolidated Schools offers a highly successful Transitional Kindergarten program for students who would benefit from an additional year of growth between preschool and kindergarten.

The program integrates academics with critical social and emotional development standards, allows students to take advantage of the benefits of entering kindergarten at an older age, and ensures students have the opportunity for a full-year

of school in a student-directed active learning environment before entering kindergarten.

Students benefitting most from the program are those who turn 5 years-old after the September 1 kindergarten entry deadline.

For more information call 586.698.4120.



Summer registration: Monday-Wednesday from 9 am—3:30 pm

WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Creating Dynamic Futures

- Transitional Kindergarten program
- K-6 grade year-round option
- Middle School and High School Performing Arts Program
- Middle School Mathematics Science Technology Center
- High School Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center
- 21st Century Technology Courses at the Middle School
- Band instruments provided to all 5th grade students
- Championship Athletics

OPEN TO ALL MACOMB COUNTY STUDENTS—WCSKIDS.NET OR 1.888.4WCS.KIDS



Notice of Nondiscrimination—In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, it is the policy of the Warren Consolidated Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, (collectively, "Protected Classes") be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or in employment. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Human Resources Officer, 31300 Anita, Warren, Michigan 48093, (586) 825-2400, ext 63110.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The State of Michigan law requires that schools that may apply pesticides on school property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending a facility.

Please be advised that Warren Consolidated Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation. That is made to the school grounds or buildings during the school year. Please note that notification is not given for the infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least two methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance to the school. The second method will be posting at the school's main office.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least three days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first class mail, contact Kenneth Matheny at Elite Pest Management who is contracted and responsible for all inspections and pesticide procedures. Elite Pest Management can be reached at 586-294-7055.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response ACT

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that each year district workers and building occupants receive notification about asbestos activities such as response actions and inspections. The purpose of this correspondence is to meet those requirements and familiarize you with the asbestos related activities that have been conducted in Warren Consolidated Schools this past year.

Management Plans—In 1998, Warren Consolidated Schools contracted with Asbestos Management Inc. to conduct inspections for asbestos containing material with all district owned buildings. This information was then compiled into Asbestos Management Plans. These Management Plans are kept in each building and are available for review. A copy of each building management plan is also located in the Educational Service Center.

Surveillance Activities—The AHERA regulation requires surveillance of the condition of AMC every six months and re-inspections every three years. The periodic surveillance was conducted in September 2014. Since the last re-inspection was done in 2013, the next three years re-inspection will be conducted in 2016. Both of these surveillance activities will be included as part of the buildings' Management Plans.

Asbestos Abatement—It is anticipated that Warren Consolidated Schools will need to conduct only minor amounts of asbestos abatement within its facilities over the next year and will continue to maintain all ACM under the Operations and Maintenance Program.

Any removal projects will be performed by a Michigan Licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractor and managed by Nova Environmental, Inc., the District's environmental consulting firm.

Asbestos documentation is available for review in each building file and at the Educational Service Center. For information, please contact Kerry Weishaupt, Supervisor of Auxiliary Services at 586-698-4446.

For more information on the Warren Consolidated Schools Integrated Pest Management program or the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, please contact Kerry Weishaupt, CFD, CTD—Manager of Auxiliary Services, 31950 Mound Road, Warren, MI 48092.