



# The Journal

### Opportunity Awaits at WCS

by Leah Berdy

Warren Consolidated Trustee



Welcome back to the 2018-19 school year. It is great to see our schools off to such a strong start and in full-swing of learning opportunities.

I am honored to be a part of the Warren Consolidated Schools Board of Education, working with my fellow board members, to advance our mission of excellence in education and success for our students. It has been my privilege to serve the students, staff, and residents of this great district for the past year. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the wonderful accomplishments of our students and staff, and I look forward to what the new school year has in store.

As the parent of two WCS graduates, I have seen first-hand the benefits of a well-balanced Warren Consolidated Schools education. Our district offers many opportunities for all types of learners. I am pleased to know that my children have received, and the students of this district are receiving, a quality education that will pave the way for post-secondary education and beyond. I have also been very impressed with the amazing teachers in this district who continue to show their devotion to our students each and every day.

From our highly popular Transitional Kindergarten program, Year-Round school options at

See Berdy page 4

### New phase of Bond work complete as students and staff return to class

Bond work continued throughout the district this summer, with several buildings receiving exterior, interior, classroom, plumbing, electrical, and technology upgrades.

Elementary schools including Angus, Harwood, Holden, Jefferson, Willow Woods, Wilkerson, and the district's four middle and three high schools all received upgrades during the summer construction shift.

The improvements were made possible through a \$134.5 million bond proposal, which was approved by voters in May 2016, to preserve the district's facilities and remain com-



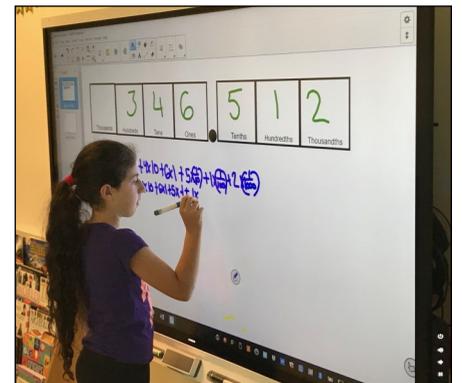
A Holden Elementary student fills up his water bottle at one of the new water bottle filling stations provided through the 2016 Bond.

petitive as one of Macomb County's leading school districts.

Work at the elementary level included replacing building interior and exterior doors and hardware, upgrading restroom sinks, toilets, flooring and faucets, new media center flooring, replacing classroom flooring, casework, and upgrading window treatments, replacing classroom sinks, building drinking fountains, and adding water bottle filling stations.

Work at the middle schools included modifying parking to improve traffic flow, improving site drainage, upgrading parking lot lighting, replacing the sinks, toilets, flooring, and faucets in the restrooms, replacing the flooring in the media center, office, and band rooms, renovating the home economics room and shop area, refinishing gym floors, replacing stage curtains, replacing drinking fountains and adding water bottle filling stations, replacing boilers, and upgrading the existing fire alarm system.

Upgrades at Cousino High School included the replacement of parking lot asphalt in selected areas, modifi-



Newly installed Smart Board Interactive Display units were purchased for the elementary level as part of the 2016 Bond initiative.

cations to the south parking lot to improve bus drop off, and a refinished main gymnasium floor.

At Sterling Heights High School site work such as replacing parking lot drives and modifying parking to improve traffic flow are a few upgrades that took place over the past few months. Other upgrades include replacing select doors and hardware inside the building, replacing the flooring in the media center and refinishing the gymnasium floor. The swimming pool filtration system, boiler, pipes, valves and temperature controls were replaced and upgraded.

See Bond Work page 4

## FREE

- \* Student Artwork Display
- \* Flu Shot Clinic (provided by Walgreens - insurance card required)
- \* Blood Pressure Checks
- \* Crime Prevention Ideas
- \* FREE Paper Shredding (two box limit per person)
- \* Food Sampling
- \* Glucose Testing

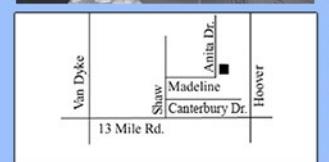
## STUDENT SHOWCASE for SENIOR CITIZENS

Come see the dynamic work of our students

Friday, October 19, 2018  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

WCS Administration Building  
31300 Anita, Warren MI  
(north of 13 Mile Rd., east of Van Dyke)

For more information call 586.698.4044



## 2018 Outstanding Teachers of the Year

Warren Consolidated Schools named Molly Gale, Shayna Hessel, and Abbey Syswerda as the district's Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients for 2018.

"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.

**Molly Gale**, who recently accepted a position as the district's 6-12 ELA/Social Studies consultant,

was an eighth grade Social Studies teacher at the Middle School Visual and Performing



Arts program at Butcher Educational Center. She has taught in the district for the past 13 years. Gale was also named the Macomb County Middle School Teacher of the Year by the Macomb Intermediate School District.

**Shayna Hessel** teaches fifth

grade at Harwood Elementary School. She has been a teacher in the district for the past five years.



**Abbey Syswerda** teaches 9-12 grade American History, Sheltered American History, and Sheltered Democracy and Citizenship at Warren Mott High School.

She has been with the district for the past 13 years.



## WCS continues to offer a top-notch education

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



Like many parents this time of year, I had the opportunity to take my daughter to college to get settled into her dorm. As I drove around her college

campus, noticing the many clubs, teams, and groups, it made me appreciate how many opportunities she had while a student here in WCS, and how they collectively helped her prepare her for this next step in her educational career. Those same opportunities and many more are here for your children as well. I encourage you to expect your children to participate in all that school has to offer as they will be better for it.

Back home at WCS this past summer, we completed the 2nd phase of bond work, making improvements to our schools across numerous areas. I remain thankful for

the community's support of the 2016 bond issue, which has provided us the opportunity to maintain and upgrade our facilities to world class standards. From state of the art classroom technology to numerous infrastructure improvements like new marquees, upgrades in boilers, plumbing, electrical, flooring, and paving, our schools are in fantastic shape!

Most important, please join me in thanking ALL our staff members, regardless of the work they do, for providing an outstanding education for your children. Their tireless devotion during these extraordinary times should be recognized. Along with the commitment from our exceptional Board of Education, WCS is strong and ready to provide your child with an opportunity for a dynamic future just like my daughter was given. Let's all work together to make it happen.

## Class of 2018: Celebrating Dynamic Futures

More than 1,000 graduates received diplomas from the district's four high schools during commencement exercises at Macomb Community College and the WCS Performing Arts Center in June.

The Class of 2018 included 81 students from Community High School, 304 from Cousino High School, 307 students from Sterling Heights High School, and 358 students from Warren Mott High School.

The Class of 2018 was awarded \$18,465,890 in academic and athletic scholarships.

"The number of scholarships earned by our students confirms for me that we have hardworking students, supportive families, and outstanding teachers and support staff," Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said. "I couldn't be more proud of our district and look forward to the many future achievements of our graduates."

To purchase a Commencement Ceremony DVD, contact the Public Relations Office at 586-825-2400 ext. 62121.



Pearl Lean Elementary Principal Kerry Keener (left) welcomed Warren Mott seniors back to their former elementary school for the annual Senior Class Last-Walk Through.

## BOND REFUNDING

During the last fiscal year, the District advance refunded 2007 outstanding bonds that were scheduled to mature between 2002 and 2027 and had a true interest cost of 4 percent. These were replaced with the issuance of 2017 Refunding Bonds that also mature between 2022 and 2027 and have a true interest cost of 2.24 percent. Over the life of the bonds this will save the taxpayers of the district more than \$900,000.

## New faces in new places

WCS is pleased to announce the following administrative updates for the 2018-19 school year:

**Jason Clark**—Principal at Angus Elementary. Mr. Clark was previously the assistant principal at Carleton Middle School.

**Mary Ann Figurski**—Assistant Principal at Warren Mott High School. Ms. Figurski was previously the principal at Cromie Elementary.

**Mike Lee**—Assistant Principal at Carleton Middle School. Mr. Lee was previously a science teacher at Carter Middle School.

**David Meengs**—Principal at Warren Mott High School. Mr. Meengs was previously an assistant principal at Warren Mott.

**Carlie McClenathan**—Principal at the Career Preparation Center. Ms. McClenathan was previously the principal at Angus Elementary.

**Lisa Mullins**—Assistant Principal at Warren Mott High School. Ms. Mullins was previously the district's 6-12 ELA/Social Studies Consultant.

**Jack Stanton**—Principal at Cromie Elementary. Mr. Stanton was the principal of Anchor Bay High School. Before joining Anchor Bay, he worked at Sterling Heights High School from 2011-14.

 **WE'RE HIRING!**  
JOIN OUR TEAM

For more information call 586.698.4521 or visit [WCSKIDS.NET](http://WCSKIDS.NET).

## COUSINO MILITARY NIGHT

The Cousino High School football community celebrated Military Appreciation Night by honoring local veterans during a recent game. Players and veterans walked on to the field together to be recognized.



## COACHES HONORED

Larry Harte, head girls tennis coach at Warren Mott, was selected as Coach of the Year by the Michigan High School Coaches Association and Angela Milanov, head cheer coach at Warren Mott, was selected to the Macomb County Coaches Hall of Fame. Harte and Milanov were recently recognized at a Board of Education meeting.

## SIERSMA STUDENT LEADERS

Siersma Elementary 4th and 5th graders participated in a school based team-building program with the goal of building great school leaders. Students participated in activities learning about themselves, strengths, weaknesses, and uniqueness. The program was created by Siersma educators Mrs. Bassick and Ms. Seligman.



## Student-built home sells for \$292,000 in Troy



Warren Consolidated Schools recently sold its student-built home for more than \$17,000 over listing price, after being on the market for two days.

The home, located on Locksley Court in the city of Troy, was built by the students in the Building Trades program at the Career Preparation Center.

Majority of the home was constructed by senior Building Trades II students, except for the foundation, roofing, and outdoor brickwork, which was contracted by skilled trades representatives.

The home boasts 1,723 square feet of living space and includes a spacious kitchen and nook, great room with vaulted ceiling, three bedrooms, two full bathrooms and a first-floor laundry. The home also includes a 1,600 square foot finished basement with living area, storage, a full-size bathroom, bedroom, and egress window.



High end materials such as granite countertops were installed throughout the home.

The project, which began in 2010, was completed in June of 2018. Students worked on the home one hour a day, four days a week. This year's Building Trades class was made up of 15 students, an instructor, and building trades assistant.

"Warren Consolidated Schools is proud to be part of the State's skilled trades career shortage solution by offering CTE programs such as building trades to our students," Superintendent of Schools Superintendent Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said.

Due to a shortage of skilled trades careers in Michigan, Governor Snyder announced the Marshall Plan for Talent in June, funneling \$100 million this fall into Michigan's public high schools to train students for high-demand jobs over the next five years.

The Marshall Plan seeks to fill gaps in the talent pool and prepare students for future job growth by restructuring the education system to favor a new method of learning that encourages certificate-based education. Instead of relying solely on the four-year college model that does not always translate directly to high-paying careers, the Marshall Plan aims to favor more gradual, step-by-step learning that will encourage students to learn throughout their lives.

"It is nice to see the State of Michigan finally recognizing the need to support CTE programs, the way WCS has been doing for more than 20 years at its Career Preparation Center," Livernois said.

In addition to Building Trades, WCS offers a full range of skilled trade courses such as Collision Repair, Culinary Arts, Dental Science, Health Science, Metal Technology, Visual Imaging & Printing Technology, Robotics, Radio-Television, Web Design, plus much more.

## District Calendar

**October 26**— K-12 Half Day; No AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM

**October 29-November 2**— Year Round NO SCHOOL—Intersession #1

**November 5-9**— Year Round NO SCHOOL—Intersession #1 continued

**November 6**— NO SCHOOL; District wide PD

**November 9**— K-12 Half Day; No PM ECSE

**November 12**— Year Round Classes Resume

**November 19**— K-12 Full Day; Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

**November 20**— K-12 Half Day; NO AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM; Parent Teacher Conferences

**November 21-23**— NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving Recess

**December 21**— K-12 Half Day, NO PM ECSE

**December 22-January 4** — NO SCHOOL—Holiday Break

**January 7**— Classes Resume

**January 11**— Year Round NO SCHOOL— PD

**January 16**— 9-12 Half Day; HS Exams 1 & 2

**January 17**— 9-12 Half Day; HS Exams 3 & 4

**January 18**— K-12 Half Day NO AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM; High School Exams 5 & 6

**January 21**— NO SCHOOL—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**February 13**— Supplemental Student Count Day

**February 15**— K-12 Half Day, NO PM ECSE

**February 18-22**— NO SCHOOL—Winter Break

**February 25**— Traditional Classes Resume

**February 25-March 1**— Year Round NO SCHOOL—Intersession #2

**March 4**— Year Round Classes Resume

**March 8**— K-12 Half Day; NO AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM

**March 14**— K-12 Half Day; NO PM ECSE; Parent Teacher Conferences

**March 29**—K-12 Half Day; NO PM ECSE

**April 1-5**— NO SCHOOL—Spring Break

**April 8-12**— Year Round NO SCHOOL—Intersession #3

**April 9**— 9-12 ONLY Half Day (SAT Testing)

**April 15**— Year Round Classes Resume

**April 18**— K-12 Half Day; NO AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM

**April 19**— NO SCHOOL—Holiday Break

**April 22**— Year Round NO SCHOOL—Holiday Break

**May 3**— K-12 Half Day; NO PM ECSE

**May 23**— Full Day, Senior Exams 3 & 4

**May 24**— Year Round Half Day

**May 27**— NO SCHOOL—Memorial Day

**May 28**— Full Day, Senior Exams 1 & 2

**June 11**— 9-11 Half Day, HS Exams 1 & 2

**June 12**— 9-11 Half Day, HS Exams 3 & 4

**June 13**— K-12 Last Day—Half Day; 9-11 Exams 5 & 6; NO AM ECSE; PM ECSE reports in AM

**June 19**— Year Round Last Day—Half Day

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

## Board of Education

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**Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

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## Stay connected...



## Bond work— continued from page 1

Warren Mott High School students and visitors will notice an upgraded athletic field entrance and new walkway to the west side of the football stadium. Other upgrades at Mott include refinishing the gymnasium floor, the construction of a new concession stand, and upgraded exterior lighting in select areas of the building.

Technology upgrades throughout the district at all grade levels included upgrading classroom instructional technology, replacing computers and upgrading the Audio/Video systems. Secure entry equipment and new security cameras were added throughout the district.

The total cost for the 2018 work was \$37,296,000.

The second shift of construction work at Black, Cromie, Green Acres, Lean, Siersma, and Susick Elementary Schools is slated for Summer 2019.



*The gymnasiums at Cousino, Sterling Heights, and Warren Mott were recently refinished during the summer bond work. Additional work is expected to take place in the summer 2019.*

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

## Berdy— continued from page 1

Siersma and Holden, Performing Arts programs at both the middle and high school level, our middle and high school, Math, Science, Technology Center located at Butcher Educational Center, the Career Preparation Center, STEM in the elementary schools, band and music education at all levels, and our vast array of extracurriculars such as robotics, science Olympiad, Peer to Peer, Leadership and much more...WCS has it all.

As we dive into the 2018-19 school year, I encourage parents/guardians to take advantage of learning about all the programs and services WCS has to offer; whether your child is in preschool, elementary, middle or high school, there is something for everyone.

Encourage your student to join a club, try out for a sport, volunteer in their school building, or just get involved.

Parents, our learners cannot be successful without your support. I encourage you to volunteer at your student's school, attend events such as parent teacher conferences, concerts, plays, etc., utilize your school's and the district's website for updated news and information, and stay connected to WCS through Power School, School Messenger, and the district's social media sites.

I wish everyone a great school year and I look forward to seeing our students, staff, and parents while I'm out and about in the district. Make it a great year!

## NOW AVAILABLE: Senior Citizen Athletic Pass

As a way of saying thank you to our Senior Citizen community, WCS is offering a FREE Athletic Pass to WCS Senior Citizens. Contact the Office of Public Relations at 586.698.4044 to request an athletic pass.



## Annual Notices

### 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. Forms are also available in the main offices of each school.

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 application, upon request.

### 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 2016, the next three years re-inspection will be conducted in 2019. 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 asbestos abatement within its facilities over the next year removing materials such as, but not limited to, floor tile, floor tile mastic, fire doors and fire door frames. All remaining ACM will continue to be maintained 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