

Waterbury Arts Magnet School Newsletter

16 South Elm Street ♦ Waterbury, Connecticut 06706 ♦ (203) 573-6300 ♦ Fax (203) 573-6325
http://www.waterbury.k12.ct.us/School_Links/wams/index.htm

Leo P. Lavallee Patricia K. Moore Dana Manning Kelly Gallulo
 Principal Assist. Principal Assist. Principal Interim Sup. of Arts/PD

OCTOBER 2013



Special Feature



What's Inside

Special Feature - In the Woods	1
Parent Involvement News - School Governance Council - Title 1 News *WAMS Annual Title 1 Meeting *Halloween Literacy Game Night	2
- PTSO News *Monthly Meeting *Boo Bash	
- Jersey Boys "WAMS Family Day"	
Arts Department News - Theatre News *NAME Winner	
Student News & Announcements - Picture Day - French Students Field Trip - Library News - Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration	3
- Guidance Department News *College Visits for October *College Planning Night *SAT Testing *College Fair *PSAT Testing	
Attention All Parents - Cash Free Fundraisers 2013-2014 - Music Booster Club - Human Growth, Development and Family Life Education Policy - Costume Preparation Person - 2013-2014 Attendance/Truancy Updates - Spring After School Programs	4
Events Calendar	8



You are invited to attend WAMS production of "Into the Woods." Come see your favorite fairytale characters on a musical journey out of the book. The play features our theater, choral and dance departments.

Parent Involvement News

WAMS School Governance Council Parent Tie Breaker Ballots

Thank you so much for your participation in the WAMS School governance Council elections. We were fortunate to have a number of excellent candidates and ended with a tie. A runoff election is needed to break the tie. The new ballot was mailed to your homes. You may select one of the candidates on the list by marking an (X) in the column next to their names.

ONLY ONE BALLOT MAY BE SUBMITTED PER FAMILY

You may drop your ballot off in the Parent's Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 2:30 PM. If you are unable to come here to vote; you may send your completed ballot in a sealed envelope attention Doreen Graham and ask your child to return it to his/her homeroom Teacher. **ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO ME BY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2013**

Parent Involvement NewsTitle 1 News

WAMS Annual Title 1 Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2013
10.00 – 11:30 AM
Parents Office

This is an opportunity for parents, staff and community to have open discussions and make joint decisions about parent involvement programs and activities at WAMS. Your perspective on these matters is a valuable contribution to our school community. The agenda will address:

- 2013-2014 Parent Involvement Activities
- 2014-2015 Expenditure Plans

Free refreshments and books will be provided.

For more information, contact Ms. Graham, dgraham@waterbury.k12.ct.us, (203) 573-6317

Halloween Literacy Game Night

Thursday, October 24
3:30 – 5:30 PM

Parents, students & siblings are welcome for an evening of fun literacy packed games
'Win Your Way To The Final Challenge Lots of Prizes, Lots of Fun'

!Featuring Dance Students Performances!

We need parents, students and staff volunteers. Also, kicking off our annual food drive in support of The Salvation Army of Greater Waterbury. Free refreshments and books will be provided. For more information, contact Ms. Graham, dgraham@waterbury.k12.ct.us, (203) 573-6317

PTSO NEWS

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, October 8
6:30
Library

High School Boo Bash scheduled for October 22, has been **POSTPONED**. A reschedule date will be announced.

To find out about joining the PTSO contact Mrs. Guerin at Aguerin02@snet.net

Arts Department NewsTheatre News

TLC Pancake Breakfast
Sunday October 20th, 2013
7:30 to 11:30 AM
Waterville Fire Dept. Hall
1551 Thomaston Ave,
Waterbury, Ct 06704

The Theater Language Culture Club members are traveling to Dublin and London in April 2014. We are holding this event to raise money for an exciting day in London that includes the Tower of London and a show in the theatre district of London. Your support in the past and in the future is always appreciated. Hope to see you at the firehouse for some pancakes. Contact Mr. Ondrush at kondrush@waterbury.k12.ct.us for more information

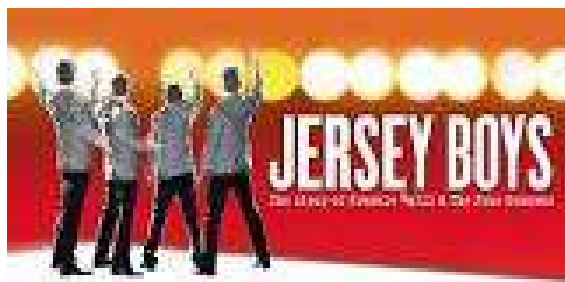
MUSIC NEWS

"Emily Pierce has been selected as a member of the 2013 National Association for Music Education All National Honor Choir. Emily will join more than 670 of the most musically talented and skilled high school students in the United States to perform at a gala concert on October 30, 2013." Congratulations Emily! Leo P. Lavallee, Principal.

"Emily has been working hard for a long time as a singer, composer, and pianist, and I am thrilled for her that she gets to participate in this exceptional opportunity. We at the Waterbury Arts Magnet School are so very proud of her!" Marianna Vagnini-Dadamo, Choral Director.

Jersey Boy

The Story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons

WAMS Family Day

Sunday, October 13
1:00 PM

Palace Theater

Tickets are available at the Palace

For more details contact the box office at 203-346-2000

Discounted ticket rates for WAMS High School Students and Parents: 50% off tickets for students and 10% discount for adult family members. Limit is 4 per family. Information flyers will be available in the Parent Office.

Student News/Announcements

Picture Day



Picture Day for 6th – 11th grades
October 4, 2013
(Mandatory for school IDs)

Order envelopes were distributed to students. If you would like to order picture packets, students must bring their order with payment and give to the photographers on that day. **NO CASH PLEASE.** Make checks or money orders payable to Art Rich Photography.

Library News



Parents and Students

Have you found any **WAMS Library Books** hanging around your house, locker, or on the bus???

Well just bring them to school & pop them into the **Library's Book Return Box.**

Remember ...

No Fee \$\$\$\$ → for late returns

Fee \$\$\$\$ → for lost

2013-2014 WAMS Yearbooks will be going on sale soon!!!
Save money and buy early

Pamela Abdul-Karim

Pabdulkarim@waterbury.k12.ct.us

The French III and IV class field trip to the Wadsworth Museum of Art in Hartford, CT
Thursday, October 17

The students will participate in the "Step into the Story" tour in which they will learn to "read" and interpret works of art through character, setting and plot. In addition, students will enjoy a French themed lunch buffet. Contact Mrs. Hutchings with any questions (hutchings@waterbury.k12.ct.us)

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Thursday, October 10th
3:30-5:30 PM

Atrium

This event is open to Spanish students and will be a fun event filled with music, food, and enjoyment with a variety of activities. Free of charge to all Spanish students. Parents are welcome!

Guidance News

Senior College Visits for October

- Tuesday, October 1st at 9:30am – Western, CT
- Friday, October 4th at 1:30pm– Sacred Heart University
- Friday, October 11th at 9:45am – Ithaca
- Friday, October 18th at 11:15am– Johnson and Wales
- Wednesday, October 23rd at 11:30am–Montserrat College of Art

College Planning Night

Wednesday, October 2

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Atrium

Please contact Mr. Martinez
(203) 573-6310

SAT Testing

Saturday, October 5

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Students must bring a government issued or school ID and admission ticket, **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Don't forget to bring a calculator and snack.

College Fair

Thursday, October 10

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Atrium

Over 25 colleges will visit WAMS to present their program offerings and answer parents' and students' questions. Passes will be provided to Juniors and Seniors. Sign up in the high school Guidance Office

For more information, contact Mr. Martinez at 203-573-6310 or rmartinez@waterbury.k12.ct.us

The PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is being given

Wednesday, October 16

8:00-11:15 AM

- Help Your Child Get the Score Needed to Earn Scholarship Money and College Admission
- Help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT
- Get Ready with a **One-Day Review** from **ScoreUP! Test Prep** Live Online Review

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

WHILE SHOPPING FOR THE HOLIDAYS
DON'T FORGET
**WAMS Cash Free Fundraiser
2013 -2014**

Here is a way to support our school without affecting your budget. We are kicking off our Annual Cash Free Fundraisers. Your packets have been sent home with students. This will give us an opportunity to earn cash and materials from Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards, Shop Rite for Education, also Box Top for Education.

- You can help by registering the Stop & Shop and Shop Rite in support of our school, and doing your regular shopping.
- For Box Tops for Education; you just need to clip the box tops and save the labels from the hundreds of participating products you use on a regular basis.

Remember even if you registered last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive the credit. Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and family to do the same.

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Godin (Cash Free Fundraiser Coordinator.) She can be reached at adkloons@yahoo.com. We appreciate your support.

Music Booster Club Seeking Parents to Sign Up:

Our Music Booster Club is a parent run group that supports the music department through a variety of activities and fundraisers. For more information or to sign up, please contact Mrs. Ross at wamsmusicboosters@gmail.com

**HUMAN GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY LIFE
EDUCATION POLICY**

Any parent or legal guardian of a Waterbury Public School student may exempt his/her child from any or all lessons dealing with Human Growth, Development and Family Life portions of the Health and Wellness Education Curriculum. This may be done by **written notification** to the Principal of the building that the child attends. Copies of the curriculum are available at the school for parent review. If you would like to read the curriculum, please call the school and make an appointment to go in and review the material.

Costume Preparation Person

We are looking for a parent or community member who knows how to sew. The duties include fitting students for costumes, some ironing and general costume maintenance. Approximately 60 hours for the school year.

2013-2014 ATTENDANCE/TRUANCY UPDATES

- Parent notes are allowed for the first 9 absences, regardless of the reason
- For absences 5-10, referrals are made to our own school staff for internal counseling, and a PPT or 504 is scheduled *if necessary*
- If no legitimate reasons are still given between absences 5-10, then a referral is made to WYS (Waterbury Youth Services), after all other internal resources are exhausted
- For the 10th absence & each absence after, no more parent notes are allowed. A legitimate note has to be provided in order for the absence to be excused (this includes: funeral, death in family, educational, religious holiday, court appearance, doctor notes, or lack of transportation that is normally provided by another school district that the student is from)
- Students must be in class for at least ½ of the school day in order for it to count, otherwise if they come in late or leave early, and they're present hours are less than ½ of the school day, then that day is considered an ABSENCE
- For every 3 tardies/early dismissals, an absence is accumulated for the specific class affected by the tardy/dismissal
- Total absences allowed are now 20 days, not 18, but this INCLUDES both excused AND unexcused absences
- At 15 absences, if no legitimate reasons have been given for absences, a referral is made to our CRO (community resource officer) to make a call to the home
- AT 20 absences, a CRO (community resource officer) makes a HOME VISIT & if necessary, parents/guardians are fined \$25 per student absence & referred to court system
- At 20 days, a waiver (new term for appeal) is necessary, where the parent/guardian must request a waiver in writing within 5 days of receiving the loss of credit letter, and at that point, a waiver meeting is set up to decide if student will receive credit or not

Cindy Ferreira
WAMS Attendance Counselor
(203)573-6317
csmurphy@waterbury.k12.ct.us

Waterbury Arts Magnet School After School Program

Fall 2013

September 30 – December 20, 2013

Most Programs are scheduled for 3:15-4:45 PM. Permission slips are available in Parents' Office, a blank form is provided on the website

Film Club, American Movie Classics- Mrs. Bosman

Middle School Students

Discover some of Hollywood's greatest movies, film actors, directors, screenwriters, cinematographers, editors, and producers who contribute to America's largest export, 'the movies'! Student will be viewing some of the greatest movies in American cinema, as determined by the American Film Institute. Students will discover and discuss movie's message, plot, setting, genre, and purpose.

Tuesday Sept 30-Dec 20

Room 401

Middle School Book Club - Mrs. Theriault

Middle School Students

Discover and expand your love of reading! Students will explore a book together as a group! We will have open discussions on the book chapters read. This is a great opportunity to meet other students with similar interests. Students will develop literacy skills and strategies that will enhance reading proficiency while fostering a love of reading. **Thursday Sept 30 –Dec 20**

Room 404

Middle School Student Council - Mrs. Swan & Mrs. Bosman

Middle School Students

Students will promote middle school social unity and service our community through a variety of community service projects, socials, and fundraisers. This group meets one Monday per month from 3:15-4:15 on the following dates: 9/23, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 01/13, 2/24, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19.

Monday

Room 401

Expanding Your Computer Experience- Mrs. Benjamin

Middle School Students

Want to expand your knowledge of Microsoft Office? Would you like to create more extensive PowerPoint presentations or design new documents in Microsoft Publisher? Then this is the class for you! Enhance your computer skills with fun projects. These valuable skills will help you become a dynamic student, and assist in creating documents for all aspects of life.

Monday Sept 30- Dec 20

Room 106

Shakespeare: The Moebius Project- rotating: Mrs. D'Agostino, Mr. Rucinski, Mr. Battisti

Middle School Students

Students will learn about the intersection of the arts, history, math, and science. Through this guided creative process we will break down the web of inspirations surrounding Shakespeare's writing and you will develop original adaptations based on Shakespeare. We will dissect his text, create new works, and learn about acting, directing, and designing. This program culminates in a performance.

Tuesday & Thursday October 22-Dec 12th

Apron Stage

8th Grade Talent Show- Mr. Finn

8th grade Students

This is an opportunity for 8th grade students to showcase their talents for family and friends. Students will be able to demonstrate and rehearse specific talent that will culminate with a performance event. This program also affords the students a community service endeavor by raising funds for the Gimbichu/Balamo Project which provides clean water for African villages.

Monday and Wednesday September 30th –Dec 20th

Cafe

Select Choir- Ms. Boonstra

Middle School Select Choir Students

Select choir students were selected by **auditions**. The group will rehearse weekly and explore 3 part choral music of a challenging nature. Possible performance opportunity in December. This is a yearlong commitment.

Monday Year long program

Choral Room

Knot your Grandmothers Knitting- Ms Amy Cordon

Middle and High School Students

This program is for middle and high school students from beginner to advanced. Students will come together to learn or develop the skill of hand knitting or crochet. Students will be able to exchange ideas about projects and help each other to become better at their craft.

Thursday Sept 30- Dec 20th

Room 415

Jazz Ensemble- Mr. Caruk

Middle and High School musicians that have reached level 2 performance skills

This is an opportunity for our students to have a real-life musical experience and an opportunity to grow musically, rehearse and perform with support from the Greater Waterbury Community. This ensemble showcases the WAMS musicians but also includes teachers, parents, instrumental professionals and retired community members. Students will perform during the Spring Concert at the Palace.

Monday Year long program

Instrumental Room

Drumline- Mr. Sterling

Middle and High School musicians

Students will develop the skills necessary to play in a percussion ensemble for parades and/or special occasions. All ability levels welcome. This ensemble performs at the Palace Theater in the Spring Concert and various other engagements throughout the year.

Thursday Year long Program

Instrumental Room

Concert Band- Mr. Sterling

Middle and High School musicians that have reached level 3 performance skill

WAMS music students will engage in real-life musical experiences through practice and performances. All students who have reached a level 3 performance skill may sign up to participate in this program. Concert Band will perform in the Spring Concert at the Palace Theater and other engagements throughout the year.

Tuesday Year Long Program

Instrumental Room

Creative Writing Workshop- Mr. Post

Middle and High School Students

This program is suitable for any writer of Poetry, Fiction, Playwriting or Screenwriting. If you are a writer who would like to exercise your craft, as well as discuss and share your work, then this workshop is for you. We will engage in writing exercises and activities, as well as editing, rewriting and marketing your manuscripts with the goal of achieving publishable works for the Literary Magazine.

Tuesday September 30 – Dec 20

CADD Lab

WAMS Book Worms- Mrs. Campbell

High School Students

Students will develop and expand a passion for reading. The group will vote on fiction and nonfiction book selections. This is a great opportunity to meet other students with similar interests and share in the joy of reading!

Monday Sept 30 – Dec 20

Library

Rock Orchestra- Mr. Scozzari

Middle & High School

This opportunity is open to middle and high school vocalists, string, wind, brass, piano and percussion musicians. This special ensemble group will play a variety of music genre's including rock, jazz and country.

Monday Year long program

Recital Hall

Portfolio Preparation for the Visual Artist- Mrs. Gumbulevich

High School Students

This program is for any high school student who is interested in building a portfolio for art school. We will focus on selecting schools, meeting the portfolio requirements and selecting artwork for the portfolio. Students will have an opportunity to work on artwork and receive feedback. We will also focus on presenting your portfolio.

Tuesday Sept 30 – Dec 20

Room 104

Photo Lab – Mrs. Kirschner

High School Students

This program is open to students currently taking photography or students who have successfully completed Photo 1. Students will be able to work on current photography assignments, build photography portfolios, and additional photographic works to improve their skill and knowledge of the camera and processing images either traditional black and white or digital.

Thursday Sept 30 – Dec 20

Room 105

Scene Stealers- Ms. LeBlancHigh School Students

Students will work behind the scenes to create and develop the elements of set and props for the upcoming productions, beginning with the WAMS production of "Into the Woods". Artists and crafters welcome! The meeting schedule will follow the rehearsal schedule for the production.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Sept 30 – Dec 20

Room 101

College Search- Mrs. FitzpatrickHigh School Students

Students will use this time to research and select 5 colleges. Students will work on the common application, begin their application essays and compose a brag sheet. This class will meet in the computer lab.

Tuesday Sept 30 –Dec 20

Room 107

Getting the Job You Want- Mrs. BenjaminHigh School Students

Students will be guided through the process of gaining employment. We will create resumes, skills inventory, track volunteering and extracurricular activities, search for jobs, complete job applications and practice interviewing and follow-up techniques.

Tuesday Sept 30- Dec 20

Room 106

Musical Theater Community Performers- Mr. PostGrades 8-12 Students

This program consist of a musical theater and theater study in which the students that have attended CCY (Saira Muhammed and Olivia Blazas) and have experience with stage work, will instruct the group with a focus on classical musical theater song as well as classical and contemporary theater monologues. These songs and monologues will be picked specifically for individual students and worked on using the techniques Saira and Olivia learned in CCY. Students will also collaborate in ensemble work and group pieces including scenes from plays. This will culminate in a showcase performance in December.

Mondays Sept 30- Dec 20

Choral Room

ASAP & PAL Photography Program- TBDMiddle and High School Students

Use photography as the vehicle for self-discovery. Students will be immersed in Dr. King's speech, learning about the conditions of segregation in the US, as well as discovering courageous, nonviolent actions people of all ages and races have initiated for human rights throughout history. Students will grow in their ability to articulate what they dream for themselves and describe through photography and writing their individual and collective dreams of a world where everyone is equal, connected, caring and free. These artistic expressions of civil rights created by the participants will be incorporated into the film to celebrate the relevance King's dream has to kids' lives today. The class will also culminate in an exhibition, open to the public, of the students' writing and photography at the premiere of the film at the Warner Theater on January 10th, 2014.

Thursday Sept 30 – Dec 20

Computer Lab

Video ProductionHigh School Students

Students will be introduced to the implications and use of video production technology. This course will focus on the use of cameras and related equipment to produce live and scripted video and to solve technical problems associated with the production process. Through the use of our studio and its equipment we will develop skills involved in the various roles associated with a video production studio. The editing process will incorporate many current techniques employed in the industry.

Tuesdays & Thursday Sept 30 – Dec 20

TV Studio

I Give My Word: Perceptions & PerspectivesMiddle and High School Students

Students will participate in a series of interactive workshops that integrate Language Arts, Behavioral Studies, Social Studies and Performing Arts. Those students will attend a performance of Jersey Boys (HS) or Elf (MS) at the Palace with the opportunity to participate in a Q & A with the casts. Participants will create an original artistic project and present the work at a public culminating event at the Palace.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday (*program specific dates and times see Mrs. Galullo for details*) **Palace Theater**



EVENTS/ACTIVITIES MAY BE RESCHEDULED OR CANCELLED DEPENDING ON SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 College Planning Night 5:30-7:00 PM	3 BOE Meeting 6:30 PM Atrium ZUMBA 6:30 – 7:30 PM Gym	4 Picture Day Mr. WAMS 6:00 – 8:30 PM Apron Granville Academy 5:30-8:00 PM	5 SAT Testing 7:30 AM – 1:00 PM Granville Academy 8:00-12:00 PM
6	7	8 PTSO Meeting 6:30 PM Library	9 District Annual Title 1 Meeting 5:30-7:00 PM Cafe	10 College Fair 12:30-2:00 PM Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration 3:30-5:30 PM Atrium	11	12
13 WAMS Family Day Jersey Boys 1:00 PM Palace	14 NO SCHOOL Columbus Day	15 WAMS Annual Title 1 Meeting 10:00-11:30 AM Parents' Office Granville Academy 5:30-8:00 PM	16 PSAT Testing	17 French Students Field Trip Hartford, CT ZUMBA 6:30 – 7:30 PM Gym	18	19
20 TLC Pancake Breakfast Waterville, Fire Dept. 7:00-11:30 AM	21	22	23 EARLY DISMISSAL 12:20 PM	24 Halloween Literacy Game Night 3:30 – 5:30 PM Atrium	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 ZUMBA 6:30 – 7:30 PM Gym		

MORE

10/10	ZUMBA	6:30-7:30 PM	Gym
10/17	Habitat – Coffee House	5:30-7:30	Atrium
10/24	ZUMBA	6:30-7:30 PM	Gym
10/24, 10/25	Middle School Play	6:00-8:30 PM	Apron
10/21-10/25	Living Rhythms	8:00-8:30 AM	M Lobby