

# WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Noteworthy Achievements and Accomplishments 2012 – 2013

Weston High School - WHS    Weston Intermediate School - WIS  
Weston Middle School - WMS    Hurlbutt Elementary School - HES

### ACADEMIC KUDOS

- ✎ **WHS was awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education for its outstanding programs and student achievement**
- ✎ WHS was ranked #1 high school in Fairfield County and #2 in Connecticut by *Newsweek*
- ✎ WPS was included on the College Board's National AP District Honor Roll
- 🎓 51% of all applications submitted by WHS Class of 2013 were accepted by "Most Competitive" and "Highly Competitive" colleges and universities
- ✎ Combined SAT scores were 1792, with an average of 597 in writing, 606 in math, and 589 in critical reading
- ✎ WHS had five finalists for the *National Merit Scholarship Program* and one finalist in the *National Achievement Program*
- ✎ 89% of the 570 AP exams taken in the spring of 2013 were scored at a 3 or better
- 🎓 WHS graduated 7 National AP Scholars, 50 AP Scholars with Distinction, 11 AP Scholars with Honors, and 15 AP Scholars
- ✎ A WHS French student ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the State and 8<sup>th</sup> nationally on the *Grand Concours* written contest
- ✎ One Spanish IV Honors student placed in the 96<sup>th</sup> percentile on the National Spanish Exam, earning national and state recognition and a gold medal
- ✎ Over 50% of the WHS Latin students participating in the *National Latin Exam* earned top honors
- ✎ One 6<sup>th</sup> grade student won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for her *National History Day* essay, qualifying for state review
- ✎ A WMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade student won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the performance category on the Spanish Inquisition at the *National History Day* regionals, advancing to state review
- ✎ After being recognized at the regional and state level, four WMS 6<sup>th</sup> grade students had their project on the Cuban Missile Crisis recognized at the national level of the *National History Day* competition
- ✎ A WMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade student participated in the statewide *National Geography Bee*
- ✎ The *Science Olympiad* team at WHS participated in the state competition at UCONN














- ✎ In their 32<sup>nd</sup> year of participation in the *Fairfield County Junior Math League*, the WMS math team tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the annual competition and took 4<sup>th</sup> place overall for the 2012-2013 school year
- ✎ WMS students who participated in *New England Junior Math League* took 4<sup>th</sup> place overall among the Fairfield County teams
  - ✎ The WMS *Math Counts* team placed 12<sup>th</sup> in this year's competition
  - ✎ WMS had four 8<sup>th</sup> grade students' stories selected for publication as part of the *Connecticut Student Writers Project* at UCONN
  - ✎ Two WHS students were accepted to attend the *National Youth Science Camp*
  - ✎ A WHS senior was published in two poetry anthologies
  - ✎ Fifty students of the WHS Class of 2013 were selected to participate in the *National Assessment of Educational Progress*, known as *The Nation's Report Card*
- ✎ The WHS physics team won first place in an event at the *Yale Physics Olympics*
- ✎ Three WMS students won *Barnes & Noble's Favorite Teacher* awards
- ✎ WHS had one mock trial team advance to the semifinals
- ✎ One WMS student won the *Connecticut Student Writers* magazine award and three students earned honorable mentions



### SERVICE TO OTHERS







- ♥ Two 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were recognized as Scholar Leaders by Connecticut Association of Schools for strong academic performance, active participation in community service, and positive influence on school climate
- ♥ HES raised over \$1,400 through *Shoot for the Cure* and *Coins for Books*
- ♥ Led by WHS students, over 70 *Relay for Life* teams raised over \$145,000 for the American Cancer Society
- ♥ The *Student Government Association* at WMS raised over \$3,000, and more than 500 toys, donating them to various cancer charities and families in need in our local communities
- ♥ The *Mitten Project* drive at WIS and HES garnered over 500 new hats and mittens for children in need

## THE ARTS



-  The WHS Chamber Chorus performed at the *PT Barnum Museum* in Bridgeport, and with Chanticleer, the world famous men's a cappella group, at Darien High School
-  Seven WMS students were selected to perform with the *Collegium Westchester Orchestra and Chorus*
-  The WMS 8<sup>th</sup>-grade orchestra participated in the *Music for Youth Orchestra Exchange* with the Julliard-trained Voxare String Quartet
-  A WHS studio art student was awarded an honorable mention for her multi-media piece titled *Squidspash* from the *Scholastic Art and Writing* state competition
-  Nine WHS musicians participated in the CMEA Western Regionals
-  WPS music department recognized as one of the 2013 Best Communities for Music Education by the *National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)*
-  Six WHS band students and two WHS choir students performed in the Western Region Festival
-  Two WHS band students were selected to participate in the Connecticut All State Festival
-  WMS had one 6<sup>th</sup> grade student's artwork selected to be featured in the 2013 *International Children's Art Exhibit* at the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk
-  The WHS's theater group Company had two successful productions: *The Crucible* and *Kiss Me Kate*, each playing to over 500 people
-  Four WIS and eight WMS students were selected for the Connecticut All State Elementary Honor Chorus
-  Over 100 WIS students participated in the school-wide play, *A Wonderful World with Disney*
-  86 middle school students participated in this year's sold-out Short Wharf production of *Grease*
-  The WMS Jazz Bands, Chamber Orchestra, and Chamber Singers received a 1<sup>st</sup> place honor with a Superior rating and best overall at the *Music in the Parks Adjudication Festival* in addition to receiving the *Esprit de Corps Award*
-  A WHS art student received honorable mention at the *State of Connecticut Scholastic Art & Music Juried Exhibition*
-  Four WMS choral students and three WMS band students were selected to participate in the *Western Regional Middle School Concert Festival*
-  Ten 6<sup>th</sup> grade band members were chosen to *Play with The Westport Community Band*

## ATHLETICS












-  WHS was the site of the 2013 Southwest Regional Games for Special Olympics, with "Team Weston" competing for the second year in track and field and aquatics
-  Two State championships in boys swimming and boys cross country

-  Eight SWC championships in boys skiing, girls indoor and outdoor track and field, boys indoor track, boys tennis, boys golf, girls lacrosse and boys baseball
-  WHS has 48 All-State athletes and three All-American athletes
-  680 athletes earned academic awards while participating with a 3.0 GPA or higher
-  One WHS student took 1<sup>st</sup> place in pole vaulting at the *New England Championships Track and Field Meet*
-  One WHS student won the 4<sup>th</sup> straight *State Open Individual Tennis Championship*
-  WHS honored with the *Michaels Achievement Cup* by the CIAC for best overall athletic department in the State of Connecticut for medium sized schools for the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row

## COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

-  Five WMS students received 2<sup>nd</sup> place honors in the Cablevision Educational Access competition for their documentary videos
-  WHS's senior videography team won 1<sup>st</sup> place with their submission *The Factory* in the 84-hour challenge at the CT Student Film Festival and was a finalist in the 2013 Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles for Teen Safe Driving video contest

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

-  Weston continued a partnership with *Teachers College Columbia University* to implement AIM (Academic Innovation and Measurement), a K-12 approach to teaching 21<sup>st</sup> century skills
-  Weston successfully transitioned to full-day kindergarten in the 2012-2013 school year
-  HES fully implemented the *Math in Focus* curriculum this year as part of CCSS (Common Core State Standards) for mathematics
-  WMS established a *Mandarin* afterschool enrichment program, enrolling 17 students
-  WMS successfully implemented its first year of *Project Lead The Way* in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades
-  WHS is now a designated testing site for SAT administration
-  The WHS *Entrepreneurship Seminar* resulted in three students successfully starting their own businesses
-  Anatomy and human physiology was added to the WHS science elective program
-  130 8<sup>th</sup> grade students voluntarily participated in our *Career Mentorship* experience
-  110 6<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in an art exchange with students from Amman, Jordan
-  WMS 7<sup>th</sup> grade mock trial team advanced to the semifinal round in the statewide competition

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

24 School Road

Weston, Connecticut 06883 — 203.291.1401

Colleen A. Palmer, Ph.D. — Superintendent of Schools