

# Westlake High School

## Mt. Pleasant Central School District

825 West Lake Drive  
Thornwood, NY 10594  
Telephone: (914) 769-8311  
Fax: (914) 747-3074

Mr. Keith Schenker  
Principal  
Email: [kschenker@mtplcsd.org](mailto:kschenker@mtplcsd.org)

Mr. Daniel Novak  
Assistant Principal  
Email: [dnovak@mtplcsd.org](mailto:dnovak@mtplcsd.org)

February 5, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

If you believe in groundhogs' forecasting abilities, we will see six more weeks of winter, but that hasn't dampened any spirits here at Westlake High School. We had a great showing at our "Rival Night" and it was great to see so many students come out and support the basketball teams. It was an awesome Boys Varsity game with Westlake defeating Pleasantville in the final seconds 51-48! I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Varsity Competitive Cheerleading team for qualifying for the National High School Cheerleading Championship. We send our best wishes for great success in the upcoming competition in Orlando, Florida later this week.

On the academic front, I want to congratulate two juniors for being selected to represent Westlake High School at Boys State this summer. Both Richard Petrillo and Anthony Scaglione are incredible students and will represent us well at this leadership conference. Additionally, this past weekend our Science Research students competed in the Westchester-Rockland Junior Science & Humanities Symposium and once again Westlake researchers placed in several categories. Congratulations to Lee Cohen and Bryan Mesquita who took 1<sup>st</sup> Place in their respective categories of Animal/Plant Science and Microbiology/Genetics; Charles Panzarella took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the category of Medicine and Health; Philip Markuszewski placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the category of Behavior Science, and Joelle El Hamouche took 4<sup>th</sup> place in Bioinformatics/Computer Science -- yet another impressive finish for our science researchers and their teacher, Mr. McIntyre.

### 2018-2019 Course Selection

Course selection for the next school year has started. As you begin this process with your son or daughter, please remember this is just the first step of a multi-step process. Scheduling dates have been set and invitations to these meetings have gone out. Before any courses are confirmed, parents will receive a copy of their child's selections. These course selections are critical to help me build the WHS Master Schedule for next year. The importance of students selecting courses that they are truly interested in taking cannot be understated, as these requests will determine which classes actually will run next year. In honor of National School Counselor Week, I also want to take a moment to thank our Counseling Department for all they do in support of our students each and every day.

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Lastly, I want to highlight an information night that will be hosted by our PTA, planned for the evening of March 15<sup>th</sup>. They have been able to secure Dr. Stumacher, Chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Northern Westchester Hospital, to share with us the research on vaping and the impact on teenagers' bodies and brain development. This is a "must attend" information session for all parents and students. Please mark your calendars and more information will be coming your way soon.

<b>FEBRUARY EVENTS</b>	
Monday, February 5	Class of 2019 Scheduling Begins
Tuesday, February 13	Class of 2020 Scheduling Begins
Thursday, February 15	WHS Talent Show – Auditorium 7:00 pm
Monday, February 19 – Friday, February 23	Winter Recess – School Closed
Wednesday, February 28	Class of 2021 Scheduling Begins

As always, I appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Dedicated to excellence,



Keith Schenker