



Principal's Newsletter

- February 2019-

It's hard to believe, but we have begun the spring semester of the 2018-19 school year. The second semester brings with it the excitement of planning and scheduling for the 2019-20 school year. Over the next several weeks you will be receiving a meeting notice inviting you to be a part of your child's course selections for next year. The Counseling Department begins with juniors and moves through the next month by grade level until all students have met to plan their schedule for the next year.

Please keep in mind that we encourage all students to challenge themselves with the coursework while also finding the right balance between those challenging courses and the other activities that will demand a student's time. Every student is different and thus each student needs to make these decisions for themselves with helpful guidance and input from you, their counselor and their current teachers.

As you look through the multitude of courses we offer at Westlake, I am very happy to point out a few new courses particularly in the STEAM area. Specifically in the area of Engineering, we are hoping to run our new Principles of Engineering I as well as its co-requisite Design Principles of Engineering I. Additionally, we are launching a new computer programming sequence that will begin with a Coding class for 9th graders and a new AP course called AP Computer Science Principles. These courses, along with some existing offerings, will begin the layout of a very clear STEAM pathway for students interested in this subject matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask during your scheduling meeting.

I want to take a moment and congratulate several students on their recent accomplishments. Two of our Varsity Girls Basketball players took home impressive honors in addition to the entire team who won the Kathy Mayer Classic Basketball Tournament. Congratulations to Rebecca Lovett who was named Tournament MVP and to Allasandra Castellone who was named to the All-Tournament team. Thanks to Coach Sean Mayer for his leadership of this impressive team of young ladies. Congratulations to our merged team, Varsity Boys Swim and Dive, who captured their League II title. We look forward to more incredible wins in the post-season.

Additionally, in the world of Science Research, we just learned that two of our young researchers, Colleen Bradley and Nicole Musial have been recognized for an extraordinary achievement. Both students will have a poster of their original research accepted for presentation at the American Physiological Society Symposium in April 2019. Both students are fully engaged in research in the field of Experimental Biology at NY Medical College. Congratulations on this impressive and very unique accomplishment.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

WHS FEBRUARY EVENTS	
Monday, February 4	Class of 2020 scheduling begins
Tuesday, February 12	Class of 2021 scheduling begins
Tuesday, February 12	WHS Talent Show – 7:00pm – WHS Auditorium
Monday, February 18- Friday, February 22	Winter Recess – School Closed
Wednesday, February 27	Class of 2022 scheduling begins