

HILLTOPPER HIGHLIGHTS

2009 ACHIEVEMENT AND EXCELLENCE

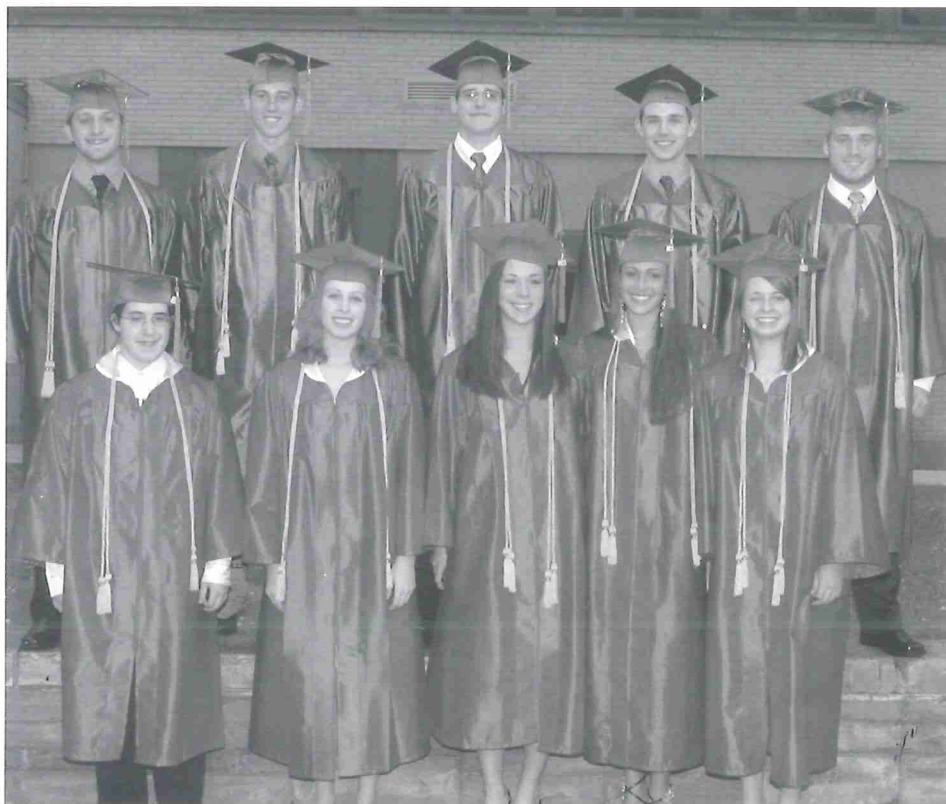
TOP TEN SCHOLARS

Westmont Hilltop scholars who rank academically in the Top Ten of their graduating class are honored annually with a savings bond and plaque provided through a collaborative effort of the Treasurer of the Board of Education and the Westmont Hilltop Education Association. This award is now sustained by the current Board Treasurer, Mrs. Marian Feath, with leadership provided by the current Board President, Mr. Mitchell Azar. Each student of the Top Ten will receive a Board of Education Treasurer's Award in the form of a \$100 savings bond.

The students pictured in the photograph are representative of the tradition of excellence that characterizes the entire student body of Westmont Hilltop. Throughout the 2008-2009 school year, students in every grade and classroom have excelled in the areas of academics, arts, community service, and athletics. Examples of the service and accomplishments through which our students have honored their community, their parents, and their school district, are contained within the pages of this newsletter, dedicated to the class of 2009.

The names of the following students will be inscribed on a plaque on permanent display in the lobby of our high school as follows:

The Class of 2009 Top Ten



Top Ten: Row 1: Tracy Tabib, Abigail Motley, Alexa Eplett, Kirsten Meenan, Shauna Hetrick
Row 2: John Livingston, Christopher Kessler, Thomas Rohrabough, Zachary Evans, Brett Karan

Top Ten Listed Alphabetically:

Zachary Evans
Alexa Eplett
Shauna Hetrick
Brett Karan
Christopher Kessler

John Livingston
Kirsten Meenan
Abigail Motley
Thomas Rohrabough
Tracy Tabib

The 2009 Hilltopper Highlights Achievement and Excellence, now entering its tenth summer of publication, is a special summer edition of the Hilltop School News dedicated to recognition of the outstanding individual and collective accomplishments of our students within their school and community.

Where is the Class of 2009?

The Class of 2009 will be involved in post-secondary learning opportunities in these locations:

Allegheny College
Alma College
American University
Art Institute of Pittsburgh
California University of PA
Carnegie Mellon University
Chatham University
Clarion University of PA
Duquesne University
Edinboro University
Franklin & Marshall University
George Washington University
Greater Johnstown CTC
Hiram G. Andrews
Indiana University of PA
Kent State University
Lackawanna Jr. College
Lock Haven University of PA
North Carolina State University
Notre Dame University
Ohio Technical College
Ohio University
Penn College of Technology
Pennsylvania Highlands
Penn State Altoona
Penn State University
Pittsburgh Technical Institute
Point Park University
Robert Morris University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Seton Hill University
Shippensburg University
Slippery Rock University
St. Francis University
St. Vincent University
University of Pittsburgh Greensburg
University of Pittsburgh Johnstown
University of Pittsburgh
University of the Arts
West Virginia University

More Fond Farewells

Five members of our faculty also "graduated" from our Westmont Hilltop educational community. These five teachers have provided a combined 151 years of experience to this district and to our students. We recognize and send heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Barbara Gray, Mrs. Timothea Peskuric, Mrs. Cindy Price, Mrs. Linda Woodhead, and Mr. Timothy Wynn.

Bidding a Fond Farewell to the Class of 2009

As the district prepared to bid a fond farewell to our graduating seniors, School Board President Mr. Mitchell Azar addressed the class during the Commencement Ceremony of 2009. The following is an excerpt of his remarks.

"... I am optimistic about our future when I think about the talented and caring members of the Class of 2009 and what you've accomplished already, and I am confident that our future is in good hands. In fact, this year's class in my opinion really possesses something special, that WOW factor that makes you sit back and question if it's possible that this is really a group of high school kids.

I've stated on several occasions that one of the reasons I'm so proud to serve as President of the Board at Westmont Hilltop is because of the outstanding opportunities our students have had to excel in so many areas. Academics, athletics, our music and art programs, and the opportunity to serve others who are less fortunate, are such an important part of the high school experience, and you have gone above and beyond in every one of these areas. I'd like to take just a couple of minutes to highlight some of your accomplishments.

You have had an outstanding career academically at Westmont Hilltop. In a class of 156 students, 67 of you have finished with a cumulative grade point average greater than 92% and 14 have completed your high school years with a GPA of 100% or greater. You also had two classmates qualify for the National Forensics Tournament this year. Your Scholastic Quiz Team had the best finish in school history, finishing first in the state among smaller schools and fourth among all schools in Pennsylvania, which is just a tremendous accomplishment.

Athletically, you've celebrated undefeated seasons in both girls' swimming and girls' tennis, had a tremendous succession of wrestling seasons, which include many individual and team titles, several state qualifiers, and one state champion as a sophomore. Three classmates completed their wrestling careers with 100 wins, and one broke a long-standing school swimming record. You've had one classmate

named to First Team All-State in volleyball. And, most importantly, all of you who participated have demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and have represented your school with honor.

The Arts continue to be a great source of pride for the district. Musically, as we witnessed earlier tonight, your class ranks among the most talented to ever come through the district. Your participation in *How to Succeed in Business, Guys and Dolls*, *Grease*, and this year in *West Side Story* have continued the long history of memorable productions that other high schools can only dream of. You've excelled throughout the Dramatic Productions, the Band and Color Guard Competitions, singing, dancing, instrumentally, you performed with enthusiasm and pride in your school, and I commend you.

Finally, I mentioned the WOW factor earlier. Well, in my opinion, your community service efforts this year provided the biggest WOW. Your class has taken it to a new level. Whether it was the two blood drives that resulted in over 200 pints of blood for the American Red Cross, or Thon, which raised over \$14,000 for the Four Diamonds Fund and the American Heart Association, you demonstrated that you understand the importance of giving back, something most people don't realize until much later in life. Your hard work, your generosity, and your ability to recognize that there are a lot of people out there who need you to step up, are an inspiration to all of us, and we applaud you.

In closing, I want to again congratulate you and wish you the very best in whatever your future holds. In just a moment with the simple handoff of a diploma and a handshake (sorry guys, no fist bumps, comfort shakes or chest bumps), you will join me and many people in this room as a Graduate of Westmont Hilltop. I for one am proud to have you join that rank, and I thank you for representing this district with such dignity. Well done my fellow alumni."

Commencement Speaker Eric Calderon

Eric Calderon, graduate and Senior Class President of the Westmont Hilltop High School Class of 1989, honored the class of 2009 with his remarks, and more so with his presence, as he delighted and inspired us with stories of life in the film business and provided a role model for the brilliant futures that our students are prepared to enjoy. We are grateful that Eric chose to spend this time with us in honor of our community, and the class of 2009.

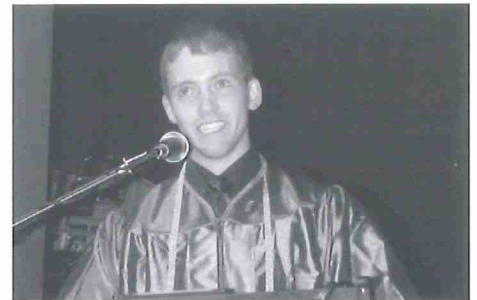


Eric Calderon, graduate and Senior Class President of the Westmont Hilltop High School Class of 1989, speaks to the Class of 2009 about the establishment of credibility, the connection to a credible profession, and embracing change as we write our own life stories.

Bradley Schroeder, Student Council President

Commencement Speaker **Bradley Schroeder** proposed a wonderful way to remember and inform the audience about what he has learned from his high school experience:

- W** Willingness—Take a risk!
- E** Earn Respect—Gain trust.
- S** Seek Advice—Just ask.
- T** Truthfulness—Creates our worth.
- M** Motivation—Yields success.
- O** Oneness—We are all unique.
- N** Nonsense—Remember to have fun.
- T** Tenacity—Work toward a goal.



Commencement Speaker Bradley Schroeder, Student Council President for the Class of 2009

Class President – John Livingston

John Livingston regaled the audience in his quest to define the Westy Class of 2009, characterizing the class as intensely competitive academically, successful athletically, nationally competitive artistically, and premier in community service, but he decided that the class simply defies definition. He did beautifully succeed in describing the class of 2009, and in defining his school as follows: "We all know that over the years, it has become expected that every Westmont Hilltop class will achieve excellence. What separates Westmont Hilltop from the others is the fact that Westmont consistently provides the opportunity to achieve that excellence—and for that, we have immeasurable gratitude to that which we call Westmont Hilltop."



John Livingston speaks as the Senior Class President of 2009.

Abigail Motley

Commencement Speaker **Abigail Motley** reminded us of the philosophy of the Dalai Lama: "I believe that the very purpose of our life is to seek happiness." Her audience savored each moment of her speech, as well.



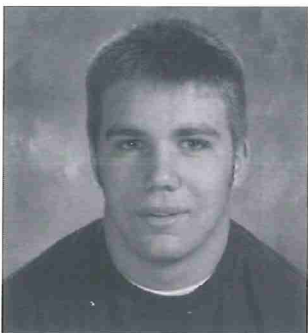
Commencement Speaker Abigail Motley represents outstanding scholarship at Westmont Hilltop.

National Merit Scholarship

The highly prestigious **National Merit Scholarship Program** is an academic competition that started in 1995. Students qualify for this recognition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. National Merit Commended Students and Finalists are students who are recognized on a national level as having outstanding academic promise.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation Finalist of 2009
Nicholas S. DePriest

National Merit Scholarship Corporation Letters of Commendation
Shauna M. Hetrick,
John S. Livingston, Tracy Tabib



National Merit Scholarship Finalist of 2009:
Nicholas S. DePriest

Scholastic Quiz at the High School Scholastic Quiz Team

Faculty Advisor Mr. John T. Wood acknowledged the remarkable achievements of the team during the June 2009 Awards Ceremony. Mr. Wood's announcements were as follows:

Scholastic Quiz is sometimes referred to as the 'Varsity Sport of the Mind' and Westmont's academic team had an excellent season this year highlighted by a variety of outstanding accomplishments. Our JV squad finished undefeated in league play for the fourth year in a row, and our students **TJ Rohrbaugh**, **Calvin Yahn**, and **Zachary del Rosario** all received awards for being among the top ten individual varsity scores in the Central Western Quiz League. Our team also made three appearances on Scholastic Scrimmage and advanced to the Great 8 Round of the large school division of this televised competition on WPSU TV, in which over 90 schools competed.

Perhaps our most exciting and dramatic accomplishment this season was capturing the championship of the Central Western Quiz league for the fourth time in the last six years. After an amazing 80 point comeback to edge defending league champion Penn Cambria in the tournament semifinal, Westmont's

championship run was completed by a hard fought 175-150 victory in the league championship match.

Our quiz team then proceeded to capture the Appalachian IU #8 Regional Championship in the Best of Three Championship Series. The regional championship title earned our team a birth in the quite prestigious Pennsylvania State Academic Championship Tournament held on the floor of the state capitol building in Harrisburg. Westmont competed against 25 other regional champion schools from across the state and capped its season with the best state tournament finish in school history. At the state tournament our team finished first among western Pennsylvania schools, first among smaller schools, and fourth overall after being edged by suburban Philadelphia Quad A power and eventual state champion Wilson High School in the state semi-finals. The fact that Westmont challenged and finished ahead of many schools with much larger enrollments at the state championship and on Scholastic Scrimmage was a remarkable achievement. I was privileged to be able to coach this dedicated group of students.

Varsity Team Members were as follows: senior Captain **TJ Rohrbaugh**; senior **Calvin Yahn**; juniors **Megan Mulrooney**, **Zachary del Rosario**, and **Emma Noonan**; and sophomore **Keegan Terek**. These students received Pennsylvania State Academic Championship Tournament commemorative pins.

Seniors **TJ Rohrbaugh** and **Calvin Yahn** served as excellent team leaders this year, and their extensive knowledge bases and aggressive play will be greatly missed. TJ was a member of the Varsity team for three years and a member of two league championship teams. These students received the League Championship and Regional Championship trophies on behalf of the school.



Row 1: National Merit Finalist – Nicholas DePriest; National Merit Commendations – Tracy Tabib, Shauna Hetrick, John Livingston **Row 2:** Community Arts Center Scholarships – Ryan Rovida, Dylan Staib (Allied Artist Scholarship), Alexander Policicchio (Allied Artist Scholarship) **Row 3:** Challenge Program: Perfect Attendance/Sophomore – Joshua Bunyea; Highest GPA/Sophomore – Bryant Fisher (Absent from photo: Most Improved GPA/ Sophomore – Jake Bair; Community Service/ Sophomore – Andrew Santichen)

Forensics Growth and Achievement is Testimonial to a Fantastic Program!

The Westmont Hilltop Forensics Team has grown from a seedling program of six students coached by advisor Angela Sloan, to a current enrollment of 56 students, not counting incoming freshmen.

At the district level, Westmont Hilltop placed second out of 13 schools from Cambria and Somerset counties. This year, Westmont Hilltop had three district champions. **Kirsten Meenan** was district champion in serious drama. **Tracy Tabib** won the title in extemporaneous speaking. **Alex Policicchio** won in prose interpretation.

The following students placed in the final round at the district championships: **Andrew Kilpatrick** in serious drama, **Britney Smith** and **Nicole Simmons** in duo drama, **Keegan Terek** and **Shauna Hetrick** in informative speaking, **Christine Wiedner** in persuasive speaking, **Annabeth Faucher** in poetry, **Megan Mulrooney** in commentary, and **David Pepley** in extemporaneous speaking.

The following students participated in the state championship: **Tracy Tabib**, **Matthew Krinock**, **Alexander Policicchio**, and **Christine Weidner**. **Kirsten Meenan** placed sixth in serious drama at the state tournament.

At the regional level, the team placed third out of 26 schools from Cambria, Somerset, Blair, and Bedford counties.

Keegan Terek was awarded the Regional Champion title in informative speaking. The following students placed in the final round at regionals: **Christine Weidner** and **Jenna Magistro** in persuasive speaking, **Shauna Hetrick** in informative speaking, **Alexander Policicchio** in prose, **Annabeth Faucher** in poetry, **Megan Mulrooney** in commentary, **Kirsten Meenan** in serious drama, and **Christina Atterbury** and **Olivia Flick** in Public Forum Debate.

Finally, the following students qualified for the National Tournament held in Albany, New York: **Keegan Terek**, **Kirsten Meenan**, **Olivia Flick**, **Christina Atterbury**, and **Annabeth Faucher**.

The sky is the limit for this team!

Recognition of High School Academic Leadership Honors and Excellence

Westmont Hilltop Student Memorial Scholarship Awards

Abigail C. Motley
Zachary R. Evans

Westmont Hilltop Educational Association Scholarship Award

Thomas N. Rohrabach, Jr.

American Association of University Women Scholarship

Zachary R. Evans

Rebecca & Mitchell Azar Family Scholarship Award

Julia E. Asel

Michael J. Rudnac Scholarship

Brett T. Karan

National Occupational Competency Testing Institute

Megan P. Bowers
Tessie M. Cahill
Jerrison A. Nestor
Paul W. Weaver

Rachel Carson Book Award

Nadin Suler

Academic 'Letter' Awards, Class of 2009

Neil M. Abrams	Christopher W. Kessler
Kyle D. Adams	Margaret F. Kessler
Marissa J. Agypt	Sara E. Kirby
Ashley M. Alt	Kelsey L. Kohler
Julia E. Asel	Julianne R. Legath
Balkis Awan	John S. Livingston
Ashley E. Ayre	Brynne E. Machella
Joshua J. Bumbernick	Jeffrey R. Matevish
Stephan G. Chess	Matthew R. McDaniel
Nicholas S. DePriest	Kirsten D. Meenan
Alexa M. Eplett	Patrick C. Mendelson
Zachary R. Evans	Elizabeth F. Menna
Tyler C. Fleck	Alexis K. Miller
Olivia M. Flick	Cassandra D. Miller
Andrew S. Forman	Kaley M. Miller
Stephanie B. Frank	Paige E. Minemyer
Kaitlyn M. Garbarino	Andrew S. Molchany
Ashley E. Gilbert	Brittany C. Moore
Amanda J. Good	Rebecca L. Morbito
Aaron A. Goodwin	Frances L. Morello
Jonathan D. Heider	Abigail C. Motley
Luke B. Helsel	Mary J. Mulhollen
Nathan D. Henry	Joseph D. Nagy
Shauna M. Hetrick	Emily R. Null
Samantha R. Hippler	Jonathan R. Olesen
Abigail D. Hoover	Lindsey K. Pavlikowski
Kira J. Hovanec	Nichole M. Perry
Jordan M. Hudson	Alexander E. Policicchio
Brett T. Karan	Sara C. Polito
Thaddeus J. Keklak	Natalie E. Portser

Andrew M. Pozun
Thomas N. Rohrabach, Jr.
Luke W. Romesburg
David M. Sadvari
Benjamin M. Sakmar
Bradley D. Schroeder
Lauren M. Simmons
Natalie R. Smith
Dylan C. Staib
Ashley V. Strack
Kelsey E. Stringent
Joshua J. Swick
Tracy Tabib
Tiffany M. Trotz
Michael J. Varga
Joseph F. Ward III
Christopher D. Wharton
Brandon C. Zeris
Matthew K. Ziance

ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS & MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Academic Achievement Awards: Grades 9-12

The following students in grades 9-12 met their goals in striving for excellence. Seniors earning the Academic Achievement Award at the High School were:

Class of 2009

Neil M. Abrams
 Kyle D. Adams
 Ashley M. Alt
 Julia E. Asel
 Balkis Awan
 Ashley E. Ayre
 Leslie R. Buchan
 Joshua J. Bumbernick
 Robison B. Cernetich
 Stephan G. Chessa
 Benjamin G. Clark
 Nicholas DePriest
 Alexa M. Eplett
 Zachary R. Evans
 Tyler C. Fleck
 Olivia M. Flick
 Andrew S. Forman
 Stephanie B. Frank
 Kaitlyn M. Garbarino
 Ashley E. Gilbert
 Amanda J. Good
 Aaron A. Goodwin
 Jonathan D. Heider
 Luke B. Helsel
 Shauna M. Hetrick
 Samantha R. Hippler
 Abigail D. Hoover
 Kira J. Hovanec
 Jordan M. Hudson
 Brett T. Karan
 Thaddeus J. Keklak
 Christopher W. Kessler
 Margaret F. Kessler
 Sara E. Kirby
 Kelsey L. Kohler
 Julianne R. Legath
 John S. Livingston
 Brynne E. Machella
 Jeffrey R. Matevish
 Kirsten D. Meenan
 Elizabeth F. Menna
 Alexis K. Miller
 Cassandra D. Miller
 Kaley M. Miller
 Paige E. Minemyer
 Andrew S. Molchany
 Brittany C. Moore
 Rebecca L. Morbito
 Frances L. Morello
 Abigail C. Motley
 Mary J. Mulhollen
 Joseph D. Nagy
 Emily R. Null
 Jonathan R. Olesen
 Nathan D. Omasta
 Lauren G. Patrick
 Lindsey K. Pavlikowski
 Nicole M. Perry
 Alexander E. Policicchio
 Sara C. Polito
 Natalie E. Portser
 Andrew M. Pozun
 Thomas N. Rohrabough Jr.
 Luke W. Romesberg
 Ryan C. Rovida
 David M. Sadvari
 Benjamin M. Sakmar
 Bradley D. Schroeder
 Lauren M. Simmons
 Natalie R. Smith
 Dylan C. Staib
 Ashley V. Strack
 Tracy Tabib
 Sarah A. Teich
 Michael J. Varga
 Christopher D. Wharton
 Daniel L. Wilson
 Matthew K. Ziance

Stephen D. Legath
 Nathan T. McHugh
 Julie A. Mercik
 Samantha R. Mikesic
 Samuel J. Moehler
 Anna M. Muchesko
 Megan E. Mulrooney
 Alexandra N. Mundy
 Paul Nathaniel
 Alli M. Paratore
 Nicolette M. Petrusic
 Catherine E. Polito
 Alan J. Prescott
 Daniel S. Price
 Sarah M. Rogerson
 Michael A. Rudnac
 Anne E. Rummell
 Zachary D. Ryan
 Corey J. Salem
 Sean M. Sapolich
 Akshan D. Singh
 Norman C. Sivi
 Susan M. Specht
 Brittany E. Strelnik
 Nadin Suler
 John T. Valcheff
 Kayla A. Vliet
 Matthew T. Wagner
 Megan L. Walker
 Catherine A. Walsh
 Christine C. Weidner
 Julia Wolfe
 Rachel E. Wozniak
 Shawnee V. Yoder
 Leah E. Young
 Luke J. Young
 Michael J. Young

Ian P. Clark
 Alaina A. Davidson
 Denae M. Dorian
 Zachary C. Drennen
 Annabeth R. Faucher
 Annie L. Fiffick
 Bryant W. Fisher
 Christopher M. Gnagey
 Sarah K. Godish
 Brianna N. Gordon
 Matthew S. Heider
 Andrew J. Herbert
 Tanner M. Hough
 Jamie M. Hudson
 Elliott J. Hunsinger
 Jamie L. Kessler
 Andrew J. Kilpatrick
 Lynn M. Kimmel
 Emily E. Kirkstadt
 Julie R. Kittka
 Sarah A. Krupa
 Garrett J. Lucas
 Jenna M. Magistro
 Devon K. Marshall
 Lauren M. Matevish
 Maggie A. McNamara
 Aaron R. Miller
 Madelyn G. Miller
 Marinanicole D. Miller
 Kyle A. Molchany
 Daniel W. Oberst
 David F. Pepley
 Joshua M. Polacek
 Meghan P. Rand
 Summer L. Reitter
 Joseph S. Rizkalla
 Aaron Z. Seigh
 Joseph S. Seigh
 Rebecca H. Shark
 Keegan C. Terek
 Riley B. Timbs
 Alex L. Trevorrow
 Sarah N. Walko
 Daniel P. Wolfe
 April L. Yanko
 Michael D. Zamias
 Ty C. Zatsick

Class of 2011

Brianna K. Alianiello
 Katherine M. Andrews
 Christina L. Atterbury
 Kasey L. Azar
 Matthew J. Bambino
 Jedediah M. Brandwein
 Daniel A. Brennsteiner
 Alison E. Brownlee
 Benjamin E. Bukoski
 Kim A. Carney

Class of 2010

Margaret R. Atterbury
 Rebecca I. Barron
 Angela R. Battaglia
 Elizabeth M. Bingler
 Juliana F. Bukoski
 Rosemary K. Clark
 Luke A. Corona
 Shannon M. Costa
 Jason T. Dailey
 Zachary R. del Rosario
 Dillon P. Dorian
 Deanna J. Duncan
 Casey R. Eckenrod
 Matthew J. Gerber
 Andrea M. Ghezzi
 Michael D. Gorzelsky
 Ashley A. Irwin
 Nicole A. Kovach
 Kyle C. Kunkle
 Kelsey D. Layton



Row 1: Challenge Program: Highest GPA/Junior – Zachary del Rosario; Community Service/Junior – Brittany Strelnik; Most Improved GPA/Junior – Jodi Berkebile; Perfect Attendance/Junior – Matthew Gerber.

Row 2: Perfect Attendance/Senior – Calvin Yahn; Highest GPA/Senior – Abigail Motley; Community Service/Senior – Lauren Simmons; Most Improved GPA/Senior – Justin Burke.

ACADEMIC HONORS & AWARDS & MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Class of 2012

Trenten J. Boback	Kara A. Kovach
Sarah M. Bunyea	Sarah E. Layton
Christopher J. Campagna	Nathan Lucas
Carly E. Campbell	Matthew M. Masiello
Bradley W. Carney	Jane L. McIlhenny
Brittany L. Carney	Marissa R. Miller
Kayla M. Causer	Robin C. Miller
Julia M. Chessa	Samantha A. Morello
Daniel J. Dailey	Mark Nathaniel
Brittany M. Davis	Naofa R. Noll
Parag Dharbhamulla	Sophie A. Noonan
DeAnnah M. Dick	Ileana Panebianco
Jonathan M. Findish	Ethan M. Policicchio
Alyson S. Forman	Adam J. Pozun
Meena K. Gella	Gina C. Rievel
Kenneth S. Gibson	Niza M. Scuderi
Caitlin T. Gutilla	Elizabeth A. Sherrier
Mustafa B. Hammudi	Nicole L. Simmons
Kelcy J. Harrison	Britney A. Smith
Autumn N. Helman	Carolyn V. Somerville
Allison N. Henry	Erin S. Suppes
Meredith W. Herman	Lida A. Thompson
Kyra N. Hill	Forest P. Whitlow
Kelsey E. Hoover	Brittany C. Young

President's Award for Educational Excellence

At the high school, the President's Award is presented to students who have maintained an outstanding academic record throughout the duration of their schooling. High school students earning this award are as follows:

Neil M. Abrams	Alexis K. Miller
Nicholas S. DePriest	Paige E. Minemyer
Alexa M. Eplett	Abigail C. Motley
Zachary R. Evans	Joseph D. Nagy
Andrew S. Forman	Lindsey K. Pavlikowski
Stephanie B. Frank	Alexander E. Policicchio
Jonathan D. Heider	Sara C. Polito
Shauna M. Hetrick	Natalie E. Portser
Abigail D. Hoover	Thomas N. Rohrabough, Jr.
Jordan M. Hudson	Bradley D. Schroeder
Christopher W. Kessler	Lauren M. Simmons
John S. Livingston	Tracy Tabib
Kirsten D. Meenan	Michael J. Varga

Continental Math League Middle School Award

At the middle school, students in grades 5-8 compete in this math competition for five months per year from November through March. Students are tested in Euclidean and Pythagorean divisions. Six difficult questions are given as the tests for each of the five "meets." Students have twenty-five minutes to answer the paper and pencil questions. The students compete as individuals,

but the top six scores for each division are used as the basis for a team score also. Certificates are given for those students who receive an Honorable Mention due to their total scores for the five "meets," and those students receiving the highest first and second place scores receive medals in addition to their certificates. Our mathematicians are named in the accompanying photo caption.



Continental Math League (CML) Grades 5-8: Row 1: Samuel Barry, Drake Dorian, Kirsten Coyle, Megan Huber, Aidan Winterscheidt, Jenna Rutledge, Zachary Vliet Row 2: Sydney Ruis, Tori Lehman, Shannon Marko, Alexander Roper, Melisso Walko, Zoe Goldblatt, Madison Hrin, Christiana Faucher Row 3: Matthew Arena, Toni Costa, Daniel Durham, Andrew Miller, Brady Schriver, Robert Varner, Dorothea Oller, Carli Huber, Colin Barron (absent: Hunter Williams and Steven Zipf)

President's Award for Educational Excellence Middle School

Honoring student achievement and hard work is the purpose of the President's Education Award Program. Students must meet both of the following criteria to be eligible for this award:

Score 92% or above in grades 5, 6, 7, and the fall semester of Grade 8.

Score at the advanced level in math or reading on the Grade 7 PSSA.

Students receiving this award are listed in the photo caption accompanying this article.



Presidential Excellence Award Grade 8: Row 1: James Kane, Kirsten Coyle, Andrew Rizkalla, Sarah Clark, Madeline Sanford, Taylor Davis, Shannon Marko, Maddison Morrell, Kaitlin Mical, Tara Fritz, Jill Clark, Joshua Cavrak Row 2: James Mical, Brianna Trentini, Stacey Glass, Sarah Marley, Victoria Parlock, Kathryn Lynch, Hannah Mills, Leah Mercik, Melissa Walko, Erin Rodgers, Stephanie Hetrick, Sarah Rogers Row 3: Sara Kimmell, Madalynn Swaltek, Devin Helmick, Bryan Hoegg, Blaine Friday, Jeremy Burnheimer, Elizabeth Atterbury, Brennan Lorditch, Toni Costa, Victoria Albert, Kasia Foster Row 4: Angela Sutt, Rachel Roper, Anthony Rosage, Tyler Lampel, Michael Walsh, Jonathan Wagner, Dominic Ramirez, Ryan Koul, Lukas Kleinmeyer, Robert Varner, Seth Ray, Daniel Durham, Mariel Kramer. (absent: Seneca Koontz, Mitchell McClintock, Meghan Mock, Joel Neff)

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Academic Best Awards at the Middle School

The Academic "Best" Award is for Grade 8 students only. To be eligible, the student must have attended the Westmont Hilltop Middle School for all four quarters of the Grade 8 year. A \$100 Savings Bond is awarded to the "Best" named student in the categories listed below. Winners are named in the picture captions and listed in each category as well.

The money for this award has been donated by Mr. Abe Beerman. Before his death in June of 2007, Mr. Beerman had established an Endowment Fund to support the Best Awards in memory of his beloved wife Janet. Mr. and Mrs. Beerman were obviously very committed to bringing out the "best" in the young people of our community.

Science: To qualify for the Science Award, the student must have an "A" average for three quarters, participate in all aspects of class (lectures, labs, question/answer, discussions), demonstrate leadership, respect for others, responsibility, reliability, and a mature attitude.

Anthony Rosage has earned this award.

Civics: The student must demonstrate scholastic high achievement; citizenship through school and community service; responsibility, dependability, cooperation with others, and initiative through class participation. **James Kane** has earned this award.

Mathematics: To qualify for the Best Award in Mathematics, the student must demonstrate high scholastic achievement and positive classroom performance. The outcomes of any appropriate challenges and achievement opportunities will be considered. **Daniel Durham** is this year's recipient.

Art: The selected student must display good citizenship and class participation, have a positive effect on peers, exhibit the use of all directions provided with a high level of creativity, and demonstrate a significant level of improvement or achievement. **Hannah Mills** is the recipient of this award.

Foreign Language: The academic best in this category must attain high scholastic achievement, demonstrate excellent class participation and a positive classroom attitude, and demonstrate classroom



Best Awards: Row 1: Hannah Mills (Art), Erin Rogers (Physical Education), Rachel Roper (English), Stacey Glass (Renaissance), Jill Clark (Spanish) Row 2: Evan Louder (French), Daniel Durham (Mathematics), David Carney (Music), Anthony Rosage (Science), James Kane (Civics)

leadership and reliability. **Jill Clark** is the 2009 recipient of the Foreign Language Award for Spanish, and **Evan Louder** earned the award for French.

Music: Participation in at least one ensemble is required for this award, along with superior grades in general music class; the student must possess leadership, responsibility, a positive attitude, and dependability. **David Carney** is the 2009 honoree for music.

English: The student in this category must demonstrate scholarship, leadership, a positive attitude, class participation, responsibility, accountability, dependability, and initiative. **Rachel Roper** is the recipient of this award.

Physical Education: The student selected in this category must display a positive attitude toward physical education, participate to the best of his or her ability in all activities at all times, score, at the least, the average requirement on the National Physical Fitness Test for Fitness, maintain and/or improve his/her score each time he/she is tested; demonstrate self-discipline; display sportsmanlike behavior, and demonstrate responsible, respectful behavior to peers as a team player. **Erin Rogers** has earned this award.

Renaissance Award: This award is not given every year. It is only awarded when there is student who has the qualifications to be the "Best of the BEST!" The student was nominated as a recipient in many of the BEST categories. The recipient has a keen interest in classical arts, literature, modern sciences, and is a top academic student. **Stacey Glass** has earned this honor.

PA Regional Computer Fair

Congratulations to students who participated in the PA Regional Computer Fair. These students worked hard, stayed after school, and created very innovative and professional looking documents. They represented WHMS very well with their projects and their character. The students who attended were as follows:

6th Graders:

Zoe Johnson - PETCO brochure

Kaitlyn Pawcio - TNT brochure
- awarded 2nd place in the Desktop Publishing category

Jonas Geisel - WHSD logo - awarded 2nd place in the Graphic Design category

7th Graders:

Emily Ward - Baltimore Aquarium PowerPoint

Rachelmae Pulliam - Computer Fair logo

Alyssa Miller - Computer Fair logo

Daphne Valencia - Computer Fair logo

Erica Claycomb - Girl Scout commercial
- awarded 1st place in the Digital Movie category; therefore went to the state competition held at Dickinson College



Computer Fair: Row 1: Erica Claycomb, Zoe Johnson, Kaitlyn Pawcio, Jonas Geisel Row 2: Rachelmae Pulliam, Emily Ward, Alyssa Miller, Daphne Valencia

Johns Hopkins Young Students Talent Search

The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY) conducts national and international talent searches to identify outstanding academic talent. Through the Talent Search, high-performing students take a test designed for older students. This above-grade-level testing can reveal more about the academic talents of students. Students who exhibit outstanding academic talent are eligible for nomination by educators and parents. Nomination is an honor in itself for the following participants:

Grade 5: Megan Huber and Bryce Kramer participated in this prestigious program during their first year at the middle school.

Grade 7: Christiana Faucher, who earned high honors in reading and mathematics; Christiana earned high honors in the American College Testing (ACT) as well; Carli Huber earned high honors in reading and a certificate of distinction in mathematics; Emily Strandquest, and Matthew Wehner.

Grade 8: Stacey Glass, who earned high honors in both reading and mathematics; Mariel Kramer who earned certificates of distinction in both reading and mathematics; Kathryn Lynch and Robert Varner.

Meritorious Attitude and Effort Awards

Each year, Meritorious Attitude and Effort Awards are given to several students in each grade. This award is given to students who exhibit a positive and commendable attitude and give continuous effort in their educational endeavors. Work ethic is one of the foremost qualities that future employers seek in prospective employees. Our students are developing excellence in work ethic the middle school. Recipients are as follows:

Grade 5: Emily Brazill, Inez Panebianco, and Gina Yonko

Grade 6: Maryjo Bekhash, Victoria Bertovich, Kaitlyn Pawcio, and Ashley Shriver

Grade 7: Matthew Arena, Nicole Barnhart, Alex Hockensmith, Madison Milligan, and Zachary Yonko

Grade 8: Joshua Cavrak, Jill Clark, and Justin Gindlesperger



Meritorious Attitude and Effort Grades 5-8: Row 1: Jill Clark, Inez Panebianco, Victoria Bertovich, Ashley Shriver, Kaitlyn Pawcio Row 2: Justin Gindlesperger, Maryjo Bekhash, Nicole Barnhart, Joshua Cavrak Row 3: Alex Hockensmith, Matthew Arena, Zachary Yonko, Madison Milligan, Gina Yonko, Emily Brazill

Middle School Knowledge Masters and Scholastic Quiz

Two new pursuits to challenge students' minds at the middle school are Knowledge Masters and Scholastic Quiz. Members of the first ever Middle School Scholastic Quiz Team are: David Carney, Jill Clark, Rex Cosgrove, Daniel Durham, Natalie Fiorica, Carli Huber, Isaac Joseph, Alyssa Miller, Colleen Mulrooney, Daphne Valencia, and Robert Varner. These students will work with their faculty

advisor, Miss Melissa Kalwanaski, who will collaborate with High School Scholastic Quiz advisor, Mr. John T. Wood.

Knowledge Masters at the middle school were recognized on Awards Day 2009 as follows: Lindsey Aman, Samuel Barry, Maryjo Bekhash, Rita Bekhash, Emily Brazill, David Carney, Jill Clark, Rex Cosgrove, Daniel Durham, Christiana Faucher, Natalie Fiorica, Gary Fleegle, Mitchell

Hochfeld, Carli Huber, Megan Huber, Isaac Joseph, Bryce Kramer, Ashley Kush, Alyssa Miller, Sarah Minnick, Colleen Mulrooney, Bryan Mock, Colleen Mulrooney, Dorothea Oller, Jarod Shark, Nora Springer, Daphne Valencia, Emily Ward, Erik Wehner, and Hunter Williams.

World Language Students Achieve Recognition

Mrs. Diane Rugh recognized the accomplishments of Westmont Hill-top World Language students at the Academic Awards Assembly of June 2009 as follows:

Interest in world languages is high at Westmont, as is evidenced by the number of students who study languages throughout their high school careers and beyond. It is rare to find high school students who have completed higher levels in more than one world language, but we have them here at Westmont. We recognize the success of our World Language students. First, the Appalachian Language Educators

Society, or APPLES, Foreign Language Festival...IUP again hosted the event, which involved over 300 students from more than a dozen area school districts. On behalf of the language department, I congratulate those 14 students who chose to spend that Saturday in late April at the competition.

Each year, the Festival awards an overall prize in each of three languages: French, German and Spanish. Students in level 4 or higher are eligible. Criteria are speaking proficiency, listening and reading comprehension and composition. Since 1989 when the festival first began, several Westmont students have garnered the award in either French or Spanish in a given year. This year, however, history was made at Westmont. **Juliana Bukoski** won the overall prize in French, and **Zach Evans** took the overall in Span-

ish. Zach has studied Spanish 1-5 and French 1-3 at Westmont. He will continue with languages at the university level as he pursues international studies. Juliana, a junior, is finishing French 5 this year, and will complete Spanish 5 next year as a senior.

Historically, APPLES has also promoted languages through its scholarship program for the week-long Millersville University Summer Language Camp for high school students. It has awarded one scholarship annually to an outstanding student of an APPLES member. The scholarship 2009 recipient is **Megan Mulrooney**, a current student of Spanish 4. Most unfortunately, Millersville had to cancel this year's camp. APPLES will consider some way to make amends for this lost opportunity.

WHHS World Language Department recognizes excellence and dedication to world languages through the PSMLA (Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association) student recognition program. This is one of those years in which we can proudly announce that a student will graduate having completed five levels of both French and Spanish. **Abigail Motley** not only completed five levels...she excelled in each one. Festival winners are listed in the accompanying table.

NAME	LANGUAGE / LEVEL	PLACE / EVENT
Christina Atterbury	SP 3	1 Composition
Dan Wolfe		1 (tie) Reading
		3 Composition
		3 Listening Comprehension
Keegan Terek	SP 3	1 Listening Comprehension
		2 Speaking Proficiency
		3 Reading Comprehension
Luke Corona	SP 4	3 Reading Comprehension
Zachary del Rosario	SP 4	1 Reading Comprehension
		2 Listening Comprehension
		2 Speaking Proficiency
		3 Adv. Composition
Brett Karan	SP 4	3 Speaking Proficiency
Kyle Molchany	SP 4	3 Listening Comprehension
Sara Rogerson	SP 4	1 Listening Comprehension
		2 Reading Comprehension
		2 Adv. Composition
Zack Evans	SP 5	1 Listening Comprehension
		1 Reading Comprehension
		1 Adv. Composition
		2 Speaking Proficiency
Abby Hoover	SP 5	2 Listening Comprehension
		2 Reading Comprehension
	FR 3	3 Speaking Proficiency
Christine Weidner	FR 4	2 Speaking Proficiency
		3 (tie) Reading Comprehension
		3 (tie) Reading Comprehension
Juliana Bukoski	FR 5	1 Speaking Proficiency
		1 Listening Comprehension
		1 Reading Comprehension
		1 Adv. Composition

Publication Corner

National Women's Month Essay Winners at the Middle School were **Kirsten Coyle** and **Kasia Foster**.

Published Poets at the middle school were as follows:

Grade 5: Ryan Adams, Karly Balon, Laken Burkhardt, Emily Brazill, Michelle Concannon, Claire Gagnon, Megan Graham, Bracken Helsel, Madison Hrin, Sarah Kilpatrick, Victoria Louder, Emily Miller, Sarah Minnick, Taylor Rozich, Nora Springer, Erik Wehner, Gina Yonko, and Daniel Yost.

Grade 6: Maura Glennon, Grace McIlhenny, and Colleen Mulrooney.

National Current Events League Award

Students in National Current Events League commit to seven months of extensive study of current events in the news and weekly discussion meetings on current events topics. Four times per year, students across the country then take a test requiring analysis and evaluation. There are approximately 140 teams entering this competition annually. The Current Events program encourages learning through media and discussion of what students are learning.

Current Events League is open to any student in grades 5-8 at the middle school. Students who are interested in competing in this league must prepare a "fact sheet" each week, and gather information on current events in the following categories: three national/international facts, and one fact each in the categories of arts and entertainment, sports, business, and science and health. Students are tested or compete in four "meets" each year via a multiple choice thirty-question format. Pictured are the students who proved to be up for this rigorous study.

Grade 5: Current Events League



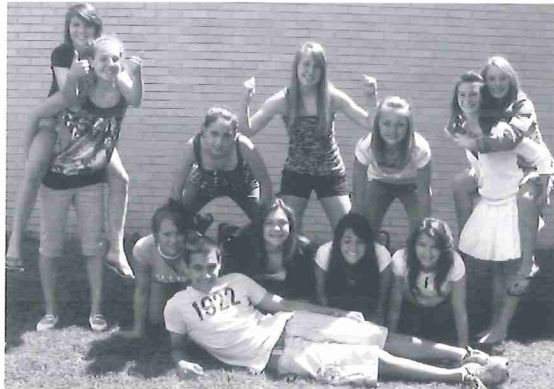
National Geography Bee Medalist: Matthew Wehner

Awards: **Mitchell Hochfeld, Samuel Barry, Rita Bekhash, Megan Huber, Bryce Kramer, McCabe Ravkin, Jarod Shark, Nora Springer, Matthew Thomas, and Erik Wehner.**

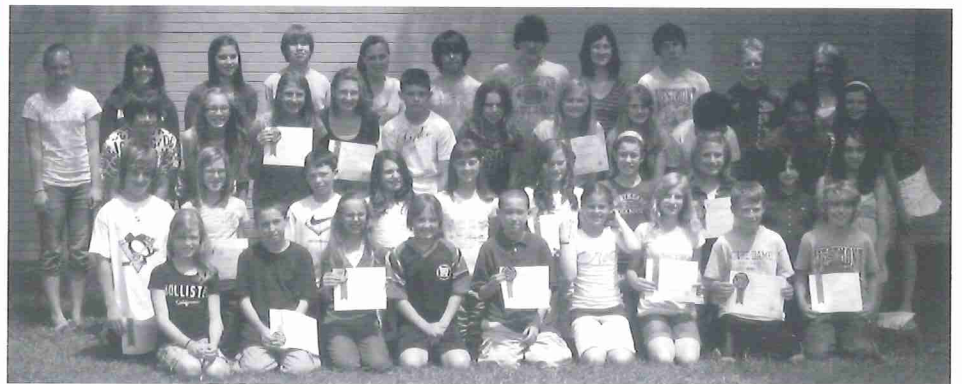
Grade 6: Current Events League Awards: **Tyler Azar, Maryjo Bekhash, Colleen Mulrooney, and Alexandra Nash.**



Current Events Grades 5-8: **Row 1:** Nora Springer, Megan Huber, Timothy Barry, Abigail Stern, Matthew Thomas, Devon Gilbert, Samuel Barry **Row 2:** James Kane, Jill Clark, Mitchell Hochfeld, Kirsten Coyle, Taylor Davis, Erik Wehner, Maddison Morrell, Maryjo Bekhash, Rita Bekhash, Colleen Mulrooney **Row 3:** Stacey Glass, Kathryn Lynch, Rex Cosgrove, Matthew Wehner, Tyler Azar, Andrew Miller, Mariel Kramer, Carli Huber, Leah Mercik, Jacob Moore. (absent: Bryce Kramer, McCabe Ravkin, Jarod Shark, Alexandra Nash)



President's Physical Fitness Award for fourth consecutive year (Grade 8): **Row 1:** Ryan Koul **Row 2:** Jordan Derewecki, Melissa Walko, Elizabeth Atterbury, Leah Mercik **Row 3:** Rachel Roper, Tayler Boxler, Stephanie Hetrick, Sarah Marley, Maddison Morrell **Row 4:** Erin Rodgers, Taylor Davis



President's Physical Fitness Award Earned for the First Time Grades 5-8: **Row 1:** Leah Hockensmith, Collin Schafer, Alana Somerville, Jenna Rutledge, Connor Schafer, Quinn Callihan, Lindsay Geiser, Drake Dorian, Kyler Pyshnik **Row 2:** Connor Bunn, Emily Mundy, Christian Dryer, Meghan Albertelli, Alexandra Mostoller, Hannah Dorian, Ashley Kush, Lindy Fisher, Megan Huber, Tori Lehman. **Row 3:** Isaac Joseph, Hailey Varner, Nicole Barnhart, Emily Brazill, Evan Dluhos, Megan Zolnosky, Katheryn Marley, Monica Lough, Luke Blackburn, Shayla Salter, Zoe Johnson **Row 4:** Kaylee Grassmyer, Kelsey Fetzko, Nollaig Noll, Rex Cosgrove, Toni Costa, Joel Neff, Zachary Yonko, Carli Huber, Chris Campigotto, Alex Hockensmith, Kaitlin Mical (absent: Angela Bealonis, Megan Graham, Karli Grow, Daryn Hays, Kohl Henry, Adam Higa, Adrienne McDowell, Sara Stumpo, Andre Testa, Jered Wattman, Daniel Yost)

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Perfect Attendance Awards

A student with a strong work ethic may be unable to achieve perfect attendance for many valid reasons; but students with perfect attendance have certainly demonstrated their determination to succeed through this strong predictor of future success. At the middle school, students who were awarded the Perfect Attendance Award were never dismissed from school except for school-related events; and these students were never tardy coming to school. Punctuality is a noteworthy achievement in addition to their outstanding attendance records, and it provides an acknowledgement for pre-high school students who have already developed an important skill that employers will value upon graduation. The students in the accompanying picture deserve the perfect attendance award.



Perfect Attendance Grades 5-8: Row 1: Taylor Somerville, Nicholas Sturniolo, Alana Somerville, Devon Gilbert
Row 2: Sarah Minnick, Arik Shue, Alyssa Forster, Michelle Concannon, Jill Clark Row 3: Aimee Hutson, Aaron Marko, David Yingling, Courtney Schilling, John Minnick, Maryjo Bekhash

Middle School Reading Team Achievements

One of the best ways to qualify for any of the awards and recognitions contained within this newsletter is to READ, READ, READ! The middle school students pictured below understand the importance of reading. If ever you doubt that middle schoolers value reading, just try to

take a break from the Reading Team Competition. Mrs. Terndrup did a wonderful job in instilling a love of reading in the students of the Reading Team! The students searched and found wonderful advisors in Melissa Kalwanaski, Courtney Zimmerman and Hollis Hall.

Principal's Excellence Award

The Principal's Excellence Award is presented to a Grade 8 Student. The criteria are as follows: Students must have an academic average of 92% or higher each quarter of grades 5, 6, and 7 in honor roll subjects. Students must have an academic average of 92% or higher for quarters 1 and 2 of Grade 8.



Principal's Excellence Award, Grade 8: Seated: Stacey Glass, Rachel Roper, Daniel Durham Standing: Hannah Mills, Victoria Parlock, Shannon Marko, Taylor Davis



Thing 1 Reading Team: Molly Thomson, James Kane, Jill Clark, Seneca Mastovich, Deana Werner, Maddison Morrell, Taylor Davis, Stacey Glass, Sarah Marley, Carli Huber (absent: Meghan Mock)



Thing 2 Reading Team: Kirsten Coyle, Sarah Clark, Nicole Barnhart, Leah Mercik, Madalynn Swaltek, Victoria Albert, Tyler Azar, Alyssa Miller, Rachel Roper, Angela Sutt, Elizabeth Atterbury

Middle School WordMasters Awards

The WordMasters Challenge is a national language arts competition. The challenge has been administered for the past 20 years and is dedicated to the inspiration of high achievement in American Schools. The process involves exercises in critical thinking and the development of vocabulary through the use of words that are higher than grade level expectations in the form of analogies. Three times each year, students study a list of twenty-five challenging vocabulary words. Students are tested on their comprehension of the definitions and on their ability to analyze these words in analogies. Our students consistently excel in these challenges of learning new words

as they solve logical puzzles. The students pictured were up for this challenge at the middle school.

Middle School Wordmasters are:

Grade 5: Mitchell Causer, Bethany Carney, Mitchell Hochfeld, Madison Hrin, Megan Huber, Sarah Kilpatrick, Bryce Kramer, Sarah Minnick, Bryan Mock, Jarod Shark, Zachary Vliet, David Williams, and Hunter Williams.

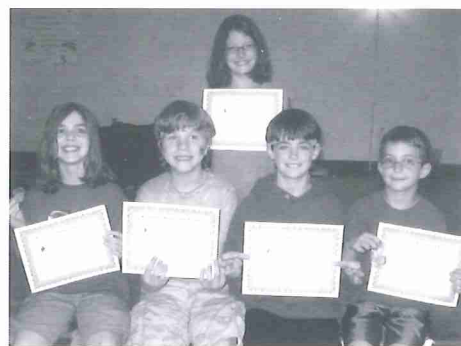
Grade 6: Tyler Azar, Sadie Carney, Emily Kilmartin, Isabella Letzo, Maura Milligan, Colleen Mulrooney, Francesca Ramirez, John Ridella, Nicholas Sturniolo, Bradley Trevorow, John Williams, and Aidan Winterscheidt.



WordMasters Row 1: Aidan Winterscheidt, Sarah Kilpatrick, Hunter Williams, Megan Huber, Emily Kilmartin, Sadie Carney, Zachary Vliet, Nicholas Sturniolo, Bethany Carney **Row 2:** David Williams, Maura Milligan, Madison Hrin, Mitchell Causer, Mitchell Hochfeld, Sarah Minnick, Isabella Letzo, Colleen Mulrooney **Row 3:** Alex Hockensmith, Bradley Trevorow, Rex Cosgrove, Madalynn Swaltek, Leah Mercik, John Williams, Holly Miller, Shannon Marko, Bryce Kramer **Row 4:** Angela Sutt, Carli Huber, Francesca Ramirez, Dante Horvath, Mariel Kramer, Ryan Koul, Daniel Durham, Tyler Azar, Madison Milligan, John Ridella (Absent: Tara Fritz, Bryan Mock, Jarod Shark)

Continental Mathematics League

Continental Mathematics League is a national competition with the goal of helping students improve problem-solving skills by challenging them with complex, multi-step problems.



Continental Math League Grade 3: Front row: Leo Cosgrove (1st place), Vaughan Kramer, Grayson Moyer, Jacob Toth Back row: Hannah Davis



Continental Math League Grade 4: Rachel Toth, Matthew Mostoller, Daniel Kevenk (1st place), Venkat Gella, Victoria Geiser

Science and Language Arts Olympiads - Top Ten

Students in grades 2, 3, and 4 once again participated in the Science and Language Arts Olympiads. Both of these contests are based on multiple-choice questions, which are administered to grade level groups. Each contest has a

time limit of 35 minutes. There is no limit to the number of students who may participate. The sum of the top ten scores for each competition is the school's team score. Questions for the Language Arts Olympiad are based on the following

topics: spelling, vocabulary, reading comprehension, analogies, and grammar. Science Olympiad questions are based on factual knowledge, as well as students' understanding of scientific processes.

Language Arts Olympiad Grade 4



Front row: Cameron Bradley, Zoe Goldblatt, Laura Mulrooney (1st place), Matthew Mostoller, Olivia Wagner **Back row:** Rachel Toth, Brock Bernstein, Aunna Yingling, Lily Gleason, Victoria Geiser

Science Olympiad Grade 4



Front row: Michael Lamison, Devon Charles, Daniel Kevenk (1st place), Aunna Yingling, Joey Hlivko **Back row:** Rachel Toth, Meredith Trio, Brock Bennett, Thomas Brill, Michael Roper

Language Arts Olympiad Grade 3



Front row: Ariana Santos, Clinton Sparling, Vaughan Kramer, MacKenzie Dunn (1st place), Leo Cosgrove **Back row:** Grayson Moyer, Kaitlyn Haynal, Patrick Brown, Ethan Dubnansky, Meredith Winterscheidt

Science Olympiad Grade 3



Front row: Ariana Santos, Clinton Sparling (1st place), MacKenzie Dunn, Heather O'Donnell, Jacob Law **Back row:** Holly Fabrizio, Leo Cosgrove, Grayson Moyer, Vaughan Kramer, Ethan Dubnansky

Language Arts Olympiad Grade 2



Front row: Austin Gibson, Meredith Trio, Julia Binger, Amelia Aiken, Susie Williams **Back row:** Savannah Taylor, Lily Dudash (1st place), Makaela Crum, Moses Zeidan, Rebekah Kevenk

Science Olympiad Grade 2



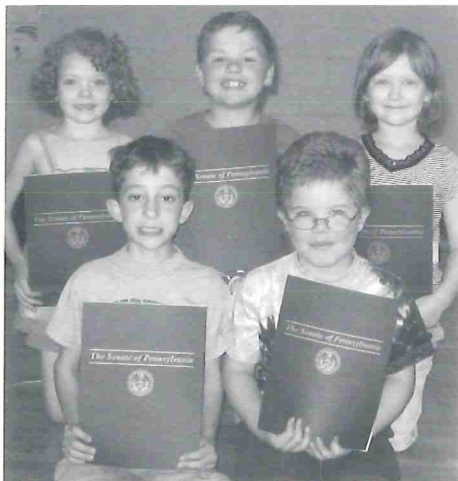
Front row: David Fleming, Kyle Gordon, Kayleigh Noll, Amelia Aiken, Julia Binger (1st place) **Back row:** Mark Oller, Brandon Kaseler, Lee Santee, Josh Reitter, Moses Zeidan, Susie Williams

Senatorial Good Citizenship Award at the Elementary School

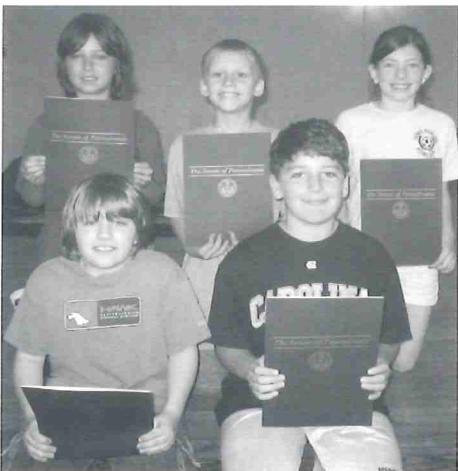
Senator John Wozniak has designed an award for young students who meet the following criteria:

- Superior academic achievement**
- Leadership capacity**
- Consistent work habits**
- Positive self-image**
- Ability to interact positively with others**

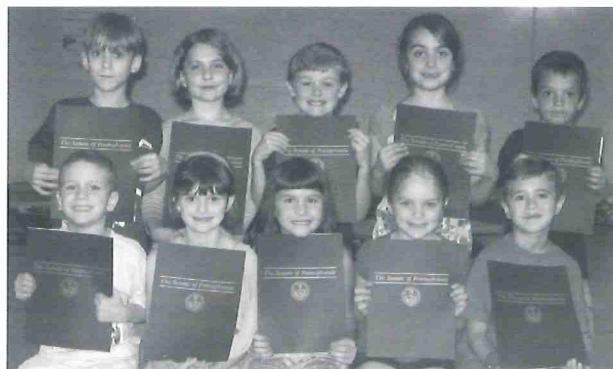
Students are nominated by the classroom teachers, guidance counselor, and principal to receive this honor. Recipients of this award for kindergarten through grade 4 are presented through these photographs.



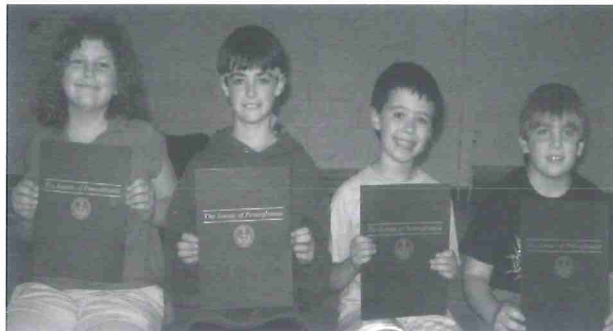
Grade 1 Senatorial Citizenship Awards: Front row: Conner Polacek, Samuel Paratore Back row: Kara Lynch, Mason Muto, Isabella Misner



Senatorial Good Citizenship Awards Grade 4
Front row: Devon Hearn, Brock Bennett
Back row: Brock Bernstein, Jonas Switzer, Sydney Wohlberg



Senatorial Good Citizenship Award, Kindergarten and Grade 2: Front row: Alex Ray, Madison Knupp, Lauren Lavis, Kallie Williams, Jonathan Heider Back row: Tanner Hinterliter, Maeve Milligan, Cameron Bunn, Alexis Nibert, Samuel Snider



Grade 3 Senatorial Citizenship Awards: Madison Reitter, Grayson Moyer, Ethan Dubnansky, Daniel Horn (Absent: David Cavrak)

St. Jude Math-A-Thon

This year, fourteen students in Grades 1 through 4 participated in St. Jude Hospital's Math-a-Thon program. Children complete math problems, either using a booklet or online, and ask for pledges based on the number of problems solved. These students raised a total \$1,216 for this wonderful cause! Sydney Distefano, a 4th grader in Mrs. Susan Fuschino's class, raised the most money, with \$305 in pledges! A variety of certificates, t-shirts, and other prizes were awarded. The participants included the students shown in the accompanying photo. **Nicholas Marsh** also participated, but is not pictured.



St. Jude Mathathon Participants: Top row: Sydney Distefano, Beth Felix, Carl Mason Foust, Rebecca Gvozden, Courtney Krall Middle row: Adam Kush, Camden Moors, Kylie Morder, Matthew Senft, Taylor Smitherman Bottom row: Sarah Stohon, Maggie Walsh, Zoey Zentkovich

ACHIEVEMENT, CITIZENSHIP & COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Wordmasters at the Elementary School - Top Ten

The **Wordmasters** competition is designed to increase the students' vocabulary by studying a different list of words and their meanings weekly.

Wordmasters, Grade 4



Front row: Aunna Yingling, Hannah Robart, Victoria Geiser (1st place), Matthew Mostoller, Rachel Toth **Middle row:** Brock Bernstein, Abigail Kesslak, Venkat Gella, Nathan Kindja **Back row:** Elle Goldblatt, Laura Mulrooney

Wordmasters, Grade 3



Front Row: Ariana Santos (1st place tie), Vaughan Kramer, Clinton Sparling, Ethan Dubnansky, Patrick Brown **Back row:** Leo Cosgrove (1st place tie), Simon Joseph, Garielle Hrin, MacKenzie Dunn, Grayson Moyer

Senatorial "Good Citizenship Award"

Each year, Senator Wozniak provides special recognition to a middle school student who demonstrates the following indicators of outstanding citizenship:

Superior academic achievement
Leadership capacity
Consistent work habits
Positive self-image
Ability to interact positively with others

Students are nominated to receive this honor. **Stacee Glass** is the deserving recipient of the 2009 Senatorial Good Citizenship Award. Mr. Thomas Simmons presented the award to Stacee. In school, Stacee is a member of the Reading Team, Current Events, Mathcounts, Westy's Angels (a philanthropic service group), the Track Team, Orchestra, and Chorus. She enjoys reading, music, dance, piano, swimming, and running. Her future goals are to attend college and law school and to pursue a career in environmental law.



Senatorial Good Citizenship Award Winner:
Stacee Glass

Fleet Award

At the middle school, a \$50 savings bond was presented on behalf of the Fleet Reserve Association, a nonprofit organization comprised of enlisted personnel of the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.



Fleet Reserve Essay Contest Winner: Jill Clark

American Legion Awards

The American Legion Award is presented by the American Legion Auxiliary to one 8th grade boy and one 8th grade girl. Students earning the award for 2009 are **Rachel Roper** and **Anthony Rosage**. Rachel's future goals are to attend college and become a teacher. Anthony's goals are to attend college and pursue a degree in mechanical or electrical engineering.

The criteria used to select the recipients are listed as follows:

Honor: Strength and stability of character, high standards of conduct, keen sense of what is right, adherence to truth and conscience, and devotion to duty.

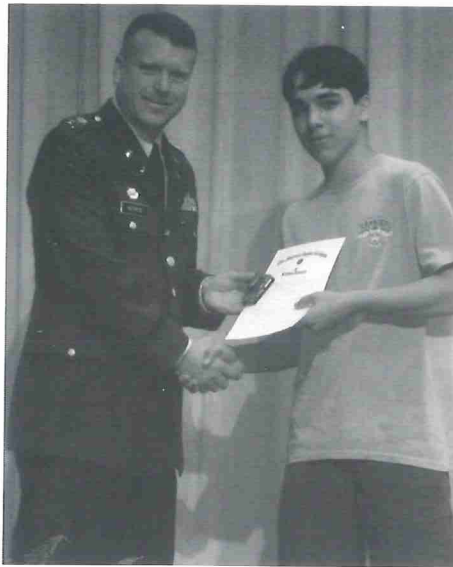
Scholarship: Scholastic attainment, evidence of industry, and application in studies.

Service: Kindness, unselfishness, willingness to lend a helping hand, protection to the weak, and deference to the interests and welfare of associates without hope of personal reward.

Americanism: Active interest in promotion of love of country.

Leadership: Ability to conduct the duties of leadership assigned to one as exemplified in the holding of an office, participation in committees, and exhibition of a team attitude.

Courage: The capacity to show moral courage to stand up for what is right.



American Legion Award for 8th Grade Boy:
Anthony John Rosage



American Legion Award for 8th Grade Girl: Rachel Roper

Westy's Angels at the Middle School

Westy's Angels, an eighth grade service group, had thirty participants this year. The service group is tireless in their philanthropic endeavors. Congratulations go out to the Angels for their effort in raising money for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days as they won this year's Flower Power Award.

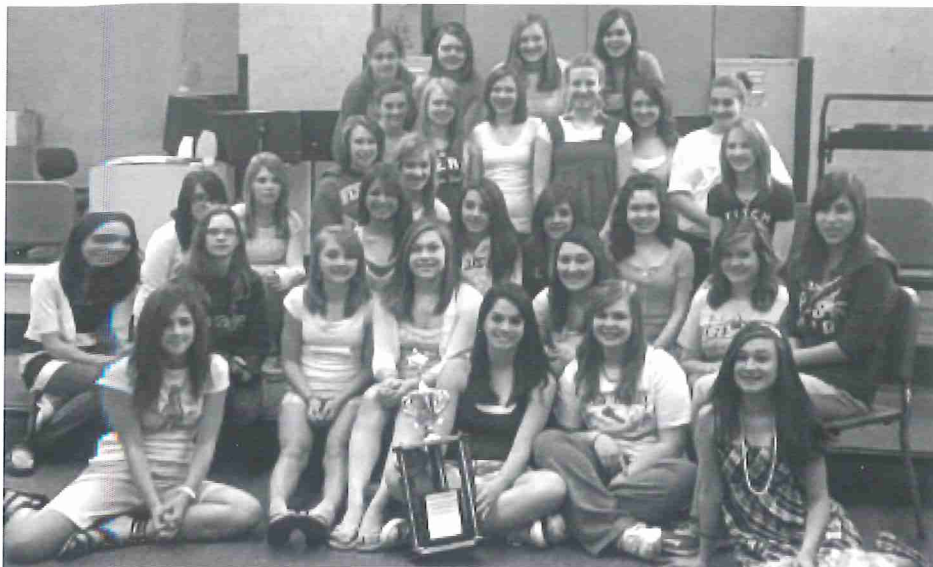
Every spring, people contribute to the search for a cure for cancer through the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days program. Community support for the program aided the American Cancer Society. A Flower Power Trophy is presented to the school selling the most daffodils.

The angels are pictured with their award for the most donations for the second year in a row. By making a donation, community members gave and received beautiful flowers, and shared hope for all people facing cancer. Their contributions fund research programs and help to increase awareness of prevention strategies. The Angels of 2009 are listed below:

Victoria Albert	Madison LaMantia
Elizabeth Atterbury	Kathryn Lynch
Abigail Bealonis	Sarah Marley
Angela Bealonis	Kaitlin Mical
Andrea Bealonis	Megan Miller
Sarah Clark	Hannah Mills
(absent from photo)	Meghan Mock
Toni Costa	Maddison Morrell
Kirsten Coyle	Rachel Roper
Taylor Davis	Madeline Sanford
Courtney Drennen	Angela Sutt
Kasia Foster	Madalynn Swaltek
Stacey Glass	Jessica Toth
Hannah Gleason-Noyes	Melissa Walko
Cassandra Hershberger	Deanna Werner
Sara Kimmell	

Thanks are extended to group advisors Mrs. Denise Cunningham and Mrs. Barbara Miltenberger.

The Angels of 2009, with the Daffodil Flower Power Trophy.



Key Club

The following article was written and submitted by Key Club Faculty Advisor, Mrs. Janice Layton, on behalf of Key Club.

Key Club is an organization devoted to service to our school, community, and world. During the Fall Key Club members assisted with the Community Arts Center Festival, worked on school landscaping projects, and held the annual Halloween Costume Contest. Proceeds from the contest were used to purchase a Wii Fit for the residents of Arbutus Manor. Key Club members served the annual Senior Citizens luncheon in November. During the holidays Key Club participated in the Salvation Army Tag program, purchasing gifts and needed items for those less fortunate in our community.

Key Club welcomed Spring by helping the American Cancer Society with the Daffodil Days fundraiser, selling over \$1,400 of daffodils. Key Club members participated in Thon and joined SADD in our neighborhood cleanup projects. We hope you noticed the Spring landscaping project of fresh mulch to accompany our red and grey flowers.

Key Club partners with Westwood Kiwanis, who presented two scholarships to Key Club members. In addition to this, Westmont Hilltop High School Key Club awards a scholarship each year to one of our members. This year's Key Club scholarship winner is **Frances Morello**.



Mrs. Kuzmiak presents the Second Mile Community Service Award to **Amanda Martella**, for going the extra mile in service.

Highmark Healthy High 5 School Challenge Grants Received at MS and HS

Both our high school and middle schools were each awarded a 10K Highmark Healthy High 5 School Challenge Grant to implement programs aimed to address the growing issue of Childhood Obesity. Studies illustrate that the health habits children develop at a young age will continue with them through adulthood. These grants will support the school's effort to introduce programs that will ultimately create healthier, more successful students. Westmont Hilltop MS used the money to buy cardio and weight equipment for our MS fitness room. Westmont Hilltop HS will fund wellness center equipment.

Since 2007, the Highmark Foundation, through the Healthy High 5 School Challenge, has awarded a total of \$3.5 million grants to 496 schools in 47 counties across Pennsylvania for programs that address bullying prevention and self-esteem, improve nutrition education, enhance nutrition choices, and provide opportunities for physical activity.

Lee Auxiliary Award

The Lee Auxiliary recently announced the award of a \$1,000 scholarship for students from the Greater Johnstown Area who are interested in pursuing a healthcare major or career, a field of high priority need for outstanding individuals in the near future. Our district congratulates **Lindsey Pavlikowski**, who won this honor.

Multiple Sclerosis Read-A-Thon

Kirsten Coyle, Devon Gilbert, Megan Huber, and Caitlyn Miller were recognized at the Middle School Awards Ceremony for their service to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. The Multiple Sclerosis Society hosts a special event called the MS Read-A-Thon, a program that helps fund research for treatments and a cure for multiple sclerosis, a disease of the central nervous system.

Safe and Positive School Climate

Our Middle School continues to promote a safe and positive school climate. New this year, we instituted a "Positive School Climate" committee that met weekly/bi-weekly following a presentation at UPJ by Stan Davis, a motivational speaker who promotes Positive School Climates. Members of our committee began meeting in January and continued through the end of the school year. The committee discussed ways to continuously improve/update a positive climate, have our new staff members become Olweus Bully Prevention Program Certified, and how to use other data-driven information to continue building a safe, positive school environment next school year.

Additionally, during our Related Arts classes, students rotated through a "Positive School Climate" session. During this Related Arts class, students discussed their opinions on how to promote and maintain a positive, safe school. The teacher(s) noted student input and forwarded it to administration. Students also completed an end-of-the-year survey allowing them to individually state their opinions on the MS school climate. All information will be tallied by Conemaugh/Highmark "Healthy High Five" and data will be returned to us ASAP. All collected and returned data will be used to jump start the 2009-10 school year.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Award represents the largest youth recognition program based solely on volunteer service in the United States.

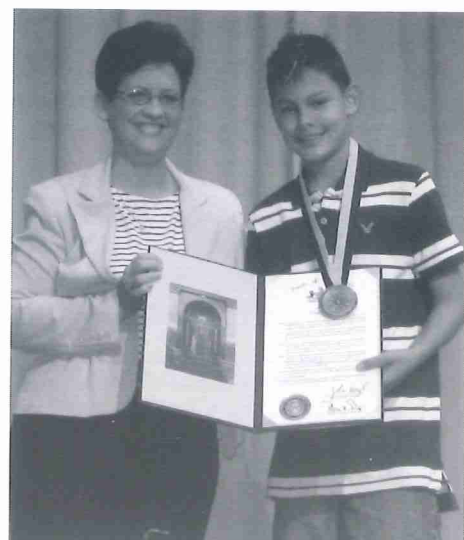
Chelsea Balon is being honored for her service to the Roxbury Band Shell. She volunteers her time on a regular basis.

Karly Balon is among a group of very talented and dedicated volunteers. Karly is receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award for her help in preserving the Roxbury Band Shell. Karly has volunteered 250 hours of her time to selling snacks, planting flowers, and preparing for Sunday evening services.

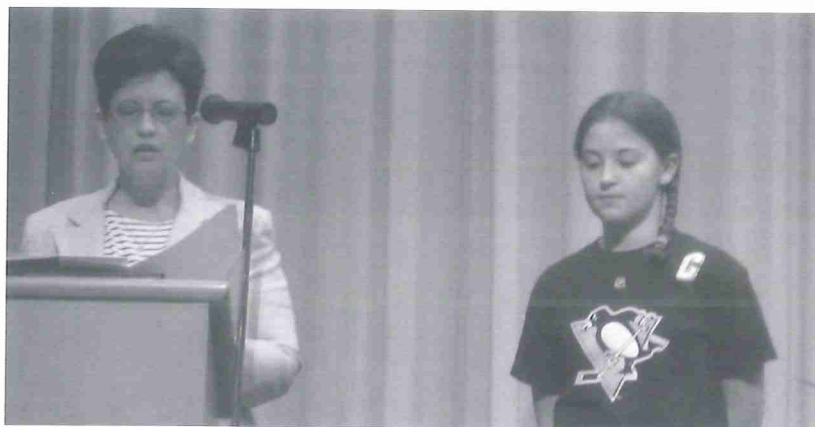
Conner Hagins collected stuffed animals for hospitalized children and his enormous effort over a period of four years has helped the Alternative Community Resource Program, the Women's Help Center, and Good Samaritan Nursing Care Center. Connor was presented with the Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Bronze Medal as well as a Resolution from the PA State Senate signed by Senator John Wozniak.



Prudential Spirit of Community Award: Grade 7:
Chelsea Balon



Prudential Spirit of Community Award: Grade 6:
Conner Hagins



Prudential Spirit of Community Award, Grade 5: Karly Balon

Student Council

With the Leadership of Student Council President, **Bradley Schroeder**, and Faculty Advisor, Jonathan Rutledge, the High School Student Council had an active and collaborative year. Two major highlights follow:

Zachary Evans and the Thon participants raised over \$14,500 for the 4 Diamonds Fund and the American Heart Association, with Thon as Zach's senior project. Student Council helped and funded this event.

Cassandra Miller and **Kelsey Kohler** spearheaded two blood drives for student council that resulted in almost 200 pints of blood being donated, and four lives are saved with each pint. Thanks to all who were lifesavers.

Super Conference representatives from the middle school were **Ian Campbell** and **Erica Claycomb** from Grade 7; and **David Carney** and **Victoria Parlock** from Grade 8.

CITIZENSHIP & COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

High School Community and Service Recognition

While Westmont Hilltop Students serve their community, the community gives back. Examples of the generosity and support of the community follow.

Westmont Peace Award
Alexander E. Policicchio

Johnstown Rotary Scholarships
Zachary R. Evans
Abigail C. Motley
Tracy Tabib

Thon
Zachary Evans

Metz & Associates Scholarship
Marissa Horrell

Unsung Hero Awards
Natalie R. Smith
Tyler C. Fleck

Key Club Award
Frances L. Morello

Westwood Kiwanis Scholarships
Melissa A. Hunt
Lauren M. Simmons

Red Cross Scholarship
Kelsey L. Kohler
Cassandra D. Miller

**Catherine Hubbard
Memorial Award**
Amanda L. Yaworski

**Class of 1947 Westmont/Upper
Yoder Endowment Fund**
Matthew K. Ziance

**The Challenge Program Award
for Best Overall GPA**
Abigail C. Motley
Zachary R. del Rosario
Bryant W. Fisher



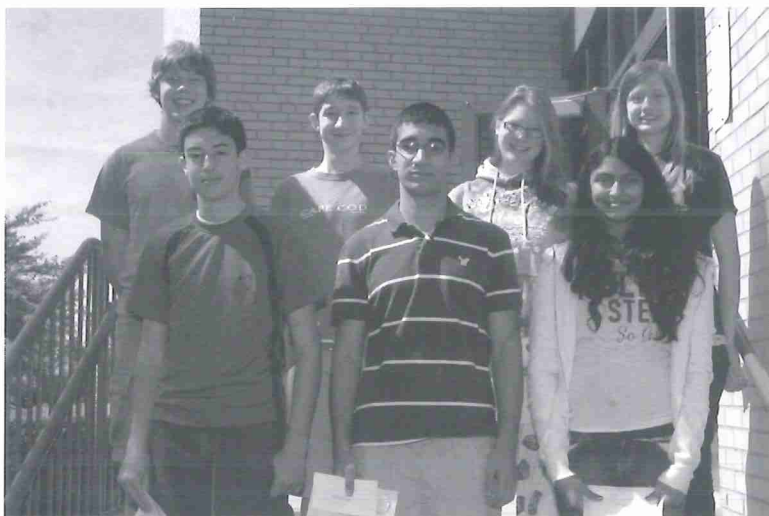
Row 1: Amanda Yaworski—Catherine Hubbard Award, Tracy Tabib—West End Lions Club Scholastic Award & Johnstown Rotary Scholarship, John Livingston—Kocher Award
Row 2: Abigail Motley—Johnstown Rotary Scholarship, Christina Atterbury—Fleet Reserve Award, Julia Asel—Azar Family Award
Row 3: Alexander Policicchio—Peace Award, Matthew Ziance—Class of 1947 Award, Zachary Evans—Johnstown Rotary Scholarship
(absent from photo: Tessie Cahill—GJCTC Award/Child Development, Meagan Palmer-Bowers—GJCTC Award/Cosmetology)



Row 1: Kelsey Kohler, Cassandra Miller—Red Cross Scholarship; Marissa Horrell—Metz & Associates Scholarship
Row 2: Brett Karan—Michael L. Rudnac Leadership Award; John Livingston, Abigail Motley—Wendy's Heisman Award
Row 3: Lauren Simmons, Melissa Hunt—Westwood Kiwanis Scholarship; Zachary Evans—American Heart Association (THON)
(absent from photo: Andrew Thomas—Spirit of Courage Award)



Junior Citizenship Awards: Row 1: Christine Weidner, Daniel Price, Angela Battaglia, Stephen Legath **Senior Citizenship Awards: Row 2:** Kyle Adams, Bradley Schroeder, Olivia Flick, Amanda Good.



Freshmen Citizenship Awards: Row 1: Matthew Masiello, Mustafa Hammudi, Meena Gella
Sophomore Citizenship Awards: Row 2: David Pepley, Andrew Kilpatrick, Kim Carney, Kirsten Rafinski, (absent from photo: Kara Kovach)

The Challenge Program Award for Community Service

Lauren M. Simmons
Brittany E. Strelnik
Andrew J. Santichen

The Challenge Program Award for Most Improved in Grade

Justin K. Burke
Jodi L. Berkebile
Jake B. Bair

The Challenge Program Award for Attendance

Calvin J. Yahn
Matthew J. Gerber
Joshua J. Bunyea

West End Lions Club Scholastic Awards

Tracy Tabib
John S. Livingston

School Citizenship Awards

Grade 12

Kyle D. Adams
Olivia M. Flick
Amanda J. Good
Bradley D. Schroeder

Grade 11

Angela B. Battaglia
Stephen D. Legath
Daniel S. Price
Christine C. Weidner

Grade 10

Kim A. Carney
Andrew J. Kilpatrick
David F. Pepley
Kirsten N. Rafinski

Grade 9

Meena K. Gella
Mustafa B. Hammudi
Kara A. Kovach
Matthew M. Masiello

Musical

This year's musical was West Side Story. The pictures below tell part of the story. Needless to say, we had a happy ending, following the sad plot, as our students concluded another year of collaborative learning and fun with the process of musical production.



John Livingston and Balkis Awan

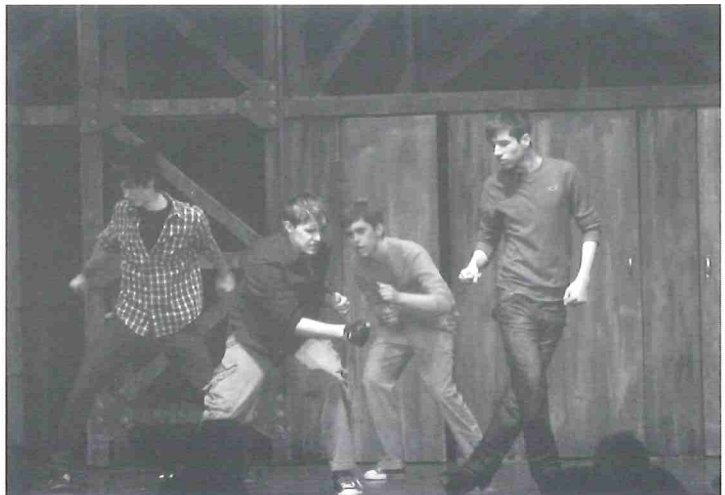


Elizabeth Menna, Ashley Ayre, Melissa Hunt



Page Minemyer, Elizabeth Menna, Bradley Schroeder

WEST SIDE STORY



Zachary Ryan, Zachary Evans, Keegan Terek, Patrick Mendelson

After School Chorus AWARD 2009

Mrs. Kristen Santos presented the following acknowledgement of a spontaneous decision by students to form an after-school group.

The After School Chorus began three years ago when a group of 8th grade students volunteered to meet after school each week to sing new chorus songs. This year, 13 male and female students decided to create an After School Chorus for the second semester of the 2009 school year. Each of these students has attended all rehearsals to the best of their ability, demonstrating a great deal of individual responsibility as well as a deep sense of commitment to the group.

With very little guidance, the ASC members decide which songs to sing, how to organize their performances, decide upon their attire, and what kind of choreography to incorporate. ASC has performed for all of the middle school spring concerts and for this year's awards day assemblies. Additionally, they held their own spring recital for family and friends, mastering a half hour of two- and three-part choral music for the event.

We are very proud of all members for their performance accomplishments; however, I must admit that what I am most proud about is the way these students have worked together as a collaborative, supportive musical team. It is an honor to watch the process of new friendships forming and musical confidence blossoming.

We wish each of these wonderful students the best as they continue to share their music and enthusiasm with new audiences at the high school level.

Congratulations to:

Victor Albert
David Carney
Lauren Ecklund
Kasia Foster
Amber Harden
Cassandra Hershberger
Seneca Mastovich

Leah Mercik
Victoria Parlock
Madalynn Swaltek
Zachory Vrabel
Michael Wattman
Deana Werner

Theater Club Accomplishments

Kudos to the Theatre Club and their director, Mrs. Jackie Young-Flack, for their 2nd Place finish in the Pennsylvania High School Speech League's Western Regional Drama Festival. Westmont's play, *Adaptation*, by Elaine May, advanced to the Pennsylvania High School Speech League State Drama Festival on December 5th and 6th at Susquehanna University. Westmont Hilltop placed third at the state level.

Adaptation is a compelling, thought-provoking, and funny play about the stages of life in a game show setting. Zachary Evans was named to the All-State Cast list.

Actors: Zachary Evans, John Livingston, Michael Varga and Annabeth Rogers
Faucher; Student Director: Samantha Hippler; Lighting: Benjamin Sakmar; Stage Crew: Kelsey Suppes and Anna Muchesko.

Regional Chorus

Congratulations to the following students, who qualified all the way to Regional Chorus!

Alexander Policicchio
Zachary Evans
Kim Carney

Christine Weidner
Ashley Schafer
Marissa Ghantous

Young Artists Exhibition

The following students' artwork was chosen to be displayed at the Greater Johnstown Young Artists Exhibition. Artistic Awards were presented by Allied Artists of Johnstown and the Community Arts Center:

Grade 6: Sarah Hamaty

Grade 7: Brandon Hunsinger, Bradon Lovenduski, and Douglas Stump (Merit Award)

Grade 8: Stacey Glass and Angela Sutt (contributions to the Permanent Art Collection)

Highlights of High School Music Department

Westmont Hilltop students have excelled in Chorus, Band, Orchestra, and/or Choir, and in some cases, all of the above.

Special Highlights:

Chamber Singers took second place at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire Madrigal Singing Competition in October, 2008.

Nine singers qualified for PMEA District 6 Chorus; Six singers qualified for ACDA All-State Men's and Women's Honor Choir.

Six singers qualified for PMEA Region III Chorus.

Four singers qualified for PMEA

The production of West Side Story with 70 cast and crew members from Grades 9-12, on March 12 - 14, 2009 was highly successful under the capable direction of Ms. Elizabeth Good.

The Chamber Singers and Concert Choir performed with River City Brass on December 14, 2008 at the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on the UPJ campus.

The Chamber Singers performed with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra and Chorus on the May 2 performance of *Carmina Burana*.

Band Highlights Concert Jazz Marching Indoor

- 24 Westmont Students were accepted to County Band (Auditioned ensemble).
- 6 Students were accepted to PMEA District Band (Auditioned ensemble).
- 5 Students were accepted to PMEA Region Band (Auditioned ensemble).
- 5 Students were accepted to IUP Honors Band (Auditioned ensemble).
- 4 students were accepted to PMEA District Jazz Band (Auditioned ensemble).
- Westmont Marching Band Received 2nd overall at Chapter Championships in Regional Class (Final Competition of the Year).
- The Westmont Marching Band performed for the Sarah Palin Event at the Johnstown War Memorial.
- Westmont Marching Band took second place in the "Ugliest Stand Competition." The group which submitted the ugliest stand was awarded a new supply of stands for their school district. This was a National Competition.
- Westmont Indoor Color Guard and Indoor Percussion both finished 1st overall at Chapter Championships at Windber.
- Westmont Indoor Color Guard finished 9th overall at the final Championships in Wildwood.
- Westmont Indoor Percussion finished 8th overall at the final Championships in Wildwood.



Band Fest: Sitting: Isabella Letzo, Sadie Carney, Jenna Kutchman, Nicole Taylor **Standing:** Peter Carnevali, David Fisher, Bradley Hollins



County Band Grades 7-8: Row 1: Shannon Marko **Row 2:** Kevin Dailey, Karli Grow, Rachel Mural, David Carney **Row 3:** Aaron Marko, Daniel Durham, Matthew Wehner (absent from photo: Dante Horvath)



County Orchestra Grades 7-8: Row 1: Molly Thomson, Timothy Barry, Hunter Funk **Row 2:** Sarah Clark, Kaitlin Mical, Shannon Marko, MorganAnn Millinder **Row 3:** Madalynn Swaltek, Jacob McLoota, Lucas Dragovich, Lexxiana Zollicoffer

County Band

Junior High

Zachary Becker
David Carney
Kevin Dailey
Parag Dharbamulla
Daniel Durham
Zachary Georgevich
Karli Grow
Kyra Hill
Sarah Layton
Aaron Marko
Shannon Marko
Rachel Mural
Austin Paratore
Rebecca Seigh
Matthew Wehner

Senior High

Leslie Buchan
Kim Carney
Jason Dailey
Michael Gorzelsky
Anne Rummell
Patricia Spisak
William Schultz
Adam Steinbring
Daniel Wilson

District Band

Anne Rummell
Daniel Wilson
Jason Dailey
Michael Gorzelsky
Luke Young
Kim Carney

Regional Band

Anne Rummell
Daniel Wilson
Jason Dailey
Luke Young
Kim Carney

IUP Honors Band

Jason Dailey
Daniel Wilson
Aaron Marko
Shannon Marko
Anne Rummell

District Jazz Band

Jason Dailey
Michael Gorzelsky
Benjamin Sakmar
Nicholas Adams

Music and Arts Recognition at the High School

Kocher Memorial Music Award
John S. Livingston

Metz & Associates Scholarship
Marissa Horrell

Community Arts Center Scholarships
Alexander E. Policicchio
Dylan C. Staib
Ryan C. Rovida

Allied Artists Scholarship
Alexander E. Policicchio
Dylan C. Staib

National School Choral Awards
Zachary R. Evans
Alexander E. Policicchio

MONSTER Music Award
John S. Livingston
Daniel P. Wilson

National School Orchestra Award
Daniel P. Wilson

Director's Award for Band
Michael D. Gorzelksy
Anne E. Rummell

Samuel Hillard Leadership Awards
Rachel L. Adams
Thomas N. Rohrabough, Jr.

Ken Null Memorial Award
Austin L. Paratore

John Phillip Sousa Award
Jason T. Dailey



Row 1: Rachel Adams, TJ Rohrabough—Samuel Hillard Leadership Award
Row 2: Jason Dailey—John Phillip Sousa Award, Anne Rummell—Director's Award for Band; Austin Paratore—Ken Null Memorial Award
Row 3: Tyler Flick, Natalie Smith—Unsung Hero Award; Jerrison Nestor—GJCTC Award/Auto Technology; Paul Weaver—GJCTC Award/Auto Body
(absent from photo: Michael Gorzelksy—Director's Award for Band)



Row 1: Abigail Motley—Westmont Memorial Award; Zachary Evans—American Association of University Women & National School Choral Award, Alexander Policicchio—National School Choral Award
Row 2: TJ Rohrabough—WHEA Scholarship; Frances Morello—Key Club Scholarship; John Livingston—MONSTER Music Award, Daniel Wilson—MONSTER Music Award & National School Orchestra Award
(absent from photo: Carolyn Somerville—Prudential Spirit of Community Award)

2009 Outstanding Male Athletic Award

Thaddeus (TJ) Keklak

TJ Keklak earned eleven varsity letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop – three in football and four each in wrestling and baseball. During his varsity wrestling career, TJ had a 124-36 record, leaving him one win shy of the school record for career victories. As a two-year team captain, he led the Hilltopper wrestling team to a 16-3 record his senior year and was a big part of the Class of 2009's record-setting four year senior class win total. During his career as a varsity wrestler, the Hilltoppers finished as the 6th best (2007) and 5th best (2009) AA teams in the state. The team also won three District VI Dual Meet Team Championships, two District VI Individual Tournament Championships, and a Southwest Regional Team Championship (Westmont's first title since 1989). Individual honors included a District VI Individual Title, a Southwest Regional Individual Title, and an 8th Place State finish – during his senior year. He was selected as a member of the PA All-Academic Team during his final three years in high school.

In football, TJ, as a team captain his senior year, rushed for 1,287 yards, passed for 523 yards, and had 176 receiving yards. He was named Team MVP, as well as Team Offensive MVP, during his senior year. Defensively, TJ was second on the team in total tackles (61), first in solo tackles (52), and tied for first in interceptions (3). Following his senior year, TJ was selected to the LHAC All-Conference Team (also selected following his junior season), as Westmont's Offensive MVP for the Southern Allegheny Football Coaches' Association, and to the Ken Lantzy Finest 40 All-Star Team. He also earned a spot on the Honorable Mention List for the 2009 Pennsylvania Class AA All-State Team as a running back.

In baseball, TJ was named the team's MVP during his senior year. He batted over .500 as part of the Hilltopper baseball team that reached the District VI Semi-Finals, the first time the baseball team has advanced that far in over twenty years. TJ was a member of Westmont Hilltop's National Honor Society and will attend Kent State University in the fall, where he will continue his wrestling career.

2009 Outstanding Female Athletic Award

Ashley Strack

Ashley Strack earned eight varsity letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop – four in softball, three in soccer, and one in track. In softball, Ashley was one of the recipients of the John P. Harty Award as the Outstanding Softball Player following her sophomore, junior, and senior years. She was named Rookie of the Year following her freshman season, and received the Character and Leadership Award following her junior and senior seasons, and the Hustle Award following her junior season.

Additionally, Ashley was named the team's outstanding offensive player for all four years. She also led the team in stolen bases for all four years. In September, Ashley was named to the Louisville Slugger National Fast Pitch Coaches' Association All-Region (Northern U.S.) Second Team for her junior year and was invited to the prestigious Pennsbury Invitational College Showcase in Philadelphia.

In soccer, Ashley received the John Saracena Award as the Outstanding Female Soccer Player following her junior season. She also lettered during her senior year as a member of the track team, qualifying for the District VI Tournament in the javelin. She placed 11th with a throw of 104' 11". Ashley received two academic letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop and will continue her education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



Left to Right: TJ Keklak, Outstanding Male Athlete; Mrs. Diana Schroeder, Board Member and Chair of the Student Activities Committee; Ashley Strack, Outstanding Female Athlete

What a Year for Westmont Sports!

The Westmont Hilltop athletes completed another outstanding year of interscholastic sports competition in District VI and Laurel Highlands play. Listed below are some of the major accomplishments:

Fall Sports

- The Golf Team won the Anderson Golf Tournament and the prestigious Wheeling Tournament and placed first in both sectional LHAC (Laurel Highlands All Conference) tournaments.
- Freshmen **Jason Dean** and **Rachel Rajter** qualified for the state cross country meet.
- The Girls' Tennis team won the LHAC by defeating Bishop Guilfoyle.

Winter Sports

- The Wrestling team had the best year in the history of Westmont Hilltop wrestling.

The varsity wrestlers:

- Won the Conemaugh Township Tournament, placing all 14 wrestlers into the semi-finals - with 9 place winners.
- Took 5th place at the exclusive Powerade Tournament, which is considered one of the top 4 tournaments in the country.
- Took 4th place at the Mount Madness Tournament in Baltimore.
- Won the District VI Team Championship.
- Won the District VI Individual Championship, sending 9 wrestlers to regionals.
- Won the Southwest Regional Championship, advancing 8 wrestlers to the state tournament – a new record for our school.
- **TJ Keklak, Zachary Bennett** and **Patrick Dumire** got their 100th career victories.

Other notable accomplishments from winter sports:

- The Varsity Boys' Basketball team won the Ford City Tournament.
- The Girls' Swim Team captured the CWACC Championship and the regional championship, while the boys' team placed second in the CWACC.
- The Swim Team sent 11 swimmers to states.
- **Joseph Ward** broke the school record in the 50-yard freestyle and placed 6th at states.
- The Boys' Tennis Team won the District VI Team Title and competed in the first round of the state tournament.
- **Parag Dharbhamulla** and **Devin Layton** won the District VI Doubles Championship and competed at the state tournament in Hershey.

Spring Sports

- The Baseball Team advanced further into the playoffs than any team has advanced since 1989.

Sports Newsflashes

Football

- 6 Tribune Democrat All Area football team members
- 3 Ken Lantzy football team members

Girls' Tennis

- 3 Team members advanced to state individual tournament
- Undefeated Regular Season

Girls' Volleyball

- 1 All State Volleyball first team member
- Quarterfinals of the St. Francis Scholastic Volleyball Tournament

Cross Country

- 2 Team members participated in the State Cross Country Meet
- Combined Winning Record

Girls' Soccer

- .500 record this past season
- Senior class lost only 13 games over 4 years

Boys' Soccer

- Swept rival Bishop McCort
- Advanced to District Semi Finals

Boys' Basketball

- 1st Place Ford City Tournament
- Runner Up Windber Rotary Tournament

Girls' Basketball

- District Six Quarterfinals
- Won Penn's Valley Tournament

Boys' Swimming

- 11 State Participants (both boys and girls)
- 1 individual record set
- Laurel Highlands team champions

Girls' Swimming

- Undefeated Season
- Laurel Highlands Champions

Wrestling

- District 6 Team and Regional Champions
- 8 Individual State Qualifiers

Baseball

- District Six Semifinals
- Laurel Highlands Runners Up

Softball

- Returned to district playoffs
- 3 Individual records were set

Track and Field

- Combined Winning Record
- 12 District Participants

Boys' Tennis

- Laurel Highlands Champions
- State Qualifying Doubles Team

ATHLETIC RECOGNITION

SPONSORSHIP

David Coulson Award
David J. Murphy Award
Claycomb Coaches Award

Milt Lance Fund
Bill Mishler Fund
Skip Pristow Award
The Khuri Family Scholarship
William A. Askey Scholarship
Herdman-Dailey Award
Herdman-Dailey Award
Lori Blackburn Memorial Award

WHSD
Robert A. Gleason Award

Adele Dovey Award

John P. Horthy Award

Ellwood Ailes Award
Dr. Michael Sewak Award

WHSD
WHSD
Dr. William J. Hargreaves Award

Corona & Grady Coach's Award
John Saracena Coach's Award
WHSD
WHSD
Wendy Hulvey Scholarship Fund
District 6
Karen Askey
WHSD

SPORTS HONOR

Outstanding Football Player
Outstanding Hockey Players
Outstanding Wrestler

Milt Lantz Scholarship
Bill Mishler Scholarship
Outstanding Boys' Basketball Player
John Khuri Memorial Award
Outstanding Volleyball
Outstanding Boys' Track
Outstanding Girls' Track
Girls' Track Team Dedication

Boys' Track Team Dedication
Outstanding Boys' Tennis Players

Outstanding Girls' Tennis Player

Outstanding Softball Players

Outstanding Baseball Player
Outstanding Girls' Basketball Player

Outstanding Boys' Cross Country
Outstanding Girls' Cross Country
Outstanding Male Golfer
Outstanding Female Golfer
Outstanding Boys' Soccer Player
Outstanding Girls' Soccer Player
Outstanding Girls' Swimmer
Outstanding Boys' Swimmer
Wendy Hulvey Moore Scholarship
District 6 Sportsmanship Award
William A. Askey \$250 Scholarship
Outstanding Female Athlete Award
Outstanding Male Athlete Award

HONOREE

TJ Keklak
Corey Schafer
Zac Bennett, TJ Keklak,
Joshua Polacek
TJ Keklak
Aaron Goodwin
Michael Valcheff
Christopher Kessler
Lindsey Pavlikowski
Jason Dean
Brittany Davis
Sarah Godish,
Christina Atterbury
Kyle Adams
Devin Layton,
Parag Dharbhamulla
Julia Asel,
Rachel Wozniak
Ashley Strack,
Shauna Hetrick
TJ Keklak
Kirsten Meenan,
Olivia Flick
Jason Dean
Rachel Rajter
Mac Wolfe
Julia Wolfe
Kyle Kunkle
Kaley Miller
Abby Motley
Joseph Ward
Natalie Smith
TJ Keklak, Olivia Flick
Abigail Motley
Ashley Strack
TJ Keklak

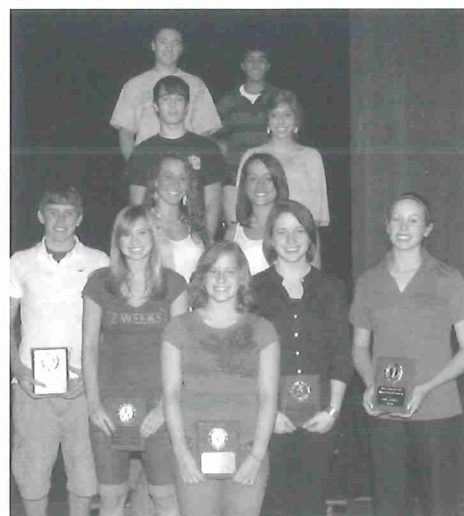


Row 1: Girls' Track – Brittany Davis; Girls' Track Team Dedication – Sarah Godish, (Absent: Christina Atterbury)

Row 2: Boys' Track – Jason Dean; Wendy Hulvey Moore Swimming Scholarship – Natalie Smith; Hockey – Corey Schafer; Boys' Track Team Dedication – Kyle Adams

Row 3: Volleyball – Lindsey Pavlikowski; Football – TJ Keklak

Row 4: Boys' Basketball – Michael Valcheff; John Khuri Scholarship – Chris Kessler



Row 1: Girls' Soccer – Kaley Miller

Row 2: Boys' Soccer – Kyle Kunkle; Girls' Tennis – Rachel Wozniak, Julia Asel; William Askey Scholarship – Abigail Motley

Row 3: Girls' Basketball – Kirsten Meenan, Olivia Flick

Row 4: Cross Country – Jason Dean, Rachel Rajter

Row 5: Boys' Tennis – Devin Layton, Parag Dharbhamulla



Row 1: Softball – Ashley Strack, Shauna Hetrick; Golf – Julia Wolfe; Wrestling – Joshua Polacek

Row 2: Bill Mishler Scholarship – Aaron Goodwin; Swimming – Abigail Motley; Golf – Mac Wolfe

Row 3: District 6 Sportsmanship Award – TJ Keklak, Olivia Flick; Swimming – Joseph Ward; Wrestling – Zachary Bennett (TJ Keklak was also awarded the Milt Lantz Scholarship and the Baseball MVP Awards.)

School Cancellations Will be Posted on the Web

Visit www.whsd.org, the Westmont Hilltop School District main web page for district status and information. When inclement weather, or any other condition forces a delay, cancellation, or early dismissal of school, this information will be posted at that site on the web if possible. Information will also be broadcast through local media resources.

Senior Residents Have V.I.P. Status

Each year we are pleased to acknowledge and thank senior residents for their contributions to our educational system. The V.I.P. program (Very Important Person) passes are one way we try to accomplish that goal. Seniors enjoy free admission to all school-related athletic events. The only exceptions are hockey games played at the Cambria County War Memorial and the annual musical. If you are a senior resident, age 62 or older, you are eligible for a V.I.P. pass. To obtain one, please contact the district office at 255-6751.

Congratulations!

Mike Burgmeier of Altoona is the winner of a pair of season Steeler football passes in a contest sponsored by the Westmont Hilltop Band Boosters. Thank you to all of our faithful boosters. You make the difference!

Academic Rigor at Westmont Hilltop

The College Board has authorized all of the district's Advanced Placement (AP) Offerings as having appropriate content and academic rigor. Advanced Placement offerings are AP American History, AP Calculus, AP English and AP European History. Other advanced

or honors offerings are Honors English, Probability and Statistics, Advanced Biology Lab, Advanced Chemistry Lab, Organic Chemistry, Physics, French 4 and 5, and Spanish 4 and 5.

Sources of Funding

The Westmont Hilltop School District received funding from the following federal and state sources and publicizes receipt, as follows for the 2009-2010 school year:

Title I	\$ 210,220
Title I	
American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)	\$ 118,046
Title II	\$ 47,089
Safe and Drug Free Schools	\$ 4,473
Accountability Block Grant (pending finalization of the State Budget)	\$ 132,134
IDEIA	\$ 179,615
IDEIA (ARRA)	\$ 197,792

Title I provides our elementary Title I program. Title II provides a portion of an extra teacher's salary in the elementary school, which helps with class size reduction. The Safe and Drug-Free Schools Grant contributes toward the salaries of aides, helps toward bullying prevention efforts, and funds tutoring services for students who may be academically at risk. It funds prevention initiatives such as initiatives by the personnel responsible for the Student Assistance Program. The Accountability Block Grant funds early childhood initiatives and the implementation of full-day kindergarten. IDEIA Funding is dedicated to the funding of an additional special education teacher at our high school and related support services for children.

Annual Public Notice Helping Children with Special Needs

The Westmont Hilltop School District provides pre-referral and special education services to children with special needs. There are two important resources for parents and community members to help in deciding whether students need extra help or special services and, if so, what services are available and how to take advantage of them. The links to this information, along with a description of the type of information available are listed below.

For more information, please call your school guidance counselors, nurses, or building principals as follows: High School—255-8726, Middle School—255-8704, or Elementary School—255-8707.

At the link below, community members will find information about

contact people, student support teams, signals that children may need special education, types of services available, educational programs for parents, and guidelines for helping children in crisis situations.

You may access this site (www.whsd.org) online from any public library computer, or call the school if you need online assistance.

The Intermediate Unit 8 provides an Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs in the State of Pennsylvania that is publicized in local newspapers, but also available at the following link: <http://www.iu08.org:9080/iu8/departments/educational-programs/announcements/annual-public-notice/>

This site includes information regarding the Pennsylvania

Department of Education's responsibility to ensure that all children with disabilities residing in the Commonwealth, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services, are identified, located, and evaluated. This responsibility is required by a federal law called the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 2004 (IDEA '04). It provides details about special education law, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, and the types of programs that are available for students who have been identified as being in need of specially designed instruction and have one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities:

Autism	Mental Retardation	Visual Impairment including Blindness
Emotional Disturbance	Multiple Disabilities	Deaf-Blindness
Deafness	Other Health Impairment	Traumatic Brain Injury
Hearing Impairment	Orthopedic Impairment due to Chronic or Acute Health Problems	Developmental Delay
Specific Learning Disability	Speech and Language Impairment	

The processes of early intervention, screening services, evaluation, and educational placement are explained along with the types of services and levels of support. Information regarding parents' and students' rights and protections are detailed, including issues of privacy and confidentiality, and procedures to be followed if there is a concern that rights have been violated.

Westmont Hilltop Students Excel Academically

Percentage of Students Proficient and Advanced

The chart below indicates the percentage of Westmont Hilltop School District students scoring in the advanced and proficient range relative to the 2003-2014 PSSA Target goals. Target Goals are set by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and are used to determine whether the district has met adequate yearly progress goals (AYP). The chart below presents a longitudinal picture of

the district's progress relative to the targets.

Additional information for all parents will be forthcoming at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. The following chart provides a district-wide picture of progress over time. (Blank cells indicate that a particular grade level was not tested during the school year indicated.) The district has received word that we have

met all targets for all categories for all subgroups during the 2008-2009 school year.

Detailed individual student reports are currently scheduled for delivery to the district on or after August 31, 2009. Parents will receive more detail during a variety of opportunities throughout the current school year, beginning with back-to-school events.

Targets for Spring of:	Percent of Proficient Reading Performances Target Goal Set by State	Grade							Percent of Proficient Math Performances Target Goal Set by State	Grade						
		3	4	5	6	7	8	11		3	4	5	6	7	8	11
2003	45%			64%			79%	69%	35%			67%			72%	63%
2004	45%	64%		72%			81%	74%	35%	67%		70%			75%	62%
2005	54%	77%		72%			83%	80%	45%	90%		78%			80%	75%
2006	54%	74%	83%	77%	75%	85%	91%	78%	45%	91%	89%	76%	78%	93%	82%	70%
2007	54%	88%	78%	75%	73%	78%	94%	83%	45%	91%	87%	85%	86%	81%	87%	73%
2008	63%	90%	82%	78%	85%	94%	91%	78%	56%	92%	88%	96%	97%	92%	86%	66%

The Vision

The Mission Statement of the Westmont Hilltop School District is regularly posted on mailings and online publications of the district. Whereas we frequently publish our mission, we speak less frequently of our vision, which embodies the principles that guide us in goal setting and action planning. As we approach the mid-point of the district's 2007-2012 Strategic Plan, we would like to take this opportunity to share the vision that the Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of students, teachers, administrators, board members, and business community leaders has established for the district. This vision will serve as our roadmap for the 2009-2010 school year.

Collectively, we envision a district . . .

- where all students learn in a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment and where students are equipped with the knowledge that healthy lifestyle choices are essential in reaching their optimal learning potential.
- where educators deliver the highest standards of teaching to maximize opportunities for student success.
- where all stakeholders become increasingly aware of educational processes as well as both the protective factors and the risk factors inherent in the home, neighborhood, and school environments.
- where students receive a well-rounded experience through involvement in the academics, the arts, and extracurricular experiences.
- where students learn evaluative skills and develop increasing capacity to draw their own conclusions through effective application of higher order thinking and the development of problem-solving skills.
- where all students assume a responsibility to learn, each having unique strengths and weaknesses, differing learning styles, and differing rates of retention.
- where all teachers have a responsibility to differentiate instruction based on the varying needs of their students.
- where a culture of continuous learning and improvement is fostered through quality leadership.
- that values and models all aspects of lifelong learning, professional growth, continual improvement, and a commitment to researching and implementing best practice in our schools.
- that encourages and rewards community service by providing a wide range of opportunities and recognizes students for their efforts in pro-social involvement and community service.
- that provides mentoring and shadowing experiences via community partnerships that will enhance career exploration and through which students become aware of the high value that employers place on a strong work ethic, accountability, and ownership in the organization as a whole.
- that prepares all students for successful integration into the global society through acquisition of technological competencies and facility in languages other than English.
- that maximizes utilization of human and fiscal resources through artful use of infrastructure.
- that continues to strive to upgrade its facilities, equipment, and personnel competence in order to provide a premier program where curriculum is rigorous and relevant with quality and effectiveness as high priorities.

Westmont Hilltop School District Directory Information 2009

Board Of Education

Mr. Mitchell Azar: President
 Mr. George Wolfe: Vice-President
 Mrs. Marian Feath: Treasurer
 Mrs. Kelly Callihan, Mr. Kamal Gella, Mr. Robert Gleason III, Dr. Gary Kramer,
 Mrs. Diana Schroeder, Mrs. Leah Spangler, Mr. Gregory Sanford: Secretary

District Administrative Staff

Dr. Susan J. Anderson, *Superintendent*
 Mr. Steven D. McGee, *Assistant Superintendent*
 Mr. Gregory T. Sanford, *Business Manager*

Building Administrative Staff

Mr. Matthew P. Thomas, *High School Principal*
 Mrs. Nicole D. Kuzmiak, *Middle School Principal*
 Mr. Samuel J. Brunatti III, *Elementary School Principal*
 Mr. Thomas R. Mitchell, *Assistant High School Principal*
 Mr. Edward W. Benning, *Assistant Middle School Principal*

Administrative Offices

827 Diamond Boulevard, Johnstown PA 15905
 Phone: 814-255-6751 Fax: 814-255-7735
 E-mail: Dr. Susan Anderson, Superintendent, sja@whsd.org

Mission Statement

The mission of the WHSD, in partnership with our community, is to prepare each student to be an informed, ethical, responsible adult in a changing and competitive global society, through high expectations and a challenging educational program offering knowledge and skills within a safe, nurturing environment.

Civil Rights Statement

The Westmont Hilltop School District, an equal opportunity employer, will not discriminate in employment, educational programs or activities, based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, ancestry or disability. Publication of this policy in this document is in accordance with state and federal laws including: The Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IV, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 & 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American Disabilities Act of 1992.

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Elementary School



Middle School



High School