



# The Journal

### All staff members play a role in student success

by Susan Jozwik  
Warren Consolidated Treasurer



Being a school board member for Warren Consolidated Schools has been such an honor and a privilege the last several years. I

have not only been able to have a behind the scene view of how things operate within a school district, but I have also had the ability to see students in all different levels of their education receive an outstanding commitment from our staff. This has made me very proud as a WCS parent, school board member and community member.

If you are an educator, member of our support staff, an administrator, coach, crossing guard, volunteer or any other role here at WCS, know that we see you. We see your efforts to keep our kids safe, engaged and motivated. I have had the experience of being a part of our many different schools here at WCS. My children have attended Cromie, Siersma, Hatherly, and Black Elementary, as well as Carter and Carleton Middle Schools and Cousino High School. My three boys each have different levels of learning, one of whom receives Special Education services, my other two have been involved in sports, band, peer-to-peer and student council. Having had all of my children bussed at some point throughout their academic career, I am always impressed at what our bus drivers, aides and staff do to ensure a

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### WCS students named Macomb All-Academic

Raelynne Carra from Cousino/MMSTC, Brian Le from Sterling Heights High School/MMSTC, Mediha Rovcanin from Sterling Heights High School, and Paul Havern from Warren Mott were named Class A All-Academic for the 2018-19 school year.

The All-Academic program is sponsored by the Macomb Daily and the Macomb Association of Secondary Principals. The county's top students were selected by a committee based on their grade point average and SAT/ACT scores.

**Raelynne Carra** attends Cousino High School/MMSTC and is the



daughter of Krista and John Carra. She holds a 4.349 GPA and earned a 1470 on the SAT. Carra's future plans include attending Uni-

versity of Michigan to major in pre-medical studies. Carra was involved with marching band, serving as clarinet section leader, and playing bass clarinet in the concert band. Carra has earned the Gold Honor Roll for all A's in third through 12th grade.

**Brian Le** attends Sterling Heights High School/MMSTC and



is the son of Thanh-Thuy and Dung Le. He carries a 4.0 GPA and earned a 1540 on the SAT. Le plans to attend Ketter-

ing University to major in mechanical engineering and computer science. Le has been involved with FRC team 818, programming, varsity tennis, and

National Honor Society. Le earned the National Honor Society Above and Beyond Service Award 10+ and AP Scholar Award.

**Mediha Rovcanin** attends Sterling Heights High School and is the



daughter of Sabiha and Zuhdo Rovcanin. She carries a 4.66 GPA and earned a 1540 on the SAT. Rovcanin plans to attend

Wayne State University to major in biological sciences. Rovcanin has been involved with the Freshman Mentor Program, the Bosnian cultural group KUD Behar, and the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit. She is a graduate of Junior Leadership Macomb and a member of the National Society of High School Scholars.

**Paul Havern** attends Warren Mott



High School and is the son of Michael and Patricia Havern. He carries 3.975 GPA and earned a 1520 on the SAT. Havern

plans to attend Michigan State University James Madison College to study Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy. Havern was a member of the Warren Mott Tennis Team (assistant captain), National Honor Society President, Debate club, and Math club. Havern received the 2019 Ted Bates Community Service Scholarship, Warren Mott Star Marauder of the Month, Breakfast of Champions recipient, MVP of Tennis team, and Winner of Voice Democracy at District Level.

### SHHS & Warren Mott named Academic State Champs

For the second consecutive year, Sterling Heights High School and Warren Mott High School were named Michigan's Academic State Champs by Bridge Magazine.

Bridge honored schools that do the best at sending graduates on to college. Sterling Heights and Warren Mott ranked among the top 10 in their family-income category for the number of students who go on to attend college.

According to Bridge Magazine, an average of 76.3 percent of Sterling Heights High School graduates enrolled in a two or four-year college or university and an average of 73.7 percent of Warren Mott High School graduates enrolled in a two or four-year college or university.

The magazine analyzed data from more than 580 high schools over a three-year span and recognized a total of 40 schools from four economic categories based on income to compare students from similar economic backgrounds. Sterling Heights ranked seven, with Warren Mott ranked eight among all the schools analyzed.

"By receiving this honor from Bridge Magazine, it reinforces Warren Consolidated Schools commitment to student achievement and high expectations," Chief Academic Officer John Bernia said. "WCS has always placed a strong emphasis on its students to achieve a post-secondary education either at a college, university or trade school."

Overall, Bridge reported that Michigan high schools sent an average of 63 percent of graduates on to two or four-year schools.

Bridge Magazine is a Michigan nonpartisan, nonprofit news source.

## 2019 Outstanding Teachers of the Year

Warren Consolidated Schools named Lisa Denomme, Ryan VanThournout, and Julie Walters the district's Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipients for 2019.

"It is with great pride that the district recognizes these three educators for their outstanding commitment to our district, the high standards they set for themselves, and their dedication to ensuring all students have the opportunity to learn," Chief Academic Officer John Bernia said.

**Lisa Denomme** is an advanced placement English Language and Composition, and English 12 teacher at Sterling Heights High School. She has taught in the district for the past 20 years.

In addition to being named Warren Consolidated Schools Teacher of the Year, Denomme was named the Macomb Intermediate School District High School Teacher of the Year. Each year the MISD recognizes an outstanding teacher county-wide at the elementary, middle school and high school levels.

**Ryan VanThournout** teaches eighth grade Social Studies and seventh grade Science at Beer Middle School. He has taught in the district for the past 10 years.

**Julie Walters** teaches Kindergarten at Harwood Elementary. She has been with the district for the past 21 years.



Julie Walters, Ryan VanThournout, and Lisa Denomme.

## Graduates challenged to re-shape how people treat one another

by Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D.—Superintendent of Schools



This past May 29th would have been my Dad's 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. Unfortunately, he passed away a little over 10 years ago, and I think about him every day. Each year on his birthday, I take a moment to think about the many lessons he taught me throughout my life.

Those lessons include little things like how to whittle a stick with a pocket knife, fly a kite, pitch from a stretch when there is a runner on first, and even put a worm on a hook, but by far, the two most important lessons he taught me were the value of hard work and the importance of respecting people, no matter how difficult they may be.

So as I stand here today and think about how much social media fosters disrespect between people, political parties, and even powerful nations, there is no doubt in my mind that your generation's greatest challenge is and will continue to be the level of disrespect people have toward one another.

In fact, stop for a moment and think about how much time you have spent on Twitter, Snap Chat, Instagram, and all those other social

media apps that were created to help you stay away from your parents. How much of that time spent was reading people's disrespect toward one other?

My question or shall I say my challenge to you, class of 2019, is what are you going to do about this culture of disrespect? Not the person next to you, or your friends, or some fancy person on TV, YouTube, or Netflix, but what are YOU going to do about changing the course of our nation's history to help re-shape how people treat one another? When I think about all that you have achieved during the last four years, I know, I believe, and I am confident that you could be the force that changes our world.

I know through hard work and respecting one another, like my Dad taught me, your future is bright and the solution to your generation's greatest challenge is sitting right next to you. All you have to do is go and get it.

Thank you for the continued privilege of serving as superintendent of this outstanding school system, and I give my very best to each of you!

## Governor Gretchen Whitmer hosts Town Hall at Warren Mott

Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer hosted a Town Hall meeting at Warren Mott High School on June 3. During her presentation, the Governor discussed roads, schools, and her proposed 2020 budget.



Governor Whitmer was presented with a Warren Mott Baseball sweatshirt.



Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois moderates the question and answer portion of the Town Hall meeting with Governor Whitmer.

## Celebrating Dynamic Futures with the Class of 2019

More than 1,100 graduates received diplomas from the district's four high schools during commencement exercises at Macomb Community College and the WCS Performing Arts Center in May and June.

The Class of 2019 included 121 students from Community High School, 340 from Cousino High School, 326 students from Sterling Heights High School, and 372 students from Warren Mott High School.

The Class of 2019 was awarded \$18,465,890 in academic and athletic scholarships.

"The number of scholarships earned by our students confirms for me that we have hardworking students, supportive families, and outstanding teachers and support staff," Superintendent of Schools Robert D. Livernois, Ph.D. said. "I couldn't be more proud of our district and look forward to the many future achievements of our graduates."



Justin Houle, Erik Hopkins, and Katlyn Holtluer from Cousino High School.



Community High School Principal Cathy West and 2019 graduate Perry Sewell.



Jan Pajarillo and Thao Nguyen from SHHS.

## **CROMIE STUDENTS MEDAL AT SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

Cromie Elementary represented WCS at the 34th annual Macomb Science Olympiad tournament in May. The team of students won seven medals and received the Rising Star trophy in the K-5 division for the highest overall finishing position as compared to last year's tournament.



## **2ND GRADE WAX MUSEUM**

Willow Woods second grade students recently participated in a Wax Museum. Students dressed as important/influential people and displayed their understanding of research and informational writing.



## **ZOO PARTNERSHIP**

WCS continues to enjoy an educational partnership with the Detroit Zoo. During the months of April and May, each elementary school first grade visited the zoo to learn, observe, and explore during the Day at the Zoo Education Program.



Jefferson students enjoy their day at the zoo learning about butterflies.

## **Grissom hosts Grizzly Den dedication celebration**

Grissom Middle School students, staff, and guests hosted a dedication celebration of the new Grizzly Den in memory of former student Anu Bedi.

Bedi, her mother, and brother were passengers on Air India Flight 182, when the plane went down as the result of a terrorist attack on June 23, 1985. There were no survivors.

For the past 32 years, Bedi's father, Parkash Bedi has generously donated funds to Grissom in memory of his daughter, to be used for the betterment of the students.

The school created the Grizzly Den with the recently donated funds, an area for students and staff to host meetings, events, workshops, plus much more.



Students and staff helped design the Grizzly Den by painting the portraits on the walls, creating the bench covers and outdoor decorations throughout the room.



Grissom Principal Joe Konal presents Parkash Bedi with a plaque thanking him for his generous donations for the past 32 years.

## **Schools honored with Green Schools distinction**

Twenty two Warren Consolidated Schools were recognized by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners for their efforts in "going green" at the annual Michigan Green Schools Celebration.

The Michigan Green Schools program is a fun, educational initiative which encourages students to participate in activities that are good for the environment and promote energy efficiency and savings. Categories include: recycling, energy savings, environmental protection, and special activities.

Schools are categorized into green, emerald, or evergreen status based on how many activities the school performs to preserve natural resources, protect the environment, and promote energy efficiency and savings.

The following schools received Green School designations for 2019:

Green—Community High, Cousino High, Sterling Heights High, Willow Woods Elementary.

Emerald—Angus Elementary, Beer Middle, Black Elementary, Butcher Educational Center, Carter Middle, CPC, Grissom Middle, Holden Elementary, Lean Elementary, Sierma Elementary, Wilde Elementary.

Evergreen—Carleton Middle, Cromie Elementary, Green Acres Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Susick Elementary, Warren Mott High, Wilkerson Elementary.

Each year the best of each category is recognized by the Board of Commissioners. Wilkerson Elementary was awarded the *Top Overall* school.



Students work on a raised garden as part of the Green Schools initiative. Beer Middle School has participated in the program for the past 11 years.

## **2019-20 Calendar**

**September 3**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**September 20**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM

**October 2**—Official Student Count Day

**October 11**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**November 1**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in the AM

**November 5**—NO SCHOOL; District-wide professional development

**November 15**—K-12 half day; AM ECSE; No PM ECSE

**November 25**—K-12 full day; evening parent teacher conferences

**November 26**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM; afternoon and evening parent teacher conferences

**November 27-29**—NO SCHOOL; Thanksgiving recess

**December 2**—Classes resume

**December 20**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**December 23-January 3**—NO SCHOOL; Holiday Break

**January 6**—Classes resume

**January 15**—9-12 half day; High School exams

**January 16**—9-12 half day; High School exams

**January 17**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM; High School exams

**January 20**—NO SCHOOL; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**February 12**—Supplemental Student Count Day

**February 14**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**February 17-21**—NO SCHOOL; Winter Break

**February 24**—Classes Resume

**March 6**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM report in AM

**March 12**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE; afternoon and evening Parent Teacher Conferences

**March 27**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**April 3**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM

**April 6-13**—NO SCHOOL; Spring Break

**April 14**—Classes resume; MS/HS Testing Day

**May 1**—K-12 half day; No PM ECSE

**May 22**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM

**May 25**—NO SCHOOL; Memorial Day

**May 26**—Classes resume

**June 6**—High School Graduation Ceremonies

**June 9**—9-11 half day; High School exams

**June 10**—9-11 half day; High School exams

**June 11**—K-12 half day; No AM ECSE; PM reports in AM; High School exams

**Warren Consolidated Schools**  
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**1.888.4WCS.KIDS**  
**WCSKIDS.NET**

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*Superintendent of Schools*

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safe ride every day. It takes a village to raise a child, and I want to thank each and every one of you for your commitment to our children.

Lastly, as we turn the page into summer, with kids on bikes, and out walking to and from their friend's homes, and distracted driving is at an all-time high, let's each commit to taking a little more time, to not be checking our phones, and let's keep our eyes on the road so we can keep our kids safe over the summer.

We live in a time where we are encouraged to do more with our time than ever before, and yet we seem to be distracted. We also live in a time that has the highest rate of anxiety, stress and anger. With electronics replacing time outside or time with our families, I encourage you to have an electronic free day from time to time and reengage with those around you.

Recently, my nine year old son asked me if we could do a day free from electronics. When I agreed, he then asked me, "What will we do?" I remember a time, when I was his age where I would have many ideas like a water war outside, playing a game like Life or Uno. It made me stop and think and I was reminded that things are much different than when I was a child. So when my kids get home from school, I do simple things like set a timer for our electronics, I have them do a chore, and I get them outside even if it's for a little while. If we do just a little to change our busyness to mindfulness, it can go a long way for our children's happiness and growth into an adult.

Thank you for supporting your children in their education, we greatly appreciate your involvement in their success here at WCS. Have a great summer, see you in the fall!

## Annual Notices

### Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The State of Michigan law requires that schools that may apply pesticides on school property must provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians of students attending a facility.

Please be advised that Warren Consolidated Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation. That is made to the school grounds or buildings during the school year. Please note that notification is not given for the infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least two methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance to the school. The second method will be posting at the school's main office.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first class United States mail postmarked at least three days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first class mail, contact Kenneth Matheny at Elite Pest Management who is contracted and responsible for all inspections and pesticide procedures. Elite Pest Management can be reached at 586-294-7055. Forms are also available in the main offices of each school.

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application, upon request.

## Summer Meals program open to the community

Warren Consolidated Schools, in a collaborative partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Michigan Department of Education, Gleaners, and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, is sponsoring the Summer Meals Program *Meet Up & Eat Up*, from June through August.

The Summer Meals Program provides a FREE breakfast and lunch to children 18 years and younger, or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for the mentally or physically disabled that is recognized by a State or local public educational agency.

For a list of locations, meal service times, menus and nutritional information, log on to [www.wcskids.net](http://www.wcskids.net) and click on the *Meet Up & Eat Up* link on the home page.



### Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response ACT

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that each year district workers and building occupants receive notification about asbestos activities such as response actions and inspections. The purpose of this correspondence is to meet those requirements and familiarize you with the asbestos related activities that have been conducted in Warren Consolidated Schools this past year.

Management Plans—In 1998, Warren Consolidated Schools contracted with Asbestos Management Inc. to conduct inspections for asbestos containing material with all district owned buildings. This information was then compiled into Asbestos Management Plans. These Management Plans are kept in each building and are available for review. A copy of each building management plan is also located in the Educational Service Center.

Surveillance Activities—The AHERA regulation requires surveillance of the condition of AMC every six months and re-inspections every three years. The periodic surveillance was conducted in September 2014. Since the last re-inspection was done in 2016, the next three years re-inspection will be conducted in 2019. Both of these surveillance activities will be included as part of the buildings' Management Plans.

Asbestos Abatement—It is anticipated that Warren Consolidated Schools will need to conduct asbestos abatement within its facilities over the next year removing materials such as, but not limited to, floor tile, floor tile mastic, fire doors and fire door frames. All remaining ACM will continue to be maintained under the Operations and Maintenance Program.

Any removal projects will be performed by a Michigan Licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractor and managed by Nova Environmental, Inc., the District's environmental consulting firm.

Asbestos documentation is available for review in each building file and at the Educational Service Center. For information, please contact Kerry Weishaupt, Supervisor of Auxiliary Services at 586-698-4446.

For more information on the Warren Consolidated Schools Integrated Pest Management program or the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, please contact Kerry Weishaupt, CFD, CTD—Manager of Auxiliary Services, 31950 Mound Road, Warren, MI 48092.

The Journal is produced by the Office of Public Relations  
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**Notice of Nondiscrimination**—In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, it is the policy of the Warren Consolidated Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, (collectively, "Protected Classes") be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or in employment. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Operations Officer, 31300 Anita, Warren, Michigan 48093, (586) 825-2400, ext 63110.

## Stay connected...



## NOW AVAILABLE: Senior Citizen Athletic Pass

As a way of saying thank you to our Senior Citizen community, WCS is offering a FREE Athletic Pass to WCS Senior Citizens. Contact the Office of Public Relations at 586.698.4044 to request an athletic pass.

