



## WEST DEPTFORD HIGH SCHOOL

### EAGLE NEWS – September 16, 2016

Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school! We hope that everyone has been able to adjust to the opening of school after a fantastic summer. Administrators, staff and students have been busy over the past week preparing for the upcoming year. The administrators had the opportunity to meet with each grade level to welcome them back to our school. This year, we decided to begin the class year training each student on our HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) Policy. We had the chance to explain the exciting physical changes that occurred within our school over the summer, to review procedural changes and identify code of conduct changes in the handbook. Most importantly, the class meetings gave us the chance to thank our student body for a job well done which made not only West Deptford High School proud, but the entire community as well!

Over my seven year tenure in this high school, I have bragged to administrators, teachers, parents and community members regarding the consistent growth of our high school. I always brag that our state and county rankings have soared upwards, our school report card highlights our improvements and our academics are one of the top rankings in the county. It was with great pleasure to celebrate with the students the incredible achievements that they have earned for our school and community.

Please keep in mind that the staff in our high school continues to prepare our students for the future and are here for you. Please reach out to them at any time to discuss problems, questions or anything that you feel is important for the betterment of our school and/or your child. If there is any way that the administration can help you support the education of our students, please let us know. We hope to see everyone at our annual Back-to-School Night on September 22, 2016 @ 6:30pm. Thank you in advance for all that you do to make our school great!

--Dr. Gismondi

### GUIDANCE NEWS:

What an exciting time of year for you! We are looking forward to working together in a partnership to assist your child in planning for their future! We know that this can also be a stressful time which is why communication is oh so important!

We wanted to let you know that we met with seniors this morning and talked briefly about some of their important next steps as they relate to college and career planning. **We emphasized how important it is that they read all the information we send them via the Remind text messaging system as well as through email.** We will be sending lots of pertinent information regarding ACTs/SATs, scholarships, FAFSA, RCGC Open Houses and field trips. It is THEIR responsibility to read this information!

We don't want you or your son/daughter to miss out on any opportunities or resources. So please encourage them to read through everything we send. **You, too, can sign up for the Guidance remind system. Simply text @wdhs17 to 81010.**

There is also a TON of information and valuable resources available to you in the **Naviance program**. Ask your son or daughter to show you how to use it. Everything related to college and career planning can be accessed through this tool. We encourage you to take advantage of all it has to offer.

Thank you for your support of our efforts. We look forward to a great senior year!

**Welcome back to all of our students and a special welcome to our new ninth graders.** We are looking forward to getting to know you!

Grades 9 – 12: We have worked diligently to make sure that students have appropriate schedules and at this point, all students should have a firm schedule in place.

Grades 10 & 11: Students will take the PSAT on October 19<sup>th</sup>. No sign up is required.

Grade 12:

- All seniors and parents are encouraged to sign up for the Guidance Remind text messaging system. **Simply text @wdhs17 to 81010.** We will be sending info about scholarships, testing dates, reminders about applications, etc. so please sign up!
- Seniors and their parents are reminded to check their email for important resource information from the guidance dept. We will not be wasting paper and printing the info and will send it by email instead. Please let us know if you do not have email capability and would like to request a paper copy.
- The deadline to register (with a late fee) for the October 1<sup>st</sup> SAT is Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Go to Collegeboard.com to sign up. The next SAT test date is November 5<sup>th</sup>. No late fee if you sign up by Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Counselors had a meeting with seniors earlier this week and reviewed their next steps in the college / career planning process. See Handout Below.

### ***IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM GUIDANCE***

1. Sign up for Guidance Senior Remind: Text @wdhs17 to the number 81010  
(If you signed up last year for Guidance remind, you do NOT need to sign up again.)
  - We will use Remind as well as emails through Naviance to get information to you about test dates, application deadlines, scholarship opportunities, etc. IT'S VERY IMPT to READ EVERYTHING THIS YEAR!!!!
2. Students Applying to 4 year colleges:
  - Use LOR form for requesting letters from counselors or teachers. Form is available in Guidance or on Naviance.
  - Have parents sign a transcript release form and submit to your counselor. Form is available on Naviance.
3. Students Applying to RCGC:
  - Sign up for the RCGC Senior Presentation - October 25<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> period; Sign up in Guidance or on Naviance
4. Sign up to attend 3 college / career training program presentations!
  - **Log into Naviance; Username is your 5 digit school ID. Password is password.**

- Over 30 schools will be here throughout the fall. Upcoming visits include: Rutgers, Ramapo, University of Delaware, Widener, NJIT, PB Cosmetology Center, AND MANY, MANY MORE!!!! Don't miss out. Seats are limited. Sign up today!

5. Meet Individually with your counselor to discuss your specific next steps based on your future goals and plans ☺ Keep your eye out for a blue pass!

**NHS NEWS:**

The NHS is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> for students. In order to donate, students must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 lbs and be at least 5'1" tall. Each donation is split into 3 components, so each donation can help save 3 lives!! Please encourage your child to sign up! The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood™.

**CBI NEWS:**

**Gym Uniforms** were for sale at the school store for the first two weeks of school. Students who have yet to purchase theirs, may do so after school (2pm-2:30pm) in Room 28.



Ms. McCool's CBI Class held their Meet and Greet with Mrs. Sexauer's Sociology Classes on Wednesday. The students in Sociology participated in three different activities that Ms. McCool's class prepared for them. Afterwards they had an informal snack and chat session that Mrs. Sexauer's class prepared. The students are excited to be working on their landscaping projects this year.

**The Eagles Nest** will be open for business starting September 19th. The hours this year are Monday-Friday 1st-2nd period and Tues/Weds/Fri 8th period also. Students can purchase drinks, snacks, school supplies, and ear buds.



**ATTENDANCE OFFICE NEWS:**

WDHS Attendance and Discipline Office welcomes new staff 16-17 aides Heather Wilson and Melissa Cain!

