

## ALL ABOARD!

### WBEF gives patrons virtual tour of new middle school

**M**EMBERS of the West Bloomfield School District community virtually gathered together for the West Bloomfield Education Foundation's (WBEF) annual fundraiser. The WBEF took patrons on a virtual tour of the new West Bloomfield Middle School, which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2022.

Jeff Sakwa and Mike Stone made "whistle stops" around the new building. The live tour also included some pre-recorded visits to the following teacher's classrooms: Sheryl Hauk, Jesse Sacks, Margaret Squire, Ryan Crowe, Shelly Valentine, Jacqueline Pace, Kim Larson, Amber Jones, Claudia Rodgers, and Christina Tarnacki.

The WBEF raised more than \$37,000! A huge shout out to those who made this event possible. A tremendous thank you to all of our sponsors and families for your support!



## HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER EARNS REGIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR HONORS

**W**BSD is extremely honored to announce that West Bloomfield High School Social Studies teacher, Jennifer Sepetys, has been selected by the Michigan Department of Education as one of the 2022-2023

Regional Teachers of the Year! Her passion for teaching social studies is

evident through her ability to engage and empower students. Jennifer is looking forward to serving as an advocate to help support teachers and students in Michigan.

Congratulations, Jennifer!

CONGRATULATIONS!

**JENNIFER SEPETYS**



2022-2023  
REGIONAL  
TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR!



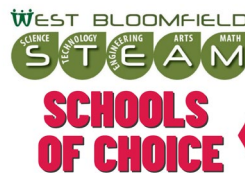
## 2022-2023 SCHOOLS OF CHOICE/STEAM FOR HS

**W**EST Bloomfield School District will once again be participating in Schools of Choice for residents of Oakland County for grades 9-12. The

application window will coincide with applications to participate in the District's STEAM program.

The 2022-2023 window will run from May 16 - July 15, 2022. For more information and to apply, please visit

[www.wbsd.org/parents/enrollment/soc](http://www.wbsd.org/parents/enrollment/soc) or call (248) 865-6453.



HS STEAM Applications  
Accepted:  
May 16 - July 15



## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS



WEST BLOOMFIELD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Apply by July 26, 2022!

# A DECADE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT THROUGH COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND INNOVATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

By Gerald Hill, Ph.D., Superintendent

AS I conclude 10 years as superintendent of the West Bloomfield School District, I'm reflecting back on my initial comments upon taking this leadership position. My wife, Cindy, and I were excited to join a community that values education and takes pride in offering great opportunities to young people. What was true then remains so today, and we are proud to live and work in a community focused on what's best for the students we collectively serve. The people we've come to know and the relationships we've established will be forever valued.

When I was appointed, I shared my values and beliefs about what it takes to be an effective educational leader. First and foremost, I believe in the infinite worth and dignity of all people. Consequently, I have a strong conviction that we should treat all people, including children and youth, with respect and carry ourselves with integrity as we work through the numerous demands inherent in our work with young people. Second, because education is a people-intensive profession, it is imperative that our relationships be characterized by mutual respect, openness, honesty, and a sincere appreciation for each other's thoughts, ideas, and contributions so that we maximize student success. I value the culture of inclusive decision-making and creative problem solving that we've established over the years in the West Bloomfield School District.

Given these underlying beliefs and values, my focus over the past decade, when faced with challenging situations and important decisions, has been to be clear about those challenges, define the issues, identify common interests, tap into our collective experiences and wisdom, develop innovative solutions, and take decisive action. Toward that end, we've been successful in a number of areas:

- Financially, our fund balance has grown from less than 3 percent to 18 percent

- Constructing the new West Bloomfield Middle School, a state-of-the-art educational facility made possible by the passage of a \$120 million bond approved by voters on a 70-percent Yes vote in 2017
- Renovated and/or refurbished all of our schools with proceeds from that same bond issue
- Implemented Interest-Based Bargaining (IBB) practices that have resulted in mutually beneficial union contracts with teachers and support staff
- Involved teachers, support staff, and administrators in key areas of decision-making including Curriculum Council, District Design Team, Strategic Planning, etc.
- Implemented 1 to 1 technology District-wide
- Created a forward-thinking and innovative Teaching and Learning Services team, focused on curriculum development, instructional coaching, and professional development
- Developed a Board-approved anti-racism resolution
- Developed our Portrait of a Graduate, based upon the 4 Cs of Collaborator, Critical Thinker & Creative Problem Solver, Communicator, and Contributor.

All of these accomplishments and several others were the result of the greater WBSD community of stakeholders coming together to create brighter futures for our students. Our common interest has been to create dynamic and supportive learning environments for each of our learners so they can be their best IN and FOR the world.

It is my hope that the West Bloomfield School District continues to be known as an innovative, inclusive, child-centered, and welcoming place where all students and families feel that they belong.



# A Message from

## INCOMING SUPERINTENDENT DANIA BAZZI

**M**Y name is Dania Bazzi, and I am humbled and honored to serve as your next superintendent. I look forward to getting to know the community and establishing meaningful relationships with each of you. I will officially begin on July 1, 2022.

I started my educational career in the classroom, serving as a math teacher at John Glenn High School in Westland, Michigan. I have always loved mathematics because



it is neither judgmental nor subjective. I enjoyed my time in the classroom as it provided a strong foundation for my collaborative leadership style. Additionally, I have served in other educational roles including data consultant and director of Teaching and Learning.

For the past five years, I have served as a superintendent in a neighboring District.

My husband Zach and I are proud parents to our sons, Danny, ten, and Norman, six.

I pride myself on being a compassionate and committed leader who is able to support the success of students through building strong community partnerships that support staff in their ability to carry out the District's strategic goals. As a team, I know we will strive to provide a learning environment that is committed to continuous improvement by ensuring that all students meet their full academic potential.

Since I began my career in education, my focus has been simple – to provide all students what they need to reach their full potential. My goal is to help students explore and discover their passions, develop their talents, and chase their dreams.

I love working in public education because students are so passionate about their dreams. One of my favorite poems captures the spirit of what education can be at its very best — imagination, infinite possibilities, and dreams. The poem states that no matter where you've come from, who you

have been, or what circumstances are when you enter this classroom, anything is possible. Let me share with you a few verses of the poem titled "On the Other Side of the Door."

*"On the other side of the door  
I don't have to go alone.  
If you come, too, we can sail tall ships  
And fly where the wind has flown.  
We'll find what we're looking for  
Because everything can happen  
On the other side of the door."  
- Jeff Moss*

For those of us who are fortunate to work with young people every day, we must never forget to cultivate their dreams and ambitions.

I am excited to work toward our goals as a collaborative community. Personally, I assure you that I will work tirelessly to help the District continue to move in a positive direction.

I look forward to connecting in the future.  
Dania H. Bazzi, Ph.D.



Dania Bazzi supports the promotion of Elizabeth Bain from secretary at Scotch Elementary School to executive assistant to the superintendent and Board of Education.



**WEST BLOOMFIELD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Educating Students to be their Best IN and FOR the World!*



# WBMS CONSTRUCTION NEARING COMPLETION

**M**AJOR strides have been made on the interior spaces at West Bloomfield Middle School as construction crews continue to work tirelessly to bring the project to completion in time for the fall 2022/2023 school year.

The gym floor has been decaled and the final coats of urethane have been applied. Carpeting has been laid in all of the classrooms. The permanent cabinetry and signage throughout the school has been installed. The entire interior of the building has been painted and crews will continue completing touch ups in the final stages.

The lockers for the hallways and locker rooms have been delivered and will be installed in May.

The concrete floors throughout the school will continue to be polished until they are complete. Currently, Smart and dry erase boards are being installed in all of the classrooms.

The fire alarms are being tested and moldings are being installed. The outdoor courtyards are ready for turf to be installed. With the weather starting to turn in our favor, the final stages of the site work will begin in the coming days to include asphalt, concrete, and landscaping.

The WBMS project continues to be on time and on budget, with the grand opening now slated for August. If you would like to see the progression of the new middle school, visit our website at <https://www.wbsd.org/about-us/bond-information>.

The new WBMS is in the home stretch and we look forward to opening the doors and sharing it with the community!



## WB GIRLS SNOWBOARDING TEAM WINS FIRST STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**C**ONGRATULATIONS to the West Bloomfield Lakers Girls Snowboarding team on their first State Championship!

The Lakers shut out Lakeland, Milford, Hartland, and Mercy High School teams at Mt. Brighton to capture the title. Individually, Audrey Phipps finished 7th overall and Megan Nelander finished 4th overall for individual All-State Honors. Both went on to compete at the USASA National Championship in Copper Mountain, Colorado. Audrey finished 5th and Megan finished 11th in the nation!

The Lakers are led by Head Coach Bill Lambart with the assistance of Cody Anderson and Jake Elsen.

Our Lady Lakers roster includes Seniors: **Brook DeSnyder, Sophia Elsen, Rayna Freeman, Hannah Measom, Megan Nelander, and Alexis Valent.** Juniors: **Audrey Phipps and Sydney Vagg.** Sophmores: **Kendall DeSnyder and Peri Freeman.**

*Congratulations, Lady Lakers!!! #WB Proud*



## WB GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM WINS FIRST STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**M**ARCH 19, 2022 is a date that will be cherished forever throughout the halls of the West Bloomfield School District. The Lakers Girls Basketball team

capped off a historic year with a 51-42 victory over Hartland to capture the school's first-ever Division 1 Girls Basketball State Championship. Additionally, the team was awarded Academic All-State honors with a cumulative GPA of over 3.5.

The Lakers are led by Head Coach Darrin McAllister with the assistance of Jamie Glinz, Talicia Washington, Destiny Lavita Stephens, Daja Whiteside, and Tyler Washington.

Our Lady Lakers roster includes Seniors: **Myonna Hooper, Miracle Whitfield, Zaneiya Batiste, Morgan Shropshire, Shyanne Taylor.** Juniors: **Sydney Hendrix and Jada Vaughn.** Sophomores: **Destiny Washington, Gabrielle Hale, Kendall Hendrix, Summer Davis, Indya Davis.** Freshman: **Jaylee Head, Gabrielle Williams, and Ava Lord.**

*Congratulations, Lady Lakers!!! #WB Proud*





# TODAY

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# SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS



These seniors have taken full advantage of their time at WBSD and have gone above and beyond in the years here. We wish them, and all our graduating seniors, much success in the future!

## LAKERS ONLINE



### LANDON J.C. JACOBS

*School: Louisiana State University  
Major: Sports Administration and Leadership  
Accomplishments: LINK program, Tennis, co-broadcaster Lakers' football games, NHS, assistant coach: WBHS Basketball camps and Math Pentathlon*



### SYDNEE ORR

*School: Lansing Community College  
Major: Creative Writing and Scuba Certification  
Accomplishments: NHS, 50 scuba dives, guitar, and an up-and-coming author*

## OEC



### ALYNA PETROV

*School: University of Michigan  
Major: Computer Science  
Accomplishments: Graduating w/associate degree in cybersecurity from OCC, completed 92 college credit hours, 4.0 unweighted GPA at OEC and OCC, earned OEC highest honors, Dean's List, and U.S. History Outstanding Achievement Award.*



### ADEDOYIN ADEBAYO

*School: Harvard College  
Major: Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology with a secondary in Language and Linguistic Theory and/or Global Health  
Accomplishments: HOSA president, HOSA state finalist, president/co-founder of Cinema Club, established 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Annual Film Festivals, independent research, and research internships at University of Michigan and Oakland University; first place in Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Essay Contest, volunteer for the Children's Hospital of Michigan, Conversational English tutor for ENGIN, fellow for political campaign, violist, and NSLI-Y Korean virtual study abroad.*

## WBHS



### ASHER AISNER

*School: Michigan State University  
Major: Film  
Accomplishments: NHS, Student Government, student leadership co-chair, Jarc's Teen Action Board, volunteer for the Friendship Circle, and internships*



### MELANIE COSTELLO

*School: Loyola University Chicago  
Major: Communications, Minor in Psychology  
Accomplishments: Captain of Varsity Tennis and Swim Team, Student Government, student leadership, MASC/MAHS State Conferences, Student Liaison for WBSD, and Presidential Merit Scholarship at Loyola*



### AARYAN CHANDNA

*School: University of California, Berkeley  
Major: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
Accomplishments: Varsity Tennis, DECA, Data Science Club, Coding Club, awarded National Merit Scholarship, UM Club of Greater Detroit Scholarship, MSU Distinguished Freshman Full Tuition Scholarship*



### GABRIELLA FALKOWSKI

*School: Arizona State University or Florida Atlantic University  
Major: Nursing and Minor in Psychology  
Accomplishments: Awarded numerous scholarships, captain of Varsity Gymnastics, National Honor Society, and student leader*



### DARIUS SHARIF

*School: Undecided  
Major: Computer Science  
Accomplishments: Track and Field - three letters, All-League five times, league champion. Cross-Country - two letters, All-League twice, co-captain of two league championship teams. Top Band and Midnight Golf Program*



### MORGAN SHROPSHIRE

*School: Central Michigan University - Honors Program  
Major: Logistics Management and Minor in Public Administration  
Accomplishments: Cross Country, Basketball, Basketball state champions, DECA board member, DECA District and State Level Winner two times, DECA National Competitor two times, NHS, community service, and CMU Centralis Gold Scholarship with Study Abroad Credit.*





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# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

*Do you know of any West Bloomfield High School alums you'd like to see in the spotlight? If so, please email [alicia.chase@wbsd.org](mailto:alicia.chase@wbsd.org) with their contact info and a brief background.*



## DANNY KORNFELD

### WBHS Class of 2010

**D**anny Kornfeld is a New York City-based actor working in theater and film. He has appeared across the nation at renowned regional theatres and has developed many new musicals and plays in various readings, workshops, and developmental labs. He is a graduate of Syracuse University, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in drama.

Danny had the opportunity to return home to Detroit when he **played Mark Cohen in the 20th Anniversary Tour of RENT** at the Fisher Theatre. He was also last seen in New York in The Transport Group's **award-winning musical Renaissance** by Dick Scanlan (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*) and Carmel Dean. You can find the cast recording wherever you stream music.

Danny is currently **starring in Barry Manilow's long-awaited musical HARMONY in New York City, directed by Tony Award winner Warren Carlyle.** *Harmony* is based on a true story about the Comedian Harmonists, six entertaining young men who came together in the 1920s and became a sensation, and were later silenced during Nazi-era Germany.

### How did WBHS help Danny on his current path?

"The foundation and sense of community that WBHS provided has served me as both an artist and a human being," Kornfeld said. "While in high school, I was able to explore and celebrate my passions in an environment that was supportive and expanding. In addition to the theater department, WBHS provided me with the opportunity to deepen my growth through student council and leadership, where I learned to engage with a truly diverse student body. This exposure was important in fueling my creative outlook while also preparing me for the diversity of a place like New York City, where collaboration and respect for different cultures and

perspectives are essential to success. It was also through the scope and responsibility given to students in producing full-scale theatrical productions at WBHS that gave me the work ethic and confidence to pursue my goals with full force."

### What advice do you have for our current students?

"No matter what you do in life, the key is to be passionate about it. With passion comes tenacity, which enables you to maintain a level of commitment that will sustain you, especially during challenging times. It is important to be accepting of yourself - both your strengths and your weaknesses - and to be accepting of others, even those whom you might not agree with. The world is more exciting because we all have unique perspectives. The job of an artist is to tell people's stories in an attempt to bring us together in a shared understanding of the human experience. Whether you're an artist or have chosen another path, the more you open yourself to others' stories, the more fruitful your work and relationships will be."

# 'IT LITERALLY TURNED MY LIFE AROUND.'

How a short-term training program from Oakland Community College gave Shawn McWilliams opportunity and a lucrative career.

**L**IKE so many teenagers, Shawn McWilliams graduated high school without knowing what he wanted to do with his life.

"I was told to go to a four-year college and get a degree to find a job," said Shawn, who graduated from Avondale High School in 2019. "But I never really had a plan for what that meant."

After attending a local college for a few semesters, Shawn felt like he wasn't finding the direction he needed. And that was when his mother showed him what would become a life-changing resource.

"She told me about Michigan's Economic Workforce Development Program and how you could train for the latest jobs at OCC," Shawn said. "When she mentioned that I could learn about robotics in just a few months and possibly have a job waiting for me, I was hooked."

Hooked indeed, and for good reason. Shawn immediately applied for a 14-week, short-term training course at Oakland Community College in robotics and PLC programming. Not only was he accepted but he qualified for free tuition based on eligibility requirements through Michigan Works!

And that was just the beginning.

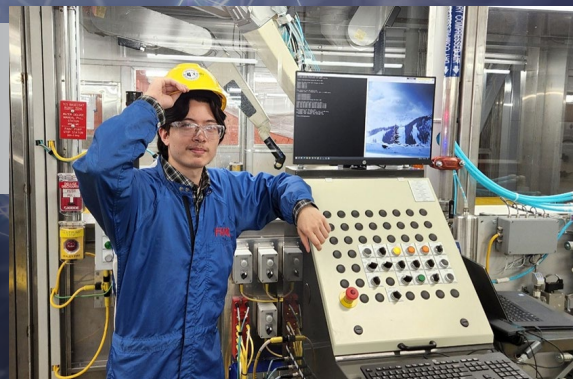
"There were so many things I loved about the program right away," Shawn said. "For starters, the instructors all had real-world experience. Also, everything was completely hands on with very little book work. And I really loved how comprehensive everything was. I definitely felt prepared to get a job."

Beyond taking robots apart and putting them back together, Shawn learned about the various business opportunities available for someone in this cutting-edge field. This included programming robots in countless industries around the world such as aerospace and big pharma.

Of course, for lifelong Michigan natives like Shawn, the ability to work in the Detroit metro area – the world's epicenter of automotive automation – was just as appealing.

"It was clear to me early on that I could use my new knowledge to work in any number of automotive jobs," Shawn said. "So you can imagine how excited I was to discover that I had some high-paying prospects right around the corner that were waiting for me when I finished."

That's right. After only one 14-week course – and with no previous experience – Shawn went from classroom to employment. He now works for GLOBAL Automation Technologies, LLC in Auburn Hills as



an automation engineer, where he programs computers for automating automotive assembly line processes. And he loves it.

"This technology is so fascinating and there are so many interesting things going on," Shawn said.

And the best part? Shawn loves the fact he's making more money than he thought possible. While most of his friends are taking student loans, Shawn hopes to make a six-figure salary within a few years.

Shawn is also grateful to OCC for helping him to find a huge opportunity in a short amount of time.

"The program quite literally turned my life around," Shawn said. "If not for it, I have no idea what I would be doing today."



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# DECA STUDENTS EARN ORGANIZATION'S HIGHEST HONORS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**N**INETEEN students represented West Bloomfield High School and the state of Michigan at DECA's annual International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Atlanta, GA April 23-26. One student placed in the Top 20 in the world, several students placed within the Top 10, and three students earned 1st Place recognition in the Sports Virtual Business Challenge.

Students who received recognition at the international level:

- Frank Bachulis, Virtual Business Challenges Sports, 1st Place
- Madison Boyd, Innovation Plan
- Mariah Carver, Innovation Plan
- Aaryan Chandna, Virtual Business Challenge Sports, 1st Place
- Lukas Graff, Virtual Business Challenge Sports, Top 10
- Kulthoom Hussain, Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Amani Kayat, School-Based Enterprise-Retail Operations, Top 10
- Joseph Kosh, Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Ryan Lynch, Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Jin Park, Virtual Business Challenge Sports, Top 10
- Alexander Selektor, Virtual

Business Challenge Sports, 1st Place

- Milin Sharrow, Virtual Business Challenge Sports, Top 10
- Andrew Shore, Professional Selling Event, Test Medal
- Morgan Shropshire, Hospitality and Tourism Professional Selling, Top 20
- Jack Stuit, Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Safa Syed, Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Shyanne Taylor, Innovation Plan
- Sophia Watha, School-Based Enterprise-Retail Operations, Top 10

The DECA International Career Development Conference is the pinnacle of competition, where nearly 18,000 students vied for international honors. Over \$300,000 in scholarships and awards were presented to students and teachers for their achievements.

"The competition was like no other this year. I've never seen our chapter come together and present themselves so well both in and out of the conference. We were one, whether rehearsing for events or spending time

together. I felt proud knowing the students felt they were part of something meaningful," said Frank Bachulis, who was recognized at ICDC for his first-place win in the Virtual Business Sports Challenge.

WBHS DECA Advisor Julie Zalla said, "I am so proud of the hard work and dedication our students and advisors put in this year. It had been three years since we had the opportunity to compete in person. It was great to be back in person and for students to get the full DECA experience. Watching students create new friendships from within our school, network with those around the world, and carry themselves in such a professional manner, was truly a pleasure to watch."

Congratulations, DECA students!!!  
#WBSDProud





# MICHIGAN WEEK AWARDS

**T**HE Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Community Awards Breakfast was held on May 21 at Wabeek Country Club. The theme for the 50th anniversary celebration was Back to the Future and the group recognized volunteers from the Greater West Bloomfield area who have given their time, talent, and personal resources without regard for recognition or promotion. This year's West Bloomfield School District winners include:



## **Dr. Gerald Hill – Dr. Seymour Gretchko Youth Advocate Award**

Dr. Gerald Hill has dedicated his life to the advocacy and education of youth. He embodies the notion of servant leadership as he is focused on the needs and growth of the school district by doing what is best for children on a consistent basis.

## **Sonja James – Jack Freed Emerging Leader Award**

Sonja is a trailblazer who has stepped into a broader role to become the first Executive Director of Educational Equity and Inclusion in WBSD to carry the community toward a bright future.

## **Anna Gorczyk – Youth Leadership Volunteer Award**

Anna has spent the last three years volunteering countless hours in the WBSD Athletic program by managing and selling concessions for numerous events.

## **Matthew Gordinier and Anjali Natarajan – West Bloomfield Interact Club – Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Treasures Award**

Both Matthew and Anjali have worked hard to promote peace, unity, and support others in our community through the WB Interact Club.

## **Kamala Nayan Mallubhotla – Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Treasures Award**

Kamala initiated, organized, and manages a team of WBHS student mentors who volunteer each Friday in the Roosevelt Elementary School Kids Klub after-school child care program.

## **Cynthia Hill – Lifetime Achievement Award**

Cindy has an endless commitment to community service, promoting integrity, goodwill, peace, and understanding.

## **Kathy Sheiko – Lifetime Achievement Award**

Kathy has dedicated her personal and professional career to the children in our WBSD community.

Congratulations to all our West Bloomfield School District winners! Thank you for your dedication and service to Greater West Bloomfield.

# WBSD SUMMER LEARNING

**W**BSD families have been invited to join us for summer learning and summer camp this year. Most of Summer Learning is paid for by WBSD and invitations have been sent to select students in an effort to accelerate their learning, provide academic interventions, and support. Meanwhile, Summer Camp is open to all of our families and additional information can be found on page 16.

## **Summer Learning Elementary – Laker Adventure**

The Laker Adventure will take students on reading quests, math challenges, and exciting tasks that explore their interests. Students will continue unfinished learning in small groups based on personalized skills and goals. Each day, students will participate in small reading and math groups to enhance their comprehension, skills, and have some fun. We will continue to invite families until we reach our program cap so that we can support as many learners as possible.

## **Middle School – Lakers Explore!**

Students will explore innovative ways to approach both academic and personal struggles with daily math and English classes that blend social-emotional learning into each lesson. Teachers will focus on CPM (math) story problem skills, writing with strong claims and evidence, and reading comprehension strategies that boost proficiency in all subject areas. Their elective class cycles through new topics each day. We will continue to invite families until we reach our program cap so that we can support as many learners as possible.

## **High School – EXCEL: EXperience, Community, Education, and Lifelong Learning**

Summer Learning will focus on helping students recover lost graduation credits along with addressing some of the issues that contributed to the need for summer school. We will build learners through skill development, content education, and social and emotional learning. Academic courses will focus on the fundamentals needed to master each subject area, while our EXCEL program will work with students to strengthen coping and self-management skills.



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# Mansour Memorial Foundation

## IMPACTS WBSD



**I**N July of 2013, John and Ann Mansour lost two of their three children, Alexander, eleven, and Gabrielle, six, in a horrible boating accident. Whether you knew the Mansours or not, this tragedy shook the lives of many West Bloomfield families.

In the months following the tragedy, the Mansour Family desperately wanted to give back to the schools that supported all three of their children, especially their surviving daughter, Adriana. They wanted to turn this horrible event into something positive to commemorate their children's lives, thus the Alexander and

Gabrielle Mansour Memorial Fund was founded.

Over the years, fundraising events have been held in their memory to support the foundation. Adult bowling nights, silent auctions at the Gretchko Spooktacular, and the Spring Fling brought the community together to support the Mansour family during this difficult time. Alex and Gabby were gone but not forgotten by administrators, teachers, parents, and their peers.

Since 2014, the Foundation has

made donations each year to Abbott Middle School, Scotch, and Gretchko Elementary Schools. Donations were made to support the children's love of sports and the arts. To date, the

Mansour Memorial Foundation has donated more than \$16,000 to the West Bloomfield School District. These donations have supported dance, theater, music, yoga, purchased basketball, floor hockey, soccer, and disk golf equipment.

Additionally, the Gretchko stage received a beautiful mural that was dedicated to Alex and Gabby. At Scotch, there is a tree that was planted near Alex's fifth-grade classroom. There are also basketball hoops and beautiful Buddy Benches on the playgrounds at Gretchko that have been donated.

The West Bloomfield School District would like to thank the Mansour family for turning the most difficult time in their lives into something so beautiful and amazing. Thank you for supporting our students and families. We are grateful for you!







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248-865-6454

www.wbsd.org

Editors.....Kendra Montante  
Andrea Frank

**Our Mission:**

*"The Laker strengthens the vital relationship between West Bloomfield School District and the community by clearly communicating in a timely and relevant manner the many successes of our students, schools, and community."*

**West Bloomfield School District**

**Dr. Gerald D. Hill**

Superintendent

**West Bloomfield High School**

248-865-6720

**Oakland Early College**

248-522-3540

**Oakland Opportunity Academy**

248-209-2025

**West Bloomfield Transition Center**

248-865-6470

**West Bloomfield Middle School**

248-865-3670

**Doherty Elementary School**

248-865-6020

**Gretchko Elementary School**

248-865-6570

**Roosevelt Elementary School**

248-865-6620

**Scotch Elementary School**

248-865-3280

**Sheiko Elementary School**

248-865-6370

**Lakers Online**

248-865-6955

**Notice of Nondiscrimination:**

*It is the policy of the West Bloomfield School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, religion, marital status, disability, or sexual orientation, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination in employment or any of its programs or activities.*

*The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Eric Whitney, Assistant Superintendent for Talent Development and Management. 5810 Commerce Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48324. (248) 865-6424*

*Congratulations!*



WBSD is grateful for your service to our students and our families. Happy Retirement!

Name	Position	Schools	Years of Service
Diane Abel	Math Teacher	WBHS	35 years
Michael Abel	Math Teacher	WBHS	34 years
Carl Battishill	Music Teacher	Scotch/Sheiko	38 years
Sally Drummond	Principal	Gretchko	52 years
Nanci Gelsey	School Counselor	WBMS	25 years
Barbara Glessner	Admin Assistant	ACS/Learning Services	17 years
Dr. Gerald Hill	Superintendent	WBSD	10 years
Cynthia Huyghe	Executive Assistant	ACS/Superintendent's Office	33 years
Susan Ingram	Speech & Language Pathologist	Gretchko	25 years
Stephanie Karr	Math Teacher	WBMS	30 years
Karen Kile	Special Education Teacher	Doherty/Gretchko	23 years
Paula Konfara	Adult Education Instructor	J&S Building	22 years
Tracy Lansaw	Math Teacher	WBHS	26 years
Kelly Lekas	Reading Consultant	Scotch	33 years
Marcie Madrid	Paraeducator	Sheiko	22 years
Susan Rambo	General Ed/Med Tech Para	Scotch	24 years
Susan Roback	Consumers Science Teacher	WBHS	45 years
Debra Shafran	Special Education Teacher	WBHS	36 years
Christen Sturgill	Science Teacher	WBHS	25 years

**WEST BLOOMFIELD  
PRESCHOOL ACADEMY**

**ENROLL  
TODAY!**



CALL TODAY! | (248) 865-6466 | [www.wbsd.org](http://www.wbsd.org)

- Our programs utilize the research-based HighScope preschool curriculum that prepares students for the West Bloomfield School District curriculum
- Hands-on learning in language, literacy, math, science, social studies, and technology
- Creative, physical, health, social-emotional, and intellectual development
- FREE Preschool Programs are available - Great Start to Readiness Program (GSRP)
- Full-time, part-time, and extended day options available for 3 to 5-year-olds
- Traditional Preschool, Jr. Kindergarten, Stepping Stones, and Multi-Age Programs

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WEST BLOOMFIELD

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WEST BLOOMFIELD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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\*Entering 9<sup>th</sup> Graders who completed Algebra One in Middle School are eligible to apply.





# Community Education

[wbsdec.ce.eleyo.com](http://wbsdec.ce.eleyo.com)

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION RECREATION AND ENRICHMENT

### Wave Makers and Innovators

In West Bloomfield, we are Lakers for Life. We are Wave Makers. A Wave Maker is an innovator, an outside-of-the-box thinker, a problem solver, a collaborator, a critical thinker, a contributor, and a communicator.

We were proud to see true Wave Making in action during the **2022 FIRST Lego League Lakerbot Festival**.

Leading the charge for the festival was Amy Quinn (Science and Math Curriculum Consultant), Andrea Frank (Coordinator of Community Enrichment), and teacher leaders Cindy Carson, Lisa Reed, and Julie Zawalski. Their efforts, collaboration, time, and dedication led to an amazing experience for our children.

Thank you to all the parent coaches who helped lead our student teams, creating a feeling of true community. The involvement of our upper elementary Lego League teams and the involvement of our middle school and high school robotics teams, led by Buddy Muylaert, provided the same type of shining example while also demonstrating what it means to be a Laker for Life.

It was also amazing to have board members Stacy Brickman and Christy Forhan present to serve as reviewers. West Bloomfield students are destined for great things!

### Summer Camp

What sets WBSD Summer Camp apart? Every smiling face is a **WBSD Employee** that works throughout the school year. It is a true community!

Summer Camp will be at Gretchko Elementary School for children ages 3-13. Children will be separated by age groups.

Campers will participate in:

- West Bloomfield Township Public Library's Summer Reading Program
- Art projects with Young Rembrandts
- Yoga & Mindfulness with West Bloomfield Youth Assistance
- Karate with True Martial Arts
- Fields Trips to Lily Pad Springs Splash Pad and Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum

- On-site Assemblies and MORE!

Offered M - F for 7 weeks June 27 – August 12. Pick Your Own Dates (*full-week registration not required*). Camp is from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with optional Before & After Care. For more information and to register visit: [www.wbsd.org/departments/community-education](http://www.wbsd.org/departments/community-education)

## ADULT EDUCATION/ESL

Dawn Hanford, Coordinator

J&S Office Center | 7071 Orchard Lake Rd., Ste. 100  
West Bloomfield, MI 48322 | (248) 539-2390

Students 18 and older are welcome from any District.

**Call to schedule an appointment.**

### Tuition Schedule

#### Spring Session 6: June 6-June 30 (4 weeks)

Advanced/Intermediate English

Mon./Wed. 9:30-11:30 \$50

Conversation/Pronunciation

Tues./Thurs. 9:30-11:30 \$50

American Customs and Culture (online)

Tuesdays 12:30-2:30 (FREE)

**Fall class registration starts August 1!** Call to schedule an appointment. Only \$50 for four months of classes! Bring a picture ID and Social Security card (if you have one).

### Community Education Office

Administration and Communication Services (ACS)  
5810 Commerce Rd. West Bloomfield, MI 48324  
Phone: (248) 865-6462

**Laura Poxon**  
Coordinator,  
Early Childhood

**Beth Helka**  
Kids Klub and Tween  
Time Secretary

**Andrea Frank**  
Coordinator,  
Community  
Enrichment

**Kathi Luthé**  
Assistant Supervisor,  
Early Childhood

**Dawn Hanford**  
Adult Education/ESL  
Coordinator

**Collette Goestenors**  
Early Childhood  
Preschool Secretary

**Melissa McDonald**  
Adult Education  
Administrative  
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