

# WARREN CONNECTION: 2017-2018 SECOND SEMESTER REVIEW



Warren Township High School District 121

Dear Warren Community:

The *Warren Connection: 2017-2018 Second Semester Review* is designed to share some of the highlights of achievements and activities our students and parents, staff and community members have been involved in during the second semester. We also have provided some progress related to several initiatives within our district's Strategic Plan and School Safety reminders. Please continue to check our District website for more complete and timely information.

Thank you for your interest and support of Warren Township High School District 121.

Sincerely,

John P. Ahlgrim, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## Board of Education

Thomas Drake, President  
Michael B. Munda, Vice-President  
Barb Conway, Secretary  
John R. Anderson, Member  
Paul Schulz, Member  
Jim Walz, Member  
Jonita C. Wilson, Member

### Inside this Newsletter

Valuing Diversity and Inclusion	Page 1
Board of Education Recognitions	Page 2
Strategic Plan Progress	Page 3
Facility Improvements	Page 4
Curriculum Highlights	Page 5
Class of 2018 By the Numbers	Page 5
Students Making a Difference	Page 6
Staff Recognitions and Accomplishments	Page 7
WTHS Leadership Transitions	Page 8
Student Services Events	Page 9
School Safety	Page 10
Activities and Athletics Achievements	Page 11

## Valuing Diversity and Inclusion

Warren Township High School continues its efforts to emphasize the development of an inclusive school community, and unleashing the power of our inclusive and diverse culture will allow us to maximize our growth for our students, and the broader communication. Much of the work that we do with our diversity and inclusion efforts is due to our ongoing partnership with Roger Moreano from Bridges Consulting, with continuing work with our staff, students and parents.

On March 2, 2018, the Diversity Committee hosted our first ever **Student Diversity Retreat**, facilitated by Mr. Moreano and board member, Jonita Wilson. Nearly 30 students attended the retreat which was held in the Almond Campus library. Many activities were planned to help students learn about individual and common perspectives in our lives together. Specific activities included, but were not limited to: identifying our multicultural self, reviewing ground rules for the evening, understanding of a human rights education, a historical perspective of our nation and privilege, privilege walk, understanding internalized oppression, using privilege to offer a hand up and ways of helping the community. Our WTHS student group, Unite 'N' Inform (UNI), meets regularly throughout the year to help us in the establishment of a welcoming environment at WTHS, and help our broader school community learn about our inclusion efforts.

On March 7, 2018, the Diversity Committee hosted its first **Parent Diversity Retreat** in which Mr. Moreano lead the group through a variety of activities including several which paralleled the student retreat. Some of the students who attended the March retreat were also present to help provide some insights into the student experience at WTHS and in the larger community. Parents were also encouraged and invited to attend regular meetings of the Board of Education's Diversity Committee, where they continue to review both student and parent retreat experiences and investigate potential experiences for next year.



Parents and students will be actively working in a booth at Gurnee Days on Saturday, August 11 and Sunday, August 12 to help celebrate our diverse school community.



---

## Board of Education Recognitions

At the **January 16, 2018** Board of Education meeting, the Boards of Education of Warren Township High School were honored and recognized with a dedication wall located in the Board Conference Room. Over the last century, there have been nearly 85 Board of Education members who have offered their time, talents and energies towards establishing, developing and maintaining a public high school for the children of our great community. One of the final acknowledgements of Warren's 100 year anniversary, these 85 elected officials are listed on this commemorative artwork.

At the **February 13, 2018** meeting, the Board recognized ten student athletes who signed National Letters of Intent: Devin Ceasar, Christian Dimaano, Cole Even, Evan Hill, Connor Jannick, Riley Kocen, Jamie Kwon, Ricky McLaughlin, Josh Nitch, and Ryan Short.

On **February 13, 2018**, Board members recognized students and staff who helped with the Devil Hack 1.01 held on January 28-29, 2018. The student helpers were Elizabeth Carpentier, Jessamyn Lopez, Tyler Dettore, Dylan Richards, and Mustafa Ahmed. The faculty and staff volunteers were Denise Carr, Jean Ferrara, Sandy Ridker, Beryl Washington, Cheryl Parmenter, Sophia Rosa and Det. Jack Metcalf. Students and/or teams who placed first, second or third were: First Place team: Nick Winkler, Jeet Patel, Paul Lenon, Amanda Mietus, Anudeep Ekkurthi, Christian Alcantara, Jeric Cuasay, Thomas Ryner, Alfred Burson and Joseph Hale. Second Place team: Shyama Bhatt. Third Place team: Wesley Tunelius, Ryan Conley, Asvin Ragunathan, Martin Walker, Matthew Kuriakose, Owen Brown, and James Forbis.

During the recognitions portion of the **February 27, 2018** meeting, Board members recognized Wrestling state qualifiers Joel Vandervere, Austin Nash and Sawyer Nash.

At the **March 20, 2018** meeting, Board members congratulated Mark Leech, for being selected as Warren's "Gurnee Teacher of the Year."

On **March 20, 2018**, the Board recognized the 2018 Speech Team state qualifiers Arturo Barrera and Kate Schoenherr, and Performance in the Round (PIR) cast members: Elizabeth Usher, Katie O'Donnell, Marco Guadiana, Skylar Choe, Colin Maclean, Greyson Fout, Katie Lavris, Ellie Heron, Emily Gutknecht, Emma Schoenherr, Aishtyn Johnson, Brooke Moeller, and Oliver Schoblocher.

Also at the **March 20, 2018** meeting, the Board commended the students and staff from the Education Life Skills program who participated in the Special Education Basketball Experience on December 8, 2017 and February 23, 2018. The board thanked staff members Carol Milazzo, Cheri Donahoe, Vicky Pogue, and Tracy Ankney for coordinating this event for our students in the Educational Life Skills program.

At the **March 20, 2018** meeting, the Board offered congratulations to Kaylen Dickson and Jordyn Hughes for being named to the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association All-State Teams.

At the **April 10, 2018** meeting, the Board recognized John Stanczykiewicz, Girls Basketball coach, who was named Co-Coach of the Year in District 6 for this past season by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association. The Board also recognized Mark Pos for being selected as the Class 3A & 4A Division 2 Athletic Director of the Year, an honor given by the Illinois Athletic Directors Association.

At the **April 24, 2018** the Board thanked the 2017-2018 Student Leadership Council students: Jack Berens, Becky Holtcamp, Abigail Roman-Ahlgrim, Annie Hellickson, Courtney Odden, Dru Jasnoch, Lexi Sapp, Max Soboda, Mufida Asmar, Shyama Bhatt, Vanessa Castrejon, Mizraim Hernandez, Kevin Herrera, Dorian Sauls and Matthew Schroeder.

On **April 24, 2018**, the Board recognized Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students who qualified for the National Leadership in June: Julie Griesser, Clark Anderson, Shyama Bhatt, Matthew Walowski, Lucia Rodriguez, Simran Patel, Olivia Rodriguez, Joseph Zdarsky, Snehitha Talugula, Richard Chiu, Asma Khan, Meichel Yoinco, Sruthi Jayanti, Shivank Gupta, Brittany Morey, Cynthia Tsarpalas, Sydney Ugwu, Eric Rapanan, Nathan Denny, Rutvik Sayankar, Krista Zimmer, Sohom Dash, Rebecca Holtcamp, Matthew Walowski, Shyama Bhatt, Darsh Gupta, Lahari Kolli, Snehitha Talugula, Nihad Mekkath, Julia Paukert, Katherine McClory, Morgan Sucomel, Andrea Ardeleanu, Nihad Mekkath, and Yesh Sheth.

During the Recognitions portion of the **May 8, 2018** Board meeting, the Board recognized Warren's Varsity Science Olympiad team members who competed at the state competition: Saranya Menon, Snehitha Talugula, Jisoo Kim, Matthew Steel, Shruthi Kondin, Richard Chiu, Anudeep Ekkurthi, Norberto Haro, Sarika Kumar, Michael Osuji, Apurva Sanagavarapu, Britney Sullivan, Saranya Menon, and Hailey Szadowski.

Also at the **May 8, 2018** meeting, the Board recognized the following Fine Arts Students: North Suburban Conference Art Show winners: Chloe Calzolano, Skylar Choe, Lauren Fink, Simone Scigousky, Gillian Tauler, Emily Day, Nicole Baelum, Aubrey Chuen, Emily Johnson and Grace McCraren, Illinois High School Art Exhibit winners: Grace Gaffke, Mikayla Johnson, Danny Beverly, Lauren Fink and Kaitlyn Turney Parker. Live Arts Festival winners: Lauren Fink and Cameron Pride, Illinois Music Education Association winners: Concert Band: Skyeleigh Atkinson, Sophia Diaz, Elijah Garcia, Bailey Holman, Alex Tamulaitis, Hannah Weiss and David Young, Jazz Band: Eli Ameyibor, Elizabeth Carpentier, Logan Lake and Zach Relova, and All State selectee: David Young.

On **May 8, 2018**, the Board recognized twelve-sports athletes Carly Braun and Ian Schilling for participating on three athletic teams for four school years.

At the **May 22, 2018** Board meeting, the Board recognized Warren freshman student Nina Staben, who is a First Sgt. of the Young Marines, for her outstanding work with the Drug Demand Reduction March.

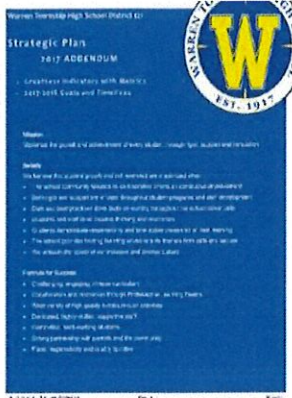
On **May 22, 2018**, the Board recognized Warren's Avanza members who competed in the annual Chicano College Bowl Competition: Varsity team members: Fatima Ortega, Diane Vazquez, Myrah Beverly, Veeshva Rana, Jessamyn Lopez, and Jennifer Fuentes-Rodriguez. JV team members: Gabriella Alba, Jackie Garcia, Juana Salas-Garcia, Juan Felipe Olaya-Niño, Yamile Estela, Karla Estrada, and Ivette Rodriguez.

At the **June 12, 2018** Board meeting, the Board recognized recent graduate Branden Ellis who earned a state championship in the high jump (6'10). He also finished 7th in the triple jump at the IHSA State finals. Janii Jenkins finished in 4th place in the 400 meter and Annika Bynum finished in 9th place in the high jump at the IHSA State finals.

Also at the **June 12, 2018** meeting, the Board recognized Tech campus students who competed in the Skills USA Competition: Nolan Rector, Hunter Birch, Ivan Bonilla, Vanezza Alberto, and Andrew Merrill.



## Strategic Plan 2015-2020



In the fall of 2015, Warren Township High School District 121 embarked on a strategic planning process to help guide the priorities and work for the school for the next five years. The Board of Education approved this plan on December 15, 2015, and it will be reviewed and modified as needed annually. As the strategic plan is modified, updated versions will be available on the District 121 website at [www.d121.org](http://www.d121.org)

The 2017-18 school year was the third year of our current district strategic plan. A number of specific initiatives and planning were put in place to help with the continuous improvement process at Warren Township High School.

### Enrollment and Staffing

Over the past seven years or so, the District's enrollment has decreased by nearly 500 students and we have been monitoring this decline and the potential impact on staffing.

We have been utilizing an *Enrollment and Staffing Plan* which was put into place during the 2015-16 school year as we knew that many of the reductions in staffing took place at the end of the 2017-18 school year. This reduction was based on a significant number of retirements and potential internal promotions without a need for replacements. We have been addressing this plan for the last several years by implementing a natural attrition process with retirements and resignations, trying to minimize the potential impact of reductions on current staff.

As we move forward in preparing for the 2018-19 school year and beyond, we do anticipate our enrollment will continue to decline at a rate of about 80-100 students annually. We anticipate that this may happen for at least the next five years. Our ability to modify our staffing plan to align with our enrollment is critical for the development of a sustainable financial plan for the district.

Enrollment Data	
2007-2008	4150
2008-2009	4216
2009-2010	4397
2010-2011	4502
2011-2012	4525
2012-2013	4373
2013-2014	4354
2014-2015	4362
2015-2016	4276
2016-2017	4262
2017-2018	4137
2018-2019	*4057

Source: ISBE Fall Housing Report

While we are currently in a downward trend for enrollment and staffing, maintaining all programming options available for our students continues to be a high priority. We anticipate we will continue to be creative in our staffing assignments and resource allocation to ensure we continue to provide excellence for our WTHS community.



STUDENT LEADERS PRESENT SUMMIT UPDATE  
AT A BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING



THERAPY DOG AT  
WELLNESS FAIR

## Strategic Plan and Department Reports

Reports were provided at regular Board meetings on the following items.

**January 16, 2018**  
Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP)

**February 13, 2018**  
The Fine Arts Department provided a report on the curriculum offered and coordinated activities.

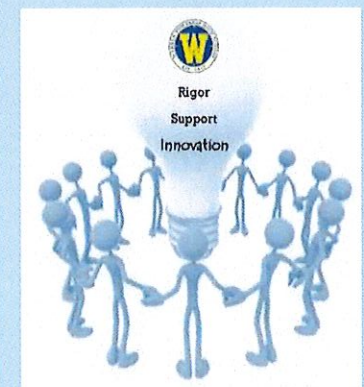
**March 20, 2018**  
Mr. Geocaris provided a report with services and programs for English Language Learners (ELL).

**April 24, 2018**  
The Science Department provided a report on the curriculum offered and coordinated activities.

**May 22, 2018**  
The Special Education Department provided a report on their enrollment, curriculum offered and coordinated activities.

Additionally, a report on the Transition Program at the Gurnee Mills location was provided related to enrollment, curriculum and activities offered.

**June 12, 2018**  
The Tech Campus report provided information about enrollment, curriculum and student achievements.





## Finance and Operations

### Financial Strategic Plan Progress Highlights

A long range comprehensive facility plan was presented to the Board of Education on November 21, 2017. The Plan was presented by our architects, DLA-Ltd, who worked with a team of architects and engineers as well as District staff. The study included surveys and feedback from District staff, physical testing of equipment, onsite interviews with Building and Grounds personnel and administration, and reporting to the Board about life safety code requirements, maintenance factors, curriculum needs and other concerns within the facilities, as well as anticipated costs for these items.

Warren has been actively seeking green school initiatives, including but not limited to solar energy. Over the last two years through the Finance and Facilities Committee and the Alternative Energy Committee, the Board of Education has been particularly interested in seeking solar energy projects and other cost-saving initiatives. One result of an energy efficiency opportunity is using LED lights, which have been installed in some areas of the Almond and O'Plaine campuses with rebates received for the fixtures and energy savings seen in the future.

## Facility Improvements

During the summer of 2018, many of the summer projects are at the O'Plaine Campus. The District will renovate the main office at the O'Plaine Campus by creating a student hallway connecting the front and back hallways through the main office, improving the work spaces and offices, LED lighting, painting and new carpeting.

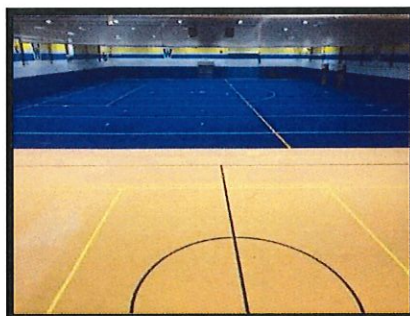
The fieldhouse is having new flooring installed due to the flooding damage that occurred last summer. The District received approximately \$400,000 from our insurance company to offset the cost of this project. The fieldhouse flooring will primarily be a new turf surface with new batting cages. Additionally, there will be one new basketball court and new basketball hoops.

### O'Plaine Campus Summer Projects 2018

- ✓ Reconfiguration of main office area and students services area
- ✓ Construction of two new offices in the main office area
- ✓ Carpeting in main office area, counselor offices, social worker offices, and deans offices
- ✓ Installation of LED lighting in main office and all adjacent offices
- ✓ Painting of main office and all adjacent offices
- ✓ Installation of a new glass partition wall to separate the hallway from the main office
- ✓ Removal of the doorways in main office area to create a new student hallway between the front hallway and back hallway
- ✓ Installation of turf and a new court in the fieldhouse
- ✓ Installation of new basketball hoops in the fieldhouse
- ✓ Installation of new batting cages in the fieldhouse.



Main office renovation  
O'Plaine Campus



New turf surface on  
the fieldhouse floor



## Curriculum Highlights and Accomplishments

### Fitness Testing at the O'Plaine Campus

In 2014, the Illinois House of Representatives introduced a bill that included Fitness Testing in Physical Education for Illinois Schools. It also included the stipulation that Fitness scores be reported at specific grade levels to help evaluate and steer physical education curriculum. The initial round of testing and reporting took place in the spring of the 2016-17 school year.

The battery of tests proposed by the state assesses cardiorespiratory endurance (VO2), upper body strength endurance, abdominal strength endurance, flexibility, and Body Mass Index. All Warren students participate in this battery of fitness tests and the scores for sophomore students are reported to the state in the spring semester.

In the first year of testing, Warren tallied their results and found that in certain areas of fitness testing that there was work to be done in regards to cardiorespiratory endurance, finding that only 47% of students in general scored in the healthy fitness zone for cardiovascular endurance. As a result, the O'Plaine Campus PE staff worked together to integrate a brain based fitness approach focusing on a variety of fitness strategies that were infused into all areas of the ninth and tenth grade curriculum. These strategies included teaching students how to manipulate exercise intensity using the heart rate reserve model and including a boot camp style "brain day" session in an area of the gym newly referred to as "the Farm." These physical activities were supplemented by lessons that informed students how exercise changes the brain.

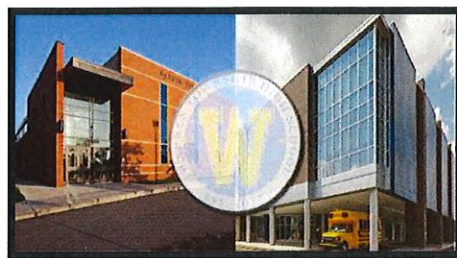
Because of these initiatives in the PE Department, there was an uptick in scores for the 10<sup>th</sup> grade fitness assessment. As a whole, the number of students in the healthy fitness zone for VO2 increased from 47% to 52%. Additionally, for upper body strength, 72% of students are in the healthy fitness zone as well as 86% for abdominal strength and 82% for flexibility. Finally, 63% of students are considered to have a healthy body composition according to their BMI score; Healthy Fitness Zones are determined by the Cooper Institute ([www.cooperinstitute.org](http://www.cooperinstitute.org)) in Dallas, TX.

#### Class of 2018 By the Numbers

- ✓ 112 Illinois State Scholars
- ✓ 158 President's Education Awards Program
- ✓ 190 members in National Honor Society
- ✓ 2 students that are National Merit Finalists
- ✓ 2 students with Perfect ACT Score of 36
- ✓ 72 students recognized at the 2018 Senior Scholarship and Award Night
- ✓ 214 students recognized at the 2018 Cum Laude Recognition Night
- ✓ 1,070 graduates in the Class of 2018

The next step in the plan to improve Warren's overall fitness levels is the incorporation of telemetry devices and other technologies in order to increase student understanding of exercise intensity and to expand the integration of fitness instruction into the regular curriculum. The O'Plaine PE department intends to accomplish this by using a variety of methods including small apparatus, strength, and metabolic training variations with the ultimate goal of having all students in the healthy fitness zone for all parts of the fitness testing battery.

Thank you to Mark Mika, O'Plaine Campus Lead Teacher for Physical Fitness, for contributing this information to the newsletter.



### Second Semester Highlights

Our teachers continued their commitment to ongoing professional development by participating in a variety of workshops and professional learning activities. Our Science Department spent a day in a training led by the Regional Office of Education on implementing the Next Generation Science Standards in our curriculum. Our Instructional Coaches organized a two-week period for teachers to visit other classrooms to learn about instructional strategies being utilized throughout the school. Across the district, our Professional Learning Teams carried on their work to ensure our students continue to have a great educational experience at Warren.

This Spring our juniors took the SAT on April 10th. Our students did exceptionally well, scoring 40 points above the state average for the total test score. Our students also exceeded the state average on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section and Math Sections as well.

Advanced Placement Testing was May 7th through the 18th. This year we had 1,078 students sign up to take a total of 2,225 exams. Exam scores will be released in July, and we are very proud of the hard work our students and teachers did to prepare for these exams!



## Students Making a Difference

Warren Township High School students are recognized throughout the school year for their efforts in making our high school a better place and also for demonstrating achievement in a particular department. High school staff members nominate students for the recognition.



The **Matter of Pride Award** at the O'Plaine Campus and **A-Team Awards** at the Almond Campus go to students who have displayed positive behavior in one or more of the following areas: academic excellence, academic improvement, making Warren a better place, leadership, and random acts of kindness.

### Matter of Pride Awards at O'Plaine Campus

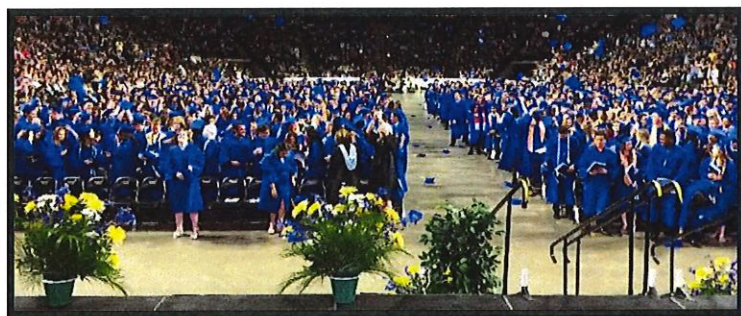
**January and February recipients:** Nicole Terzian, Adarsha Dayalan, Jalen Meriweather, Juan Cardenas, Ben Winkler, Cassandra Jimenez, Cody Getz, Montserrat Vega, Brandon Olsen, Kyrie Flora, and Dane Peplow

**March and April recipients:** Mackenzi Johnson, Andrea Garcia Rangel, Icess Bahena, Alejandro Haro, Adam Brzezicki, Hailei Estrada, Allison Armstrong, Anjali Johnson, Kayla Gibson, Jasmyne Glover, Antrita Manduva, Dru Jasnoch, Ryan Larsen, Megan Freeman, Drew Swedberg, Maria Gama, and Nathan Stutzman

### A-Team Awards at Almond Campus

**January and February recipients:** Samantha Dunn, Abby Carlton, Alexandra Siwy, Katherine Corr, Amna Judah, Nicholas Hall, Dianna Paulsen, Brittany Morey, Iliane Izeradjene, Amanda Middleton, Edward Flores, Nataly Flores, Rose Wodek, Sana Mahar, Riley Doyle, and Camille Cuevas

**March and April recipients:** Casey Cobe, Mathews Chacko, Jonathan Sanchez, Rebecca Holtcamp, Montserrat Solano, Kobe Partee, Elena Randle, Zuleymar Perez, Ethan Viramontes, madalyne Freedman, Jessica Gibbs, Karl Tolentino, Peyton Friedlander, Cody Canegan, Vishal Job, Joseph Hale, and Cara Sprague



CLASS OF 2018



DIVERSITY RETREAT ON MARCH 2, 2018

## Student Leadership Summit

It is powerful to witness how far our senior students have come as young adults at WTHS and in the community. One of our Strategic Planning initiatives this year was to provide for a **Student Leadership Summit** in which some of our strongest senior leaders facilitated a workshop for some of our freshmen Class of 2021 emerging leaders.

Our District Student Leadership Council, a team of officers from many of our key WTHS student organizations, planned and delivered the conference on Monday, January 8, 2018. The purpose for the conference was to ensure that our freshmen leaders had a good understanding of many of our critical WTHS student organizations, as well as focus on the use of collaboration, diversity, risk-taking and service as critical elements of successful leadership. Approximately 20 leaders and 55 freshmen students participated in the summit.



## Staff Recognitions and Accomplishments

### Staff members who retired this year are:

Steven Clark, 18 years  
William Dawson, 34 years  
Tina Delabre, 22 years  
E. Kathy Dexheimer, 16 years  
David Dzieglewicz, 24 years  
Katherine Dzieglewicz, 18 years  
Wileen Gehrig, 19 years  
Maureen Heim, 33 years  
Richard Hill, 22 years  
Mary Kirkpatrick, 18 years  
Christine Mason, 30 years  
Gregory Meyer, 6 years  
Mark Pos, 32 years  
Sandy Ridker, 14 years  
Carol Rogers, 14 years  
Gail Triveline, 34 years  
Roy Triveline, 31 years  
Kelly Wilkerson, 31 years  
Michael Wittes, 23 years  
Eva Zamudio, 17 years



### Warren's "Gurnee Teacher of the Year" honors Mark Leech

Academic resource teacher, Mark Leech, was voted by his colleagues this year as Warren's Gurnee Teacher of the Year.



At the Board meeting on May 7, 2018, the Village of Gurnee recognized three Gurnee teachers, one from each of the area schools: Warren Township High School District 121, Gurnee School District 56 and Woodland School District 50. The Gurnee Teacher of the Year received a \$1,000 honorarium.

Mark has been teaching at Warren for 17 years in the academic resource program. He earned his associate's degree from the College of Lake County in 1992, a bachelor's degree from Drake University in 1996 and a master's degree from Marian University in Wisconsin in 2008.

The role of educator runs in Mark's family. His grandfather was a teacher and an administrator, his father was a teacher in Waukegan, his sister-in-law currently teaches in Deerfield and his wife worked as a teacher and librarian in Gurnee. Mark looks at education as a life-changing commodity. He works with an extremely diverse population and tries to challenge his students to see the power of education, good character, self-discipline and drive.

Superintendent Dr. John Ahlgrim said, "Mark's commitment to making a difference in the lives of individual students is exceptional. He has certainly enriched the future for many of our students through his years at Warren."

Mark and his wife, Kristina, who is a graduate of Warren, have two daughters. Mark is proud to accept this award and also wants to recognize his mentors, Marilyn Strahan and Mary Hanson; his friends and family; and all of the colleagues, past and present, who have supported him as a teacher over the years.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT  
FOR  
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERS



---

## WTHS Leadership Transitions

District 121 is proud to announce several leadership transitions which will take place for the start of the 2018-19 school year, effective July 1, 2018.

**Chris Geocaris** was approved for the District 121 Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services. Chris has been a successful Assistant Principal at the Almond Campus for the past five years and he has worked very closely with Willi Gehrig in this role, which will support him greatly as he transitions into this position when she retires at the end of the year. Chris' expertise in working with professional development, data analysis, PLT mastery and educational technology will benefit him and WTHS in this role.

**Michael Engel** was approved for the District 121 Assistant Superintendent for Business Services and Operations/Chief School Business Official. For the past nine years, Mike has served as the Chief Financial Officer at several districts, most recently at Brookwood School District 167. Mike has significant experience with the overarching financial responsibilities related to his role as CSBO, as well as the detailed work within every aspect of the business office. Mike is extremely excited to be joining the Warren family, and will be working with Carol Rogers to aid in a smooth transition in this key position prior to her retirement at the end of this school year.

**Michele Bertola** was approved as the Principal at the O'Plaine Campus. Michele has been an exceptional educator in the district for 18 years including most recently as the Assistant Principal at O'Plaine. Michele's relationships with the O'Plaine staff and her connectedness to students makes Michele a natural successor to Greg Meyer upon his retirement this summer. Michele's instructional leadership and model of life-long learning will help her excel in her new role.

**Matt Jones** was approved as the Assistant Principal at the Almond Campus. Matt was at WTHS for ten years (teacher, coach, lead teacher) prior to taking on administrative positions in District 117 for the last three years. Matt is very happy to return to Warren and his leadership experiences have prepared him well for his new role. Matt has in the past, and will continue to use his Spanish to help our connectedness with many families in our community.

**Peter Kupfer** was approved as the Assistant Principal at the O'Plaine Campus. For the past three years, Peter was a Director of Instruction at Huntley District 158. Prior, Peter taught Physics for 13 years and he has a wonderful grasp of embedding technology and data in the world of instructional leadership. Additionally, Peter's administrative experience in a K-12 district will provide him insights into the important articulation process with our sender districts.

**Yolanda Fulton** was approved as a Dean of Students at the Almond Campus. For the past ten years, Yolanda has served in an Assistant Principal/Dean of Students capacity at the middle school level with the past two at Woodland Middle School. Her trusting relationships with staff, students and parents have allowed her to become an excellent problem solver and student advocate, and her familiarity with our community will support her greatly.

**Diallo Brown** was approved as a Dean of Students at our O'Plaine Campus. Diallo has many years of educational leadership expertise with students of all age levels. Most recently he has worked in Waukegan District 60 and has vast experiences and success at working in partnership with families. Diallo is a very passionate educator, as well as a current Warren parent and WTHS alum!

**Becky Belmont** was approved as Warren's Director of Athletics. Becky has served in an administrative capacity for the past 13 years and before that was a very successful teacher and coach at WTHS. Becky's organizational strength and working collaboratively with others has earned her great respect from our WTHS community. She is looking forward to returning to her love for athletics and will be working closely with Mark Pos on a smooth transition until Mark's retirement at the end of the school year.

**Aimee Lonigro** was approved as the Assistant Director of Athletics and Activities Coordinator. Aimee has served as an Assistant Athletic Director for eight years and an Activities Director for six years in Community High School District 210. Aimee was also a very successful head coach and she is looking forward to joining the team and helping support our great programs. Aimee's enthusiasm and vast experience will be an asset to WTHS.

**Deborah Perri** was approved as the Dean of Students at the O'Plaine Campus, starting in January 2018, when Warren's long time friend and colleague, Rafael Soto, lost his battle with cancer. Deb has taught for the past 12 years at WTHS in our Physical Development Department. She has been the assistant lead teacher for the department, and has actively participated in the district's strategic planning, as well as in our mentor program. Deb has helped in the facilitation of our staff wellness days, and assisted in many campus-wide committees. Deb will continue in this leadership position, working with Pat Shea and Diallo Brown.

**Jeanne Turf** was approved as the Director of Transportation. Jeanne has been working in the Transportation Department since 2013. Jeanne has been working as the Special Education Route Supervisor since 2015. Jeanne's knowledge of the District's transportation responsibilities will be helpful in her new position.

**José Zires** was approved as the Director of Facilities, where he will oversee the facilities at all campuses in the District. José has worked in the Building and Grounds department since 2010. In 2013, he became the Facility Manager at the O'Plaine Campus. José's experience in the District will be an asset in his new role.

Congratulations to these individuals on the new leadership opportunities at Warren Township High School!



## Student Services



### Wellness Fair on April 20, 2018

Warren's social workers were excited to host the Wellness Fair during all lunch periods at the Almond Campus on Friday, April 20, 2018. The event took place in the main gym.

Over 25 different community organizations and student groups that focus on physical, social, or emotional wellness were in attendance! Student groups Giggles 'N Bits, Motion Sickness and Open Mic participants performed during the fair and FLBA members showcased their first place public service announcement on cyberbullying. Students and staff were invited to attend as there was great information and offers from our community partners.



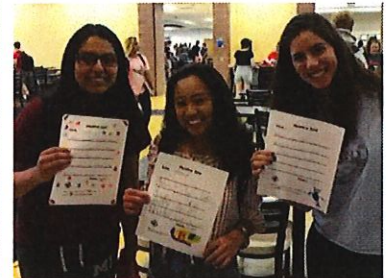
Some of the participants at the Wellness Fair were:

- Warren Township Youth and Family Services
- Lake County Children's Advocacy Center
- Athletico Physical Therapy
- Warren Special Recreation Association
- YWCA
- Community Youth Network
- Gurnee Counseling
- Fit Nation
- One Hope United
- Zacharias Center
- Gurnee Police Department
- Nicasa
- Warren Newport Library
- Certified therapy dogs



### Letters for Prom

Healthy Devils collaborated with the Gurnee Police Department and District 56 to write personalized letters for students attending prom. These letters, written by District 56 elementary students, highlighted positive decision making and well wishes to the high school students!



#### Healthy Devils Student Organization

Healthy Devil members are student services ambassadors that help create and promote school-wide initiatives and events focused on positive decision making!

Their events include Red Ribbon Week, Stress management around finals, Depression Awareness, Distracted Driving Campaign, Text-A-Tip, Wellness Week, and Great America Post Prom event.

Learn more by contacting the sponsors, checking the latest news on the student bulletin boards at each building or check the District website.



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP



## Student Services continued

### School Safety

At the beginning of March 2018, this informational flyer about school safety was sent to all parents and guardians. Working together with our parents, students, staff and community partners is a vital component in keeping our kids safe.

#### Safety practices and security we have at our campuses are:

- ✓ School Resource Officers (SRO) from the Gurnee Police Department are at each campus.
- ✓ Security personnel are at each campus.
- ✓ During school hours, we have a single point of entry. Exterior doors are locked.
- ✓ Each year we practice safety drills with our students, staff and emergency personnel from the Gurnee Police and Fire Departments. This consists of fire evacuation drills, bus evacuation drills, severe weather drills and lockdown drills with law enforcement.
- ✓ A Safety Committee team consisting of Board members, administrators, staff, and emergency personnel from Gurnee meet throughout the year to review policies and procedures in case of an emergency.
- ✓ We have a Crisis Management Plan and a Relocation Plan adopted by the Board of Education and reviewed annually by the Safety Committee team.
- ✓ Visitors are required to sign in and wear a visitor ID badge. Staff and students are issued an ID badge.
- ✓ Student services teams (SST) are in place for crisis intervention.
- ✓ School psychologists, social workers and guidance counselors are on staff.
- ✓ Strong and long-standing partnerships with emergency management teams in Gurnee and Lake County.
- ✓ Rapid communication system is in place to connect with students, parents and staff.
- ✓ A Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee meets annually to review the Student-Parent Handbook and how to best communicate information to our parents.
- ✓ Surveillance cameras and electronic monitoring equipment is connected to the Gurnee Police Department.
- ✓ Fingerprint-based criminal history records, information checks, and/or screening is completed for employees, student teachers, students doing field or clinical experience work, contractors, resource persons and volunteers.
- ✓ A dedicated, caring and supportive faculty and staff, administration and Board of Education.

**See Something  
Say Something**

Our number one priority is  
the safety of our students  
and staff.

### School Safety

Warren Township High School has policies and procedures in place to guide us in emergency situations. Working together with our parents, students, staff and community partners is a vital component in keeping our kids safe.

Safety practices and security we have at our campuses are:

- ✓ School Resource Officers (SRO) from the Gurnee Police Department are at each campus.
- ✓ Security personnel are at each campus.
- ✓ During school hours, we have a single point of entry. Exterior doors are locked.
- ✓ Each year we practice safety drills with our students, staff and emergency personnel from the Gurnee Police and Fire Departments. This consists of fire evacuation drills, bus evacuation drills, severe weather drills and lockdown drills with law enforcement.
- ✓ A Safety Committee team consisting of Board members, administrators, staff, and emergency personnel from Gurnee meet throughout the year to review policies and procedures in case of an emergency.
- ✓ We have a Crisis Management Plan and a Relocation Plan adopted by the Board of Education and reviewed annually by the Safety Committee team.
- ✓ Visitors are required to sign in and wear a visitor ID badge. Staff and students are issued an ID badge.
- ✓ Student services teams (SST) are in place for crisis intervention.
- ✓ School psychologists, social workers and guidance counselors are on staff.
- ✓ Strong and long-standing partnerships with emergency management teams in Gurnee and Lake County.
- ✓ Rapid communication system is in place to connect with students, parents and staff.
- ✓ A Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee meets annually to review the Student-Parent Handbook and how to best communicate information to our parents.
- ✓ Surveillance cameras and electronic monitoring equipment is connected to the Gurnee Police Department.
- ✓ Fingerprint-based criminal history records, information checks, and/or screening is completed for employees, student teachers, students doing field or clinical experience work, contractors, resource persons and volunteers.
- ✓ A dedicated, caring and supportive faculty and staff, administration and Board of Education.

Warren Township High School District 223  
847.463.1300 [www.wt223.org](http://www.wt223.org)



Our number one priority is  
the safety of our students  
and staff.

- We have safety plans covering...
- ✓ Safety Practices and Procedures for all campuses
  - ✓ Severe Weather and Natural Disasters
  - ✓ Health and Wellness
  - ✓ Safe Bus Riding Protocol
  - ✓ Bus Evacuation
  - ✓ Bullying Prevention and Conflict Resolution
  - ✓ Facility Management and Maintenance
  - ✓ Safety Drills and Training
  - ✓ See something, say something

**TEXT-A-TIP**  
Anonymous help for the students of  
WTHS

This anonymous service allows you to tell a licensed mental health professional from this local community. These divisions are on call 24/7 and can provide any help for you or for a friend in need.

Text: **WTHelp**  
to  
**1-844-823-5323**

You will receive an immediate response providing further guidance. This is completely anonymous.

Download the Text-A-Tip App from  
iTunes and Google Play

Flora created by Healthy Devils  
@HealthyDevils

TEXT-A-TIP IS FOR STUDENTS TO  
ANONYMOUSLY SEEK COUNSELING ON  
POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES.



## Activities and Athletics Achievements

Warren is a member of the North Suburban Conference in the Lake Division. The Lake Division includes: Lake Forest, Lake Zurich, Libertyville, Mundelein, Stevenson, Warren, Waukegan and Zion Benton.



**Boys' Basketball:** 1<sup>st</sup> place in the conference, two all-conference athletes  
**Girls' Basketball:** 1<sup>st</sup> place in the conference, regional champions, two all-conference athletes  
**Wrestling:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the conference, three state qualifiers, 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher at state  
**Girls' Gymnastics:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in the conference  
**Girls' Bowling:** 1<sup>st</sup> place in the conference, team state qualifier  
**Boys' Bowling:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, one all conference athletes  
**Boys' Swimming:** 5<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, one state qualifier  
**Dance:** 7<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, two all-conference athletes  
**Cheerleading:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the conference, three all-conference athletes  
**Baseball:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the conference, regional champions, three all-conference athletes  
**Softball:** 1<sup>st</sup> place in the conference, regional champions, five all-conference athletes. 4 all-state athletes  
**Girls' Soccer:** 6<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, two all-conference athletes, 1 all-state athlete  
**Boys' Lacrosse:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the conference, five all-conference athletes  
**Girls' Lacrosse:** 6<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, one all-conference athletes  
**Boys' Water Polo:** 5<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, one all-conference athletes  
**Girls' Water Polo:** 5<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, one all conference athletes  
**Boys' Track:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in conference, five state qualifiers, one state champion  
**Girls' Track:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the conference, two state medalists  
**Badminton:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in conference  
**Boys' Tennis:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in the conference  
**Boys' Volleyball:** 4<sup>th</sup> place in the conference, two all-conference athletes

## Fast Facts about Activities and Athletics

- Warren competed in 30 sports and 90 levels
- Twenty-three athletes were recognized for competing in three sports this past year. Two seniors competed all twelve seasons while in high school.
- Cumulative grade point average (GPA) for the athletes for the 2017-2018 school year was 3.46.
- More than 60 of our student athletes will continue playing sports in college.
- Warren finished 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8 schools in the NSC All-Sports for the 2017-2018 school year. Conference finals standings in each sport is how the All-Sports standings is determined.
- Number of students who participated in Athletics: 1,261 individual students participated in sports and 1,613 students participated on all of our teams.
- More than 1,160 students attended Prom, which was held at the Donald J. Stephens Center in Rosemont. *Magic Carpet Ride* was this year's theme.

### Congratulations

Girls' Basketball coach **John Stanczkiewicz**, for earning District 6 Coach of the Year by the Illinois High School Basketball Coaches Association.

Retiring Director of Athletics **Mark Pos**, for earning Division 6 Athletic Director of the Year Award by the Illinois Athletic Directors Association.



FBLA NORTHERN AREA CONFERENCE

THREE SPORT ATHLETES

