

# WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOLS

**T**he Valedictorian for the Class of 2023 is Ryann Iannotti. During her four years at WDHS, Ryann pursued the most rigorous academic program at WDHS, including 18 Advanced Placement and Honors courses. Ryann's inquisitive nature and love for learning, combined with unparalleled drive and effort, earned her a GPA of 108.8 on a 100-point scale. As a result of her determination to challenge herself and her motivation to succeed, Ryann earned induction into the West Deptford High School Chapter of the National Honor Society, induction into the WDHS Chapter of the World Language Honor Society, and Principal's List every marking period in high school.

In addition to her outstanding academic achievements, Ryann has participated in a comprehensive array of activities. She has excelled in athletics. As a member of the soccer team, Ryann has earned the recognitions of All-State First Team, Colonial Conference All-Star, Liberty Division First Team, and West Deptford High School Defensive MVP. Ryann has also demonstrated strong leadership abilities throughout her years at WDHS. She served as Vice President and member of Key Club and participated in many service events

throughout the years including volunteering at Brightview Assisted Living, Cathedral Kitchen, and the Volleyball Marathons. Ryann was a member of the Renaissance Club and was involved in the Friends of Rachel Club.

During her senior year, Ryann was elected to the West Deptford Board of Education as a Student Representative. She attended Board Meetings where she presented monthly reports regarding updates about events, clubs, athletics, and concerns on behalf of the student body. Navigating this position was a challenge since it was the first year that the WD BOE had a student representative, but Ryann rose to the occasion with grace and humility.

Ryann's friendly demeanor, leadership ability, and academic achievements have earned her the respect of her peers and faculty alike. Ryann plans to attend the Honors College at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, where she will explore her options before making a decision about which career path she will follow. Her character, integrity, and passion for learning will serve her well as a Rutgers Scarlet Knight! We wish Ryann much success in her future endeavors.

## CLASS OF 2023 VALEDICTORIAN



Ryann Iannotti



## CLASS OF 2023 SALUTATORIAN



Gavin Zuzulock

**T**he Salutatorian for the West Deptford Class of 2023 is Gavin Zuzulock. During his four years, Gavin pursued our most rigorous academic program by enrolling in 20 Honors and Advanced Placement courses. Through unparalleled work ethic, he is graduating with an impressive grade point average of 108.64. As a result of his hard work and dedication, Gavin was inducted into the West Deptford High School's National Honor Society and awarded Principal's List for every marking period of his high school career.

Gavin has not only demonstrated leadership in the classroom, but also through his involvement in a broad range of extracurricular activities. During his 4-year tenure, he held the position of Key Club Treasurer and volunteered 75+ hours of service. In addition, Gavin held the position of Treasurer in our DECA program. He was selected as a Consumer Bowl Finalist, competed in numerous Regional competitions, and was honored as the Hype-Man

of the Year by his club members... twice! Through active participation in our Renaissance Club, Gavin was given the titles of Vice President and Club Graphic Designer. Along with his challenging academic program and vital leadership roles, he was a member of the West Deptford High School's Boys Soccer Team. Gavin was selected as Captain, Intra-squad Leader, and Leadership Council Representative for his team. Lastly, he was the chosen recipient of the Jarrett W. Jackmuff Memorial Award. Gavin is a remarkable young man who displays a love for learning, kindness and compassion for others, and positivity that is contagious when in his presence.

Gavin will be attending the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business to study Business Administration in the fall. He has been an outstanding role model and valued contributor to West Deptford High School and the community. We are confident about his future success and we wish him the best!

# West Deptford High School Class of 2023

## SCHOLASTIC HONORS TOP 10% AWARDS

### In Class Rank Order

- |                               |                                  |                               |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Iannotti, Ryann Emily      | 8. Pirri, Gabriella Marie        | 14. Tillman, Nyla Naomi       |
| 2. Zuzulock, Gavin Charles    | 9. Humeniuk, Adam Sergei         | 15. Harverson, Emma Alice     |
| 3. Clark, Brady Christian     | 10. Abouelsaadate, Yusuf Mohamed | 16. Hauenstein, Aidan Michael |
| 4. Duczowski, Paige           | 11. Masino, Ella Rose            | 17. Roberts, Aislinn Sarah    |
| 5. Gismondi, Jaci Ashlyn      | 12. Quesada, Giselle Amour       | 18. Avila, April Rose         |
| 6. Levengood, Kelly Claire    | 13. Hartman, Jake Dominic        | 19. Ford, Senaiye Zane        |
| 7. Moser, Josephine Elizabeth |                                  |                               |

## CLASS OF 2023 FUTURE PLANS



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Yusuf Abouelsaadate</b> ..... Saint Joseph's University;<br>Pharmacy   | <b>Gracie Broglin</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Education                          |
| <b>Malia Acevedo</b> ..... University of Mount Olive;<br>Marketing  | <b>Kay-Lehana Brown</b> ..... ASI Career Institute;<br>Medical Assistant                         |
| <b>Eric Arrera</b> ..... Gloucester County Institute of Technology;<br>Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning      | <b>Noe' Brown</b> ..... Rowan University;<br>Math Education                                      |
| <b>Zackery Assaro</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Arts & Sciences                                       | <b>Michael Bunker</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Arts & Sciences                    |
| <b>April Avila</b> ..... Marist College;<br>Biology/Pre-Med   | <b>Veronica Caines</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Health Science                    |
| <b>Corey Baglivo</b> ..... The College of New Jersey;<br>Criminology  | <b>Jessica Carfagno</b> ..... School of Makeup Effects;<br>Special Effects Makeup                |
| <b>Jacob Barger</b> ..... Employment  | <b>Ryan Carr</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Equine Science                          |
| <b>Jibril Barksdale</b> ..... Shippensburg University;<br>Psychology  | <b>Giovanni Caruso</b> ..... Buffalo University;<br>Environmental Studies                        |
| <b>Elijah Beall</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Engineering   | <b>Ryan Cervantes</b> ..... EMS Academy;<br>EMT  |
| <b>Sophia Belbin</b> ..... Rowan University;<br>Secondary Education-Specific Subject Mathematics                    | <b>Chitapon Chiangnow</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Computer Science               |
| <b>Kaylee Beltz</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Paralegal Studies                                       | <b>Julia Ciuffo</b> ..... Rowan University;<br>Exploratory Studies                               |
| <b>Briella Bengel</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Health Science: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Pathway | <b>Brady Clark</b> ..... Princeton University;<br>Engineering                                    |
| <b>Andrew Bergin</b> ..... Widener University;<br>Engineering   | <b>Daniel Clark</b> ..... Employment   |
| <b>Kaden Biel</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Arts & Sciences   | <b>Matthew Coen</b> ..... Employment   |
| <b>William Bilodeau</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Business Administration                             | <b>Madison Colihan</b> ..... Neumann University;<br>Accounting                                   |
| <b>Brayden Black</b> ..... Employment   | <b>Victoria Connelly</b> ..... Framingham University;<br>American Sign Language                  |
| <b>Melissa Blanchard</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Health Science: Nursing Pathway                    | <b>Katelyn Craig</b> ..... West Chester University;<br>Nursing                                   |
| <b>John Brady</b> ..... Rutgers University-Camden;<br>Criminal Justice  | <b>Jeremiah Cromer</b> ..... Gloucester County Institute of Technology;<br>Career Center         |
| <b>Olivia Brasberger</b> ..... The College of New Jersey;<br>Health Science and Kinesiology                         | <b>Aidan Curran</b> ..... Employment   |
| <b>Cameron Briggs</b> ..... Eastern University;<br>Computer Science   | <b>Natalie Currie</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Health Science: Nursing Pathway    |
|   | <b>Thomas D'Ottavi</b> ..... SJ Technical Training & Apprenticeship, LLC;<br>Electrical Training |
|   | <b>Carolyn Daisey</b> ..... Rowan College of South Jersey;<br>Education                          |
|   | <b>David Davis</b> ..... Gloucester County Institute of Technology;<br>Career Center             |
|   | <b>Nashon Davis</b> ..... Employment   |

<b>Isabella DeCaesar</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Graphic Design & Entrepreneurship	<b>David Granville</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration
<b>Dominic Denisi</b> .....	Employment	<b>Brianna Green</b> .....	Rowan University; Criminal Justice and Law
<b>Jordan Diemunsch</b> .....	Employment	<b>Olivia Groves</b> .....	Camden County College; Pre-Dental Hygiene
<b>Jason DiMattesa</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Arts & Sciences	<b>Christopher Hansen</b> .....	Undecided
<b>Douglas Doherty</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health Science	<b>Jake Hartman</b> .....	West Chester University; Biology
<b>Maggie Doherty</b> .....	Rowan University; Mathematics	<b>Kelly Hartman</b> .....	Shenandoah University; English
<b>Kylie Dorsett</b> .....	Stockton University; Psychology	<b>Emma Harverson</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Accounting
<b>Jordyn Dreger</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Arts & Sciences	<b>Aidan Hauenstein</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration
<b>Cole DuBois</b> .....	Millersville University; Business	<b>Ryan Heenan</b> .....	Wilmington University; Business and Entrepreneurship
<b>Paige Duczkowski</b> .....	The College of New Jersey; Business Management (Pre Law)	<b>Mia Heimerl</b> .....	Employment
<b>Cooper Eastlack</b> .....	McDaniel College; Accounting	<b>Aubrie Hingley</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Arts & Sciences
<b>Robert Ebaugh</b> .....	Rowan University; Computer Science/ Mathematics	<b>Gregory Honeycutt</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Radio, Television, Film
<b>Liam Eells</b> .....	Undecided	<b>Gabrielle Hope</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Arts & Sciences
<b>Andre English</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Criminal Justice	<b>Lawrence Howard</b> .....	Chestnut Hill College; Exercise Science
<b>Rhaya Federico</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Education	<b>Joel Huesser</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Electrician Program
<b>David Fernandez</b> .....	Rutgers University-New Brunswick; Engineering	<b>Adam Humeniuk</b> .....	Wheaton College; Computer Science
<b>Anthony Ferriola</b> .....	Employment	<b>Luke Humes</b> .....	Rosemont College; Business
<b>Antoinette Fife</b> .....	Rizzieri Aveda School; Cosmetology	<b>Ryann Iannotti</b> .....	Rutgers University-New Brunswick; Undecided
<b>Brayden Finger</b> .....	United States Air Force	<b>Ronaldo Jarrett</b> .....	United States Marine Corps
<b>Joseph Fiorentino</b> .....	Rowan University; Civil and Environmental Engineering	<b>Laiba Javed</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health Science
<b>Zachary Fisherkeller</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration	<b>Kaden Johnson</b> .....	Undecided
<b>Patrick Flynn</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Criminal Justice	<b>Austin Kates</b> .....	United States Coast Guard
<b>Senaiye Ford</b> .....	Rowan University; Psychology	<b>Derrick Kearney</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Communications
<b>Emily Gallagher</b> .....	Stockton University; Forensic Investigation/Criminal Justice	<b>Jaden Kelly</b> .....	Holy Family University; Nursing
<b>Luke Gallagher</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Liberal Arts	<b>Sean Kennedy</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health, Physical Education & Recreation
<b>Joseph Gargin</b> .....	Lebanon Valley College; Business Administration	<b>Abraham Khan</b> .....	Stony Brook University; Computer Science
<b>Julian Geibel</b> .....	Rider University; Mathematicist	<b>Jaden Knight</b> .....	Gloucester County Institute of Technology; Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning
<b>Dominic Gentile</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Cybersecurity	<b>Jacob Koger</b> .....	Rowan University; Chemistry
<b>Abigail Gill</b> .....	Thomas Jefferson University; Fashion Merchandising and Management	<b>Jonathan Laboy Deshields</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration
<b>Kylie Gill</b> .....	George Mason University; Forensic Science	<b>Luke Laxton</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Criminal Justice
<b>Kylie Gismondi</b> .....	La Salle University; Business - Accounting	<b>Melanie Leotta</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Computer Graphic Arts - Game/Interactive Design
<b>Gregory Gligor</b> .....	South Jersey Techincal Training; Electrician	<b>Kelly Levengood</b> .....	Hofstra University; Bioengineering
<b>Julia Goldberg</b> .....	Rowan University; Finance	<b>Dominick Lobdell</b> .....	United States Navy
<b>Julissa Gomez-Lemus</b> .....	Rutgers University-Camden; Computer Science	<b>Madeleine Malcolm</b> .....	Pennsylvania State University; Elementary Education

<b>Benjamin Marraffa</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration	<b>Jeremy Pennington</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Equine Science: Pre-Veterinary Medicine
<b>Daniel Marraffa</b> .....	Rowan University; Accounting and Finance	<b>Jaxson Phillips</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Digital Marketing
<b>Ella Masino</b> .....	Wake Forest University; Computer Science	<b>Samantha Phillips</b> .....	Pennsylvania State University; Secondary Education
<b>Ashley Mattie</b> .....	Gloucester County Institute of Technology; Collision Technology	<b>Gabriella Pirri</b> .....	Drexel University; Biological Sciences
<b>Madison Mazzocca</b> .....	Stockton University; Business Marketing	<b>Halilibrahim Pul</b> .....	Montclair State University; Computer Science
<b>Tyler McAleer</b> .....	Rider University; Undecided	<b>Giselle Quesada</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Accounting
<b>Hayley McClintock</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Sociology	<b>Andrew Reifenrath</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Business Administration
<b>Ethan McConaghy</b> .....	Rowan University; Undecided	<b>Nathan Riehl</b> .....	Employment
<b>Brodie McCormick</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Accounting	<b>Albert Rivera</b> .....	Rutgers University-Camden; Nursing
<b>Paige McCullen</b> .....	Nova Southeastern University; Medical Sonography	<b>Jordyn Roane</b> .....	Employment
<b>Natalie McGivern</b> .....	Wagner College; Education	<b>Aislinn Roberts</b> .....	University of Maryland-Baltimore; Health Administration and Policy: Concentration in Public Health
<b>Shea McKenna</b> .....	McDaniel College; Accounting	<b>Anthony Robinson</b> .....	Automotive Training Center; Marine Service Technology
<b>Ava Mikulski</b> .....	Ursinus College; Biology	<b>Jaelin Robinson</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Exercise Science
<b>Matteo Mingrino</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Electrician Program	<b>Ariana Roesly</b> .....	Florida Gulf Coast University; Health Science
<b>Michael Monte Carlo</b> .....	Cairn University; Pre-Med -Biology	<b>Dylan Rosenfelt</b> .....	Employment
<b>Skyler Moran</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Arts & Sciences	<b>Michael Rychlicki</b> .....	Employment
<b>Charles Moser</b> .....	United States Marine Corps	<b>Cade Sabo</b> .....	Rowan University; Accounting
<b>Colwyn Moser</b> .....	Rutgers University-New Brunswick; Plant Biology	<b>Nicholas Sallom</b> .....	Employment
<b>Josephine Moser</b> .....	University of New Hampshire; Musical Theatre	<b>Andres Sanchez</b> .....	Pennsylvania State University; Business Administration
<b>Abby Neavin</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health Science: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Pathway	<b>Jesse Scarborough</b> .....	Gloucester County Institute of Technology; Career Center
<b>Tyrone Oden</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Digital Photography	<b>Alicia Schiavo</b> .....	Rowan University; Studio Art
<b>George Oehler</b> .....	Employment	<b>Matthias Schriver-McGivern</b> .....	Gloucester County Institute of Technology; Carpentry
<b>Davion Orr</b> .....	Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology; Welding Technology	<b>Michaela Scirrotto</b> .....	Georgian Court University; Nursing
<b>Justin Oppong-Asiedu</b> .....	Chestnut Hill College; Business Law	<b>Emily Scott</b> .....	Stockton University; Liberal Studies: Concentration in Elementary Education
<b>Alexandria Otero</b> .....	Widener University; Nursing	<b>Isabella Seang</b> .....	Widener University; Nursing
<b>Madison Ott</b> .....	Wingate University; Biology	<b>Julianna Smith</b> .....	The College of New Jersey; Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Pathway: English
<b>Joshua Owen</b> .....	Rutgers University-Camden; Finance	<b>Marcus Smith</b> .....	Undecided
<b>Ryan Palverento</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Nutrition	<b>Logan Sobieski</b> .....	Employment
<b>Ava Paprzycki</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Education	<b>Joey Socorro Ramirez</b> .....	Mercer County Community College; Business Studies
<b>Marisa Parisi</b> .....	Academy of Art University; Fine Arts: Concentration in 2D Animation and Stop Motion	<b>Brooke Sorbello</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Medical Assistant Program
<b>Tyler Parker</b> .....	Lincoln Tech; Machining and Manufacturing	<b>Trey Spradley</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Carpentry
<b>Andrew Pennington</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Electrician Program	<b>Domenic Stanish</b> .....	Rowan University; Biological Sciences: Pre-Medical
		<b>Zachary Steward</b> .....	Rutgers University-Camden; Nursing
		<b>Alexander Swietanski</b> .....	Rowan University; Health and Physical Education
		<b>Zoe Tabilio</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Criminal Justice



<b>Abigail Thompson</b> .....	Employment	<b>Katelyn Weaver</b> .....	Undecided
<b>Nyla Tillman</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Psychology	<b>Madison Whipp</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health Science: Nursing Pathway
<b>Nicolas Titano</b> .....	Pennco Tech; Electrician Program	<b>Laura Wilson</b> .....	West Chester University; Health Sciences
<b>Jonathan Trexler</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Digital Photography	<b>Hailey Wyman</b> .....	Undecided
<b>Natalie Tropea</b> .....	Cape May County Police Academy	<b>Lexy Yeager</b> .....	Goldey-Beacom College; Business Administration
<b>Victoria Trotter</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health Science: Diagnostic Medical Sonography Pathway	<b>Jenica Zanes</b> .....	West Texas A&M University; Animal Science
<b>Rahmeer Vaughn</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Health, Physical Education & Recreation	<b>Shane Zatzariny</b> .....	Rowan College of South Jersey; Pre-Law
<b>Patrick Viereck</b> .....	Employment	<b>Gavin Zuzulock</b> .....	University of Southern California; Business Administration
<b>Brice Warren</b> .....	Camden County College; Liberal Arts and Science		

## WDMS 8th Grade Closing Ceremony

WDMS had a very successful 8th Grade Closing Ceremony on the evening of Thursday, June 15th. Parents, staff, administration, members of the BOE, community members, and friends celebrated with our students at this annual event. The WDMS choir provided us with a beautiful version of “For Good” from the Broadway Musical Wicked and members of the WDMS Band played the procession. After the ceremony, students and families convened in the cafeteria for refreshments, a video slideshow, and received their 8th grade gift. We were also able to livestream this event to accommodate all that could not attend.

The following students were recognized as recipients for individual awards during the ceremony:

**The Billy Maschke Award:** Andrew Walker

**Principal’s Award:** Lily Avila, Julia Beecroft, Melina Kitchen, Gabriel Jones, Ainsley McKendrick, Jaxon Rohrman, Grayson Ryer, Brianna Valentino, Andrew Walker, Riley Walsh

Mr. Podolski, and the entire WDMS staff, are very proud of and excited for the class of 2027 as they embark on their High School journey!





## Life Skills at WDMS



Over the past two years, WDMS saw the addition of our Animal Therapy Room and the Sip N' Soar Cafe to promote life skills for students here at the Middle School.

The Animal Therapy Room is utilized to conduct monthly social-emotional learning lessons, teach life skills, work on emotional regulation techniques, and assist in teaching students empathy, responsibility, and so much more!

The Sip N' Soar Cafe serves as a functioning coffee shop on Fridays available to WDMS Staff. The emphasis of the program supports students in the continuous development of life skills and career readiness. Participating students learn how to manage a budget, take inventory, develop interpersonal skills by learning to appropriately interact and communicate with the customers, and other key skills like time management and organization.



Each program was a huge success here at WDMS! Through the funding efforts of Dr. Walsh and her colleagues, the aforementioned programs are able to operate through charitable donations from our staff and West Deptford community.





# Green-Fields Fourth Graders Head Off To WDMS

It's that time once again when we have to say good-bye to our friends in 4th grade. After two successful years at Green-Fields, 193 excited children are heading to West Deptford Middle School in September of 2023. Although this is always a bittersweet time for our Green-Fields Family, we're anticipating great things from the GF's Class of 2023.

As is our tradition each year, we take a day to recognize these individuals with our 4th grade closing ceremony. As we pack the entire grade level into the All-Purpose Room, we reserve a large amount of time to highlight their accomplishments, praise their kindness, and encourage them to always be their best selves by using what they've learned at Green-Fields.

The morning begins with some motivating and challenging words from Mr. Corbitt along with some advice for success. This year's theme was ***The Difference Between a Good Leader...And One that is Perhaps Not So Good.*** Following this, we distribute numerous awards and honors by recognizing members of our Student Ambassadors, Safety Patrol, School Store, and M&M Club. We also include Physical Education and Sportsmanship awards, along with individual PE/ Sportsmanship Awards and two individual Kindness and Perseverance Honors.



We finish the morning with a super cool pizza party, complete with water ice and PTO gifts, together with Yearbook distribution, book signings, and 4th grade T-Shirt autographs. All in all, it's a wonderful way to celebrate the accomplishments of some outstanding students who will always be a part of our Green-Fields Family.





## Fantastic Finish at The Lower Elementary Schools

The end of the school year brought lots of fun and excitement to our lower elementary schools. Both Oakview and Red Bank experienced four separate field trips. Our students will now have a new experience each year.

All district preschool students enjoyed the fresh air and chance to play with friends when they headed to West Deptford's very own Field of Dreams. Their adventure included a picnic snack/lunch and a visit from some very special animals from Vets in Training. The preschool students had the opportunity to engage with peers from other classes, giving them the opportunity to extend their social skills and learn through interactive activities.



The Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia was the destination for our kindergarten students. This hands-on experience fostered their creativity and their wonder of exploration. Waterworks and Alice in Wonderland's magical maze were definitely two of the favorites.





Animals, animals, animals were brought to life when first graders went on their adventure to the Philadelphia Zoo. The weather was perfect for the students to explore the 42-acre campus and connect their observations to the readings they have done at school. They learned from the zoo keepers while they feed the giraffes. The animals were very lively in their exhibits as we saw the otters swimming and diving, the majestic lions roaring, and the monkeys being silly as they chased each other swinging from the ropes.



Finally, our second graders visited the oldest natural sciences institution in the Western Hemisphere, the Academy of Natural Science. As the students explored the museum, they came face-to-face with towering dinosaur skeletons and observed experts working with real fossils. In the Outside-In exhibit, inquisitive minds were able to investigate live animals in their habitats. This was a dream come true for students interested in the way arthropods live!

Just in case the field trips were not exciting enough, both schools ended a wonderful year with our "Passports Around the World" themed field days. Our physical education teachers, Nicole English and Corey Harvey created and organized a day jam packed with outdoor activities. All stations were labeled as a country so students felt as though they were traveling the world through interactive play.





## Preschool Community Service Project



This spring, preschool students at Oakview, Red Bank, and Green-Fields took part in a community service project. Each of our elementary schools are located in the middle of neighborhoods, which results in our neighbors often dealing with extra traffic issues due to buses and families dropping off and picking up their children. Our school district is so grateful for the patience and kindness our neighbors show us.





To show thanks and to brighten our neighbors' day, each preschooler in the program decorated a paper planting box. They filled each box with a flower and thankful poem, and then delivered them to the homes located in the close vicinity of our school neighborhoods. Helping our preschoolers participate in activities that help others outside of our school community allows them to see that they can make a difference in the lives of others.





---

# 21st Century Scholars Camp

## Can I Go Back to School, Please?

By: Tara Bosco

21st Century Scholars are at it again this summer using their thinking and problem solving skills to complete challenges and tasks with a focus on academics. This summer there were eight mornings of programming available in the Green-Fields library for children who just finished kindergarten through fourth-grade.

Our youngest participants spent three days completing “Superhero Training Camp.” Did you know superheroes are good at math, science, and language arts? Our trainees took on villains and showcased their skills with relays, STEM activities, and creative thinking.

One of my favorite games to play with students in first- and second-grade is called Superhero Hotline. I create a scenario and then begin to randomly select students to answer the “phone” and help me brainstorm an answer. This year Savannah Baldwin, Luca Sciroto, and Edith Johns were especially quick on their feet to solve some sticky situations with buses and bees. They used their quick thinking skills and knowledge of science to imagine helpful superpowers and creative solutions.





On our final day of training, we asked our participants to use a Venn Diagram to compare real world heroes with superheroes. During this activity we worked together to identify some problems heroes could solve. Our heroes agreed that taking care of animals and the earth are our top priorities. One insightful first-grader, Dominic Citrone, used his knowledge of real world problems to suggest heroes can work together to cure viruses before they shut down our world in the future.

Other workshops and camps this summer included Knowledge Bowl Training, Using Games to Learn, and Collaboration Challenges that kept our third- and fourth-grade attendees working together while utilizing their academic skills. These programs are designed to meet the needs of students who love learning in a classroom so much that waiting until September to return was unfathomable. If this description matches your child, and you are interested in the 2024 summer program, please send an email to [tbosco@wdeptford.k12.nj.us](mailto:tbosco@wdeptford.k12.nj.us) now. The programming is limited, and must be at no cost to the district, so parents contribute to make this opportunity possible.



---

# CHILD FIND

## SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

A wide variety of special education programs are available for students between the ages of 3 and 21 who require specialized instruction and/or related services such as speech/language services, occupational therapy, and physical therapy in order to meet their educational needs. Educational program options include: instruction in a general education class with all the necessary and appropriate supports, supplemental instruction, resource center programs, special class programs within the school district, special education programs in out-of-district public or private schools, individual instruction at home, in medical institutions or other appropriate facilities.

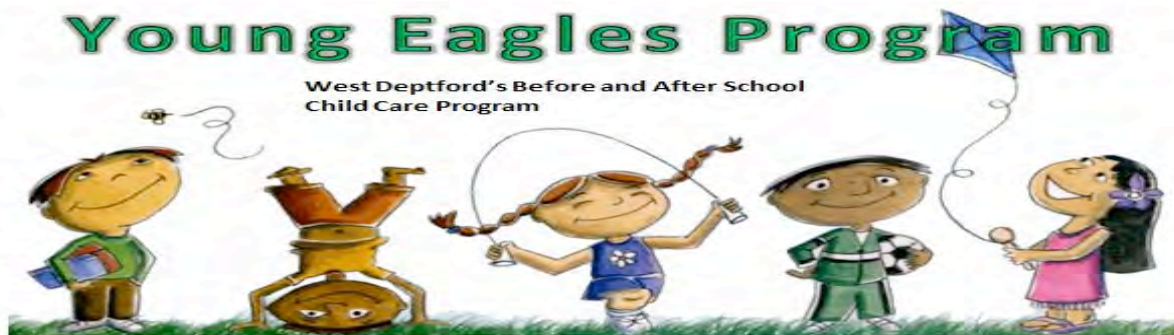
## PRESCHOOL DISABLED PROGRAM

The Preschool Disabled Program provides appropriate educational experiences for youngsters between the ages of 3 and 5 who experience developmental delays in the areas of speech and language, motor development, cognition, and/or social/emotional functioning. The school district offers an educational program, related services, and curb-to-curb transportation at no cost to parents. The children are placed according to individual needs and developmental levels. In the preschool programs, they are encouraged to explore new materials, develop emerging skills, and interact in a social setting. Speech/language therapy and occupational therapy are offered as an integral part of the classroom program and/or on an individual basis as needed.

If warranted, other services such as physical therapy may be initiated.

**If you have any questions about either of the programs described above and feel that your child may require services, please call the Director of Special Education and Related Services, Dr. Kim Seifring, at (856) 848-4300, ext. 4208.**

---



The West Deptford Young Eagles Program is a fully licensed Child Care Center located at all three elementary schools. During the 2023-2024 school year, we will be offering care to West Deptford residents in kindergarten thru sixth grade. Children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, games, homework time, and indoor/outdoor play. Breakfast and snack are provided daily. Program options and hours of operation are listed below.

<b>AM Sessions:</b> 6:45 AM to start of the school day. <b>PM Sessions:</b> School dismissal to 6:30 PM	
<b>2023-2024 Program Options and Pricing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AM only \$47.50 per week/per child</li><li>• AM plus Half Days - \$55.00 per week/per child</li><li>• PM only - \$74.00 – per week/per child</li><li>• Full Program \$121.50 per week/per child</li></ul>	<b>Drop-In Voucher Program:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AM Drop-In Care Booklet - \$70.00 (5 Vouchers/5 Sessions)</li><li>• PM Drop-In Care Booklet - \$100.00 (5 Vouchers/5 Sessions)</li><li>• PM Drop-In Care on Half Days will require two PM Drop-In Care Vouchers to be turned in.</li></ul>

A \$75.00 non-refundable registration fee per family is required. Registration will open on Monday, July 17, 2023. THE DEADLINE FOR ENROLLMENT IN ORDER TO BEGIN YOUNG EAGLES ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL is Friday, August 25, 2023. Please note that any child registered after August 25, 2023 will not be guaranteed to begin the program on the first day of school. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Redstreak at (856) 848-4300 extension 3212 or dredstreak@wdeptford.k12.nj.us





# NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION



**A person, other than the parent, who intends to enroll a student *WITHOUT* proof of custody or guardianship, *CANNOT* enroll a student unless a legal guardianship, issued by the state or by the court of law, is submitted.**

**Presenting a false record or falsifying records is an offense under Section 37.10, Penal Code and enrollment of the child under false documents, subjects the person to liability for tuition and other costs. TEC Sec.25.002 (3)(d).**

**Step 1 :** Student **ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION** must be completed prior to submitting documents. To start the process, go to [www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us](http://www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us) or [www.wdschools.org](http://www.wdschools.org).

**Step 2 :** In 2 business days after submitting the Pre-Registration, you will get an email “**Notice of Incomplete Registration**” that has a list of **required documents** to be submitted to complete the registration.

The “Notice of Incomplete Registration” email will also have a **link/instructions** for you to schedule an appointment to submit the documents.

## Documents that **MUST** be submitted **IN-PERSON** [by the **parent/legal guardian**]

- ☐ **BIRTH CERTIFICATE** of the student, must be original with the **raised seal** (hospital certificate NOT acceptable)
- ☐ **PHOTO ID/DRIVERS LICENSE** (government-issued) of the parent or legal guardian

## Documents that can be submitted **IN-PERSON** or can be **UPLOADED** during pre-registration only

- ☐ **CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP** issued by the court of law or by the state, *if applicable*
- ☐ **DEED, PROPERTY TAX** or **MORTGAGE** bill (**recent**; must submit one) for PROPERTY OWNERS  
- OR -- ☐ **LEASE CONTRACT** for RENTERS with a current lease date (If lease has an expired date, you must submit proof of lease renewal)
- ☐ **UTILITY** bill (**recent** water & sewer or gas or electric/solar bill; must submit one)
- ☐ For **\*SHARED-HOUSING**, notarized **RESIDENCY AFFIDAVITS** (blank forms available online or in our office)
- ☐ **IMMUNIZATION** record (up-to-date)
- ☐ **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION** record (must be taken within **1 year** from date of last physical)
- ☐ **TRANSFER CARD** (**required**, if transferring within NJ; parent **MUST REQUEST** a copy from school)
- ☐ **REPORT CARD** or unofficial **TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS** (**required** for incoming **9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>** grades)
- ☐ **IEP/504 PLAN/SPEECH**, *if applicable*

**\*SHARED-HOUSING** - Parent/Guardian's name is **NOT** on the PRIMARY Proof of Residency

*If you are residing with a family or a friend in West Deptford, the resident who owns or renting the property, must provide proof that you reside in West Deptford with a notarized **RESIDENCY AFFIDAVIT** and **two (2) Proofs of Residency** as listed above. **Person on the affidavit and on the Deed/Property Tax/Mortgage bill or Lease plus Utility bill must be the same person.***

**Maureen Apat-Maningo**, Central Registration

West Deptford Schools Administration Bldg. | 999 Kings Highway | West Deptford NJ 08086  
Email [registration@wdeptford.k12.nj.us](mailto:registration@wdeptford.k12.nj.us) | Phone (856) 848-4300 ext. 3209 | Fax (856) 845-5743

---

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Drew Ricchiuti, President

Mr. Robert Jones, Vice President

Mr. Steven Bagge • Mrs. Nancy Barna

Mr. Brett Fetty • Mrs. Jacquelyn Naphys

Mrs. Kimberly Schultz, Esq.

2 Vacant Seats



---

## FOCUS ON WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOLS

is a publication of the Board of Education  
of West Deptford

Dr. Brian C. Gismondi, Superintendent

Dr. Shawnequa Carvalho, Asst. Superintendent for HR/CAO

Mr. Steven Jakubowski, Jr., Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Thomas N. Tucci, Director of Technology & Special Projects

Dr. Kimberly Seifring, Director of Special Education & Related Services

Mr. Walter Berglund, Director of Facilities

Mrs. Suzanne Thomas-Hasko, Transportation Supervisor

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Deptford, N.J.  
08096  
PERMIT NO. 182

**\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\***

**POSTAL CUSTOMER**

---

It is with great excitement and gratitude that I officially assumed the role of Superintendent of the West Deptford School District on July 1. It is an honor to serve this community, and I am committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to continue to provide the best educational experience for our students. As we release the Summer 2023 Newsletter, it is with pride and enthusiasm that we celebrate our students and the exciting events and achievements that have taken place throughout our district this past year.

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our incredible students for successfully completing another school year. Their hard work, excitement, and dedication have been truly inspiring. Our students remained focused and rose to the challenge. I am incredibly proud of their achievements, and I am confident that they will continue to excel in their educational journey. Special congratulations to the Class of 2023. On behalf of the West Deptford School District, we wish you good health, success, and best wishes as you venture towards your next adventure. During these summer months, plans and preparations for 23-24 are effectively underway. As the new Superintendent, I want to assure you that I am fully dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the high standards of education that West Deptford School District is known for. I am committed to fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environment where each student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Together with our talented and dedicated educators, staff, and administrators, I am eager to continue to implement innovative strategies and initiatives that will further enrich our students' educational experience.

In closing, I want to express my sincere appreciation for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we can create a nurturing educational environment that prepares our students for success and empowers them to reach their full potential. I am excited to embark on this journey as your Superintendent and look forward to collaborating with you to ensure a bright future for our students. Wishing you a restful and enjoyable remainder of the summer.

Warm regards,

Dr. Brian C. Gismondi  
Superintendent of Schools

