



## 2024-2025 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

[www.wjhsd.net](http://www.wjhsd.net)



### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Students are the primary focus of the West Jefferson Hills School District where, in partnership with families and community, the mission is to educate and prepare all students to become active, contributing members of society by providing a challenging, innovative educational program guided by an exceptional staff in a safe, positive, caring environment, all of which promote excellence.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

Where innovation meets excellence to create opportunities for lifelong learners

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of the West Jefferson Hills School District to not discriminate on the basis of sex, handicap, age, race, color, and national origin in its educational and vocational programs, activities, or employment as required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI. For information regarding services, activities, programs, and facilities that are accessible to and useable by handicapped persons or about your rights or grievance procedures, contact Dr. William Henderson, Assistant Superintendent, at 412-655-8450 x2249.



Facebook.com/westjeffersonhills



@wjhschools

## Administration

Superintendent	Dr. Janet Sardon	412-655-8450, ext. 2225
Assistant Superintendent	Dr. William Henderson	412-655-8450, ext. 2249
Director of Finance/Board Secretary	Tracy Harris	412-655-8450, ext. 2248
Supervisor of Special Education/Pupil Personnel	Dr. Cassandra Bozek	412-655-8450, ext. 2246
Director of Facilities	TBA	412-655-8450, ext. 2238
Food Service Director	John Rambo	412-655-8610, ext. 6270
Director of Technology and Innovation	Dr. Jennifer Kassimer	412-655-8450, ext. 2227
Manager of Technology	Paul Bruschi	412-655-8610, ext. 6298
Thomas Jefferson High School Principal	Peter Murphy	412-655-8610, ext. 6235
Thomas Jefferson High School Assistant Principal	Adam Knaresborough	412-655-8610, ext. 6357
Thomas Jefferson High School Assistant Principal	Erikka Kuhse	412-655-8610, ext. 6236
Pleasant Hills Middle School Principal	Daniel Como	412-655-8680, ext. 7223
Pleasant Hills Middle School Assistant Principal	Jodi Merwin	412-655-8680, ext. 7224
Jefferson Hills Intermediate Principal	Christopher Very	412-655-4163
Jefferson Hills Intermediate School Assistant Principal	Dr. Melissa McCauley	412-655-4163
Gill Hall Elementary Principal	Adam Zunic	412-655-4732
McClellan Elementary Principal	Justin Liberatore	412-655-2700
Administrative Services/Communications Coordinator	Patrick Harrigan	412-655-8450, ext. 2233



### BOARD MEMBERS

Kimberley Finnerty, President  
 Suzanne Downer, Vice President  
 Christopher Zacur, Vice President  
 Dave Dominick  
 Denise Kahler  
 Anthony Rash, Sr.  
 Adam Rice  
 Kristin Shoemaker  
 (One vacancy as of July 1)

*“An investment in knowledge pays the best dividends.” ~Benjamin Franklin*



### **RIGHT TO KNOW**

In conjunction with the Open Records Law, effective January 1, 2009, West Jefferson Hills School District has designated an Opens Records Officer as follows:

Tracy Harris, Open Records Officer  
District Administration Building  
830 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
openrecordsofficer@wjhsd.net

Any and all inquiries under the Open Records Policy should be directed to the Open Records Officer.

Contact Info for the Office of Open Records:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Office of Open Records  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 4th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225  
Phone: 717-346-9903  
Fax: 717-425-5343  
openrecords@state.pa.us

For more information, please refer to WJHSD Open Records Policy 801 on our website.



**WJHSD Sports Schedules can be accessed at:  
[www.wjhsd.net](http://www.wjhsd.net) and [tjjaguars.org](http://tjjaguars.org)**





**Pleasant Hills Middle School**



**Administration Building**

**Jefferson Hills Intermediate School**



**Gill Hall Elementary School**



**McClellan Elementary School**



**Thomas Jefferson High School**









# August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Pleasant Hills Community Day
11	12	13	14	15 JAGUAR LEAP/9th GRADE ORIENTAION	16	17
18	19 KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION PHMS 6th GRADE OPEN HOUSE	20 Work Session 7:30PM	21	22 JHIS 3rd GRADE OPEN HOUSE	23 CLERICAL DAY	24
25	26 FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS	27 Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM	28	29	30	31







# September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	3 JHIS PTA 7PM	4 TJHS OPEN HOUSE	5 PHMS 7th-8th GRADE OPEN HOUSE	6	7
8	9	10 JHIS 4th-5th GRADE OPEN HOUSE	11 MCES PTA 6:30PM	12 GHES/MCES 1st-2nd GRADE OPEN HOUSE	13	14
15	16	17 PHMS PTO 7PM Work Session 7:30PM	18 TJ Connections 7PM	19	20	21
22	23	24 Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM	25	26	27	28
29	30					







WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 2024

SEPTEMBER '24

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOVEMBER '24

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER '24

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		126 JHIS PTA 7PM	227 Rosh Hashanah	328	429	5 Fall Festival of Bands
6	730	831	932 GHES PTA 10AM MCES PTA 6:30PM	1033 WJH Council of PTAs 7PM	1134	12
13	14 Columbus Day IN SERVICE DAY	1535 ACT 80 DAY/IN SERVICE Work Session 7:30PM	1636	1737	1838	19
20	2139	2240 Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM	2341	2442	2543	26
27	2844	2945 End of 1st Nine Weeks	3046	3147 Halloween		







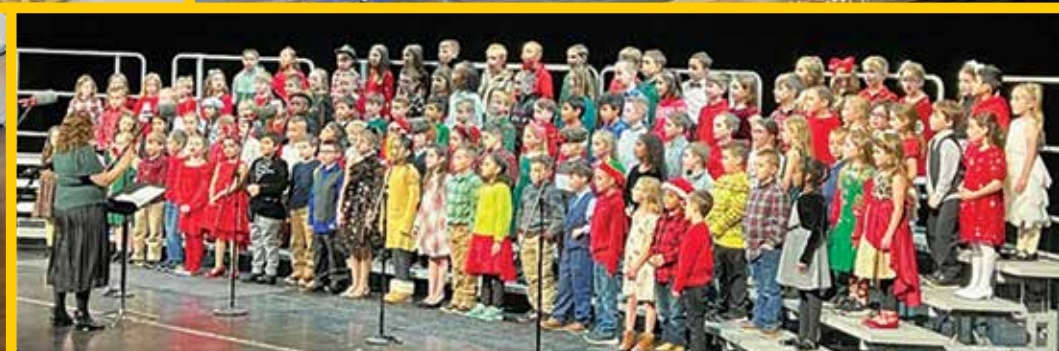
WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 2024

OCTOBER '24							DECEMBER '24							JANUARY '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		JHIS PTA 7PM		GHES PTA 7PM		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Veterans Day		MCES PTA 6:30PM	WJH Council of PTAs 7PM		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		PHMS PTA 7PM Work Session 7:30PM	TJ Connections 7PM			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Afternoon & Evening Conferences - Early Dismissal -	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY RECESS			







WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 2024

NOVEMBER '24							JANUARY '25							FEBRUARY '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2				1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	366	467	568	669	7
	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	Exec Session 6:30PM Board Reorg 7:00PM Board Meeting 7:30PM		KEYSTONE EXAMS		
8	970	1071	1172	1273	1374	14
			KEYSTONE EXAMS			
			MCES PTA 6:30PM			
15	1675	1776	1877	1978	2079	21
		KEYSTONE EXAMS				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Kwanzaa Begins		
			HOLIDAY RECESS			
			Hanukkah Begins			
29	30	31				
		New Year's Eve				







# WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# January 2025

DECEMBER '24

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY '25

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH '25

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			NEW YEAR'S DAY		HOLIDAY RECESS	
5	6 80	7 81	8 82	9 83	10 84	11
			KEYSTONE EXAMS			
		JHIS PTA 7PM	MCES PTA 6:30PM	GHES PTA 10AM		
12	13 85	14 86	15 87	16 88	17 89	18
			KEYSTONE EXAMS			
			TJ Connections 7PM			
19	20	21 90	22 91	23 92	24 93	25
	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR HOLIDAY		End of 2nd Nine Weeks			
		PHMS PTO 7PM Work Session 7:30PM				
26	27 94	28 95	29 96	30 97	31 98	
		Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM				







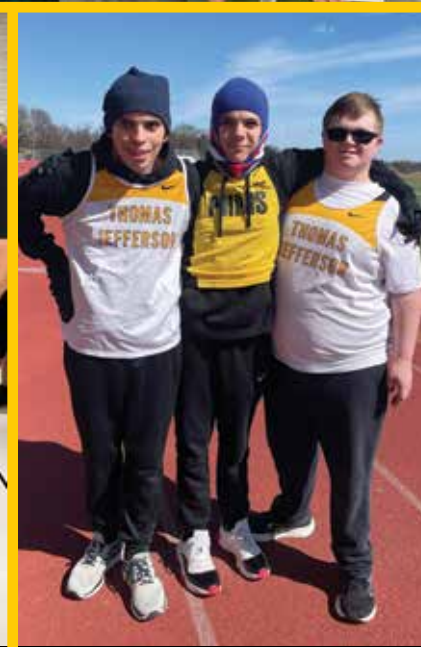
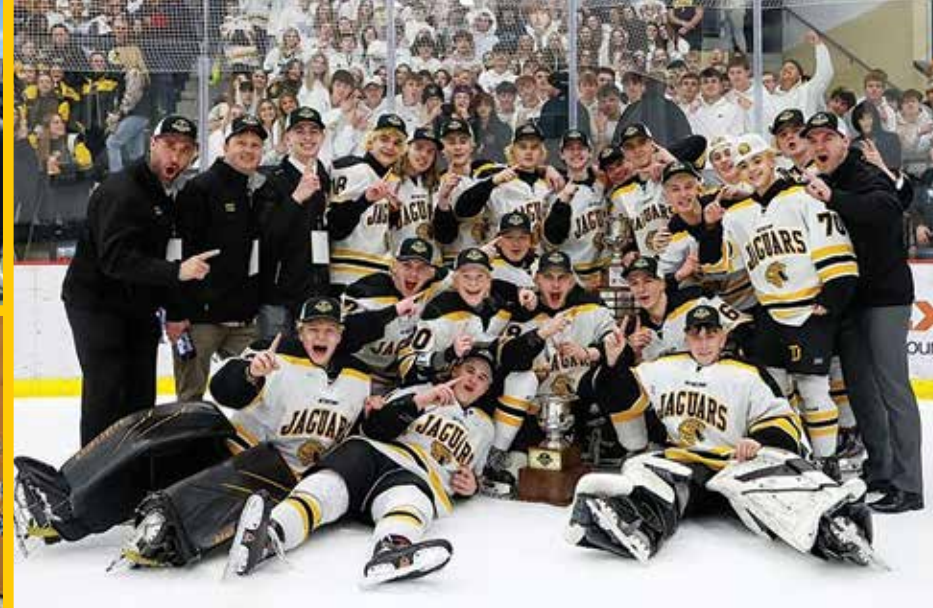
WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 2025

JANUARY '25							MARCH '25							APRIL '25							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
			1	2	3	4							1				1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
							30	31													

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	399	4100	5101	6102	7103	8
		GHES PTA 7PM JHIS PTA 7PM				
9	10104	11105	12106	13107	14108	15
			MCES PTA 6:30PM			
16	17109 PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY ACT 80 DAY/IN SERVICE	18110	19111	20112	21113	22
		Work Session 7:30PM				
23	24114	25115	26116	27117	28118 Ramadan Begins	
		Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM				







WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 2025

FEBRUARY '25							APRIL '25							MAY '25							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
						1			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
23	24	25	26	27	28		27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3119	4120	5121	6122	7123	8
		JHIS PTA 7PM	Ash Wednesday			
9	10124	11125	12126	13127	14128	15
			MCES PTA 6:30PM	GHES PTA 10AM		
16	17	18129	19130	20131	21132	22
	IN SERVICE DAY	PHMS PTO 7PM Work Session 7:30PM	TJ Connections 7PM			
23	24133	25134	26135	27136	28137	29
		Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM			End of 3rd Nine Weeks	
30	31138					







WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 2025

MARCH '25							MAY '25							JUNE '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1					1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
30	31																			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1139	2140	3141	4142	5
		GHES PTA 7PM JHIS PTA 7PM				
6	7143	8144	9145	10146	11147	12Passover
			MCES PTA 6:30PM			
13	14148	15149	16150	17	18Good Friday	19
			- Early Dismissal -	SPRING RECESS		
		Work Session 7:30PM				
20	21	22151	23152	24153	25154	26
	SPRING RECESS	PSSA TESTING - ELA - GRADES 3-8				
		Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM				
27	28155	29156	30157			
	PSSA TESTING - ELA - GRADES 3-8 PSSA TESTING - MATHEMATICS/SCIENCE- GRADES 3-8					







WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 2025

APRIL '25							JUNE '25							JULY '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30				29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1158	2159	3
				PSSA TESTING - MATHEMATICS/SCIENCE- GRADES 3-8		
				GHES PTA 10AM		
4	5160	6161	7162	8163	9164	10
PHMS PTO 7PM				JHIS PTA 7PM		
11	12165	13166	14167	15168	16169	17
Mother's Day TJHS to have occasional three-hour delays this week			KEYSTONE EXAMS			
		Work Session 7:30PM	TJ Connections 7PM MCES PTA 6:30PM			
18	19170	20171	21172	22173	23174	24
		KEYSTONE EXAMS		ACT 80 DAY/IN SERVICE		
		Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM				
25	26	27175	28176	29177	30178	31
MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY						







# WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# June 2025

MAY '25							JULY '25							AUGUST '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 179	3 180	4 181	5 182	6	7
				End of 4th Nine Weeks <b>LAST (1/2) DAY FOR STUDENTS</b> <b>GRADUATION</b>	CLERICAL DAY	
8	9	10	11 KENNYWOOD DAY	12	13	14 Jefferson Hills Community Day Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17 Work Session 7:30PM	18	19 Juneteenth	20	21
22	23	24 Exec Session 6:30PM Board Meeting 7:30PM	25	26	27	28
29	30					



**WEST JEFFERSON HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**P.O. BOX 18061 • PITTSBURGH, PA 15236 • 412-855-8276**  
**www.wjhchamber.com • info@wjhchamber.com**



## **PROMOTING LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE WEST JEFFERSON HILLS COMMUNITY**

The West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1973, represents the boroughs of West Elizabeth, Jefferson Hills, and Pleasant Hills. WJHCC is a voluntary partnership of business owners and professionals working together to generate a viable local economy. Chamber members, including local business professionals, various township council and members of the West Jefferson Hills School District, work towards aiding economic development, establishing local businesses and furthering academic excellence within our schools.

The West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce sponsors the following events and invites local business owners, business professionals, and Chamber Members to attend:

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies/Grand Opening & Reopening Celebrations
- Fall Breakfast Roundtable at Steel Center CTE
- Pizza on the Patio
- Sunrise Social Business Roundtable at TJHS
- Poolside Gathering
- Picnic on the Porch
- Fall Breakfast Roundtable
- Veterans Day
- Contributions to Borough Community Days
- Annual Christmas Party

Please call 412-543-8403 or e-mail [info@wjhchamber.com](mailto:info@wjhchamber.com) for additional information, and membership applications are available on our website at [www.wjhchamber.com](http://www.wjhchamber.com).

## **OUR MISSION**

*The West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce promotes local business development and community collaboration and endorses expanding local business in West Elizabeth, Jefferson Hills and Pleasant Hills.*

## **WEST JEFFERSON HILLS CHAMBER OFFICERS**

### **PRESIDENT: SUZANNE MACKULIN**

#### **ALL PITTSBURGH REAL ESTATE**

6 Clairton Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-855-8276

### **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: WILLIAM D. TRIMBATH**

#### **BOROUGH OF PLEASANT HILLS**

410 East Bruceton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-655-3300

### **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: STACEY CAUDILL**

Steel Center for Career & Technical Education  
565 Lewis Run Road, Jefferson Hills, PA. 15025  
412-469-3200

### **TREASURER: RAEANNE DALTON**

#### **THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK**

269 Clairton Blvd., Pleasant Hills, PA 15236  
412-653-7852

### **RECORDING SECRETARY: LOUISE BIDDLE**

#### **WEST ELIZABETH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

PO Box 716, West Elizabeth, PA 15088  
412-384-8200

### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: ROSANN CUSUMANO ELINSKY**

#### **CUSUMANO INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**

178 Clairton Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-655-4552



WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 2025

JUNE '25							AUGUST '25							SEPTEMBER '25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30						24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
				1		2		3		4		5	
								4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY					
6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
13		14		15		16		17		18		19	
20		21		22		23		24		25		26	
27		28		29		30		31					



## WEST JEFFERSON HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### **Renee Holtzman**

HIGHMARK/ALLEGHENY HEALTH NETWORK  
120 Fifth Avenue Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
413-874-6558

### **Stacey Caudill and Kevin Rice**

STEEL CENTER FOR CAREER &  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION  
565 Lewis Run Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
412-469-3200

### **Dr. Janet Sardon and Patrick Harrigan**

WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
District Administration Building  
830 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
412-655-8450

### **Carrie McCaffrey/Council Member**

BOROUGH OF JEFFERSON HILLS  
925 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
412-655-7735

### **Carly Martin**

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
1750 Clairton Road  
West Mifflin, PA 15122  
412-469-1100

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **TYLER HARRINGTON**



#### **Steel Center Recipient**

At the Steel Center for Career and Technical Education Senior Awards Ceremony, Electrical Construction student Tyler Harrington was named the recipient of the West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce Scholarship. The selection is based on academic achievement and attendance. A 2024 Thomas Jefferson High School graduate, Tyler was named Steel Center Student of the Month three times, earned two Extra Effort Awards and was recognized as Top of the Shop. He was selected as a class foreman and completed his work at Steel Center with his PBA, Pa. Advanced Skills and OSHA 30 certifications.

A TJ Honors graduate, Tyler plans to apply to the IBEW, Local 5 Apprenticeship program.

### **EVAN COMO**



#### **Thomas Jefferson HS Business Recipient**

At the Thomas Jefferson High School Senior Awards Ceremony, Evan Como was named the recipient of the West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce Scholarship. The selection is based on business classes taken, leadership skills and continued studying in business programs.

A 2024 Thomas Jefferson HS graduate, Evan completed the following business courses at TJ: Accounting 1, 2 and 3, Exploratory Business, Business Computer Fundamentals and Incubator. He was president of the National Business Honor Society, a member of the National Honor Society, AP Humanities Club and the Big Jag Little Cub Club. A TJ Honors graduate, Evan was a primary organizer of the TJ NBHS Dodgeball Tournament that raised \$3,000 for the Four Diamonds Fund in the fight against childhood cancer. He plans to attend Waynesburg University in the fall majoring in Accounting.



# August 2025

JULY '25							SEPTEMBER '25							OCTOBER '25							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			28	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Pleasant Hills Community Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



## WEST JEFFERSON HILLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS FOR 2024-25

Suzanne Mackulin, 412-855-8276

WEST JEFFERSON HILLS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



WEST ELIZABETH | JEFFERSON HILLS | PLEASANT HILLS

### **All Pittsburgh Real Estate**

6 Clairton Blvd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **AHN/Jefferson Hospital**

565 Coal Valley Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

### **American National Insurance**

147 Baker Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **AR Workshop**

36 Old Clairton Road  
Suite 100  
Pleasant Hills, PA 15236

### **Baldwin Emergency Medical**

1 Readshaw Way  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

### **Barrett Whole Body Chiropractic**

571 Clairton Boulevard  
Pleasant Hills, PA 15236

### **Berkshire Hathaway, HS, PPMC**

Blane Allan  
704 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025  
412-523-2893

### **Borough of Jefferson Hills**

925 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

### **Borough of Pleasant Hills**

410 East Bruceton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **Bowser Automotive**

1001 Clairton Boulevard  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236



### **Clearview Federal Credit Union**

613 Clairton Blvd.  
West Mifflin, PA 15236

### **Comfort Keepers**

5824 Brownsville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-204-7853

### **Community College of Allegheny County**

1750 Clairton Road  
West Mifflin, PA 15122

### **Covelli & Piscione Law Offices, P.C.**

357 Regis Avenue, Suite 1  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-1416  
412-653-5000

### **Cusumano Insurance Agency, Inc.**

178 Clairton Blvd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **Denillo Heating & Cooling**

2994 Industrial Blvd.  
Bethel Park, PA 15102

### **Dollar Bank**

500 Clairton Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **Georgetown Centre**

526 East Bruceton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **Guardian Storage**

5873 Centre Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

### **Graham Chiropractic**

545 E. Bruceton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

### **Huntington National Bank**

2381 Mountain View Drive  
West Mifflin, PA 15122

### **IN Community Magazines**

11 Mayview Road  
Canonsburg, PA 15317  
724-942-0940

### **Jefferson Hills Library Association**

925 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

### **Jefferson Hills Real Estate**

1264 Gill Hall Road  
No. 3499  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025



**Jefferson Regional Foundation**  
565 Coal Valley Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

**Lawrence Ross Agency, LLC**  
67 Old Clairton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**Patricia McGrail and Associates, LLC**  
1714 Lincoln Way  
McKeesport, PA 15131  
412-664-4433

**Pleasant Hills Apartments**  
500 East Bruceton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**Pleasant Hills Public Library**  
302 Old Clairton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**Prudential Financial**  
333 Picture Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers**  
410 Clairton Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**SBS Exteriors**  
916 Clifton Road  
Bethel Park, PA 15102

**Snyder-Ross Agency**  
67 Old Clairton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**South Hills Dance Academy, LLC**  
5408 Clairton Blvd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**Steel Center for Career and Technical Education**  
565 North Lewis Run Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

**Stephen D. Slater Funeral Home**  
1701 State Route 51  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

**John A. Stiver, CPA**  
165 Curry Hollow Road, No. 5  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**TRUSS Brewing Company**  
42 Old Clairton Road  
Pleasant Hills, PA 15236



**Voss TV & Appliance, LLC**  
903 Gill Hall Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025

**W.A. Gregory and Associates PC**  
60 Terence Drive  
Suite 201  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**West Elizabeth Borough**  
P.O. Box 716  
West Elizabeth, PA 15088

**West Jefferson Hills School District**  
830 Old Clairton Road  
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025



## PTA and PTO MEMBERS

### McClellan

President: Natalie Jones  
1st VP: Becky Kempa  
2nd VP: Angela Slappo  
Treasurer: Lauren Mastrangelo  
Secretary: Beth Hoover

### JHIS

President: Misty Hawk  
VP: Denise Huenefeld and Jessica Rudolph  
Treasurer: Leah Legge  
Secretary: Kristin Wasko

### Gill Hall

President: Jen Tosi  
Vice President: Missy Montgomery  
Secretary: Lauren Bogus  
Treasurer: Terria Dotson

### PHMS

President: Ashley Ormond  
Vice President: Nicole Leckenby  
Secretary: Erin Kesser  
Treasurer: Christine Mordecki

### TJ Connections

President: Jennifer Beach  
Vice President: Nicole Solomon  
Secretary: TBD  
Treasurer: Nicole Leckenby

### WJH Council of PTAs

President: Lori Danen  
Vice President: Nicole Solomon  
Secretary: Tina Skalos  
Treasurer: Regan Katz





## **RECORDS POLICY FOR NON-EXCEPTIONAL AND EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS and 2024-2025 PUBLIC AND PARENT INFORMATION NOTICE**

### **Notice of Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record. They should write the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides

not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information (PII) contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A second notable exception to the consent rule relates to the disclosure of education records to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The District may also disclose otherwise protected information in response to a health or safety emergency, or pursuant to a judicial order.

The District is also permitted to share "Directory information" without prior consent as "Directory Information" is not deemed to be an educational

record as defined by FERPA. Please see the notice below regarding the School District's policy regarding the disclosure of directory information.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Complaints may also be filed by emailing FERPA. [Complaints@ed.gov](mailto:Complaints@ed.gov). Additional information can be accessed at: <https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint>.

See the list below of the disclosures that elementary and secondary schools may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or



eligible student, § 99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student –

- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency (SEA) in the parent or eligible student's State. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf, if applicable requirements are met. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the

conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))

- To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to § 99.38. (§ 99.31(a)(5))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction, if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" if applicable requirements under § 99.37 are met. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency or tribal organization who is authorized to access a student's case plan when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student in foster care placement. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(L))
- To the Secretary of Agriculture or authorized representatives of the Food and Nutrition Service for purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of programs authorized under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, under certain conditions. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(K))

### **Directory Information Policy Pursuant to 34 C.F.R. § 99.37(d)**

As is discussed above, FERPA requires the West Jefferson Hills School District to obtain written consent prior to disclosing personally identifiable information from a student's education records, unless one of the enumerated exceptions applies. The directory information exception allows the School District to disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless the School District has been advised to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School District to include this type of information from a student's education records in certain school publications, such as a playbill showing a student's role in a drama production, the annual yearbook, honor roll or other recognition lists, graduation programs and sports activity sheets (i.e., for wrestling events, weight and heights of team members are generally listed).

Directory information is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. FERPA permits the School District to disclose directory information to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside companies include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. Additionally, federal law requires the School District to provide military recruiters, upon request, with information from three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the school district that they do not want their student's information disclosed without prior written consent.

The School District has designated the following categories of information as "directory information" subject to disclosure without parental consent: the student's name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number; photograph; date and place of birth; participation in officially recognized sports and activities; group photos; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; school and dates of attendance and grade level in school and program of study. Also included are a Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user; and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that



## RECORDS POLICY FOR NON-EXCEPTIONAL AND EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS and 2024-2025 PUBLIC AND PARENT INFORMATION NOTICE (cont.)

is displayed on a student ID badge, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

The School District may release this information without the consent of the parents or students.

Any parents or eligible students who object to the release of any or all of this information without their consent must notify, in writing, the principal of the school where the records are kept (the school your child attends). If no objection is received, then directory information may be released until the next annual notice of FERPA rights is received.

The School District has adopted a written policy regarding the rights of parents and students under FERPA. Additionally, this notice is posted on the School District's website at <http://www.wjhsd.net>.

### Unlawful Harassment Complaint Procedure

#### *Step 1 – Reporting*

A student, employee, or third party who believes s/he has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report the incident to the building principal or a district employee.

A school employee who suspects, or is notified, that a student has been subject to conduct that constitutes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the incident to the building principal.

If the building principal is the subject of a complaint, the student, third party or employee shall report the incident directly to the Compliance Officer.

The complainant or reporting employee is encouraged to use the report form available from the building principal, but oral complaints shall be acceptable.

#### *Step 2 – Investigation*

Upon receiving a complaint of unlawful harassment, the building principal shall immediately notify the Compliance Officer. The Compliance Officer shall authorize the building principal to investigate the complaint, unless the building principal is the subject of the complaint or is unable to conduct the investigation.

The investigation may consist of individual interviews with the complainant, the accused, and others with knowledge relative to the incident. The investigator may also evaluate any other information and materials relevant to the investigation.

The obligation to conduct this investigation shall not be negated by the fact that a criminal investigation of the incident is pending or has been concluded.

#### *Step 3 – Investigative Report*

The complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation, including the recommended disposition of the complaint.

#### *Step 4 – District Action*

If the investigation results in a finding that the complaint is factual and constitutes a violation of this policy, the district shall take prompt, corrective action to ensure that such conduct ceases and will not recur. District staff shall document the corrective action taken and, where not prohibited by law, inform the complainant.

Disciplinary actions shall be consistent with the Student Code of Conduct, Board policies and district procedures, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and state and federal laws, and may include educational activities and/or counseling services.

If it is concluded that a student has knowingly made a false complaint under this policy, such student shall be subject to disciplinary action.

#### *Appeal Procedure*

If the complainant is not satisfied with a finding of no violation of the policy or with the recommended corrective action, s/he may submit a written appeal to the Compliance Officer within fifteen (15) days.

The Compliance Officer shall review the investigation and the investigative report and may also conduct a reasonable investigation.

The Compliance Officer shall prepare a written response to the appeal within fifteen (15) days. Copies of the response shall be provided to the complainant, the accused and the building principal who conducted the initial investigation.

The Compliance Officer may confirm, refuse or modify any finding or corrective action as part of the appeal procedure.

Individuals with questions or concerns should contact Dr. William Henderson, Assistant Superintendent, at 412-655-8450 x2249.

### Notice of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conducting of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;

2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law, to determine program eligibility.

Parents additionally have the right to receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.)

Parents also have the right to inspect, upon request and before administration or use:

1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party, Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
2. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
3. These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The West Jefferson Hills School District will develop and adopt policies, in consultation with parents, regarding

these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The School District will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The School District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation in the specific activity or survey. The School District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys.

Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: Student Privacy Policy Office

U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

### **Support for Homeless Students**

Students experiencing homelessness may be eligible for certain educational rights and services. Federal law requires a responsible school district to enroll a student experiencing homelessness, upon request, even when the student and/or parent/guardian is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment pursuant to district policies.

For further assistance, contact the West Jefferson Hills School District Homeless Liaison, Dr. Cassandra Bozek,

Supervisor of Special Education & Pupil Personnel, at cbozek@wjhsd.net or 412-655-8450 x2246.

Additional information can be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (Pennsylvania ECYEH) Program, 333 Market Street, 5th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17126 or 717-783-6466.

### **Title I Performance Report**

The West Jefferson Hills School District receives Title I funds annually. The funds are used to provide reading services to students in grades K-5 who are basic or below basic in their reading skills. Students are identified to receive additional reading services through multiple measures of success, and eligible students in grades 6-8 receive after-school tutoring with Title I funds.

One hundred percent of the West Jefferson Hills faculty meet state certification and licensure requirements. We take great pride in the tremendous skills and dedication of our faculty and staff.

Please note that, as parents, you have the right to request and receive timely information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher. If you have any questions about our Title I Program or about your child's teacher, please call Dr. William Henderson, Assistant Superintendent, at 412-655-8450 x2249.

### **Services for Students Whose Dominant Language is not English**

In accordance with the Board's Philosophy of Education and Curriculum policies, an appropriate educational program will be designed and provided to identified students whose dominant language is not English, who is limited English proficient (LEP), or an English language learner (ELL).

The primary goal of the ESL Program is to increase the English language proficiency of limited English- proficient students so that they can meet state and district academic standards and thus be successful in school. A related goal is to increase these students' English language proficiency so that they can fully and successfully participate in all mainstreamed classes at an age-appropriate grade level. To meet these goals, the objectives of ESL or ELL instruction are the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English, and the provision of an educational environment which helps the ESL or ELL student understand and cope with a new culture. The program



## **RECORDS POLICY FOR NON-EXCEPTIONAL AND EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS and 2024-2025 PUBLIC AND PARENT INFORMATION NOTICE (cont.)**

shall meet the three-pronged test of program compliance: (1) sound research-based education theory, (2) sufficient resources and staffed by appropriate prepared personnel, (3) periodic program evaluation.

### **Non-Discrimination Policy/Unlawful Harassment**

The West Jefferson Hills School District will not discriminate in its education program, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally-protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with county, state and federal non-discrimination laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended.

Individuals who have an inquiry or complaint of discrimination or harassment should contact Dr. William Henderson, Assistant Superintendent, at 412-655-8450 ext. 2249. Individuals who need information about accommodations for persons with disabilities, should contact Dr. Cassandra Bozek, Supervisor of Special Education/Pupil Personnel, at 412-655-8450 x2246. Complaints of discrimination received by the District shall be investigated promptly and corrective action taken when allegations are substantiated. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good-faith charges of discrimination. Individuals may alternatively contact either of the following offices for assistance or to file a complaint relating to alleged discrimination or harassment: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100; Telephone: 800-421-3481 or Email: OCR@ed.gov; or Philadelphia Office, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, The Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Suite 515, Philadelphia, PA 19107-3323; Telephone: 215-656-8541 or Email: OCR.Philadelphia@ed.gov.

### **Child Find – Screening and Evaluation Services for School-Age Students**

The West Jefferson Hills School District provides a free, appropriate, public education to eligible students. To qualify as an eligible student, the child must be of school age, in need of specially designed instruction, and meet eligibility criteria for one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities, as set forth in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and referenced by Pennsylvania State Standards. There are thirteen (13) categories of disability under the IDEA: Intellectual disability, Autism, deaf blindness, deafness, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment, including blindness.

The District uses the following procedures for locating, identifying, and evaluating specific needs of school-aged students requiring special programs or services. Screening efforts are designed to identify potential signs of developmental delays and other risk factors that could indicate disabilities. These procedures, as required by federal and state laws and regulations, are as follows:

As prescribed by Section 1402 of the School Code, 24 P.S. § 14-1402, the District routinely conducts screenings of a child's hearing acuity in the following grades: Kindergarten, 1, 2, 3, 7 and 11. Visual acuity is screened in every grade. Speech and language skills are screened in Kindergarten and on a referral basis. Gross motor and fine-motor skills, academic skills, and social and/or emotional skills are assessed by classroom teachers and support staff on an on-going basis. Screening activities include review of group-based data, such as cumulative enrollment and health records, report cards, curriculum-based and performance-based assessments, and ability and achievement test scores. Identified needs from these screening sources, as well as information obtained from parents and outside agencies, are assessed and noted within student records.

School records may always be reviewed by parents and may only be released to school officials who have legitimate educational interest in obtaining information about the child. Information from the records is released to other persons or agencies only with appropriate authorization, which involves written permission, by parents or the student if he or she is eligible by law to provide consent.

If it is determined that a child needs additional services/interventions the District will seek parental consent to conduct a multi-disciplinary evaluation (MDE). By law, Parents may also initiate a request for an initial MDE of their child to determine if he or she is an eligible child with a disability at any time.

If an MDE is appropriate, the district will provide the "Permission to Evaluate" form to the parent outlining the purpose of the evaluation and the type of assessments that will be used. Parents must provide informed consent by signing and returning the permission before any evaluations can be completed. The purpose of the MDE is to assess the student's eligibility and need for special education and/or related services. Upon receipt of the signed permission, the district has 60 calendar days, excluding summers, to complete the evaluation process. Parents who suspect their child is eligible may request an evaluation at any time to the building principal or contact the Special Education Department at 412-655-8450, ext. 2247. The request must be in writing. If the request is made orally, a copy of the "Permission to Evaluate" form will be provided to the parents within 10 calendar days of the oral request.

After the assessments are completed, an Evaluation Report (ER) will be compiled with parent involvement. The ER will determine if the student has a disability and requires specially designed instruction or related services. The report will include specific recommendations for the types of interventions necessary to accommodate the child's specific needs.

A copy of the Evaluation Report will be provided to the parent and the instructional team working with the student. For the student who has been found to be eligible for, and in need of, special education services, a meeting of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team will be scheduled.

Eligible students are provided with a continuum of supports and services designed to meet their individual needs. These services may include supplementary aids and services, and/or itinerant, supplemental or full-time support. The extent of special education services and the location for the delivery of such services are determined by the student's IEP team and are based on the student's identified needs and abilities. The school district also provides related services such as transportation, physical therapy, and occupational therapy that are required to enable the student to derive educational benefits. Services are provided in the least restrictive environment and with the student's regular education peers to the maximum extent appropriate. The IEP team must first consider the regular classroom with the provision of supplementary aids and services before considering the provision of services in other settings.

Prior to the initiation of services, a "Notice of Recommended Educational Placement" (NOREP) must be signed by the parent indicating approval for the services to be provided. Parents may obtain additional information regarding special education services and/or parental due-process rights by contacting the child's school principal or the Special Education Department at 412-655-8450 x2247.

### **Services for Nonpublic School Students**

Parents of nonpublic school students who suspect that their child is eligible and in need of special education or gifted education services may also make a request for screening and/or evaluation. Parental requests should be made in writing and be directed to the West Jefferson Hills School District Special Education Department at 412-655- 8450 x2247. Special education services and gifted services are accessible to eligible nonpublic school students through dual enrollment following the multidisciplinary evaluation and the development of the IEP or GIEP.

### **Services for Protected Students with Disabilities / Chapter 15 of Title 22 Regulations**

In compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, the West Jefferson Hills School District will provide to each protected student with a disability, without discrimination

or cost to the student or family, those related services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school programs and extracurricular activities to the extent appropriate to the student's abilities. To qualify as a protected student with a disability, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in, or access to any major life activity, including but not limited to, learning.

These services and protections for "protected students with disabilities" are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

For further information on the evaluation procedures and provision of services to protected students with disabilities, contact your child's school principal or the Special Education Department at 412-655-8450 x2247.

### **Services for Preschool-Aged Children**

The Pennsylvania Early Intervention Services System Act entitles all preschool age children with disabilities to appropriate early intervention services. Young children experiencing developmental delays or physical or mental disabilities are eligible for early intervention services.

The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare is responsible for providing services to infants and toddlers, defined as children from birth through two years of age. Contact The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers, Hough Building, 2801 Custer Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227, 412-885-6000.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing services to preschool age children from ages three through five. Contact Project DART, 475 E. Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120, 412-394-5739.

### **Services for Gifted Students**

According to the Pennsylvania Regulations and Standards in Special Education, mentally gifted pupils are defined as having:

Outstanding intellectual and creative abilities to the development of which require special services not usually available in the regular education program. This term includes a person who has an IQ of 130 or higher or when multiple criteria as set forth in the Department of Education guidelines indicate gifted ability. Determination of gifted ability shall not be assessed based on IQ score

alone. Intellectual ability is and should reflect a range of assessments including a student's performance as well as potential. A person with an IQ score lower than 130 may be admitted to gifted programs when other educational criteria in the profile of the person strongly indicate gifted ability. Determination of mentally gifted shall include a full assessment and comprehensive report by a certified school psychologist specifying the nature and degree of the ability.

West Jefferson Hills School District reviews student performance data to identify when a student may require differentiated instruction. These data include standardized and criterion-referenced test data, developmental checklists, curriculum-based assessments, formative evaluation procedures and portfolios. For students who require differentiated instruction, the instructional team reviews the strengths of the child and plans strategies designed to meet the child's needs (strengths). When a student's needs cannot be met within the general curriculum, a gifted multidisciplinary evaluation will be initiated upon written permission from the parents. If appropriate, a Gifted Individualized Education Plan (GIEP) will be written.

If you suspect that your child may be mentally gifted, please contact the building principal or Special Education Department at 412-655-8450 x2247.



## A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce and the West Jefferson Hills School District are proud to be celebrating their partnership in publishing the West Jefferson Hills 2024-2025 Community Calendar.

As educators and business owners, we are committed to servicing the residents of West Jefferson Hills. Our goal in uniting our efforts to create this calendar is to provide you with information and resources.

The West Jefferson Hills School District provides quality education for approximately 3,400 students. Resolute in maintaining its exemplary reputation for excellence, the District is organized in a K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

plan offering full academic and athletic programs.

The personalized learning curriculum meets the needs of all of our students. Educational support programs with teams of trained personnel are available in each of the five District buildings to assist students who are experiencing learning or emotional difficulties.

Partnerships with local school districts, post-secondary educational institutions, organizations, corporations and neighboring businesses further enhance the educational opportunities offered to District students.

The West Jefferson Hills Chamber of Commerce brings together the expertise of more than 50 local business owners and professionals. Together, they work to promote and provide leadership in achieving the full social, economic and political potential of the West Jefferson Hills community.

*The committed partnership of community leaders and professionals in education, health care, and business contribute to the foundation of the West Jefferson Hills neighborhood. This coalition incorporates academic excellence with economic growth and development.*

### PERSONAL CORE VALUES

**RESPECT  
INTEGRITY  
EMPATHY**



### DISTRICT CORE VALUES

- **Learner Centric Focus**
- **Fostering Positive Relationships**
- **Personalization/Customization**

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