

Windsor Central School District KNIGHT NEWS

Winter 2022



Dear Windsor School District Community,

While there has been so much change within our schools as of late, the achievements of our students and staff and our plans for the 2022-23 school year show that our district continues to ensure each learner is future-ready by providing empowering educational experiences.

We are delivering the connectivity and opportunity our students need to succeed. With the onset of the pandemic, the need for reliable devices and broadband access became greater than ever. To help meet these needs, the District secured approximately \$280,000 in Federal Emergency Connectivity Funding. These funds allowed us to provide SmartBus Technology on all of our buses, as well as purchase 450 Chromebooks for student use. With wifi available on our school buses, students can access the Internet for schoolwork on their daily commute, while at school sponsored events, such as sports, arts, or academic competitions, and when needed, in their neighborhoods, by parking a bus in a central location for student access. This, paired with our recently expanded PreK-12 one to one Chromebook program, provides each student with access to learning both on and off the Windsor Central School District Campuses.

In consultation with Broome County Workforce Development, the district has collaborated with a number of industry and university partners to enhance course work related to career pathways which include: Agriculture, Biomedicine, Business/Entrepreneurship, Computer Science, Construction Trades, Education, and Engineering. High School students can concentrate within one pathway or sample from each in order to make an informed decision about their future.

Two recent course additions include Cybersecurity and Applied Economics in Manufacturing. Cybersecurity is a Project Lead the Way course that introduces students to the ever expanding sector of cybersecurity allowing students to apply problem solving skills and computer coding. In addition, we have partnered with the Cornell Center for Materials Research and the Alliance for Manufacturing and Technology to create an economics course where students manufacture adirondack chairs, tour local manufacturing firms to gain awareness of employment and career opportunities, and apply economic theory to their production operation.

State, federal and local grants have become an important part of program enhancement. A USDA Farm to school grant is helping to finance the development of the land laboratory. Grant supported enhancements of the land lab include: produce stand, orchard, bee hives, and a walk-in cooler to prolong the shelf life of harvested product. Additional grant funding will finance the development of a large animal area to be utilized for production, processing and veterinary science.

The district also secured a pair of federal grants totaling \$800,000 to make a number of safety upgrades, from new equipment to enhanced approaches with students. A nearly \$375,000 COPS School Violence Prevention Program Federal Grant will allow for a lockdown panel and strobe lighting system in each school building, enhanced video surveillance, and other protective measures.



Trunk or Treat event draws 1,000



Elementary schools unite against bullying



New Manufacturing in Economics course at WCHS



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The Department of Justice STOP School Violence Program grant of more than \$425,000 will allow for staff training in trauma-informed skills, cognitive behavioral intervention, and other initiatives.

We are fortunate to have dedicated faculty and staff committed to the advancement of learning and program opportunities. For the latest on our district, you can go to our website www.windsor-csd.org or go to our Facebook and Twitter pages. As always, thank you to the students, families, and residents who support our efforts. If you have questions about our District, I invite you to contact me or call the District Office at 655-8216.

Sincerely,

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