

WVCSD EdTalk: April 20, 2022
Dr. David Leach, Superintendent of Schools

Several New York State Education Department (NYSED) programs halted due to the pandemic are now resuming. Two of these efforts are included below, along with some information on how the Warwick Valley Central School District plans to address them in the months and years ahead.

New York State Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS)

An implementation timeline for the new NYSSLS was recently solidified and adopted. The main difference between the new and previous standards and assessments is that NYSED will now heavily emphasize *application* compared to *content knowledge*. The district will be providing professional development to its teachers with writing in this content area.

Seal of Civic Readiness

The Seal of Civic Readiness initiative has recently finished its pilot phase. The district will introduce it as another seal that it can add to eligible students' diplomas beginning next school year. To receive the Seal of Civic Readiness, a student must meet specific criteria for *demonstrating proficiency in civic knowledge* and *civic participation*.

From the NYSED website:

“The New York State Board of Regents is committed to civic education that empowers all students to make informed decisions for the public good as members of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world. Civic education facilitates the development of civic competencies, which are needed for a democratic society to flourish.”

The District will award the seal to students who achieve specific measures, particularly in Social Studies and related classes, and complete civic-focused projects that students may complete in the Warwick Valley community. Documentation for parents who have juniors and seniors who may be interested in this will be made available in advance of the next school year.

This week's highlights from our schools are as follows:

District schools were closed for Spring Break from April 11 through April 18.

Warwick Valley High School

Six Warwick Valley Wildcats signed national letters of commitment to play football at their respective colleges next fall. Jake Durie signed with Western Connecticut State in Danbury, CT. The two-time All-Section IX linebacker will study physical education and health. Nick Simonetta signed with St. Thomas Aquinas in Sparkill, NY. The All-League receiver will study exercise science. Dan Robledo signed with Keystone College in La Plume, PA. The AA All-League Honorable Mention offensive lineman will study secondary education concentrating on social studies. Nick DiMarco signed with Western Connecticut State in Danbury, CT. The two-time All-League quarterback will study health and physical education. Dan Thorson signed with Catholic University in Washington, DC. The All-League Running Back will study finance. Matt Amaturio signed with Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY. The AA All-League Defensive Lineman will be studying finance.

Go Wildcats!

Community Enrichment

The district has received several inquiries about the pool and when it will reopen to the community. The pool is now open, offering a limited schedule of recreational swimming options. Enjoy lap swim sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Two sessions are available each day – a morning session from 5:45 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. and an evening session from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please note that lap swimmers must leave the pool/locker room area by 7:00 a.m. after the morning session. Family recreational swim sessions will happen on Friday evenings, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We are glad to be able to welcome the community back to the pool. For full details and registration forms, please visit www.warwickvalleyschools.org/community-enrichment.