

## **WVCSD EdTalk: September 21, 2022**

### **Dr. David Leach, Superintendent of Schools**

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Warwick Valley High School's homecoming is a chance for our alumni to visit their old stomping grounds and reconnect with friends, for our teachers to engage with students and families, and for our seniors and underclassmen to flash their school pride.

Homecoming festivities go on all five days of “Spirit Week,” and the weekend. The homecoming parade down Main Street is on Saturday, with student-made floats – including those representing different classes and sports teams. The big football game against Wallkill follows the parade. The much-anticipated homecoming king and queen are crowned, and the evening concludes with a Homecoming Dance. A week to honor our community’s strong sense of pride. Go Wildcats!

This year’s Spirit Week theme days are as follows:

- Monday, Sept. 19: Duo Day
- Tuesday, Sept. 20: Dress for Success Day
- Wednesday, Sept. 21: Decades Day
- Thursday, Sept. 22: Superhero vs. Villain Day
- Friday, Sept. 23: Purple and Gold School Spirit Day (A pep rally will take place during school at the football field.)

The parade will start at noon on Warwick's Main Street, and the game will begin at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 24 at Warwick Valley High School’s C. Ashley Morgan Field. The Homecoming Dance will be held in the school gymnasium that night from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

This year’s Homecoming theme will be superheroes. The classes have been assigned the following:

- Seniors: Spiderman
- Juniors: Batman
- Sophomores: The Hulk
- Freshmen: Captain America

***Here are some highlights from our schools this week:***

### **Park Avenue Elementary School**

Park Avenue's guidance counselors and school psychologist have been busy laying the groundwork for success by educating students about our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) ROAR matrix. They visited classrooms to teach students about our expectations and to describe opportunities for students to earn "Golden Tickets" as an acknowledgment of their positive behavior. In addition, the team has been working hard to train staff on the importance of a universal approach to this system. They reviewed strategies with our lunch monitors and bus drivers to increase student engagement in areas outside the classroom. We are confident these efforts will provide students with the best chance to become responsible and ethical citizens inside and outside the school building.

### **Sanfordville Elementary School**

In Sanfordville, the district's PBIS initiative is represented in the schoolwide P.A.W.S. Behaviors program. Students learn about the school's behavioral expectations through classroom lessons, push-in lessons by our counselors, grade-level events, trimester celebrations, and special activities throughout the year. Positive behavior is continually reinforced through the use of our P.A.W.S. Bear Hug Ticket Rewards System.

The school PBIS team, along with the faculty and staff, have identified expectations - being polite, being accountable, making wise choices, and thinking safety first - as being most critical for the students to demonstrate. It is the school's goal to make the understanding of the P.A.W.S. expectations as clear and easy for children as possible. In a positive manner, the matrix tells children what to do and how to behave in order to abide by the four expectations in the various areas of the school - classroom, hallway, cafeteria, bus, bathroom, and playground. Students will receive ongoing training about following these expectations and be rewarded for their positive behavior individually as well as in school-wide celebrations.

### **Warwick Valley Middle School**

Warwick Valley Middle School held its Meet the Teacher Night for our students in grades 5 and 6. Parents were invited into the building to follow their child's schedule for the evening. Parents had the opportunity to move through their child's nine-period day and meet their teachers. Upon arriving at each class, parents were greeted by faculty and provided with a brief overview of expectations and course outlines. The school's Wildcat Ambassadors guided parents in the right direction when they needed assistance in the hallways. We are looking forward to our seventh and eighth grade parents joining us on Thursday, September 22, 2022, for their Meet the Teacher Night.

### **Warwick Valley High School**

If there is one thing that Warwick Valley High School holds dear to its heart, it is the traditions that have been established over many decades. On Friday night, the football team competed for

the Spirit Trophy, which is the signature prize to mark the 127-year football friendly rivalry between Goshen and Warwick. The players geared up all week to prepare, and we thank them for all of their effort and the pride they showed in their school. The game brought out thousands of spectators from the two towns to watch this unique and long-standing tradition.