



The Eagles' view

Whitney Point Central School District Newsletter

September 2015

Superintendent's Message

Dear Whitney Point Families,

The summer months are coming to a close as another school year begins. I hope you all had an opportunity to enjoy the summer weather and are looking forward to the beauty of the fall season. We have been busy at the Whitney Point Central School District offering summer opportunities for learning and getting ready for another great year.

We said goodbye to some of our teachers in the spring who retired or decided to head down different paths in life. We will miss each one of them but are excited to welcome a number of new teachers to WPCSD. We are confident you will enjoy meeting them and that they will work with us to accomplish our District Vision of being a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement.

To accomplish our District Vision, we also recognize the need to partner with parents, the community, local colleges, organizations and agencies as well as participate in local, state, and federal grants. Through our collaboration with the Promise Zone, we are able to offer year-long parent engagement opportunities and a variety of support systems. This summer, working with the Promise Zone, a number of our students were able to participate in an amazing program that included an overnight stay at Binghamton University and a number of community service projects.

Last year, Whitney Point was one of the first districts in New York state to receive a grant to offer full-day Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) classes for our four-year old students. In collaboration with Whitney Point Preschool and Daycare and Opportunities for Broome, 78 four-year olds spent the year learning and growing. We are expecting great things from these students as they enter kindergarten. In an effort to expand UPK to three-year olds, the district has applied and is waiting for approval for an additional New York State Education Department grant.

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Whitney Point honors the top students of 2015

The Whitney Point School District is pleased to announce Emily Fiorenza as the valedictorian and William Tabachnick as the salutatorian of the graduating class of 2015. Emily graduated with a 99.19 GPA and will be studying fine arts at Cornell University. She is the daughter of John and Stephanie Fiorenza. William graduated with a 96.53 GPA and looks forward to attending the University of Oregon. He is the son of Lauriel McCoy.

The district congratulates Emily, William and the entire graduating class of 2015 and wishes them the best in all their future endeavors.



Valedictorian Emily Fiorenza (above) and Salutatorian William Tabachnick (left).



ATHLETIC NEWS

The Whitney Point School District and Eagles Nest Booster Club will host Homecoming Spirit Week October 5-9. Homecoming is a tradition of welcoming back alumni and inviting the community to support all our athletic events. The week will be celebrated by the student body with spirit days and a pep rally organized by the School Improvement Committee. The band will show off their musical talents during the week and the music department will be coordinating the Homecoming Dance on Thursday, October 8. Raffle tickets will be sold by the Eagles Nest Boosters to support lights on Tymeson Field. The Booster Club will also be working with the athletic department to support a jam-packed week of home contests at the modified, JV and varsity levels for field hockey, football, soccer, swimming and volleyball. Game schedules can be found on our website at www.wpcsd.org. We hope you will come out to support our teams and join the fun. Go Eagles!

“Superintendent’s Message,” from page 1

As a Focus District, we continue to implement a comprehensive plan for improvement and maximize our resources in order to provide a variety of opportunities and safety nets for our students. We celebrate an increase in our students’ ability to respond to higher level thinking and problem-solving activities. Over the last few years, we have seen improvement in assessment and graduation rates as we work to assure our students are college and career ready. Although we are not able to provide school choice due to our school configuration, we can assure you that we are working to provide a high-quality education for all our students.

We will be presenting a new ZERO TAX IMPACT Capital Project that includes some much needed repairs to our facilities as well as improvements to increase the safety and security for our students. Due to Smart School money awarded by New York state, we will also be able to continue to expand our UPK program by adding two classrooms onto the CEA without any cost to the taxpayer. We hope you will join us at our Capital Project public information sessions on October 6 and 20.

As I enter my fourth year as Superintendent, I am amazed each day at the accomplishments of our students and the dedication and support of our parents and community. Whitney Point is certainly a great place to work and I consider it a privilege to serve this district.

Whitney Point CSD- Where KIDS are the POINT!

Sincerely, Patricia Follette, Superintendent

District welcomes new faculty and says ‘goodbye’ to retirees

At the end of each school year, we say goodbye to our retiring staff members who have spent many years serving our students and dedicating themselves to making Whitney Point Central School an excellent environment for learning. We thank Pam Brodsky, Sharon Brown, Theresa Cialone, Yvonne Eldred, Susan Love, Diane Richards, LaVawn Short and David Wiley for their years of service to the district.

While we see some staff go, we are excited to welcome our new additions to the Whitney Point faculty and wish them the best of luck as they begin the new school year.

Lora Bury- Science	Amanda Heath - Elem. teacher
Ashleigh Catalfamo - Special Ed.	Stephanie Honsinger - Reading
Kari DiTondo - Elem. teacher	Jordan Luybli - Elem. teacher
Haily Dunn - Elem. teacher	Linnea Mattson - Elem. teacher
Kevin Gaydorus - Special Ed.	Wendy Morgan - Elem. teacher
Jesse Hartley - Science	Beth Whittaker - Elem. teacher

Stay tuned for details of a new ZERO tax impact Capital Project

- Expansion of our UPK program with two new dedicated classrooms
- High school/CEA bus loop and master site plan
- High school 90’s wing classroom renovations

2015-16 breakfast and lunch prices

<u>CEA School</u>	<u>TRA and High School</u>
Breakfast - \$1.50	Breakfast - \$1.50
Lunch - \$2.30	Lunch - \$2.40

Visit the WPCSD website and click on FOOD SERVICE if you would like to sign up to pre-pay for your child’s meals.

Free and reduced lunch applications were mailed to all Whitney Point Central School District student households in early August. Additional applications and eligibility requirements can be found online and in any of the Whitney Point Central School District building offices. If you have any questions, please contact Rosa Shelp at 766-3926 or rshelp@btbooces.org.

REMINDER: The first day of school is Thursday, September 10. Kindergarten and Pre-K begin on Friday, September 11. If you have questions about transportation, call the WPCSD bus garage at 692-8230.