The Westmont Hilltop School District is honored to recognize the accomplishments of our students in the form of the Hilltopper Highlights of 2004. This special edition of our newsletter is published each year in acknowledgement of the young citizens of our community who have honored their families and their school through outstanding achievement and community service. The educators of our district cherish the opportunity to influence and promote the educational development and contributions of our students.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Class of 2004 Top Ten} \\
\text{Row 1 (L-R): Rebecca Giles, Jennifer Kilpatrick, Rachel Mall, Erin Davis, Anna Schneider} \\
\text{Row 2 (L-R): Jason Livingston, Ajay Nune, Ann Ellenberger, Justin Casella, Philip Wolfe} \\
\end{align*}
\]

Students who rank academically in the Top 10 of their graduating class are acknowledged with an individual plaque courtesy of the school district’s teachers through the Westmont Hilltop Education Association. Their names will also be inscribed on a plaque on permanent display in the lobby. Each student will also receive a Board of Education Treasurer’s Award, a $100 savings bond. This award was initiated by Mrs. Karen Azer, supported by Dr. Robert Zellers, and sustained by Dr. Daniel Meenan, present treasurer.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Recognition of Seniors} \\
\text{These honors and awards for the 2003-2004 school year were announced at an assembly on June 1, 2004.} \\
\text{National Merit Scholarship Corporation Letter of Commendation} \\
\text{Jennifer Kilpatrick} \\
\text{Philip Wolfe} \\
\text{Pennsylvania Governor’s Schools of Excellence} \\
\text{Tanya Koul - International Studies} \\
\text{Carolyn Majcher - Arts} \\
\text{Philip Wolfe - International Studies} \\
\text{Westmont Hilltop Student Memorial Scholarship Awards} \\
\text{Jill Nadorlik} \\
\text{Philip Wolfe} \\
\end{align*}
\]

continued on page 2
Pursuit of Excellence

National Merit

Three students are in pursuit of next year’s National Merit recognition and have made the first cut during the current school year. They are: Francis Eanes, Priya Narahari, and Justin Orlosky. Each year, some 55,000 high school students are honored in NMSC programs and more than 10,500 of the most outstanding participants receive scholarships worth a total of $50 million for college undergraduate study.

Congress-Bundestag Scholarship

Jaime Goldman won a full Congress-Bundestag Scholarship Award. This prestigious award will provide outstanding educational opportunities for Jaime including the chance to study abroad for one year.

Recognition of Seniors

continued from page 1

Westmont Peace Award
Nathan Fetsko

Westmont Hilltop Education Association Scholarship Award
Amanda Lindberg

Johnstown Rotary Club Scholarship
Philip Wolfe

American Association of University Women
Rachel Mall

Metz & Associates Scholarship
Jason Livingston

Class of 1947 Westmont/Upper Yoder Endowment Fund
Bethany Freiwald

Student Council/American Red Cross Scholarships
Jamie Harris
Amanda Lindberg
Jill Nadorlik

Home/School Association Awards
Erin Davis
Jasen Peters

Key Club Awards
Alyssa Arcurio
Ann Ellenberger
Martin Vrabel, Jr.

Unsung Hero Awards
Zachary Ankney
Leah Warmkessel

Catherine Hubbard Memorial Award
Christie Genday

West End Lions Club Scholastic Awards
Jennifer Kilpatrick
Philip Wolfe

Principal’s Leadership Award
Jill Nadorlik

National School Choral Awards
Jason Livingston
Erin Sheridan

National School Orchestra Award
Charles Gilbert
Academic ‘Letter’ Awards - Class of 2004

Seniors who have demonstrated a high level of academic excellence as indicated by a 3.0 average or better are awarded the academic letter.

Cheryl L. Albert
Zachary J. Ankney
Alyssa A. Arcurio
Christopher S. Bell
Emily M. Bodie
Erik R. Bonini
Krista L. Britcher
Sara C. Buchan
Nichole M. Carney
Teri L. Carney
Justin M. Carrick
Justin M. Casella
Jack Chen
Jesse Chen
Lauren M. Crisafulli
Erin E. Davis
Jodi L. DelSignore
Ann M. Ellenberger
Nathan B. Fetsko
Bethany A. Freiwald
Christie L. Genday
Antonetta M. George

Natalie L. George
Charles J. Gilbert
Rebecca R. Giles
Todd W. Glassman
Christopher J. Gonzalez
Jessica B. Goodwin
Aaron Gorka
Jamie L. Harris
Ashly C. Hunt
Nicholas A. Keklak
Jonathan L. Kendig
Jennifer L. Kilpatrick
Kristi E. Kindya
Kathryn A. Kirkpatrick
Bradley S. Kohr
Tanya M. Koul
Heather K. Kramer
Keith E. Krauland
Alexander W. Kring
Adrienne M. Legath
Amanda M. Lindberg
Shane J. Lint

Hannah M. Little
Jason R. Livingston
Carly A. Magyar
Jonathan L. Mahler
Carolyn E. Majcher
Rachel M. Mall
Michael P. Mayer
Ryan W. McGhee
Michael D. Melnik
Lindsey M. Miller
Arik F. Misler
David A. Mock
Jill A. Nadorlik
Richard R. Nagy
Ajay Nune
Sarah M. Olson
Christopher J. Overdorff
Sarah A. Overdorff
Amanda D. Paxton
Jasen J. Peters
Judah B. Plummer
Stephanie L. Porter
Erica A. Pristas
Kaitlyn F. Prout
Paul Rizzo, Jr.
Jana C. Sargent
Samantha R. Savit
Anna R. Schneider
Mena A. Shaker
Erin G. Sheridan
Laura M. Stefanik
Rebekah M. Stonecypher
Ryan A. Tabek
Wesley L. Terek
Katie L. Thomas
Michael J. Thomas
Stephanie A. Volkar
Renee L. Voytas
Jessica L. Vrabel
Martin A Vrabel, Jr.
Amanda E. Ward
Leah K. Warmkessel
Daniel S. Watson
Emily R. Wilson
Gregory R. Wilson
Philip J. Wolfe
Ashley A. Zajdel

Awards and Honors


Achievement and Excellence

Academic Honors and Awards

President’s Awards for Educational Excellence

The President’s Award recognizes students for substantial academic success. At both the middle school and high school levels, students must maintain a high level of academic accomplishment over the duration of their schooling in order to be eligible for this award.

Recipients of this award at the middle school for 2003-2004 are:

Katherine Abele  Natalie Kupchella  Sean McGhee  Stephen Shadid
Zachary Antolik  Eric Lee  Joshua Miller  Zachary Antolik
Utsav Bhat  Jessica Lindberg  Thomas Polacek  Brittany Shawley
Michael Brant  Sarah Lingafelt  Richard Povich  David Shelhammer
Hannah Clemenson  Katherine MacDowell  Elizabeth Prociuk  Paul Wilson
Corbett Drummey  Benjamin Majcher  Tiffany Schilling  Martin Vrabel, Jr.
Martin Erdley  Seth Matthews  Jacob Seigh  Katee Wilson

President’s Award recipients at the high school in 2003-2004 are:

Justin Casella  Tanya Koul  Laura Stefanik  Zachary Antolik
Jack Chen  Jason Livingston  Wesley Terek  Utsav Bhat
Erin Davis  Carolyn Majcher  Katie Thomas  Corbett Drummey
Ann Ellenberger  Rachel Mall  Anna Schneider  Katherine MacDowell
Jennifer Kilpatrick  Arik Misler  Martin Vrabel, Jr.  Brandon Makuchan

Principal’s Excellence Award

The “Principal’s Excellence Award” was established to recognize eighth grade students who have exemplified the highest standard of excellence and who have earned straight “A” averages throughout their fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade years at Westmont Hilltop Middle School. Congratulations to the following eighth graders who were honored at the middle school awards assembly for this accomplishment:

Zachary Antolik  Tanya Koul  Laura Stefanik  Rachel Carson Award: Jaime Goldman
Utsav Bhat  Jason Livingston  Wesley Terek  Catherine Hubbard Memorial Award: Christie Genday
Corbett Drummey  Carolyn Majcher  Katie Thomas  Community Foundation of the Alleghenies Scholarship: Bethany Freiwald
Katherine MacDowell  Brandon Makuchan  Anna Schneider  Westmont Peace Award: Nathan Fetsko
Benjamin Majcher  Sean McGhee  Martin Vrabel, Jr.  Metz and Associates Scholarship: Zachary Ankeney
Sean McGhee  Joshua Miller  Stephen Shadid  Philip Wolfe
Thomas Polacek  Tiffany Schilling  R. Max Smeal  West End Lions Club Award: Jennifer Kilpatrick
Elizabeth Prociuk  Jacob Seigh  Paul Wilson

Middle School Students Earn Mathematics Honors

The Middle School MATHCOUNTS Team made the district proud with a First Place finish. Middle school student Utsav Bhat earned an individual First Place Finish at the UPJ MATHCOUNTS competition. Math counts for Utsav! Sean McGhee is recognized for his third place finish at the UPJ competition.
The Academic “Best” Awards were presented at the June 3 Awards Assembly at the middle school. These awards are presented to 8th grade students who are chosen to represent the academic “best” in particular subject areas. Selection is always difficult, since so many students represent their own high standards of academic best. A $100 Savings Bond was awarded to the “Best” in several curricular categories.

Recipients of the awards for 2003-2004 are: English – Wennie Tabib; Math – Utsav Bhat; Science – David Shelhammer; Civics – Sean McGhee; Art – Christine Novelli; Foreign Language – Joshua Miller and Stephen Shadid; Music – Amanda Rok; Physical Education – Michael Keiser.

**English:** The student representing the academic “best” in this category must demonstrate scholarship, leadership, a positive attitude, class participation, responsibility, accountability, dependability, and initiative.

**Math:** The student must participate in the PACE program; consideration is given to both aptitude and achievement test scores; classroom performance will be evaluated; outcomes of any appropriate contests will be considered.

**Science:** The student must have an “A” average for three quarters; participate in all aspects of class (lectures, labs, question/answer, discussions); demonstrate leadership, respect for others, responsibility, reliability, and a mature attitude.

**Civics:** The student must demonstrate scholastic high achievement; citizenship as demonstrated through school and community service; and must show initiative through class participation.

**Art:** The selected student must display good citizenship and class participation; have a positive effect on peers; exhibit a high level of creativity, and demonstrate a significant level of improvement/achievement.

**Foreign Language:** The academic best in this category must achieve 95% in each of three quarters; demonstrate excellent class participation and a positive classroom attitude; and demonstrate classroom leadership and reliability.

**Music:** Participation in at least one ensemble is required for this award, along with superior grades in general music class; the student must possess leadership, responsibility, a positive attitude and dependability.

**Physical Education:** The student selected in this category must display a positive attitude toward physical education; participate to the best of ability in all activities at all times; score, at the least, the average requirement on the National Physical Fitness Test for Fitness; maintain a sense of game; and demonstrate responsible, respectful behavior as a team player.
Scholastic Quiz

The Scholastic Quiz Team, presumably in a “rebuilding year,” initiated their rebuilding year with a Perfect 7-0 record and a Central-Western Scholastic Quiz Team Championship. They advanced to a Top Ten Finish in the Pennsylvania State Championship Academic Competition. Team members were Habib Awan, Jennifer Kilpatrick, Ajay Nune, Michael Sargent, Jillian Schroeder, and Team Captain Philip Wolfe. Philip was the top individual scorer at the Tartan Invitational Tournament at Carnegie Mellon University.

Forensics

The Forensics Team finished in second place at District Level Competition. Team members accomplished the following:

Kieran Layton: District Champion in Dedamation
Nathan Fetsko: District Champion in Prose
Katelyn Polantz and Stephanie Volkar: First place finish in Duo Drama

Middle School Reading Teams Compete

The Reading Competition teams traveled to Roosevelt Junior High School in Altoona to compete with nearly 60 other middle school teams on March 23rd. Our four teams - one sixth grade, two seventh grade, and one eighth grade - read from a list of over 40 books to prepare for the competition. Each team competed in three rounds against three different teams from other schools, trying to correctly answer questions about the books they had read. The teams did a wonderful job and all had final scores which placed them in the top three spots at each grade level: the eighth grade team earned a second place ribbon, the seventh grade teams earned first and third place ribbons, and sixth grade earned a first place ribbon. Read on, WHMS!

Carnegie Mellon Institute for Talented Students (C-Mites)

The C-Mites program is provided for academically talented third through sixth graders from the state of Pennsylvania. Students across PA took the EXPLORE test to qualify for membership in C-Mites. Recipients of this award for 2003-2004 at the middle school are:

Zachary Drennen
Annabeth Faucher
Nathan McHugh
Julie Mercik
Madelyn Miller
Kyle Molchany
David Pepley
Francis Scarsella
Giancarlo Scuderi
Aaron Seigh
Joseph Seigh
Sarah Walko
Daniel Wolfe

Philip Wolfe: Second Place in Humorous Drama
Jeffrey Howanek: Second place in Persuasive Category
Ashley Acosta: Fourth place in Poetry
Jillian Schroeder: Fourth Place in Commentary
Taryn Kimel: Fifth Place in Serious Drama
Elyse Mendelson: Sixth Place in Prose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>2nd Place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Atterbury</td>
<td>Andrew Forman</td>
<td>Marissa Aygpt</td>
<td>Ustaw Bhat</td>
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<td>Juliana Bukoski</td>
<td>Amanda Good</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Garbarino</td>
<td>Austin Brownlee</td>
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<td>Michael Gorzelsky</td>
<td>Shauna Hetrick</td>
<td>Ashley Gilbert</td>
<td>Allison Eanes</td>
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<td>Ashley Irwin</td>
<td>Abigail Hoover</td>
<td>Jordan Hudson</td>
<td>Grace Holbink</td>
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<td>Kelsey Layton</td>
<td>Lauren Kyger</td>
<td>Brynne Machella</td>
<td>Samantha Johns</td>
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<td>Nathan McHugh</td>
<td>Kristi Mitchell</td>
<td>Mary Mulhollen</td>
<td>Brittany Karsaba</td>
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<td>Julie Mercek</td>
<td>Andrew Molchany</td>
<td>Lauren Simmons</td>
<td>Sahra Khan</td>
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<td>Brittany Moore</td>
<td>Savanna Stack</td>
<td>Sarah Kushnir</td>
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<td>Michael Rudnac</td>
<td>Rebecca Morbito</td>
<td>Daniel Thompson</td>
<td>Adam Lasky</td>
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<td>Giancarlo Scuderi</td>
<td>Abigail Motley</td>
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<td>Katie MacDowell</td>
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<td>Aaron Stonecypher</td>
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<td>Sean McGhee</td>
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<td>Christine Weidner</td>
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<td>Patrick Moon-Rhoades</td>
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<td>Richard Povich</td>
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<td>David Shelhammer</td>
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<td>Tracey Sojak</td>
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<td>Wennie Tabib</td>
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</table>
A student representing Westmont Hilltop recently won highest honors in this year's WordMasters Challenge—a national language arts competition entered by over 240,000 students annually, which consists of three separate meets held at intervals throughout the school year. The WordMasters challenge has been administered for the past 17 years and is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. The process involves exercises in critical thinking with the goal to develop vocabulary and higher level thinking simultaneously. Whereas most vocabulary and analogy-solving activities have been created for high school students, the WordMasters Challenge is designed for students in grades three through eight. Our students consistently rise to the challenges of learning new words and solving logical puzzles.

Our Grade 7 Team won highest honors and a 4th Place NATIONAL finish. Seventh grader Dan Thompson placed among the top eleven highest ranking seventh graders in the COUNTRY in the year-end cumulative standings. In addition, one of our school’s students won recognition for outstanding achievement in the year’s final meet. Eighth grader Thomas Polacek earned a PERFECT score in this meet, a feat accomplished by only 169 eighth graders nationwide.

Fifth grader Christina Atterbury earned a Wordmasters medal and also a 2nd Place Certificate in Continental Math League, an unusual accomplishment.

Students from the middle school who participated in this year’s WordMasters Challenge are listed below.

Grade 5 Medalists
Christina Atterbury
Zachary Drennan

Grade 5 Certificate Winners
Kasey Azar
Benjamin Bukoski
Andrew Kilpatrick
Kyle Molchany
Summer Reitter
Noah Shorto
Keegan Terek
Riley Timbs
Sarah Walko

Grade 6 Medalists
Sara Rogerson
Aaron Stonecypher

Grade 6 Certificate Winners
Juliana Bukoski
Julie Mercik
Zachary Ryan
Francis Scarsella
Giancarlo Scuderi
Norman Sivi
Kayla Vliet

Grade 7 Medalist
Daniel Thompson

Grade 7 Certificate Winners
Nicholas DePriest
Shauna Hetrick
Christopher Kessler
Lauren Kyger
Calvin Yahn

Grade 8 Medalists
Corbett Drummey
Benjamin Majcher

Grade 8 Certificate Winners
Utsav Bhat
Kelly Cernetich
Hannah Long
Sean McGhee
Christine Novelli
Thomas Polacek
David Shelhammer
Max Smeal
Wennie Tabib

“Achievement and Excellence”
Continental Math League Awards

Grade 8
National Winner - Medal & Certificate
Utsav Bhat
1st Place - Medals & Certificates
Martin Erdley
Jacob Seigh
Daniel Vliet
2nd Place - Medal & Certificate
Sean McGhee
With Distinction - Certificates
Brendan Boyle
Vincent Cassone
Kelly Cernetich
Ben Majcher
Katee Wilson

Grade 7
1st Place - Medals & Certificates
Christopher Kessler
Kristi Mitchell
Lindsey Pavlikowski
Joshua Swick
Tracy Tabib
Daniel Thompson
2nd Place - Medal & Certificate
Alexa Eplett
With Distinction - Certificates
Jason Concannon
Abigail Motley
Ryan Rovida

Grades 7 and 8
Utsav Bhat
Benjamin Majcher
Sean McGhee
Daniel Thompson

Grades 5 and 6
Christina Atterbury
Margaret Atterbury
David P.peley
Noah Shorto
Sarah Walko
Rachel Wozniak

Thirty-Five Middle School Students Participate In Johns Hopkins Talent Search

Thirty-five middle school students participated in this year’s Johns Hopkins Talent Search. From these students the following received an invitation to be honored for their exceptionally high math and/or verbal scores at the 2004 Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth ceremony held at Duquesne University on Saturday, June 12, 2004.

Grades 7 and 8
Utsav Bhat
Benjamin Majcher
Sean McGhee
Daniel Thompson

Grades 5 and 6
Christina Atterbury
Margaret Atterbury
David Pepley
Noah Shorto
Sarah Walko
Rachel Wozniak

Celebration of Young Poets!

Congratulations to Kirsten Janssen for the publication of her poem A Simple Question? in The Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans.

Congratulations to the following students whose poems were accepted for Spring 2004 publication by Creative Communications.

Grade 9
Sadie Rharbite

Grade 8
Kara Hull
Tracey Sojak
Wennie Tabib

Grade 7
Lydia Bruce
Shauna Hetrick

Grade 5
Annie Fiffick
Jamie Kessler
Jamie Regula
Aaron Seigh
Daniel Wolfe

Entries are judged for their merit by educators and published poets.
Scholarship 2004

Academic Scholarships

Many WHHS seniors have received scholarships from their intended colleges and universities and some other organizations. Listed below are the scholarships that were announced at the Academic Assembly in June.

Emily Bodie – AFL-CIO Johnstown Regional Labor Council Scholarship
Erik Bonini – Provost’s Scholarship - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Krista Britcher – Athletic Scholarship - University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
J.D. Bruer – Leadership Grant - St. Vincent College
Justin Carrick – Liberty Scholarship from Liberty University
Nathan Fetsko – Ben Shadin Scholarship - University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
Shane Gavin – CCACC Scholarship
Christie Genday – Academic Scholarship - Duquesne University
Charles Gilbert – ROTC Scholarship - Lock Haven University
Rebecca Giles – Miller Scholarship - Westminster College
Todd Glassman – ROTC Scholarship - University of Pittsburgh
Christopher Gonzalez – Academic Scholarship - Susquehanna University
Ashly Hunt – Dean’s Award from the Columbus College of Art & Design
Jennifer Kilpatrick – John Dickinson Scholarship at Dickinson College
Katie Kirkpatrick – Athletic Scholarship - Robert Morris University
Tanya Koul – Presidential Scholarship - University of Southern California
Amanda Lindberg – $4000 Glen Francis Brown Scholarship from UPJ

Carolyn Majcher – Full Scholarship from the Maryland Institute of Art
Rachel Mall – Global Citizens’ Award from Goucher College and a Scholarship from Beth Shalom Congregation
Arik Misler – Pitt Scholar from the University of Pittsburgh
David Mock – Scholarship from the College of William and Mary
Richard Nagy – Presidential Scholarship from Duquesne University

Ajay Nune – Assisi Scholarship from St. Francis University
Rebecca Stonecypher – Athletic Scholarship – Lock Haven University
Jessica Vrabel – Athletic Scholarship from Slippery Rock University
Philip Wolfe – Johnstown Rotary Club Scholarship
Ashley Zajdel – Carlow Achievement Scholarship from Carlow College

Where is the Class of 2004?
The Class of 2004 will attend the following colleges and universities:

Allegheny College of Maryland
Allegheny Highlands Community College
Carlow College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
College of William and Mary
Columbus College of Art and Design
Conemaugh School of Nursing
DePaul University
Dickinson College
Duke University
Duquesne University
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Florida International University
George Mason University
Goucher College
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
James Madison University
Liberty University
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Maryland Institute College of Art
Mercyhurst College
Mount Aloysius College
New York University
Penn College of Technology
Pennsylvania State University
Robert Morris University
St. Francis University
St. Vincent College
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Susquehanna University
Temple University
Thiel College
University of Delaware
University of Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
University of Southern California
Villanova University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
West Virginia University
Westminster College
Westmoreland County Community College
Youngstown State University

“Achievement and Excellence” 9
Foreign Languages

Foreign Language Achievement at the High School

Philip Wolfe won the overall French prize at this year’s APPLES (Appalachian Language Educators’ Society) Foreign Language Festival. To be eligible for the prize, a student must compete in the listening, reading, composition, and speaking proficiency events.

The following students participated in this year’s APPLES Foreign Language Festival at UPJ, competing against over 400 students from more than a dozen area school districts:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Place</th>
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<td>French 1</td>
<td>Allison Virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>French 2</td>
<td>Sadia Rharbite</td>
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<td>Erin Adams</td>
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<td>Ross Wilson</td>
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<td>Sander Frank</td>
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<td>Justine Orlosky</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jen Kilpatrick</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Carney</td>
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Non-Academic: Junior Level

| Michael Volkar | 2                | Art: Original |
| Kristen Mosbrucker & Amanda Miller | 1 | Art: Reproduction |

Non-Academic: Senior Level

| Jordan Long     | 2 (tie)          | Art: Reproduction |
| Allison Virus   | 2 (tie)          | T-Shirt Design    |
Science and Language Arts Olympiads

Students in grades 2, 3, and 4 once again participated in the Science and Language Arts Olympiads. Both of these contests are based on multiple-choice questions, which are administered to grade level groups. Each contest has a time limit of 35 minutes. There is no limit to the number of students who may participate. Nearly 200 students participated in the Language Arts Olympiad and 170 in the Science Olympiad this year! The sum of the top ten scores for each competition is the school’s team score. Questions for the Language Arts Olympiad are based on the following topics: spelling, vocabulary, reading comprehension, analogies, and grammar. Science Olympiad questions are based on factual knowledge as well as students’ understanding of scientific processes. The following students earned a PERFECT score in this year’s Language Arts Olympiad Test: Ashlyn Bulas, Parag Dharbhamulla, Leah Mercik, Matthew Wehner, and Sam Whitlow.

Science Olympiad
Top Tens Grade 2

Front: Robert Elston, Rex Cosgrove, Alex Hockensmith, Briana DeMarco. Back: Matthew Wehner, James Miller, Aaron Marko, Andy Miller

Grade 3

Front: Angela Sutt, Meghan Mock, Steven Zipf, Dante Horvath, Shannon Marko. Back: Jacob McLoota, Mariel Kramer, Ryan Koul, Seth Ray, Daniel Durham

Grade 4


Language Arts Olympiad Top Tens
Grade 2

Front: Sydney Ruis, Tierra Harris, Alex Hockensmith, Sam Whitlow, Stephen Kupchella. Back: Holly Miller, Rachaelma Pulliam, Ashlyn Bulas, Eric Thomas, Matthew Wehner

Grade 3

Front: Kirsten Coyle, Angela Sutt, Dante Horvath, Daniel Durham. Back: Libby Atterbury, Mariel Kramer, Ryan Koul, Seth Ray, Leah Mercik, Michael Vliet (absent when picture was taken)

Grade 4

Elementary School Achievement

MS Read-A-Thon 2004

For the fourth year in a row, the elementary school students were given the opportunity to participate in the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Read-A-Thon project, which is designed to promote reading and raise funds to find a cure for M.S. The fourteen students who participated raised over $1,500, earning the school third place honors for fund raising! The students were recognized with certificates of participation, a variety of coupons from area businesses, plus several plaques and trophies. Congratulations to all these special readers! This year’s participants included: Victoria Albert, Chelsea Balon, Victoria Bertovich, Lewis Bechkovitch, Corrin Claycomb, Erica Claycomb, Rex Cosgrove, Kirsten Coyle, Stacey Glass, Kelcy Harrison, Stephanie Hetrick, David Hunt, Benjamin Katz, Sarah Layton, Brennan Love, Sarah Marley, Noah Marley, Bradley Rastall, Donald Shovestull, Nicholas Sturniolo, Angela Sutt, and Michael Young.

Fourth Grade Competitions

This year’s fourth graders participated in two nationally sponsored events—WordMasters and Current Events. Parag Dharbhamulla earned a perfect score in the WordMasters Challenge as one of only 218 Grade 4 students in the nation to achieve this level.

The WordMasters competition is designed to increase the students’ vocabulary by studying a different list of words and their meanings weekly. This year’s WordMasters Challenge Top Ten participants included the students pictured below.

The Current Events program encourages the students to use a variety of media to learn what is making news around the world. The National Current Events League consists of four meets, or contests, held at each participating school during the school year. Each meet consists of 30 multiple choice questions and is based on current events from a specified time frame. General News, Arts & Entertainment, Science & Health, Business & Finance, and Sports questions are all part of each meet. The students are given 35 minutes to complete the 30 questions each time.

Front: Nicole Simmons, Parag Dharbhamulla, Penn Whitlow, Jack Follansbee, Joseph Glennon. Back: Britney Smith, Lida Thompson, Zachary Aman, Matthew Masiello, Stephen Lugar

WordMasters Top Ten
Front: Brittany Young, Lida Thompson, Kelcy Harrison, Parag Dharbhamulla, Kenny Gibson. Back: Penn Whitlow, DeAnna Dick, Jonathan Findish, Zachary Aman, Blake Bernstein
St. Jude Math-A-Thon Results

This year, nearly 50 students in first through fourth grades participated in the St. Jude Hospital’s Math-a-Thon program. Children complete a booklet of math problems and ask for pledges based on the number of problems solved. These students earned a total $2,517.02. A variety of certificates, t-shirts, and other prizes were awarded. The school also received an engraved plaque in recognition of participation in this year’s event. The participants included the following students:

Victoria Albert
Libby Atterbury
Leah Balsan
Tierza Catalfamo
Lawrence Cernansky
Kirsten Coyle
Taylor Davis
Parag Dharbhamulla
Stephen DeMarco
Drake Dorian
Daniel Durham
Christi Faucher
Celina Gutierrez
Stephanie Hetrick
Tree Hilliard
Benjamin Katz
Aaron Marko
Shannon Marko
Maiya Mastovich
Seneca Mastovich
Noah McQuillan
Frank Nies
C.J. Peacock
Donald Shovestull
Britney Smith
Kyleigh Smith
Hayden Spangler
Emily Strandquest

Elijah Straw
Erin Suppes
Jacob Suppes
Emma Thomson
Molly Thomson
Sara Trio
Andrew Varchol
Penn Whitlow
Sam Whitlow
Ryan Wolfhope
Michael Young
Zachary Yonko

Second grader Zachary Yonko was the top fund raiser earning $251. The money raised helps support cancer research and the programs offered at St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Perfect Attendance

It’s an outstanding feat when a student earns an annual perfect attendance certificate. However, two elementary students took the notion of perfect attendance to another level during the 2003-2004 school year. Fourth graders Sarah Layton and Marissa Miller were both recognized during the Fourth Grade Awards ceremony for having perfect attendance…for five years! From kindergarten through fourth grade, Sarah and Marissa never missed a day of school. For their extraordinary commitment to learning, the girls received a special certificate and a $50 savings bond.

“Achievement and Excellence” 13
American Legion Awards

This award is presented by the American Legion Auxiliary to one 8th grade boy and one 8th grade girl. Recipients of the American Legion Awards for the 2003-2004 school year are Katelyn Ann Rossi and Daniel Robert Vliet. The criteria used to select the recipients are listed and defined below.

**Honor:** Strength and stability of character, high standards of conduct, keen sense of what is right, adherence to truth and conscience, and devotion to duty.

**Scholarship:** Scholastic attainment, evidence of industry, and application in studies.

**Service:** Kindness, unselfishness, willingness to lend a helping hand, protection to the weak, and preference of the interests and welfare of associates – without hope of personal reward.

**Americanism:** Active interest in promotion of love of country, as may be expressed in formal exercises, respect to the flag, knowledge of the National Anthem, the flag salute, adherence to the country’s highest ideals, and worthy citizenship.

**Leadership:** Ability to perform the duties of leadership assigned to one as exemplified in holding of office, committees, etc., and exhibition of good team play.

**Courage:** Moral courage to stand up for what is right, and physical courage in games and play.

Meritorious Attitude and Effort

Each year, Meritorious Attitude and Effort Awards are given to several students in all middle school grades. This award is given to students who demonstrate a positive attitude and give continuous effort in their educational endeavors, thereby demonstrating outstanding study skills and persistence.

Recipients of the award for 2003-2004 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 5</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Heider</td>
<td>Rebecca Barron</td>
<td>Brett Hegadus</td>
<td>Mariam Shaker</td>
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<td>Jamie Kessler</td>
<td>Christine Weidner</td>
<td>Lauren Simmons</td>
<td>Wennie Tabib</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Derek Yates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Senatorial “Good Citizenship Award”

Senator John Wozniak presented the Senatorial “Good Citizenship Award” this year, giving special recognition to the student who best met the following criteria:

- Superior academic achievement
- Leadership abilities
- Consistent work habits
- Good self image
- Ability to get along well with others

Recipient of this award for the 2003-2004 school year was Stephen Donald Shadid.

Ray A. Kroc Youth Achievement Award

Jill DelSignore

The Ray A. Kroc Youth Achievement Award for 2003-2004 at the middle school was awarded to Jill DelSignore. The award, presented by McDonald’s, is given to an eighth grader who demonstrates the following positive attributes: citizenship, leadership, scholarship, and sportsmanship.

Community Service

Dance/Homecoming Committee Chairpersons Amanda Lindberg and Marty Vrabel and their committee earned almost $1,000 for the National Children’s Cancer Society with a charity video dance April 2, 2004.

Community Service Chairpersons Jamie Harris and Katelyn Polantz and their committee held a second blood drive collecting 66 pints of blood on April 23, 2004. Combined with the November total of 83 pints Westmont Hilltop donated 149 pints earning a $500 scholarship for students at our school.

Jill Nadorlik was instrumental in organizing an Anti-apathy month through an Interclub Council that was organized earlier in the year by her and other Student Council officers. Various events held activities that raised money for the National Children’s Cancer Society. Her leadership in Student Council this year was outstanding, leading to many accomplishments and activities.

“Achievement and Excellence” 15
Performing Arts

District Instrumental, Vocal, and Drama Performers Shine

Westmont Hilltop students continued a long tradition of excellence in Performing Arts Competitions throughout the 2003-2004 school year. Among the most notable accomplishments are the following:

Instrumental Performance

Both the Middle School and High School Percussion Ensembles won Gold Medals and the High School Indoor Guard won a Silver Medal at the Atlantic Coast Indoor Competition in Atlantic City in May. Rebekah Stonecypher earned First Chair at PMEA District Band Pre-Auditions. Kali Antolik, Charles Gilbert, and Elizabeth Povich qualified for Regional Orchestra.

Vocal Performance

Erik Bonini, Lauren Fisher, Jason Livingston, Carolyn Majcher, Elyse Mendelson, Christopher Shadid, Erin Sheridan, Karlee Smith, and Philip Wolfe represented Westmont Hilltop in Regional Chorus.

Drama Performance

Theatre Club Finished in Fourth Place at the State Drama Championship. Stephanie Volkar was named to the All-State Cast at the State Drama Championship.

Band

We are particularly proud of and grateful to the group of patriotic band members who agreed to provide representation for the Westmont Hilltop School District at the Memorial Day service that began at the Middle School and concluded at Grandview. Our students played God Bless America and the National Anthem in the pouring rain with no less decorum, enthusiasm, and talent than usual. Special thanks are extended to Charles Gilbert for his motivational and organizational contributions.

Left to right: Leah Young, Luke Young, Matthew Wagner and Jason Dailey

Special Events

Stock Market Game

The Stock Market Game has become an annual event for seventh and eighth grade students at Westmont Hilltop Middle School. Students from math classes taught by Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Stiles, and Ms. Reilly competed this spring. Students were given $100,000 of fake capital to begin the game. Teams then decide whether they should use this “capital” to buy, short sell, short cover, or sell stocks of their choosing. The team is permitted to borrow as much money as needed, but the loan must be repaid. Teams have the opportunity to buy as many stocks as often as possible. Each team is given ten weeks to meet, make buy/sell/borrow decisions, and watch their investments grow. At the end of the ten-week period, the teams’ total profits are counted and the team with the highest money value is the winner.

An added bonus was added to this year’s game. The top two teams were treated to a meal at Hoss’s Steak and Seafood Restaurant.

This year’s winning team of Jonathan Heider, Vincent Hutzell, Patrick Moon-Rhoades, and Calvin Yahn finished the game with $111,437.93. The second-place team of Ashley Heslop, Bradley Jasper, and Michael Johns ended with $107,821.95.
5th Grade Continues Ridgeville Tradition

On May 19th, the 5th grade class marched on the Ridge in Upper Yoder Township for its annual Civil War Day. After marching to the Ridge, the students participated in stations that enhanced their classroom learning of the Civil War. These stations included a Civil War hospital, Civil War games, sewing, and a re-enactors’ campground.

Students were then treated to a Civil War lunch consisting of chicken, cornbread, and cobble, much like a soldier of the period would have eaten.

After lunch, guest speakers presented on topics such as Civil War nutrition and the role of women in the Civil War.

The “Battle of Ridgeville” awed spectators who had assembled to watch as the North triumphed over the South once again. Fifth grader Andrew Kilpatrick completed the day as he became Abraham Lincoln and presented information on his life, followed by the Gettysburg Address.

Students from Mr. Yonko’s High School U.S. Cultures I classes assisted the 5th grade teachers in this year’s event, along with 27 parent volunteers.

Civil War Demonstration at High School

Carpenter’s Battery was invited to present a Living History program at Westmont Hilltop High School on Friday, May 7. Students were given the opportunity to actually see a Civil War cannon replica fire “dummy” rounds on the athletic fields. The members of Carpenter’s Battery were in full battle uniforms with authentic equipment used by the North and South during the Civil War. Mr. Mark Yonko, the 9th Grade U.S. Cultures I teacher at the high school, coordinated the event.

Thanks to Corporal Debra Woods and Privates David Hoffer, Bobbie Hoffer, and Jim Monticue for their help in making this program such a success. Eight classes of high school students were involved in the 3 demonstrations that were presented.

The demonstration was covered by television stations WJAC and WWCP in Johnstown. Both stations had very favorable comments about the program and had some excellent video.

Thanks again to Mr. Yonko, the other teachers involved, and our crew for making history come to life for our students.

Students Build Civil War Era Telegraphs

Students in Mr. Callihan’s 5th grade science classes built telegraphs to coincide with the Civil War Day at Ridgeville. Students constructed the telegraph “machines” out of materials that included nails, wood blocks, sheet metal, and wire. Assistance from Mr. Testa’s industrial technology shop was used as the students were responsible for the total construction of the telegraphs from raw materials. The students used previous knowledge gained from experiments with circuits, and the use of magnets to complete the project.

The original telegraph system, set up by Samuel Morse back in 1837, used electromagnets and switches in a series circuit to instantly send a signal via a system of “dots” and “dashes” over a great distance. Our students built their own electromagnets and completed the circuit to send messages to classmates. The final step was to combine two units together to send messages back and forth. Fifth grader Corbin Nulton commented, “It was fun, but hard work. We learned a lot about electricity and magnets.” The project emphasized that communication during the Civil War was often difficult.

In Honor Of...

You can submit a donation to the Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment Fund in honor of student accomplishment or in support of a particular event or educational activity that you wish to sustain in perpetuity. To do so, call the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies at 536-7741 or log onto their web site at http://www.cfalleghenies.org, and request to make a contribution to the Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment Fund. The establishment of this permanent endowment has given the school district a new way to support the needs of students and the school community. Donations can be made in recognition of the accomplishments and needs that donors identify as important to them and to our community. The endowment provides an opportunity to contribute something of great value to our school.
2003-2004 Individual Excellence Award

Outstanding Male Athlete
David Mock

David Mock was awarded the Outstanding Male Athlete Award at the Athletic Awards Assembly. Dave earned eleven varsity letters during his career at Westmont Hilltop – three in hockey and four each in cross country and track. During his senior season, Dave won the PIAA AA State Championship in cross country during the fall season and in the 3200 meter race in track this spring. He was also the state runner-up in the 1600 meter race. In four years of competition, Dave lost only one dual meet in cross country – to last year’s Outstanding Male Athlete Steve Gonzalez. In track, he holds the course records at all Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference schools. Dave also holds school records in the 800, 1600, and 3200 meter runs, as well as anchoring this year’s school record-setting 3200 meter relay team. During his senior season, Dave was the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference and District 6 AA champion in both the 1600 and 3200 meter runs. Dave is a member of the National Honor Society and will continue his education while competing in athletics at William and Mary in the fall.

Outstanding Female Athlete
Krista Britcher

Krista Britcher was awarded the Outstanding Female Athlete Award at the Athletic Awards Assembly. Krista earned ten varsity letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop – four in track and three each in volleyball and basketball. She led the Lady Hilltoppers in scoring both her sophomore and junior years in basketball. During her junior year in track, Krista broke a fifteen-year-old school record in shot put competition. Krista sustained an injury during the summer prior to her senior year which prevented her from fully participating in sports during her senior year. Despite her limited playing time in basketball as a senior, she was invited to play in both the Summit Quest and Big John Riley All-Star basketball games. Krista will attend the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in the fall to continue her education and athletic careers.

Undefeated Boys’ Tennis Team Captured Championship Again!

Ankney and Nune Reach Milestones

The Boys’ Tennis Team finished the season with an undefeated (14-0) record this spring. The team has now won the Laurel Highlands Conference Team Championship 15 of the past 21 years. The Hilltoppers were led by seniors Zachary Ankney and Ajay Nune. Ajay achieved membership in the “Century Club” with his 100th win in the final match of the year. Zachary was undefeated in singles and doubles this year and achieved 50 career wins for the district.

Luke Miller (19-1) and Rich Nagy (17-0) played Nune and Ankney, as our two top doubles teams met in the finals of District 6 play, contributing to Westmont Hilltop tennis history. Nune and Ankney won a close 6-4, 6-2 match.

Our other doubles team of Nick Rys and Brad Strack also made significant contributions to our undefeated season as they helped seal many of our victories. Sander Frank and Bill Lusk played aggressively, and our newcomers to the team, Dan Gore and Nick Kirkstadt, were undefeated as well.

Sports Highlights

Tennis

Both the Girls’ and Boys’ Tennis Teams delivered undefeated seasons and won Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference Championships.

Zachary Ankney and Ajay Nune won the PIAA District 6 Doubles Tennis Championship and advanced to State Level competition.

Priya Narahari won the District 6 Tennis Championship and earned a Fourth Place finish in the PIAA State Tennis Tournament.

Track

The Boys’ Track Team won the West Central Coaches’ Track and Field Meet. The Boys’ 3200 Relay Team placed first and broke a 31-year school record at the West Central Coaches’ Track and Field meet. Meghan Machella and Samantha Savit advanced to the finals in District 6 Girls’ Tennis.

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Sports Achievement

Athletic Awards Day Award Recipients

David Coulson Award - Outstanding Football Player: Aaron Gorka
Herdman-Dailey Award - Outstanding Girls' Track: Kaitlyn Urban
Herdman-Dailey Award - Outstanding Boys' Track: Brad Kanuch/Dave Mock
Lori Blackburn Memorial Award - Track Team: Darin Brownlee/Heather Ryan
Dr. Michael Sewak Award - Outstanding Girls' Basketball Player: Sara Buchan
Skip Pristow Award - Outstanding Boys' Basketball Player: Jon Mahler/Jasen Peters
William Askey Award - Outstanding Volleyball Player: Jessica Vrabel/Nicki Waligora

Claycomb Coach's Award - Outstanding Wrestler: Derek Krouse
Ken Null Memorial Award - Most Falls: Derek Krouse
Jerry Griffith Award - Most Dedicated: Kyle Patton/Luke Patton/Andy Slobotzen
J.P. Conway Award - Most Improved Wrestler: Mike Bair
Milt Lantz Scholarship Award: Derek Krouse
David J. Murphy Award - Outstanding Hockey Player: Pat Krumenacker
James Cardiff Award - Unsung Hero: Kyle Harnish
Clayton C. Dovey III - Player's Player: Patrick Krumenacker
Outstanding Offensive Hockey Player: Kevin Gleason
Outstanding Defensive Hockey Player: Anthony DeMarco

Most Improved Hockey Player: Ashleigh Kowtoniuk
Outstanding Boys' Cross Country Runner: David Mock
Outstanding Girls' Cross Country Runner: Danielle Pozun
Corona & Grady Coaches' Award - Outstanding Boys' Soccer Players: Justin Casella
John Saracena Coach's Award - Outstanding Girls' Soccer Player: Katie Kirkpatrick
Outstanding Girls' Swimmer: Becky Giles/Jen Price

Dr. William J. Hargreaves Award - Outstanding Male Golfer: Ben Wolfe
Outstanding Female Golfer: Madeleine Lovette
Robert A. Gleason Award - Outstanding Boys' Tennis Players: Ajay Nune/Zach Ankney
Adele Dovey Award - Outstanding Girls' Tennis Player: Priya Narahari

David Mock set a new meet record in the Two Mile Run at the Igloo Invitational, set new school records in the 1600 and 3200 Meter Runs, and was the PIAA STATE CHAMPION in the 3200 Meter Race at the state track meet. Bradley Kanuch set a new school record in the Triple Jump and finished in first place in the 100 Meter Dash, Long Jump, and Triple Jump at the West Central Coaches' meet. He finished in first place in the 100 and 200 meter dashes and triple jump at the Igloo Invitational.

The Girls' 1600 Relay Team and the Girls' 3200 Relay Team set new school records.

Danielle Pozun placed third in the 3200 Meter Run at the Igloo Invitational and set a new school record in the 3200 Meter Run.

Kaitlin Urban won First Place in the 800 Meter Run at the West Central Coaches' Track and Field meet and placed third in the 800 Meter Run at the Igloo Invitational.

Alex Kring set a new school record in the 110 hurdles.

Wrestling
The Varsity Wrestling Team earned first place honors in both the Conemaugh Township and Bucktail Tournaments, and finished second in the Boneyard Bash Tournament.
The Junior High Wrestling Team won the LHAC Conference Championship with an undefeated season.

Michael Bair and Kyle Patton advanced to Regional Wrestling Competition.

Dan Golas and Brandon Curtis won first place honors; Kyle Patton, second place; Bryan Dumire, third; and Michael Bair placed fourth in the Boneyard Bash Tournament.

Basketball
The Boys' and Girls' Varsity Basketball Teams won District 6 Championships this year.
The Girls' Varsity Basketball Team won the LHAC and District 6 Championship.

Both teams also captured championships in the season-opening Hilltopper Classic with Jason Peters earning MVP in the boys' tournament. Kaitlin Urban was named to the All-Tournament Team in the girls' tournament.

The Boys' Junior High Basketball Team won the LHAC Championship.
The Girls' Basketball Team won First Place in the Bellwood Holiday Tournament.
The Boys' Basketball Team captured first place in the UPJ Tournament.

Cross Country
The Boys' Cross Country Team were the undefeated LHAC Champions.
The Girls' Cross Country Team finished in second place in the LHAC.

David Mock won the Steel City Cross Country Invitational and set a new course record. He became the LHAC Meet Champion, the District 6 Champion, and the PIAA STATE CHAMPION in cross country.

Frank Eanes delivered a fifth place finish in the PIAA State Cross Country Competition.

Travis Dean, Danielle Pozun, and Kaitlin Urban advanced to state level competition in cross country.

Swimming
The Girls' Swimming Team won the Central Western Alleghenies Aqua Conference Championship and placed second in regional competition.

Rebecca Giles, Kristina Nagy, Caitlin Motley, Jennifer Price, Sarah Sahlaney, and Laura Stefanik advanced to PIAA State Level Competition.

Rebecca Giles set school records in the 100 Meter Butterfly and 100 Meter Breaststroke.

Jennifer Price set new school records in the 50/200/500 Freestyle Competitions and set a pool record in Altoona as well.

Soccer
The Girls' Soccer Team won the LHAC and District 6 Championships.
The Boys' Soccer Team won the LHAC Championship.

Golf
Madeleine Lovett won the District 6 Girls' Championship and went on to capture the PIAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP in golf.

Our Golf Team won the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference Championship.

Benjamin Wolfe was Medalist in the Bolton Memorial Tournament in State College.

Football
Aaron Gorka was a starting lineman in the Ken Lantzy Game. He was named as MVP for Football for the 2003 season.
Westmont Hilltop School District Board of Education

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Mr. Gregory T. Sanford: Secretary (non-member)

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Dr. Susan J. Anderson, Superintendent
Mr. Steven D. McGee, Director of Education & Student Support Services
Mr. Gregory T. Sanford, Business Manager

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Mr. William Marshall, High School Principal
Mrs. Margaret McDonald, Elementary Principal
Mr. Darren McLaurin, Middle School Principal
Mr. Michael Strasser, Middle School Assistant Principal
Mr. Matthew Thomas, High School Dean of Students

Administrative Offices
827 Diamond Boulevard • Johnstown, PA 15905
Phone: 814-255-6751 • Fax: 814-255-7735
Email: sja@whsd.org

Mission Statement
The mission of the WHSD, in partnership with our community, is to prepare each student to
be an informed, ethical, responsible adult in a changing and competitive global society
through high expectations and a challenging educational program offering knowledge and
skills within a safe, nurturing environment.

Civil Rights Statement
The Westmont Hilltop School District, an equal opportunity employer, will not discriminate
in employment, educational programs or activities, based on race, color, religion, national
origin, gender, age, ancestry or disability. Publication of this policy in this document is in
accordance with state and federal laws including: The Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended,
Title IV, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504