

# Worcester Central School



Strive, Support, Succeed!

September 2019

## Inside...

Principal News .....	2-3
Emergency School Closing ..	3
WCS and Schenevus Collaboration .....	4
Contact Information.....	5
Attendance Reminder.....	5
CROP Program .....	6
Worcester Recognized by CFES.....	7
New Parking Pattern.....	7
Transportation .....	8-9
Breakfast/Lunch Program..	10
Health Office Info .....	11
Important Notices .....	12-14
2019-20 Calendar.....	15

## A Message From the Superintendent

Dear Worcester Families,

On behalf of all the dedicated staff members at Worcester Central School I would like to say, welcome back to school. We are looking forward to another amazing year with our students!

As we open the 2019-2020 school year I would like to share some exciting new improvements. We have finished the majority of our capital project improvement project which adds some additional parking spaces, a new bus drop off area and increased pedestrian safety. I know our parking lot construction at times was inconvenient this summer and I would like to thank you for your patience as we made some very necessary improvements.

This year we welcome some terrific new staff. WCS extends a warm welcome to Melissa Leonard, Secondary Principal; Winsome Zinkievich, Student Support Services Coordinator; Brian Shimansky, Social Studies Teacher; Megan Soule-Oneto, Fourth Grade Teacher Kimberly Addorisio, Teacher Aide and James Carmeci, Cleaner. All will be great additions to our WCS family!

Another update includes a newly adopted student code of conduct. One of the goals of the new code of conduct is to provide more structure and consistency for student behavior. It is intended to be more user friendly for students, parents and staff.

Our staff has been working hard in preparation for the new school year and I thank you for entrusting us with your children. It takes a partnership with every member of a school community to educate, shape and raise our students into the best individuals they can be.

Respectfully,

*Mr. Tim Gonzales*

Superintendent

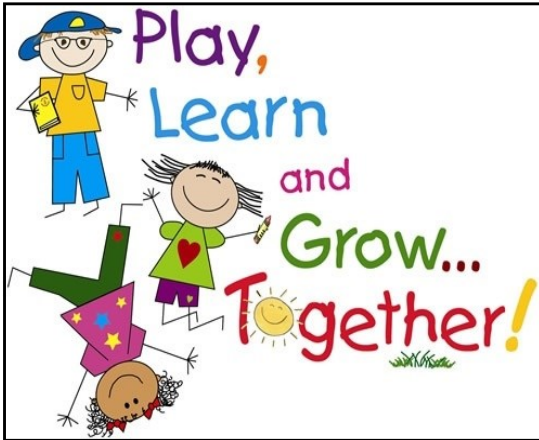


**Classes Resume  
Thursday, Sept. 5**

**Fall Open House  
Tuesday, Sept. 17**

[www.worcestercs.org](http://www.worcestercs.org)

## Elementary News



It's back-to-school time at WCS! The teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms for the arrival of their new students on September 5th.

Sadly, we will say goodbye to three staff members at WCS as they pursue their careers in other parts of NYS. We will be missing Ms. Kyla Roche, Ms. Joanna Rappleyea, and Mrs. Alison Gridley. All three of these ladies will be greatly missed by both staff and students. Thank you all for your dedication to WCS!

On a more positive note, we would like to welcome Ms. Winsome Zinkievich, the new Student Support Services Coordinator at WCS. Ms. Zinkievich joins us from Delaware Academy where she was an Elementary Special Education teacher. She will be taking on all Elementary and Secondary Committee on Special Education (CSE) responsibilities, as well as assisting with PBIS, Secondary RTI and the Child Study Team. She is going to be a wonderful asset to our team!

In addition, we are still in the process of hiring a replacement for Alison Gridley, our 4th Grade teacher. Mrs. Gridley will be staying in her position at WCS until a new teacher is hired, thus allowing for a smooth transition for the students.

Just a quick reminder, we ask that if you are dropping your child off in the mornings, please plan to drop them off at the parent drop-off location at the side door by the art room, or sign-in at the Main Office. For safety reasons, we need to be aware of who is in the building at all times.

In an effort to continuously increase communication across the school district, please feel free to contact your child's teacher should any questions or concerns arise. They can be reached by phone or email.

Thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to contact us at any time!

Jessie Westfall  
Elementary Principal

Visit the district website for school supply lists,  
menus, student handbooks, the 2019-20 calendar  
and much more.  
[www.worcestercs.org](http://www.worcestercs.org)

## Secondary News

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

I am very excited to begin the second half of my career at Worcester Central School as the Secondary Principal. Prior to this position, I was the Dean of Students at Schenevus Central School for two years and a social studies teacher at Schenevus for 15 years.

I grew up in the Binghamton area and I graduated from Chenango Valley High School. I went to, what is now, SUNY Broome for one year and then completed my bachelors degree at SUNY Oneonta. I also received my Masters in Adolescent Education from SUNY Oneonta. I will receive my Masters in Educational Leadership from Niagara University in December.

My husband and I purchased a home in 2000, in the Milford Central School District. Our older son graduated from Milford and is now a college student in Florida, attending the University of South Florida at St. Petersburg, majoring in economics. Our younger son will be a junior at Milford this year and spends much of his free time practicing and competing in wrestling. My husband, a retired police officer, spends countless hours coaching wrestling and chauffeuring our younger son to practices. As a family, we enjoy spending time with our two dogs, Remi an Italian Greyhound and Mr. Beans our rescue Pitbull.

I believe education is essential to our democracy and every day provides opportunities to learn. I look forward to working with our students at Worcester Central School to help them succeed in education and in life. My hope is that each student who passes through the school will find something they are passionate about and "reach their highest potential." I look forward to meeting and working with the community, students, staff, and faculty to continue the excellent work that is underway at Worcester Central School. Please contact me with questions, concerns, and ideas, as we are stronger together.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Leonard  
Secondary Principal

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

WCS uses "School Messenger" to notify all students and families of emergency closures, delays and event cancellations. This system makes phone calls directly to every student's household, including cell phone numbers as provided. It is also used to communicate additions and changes to previously scheduled events.

Please make sure your contact information is current to ensure you receive these important calls. Please contact Mrs. Peggy Nelson in the Guidance Office at (607) 397-8785, ext.104, to update your contact information.

WCS also utilizes the services of the following radio and television stations to announce school closings, delays and early dismissals: WBNG TV WKTV TV WGY WRGB WNYT WTEN WRVE WFLY News 10 Time Warner Cable WZOZ WSRK

## WCS and Schenevus Collaboration

The Schenevus and Worcester Central School Districts have been discussing opportunities to collaborate in order to provide the most complete educational programming for our students. Conversations have included the possibilities of sharing services, reducing costs, tuitioning students and merging. As these conversations continue, our priority is to keep you informed and below is a recap of our most recent discussions.

### **Board Workshops and Presentations**

The Schenevus and Worcester Boards have participated in three workshops and presentations of varying levels of collaboration. The most recent was on July 24, with a presentation from consultant Alan Pole, who described how merger studies and the merger process works.

Schenevus and Worcester have conducted a merger study before, most recently in 1996. Several years ago, the districts also applied for, but did not receive, grant funding to pay for a study.

### **Grant application submitted**

At this time, Schenevus and Worcester Central Schools have agreed to be co-applicants for a \$25,000 grant to help fund a merger study. A decision on the grant funds is expected in December or January.

If the grant is not awarded, neither district has committed to taking on the full cost of the study (approximately \$50,000). However, we will continue to explore opportunities to cooperate in ways we hope will benefit our students. For example, this fall, we will present a musical featuring cast members from both districts. We are excited about this, and other opportunities we may have to work together.

### **How the merger process works**

While we still do not know if this is the route our two districts will pursue, we do know that the merger process typically takes 1-2 years. Both boards and the majority of voters would have to approve a merger before seeking approval from the State Education Commissioner. If approved at the state level, a second public vote would be conducted. A majority of voters in both districts would again have to approve the merger for it to be finalized.

### **What can you do?**

As you can see, this process is lengthy and relies on your input. In addition, should we decide to move forward, each district will be inviting community members to serve on advisory committees to guide us during the merger study.

Whatever course we pursue, our decisions will be guided by you. If we pursue a merger study, we will be counting on you to join in this process and help us reach the best decision not only for our students, but for the entire communities we serve.



# How Can We Help You?

For information on academic programs, including Pre-Kindergarten, State testing, remedial programs, guidance and counseling, special education and CSE matters, student discipline and extra-curricular activities, please contact:

Mrs. Jessie Westfall: Elementary Principal  
 Mrs. Melissa Leonard: Secondary (7-12) Principal  
 Mr. Steve Fancher: School Counselor (Grades 7-12)  
 Mrs. Poletta Louis: School Counselor (Grades PK-6)  
 Mrs. Peggy Nelson: Guidance/CSE Secretary  
 Mrs. Jessica Kenyon: Receptionist/Building Secretary

For information on the Board of Education, district finances, facilities and maintenance, community use of facilities, cafeteria and transportation services and administrative and personnel matters, please contact:

## DISTRICT OFFICE

Mr. Tim Gonzales: Superintendent  
 Mrs. Wendy Elliott: Secretary to the Superintendent and District Clerk  
 Mr. Gary Pochkar: District Treasurer

## BUS GARAGE

Mr. Eric Haley: Head Bus Driver

School phone number: (607) 397-8785  
 Bus garage phone number: (607) 397-8873  
[www.worcestercs.org](http://www.worcestercs.org)

## Attendance Reminder



If your child is absent from school, you will receive the automated phone call.

Please call us if there is a concern at **(607)397-8785**.

A parent/guardian written excuse is required if the child is sick.

A Doctor's note is required for any appointments in order to be considered a **legal excuse**.

Easily pay for school meals  
at [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com)



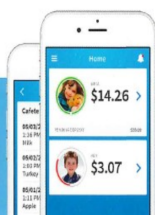
Simple & Secure



Low Balance Alerts



Automatic Payments



MAKE MEAL PAYMENTS  
WHEREVER YOU GO



## Back Pack Program is ready for 2019-2020



**Regional  
Food Bank**  
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

### Program Goals and Mission:

The BackPack Program is designed to meet the needs of hungry children on weekends when school breakfasts and lunches aren't available. The program provides bags filled with food that is child-friendly, nonperishable and easily-consumed. Bags are packed each week by school staff and discreetly distributed to participating children every Friday afternoon. Know a child at WCS in need?

**Contact Dody Lindberg at 607-397-9467**

## 2019-2020 CROP Program

This will be Worcester's third year operating the Creating Rural Opportunities Program (CROP) and we look forward to new adventures and another great year. For those families who are new to the program or considering joining, CROP is a wonderful program that provides children in grades K-8 with an opportunity to attend an after-school program that includes academic help, a snack, and engaging activities. **CROP will run from Monday, September 16, 2019 through Friday, June 19, 2020.** It is extremely important that your child's teacher is made aware of changes to their after school schedule, so please keep them in the loop! Transportation will be provided for those who need a ride home. Buses depart from school between 4:45 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. We do our best to have students home at a decent time. Please make sure someone is home and visible at the drop off location. Bus drivers do not let students off without seeing an adult unless permission has been given to do so.

Applications were sent home in the spring. Please contact the main office if you need a new copy sent home with your child. **Even if your child has attended CROP in the past, you need to complete a new application. Please have your applications and behavioral contracts returned to the school by Wednesday, September 11th.** Our program can accommodate 90 students. Students applying after that number has been reached will be notified that they are on a wait list. If you do not hear from the program, your child is enrolled. It is suggested that students attend at least three days a week, but we encourage students to attend every day. There are a lot of activities that take more than one day to complete, we don't want anyone to miss out! **If after school activities are cancelled CROP will be as well, we are part of the SchoolMessenger automated call system.**

Our goal is to engage students and make learning fun. This is not school, but behavioral rules and expectations still apply! Our activities will change weekly, if not daily. Children will be wrapping up their day around 4:45 p.m. Again, transportation is provided, if needed. Please specify on the application where your child will be going if riding the bus. CROP buses will be leaving school by 5:00 p.m. at the latest. Changes in routine need to be written or conveyed to an adult (Jessica Kenyon in the Main Office, your child's teacher, or Mrs. Dawn Handy) by a parent. We can not take the word of a student. Thank you for your interest in the CROP program and we look forward to partnering with you this year! Please contact Dawn Handy, the CROP Site Coordinator at: [dhandy@worcestercs.org](mailto:dhandy@worcestercs.org) or 607-397-8785 if you have any questions.

### A Special Thanks to:

- ✓ Adam Baker and his team of life guards for a safe and fun summer swimming at the pool!
- ✓ The Worcester Town Council for their on-going collaboration during our construction project!
- ✓ WCS maintenance staff led by Glenn Jaquish for all of their preparations during the summer!

**We appreciate your commitment to our school!**

THANK  
You!

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

NYS School Vaccination Requirements have Changed:

Nonmedical exemptions for school vaccination requirements has ended for children attending Pre-K through 12th grade.

Religious exemptions are no longer allowed. Children with nonmedical exemptions must now be vaccinated to attend or remain in school.

## Worcester Named CFES School of Distinction

Worcester Central School has been selected as a CFES Brilliant Pathways School of Distinction, based on its performance during the 2018-19 school year.

CFES stands for College for Every Student and is a program that works with approximately 25,000 K-12 students. The goal of the program is to instill the necessary skills to students so they can be successful in school, college and life.

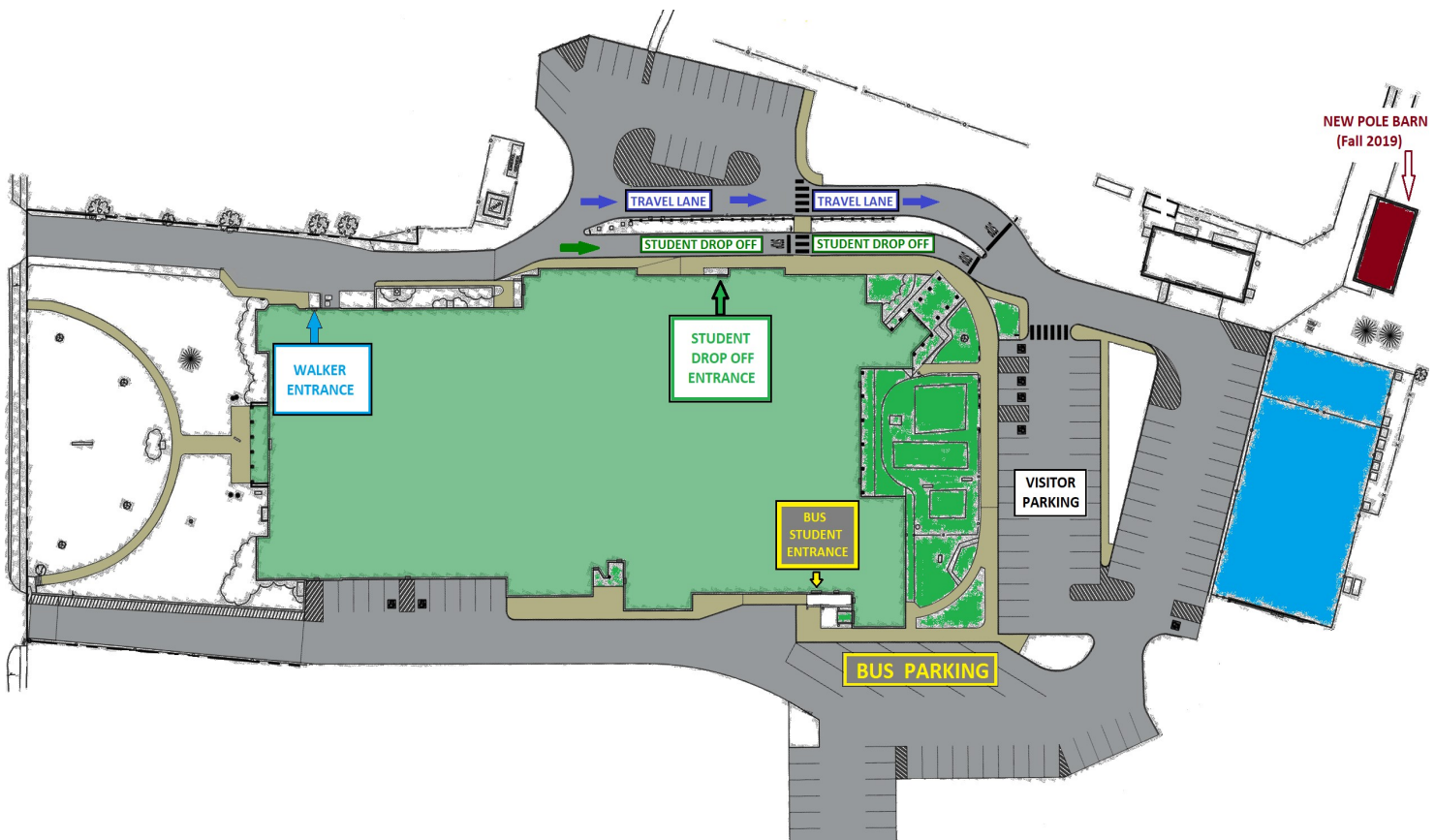
This achievement of School of Distinction status is testimony that Worcester Central School developed and implemented an exemplary plan for its CFES Scholars. This plan involved the entire school in the CFES core practices of *Mentoring, Essential Skills, and Pathways to College and Career*.

Congratulations to all our students and staff involved for their tremendous efforts!



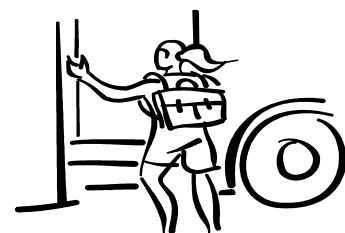
## New Traffic Pattern and Parking for 2019-2020

WCS will start the 2019-2020 school year with a new traffic pattern. Please notice that the designated travel lane and student drop off lane have changed. In addition, there is a new visitor parking area and bus loading and unloading location. Please, take a moment to become familiar with our improvements.



# Transportation Information

## It will soon be time to start seeing SCHOOL BUSES!



Statistically, the school bus is by far the safest means of student transportation.

The beginning of the year brings new routes, new drivers, and sometimes students forget what is needed for busy parents and bus drivers to coordinate successful student pick-ups and drop-offs. Here are some reminders to help keep everyone on schedule:

- Safety is a team effort. There are some things that you can help us with to help keep your child safe on and off the bus.
- Have your child wait 15 feet from the road. Wait until bus comes to a complete stop before proceeding towards bus for loading.
- Students should not wear headphones or be using handheld devices when boarding or exiting the bus.
- Please have them ready when the bus comes. If a driver waits one minute for each child, then the bus would be **40 minutes late**.
- Please have your child watch the bus driver and **wait for the bus Drivers signal**, even if you are with them at the bus stop.
- Make certain they have backpacks that close, so that nothing falls out as they are crossing.
- Make sure your child does not have loose strings or straps that might get caught in the door or handrail when exiting the bus.
- If they drop something tell them not to retrieve it without the driver's instructions.
- Remind them that, sometimes, cars will go past the red school bus lights and will not stop. They should always look both ways before exiting the bus and cross **only on the drivers signal**.
- Remind them to behave on the bus, when the bus driver is watching the students they are not paying attention to the road. The Driver's main job is to safely drive the bus and keep your child safe at all times.
- Never let your child run after the bus if they miss it. Please call the school.
- Worcester Central School conducts 3 bus safety-training drills per year involving all students. This is important since all students will at some time ride on a school bus. WCS has an excellent record when it comes to safe, incident free pupil transportation. We look forward to another safe school year, if you have any questions or concerns please call the bus garage at **(607)397-8873**.
- If your child should be going anywhere in the afternoon other than where they were picked up, they must bring a note, written and signed by a parent or guardian. This note must also be presented to the Main Office at School, no later than 12:00, noon on the day of the transportation change.

# Transportation Continued

If your student will not be going to school on a particular day please call the bus garage ahead of time at **(607) 397-8873**.

## Bus numbers, drivers and routes:

Anticipated bus numbers, drivers, and routes:

- Bus 80, Dawn Tuthill, **Turtle Route**, County Rts. 36 & 39, Decatur, Percy Holmes Rd., All Rd., and Maple Valley Rd.
- Bus 81, Annette Southworth, **Frog Route**, South America Rd., South Hill Rd., Tuscan Rd., Park St., Hall Rd., Brady Rd. and White House Crossing.
- Bus 83, Don Foster, **Dinosaur Route**, Smith Rd., Head Rd., Center Valley Rd., and Mooney Rd.
- Bus 84, Roger Baker, **Rabbit Route**, East Worcester - east end, Brooker Hollow, Brighton Rd., East Worcester - west end, Depot & Maple St. loop, and Lutheranville Rd.
- Bus 85, AM Tom Willenbacher/ PM Jeff Milavec, **Bear Route**, County Rts. 37 & 38 (North Rd.), Fish/Game, Mravlja Hill, and State Rt. 7 (East Worcester)
- Bus 86, Misty Blanchard, **Eagle Route**, West Hill Rd., Hill Rd., Lum Rd., Broad Acres, Main Street Trailer Park, and Main Street - east end

**If you have any questions please call Eric Haley, (607) 397-8873**

Thank you and have a great year!



## NYS LAW SAYS:

- It is illegal to pass a stopped school bus when the large red lights located on top of the bus are flashing.
- You must always stop for flashing red lights, even on divided and multilane highways and on **school grounds**.
- The **first-time fine** for illegally passing a school bus is a **\$250 to \$400 fine, 5 points on your license, and/or possibly 30 days in jail.**

**RED LIGHTS MEAN- STOP! STOP! STOP!**

# School Breakfast and Lunch Program

**Breakfast:\$1.00 Lunch:\$2.25 Reduced Meals:\$.25**

We welcome your children back for a new school year. We are proud to provide your children with both breakfast and lunch while at school. The following will help to understand how the school cafeteria works:

1. Extra items not on the menu such as pretzels, ice cream, flavored waters are charged at posted prices. A la carte items do not get counted under the free/reduced meals plan. Full price must be collected for such items.
2. The system works best if you pay on your child's account in advance, and there are several ways to do this:
  - You can put any amount on their account (See the bottom of page 4 for details);
  - You can send the money in weekly or monthly with your child; or
  - You can mail checks, payable to Worcester Central School, to the school, to the attention of the Cafeteria.
3. Each student is given a four digit account number. When they go through the lunch line, at the end is a keypad where they enter their number. The cashier can see the student's name, number, and account balance. No one else can tell what the student is paying, therefore, no one can know if your child is paying full price or qualifies for free or reduced price meals. A student can ask the cashier the balance of their account.
4. The money you pay on your child's account carries over from week to week and remains there until it is used up. A student can still pay for a meal daily.
5. When you put money on your child's account you can tell us what they are allowed to use the money for. There is a form at the bottom of this page. Please complete it and send it in when you put money on the account the first time. It will remain in effect until you change it.
6. If your child runs out of money on their account before you have sent in additional money, they will only be allowed to charge a meal, not snacks or additional portions. It is expected that this will be paid as soon as possible.
7. A statement will be sent home monthly to parents owing money to the cafeteria. The school will initiate debt collection procedures for unpaid balances..

**PLEASE NOTE: Please review the information consider applying. Information is confidential and no one knows if your child is free or reduced when going through the lunch line. There is no penalty to the school for children receiving free/reduced meals. If your children received Free/Reduced meals last year, that information stays and can be used for the first 30 operating days of this school year; but if you do not file a new application by October 11<sup>th</sup>, your children must be changed to full price meals.**

----- Detach and return to Cafeteria Manager, Mr. Joe Calleja -----

**2019-20 School Year**

Students: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

May use their cafeteria account to purchase the following items, provided that students have money on their accounts:

YES NO

Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Extra portions of meal items \_\_\_\_\_

Snacks \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Important Information from the Health Office

The Health Office is the link between your child and health and safety. There are very important items below that must be addressed in order for the school to appropriately manage health concerns that can arise while your child is at school. Please help us to keep children safe.

## Emergency Contact Forms

Annual Health History and Emergency Forms have been mailed to all parents. Please complete these forms and return them quickly. Please keep this information up to date; it is the only way we have of reaching you in an emergency.

## Taking Medication In School

To assure the safety of our students while in school and comply with New York State Law, no medications are allowed in school without prior approval. If your child has a condition which requires him/her to take medication during the school day we will gladly cooperate with you and your doctor if you bring to us:

1. A provider's order indicating the name of the medication, dosage, time of administration, days to be given.
  - a. If order states student can self-carry/administer medication, the provider must sign an attestation permission form.
2. Permission note from parent or guardian,
3. Medication in the original container. This includes both prescription and over the counter medicine, including Tylenol, Advil, and cough drops. Medication must be brought to school by a parent or guardian.
4. Complete the **Authorization of Another Adult to Administer Medication** form.

## MEDICATION CANNOT BE PROVIDED BY WCS.

# Immunization Requirements for Students

New York State Public Health Law (section 2164) **requires** children entering **7<sup>th</sup>** and **12<sup>th</sup>** grades on or after September 1, 2017 to receive a vaccine against meningococcal disease. Vaccine names are Menactra or Menveo. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) requires this vaccine to be administered to all adolescents at age 11 or 12 years and a booster dose on or after the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Tdap** (Tetanus diphtheria and Pertussis): Students entering **6<sup>th</sup>** grade in the fall for the 2019-20 school year are **required** to have an immunization called Tdap.

**NOTE: Religious exemptions are no longer allowed. All students must be vaccinated to attend school.**

Please send proof of immunization to the School Nurse, Mrs. Christine Zaengle, RN.

# Screening Requirements

## **Vision**

All new students and students in Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten and grades 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 11

## **Hearing**

All new students and students in Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11

## **Scoliosis**

All Students in grades 5 & 7 for girls; Grade 9 for boys

## **Health Examinations**

A Health Examination including Body Mass Index and Weight Status Category information is required for all newly entering students and student in Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten and students in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11

## **Dental Certificates**

A dental certificate is requested for all newly entering students, students in Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten and students in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11

**Please call the Nurse's Office (601-397-8785) with any questions or concerns.**

**More information and forms can be found on our website.**

# IMPORTANT NOTICES

## Public Notice

The Worcester Central School District is in compliance with the provisions of Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. This agency does not discriminate due to race, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The Title IX Officer for Worcester Central School is the Superintendent.

## Educational Services for Homeless Students

All District programs are available to homeless and/or unaccompanied youth. For more information on the services available to homeless and/or unaccompanied youth, please contact our District's Homeless Liaisons, Mrs. Melissa Leonard or Mrs. Jessie Westfall at (607) 387-8785.

## Use of Video Cameras on School Grounds and

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to promote and foster school safety and ensure a safe and effective learning environment. After having carefully considered and balanced the rights of privacy with the District's duty to promote discipline, health, welfare and safety of staff and students, as well as that of the general public who has occasion to use school facilities, the Board supports the use of surveillance cameras when necessary in its schools, its buses and/or on school grounds. District surveillance cameras will only be utilized in public areas where there is no "reasonable expectation of privacy." Audio recordings shall not be utilized by the School District officials; such prohibition does not preclude the use of audio recordings by law enforcement officials in accordance with their official duties and/or as otherwise authorized by law.



## Asbestos Management Plan

Notice is hereby given to all employees, parents, students, PTO, and all other users of the facilities of the Worcester Central School District, that the District's original Asbestos Management Plan was submitted to the New York State Education Department in Albany, New York.

In accordance with EPA's "Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1987 (40 CFR Part 763) and the New York State Right to Know Law, annual notices pertaining to the inspection and availability of management plans have been posted in each building.

All management plan records are available for review during school hours. For further information please contact Mr. Glenn Jaquish, Building Maintenance Mechanic at 607-397-8785, ext. 123.

## No Child Left Behind Act

As part of the federal regulations, parents of children attending Worcester Central School may request the school to provide information regarding the qualifications of teachers in the Title I/AIS program.

If you would like this information, please contact Tim Gonzales, Superintendent at 607-397-8785.

**View the District's Computer Acceptable Use Policy, Attendance Policy, Code of Conduct, and Title I information on the District Web site at [www.worcestercs.org](http://www.worcestercs.org)**

# Pesticide Notifications

NYS Education Law Section 409H effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and non-public elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Worcester Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in the school, please contact Mr. Glenn Jaquish, Building Maintenance Mechanic, at 607-397-8785, ext. 123.

## Disclosure to the Military

Federal law requires school districts, upon request, release the name, home address and telephone number of high school students to military recruiters unless the student or the student's parent/guardian have directed the school not to release this information.

If you **DO NOT** want the school district to release this information to military recruiters, you must inform the district of request this in writing. You may make this request by writing a letter to Mrs. Kimberlea Curran, Secondary Principal, or by completing and submitting the form below. Once you have completed this form, you do not need to do so again unless you wish to change your mind.

### **Request NOT to Release Directory Information to Military Recruiters**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be over 18)

## Visitors to School

Although we encourage community involvement in school and school-related activities, please help us to ensure the safety of our children and support quality learning by following the guidelines and requirements for visitations below:

1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
2. All visitors to the school must report to the main office upon arrival at the school. All visitors must log into the visitor's identification system and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school building and on school grounds. The visitor must also sign out on the visitor's identification system in the main office upon leaving the building.
3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organizations meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
4. Teachers are not able to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors. Parents wishing to speak with the teacher should schedule an appointment that does not interfere with the teacher's instructional time.
5. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to an Administrator. Unauthorized persons may be asked to leave.
6. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in the code of conduct. Law enforcement may be called if the situation warrants.

# Your Rights Under FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Worcester Central School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the Worcester Central School to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Worcester Central School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

## WCS is a Smoke-Free Zone



By law and by policy established by the Board of Education, tobacco products and electronic cigarettes and their use are strictly prohibited on school grounds. This prohibited use includes the use of such products by adults anywhere on school grounds during school events.

Please help to keep the campus clean and safe for students while also setting an example for children.

# WORCESTER CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

## 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

### IMPORTANT DATES

**September 2** Labor Day  
 September 3 Superintendent's Conf. Day  
 September 4 Superintendent's Conf. Day  
**September 5** Classes Begin  
 October 11 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.  
**October 14** Columbus Day  
 November 5 Supt. Conf. Day (Parent/Teacher Conf.)  
**November 11** Veterans Day  
 November 27—29 Thanksgiving Recess  
**November 28** Thanksgiving Day  
 December 11 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.  
 Dec 23—Jan 3 Holiday Vacation  
**December 25** Christmas Day  
 January 1 New Year's Day  
**January 20** M.L. King Jr. Day  
 February 5 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.  
**February 17** Presidents Day  
 February 17—21 Winter Break  
 March 13 Superintendent's Conf. Day  
 April 6—13 Spring Break  
**April 10** Good Friday  
 May 13 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.  
**May 25** Memorial Day  
**June 26** Last Day of School  
 June 28 Graduation

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	Progress Reports
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	Quarter 1 Ends
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	Progress Reports
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

JANUARY				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	Quarter 2 Ends

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	Progress Reports
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

APRIL				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	Quarter 3 Ends
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

MAY				
M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	Progress Reports
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JUNE				
M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	Rating Day
29	30			

### DAYS IN SESSION

SEPTEMBER	20
OCTOBER	22
NOVEMBER	17
DECEMBER	15
JANUARY	19
FEBRUARY	15
MARCH	22
APRIL	16
MAY	20
JUNE	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>186</b>

Emergency Days: 6

### TESTING DATES

January 21—24 Regents Exams  
 March 24—31 ELA Tests Grades 3-8  
 April 21—27 Math Tests Grades 3-8  
 April 13—May 15 NYSESLAT: Speaking  
 May 4—15 NYSESLAT: L, R, W  
 May 20—29 Science Performance Grades 4 & 8  
 June 1 Science Written Test Grades 4 & 8  
 June 2 Regents Exam Global Studies  
 June 17—25 Regents Exams  
 June 26 Regents Rating Day



= Vacation or Holiday



= Half Day



= Conference Day



= Regents/State Exams

BOE Approval - March 27, 2019

Worcester Central School  
198 Main Street  
Worcester, NY 12197

**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Worcester, NY 12197**  
**Permit No. 2**

# Box Holder

## Approaching Events

### **September**

- 5 First Day of School
- 17 PK-12 Open House at 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the library, Audit Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.

### **October**

- 11 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
- 14 No School - Columbus Day
- 19 Band-On-The-Run 5K Run/Walk Fundraiser
- 23 Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the library

### **November**

- 5 No School - Parent-Teacher Conferences 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Veterans Breakfast
- 8 End of 1st Quarter
- 11 No School - Veterans Day
- 15, 16, 17 WCS Presents: *Beauty and the Beast*
- 20 Board of Education Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Break

### **December**

- 11 Early Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
- 12 Jr./Sr. Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium
- 18 Board of Education Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library
- 19 Elementary Holiday Concert at 1:30 p.m. in the gymnasium
- 23-January 3 Holiday Break