

WTHS NEWS



Education is Power !

Winslow Township High School Newsletter

February 2025

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM)

Here are some truths:

- Dating Violence is more common among teens and young adults.
- One in three teens in the US will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they are in a relationship with before becoming an adult.
- Teens who suffer dating abuse are subject to long-term consequences like alcoholism, eating disorders, promiscuity, thoughts of suicide, and violent behavior.

Teen Dating Violence: Tips for Parents

- Learn the myths and facts about dating violence.
- Some teens who are abused do not talk about it.
- There are warning signs of abuse.
- Teach your teenager that respect is the most important thing in a dating relationship.
- Learn how to talk with your child about dating violence.

Love is Respect



A confidential service for teens and young adults. Love is Respect offers resources and information relating to healthy relationships and dating abuse. **Text "LOVEIS" to 22522 for support.**



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent- Teacher Conferences will be held on April 2nd and 3rd. Please note that parents must access their students' on-course accounts and schedule conferences using the web desk via the parent tab on the high school website. The sign-up portal will open after February 7th. On both conference days, the instructional schedule will follow the half day protocol.

Mandatory Testing

Attention Parents of Juniors: The March NJGPA (NJ Gradation Proficiency Assessment) mandatory testing window is scheduled to run from March 10-14th. The state deems students who take and pass the test as showing graduation proficiency. Only those who attempt and fail one or both sections will be eligible for alternate assessments. For complete details, please visit link below:

https://highschool.winslow-schools.com/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=951024&id=0

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Soaring with Winslow

Astris

The WTHS Literary Magazine, Astris, is now soliciting work for the 2025 edition. Interested students do not have to be a member of the club. Submissions may take on various creative forms such as poems, short stories, selections from longer works and any visual arts such as painting, drawing or photography. Music and video pieces may also be submitted through a QR code. Student submissions will be printed and published in the magazine debut sometime in the spring. For more information, please see Mr. Pino or Ms. Verecchio.



Blood Drive



WTHS Key Club, in partnership with The American Red Cross Blood Drive, is hosting its annual spring blood drive. All eligible participants are invited to give the gift of life. Donations not only save lives, but help students earn valuable Red Cross college scholarships! Thank you for your help!

Where: Bud Duble Senior Center
When: April 2nd from 1:00-6:00 pm
Register @: <https://redcrossblood.org/>



Real Care Program



Mrs. Gary, Early Childhood Program Director, is proud to announce that the Real Care Parenting Program is underway! The goal of this venture is to increase participants' awareness about issues related to the responsibilities of caring for an infant. Also, students can explore the physical, emotional, social, and financial consequences of parenthood. Students in the program are charged with the responsibility of taking care of an infant simulator which mimics all the needs of a real-life baby. As such, it cries, needs to be burped, rocked, diaper changed and fed. The simulation babies are also programmed to cry vigorously if handled roughly or held incorrectly. The entire student body and staff stay involved by providing feedback to the program director. Unattended, improperly held or constantly crying babies generate negative feedback while the thriving ones earn plaudits and grades for their caretakers. Happy parenting to the students in the program!

TV Production Finalist

The WTHS TV Production team is proud to announce that its documentary, "Piece by Piece," has been named a finalist in the Philadelphia Youth Film Festival. The student-created work will be featured in the festival's awards program and screened on **Saturday, February 22, 2025**, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. From a pool of around 300 films and screenplays submitted by high school-age students throughout the world, 25 entries were named as official and local selections, and 14 entries were selected as finalists in 4 distinct categories (narrative, documentary, experimental, and screenplay). All finalists and selected films will be available for screening through the festival's Virtual Screening Room during the week prior to the festival, and finalists will receive a first, second, or third place award, which will be announced at the awards show. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the festival which is free and open to all high school students and their invitees. Those unable to attend in person are invited to join for the Talk to the Filmmakers Panel, which will take place from 12:30-1:00 PM EST. Registration for virtual or in-person may be completed via the following link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeg2ELWoy-S2oYo3mO3oTjWlc6U03cHOPHFB7Xkd50hpKqfsQ/viewform>



Piece by Piece has also been **accepted into the 2024 Miami 4 Social Change Youth Film Festival** and screened on January 17, 2025, at the Black Archives Historic Theatre in Miami Florida. Furthermore, the project earned **Honorable Mention status at the Sun Valley Junior Film Competition** in the category of Best High School Film.

WTHS Track Teams



Congratulations to the wonderful WTHS Girls' and Boys' Track Teams. Both teams are continuing to distinguish themselves and break personal and historical school records. For a highlight on each member and respective accomplishments, please see the showcase link below: <https://sjtrackblog.com/2025/01/30/a-look-at-20-remarkable-performances-at-n-y-international-showcase/> One specific milestone was reached when "Winslow Township's **Amariah Arango, Jasmine Jackson, Adaiah Arango and Cinniya Robinson**, put together the 5th-fastest 4-by-4 in state history and the fastest by a South Jersey relay in 22 years Saturday at Ocean Breeze", as per SJ Track blog writer, Reuben Frank.

Congratulations

A Day at Winslow High School

Nurse's Corner



MLK Spotlight-Henrietta Lacks - was an impoverished black woman who died at the early age of 31 on Oct. 4, 1951. During her treatment of cervical cancer, a doctor took a sample of her tumor and sent it over to a colleague of his who had been trying for two decades to grow human tissue from cultures with no success. Henrietta's cells were unique because they could live and replicate outside of the human body. Soon doctors realized that if the cells received the proper nutrients needed to survive, they could be shipped across countries, frozen for decades and thawed, etc., and they would continue to replicate. This unprecedented scientific discovery led to finding treatments for many diseases, including polio, cancer, leukemia, influenza, Parkinson's, AIDS, etc. They also aided in the discovery of how cells work, in-vitro fertilization, gene mapping and more. Chances are Henrietta's cells are somehow involved in the process of any research relating to the human body. Her cells were even sent into space on an unmanned satellite to determine whether humans can survive in zero gravity. Henrietta died of uremic poisoning in a segregated ward about 8 months after being diagnosed with cancer. It is noted that she never knew her cells were taken and used as the "most vital tools in modern medicine and would spawn a multi-billion-dollar industry." Her cells became the first human immortal cells ever grown in a lab. She is survived by a husband and three children, who did not know her cells were being used until 25 years later. So, in honor of Black History Month, we salute Henrietta Lacks, whose unique cells contributed to many breakthroughs in modern medicine.



On January 15, 2024, ten students took the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) in the high school library. While the ASVAB is most widely known as a military entrance exam, it is also the starting point of a career exploration program (CEP) that is available to all students regardless of military status. Students who take the ASVAB receive skill scores in nine content areas (science, math, mechanical comprehension, and more!) along with career exploration scores for verbal, math, and science/technical skills. After taking the ASVAB, students are also given access to Occu-Find, a career search tool for teens, and the Find Your Interest (FYI) career quiz, which helps identify careers with high job satisfaction rates. All students are encouraged to take part in the ASVAB CEP to learn more about themselves and their career interests!

Leo Club

On January 15th, twenty-five Leo Club members ventured to School #2 to visit the pre-kindergarten to 3rd grade classrooms. Their mission was to read winter-themed books and engage in activities with the students. Club members had a wonderful time interacting with the different grade levels, while utilizing the opportunity to hear and share family winter traditions. The visit culminated in works of art created in collaboration and both parties were sad to say goodbye at the end of their time together.

