

2004-2005 WLCSC School Year Calendars

OCTOBER 2004

- W 6 No school for students
Teachers all day for professional development day
- Th 7 Elementary parent conferences, p.m. only
1/2 day for elementary students, a.m. only
- F 8 Elementary parent conferences, p.m. only
1/2 day for elementary students, a.m. only
- F 15 First nine-week grading period ends
- M 18 Second nine-week grading period begins
- F 22 Fall break

NOVEMBER 2004

- Th 11 1/2 day of school for students, a.m. only
Teachers all day for professional development day
- Th 25 Thanksgiving Holiday, no school
- F 26 Thanksgiving Holiday, no school

DECEMBER 2004

- T 7 1/2 day of school for students, a.m. only
Teachers all day for professional development day
- M 20 Winter break begins

Nine-week grading periods

August 16 - October 15: 43 1/2 days
October 18 - January 7: 47 days
First semester: 90 1/2 days

January 11 - March 25: 47 days
March 28 - May 27: 47 1/2 days
Second semester: 89 1/2 days

Half-day professional development dismissal times:

11:05 a.m., Happy Hollow
11:50 a.m., Cumberland
12:05 a.m., Junior/Senior High

Half-day conference dismissal times:

10:45 a.m., Happy Hollow
11:30 a.m., Cumberland
12:05 a.m., Junior/Senior High

JANUARY 2005

- M 3 School resumes
- F 7 First semester ends
- M 10 Records Day
Staff all day; no school for students
- T 11 Second semester begins
- M 17 Martin Luther King Day
No school for students or staff
- W 26 1/2 day of school for students, a.m. only
Teachers all day for professional development day

FEBRUARY 2005

- W 9 No school for students
Teachers all day for professional development day
- Th 24 1/2 day of school for students, a.m. only
Teachers all day for professional development day

MARCH 2005

- M 14 Spring break begins
- M 21 School resumes
- F 25 Third nine-week grading period ends
- M 28 Fourth nine-week grading period begins

APRIL 2005

- Th 7 No school for students
Teachers all day for professional development day
- W 13 Elementary parent conferences, p.m. only
1/2 day for elementary students, a.m. only
- Th 14 Elementary parent conferences, p.m. only
1/2 day for elementary students, a.m. only
- F 15 Snow Make-up Day #1

MAY 2005

- F 27 School year concludes
1/2 day of school for students, a.m. only, staff all day
- M 30 Memorial Day, no school
- T 31 Snow Make-up Day #2

THE WEST LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED FOR
COMMUNITY RESIDENTS BY THE WEST LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION.

Administrative Center

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1130 N. Salisbury St.
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2497
www.wl.k12.in.us
765/746-1602
Iran G. Floyd, Superintendent
Kenneth L. Barnes, Business Manager

Our Schools

Cumberland Elementary School
600 Cumberland Ave.
West Lafayette, IN 47906-1522
765/464-3212
Kim Bowers, Principal
Grades: K-3

Happy Hollow Elementary School
1200 N. Salisbury St.
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2498
765/746-0500
Robert Foerster, Principal
Grades: 4-6

West Lafayette Junior/Senior High School
1105 N. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2481
765/746-0400, High School
765/746-0404, Junior High
Anne Koivo, Principal
Ron Shriner, High School Assistant Principal
Bob Troyer, Junior High Assistant Principal
Grades: 7-12

Safety Officers Added

The School Safety Officer program is off to a great start. Beginning this school year, one off-duty WLPD officer will work each student attendance day to augment the school district's mission to provide a safe learning environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors to our schools.

Off-duty West Lafayette Police Department officers will rotate days in the post. They've completed two days of training at the Indiana Department of Education School

Safety Specialist Academy and our own orientation session. Besides general security duties, the officers will be a resource for teachers on police-related topics.

Lucas Thompson, President, WL High School Student Council voices **Student Perspective on the Safety Officer Program:** "Having a safety officer at West Side builds a relationship between the school community and local law enforcement. This professional offers valuable support to teachers who are not trained to deal with all situations that occur on school property. The officer's presence creates a safer atmosphere for all of us."

security & safety

WEST
LAFAYETTE
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL
CORPORATION

newsletter

FALL/WINTER, 2004/2005

March to Success Begins With a Bang



The Red Devil Marching Band generated an upbeat, looking-forward feel for the 2004/2005 school year during the West Lafayette Community School Corporation back-to-school parade August 12.

success

From the Desk of the Superintendent

As we start a new school year, I would first like to thank the School Board for the confidence they have placed in me. Serving as the acting superintendent for the 2004-2005 school year is an honor. My intention in this "interim" position, is not to sit idly by, but rather to be proactive in working with staff, administrators, students, parents and patrons in the West Lafayette Community in an effort, not only

to keep West Lafayette Schools as some of the very best in the State, but also to make them even better.

I am not one who is content with past achievements, but one who looks to the future. Together we will work to improve our curriculum and delivery systems in order to bring out the best in each and every student. Schools with state-of-the-

art learning opportunities will assure that our students are fully engaged and excited about the process of learning. I look forward to the challenges before us and to another year of educational excellence.

habla español?

Students Sample Spanish Language, Culture

Habla Espanol? Si. Spanish spans the ages and grades at WLCSC, thanks to high school Spanish students and their teacher, Janice Wheeler-Cowen, who helped elementary students learn phrases, games and culture this summer.

"The high school students organized the activities," says junior/senior high principal Anne Koivo. "With a good ratio of older students to younger students, the session was very beneficial for each to actively participate in this learning and entertaining project."



Summer Spanish drew enthusiastic participants.

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Happy Hollow Holds First Annual Registration Day



Students and families headed to Happy Hollow August 10 to launch a new tradition: Registration Day. The day's activities included picking up information packets, touring the school, checking out new West Lafayette spirit apparel and taking home retired textbooks.

Among the day's volunteers were members of the West Lafayette Youth Council and Happy Hollow Parent Council.

What to wear? How about the new West Lafayette spirit apparel unveiled at Happy Hollow's Registration Day in August.

Thanking Retirees

WLCSC thanks these staff members for their years of service as they retire:

- **Medarda Bauer**, who held the curriculum director post the last two years
- **Zelda DeYoung**, who served as a custodian for 31 years

- **Lynda Freund**, who joined WLCSC in 1981 to teach 6th grade English, then spent 21 years as a kindergarten teacher
- **C. Kaye Kleine-Ahlbrandt**, who taught French for 24 years and for 11 years coordinated the high school academic competition

WLCSC Welcomes More Than 2,000 Students

This fall, WLCSC welcomed 2,005 students to our schools:

- Cumberland, kindergarten through 3rd grades: 534
- Happy Hollow, 4th through 6th grades: 451
- West Lafayette Junior/Senior High: 1,020

Our largest class is 11th grade, with 184 juniors; our smallest, kindergarten, with 113 enrolled.

- **Joanne Wagner**, who came to WLCSC in 1985 to teach English and for many years also coordinated the junior high academic competition.

thank you

Curriculum Expands

New and returning courses added to the fall curriculum include:

- Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education, a two-semester class for juniors and seniors, is a joint venture between local businesses and industries who provide work experiences related to students' career goals.
- Poetry, a Core 40, one-semester academic honors course for sophomores, juniors and seniors, delves into poetry reading, writing and critical thinking, then concludes with a multimedia presentation.
- Textiles and Fashion Technologies, a one-semester career-focused class for 9th through 12th grades, explores fabric and design, taking clothing and accessory creation into the high-tech world with design software and computerized fabrication.
- World Geography, a one-semester class for 10th through 12 grades, looks at humans and their environment in space and time.
- World Languages, a one-semester, 8th grade elective, covers basic French, German and Spanish vocabulary and cultural information on countries where the languages are spoken.

Bowers Ready to Meet High Expectations



Kim Bowers is the new principal of Cumberland Elementary School. Her experience and expertise will prove to be invaluable.

With 534 students and their families counting on her leadership, Kim Bowers hit the ground running as the new principal of Cumberland Elementary School this fall.

Even though she's spent the last seven years as Attica Elementary's principal, she's a familiar face locally, having earlier

spent 9 years of a 13-year teaching career at WLCSC.

"I am passionate about teaching and learning," Bowers says. "I love students, parents, teachers and school staff. I believe in the mission, vision and goals that have been set forth by the WLCSC, and I believe I will be able to use my experience and expertise to maintain and expand the high expectations for which the West Lafayette schools are known."

Bowers earned her bachelor's degree at Purdue University in 1983 and a master's from Butler University in 1996. She's also done graduate work in curriculum and instruction. She was a 1996 Golden Award finalist and has received Education Indiana and Early Literacy grants.

Welcoming New Teachers



Pictured (below, from left): Elizabeth Snell, Lindsay Umbeck, Karri Harmon, Lisa Mills, Stephen Ohlhaut.



Pictured (above, from left): Michelle Vignon, Valerie Duncan (GLASS Speech & Hearing), Angela McDaniel, and Joy Dangora.

New teachers are on board at each of the WLCSC schools this fall. We welcome:

Cumberland

Angela McDaniel teaches kindergarten. A 2004 Purdue University graduate, Angela did her student teaching and has substituted for WLCSC. In her spare time, she enjoys tennis and volleyball, and she's a volunteer for Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Happy Hollow

Joy Dangora was a student teacher and substitute teacher at Happy Hollow, and now has her own 4th grade class. She earned a bachelor's from Purdue in 2003. Her interests include running, dancing, painting and reading.

Michelle Vignon teaches 6th grade, coming to Indiana from Texas, where she taught two years and earned a bachelor's from the University of Texas.

Junior/Senior High

Karri Harmon brings 13 years' teaching experience at Crawfordsville, Western Boone and Southmont high schools to her geometry and algebra post. She earned her bachelor's from Valparaiso University and master's from Olivet Nazarene in Illinois.

Lisa Mills previously spent four years teaching in Tennessee, Maryland and Ohio. She is the 7th and 8th grade English instructor, holding a bachelor's from Milligan College and master's from Johns Hopkins University.

Stephen Ohlhaut, a French teacher, is a Purdue University graduate with teaching experience at Twin Lakes and Ohio's Oak Hills high schools.

Elizabeth Snell is supervising Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education and teaching Child Development, Nutrition and Wellness, and Housing and Interiors. In the community, she's a CHAPS Riding Center volunteer and on the Girl Scout activities planning team.

Lindsay Umbeck, a Red Devils graduate, earned her Ball State degree in May 2004 and has returned to teach algebra and geometry.

Teachers Land Lilly Grants

Five projects proposed by WLCSC teachers received funding in the latest round of Lilly Partners in Education grants. Their projects:

- **Cumberland:** "How Does That Work?," Ann Gerlach, Lois Hauelsen, Michelin Newton and Sharon Smith; and "Questioning Nature," Lois Hauelsen and Sharon Smith;
- **Happy Hollow:** "Newton and Mousetrap in Student Design," Sherry Anderson and Kim Power;
- **Junior/Senior High:** "It's A Gas," Peter von Werder; and "Exploring Robotics Through LEGO Mindstorms," Don Fairchild and Steve Florence.

Outstanding Teachers

Four WLCSC teachers are among 13 finalists for 2004 Golden Apple Awards from the Lafayette-West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. They were chosen from a field of 137 teachers who were nominated, 30 of them from WLCSC. Later this fall, five winners will be named. The WLCSC finalists are:

- Sherry Anderson, Happy Hollow 6th grade teacher
- Fusun Gulen, Douglas Klumpe and Craig Shaeffer, Junior/Senior High teachers.

Anderson Makes Science Lively

A WLCSC teacher for 16 years, **Sherry Anderson** brings science to life in the classroom and in the Happy Hollow Science Club. The last two years she was named Lafayette Science and Engineering Regional Fair Outstanding Teacher, 6th grade division.

we salute you

Notes From The Board

A new slate of school board members and officers began their duties in July, and work is underway on several fronts. In planning, the board is developing both short- and long-range options for facilities, and the finance committee is creating a development subcommittee.

Meetings Open to Public

Parents and community residents are welcome to attend board meetings, held at 6:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month, with a 6:30 p.m. work session on the third Wednesday. Meetings are held at the Administrative Center, 1130 N. Salisbury or one of the schools. Check our website at www.wl.k12.in.us to view current agendas and any changes in date, time or place.

Your WLCSC Board of Trustees

Dianne Sautter, president 463-2869, dsautter@insightbb.com Serving first term, Dianne Sautter has a bachelor's in English education, a reading specialist master's and 36 years' teaching experience, 32 at WLCSC. "I bring an ability to work with a wide variety in building consensus, as well as unity. I also bring a sense of history, as well as a sense of humor—both of which are essential in seeing us through rough times and helping us maintain our focus," she says.

A former student who nominated her for the award, said, "Ms. Anderson's love for learning makes the students excel." A parent noted, "Her dedication is a model for her students."

Gulen All About Art

An artist in her own right, **Fusun Gulen** has been sparking WLCSC students' creativity for 18 years. She also teaches them about community service, with ceramics students contributing 150 bowls for the YWCA's Clay Bowl Giving Project.

"She has taught me that art is not perfect and neither is life," a student who nominated her said. Another nominator said, "She creates opportunities every day for students to try new skills, to experiment, to challenge their comfort level, all under a positive, reinforcing umbrella."

Nancy Offutt, vice-president 463-6090, trpeck@earthlink.net Nancy Offutt is a returning board member. She's lived in West Lafayette for 16 years. She's the mother of a WLHS graduate and has a second child now attending WLCSC.

Roland Winger, secretary 743-8012, roland@thewingers.org A new board member, Roland Winger earned a bachelor's in Agricultural Engineering from Purdue University, is a licensed Professional Engineer, and has 20 years' experience managing human and financial resources. "I bring a strong desire to help our schools thrive," he says. "My strengths are in critical thinking, seeing the big picture and bringing people together. I know the challenges of development and promoting excellence while balancing finite resources."

Kathy Anderson 497-4208, kanderson@insightbb.com Board newcomer Kathy Anderson is an 11-year West Lafayette resident with three children attending WLCSC. She's been involved in parent councils, textbook adoption and other school activities. Anderson holds a bachelor's in biology and master's in microbiology and works part-time in Purdue's Botany/Plant Pathology Department. "I understand budget constraints, consensus building and how to define a problem and find a resolution," she says.

Klumpe All About Numbers

Math teacher **Douglas Klumpe** has been challenging WLCSC students for 18 years. He also coaches the math squad in the Academic Super Bowl team and girls' varsity volleyball.

One of his nominators cited his ability "to get his students to set and strive toward lofty goals," and a parent says, "Mr. Klumpe's signature of a loud and positive tone can wake up a sleeping head. He is always well prepared himself, makes the learning fun yet challenging."

Shaeffer All About Words

Now in his third year at WLCSC, **Craig Shaeffer** is a writer and teacher. His courses include 8th grade English, film literature and creative writing. He also coaches girls' varsity basketball.

"He is enthusiastic. He increased my liking for English," a student who nominated him said. A former student said, "He brightens up the class with his humor, and yet he is serious when he teaches."

Scott Homan 430-6193, srhoman@purdue.edu Scott Homan is newly elected to the Board. Scott earned a Ph.D. in Educational Human Resource Development at Texas A & M, is an assistant professor of Organizational Leadership at Purdue and served as a Trustee of the Nampa Idaho School Board before moving to West Lafayette. Scott and his wife Betsy have two children in the schools.

Dottie Rausch 497-2152; dotr1968@yahoo.com Dottie Rausch is a returning Board Member who has a daughter in third grade and a son in first grade. "We have an amazing Corporation. We have worked hard to make positive changes in our schools to help us move forward in a rapidly changing economy. I will continue to work hard to utilize all our resources to keep achieving that goal."

Stephen Shook 463-6433; sshook@shook.com Steve is a returning Board member. He is a Lafayette native and an Indiana University Business graduate. Steve is also a Shook Agency partner, member of the Chamber of Commerce Board, member of Food Finders Board and a member of the West Lafayette Parks Foundation Board. Steve and his wife Rachael have three children - the oldest in kindergarten at Cumberland.

Updates on 2005 Budget

by Kenneth L. Barnes, Treasurer

The budget crisis affecting our state, the national recession, rising insurance costs and greatly reduced funding are having an adverse effect on the operating budget or General Fund of our school district.

For example, the state funding formula is projected to provide a .6% increase. The annual budget for the school corporation is based on a calendar year and involves partial funding for two school years, causing us to look ahead a few years at a time for our financial forecast.

Unless changes are made in funding or in the school corporation's expenditures, we will need to use a small amount of our Rainy Day Fund in 2005 and all of our reserves in 2006, ending the year with a \$600,000 deficit in the General Fund.

The school corporation is committed to making an aggressive effort in reviewing funding options and containments in operating cost in an effort to maintain our excellent educational program. A committee is being considered to further review our finances beginning this fall. Alternatives will be developed and presented to the board for consideration.

The school corporation charges a property tax in other funds which are not affected in the same manner. Unfortunately, we cannot convert those funds to salaries and fringe benefits, which is the primary cost of providing education to children.

Please feel free to join us at any School Board meeting or to review the materials on our website, www.wl.k12.in.us.

JOIN US