



11/13/22  
Volume 3, Issue 13



# Dr. Barker's Weekly Report

## Message from Dr. Barker

Good Evening WEST.

On Friday, November 11th, West students and staff celebrated **Veteran's Day**. We started the day with a video message recorded by our history department which was then followed by a moment of silence. Throughout the day students came to the library as a part of World Kindness Day to write letters and collect goods for veterans currently being supported through the Coatesville Veteran's Assistance Hospital. Thank you to the multitude of students who took time to complete these notes for veterans in our community!

**Parent Teacher Conferences** are just around the corner and we want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to sign up to meet with our teachers. Conferences will be offered on **November 22nd from 8-11am, 12:30-3:30pm, and 6:30-8:30pm**. All conferences are scheduled on a first come first serve basis. See the Special Announcements section for the link to sign up.

Congratulations to all of our Fall sports teams and the Marching Band for an amazing season! Well Done!! Winter sports begin this Friday, November 18th.

As we head into the holiday season, please look for information on how you can help support those in need in our community. West is currently collecting **Toys for Tots** in partnership with the US Marine Corps and will soon be kicking off our annual **Canned Food Drive** supporting Safe Harbor, the Lord's Pantry, and Chester County Foodbank. More information will be provided in the weeks ahead.

Take care and have a great week WEST!

Kurt Barker - Principal

DHS WEST - "Where Every Student Thrives"

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## Weekly Schedule

- **November 16 - Powder-puff Football Game— 7pm**
- **November 17 - Home & School Meeting @ 7pm via Zoom**

## Whippet News

- **Class of 2024:** This is a friendly reminder that **GRADUATION PROJECT PROPOSALS are due NOVEMBER 15th**. A hard copy can be picked up in the Main Office or Guidance Office. You can also find digital copies [here](#) along with any and all information of the process. Please reach out to Mr. Hassel, [bhassel@dasd.org](mailto:bhassel@dasd.org), with any questions.
- **Early Bird Yearbook Pricing** is now available for purchase. The early purchase price will be \$75, the cost will increase December 31st, 2022. Please visit this [link](#) to place your order or go to [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) and enter 13471 as the School Order Number.
- Keystone Prep information is now available. Click on the subject below for more information.

[Biology](#)

[Algebra](#)

- **LOOKING FOR HOMEWORK HELP?** Come to Homework Club every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm. No need to sign-up, just stop in! Teachers request that students bring a specific problem or concern to Homework Club.  
Room 171 - Science and Math  
Room 161 - English and All Other Subjects
- The **Biology Drop-in Center** is now available to help students. Below is a link to a form that allows students to schedule one-to-one help with a Biology teacher during 1st and 3rd periods. <https://forms.gle/uhJHftDRipsNGuWv8>
- On November 15th, parents, students and community members will have the wonderful opportunity to hear from Former Eagles Wide Receiver **Vince Papale**. The event entitled, “You Can’t Always be Invincible” will allow DASD students and community to have a conversation surrounding wellness, perseverance and resiliency. Autographed books are available but are limited. Register [Here](#).
- Join **Dr. Andrea Kolb** in a discussion on supporting immigrant students on November 29th at 3:45 pm via zoom. Dr. Andrea G. Kolb is the Statewide Multilingual Education Manager at the Center for Schools and Communities in Harrisburg, PA. In this role, she serves as the English Language Development professional learning consultant to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Community members can register [here](#).
- West is launching a new club, **Best Buddies**, which is an international organization that works to pair individuals with disabilities with their neurotypical peers to form lasting friendships. Our students (or the “Buddy,”) receive a “Peer,” that is tasked to spend time with them in a one-on-one setting two times a month, with weekly contact, and large group activities once a month. These activities can include things like bowling, lunch get togethers, movies, and so on. The benefits of being part of Best Buddies are numerous, for both the “Buddy,” and the “Peer,” involved. We are looking at having our first meeting including our “Buddies,” in early December. For more information, please view the [google doc](#) linked here.

## Special Announcements

- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on **Tuesday, November 22nd** in person or via zoom this year by appointment only. [Click here](#) to view the letter which provides the scheduler link and explains the process for reserving a time to meet with your child's teachers. It is also posted on the WEST website.

### Student Reminders

- **Student Parking Reminder:** Any students parking in the Band Lot will need to move their car to the Wagner Gym Lot or the Kottmeyer Stadium Lot **by 3:00 pm** to allow the Marching Band to practice. Vehicles left in the band lot will be towed at the owner's expense.
- **Graduation Project** information for proposals and presentations can be found at [Graduation Project Information](#)
- **New Clubs and Activities** are being introduced here at West in addition to the many great choices already available! Check out our [Activities Page](#) to find your fit and have some fun!
- Catch up on the latest West news at our student newspaper site, [The West Side Beat](#) [Follow us on Twitter](#) for new article updates.
- Whippet Studios will be using this link [Linktr.ee/WhippetStudios](https://linktr.ee/WhippetStudios) for school announcements.

### Parent Reminders

Please review the following Traffic Pattern Links: [AM & PM Traffic Patterns](#)

**Attention Parents:** the **2022-2023 device fees are now available to pay on [PaySchools\\* Central](#)**.

Check out what is going on in the Music world at [Downingtown High School Music Parents Association \(dhsmpa.org\)](#)

Please visit Aramark's [website](#) to view [Menus](#) now available!

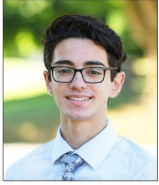
## Meet your Senior Class Officers for the 2022-2023 School Year!



Curtis Grunwell  
Senior Class President 2022-2023



Kelly Bell  
Senior Class Vice President 2022-2023



Angelo Facciolo  
Senior Class Secretary 2022-2023



Ilse von Heimburg  
Senior Class Treasurer 2022-2023

### Whippet Inside Story

Each Marking Period will be worth 25% of the final grade. Because we calculate grades based on percentages, any student who fails a marking period **AND** earns less than a 45% will have their marking period grade reflected as a 45% - this is the lowest percentage a student can earn. The rationale for using this percentage is that by assigning a 45% a student can still mathematically recover for the year if they have an exceptionally uncharacteristic marking period.

## Class of 2023 Announcements

- Cap and gown orders are now only available online. The BASIC PACKAGE (B is \$19.00 (includes sales tax) and Includes Cap, Gown, and Tassel to wear at Commencement on June 7, 2023. \*\*\*Order by **November 18TH** to avoid late fees!\*\*\*\* For more information, please view the [attached flyer](#).
- Seniors: It's not too late to order your OFFICIAL CLASS RING! Click the link below to see Herff Jones' online ring catalog [www.herffjones.com/catalogs/hs-ringcatalog/](http://www.herffjones.com/catalogs/hs-ringcatalog/).
- The seniors are beginning our first class fundraiser for the year, just in time for holiday gift shopping! We have partnered with Twin Valley Coffee to offer a variety of coffees, as well as gift cards. Feel free to shop and/or share our link! The sale runs thru November 18. <https://www.twinvalleycoffeefundraisers.com/pages/downingtwn-west-high-school-class-of-2023-2022>
- If your graduation projected is completed and you need to present it, please contact Mr. Hassel at [bhassel@dasd.org](mailto:bhassel@dasd.org) to schedule. If you have not started your graduation project and need assistance with an idea please see your guidance counselor or Dr. Bell.
- Starting in late December, Seniors will be emailed a list of current obligations. If you believe any obligation is an error or has already been cleared, please contact the teacher listed next to the obligation or see Ms. Imparato in the Main Office.
- Seniors, as you revise and perfect your college essays, don't forget that help is always available in the Writing Center! Our three writing advisors are happy to assist at any stage of the process with your personal statements and/or supplemental essays so that you can feel confident and stand out from the crowd to prospective colleges. Either make an appointment by emailing [dwwritingcenter@dasd.org](mailto:dwwritingcenter@dasd.org), or stop in any time you're in the library.
- **Early Bird Yearbook Pricing:** Yearbooks are now available for purchase. Commemorate your senior's childhood in this important piece of West history. Please visit this [link](#) to place your order or go to [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) and enter 13471 as the School Order Number.

## Student Council

For news and other school updates, follow our Instagram page [@dweststudentcouncil](#).

### Student Council

Here are your student council officers for the 2022-23 school year:

**Co-Presidents:** Alexis Hollinger & Lauren Scott

**Vice President:** Izabella Feathers

**Secretary:** Madeline Harkins

**Treasurer:** Kareem Ahmed



## Career Center News

### Upcoming College Visits

#### Monday, 11/14:

9:35 – Salisbury University  
11:20 – Wyotech – Virtual  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89196966784>  
1:00 – Savannah College of Art & Design

#### Tuesday, 11/15:

10:25 – Rutgers University  
1:00 – Cabrini University

#### Wednesday, 11/16:

11:20 – Bryant University

#### Thursday, 11/17:

YMCA Lunch Table – Hiring Students  
No visits

#### Friday, 11/18:

8:40 – Montclair State University  
10:25 – Valley Forge Military College



Click the DASD logo to view a copy of the 2022-2023 Board Approved District Calendar.

**COLLEGE VISITS:** College admission representatives start their visits on Tuesday, 9/27! The complete schedule of college visits is posted on [Naviance](#) under the College tab. Juniors and Seniors are invited to meet the representatives by signing up on Naviance and requesting teacher permission to participate. Visits may be in person or virtual this fall. For virtual visits, students may use the Career Center or

check with the Library for space to view the presentation with headphones. Thank you!

**Please Note:** Zoom links will be shared with students before each session via the West College and Career Center Course in Schoology: **Access Code: KJCV-FRBC-GS98C**



*College & Career Bound!*

## Employment / Volunteer / Career Opportunities

- **Internship/Grad Project Opportunity for Art Students! One For All** is a 501c3 nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to provide quality, affordable resources to low income artists and communities. The Intern will learn all about the art world by working in their art gallery, art studio and community art engagement projects. See the attached [job summary](#) for more details. Contact Kimberly Jackson at [director@oneforallartists.com](mailto:director@oneforallartists.com) if interested, and visit [www.allforoneartists.com](http://www.allforoneartists.com) for more information.
- **Target in Exton** is hiring seasonal help in all departments! The minimum age is 16, and they pay \$15.25/hour! Visit [www.jobs.target.season.com](http://www.jobs.target.season.com) for details. **Grad Project**
- The **Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences (PGSS)** is a 5-week summer residential science and math program for talented juniors that emphasizes cooperative learning and hands-on laboratory research in STEM at Carnegie Mellon University. Applicants must demonstrate excellence in academic achievement, as evidenced by high school transcript and current report card, a sustained interest and involvement in the sciences or mathematics both in and outside of the classroom, as evidenced by a resume, essays and letters of recommendation. Successful applicants receive a full scholarship to the program! Visit <https://sciences.pa-gov-schools.org/> for more information. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2023.
- The DASD High School Counseling Departments are excited to announce this year's **College & Beyond Night** will be held on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Downingtown EAST High School. Families of 9th-12th graders at East, West and STEM are invited to attend the event. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about post-secondary planning from a variety of presenters including, DASD school counselors, College Admissions Representatives, Military Representatives, and others in the higher education field. Details on how to sign up for the event to follow! We hope to see you there!



*WEST: Where Every Student Thrives!*



## Upcoming Events

- November 15—You Can't Always be Invincible with Vince Papale @ 6:00 pm via zoom
- November 16—Powder Puff Football @ 7:00 pm @ Kottmeyer Stadium
- November 17—Home and School Meeting @ 7:00 pm via Zoom
- November 18 - 1st MP Report Cards posted
- November 21 - 2 HR Early Dismissal
- November 21 - Mind Your Mind Presentation - Periods 1 thru 3
- November 21—Senior Breakfast—3rd Period—Auxiliary Gym
- November 22 - No School - Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 23 - No School - Work Collaboration Day
- November 24-25 - School Closed - Thanksgiving Recess
- November 29—Supporting Educational Success of Immigrant Students @ 3:45 pm via zoom
- November 30 - Excellence Awards - 8:30 am - Cafeteria
- November 30 - College & Beyond Night—6:30—8:30 @ East
- December 6—9 - Keystone Winter Wave Testing—8:40-10:20 am
- December 13 - 2nd Marking Period Mid Marks

**Athletics**—Home Varsity Competitions listed below—For all other competitions, please visit the [WEST Athletics webpage](#).

- Winter Sports begins November 18th.
- There will be a Parent/Player meeting on **Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** in the Library at 7:00 pm, for ALL students interested in playing Girl's Lacrosse this spring! If you have any questions/concerns or conflicts please reach out to Coach Conzentino ASAP (bconzentino@dasd.org). Mark your calendars!
- LYA is excited to announce they will be adding high school girls recreational basketball this year. They hope to have a good turnout and to be able to continue this program for years to come and is open to all DASD students, both East and West. If you are interested in participating, please contact Erin Gange at [eringange@gmail.com](mailto:eringange@gmail.com).
- On Monday, November 14th from 5-9pm, please come out to PJ's in Downingtown to help raise funds for the **Downingtown West Baseball** Booster Club!
- **Downingtown West Boys Basketball** is running a Thanksgiving Day Block Pool Fundraiser. For \$50 you will get a block in all 3 NFL games that day. The block will stay the same, however the grid #s will change for each game and be randomly assigned by the site. The payout will be \$800 each game for the FINAL SCORE ONLY. Payment can be made via Venmo to @Downingtownwestbasketball. Please include "2022 block pool" and the name you entered in the block in the payment information (so we can properly track it on our side). Additional details on the pool can be found on the [attached flyer](#). If you are interested in joining the pool please go the below link to register. Joining the site is free, quick and easy - you just need to set up an account (if you do not already have one) with an email and password. <https://www.runyourpool.com/p/j/ca3e1f7a6a264355b340ada5ada7c61f>

### Calendar Information:

To download a copy of the West Calendar (including letter days) to your device, click here: <https://dw.dasd.org/dwnnews-events/dwcalendar#>

Next, click on the ICAL Link icon for subscription options and copy the URL for the feed.

ALL sporting events **after 5:00 pm** are subject to an entrance fee for all students and adults. There are no cash sales and tickets must be purchased online. Please see the spectator information link to the right for more information about entrance fees. **Click the link to purchase tickets for [Downingtown West Events](#).**

### SPECTATOR INFORMATION:

Please see the link below for important information regarding all home DASD high school athletic events.

[DASD Athletics: Spectator Information](#)



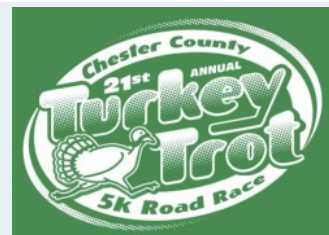
## Fundraising Information

- **The DHS West Youth Equity Solutions (YES) club is collecting toys for Toys for Tots this holiday season!** The mission of the Marine Toys for Tots Program is to collect new unwrapped toys and distribute them to less fortunate children at Christmas, and it is the 75th anniversary of the program! The YES club is collecting new, unwrapped toys from **November 7 through December 2**. These toys will be distributed to families in our area. The Chester County organization is specifically looking for items/toys for children ages 0-2 and teens. The West grade levels will be competing for the ability to choose the holiday music playlist before our break- the grade that collects the most toys has the say in the tunes! The collection boxes are located in the front lobby by the main office. If you have the ability, please send in a new, unwrapped toy with your student. The boxes will be available during parent/teacher conferences, as well. Thank you for your support of this wonderful organization, the Downingtown community and our club students!
- The **21st Annual Turkey Trot** registration is now open. The event is a 5K race, 2K walk, kids fun run and virtual race options. The race will be held on Thanksgiving morning at Downingtown West High School and benefits the Downingtown West Cross Country Team and the Cure4Cam Foundation. See their [flyer](#) and [website](#) for more information.

## Downingtown West Home & School Association

- Have a new driver in the house? Come to our next meeting on November 17th and hear about all the driver training courses the IU has to offer. They will be providing a brief presentation on their driver training course. This meeting will be virtual.  
Zoom meeting ID 881 6804 1910  
Password: West22
- **NEW EMAIL:** Home and school has a new email. Please email [westhome-andschool@gmail.com](mailto:westhome-andschool@gmail.com) with any ideas or questions. We are especially looking for new fundraising ideas.
- **Spiritwear:** Home and School is not selling Spirit wear this year. Please check out the Whippet Warehouse for all your West gear needs. <https://whippet-warehouse.square.site/>
- Our First "Find the Moms" was a huge success! I hope the students enjoy their free Shorti's. Keep an ear out for more student giveaways throughout the year!
- Please contact us at [DTownWestPostProm@gmail.com](mailto:DTownWestPostProm@gmail.com) with any questions. Follow us on Instagram @DWestPostProm or Facebook @Downingtown West Post Prom 2023.

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Please welcome the 2022-2023  
DWest Home and School  
Executive Board:

**President:**

Michele Helveston

**Vice President:**

Stephanie Steffen

**Treasurer:**

Michelle Nielsen

**Secretary:**

Kathleen Teal

**Joint Home & School**

**Representative:**

Maria Dennin

All H&S Meetings will be held  
via [Zoom](#).

Meeting ID: 881 6804 1910

Password: West22

**DATES:**

November 17th

January 26th

February 23rd

March 16th

April 20th

May 25th

# Downingtown West Home & School Association

## Downingtown High School West Campus

DHS West offers a diverse program of study. Our students are involved in academics at all levels. Academic, AP, Honors, Basic, Business Education, Industrial Arts Technology and Vocational-Technical courses are offered throughout our program. [Click here to learn more about our school.](#)

West Photographers: Lifetouch School Portraits, Mr. Hassel, Ms. Shovlin, Mr. Soler (Downingtownsports.com) and West Publications Class

- **Post Prom:**

Please join us for our next Post Prom Party Committee meeting on **Tuesday, December 13th** at 7 pm in the Library. We continue to look for volunteers to run some of our committees, particularly our decorating committee, and registration. Please consider volunteering your time for this outstanding and memorable event. Volunteers of ALL grade levels are welcome and encouraged.

The Post Prom is FREE for all Seniors and a guest following the Senior Prom, regardless of their attendance at the Prom. The Post Prom Party is held to provide a drug- and alcohol-free event for the seniors to continue to enjoy their end of Senior Year celebrations, it includes activities and entertainment, prizes, food and so much more!

## Student Resources

*Please review [West Mental Health Resources](#) for all resources that are available to all WEST students throughout the year.*

If your student needs additional resources following the recent losses in our community, please contact the Counseling Office at 610-269-4400 x 81422.

**Counseling Department student caseloads and counselor assignments for the 2022-2023 school year are listed under School News.**

For more information on School Counseling Services, please visit DASD's [Pupil Services](#) page on the website.

## ***24-HOUR CRISIS SUPPORT***

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)

800-273-TALK (8255)

[Valley Creek Crisis Intervention](#)

24-Hour Hotline  
610-280-3270

[Safe to Say Something](#)

24-Hour Tip Line  
1-844-SAF2SAY  
[www.safe2saypa.org/tip](http://www.safe2saypa.org/tip)

