



Dr. Barker's Weekly Report

Message from Dr. Barker

Good Evening WEST.

This week is **East-WEST Spirit Week!** Please take a few minutes to see the information below about our upcoming spirit days, bonfire, pep rally, and football game. All spirit day themes and ticket information are provided in the Special Announcement and Student Council sections.

Band News!

We would like to thank all those that came to our home competition on 10/2 to show support of our band students. Your support is very much appreciated. Our band is off to a great competition season earning the highest score last weekend at the Marple Newton competition. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication our students are putting into the season and it is paying off. We will be traveling to Nazareth HS 10/23 for their cavalcade competition. We would love to have you come out and support the band and cheer them on. Pasadena update! Our band is still working hard and preparing for their upcoming trip to Pasadena CA to perform in the Tournament Of Roses parade on 1/1/2022. The students are still volunteering their time around our community and we have now collected over 4,000 volunteer hours amongst our students. We are still looking for sponsorships and donations. If you are interested in supporting our band or looking for ways to help us out please check out this link. [Support the Downingtown High School Blue and Gold Marching Band in the 2022 Tournament of Roses Parade \(dhsmpa.org\)](https://dhsmpa.org)

Morning Arrival: All students arriving after 7:40 are reminded to enter the building through the main entrance and check in at the Attendance Desk.

Take care and have a great week WEST!

Kurt Barker - Principal

DHS WEST - *"Where Everyone Stands Together"*

<[Message continued on page 8](#)>

Inside this issue

- [Whippet News](#)2
- [Class of 2022 Announcements](#)3
- [Special Announcements](#)3
- [Upcoming College Visits](#)4
- [Career Center News](#)4/5
- [Student Council Updates](#)5
- [Upcoming Events](#)6
- [Athletics](#)6
- [Fundraising Events](#)7
- [Home And School Association](#)7
- [Student Resources](#)8

Week at a Glance

- **October 19 - Picture Makeup Day**
- **October 22 - Battle of the Brandywine / East vs. West Football game at 7pm.**



Whippet News

- Communities That Care of Greater Downingtown and DASD is offering a virtual presentation by Dr. Jennifer Benjamin, Child and Family Therapist, on how to have tough conversations with your kids on **Monday, October 18** at 6:00 pm. Registration is required and for more information on this event, please view the [flyer](#).
- **PICTURE RETAKE DAY**- All students who did not have their picture taken in August should plan to come down when called, this will be how you get an ID Card. You can pre-order a package at mylife-touch.com with our code EVTNBHB2W. If you want your pictures retaken, you must return your original package to the photographer on Retake Day - **Tuesday, October 19, 2021**.
- **2022 West Yearbooks are now on sale!** [Visit our Yearbook Order Center](#) to order your book at our early bird price of \$75.
- Congratulations to the 2021-2022 National Honor Society Officers:
 President: Asa Ernest Vice-President: Evan Paknejad
 Treasurer: Isabella Karp Recording Secretary: Hailey Welsh
 Attendance Secretary: Kevin Duong



Downingtown West Marching Band 2021-2022

Student Reminders

Student Parking Reminder: Any students parking in the Band Lot must move their car **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.

LOOKING FOR HOMEWORK HELP? Come to Homework Club every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45pm to 3:15 pm. No need to sign-up, just drop-in.

Room 171 - Science and Math

Room 161 - English/All other subjects

The **Biology Drop In Center** is now available to help your students. Use the link below to schedule one-to-one help with a Biology teacher during periods 1-7. <https://forms.gle/acthdDu4BXo1Eb4i6>

Graduation Project information for proposals and presentations can be found below:

[Graduation Project Information](#)

Catch up on the latest West news at our student newspaper site, [The West Side Beat](#). [Follow us on Twitter](#) for new article updates.

Interested in what is going on in the Music world check out our [Music Parents Association page](#).

Parent Reminders

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

DASD Food Service will once again offer **FREE** breakfast and lunch meals for students during the 21-22 school year! For more information, please view the [attached flyer](#).

2021-2022 device fees are now available to pay for all district issued laptops on [PaySchools* Central](#).

Meet your Senior Class Officers for the



Jamie DiMedio
Senior Class President 2021-2022

Lauren Tinson
Senior Class Vice President 2021-2022



Lauren Ade
Senior Class Secretary 2021-2022

Gaby Robino
Senior Class Treasurer 2021-2022

2021-2022 School Year!

Class of 2022 Announcements

- **Senior Portrait Poses:** Senior portrait poses must be selected by **Friday, October 22**. Requirements and more information are with the senior portrait proofs sent by Lifetouch following the portrait session. Please contact Lifetouch/Prestige at UCAnswers@lifetouch.com or 410-644-7700 if you need assistance with accessing or selecting a senior portrait pose. Thank you.
- Cap and Gown information will be mailed home soon by Herff Jones. Please look for this information as they will begin taking orders early this year starting on **November 9th and 10th** in the cafeteria during all lunches. This mailing also contains information about ordering graduation announcements.
- **REMINDERS TO CLASS OF 2022:** The Diploma Name Verification form is now past due. If you haven't submitted this information, please email Mrs. Tuerk @ stuerk@dasd.org.

Special Announcements

- Please see the attached information for the [East/West football game pre-sale tickets](#). **Tickets will be available at the gate the night of the game.**
- DASD is participating in the 2021 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) sponsored by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency, PA Department of Education, and PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. The survey will ask questions about the behaviors of students in the 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades, including questions about school climate, violence, depression, bullying, and substance abuse. The information we receive from the survey will assist us and our community partners in working to prevent adolescent drug use and other problem behaviors. The survey will be given to 10th and 12th students at DHS West on October 21st. For more information, please use the links provided or email Sarah Brooks, Student Assistance Specialist, at sbrooks@dasd.org.
[PAYS Passive Parental Letter English](#)
[PAYS Passive Parental Letter Spanish](#)
- **AP Exam Payment**—PaySchools Central will open Tuesday, October 5 and all payments are due **by Friday, October 29** for AP Exam payments. Your child's account will show an AP Exam fee for each AP course they are taking. You should pay for the exam(s) that your child wants to take in the spring. Any exams ordered AFTER College Board's deadline OR exams that are CANCELED/UNUSED will incur a \$40 penalty by College Board. Click [here](#) for more information.

Whippet Inside Story

Midterms and Finals will not be given this year. 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.

Upcoming College Visits

Monday, 10/18

8:40 - Catholic University
9:35 - St. Joseph's University
10:25 - Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
11:20 - Binghamton University
1:00 - Western Michigan University

Tuesday, 10/19:

8:40 - University of Pittsburgh/Johnstown
9:35 - Elmira College
10:25 - College of Charleston
11:20 - Penn College of Technology
1:00 - Shippensburg University

Wednesday, 10/20:

8:40 - Alvernia University
9:35 - University of Tampa
10:25 - Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
11:20 - Rutgers University
1:00 - Gettysburg College

Thursday, 10/21:

9:35 - University of Vermont
10:25 - Monmouth University
11:20 - Marist College
1:00 - Lycoming College

Friday, 10/22:

8:40 - Eastern University
9:35 - Valley Forge University
10:25 - LaSalle University
11:20 - Marywood University
1:00 - Old Dominion University

(Please Note: The Career Center has a NEW location -- Room 166 -- across the hall from the Counseling Department!)

Career Center News

COLLEGE VISITS: College admission representatives started their visits last week! 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**

The Chester County Intermediate Unit will host a FREE Virtual College Fair on **October 19th, 5-8 p.m.** Student registration opens on September 30th at www.cciu.org/college-fair.



College & Career Bound!

Career Readiness by Dr. Podell

*To assist all students with career options, we will be posting **Career Cafe** interviews hosted by Dr. Podell and others over the next few months in the College & Career Center Schoology Course. We hope students will tune in to learn from these professionals who share their field of expertise and how they got there!*

***If you would like to connect with a professional in any field to find out more about what they do, please reach out to Dr. Podell at tpodell@dasd.org to make it happen.

Attention students and parents: We are proud to announce that as of last week, our students have access to a new Writing Center. Students can conference 1:1 with a specially-trained Writing Center Advisor to help improve their writing in any of their subjects. Students should email west-writingcenter@dasd.org to make an appointment, or just stop by the Library on their lunch period.

Employment / Volunteer / Career Opportunities

- The **Camphill School** in Glenmoore, a K-12 private school for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is looking for volunteers to help with recreational horse riding, assisting with mounting and dismounting, and leading the horse after school -- Hours are flexible. Contact Sarah Downs if you are interested at sdowns@camphillschool.org or 610-469-9236 x133.
- **Pomodoro** in Downingtown has several positions open -- hostess, bussers, cashiers and baker assistants! Must be available to work weekdays and/or weekends for lunch and dinner shifts. Text 610-350-6542 if you are interested.



Click the DASD logo to view a copy of the 2021-2022 Board Approved District Calendar.

PLEASE NOTE: Friday, February 18, 2022 is now a school make-up day for students.

*Aerial View of
Downingtown West
High School*



Employment / Volunteer / Career Opportunities

- **Snap Custom Pizza** is hiring in their Exton location! \$12.50-\$17.50/hour plus \$300 signing bonus. Flexible scheduling and free meal at every shift! Apply online at www.snapcustompizza.com.
- **Tel Hai** retirement community is still hiring for Part Time Servers in their Culinary Department and just added a \$500 Sign on Bonus! Contact Luann Thomas at lthomas@telhai.org or 610-273-4611.
- **Countryside Kennels** in Downingtown needs help with fall leaf and flower beds cleanup – contact Suzie Fry at 610-269-4898 for more details on hours and pay!
- **Thinking of teaching for your future?** The Well, located in the heart of Downingtown, needs Study Buddies to assist their students with homework help on Mondays and Wednesdays. Grades K-2 and 3-6 meet 4:15-5 p.m., grades 6-8 meet 5-6 p.m. Reach out to Sarah McGarahan at saramagarahan@gmail.com if you can help!
- Congressional Representatives Brendan Boyle, Dwight Evans and Mary Gay Scanlon are hosting a virtual **U.S. Service Academy Fair** on Saturday, October 16, from 10 - 11:30 am. with representatives from the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, West Point, the Coast Guard Academy and U.S. Merchant Marines. Registration details: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/philadelphia-virtual-congressional-service-academy-fair-tickets-180108749117>
- **Morning child care needed!** A family near the Marsh Creek Sixth Grade Center needs a student to supervise their children (ages 5, 8 and 10) and get them on their buses. Hours range from 6:20-8:40 a.m. once or twice a week to 7:45-8:40 other days. The pay is a flat weekly rate of \$100. If you have a late arrival and can help, contact Jon Vesper at 484-888-6050 or Victoria Vesper at 610-350-9581.
- **Interested in culinary?? Bluefin Eagleview** is hiring! They need bussers, servers and dishwashers, and if you are interested in learning to cook, they are hiring cooks & sushi helpers too! Interested students may call Jenny Oh at 610-458-3234, email info@bluefineagleview.com, or stop in their restaurant at 555 Wellington Square in Eagleview.

WEST: Where Everyone Stands Together!

Student Council Updates

Your Student Council Officers are Alex Bigelow and Brynn Wolf (Co-Presidents), Anushka Levaku (VP), Devon Batty (Treasurer), Isabelle Feathers (Secretary)

- Week 2 of the #dwspiritwars will begin on October 18th. The Spirit Days are as follows:

Monday 10/18 - WEST day! (Wear your best West gear or blue & gold)

Tuesday 10/19 - Twin Day (Dress up identically to someone else in the building)

Wednesday 10/20 - On Wednesdays We Wear Pink (Pink Out)

Thursday 10/21 - College / Trade School Day

Friday 10/22 - Black Out!

- Did you miss the pre-sale for the East v. West shirts? No problem! Extra shirts will be available and on sale for \$10 during all school lunches starting on Tuesday 10/19. Shirts will be first come, first serve.

Upcoming Events

- October 15-17 - LINK Weekend
- October 16 - Marching Band Cavalcade Competition at Unionville HS
- October 19 - Picture Makeup Day
- October 21 - East vs. West Bonfire - 7:00 pm
- October 21 - Home & School Meeting (Zoom) - 7:00 pm
- October 22 - Fall Pep Rally
- October 22 - East vs. West Football Game - 7:00 pm - Band plays pregame show at 6:30 pm
- October 23 - Marching Band Cavalcade Competition at Nazareth HS
- October 29 - Home Football Game - 7:00 pm - Band plays pregame show at 6:30 pm
- October 30 - Marching Band Cavalcade Competition at Manheim Central HS

Athletics

Home Varsity Competitions listed below—For all other competitions, please visit the WEST Athletics webpage.

- **Monday, 10/18/21**
 - ◆ Volleyball vs. Oxford Area High School @ Wagner Gym @3:30 pm
 - ◆ Field Hockey vs. West Chester Rustin HS @ Kottmeyer Stadium @ 7:15 pm SENIOR NIGHT
 - ◆ Girls Soccer vs. West Chester Rustin HS @ DiSerafino Stadium @ 7:00 pm SENIOR NIGHT
- **Tuesday, 10/19/21**
 - ◆ Volleyball vs. West Chester Rustin HS @ Wagner Gym @ 6:45 pm SENIOR NIGHT
 - ◆ Girls Soccer vs. Villa Maria Academy @ DiSerafino @ 3:45 pm
- **Wednesday, 10/20/21**
 - ◆ Volleyball vs. Kennett High School @ Wagner Gym @ 3:30 pm
- **Friday, 10/22/21**
 - ◆ Football vs. Downingtown East HS @ Kottmeyer Stadium @7:00 pm****Please see the information under Special Announcements on how to buy your tickets for the East/West game.****
- West Swim & Dive Team: Any students looking to return or join the West Swim and Dive Team please email Maria Dennin at dwestswimanddive@gmail.com. Please include your grade, name, your email, and at least one parent email as well. We will be sending out an email with some basic team information. Look for a team meeting date in the next few weeks as well as a team “Get To Know You” party date.



Downingtown Girls Soccer Team 2021

Calendar Information:

To download a copy of the West Calendar (including letter days) to your device, click here: <https://www.dasd.org/Page/38#calendar22/20200918/month>

Next, click on the Link icon for links to your type of device:

iCal Feed Instructions:

- [iOS Devices \(iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad\)](#)
- [Android Devices and Google Calendar](#)
- [Microsoft Outlook](#)
- [Other Calendar Programs](#)

Students, parents, and community members are reminded that ALL district property and school events are drug, alcohol, and tobacco free. All Downingtown High School students who attend home football games will be subject to our passive Breathalyzer as they enter the football stadium.

ALL sporting events after 5:00 pm are subject to an entrance fee of \$3.00 for students and \$5.00 for adults, except football games, all tickets are \$5.00.



Fundraising Information

- Join the [Senior Class at “On the Border”](#) for their Class of 2022 fundraiser on October 19th.

Downingtown West Home and School Association

- **October 21, 2021-** please join us for our next meeting at 7pm! Last year, we had an exceptional number of parents via **zoom**. We will continue using this platform as it allows easier access for everyone!
- The HSA is looking for volunteers to help organize the Designer Bag Bingo that’s tentatively scheduled for November 12, 2021 at 7pm. This is the biggest fundraiser for the HSA that supports the students, families and staff at West! We are in need of people to help with marketing, raffle organization, food and beverage coordination and registration. Please reach out to Katherine at Karchibald711@gmail.com. You will work with a wonderful group of parents!!
- The Home and School and Revolution Prep are hosting SAT and ACT practice exams via zoom. This is the perfect opportunity for your student to take a proctored practice exam for the upcoming SAT/ACT tests. The student will receive their score almost immediately and can meet virtually with a representative to review specific content of the exam results.

SAT test date: November 13, 2021 at 9am

ACT test date: November 20, 2021 at 9am

Please use this link [to register for these practice tests](#).

- For information on upcoming events click here anytime (or type <https://www.dasd.org/Page/9538> into your browser). Questions? Email Katherine at Karchibald711@gmail.com. Looking forward to a phenomenal year!



Please welcome the 2021-2022 Dwest Home and School Executive Board:

President:

Katherine Archibald

Vice President:

Michele Helveston

Treasurer:

Michelle Nielsen

Secretary:

Lisa Valaitis

Joint Home & School Representative:

Maria Dennin

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

Meeting ID: 458 737 0146

Password: 1yVAMq

DATES:

October 21st

November 18th

January 20th

March 17th

April 21st

May 19th

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

Student Resources

- ***This year DASH school staff are working to teach students about mental health and how to seek help if they are worried about themselves or a friend. This program is called SOS - Signs of Suicide. More information can be found in this letter from the District about the [SOS program](#).***
 - *Attached are two informational handouts that are referenced in the above letter: [ACT Infographic Parents 2020](#) and [ACT Parent Handout 2020](#)*
- ***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 2021-2022 school year will be listed on the Counseling Website.***

Message Continued from Dr. Barker

