Dear Windsor School District Community,

As we enjoy Spring and focus on a strong end to the school year, I want to take this time to share some of the outstanding achievements of students, staff, and departments in the District, as well as cast an eye to the future.

Leaders in Albany recently passed the state budget. We are happy for an on-time budget and the support for education but note that our aid increase was not as large as those in other districts. This makes decision making for the Board challenging as the cost of doing business continues to go up. We are still excited for additional program enhancements and improvements despite the challenges. We also continue to be in very sound financial health.

One of our most exciting recent developments was the demolition of a vacant house at 1200 NYS, Route 79, directly across the street from Windsor Central High School.

With the removal of the structure on the land, the District will use the 6.7-acre parcel as a land lab to expand the Ag in the Classroom program. It will be the District's first outdoor laboratory, which will advance the Windsor CSD’s agriculture pathway, one of seven available through the District's Future Ready Knights program.

Niche.com, a website dedicated to researching colleges, schools, neighborhoods and companies has named Windsor the 33rd best school district in Upstate New York, and Windsor Central High School the 20th best in Upstate New York for athletes. The site also ranks WCHS 38th out of 921 public high schools in the entire state for athletes.

All of the above rankings are the best of any district or high school in Broome County.

Niche.com gave the District A+ grades in the following categories: teachers, clubs and activities, administration, food, and resources and facilities.

For the second straight year and third time in four years, The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) foundation has named the Windsor Central School District one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the nation.

Districts earn the designation by demonstrating outstanding efforts in order to provide music access and education to all of its students.

In order to qualify for the Best Communities designation, the District’s music department needed to answer detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs.

In addition, the Music for All organization has recognized Windsor Central High School’s Knights of the Rock Table – or KORT program – by awarding it with its Gold Advocacy in Action Award for Outstanding High School Retention Program. To qualify, a national panel of educators, administrators community and business leaders reviewed a detailed description of what KORT is and what it does for music students at the high school.
A pair of Windsor athletic legends can now call themselves hall of famers. Former WCHS Athletic Director and boys basketball coach Gary Vail has been inducted into the New York State Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame.

Mr. Vail began teaching Physical Education at Windsor in 1969 and remained with the District for 35 years, before retiring in 2004. During his time at Windsor, Mr. Vail was the Director of Physical Education and Athletics for 25 years.

Mr. Vail coached JV and Varsity baseball for 30 years and basketball for 35 years. His true passion was basketball. Under his guidance, the Black Knights won 11 league championships, three Section IV Championships, 16 Tournament Championships and 423 games. Mr. Vail won nearly 1000 games in various sports by the time of his retirement.

Alan Klumpp, a 1963 graduate of Windsor Central High School, is one of 12 members of the 2019 Greater Binghamton Sports Hall of Fame induction class. The honor recognizes a career which saw Klumpp earn 16 varsity letters at WCHS, then go on to play football for Colgate University and the Triple Cities Jets. Klumpp was part of the 1963 Windsor football team that went unbeaten, untied and unscored upon.

As for current Black Knight athletes, congratulations to WCHS senior Linsey Anders, who signed a Letter of Intent on February 28 to attend Roberts Wesleyan University, where she will compete in bowling. Linsey will study nursing as she bowls for the Redhawks.

The District has also been home to heartwarming acts of charity recently. Students and families at Bell Elementary raised $3,129.63 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society over a three-week campaign in March. The money came from a variety of sources. The school solicited donations each day during Coin Week and Spirit Week. Bell also hosted a Coin Carnival on March 18th, which brought students and families to the school to donate and play games.

On March 28th, the WCHS Knight Pack club accepted its 100,000th food donation. WCHS senior Alexis Green began the program as a 7th grader. The five-year-old program raises donations to provide students in need packs of food to take home on weekends and vacations to help lessen food insecurity. These packs have become much-needed staples for some students in the District.

For more, go to our website www.windsor-csd.org or go to our Facebook and Twitter pages. As always, thank you to the students, families and residents who support our efforts. If you have questions about our District, I invite you to contact me or call the District Office at 655-8216.

Sincerely,

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