

West Essex Regional School District Board of Education Meeting

June 13, 2022



Reports and Presentations

- Board President - Deb Calderone
- Employee Retirements - Administration
- Student Recognition - Gina Donlevie and Kimberly Westervelt
- Board Member Recognition - Deb Calderone
- Independent Study Presentations - Sierra Alamia & Anthony Michelotti
- Safety & Security Update - Damion Macioci
- Strategic Plan Survey Results - The Madison Institute (TMI)
- Progress Towards District Goals - Damion Macioci & Ryan Gupta
- Middle School Principal - Gina Donlevie
- High School Assistant Principal - Kimberly Westervelt

Employee Retirements

- Middle School - Gina Donlevie
- High School - Kimberly Westervelt
- District - Damion Macioci



EMPLOYEE RETIREMENTS		
WEMS	POSITION	YEARS OF SERVICE
Seton Ahearn	Special Education Teacher	27
Catherine Spinella	Media Specialist	15
Erik Grey	Music Teacher	30
WEHS	POSITION	YEARS OF SERVICE
Teri Carr	Child Study Team	16
Cathleen Collins	Business Education Teacher	40
Marjorie Jameson	Art Teacher	25
Rosa Lazzaro	World Language Teacher	22
Donna Mateyka	Music Teacher	24
DISTRICT	POSITION	YEARS OF SERVICE
Vasilika Lazeralli	Building and Grounds	3
Michael Tesauo	Building and Grounds	12
Danuta Zdeb	Building and Grounds	11
Simona Pepe	Central Office	14
Kathleen Straus	Central Office	26

Student Recognition

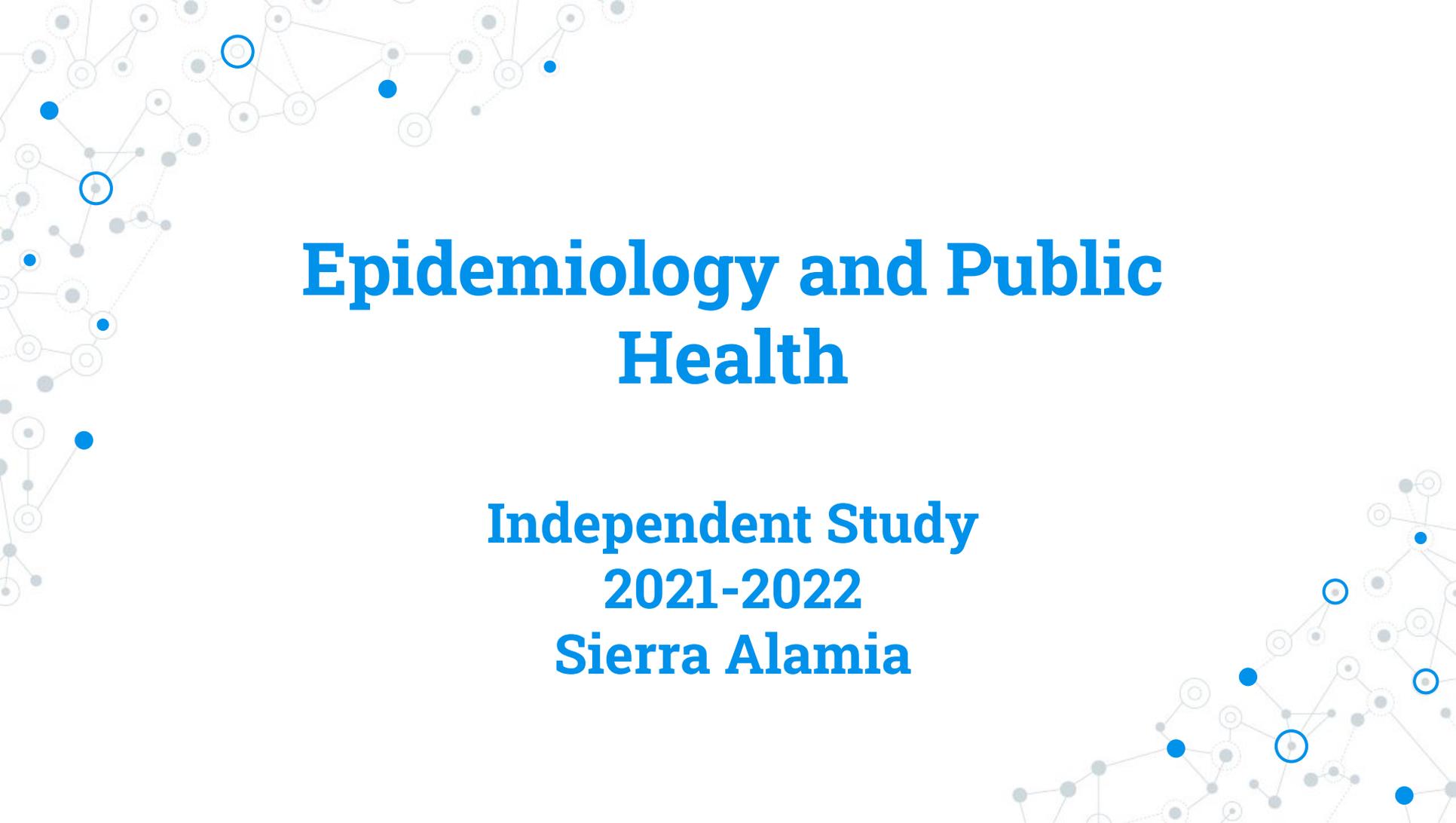
- Middle School Students of the Month - Gina Donlevie
- High School ShopRite Stars - Kimberly Westervelt

ShopRite STARS

	1st MP	2nd MP	3rd MP	4th MP
ACADEMICS	Maria Kardash (12th)	Sofia Wissert (12th)	Dante Ragusa (11th)	Ava Rapkin (11th)
ATHLETICS	Halle Aschenbach (12th)	Chris Corbo (12th)	Joseph Visaggio (12th)	Gianna Macrino (11th)
THE ARTS	Tiana Pimentel (12th)	Ava Buccino (12th)	Lillian O'Boyle (12th)	Brandon Klaff (11th)
LEADERSHIP	Victoria Perez (12th)	Molly Simon (12th)	Lindsey Leitner (11th)	Evan Albrecht (11th)
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY	Noah Khalil (12th)	Hannah DeVita (12th)	Isabelle Farina (12th)	Val Sabillon (11th)

Independent Study Presentations

- Sierra Alamia, advised by Deanna Lippi
- Anthony Michelotti, advised by Marjorie Jameson



Epidemiology and Public Health

**Independent Study
2021-2022
Sierra Alamia**

Introduction

Independent Study Advisor: Deanna Lippi

Thank you for your support of the Independent Study program:

Mr. Damion Macioci and the West Essex Board of Education

Mr. Ryan Gupta

Mrs. Melissa Kida

Mr. Caesar Diliberto, Ms. Juliann Hoebee, Ms. Kimberly Westervelt

Mr. Jason Lerner and the Science Department

What is Epidemiology?

- the study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations, and the application of this study to the control of health problems

“upon”
epidemiology
“study”
“people”



Role of Epidemiology

- **Epidemiology**- the study of disease in populations
 - Those involved in medicine and public health use epidemiological methods and studies to understand disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and observational studies to identify risk factors to humans and other animals
 - Epidemiological methods are used for disease surveillance to identify which hazards are the most important
 - Epidemiological studies are used to identify risk factors that may represent critical control points in the food production system

How Epidemiologists Study Diseases

- **Cohort Studies**

- Type of medical research used to investigate the causes of disease and to establish links between risk factors and health outcomes.
 - “Cohort” means “group of people”

- **Case-control studies**

- Used to look at factors associated with diseases or outcomes
 - Starts with a group of cases, which are the individuals who have the outcome of interest

Epidemiological Study Designs

- The foundation for disease control and prevention is through tracking the prevalence of the disease, characterizing the natural history, and identifying determinants for causes of the disease
 - Epidemiologists must...
 - Define **risk factors** for a disease
 - Define **targets** for preventive medicine



Epidemiological Studies (Pathogens)

- **Listeria monocytogenes** is the facultative intracellular pathogen that causes listeriosis
 - Bacteria invade intestinal epithelial cells and translocate to the liver
 - Listeriosis is fatal in about one in five normal healthy people
 - Mortality rates are slightly higher in patients with pre-existing conditions that weaken the immune response

Personal Reflection

- Learning about how the world works
 - Educate myself, educate others
- Learn and understand idea of public health
 - How diseases spread
- Epidemiologists use scientific strategies



Recognition of Past Epidemiology Independent Study Students



- ◎ Jimmy Alamia - Penn State (Chemical Engineering)
- ◎ George Ashji - University of Rochester (Biochemistry)
- ◎ Melanie O'Beirne- Stevens Institute of Technology (Hard Science)
- ◎ Serena Vu- Brown University (Biology)



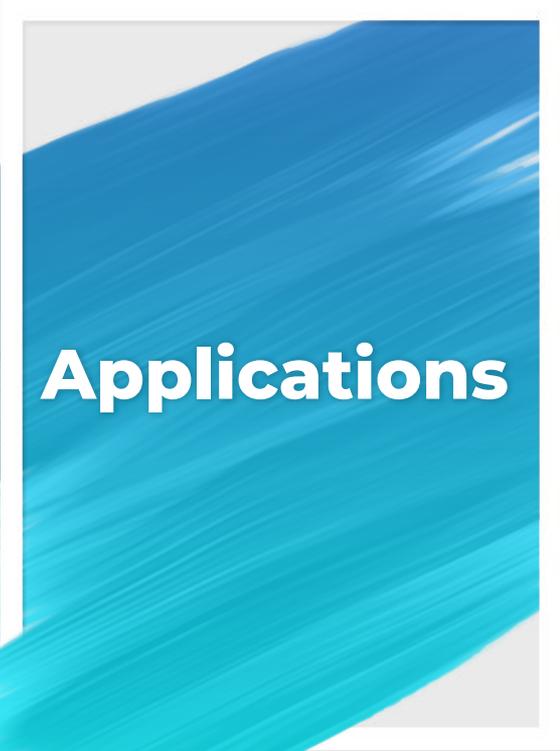
Advanced Graphic Design

AJ Michelotti
Advisor: Ms. Jameson



Project Overview

- ↔ Adobe Creative Cloud
- ↔ Logo/Graphic Design
- ↔ Designs
 - Organizations
 - School
 - Personal
- ↔ Personalized Learning



Applications

- ⇔ Academically
- ⇔ Professionally
- ⇔ Future Business Plans
- ⇔ Experience



Samples of My Work

Mr. West Essex Tickets

MR. WEST ESSEX RETURN OF THE SHOW

DATE: JUNE 9, 2022

MR. WEST ESSEX

RETURN OF THE SHOW

AJ Michelotti - Host

CONTESTANTS

Chris Corbo

Jonathan Ding

Michael Drago

Vito Finetti

Michael Girardi

Paul Gustafson

Rob Lasher

Stefan Lopez

Jack Sceppaguercio

Andrew Shih

Andrea Mondadori Llauguet,
Madison Rombough, Brian Mintz,
Angelina Velardi, Victoria Perez,
Patrick McGlynn,
Amanda Procaccino,
Timothy Walsh,
Cyndy McDonough

Mr. West Essex Poster

Join Us For

Mr. West Essex

THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH

Yearbook Celebration Invitations



canva

Family Logo Created for the Shore

THE MICHELOTTI FAMILY



Spring Lake NJ, 07762

Sample Logo #1

Lavallette Yacht Club



Regatta Day 2021

Sample Logo #2



LYC Regatta Day 2021

Lavallette Yacht Club Regatta Day Logo Designs

Sample Logo #3



Sample Logo #4



Sample Logo #5



Sample Logo #6



Created By: Anthony (AJ) Michelotti

Email: amichelotti@westex.org

Final Design that was used for the Regatta Day Logo



Grover Cleveland Birthplace New Logo Designs

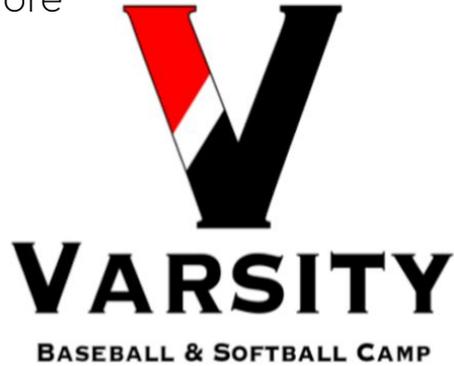


New Grover Cleveland Birthplace Logo



Varsity Sports Camps Logo Alterations

Before



After





Projects for the Wessex Wire

Double Truck (2 page spread) About the Terrors at the Travis Scott Concert



This was created for a MLB Scandal Story



This was Created as a Double Truck Which Show the Two

Opinions About Valentines Day



A Graphic Created for an Article on the Current "Scoop"





Moving Forward

- ⇔ Development
- ⇔ Success
- ⇔ Future Endeavors
- ⇔ Being the Best
- ⇔ Changing Directions
- ⇔ Global Influence

Safety and Security Update

School safety and security is a high priority for the entire school community, including students, staff, and parents.



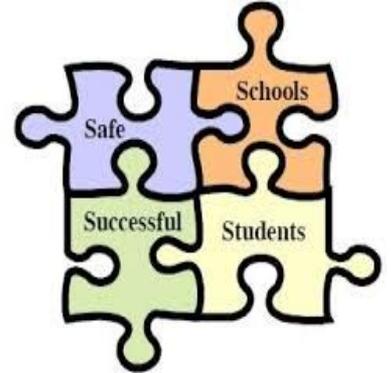


Safety and Security Update

- The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) takes proactive measures to work with school districts.
- The Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning (OSPEP) provides direct support to our schools in establishing safe and secure school environments.
- West Essex has established and maintains a school safety and security plan that address all hazards and follows the phases of crisis management planning, which includes mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Our plans are developed and reviewed annually with our Safety and Security Team and the North Caldwell Police Department.

Overview

- Physical Security
- Training and Staffing
- School Security Drilling
- Cybersecurity
- Law Enforcement and Education Partnerships



Physical Security

- Communication Systems - Phones, Radios, Emergency Notification System, & shared communication system
- Law Enforcement - building access/daily walkthroughs (EF, FF, NC, & Roseland)
- Identification of staff and visitors/vendors
- Visitor Policy - Screening procedures
- Cameras/Video Surveillance (internal/external)
- Facilities - Safety film, numbered doors and classroom windows, new doors
- Staff - Safety Coordinator, School Safety Specialists, & Law Enforcement

School Safety Specialist

- Responsible for the supervision and oversight for all school safety and security personnel, policies, and procedures in the school district.
- Ensure that these policies are in compliance with state law and regulations.
- Provide the necessary training and resources to district staff in matters relating to school safety and security.
- Serve as the district's liaison with local law enforcement, as well as state and community agencies, in matters of school safety and security.

Drilling

- Conduct drills and practice so our response can be faster and smoother
- Unannounced/announced during all times of the day (NJDOE/NCPD)
- Fire Drills
- Lockdown/Active Shooter
- Shelter-in-Place
- Evacuation/Bomb Threat (environmental/physical/danger/threat)
- Reverse Evacuation
- Tabletop (Security Team and Law Enforcement)

Cyber-Threats

Cyber-safety – threats to people in the school community
Cyber-security – threats to a school's network and systems

Cyber-safety:

- Cyberbullying
- Inappropriate content
- Sexting/Images
- Sextortion (distribution of private and sensitive material)
- Oversharing – name, SS#, personal information
- Online predators

Cyber-Threats - PREVENTION

- Firewalls
- Monitor networks frequently
- Cyber-Insurance Policy
- Password Protection
- Anti-Virus Software
- Remote Access Limits
- Two-factor authentication
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policies
- Staff Training

For Consideration

- Safety & Security Committee (SSC) Meeting - June 8, 2022
- Added layer of safety measures for consideration
- North Caldwell Police Department (NCPD)
 - Armed Security - Law Enforcement**
 - School Resource Officer (SRO)
 - Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) - Class III
- SSC and Board will pursue the use of armed officers further
- If approved, implementation - School Year: 2022-2023
- Update to be provided on June 29 at the Board meeting



[2022 Niche Best School Districts - West Essex Safest - #2 in NJ](#)

The Madison Institute

Strategic Plan Survey Results

Overview of Stakeholder Surveys

1,150 participants

- Students (818)
- Teachers, Admin, and Student Support Staff (94)
- Parents (229)
- Non-certificated Staff (9)

Administered in early May of this year



Resources



82% of certificated staff say that they have the resource materials and supplies they need to do their job effectively. 89% of non-certificated staff say the same.

Educational Experience



65% of parents are satisfied with their child's overall educational experience in school.

Educational Experience



60% of parents would strongly recommend this district to friends and family that reside in other communities.

Teacher Availability



Almost 75% of students feel that their teachers make themselves available to provide help outside of class.

Keeping Parents Informed

72% of parents agree that the district makes a consistent effort to keep them well-informed.



Access to Professional Development

66% of certificated staff feel that they had access to the professional development they needed this year. 89% of non-certificated staff feel the same.



What will we do with all of this data?

- Reflect on the “observable indicators of success” that will make up the new district vision statement.
- Identify data points from these surveys that can be used to measure any of these indicators.
- Discuss whether or not that data shows that particular aspect of the vision is happening or not.

District Goals 2021-2022

- ❑ **Using Data to Improve Student Outcomes**
- ❑ **Improving School Culture and Climate**

Using Data to Improve Student Outcomes

- Partnered with an outside consultant, [Teach4Results](#), to train staff on how to collect, analyze, and use data to inform instruction
- Utilized the data program, [LinkIt](#), to efficiently collect, store, and analyze various forms of student data (demographics, test scores, growth, proficiency, readiness, mastery...)
- Administered standards-aligned pre-assessments and post-assessments to measure student growth in all grades and content areas (LinkIt Forms A, B, and C were used in Math & ELA)
- Assessing our assessments (tests, midterms, summative assignments)
- Providing ongoing guidance, support, and PLC time for our staff
- Utilizing “data” to monitor and assess academic programs and initiatives (student/parent feedback, surveys, attendance, growth and achievement results)

Improving School Culture and Climate

Partnered with Saint Elizabeth University (SEU) and began a 3-year School Climate and Improvement Process (SCAIP)

- Surveyed stakeholders and analyzed results to identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Presented results, trends, areas for improvement to staff and community.
- Building based and district-wide training and support was provided throughout the school year.
- SEU met with building based School Climate committees to discuss ways to incorporate activities into classroom instruction.

Improving School Culture and Climate

- **Guest Speakers/Presentations**
 - Faculty & Staff - Anti-hazing and Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)
 - Parents/families and students - Social Media Use, Holocaust Assembly
 - HIB Training/Presentation - Board and Parents/Families
- **Collaboration with Stakeholders**
 - Coffee Chats with parents
 - Pizza Chats with faculty and staff
 - Establishment of District Committees - Strategic Plan, School Climate, and District Planning Team
- **Student Programs**
 - Peer Leadership Programs - WEMS & WEHS
 - Social Justice Committee, Multicultural Club, and New Student Luncheon

Middle School Principal

- Concert Choir
- Move-Up Day
- Class of 2026
- Honor Roll Assemblies

High School Assistant Principal

- Congratulations to all Class of 2022 Award Recipients
- Congratulations to National Merit Finalists Joseph Bejjani, Jonathan Ding, Daniel Gold, and 13 Commended Scholars.
- Congratulations and best of luck to more senior athletes who have committed to competing in college.
- WERSD is awarded Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants for the 9th consecutive year.

Upcoming Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting

June 29, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.

[West Essex Youtube](#)

For Board Information:

https://www.westex.org/district/board_of_education