

Waterbury Public Schools News Update

Vol. 11, Issue 3

January - April 2010

Plans Revealed for New Carrington School - more on page 6



Carrington School staff, parents and neighbors were invited to an informational meeting in March 16 to learn more about plans to replace the existing school with a new building. Members of the public had many questions about the plan and its impact on the neighborhood, especially traffic flow.

Most participants were pleased to see the design, which is still in a very preliminary state and may change as planning progresses.

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New Gilmartin School Updates - for more info, see page 4



Duggan School Progress Noted - see page 5

Partners In Education Connections

This fall, Post University offered Waterbury Public School teachers an opportunity to obtain an online Masters Degree in Education. has regarding its Masters in Education program. Some Waterbury teachers have already signed up to take advantage of the 20% discount being offered for the online degree.

Those interested in possibly signing up for the program should visit the Post University web site for more information or contact the university directly. www.post.edu - see online degrees.

According to the Post University web site:

“The Post University Masters of Education (M.Ed.) online degree program meets the growing need for creative, innovative educators who can rise to the challenges and opportunities of today’s and tomorrow’s education environments. The program provides a flexible, convenient way for working adults to earn their M.Ed. in as little as 12 months.

Post University’s M.Ed. Online Degree Program is a non-licensure program that includes two areas of concentration:

[Master of Education in Teaching & Learning](#)
[Master of Education in Instructional Design & Technology](#). “

Post University is also offering Waterbury Public School students an opportunity to enter an essay contest in which students are to share their “Vision of the Future of Education” in 250 words or less. Students were asked to consider such questions as: What will your classroom look like? What will you learn? How will you learn it?

The contest was open to all students in grades 2 through 8. All Submissions were to be postmarked by April 30, 2010.

Contest Winners will be chosen as follows:

- First Place — Winners receive four free passes to the Discovery Museum & Planetarium in Bridgeport and a \$50 gift card to Barnes & Noble Book Store

One winner chosen from each of three age group: grades 2-3, grades 4-6 and grades 7-8

- Second Place — Winners receive a \$40 gift card to Barnes & Noble Book Store

One winner chosen from each of three age group: grades 2-3, grades 4-6 and grades 7-8

- Third Place — Winners receive \$25 gift card to Barnes & Noble Book Store

One winner chosen from each of three age group: grades 2-3, grades 4-6 and grades 7-8

All Winning Entries also will be posted at www.Post.edu/FutureofEducation so your friends and family can see them.

Good Stuff: Check Out FactCheckEd.org

FactCheckED.org, a project of the **Annenberg Public Policy Center**, offers your teachers and other educators a wide array of resources to help them teach analytical thinking. Here is what they say about themselves:

Here’s the thing: Kids today are growing up in a world of ceaseless communication. They – like the rest of us – are on the receiving end of an overwhelming amount of information, transmitted in huge helpings and in a virtual instant.

But not all information is of the same quality or veracity. Much of it, in fact, falls far short of the standards we’d like our students to learn and live by. Our aim is to help them learn to be smart consumers of information, not to accept it at face value; to dig for facts using the Internet, not to stop looking once they get to Wikipedia; and to weigh evidence logically, not to draw conclusions based on their own biases.

This free web site provides lesson plans, a bureaucracy decoding dictionary, a “Tools of the Trade” framework for analyzing info and avoiding deception, and a summary of the questions and answers frequently covering topical issues of the day.

Go to FactCheckED.org to learn how it may be helpful to you.

Staff News ----

Kathy Greggis, a former Crosby graduate, was the exhibiting visual artist for January and February at the Crosby High School's Media Center gallery space. She is currently an art teacher at North End Middle School. More than a dozen of her richly colored and lively pieces represent her various styles.

Her philosophy is "experiment... try new media; be willing to grow as a person and an artist."



Two teachers from Rotella School, Kristen Hammond and Renata Kontulis, have been invited to present their projects at the Connecticut Educators Computer Association's 15th Annual Legislative Technology Exposition on April 28, 2010 at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. They will be bringing along a few of their students to this event.

Shaving Heads For Charity

More than twenty North End Middle School teachers and other teachers and administrators from around the district shaved their heads for a good cause recently. The event, held at North End Middle School, benefited the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which raises money for research to cure childhood cancers. Just prior to the event, it was announced that North End Middle School teacher Richard Atkins had raised the most funds thus far, at \$1,165.



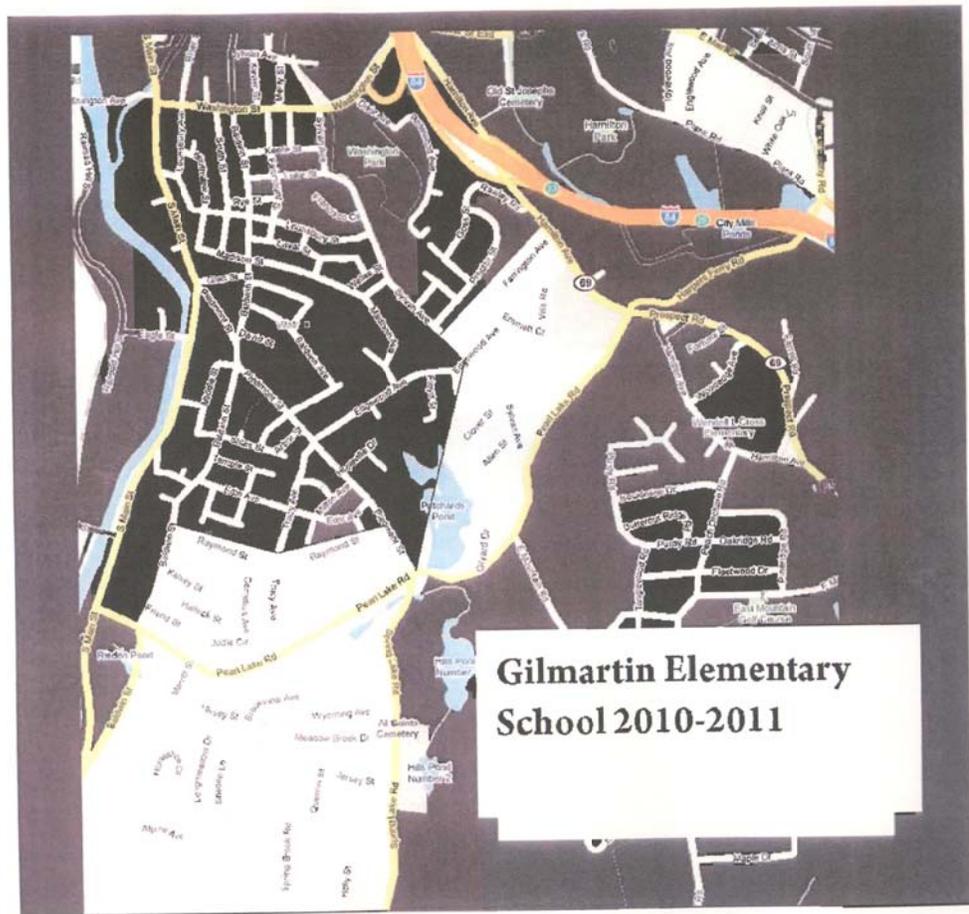
After School Programs Funded

The CT State Department of Education recently announced the awarding of State funded After-School Program Grants from the Fall 2009 competition. In the first round of funding Waterbury was awarded three grants: North End Middle School—STEM After-School Program(2 years), Driggs After-School Program (2 years), Bunker Hill After-School Program (2 years). Additionally, from excess funds identified from the late start on the grants this year, Waterbury was also awarded grants for this fiscal year only to operate After-School Programs at WOW Community Center (for elementary students) and at River-Baldwin Recreation Center (for Wallace and West Side Middle School students).

Gilmartin School Updates

The list of streets for the Gilmartin School district are as follows:

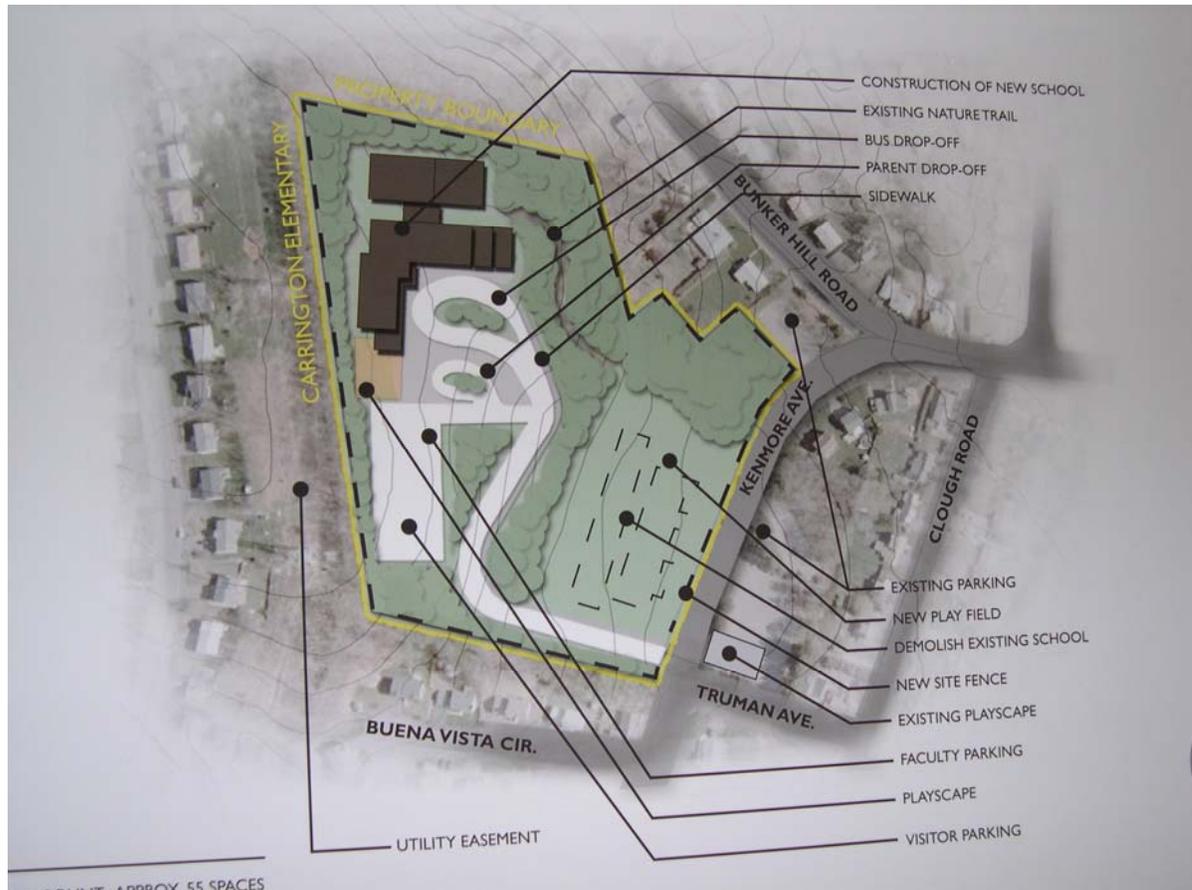
Allen St.	Idylwood Ave.	(152 +) Tracy Ave.
Alpine Ave.	Jersey St.	Villa Rd.
Ashmun St.	Jodie Cir.	Wales St.
Brookdale Lane	Kelsey St.	White Oak Lane
Brookview Ave.	Knoll St.	Wildemere Ave.
Cornelius Ave.	Longmeadow dr.	Wyoming Ave.
(220+) Edgewood Ave.	Meadowbrook Dr.	
Emmitt Ct.	Pearl Lake Road	
Englewood Ave.	Plank Rd.	
Eugene Dr.	Quentin St.	
Farrington Ave.	Raymond St.	
Friend St.	Shadee Lane	
Gilyard Dr.	Spring Brook Rd.	
Gorman Cir.	Spring Lake Rd.	
Hallock St.	Sycamore Lane	
Harpers Ferry Rd.	(500+) Sylvan Ave.	
Holly St..	Thomas St.	
Horseshoe Dr.		



Duggan School Progress



Carrington School Plans Revealed



Architects and school officials showed plans for a new Carrington School that call for the creation of a new entrance off Kenmore Avenue - just past the current school building - and the construction of a new building on a flat area toward the back of the property. The current building would be demolished after the new building is complete, allowing students to remain in school on site until all work is done.

The construction entrance would eventually become the entrance to the school unless plans are changed to bring the entrance closer to Bunker Hill Avenue after the old school is demolished. Neighbors from nearby Buena Vista Circle suggested such a move might help buffer their homes from school traffic.

New parking areas and a new playscape would be built near the school. As of now, the plan calls for the existing parking areas to remain as overflow parking for events, but that, too, could change. Neighbors suggested the area across Kenmore Avenue from the school might best be turned over to open space. There would be separate bus and parent drop-off areas, and the existing nature trail would remain untouched.

Black History Comes Alive for Students, Parents



Every year, Black History comes alive for the students of Frances Mullen's class at Wendell Cross School. For weeks, students research famous African Americans and learn all they can about a particular person in history. Students prepare an oral report about their person and present it to parents and each other. As part of the presentation, students create a costume that reflects the history or interests of the individual being portrayed.

This year Ms. Mullen was very proud to see that her fourth grade class did as well as previous fifth grade classes did. Her students rose to the challenge, she explained.

Winter Middle School Athletics Report

Winter Student Athletes

Season Champs

December

Wallace Swim

Male---Liam Coleman

Female----Allison Cubille

North End Girls Basketball

Kari Ervin

West Side Boys Basketball

December

Jairo Suarez

Wallace Girls Basketball

Maya Eggleston

North End SWIM

Girl - Asian Santiago

Boy - Tyler Thill

Wallace Boys Basketball

Tyshon Rodgers

North End Cheer

Brielle Lynch

Wallace Cheer

Keriona Richardson

West Side Cheer

Carine Fernandes December.

Chalsea Lamar January

Kaitlyn Silva - February

Wallace Girls Basketball

Rashona Siders-January

Maya Eggleston-February

North End Boys Basketball

December Jacob Thomas.

January is Milon Fergonson.

February Taifa Wright

North End Cheer

January- Jahsalyn Barnes

February- Jasmine Macias

West Side Swim

January- Eric Bartollni

February. -Alizabeth Sullivan

Mellisa Sanangelo

Matthew Roman

Wallace Cheerleading

January: Angelica Torres

(captain)

February: Jenise Bryant

Wallace Boys Basketball

January- Denzel Mitchell

Wallace Swim

January Student Athlete of the

Month Female - Madison

Schmeer, Male - Jonathon

Gonzalez

February Student Athlete of the

Month Female - Destinee

West, Male - Kostika Kosova

North End basketball

January--Deanna Jo Alberto

February--Briane Trent

West Side Boys Basketball

January Tyler Baptista

February Claude Riviere

North End Swim

Boys

Luis Morales - January

Pedro Aleman - February

Girls

Zuleika Planas - January

Kateri Danay - February

West Side Girls basketball

Jan Knychele Passmore

Feb Mikyla Jacobs

Winter Season Champions:

North End Swim- Boys and Girls Champions

Wallace Boys Basketball -City Champions

North End Girls Basketball -City Champions

Wallace Boys Basketball -Jamboree Champions

North End Girls Basketball -Jamboree Champions

Students Helping Others

District Raises Funds for Haiti - Donations Given To American Red Cross



Waterbury Public School students and staff provided checks to the American Red Cross totaling \$6023.26, as part of our district efforts to raise funds for Haiti Earthquake Relief. A few other schools made individual donations for the American Red Cross separately as their fund-raising activities continued past the district's collection deadline. Those additional funds totaled at least \$1,000. Some other schools raised funds for others organizations including Americares, and some did the non-perishable food drive organized by Woodrow Wilson. In all, every school participated in some way. The total is probably over \$10,000 in cash and checks, not counting the value of the food donated.

Woodrow Wilson School Partners With NEJ, Inc.

NEJ Inc. partnered with Woodrow Wilson School and other Waterbury Public Schools to collect canned goods or boxed food and monetary donations to help Haiti after the tragic earthquake. NEJ, Inc., who has worked very closely with Wilson School for the past several years, made arrangements to mail the items to Haiti on Friday, January 29th. All shipping costs were covered by NEJ Inc. and we were assured that all items arrived safely and in a timely fashion.

Volunteers picked up donations from each participating school and delivered it to Wilson School.

Gilmartin School Holds "Hearts For Haiti"

Gilmartin School started a "Hearts For Haiti" collection for Haitian Relief following news of the devastation in that country. It was specified in letters to staff and parents that the money raised would be donated to the American Red Cross for Haiti Earthquake relief. The second grade teacher in this building, Ms. Lorraine Trudeau, served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Haiti back in 1991 and was able to share many photographs with the staff and students. The hallways were covered with the hearts students received when making a \$1.00 donation.



West Side Donates to Fr. Rick Frechette

West Side Middle School students raised funds for Father Rick Frechette, a priest and medical doctor who has served as a missionary in Haiti for decades. Fr. Rick, a Connecticut native, has built two hospitals and an orphanage to serve the poorest of the poor in Port au Prince. In addition to his work in the hospitals, Fr. Rick has established a medical response unit which travels into the slums to provide medical care. Principal Charles Nappi's son Brandon has volunteered with this organization in the past.

Washington Elementary School chose to join West Side in collecting funds for Father Rick.

The two schools have worked closely together in the past few years since being named Waterbury's two CommPACT schools.

Bucks Hill School Raises Funds for "Food For the Poor"

Christine Tomasello, a paraprofessional in Mr. Chieppo's class at Bucks Hill School, has done volunteer work in Haiti for an organization called Food For The Poor. The non-profit provides food for people in need, and the school decided to donate the money it raised for Haiti Relief to that organization.

Barnard Student Donates Christmas Money to Haiti Relief

A 9 year old, Fourth Grade student, Johansel DePaula, of Barnard School recently donated \$47.00 to the Haiti Relief Fund for the American Red Cross collected at Barnard School. Johansel had received this \$47.00 as a Christmas present, but was so moved by the Earthquake tragedy that he decided to contribute his personal money. Johansel's family is from a neighboring Island native of the Dominican Republic.



In all, Barnard School students collected over \$550.

Student Activities In Our Schools



Three Kings Day collaboration between Mrs. Motiani's Spanish 2 class from WAMS and Mrs. Plaza's bi-lingual students at Carrington.

special events for WAMS students in January included:

January 6—HS Spanish students visited Spanish-speaking students at Carrington Elementary School to share short novels that the WAMS students wrote in Spanish. This visit was to take place from 9:30-10:30 with a Spanish lunch to follow.

January 8-9—WAMS high school social studies students presented their Industrial Revolution monologues on the Apron Stage at 7 PM.

January 14-15—Winter Art Show in the Atrium

January 15, 16, 17—Directors Showcase on the Apron Stage at 7 PM on Friday and Saturday and 2 PM on Sunday

January 28-29—*The Tempest*, directed by Emily Mattina of Shakesperience Productions, in collaboration with the WAMS Theater Dept.; 7 PM on the Apron Stage

Also -

Four WAMS middle school students participated in an inter-district singing project sponsored by the After School Arts Program of Washington, CT with guest artist Victoria Christgau. The vocal performance, which included students from Regions 12, 14, 15, WAMS and Torrington, celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King. The performance was scheduled for Sunday, January 17 at Trinity Episcopal Church on Prospect Street in Torrington.

Sprague School Activities:

Peter Nestler, a World Champion Rope Jumper, presented a program on staying physically fit during a school assembly in January. Peter is a phenomenal performer who keeps the students involved at all times, and is considered the best rope jumper in the U.S. Between routines he talks about getting off the sofa, staying physically fit, and staying drug-free.

Carrington School:

The 21st Century After School program held a Medieval Banquet in February. Parents were invited to come and share dishes for the banquet, as well as visit stations the students designed that included jousting and castles they built after doing research on construction of that era, Medieval costumes and dance were also presented. Students shared what they learned as part of this program.



Kennedy High Schools student newspaper, The Eagle Flyer, has won two New England Scholastic Press Forum awards for writing, bringing their total to 38 awards since the school newspaper was re-invented in 2004. Junior Maggie Bergin won the First Person award for her "Walking in a Macy's wonderland," a first-person commentary about her experience participating in the annual New York City Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. She also photographed her adventure. Freshman Michaela Caporaso won Honorable Mention in the First Person category for her article "Beat winter blues: travel," a New York city based story describing a school trip. The 2010 Scholastic Press Awards were presented March 10 at American International College in Springfield, Mass. by Will Hughes, Department of Communications Chair and journalism professor.

Michelle Steere, Crosby High School Class of 2002, is the exhibiting artist at the Crosby High School Media Center gallery space for the months of March and April. As a former student at Crosby, her art classes, for all four years, were under the direction of retired art teacher Thomas Morkys. Her graphic and communication classes were under the direction of Mrs. O'Brien, Crosby's current graphic communications teacher and dept. head of the Technology Education Dept.

On display are contemporary pieces she has artistically created using marker, pencil and digital photography. Please stop by a see her original, artistic, graphic display.

Bunker Hill School

Bunker Hill students enjoyed a PBS Gala on February 5 starting at 12:15pm. The event, which featured a DJ and a Luau Theme, was open to students who showed Positive Behavior for the months of December and January.

Also in February, the school held a Family Reading Night with guest author Ryan SanAngelo. He is the author of many students' favorite book, Spaghetti Eddie.

Student Activities, continued ---



Karen Gaudiosi Angurio's Kindergarten class at Regan School celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday by making special birthday cards, enjoying some cake, and talking about his accomplishments.



Amy Petruzzi's class at Regan School honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by creating podcasts of his "I Have A Dream" speech on the classroom's Smart-Board. The class also split up into small groups to explore in more depth such topics as:

Trailblazers/Events:

Harriett Tubman A Movement To End Slavery

The NAACP is Formed

Harlem Renaissance

Rosa Parks Fighting for Civil Rights

Martin Luther King, Jr. March on Washington

Little Rock 9

Taking Affirmative Action

Jesse Jackson Runs for President

The Million Man March

Condoleezza Rice Achieving Power in Government

Barack Obama/ as President

The students then shared their research projects with the class as part of a Black History Timeline.

Student Activities, continued ---



Recently, students in the ninth grade at the Waterbury Arts Magnet School completed a project in their World History course called the Industrial Revolution Monologues. In this project, they had to research roles and participate in a theatrical performance. The performance was produced, written and directed by the students. They managed to raise \$665.00 that was given to two local charities. In the photo, members of the performance give the check to Wendy and Freddy Jones of Reach Out Ministries and Paul Iadarola of St. Vincent DePaul.

We have been informed that ten of our students have received the Presidential Scholarship Award at Naugatuck Valley Community College. The ten students are:

Ms. Shakeela M. Edwards	Wilby
Ms. Kimete Kodra	Crosby
Mr. Nicholas C. Sergi	WAMS
Ms. Melanie Balgobin	Kennedy
Ms. Lacy Paris	Kennedy
Ms. Tanjina Akhtar	Kennedy
Mr. Bashim Aliu	Kennedy
Ms. Jacelyn C. Locke	Kennedy
Mr. Justin Velazquez	Kennedy
Mr. Olajuwon Harrington	Kennedy

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Dear Colleagues and Conservationists alike,

In a continuing effort to protect and preserve our natural environment through education, partnerships, and positive actions, The City of Waterbury's Litter and Beautification Committee is sponsoring its annual Earth Day Clean-up. As many of you may or may not know, this year marks the 40th annual Earth Day celebration, and Waterbury has been an active participant since 1993. As leaders in our schools and communities, we have the ability to inspire environmental awareness and encourage the conservation, protection, and appreciation of our nation's natural resources. These sentiments are echoed in the Earth Day Proclamation and now, more than ever, can really come to life here in Waterbury.

Please take a moment to talk to your students and neighbors, co-workers and family members and help them recognize that we can all do our part for such a worthy cause.

Those interested in participating can contact me directly via email at: rnapoli@waterbury.k12.ct.us

Thanks in advance,

Ron Napoli Jr.

What: Earth Day Clean-up

When: Saturday May 1st, 2010 @ 8:30am

Where: Brass Mill Commons in front of Barnes & Noble

Additional Info: After the event, FRANKIE's will be providing food to the participants [ticket system].

Rain Date: May 8th, 2010