

West Essex Middle School

Home of the Knights



Parent Orientation Grade 6

January 18, 2024

WE C.A.R.E.



West Essex Middle School Core Team

Name	Title
Dr. Gina Donlevie	Principal
Mrs. Lisa Tamburri	Assistant Principal
Mr. Anthony Carudo	Grade Level Counselor
Mrs. Carly Crescibene-Davis	Grade Level Counselor
Mrs. Michele Lombardozzi	Grade Level Counselor
Mrs. Marie Purcell	Student Assistance Counselor
Ms. Rachel Hall	Nurse

West Essex Regional School District



Name	Title
Mr. Damion Macioci	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Anthony Minnella	Director of Athletics
Mr. Ryan Gupta	Director of Curriculum
Mrs. Lisa Hulse	Director of Guidance
Mrs. Elizabeth McQuaid	Director of Special Services
Mrs. Lisa Swanick	Supervisor of Arts
Mrs. Stacy Casais	Supervisor of English, Reading, & Library Studies
Mr. Greg Aschoff	Supervisor of Math & Business
Mr. Jason Lerner	Supervisor of Science & Environmental Safety
Mrs. Laura Drago	Supervisor of Social Studies & World Languages



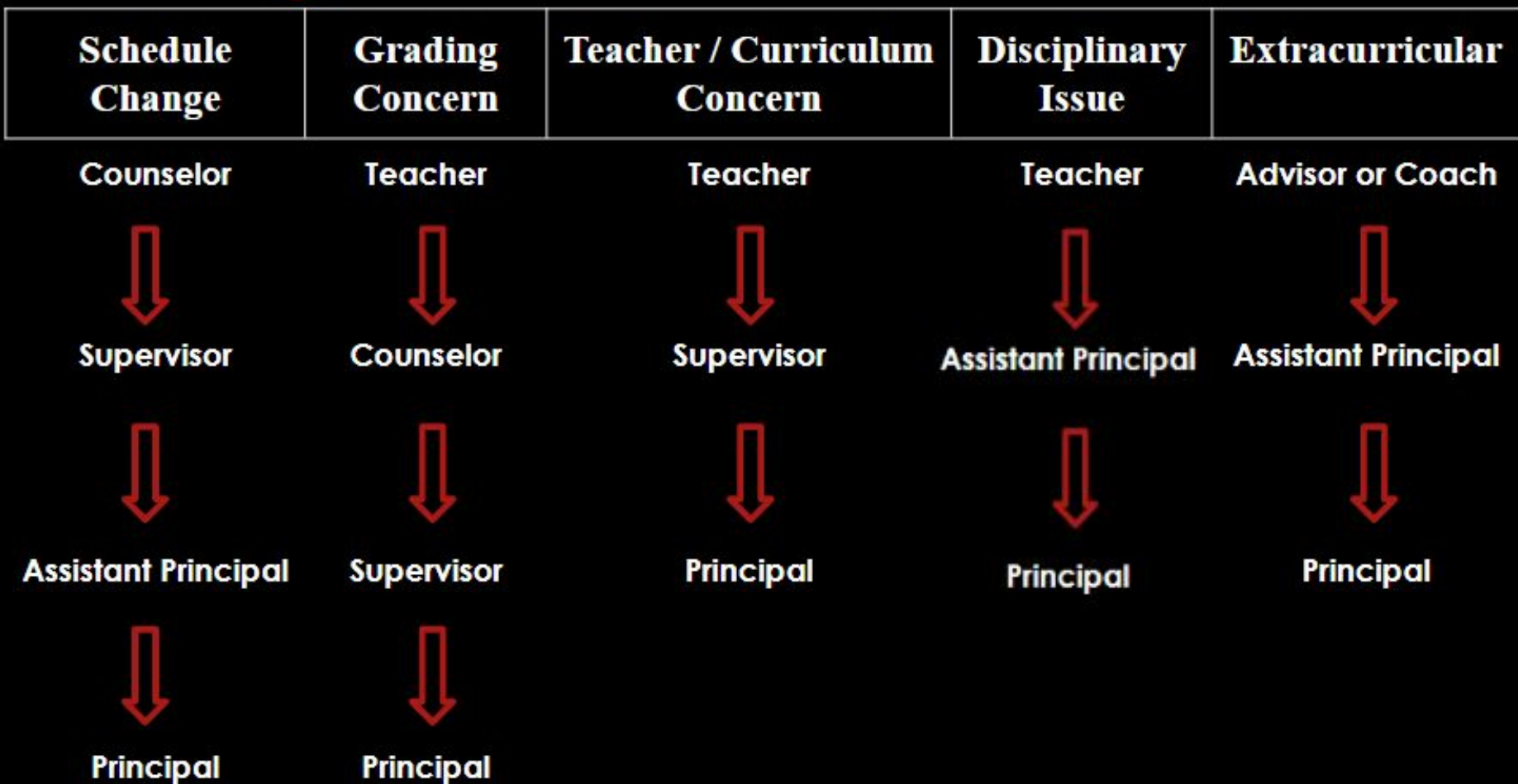
WE Mission

Produce self-sufficient citizens who are adaptable to change and who possess the self-esteem, motivation, and skills to:

- continue life-long learning and **individual growth**
- meet the challenges of the future
- think critically and creatively
- communicate effectively
- solve complex problems
- make responsible decisions
- respect cultural differences



Communication Chain





West Essex Regional School District

Name	Town
Bethany Buccino	Essex Fells
Laila Cristobal	Fairfield
Debbie Holinstat	North Caldwell
Frank Perrotti	Roseland
Deborah Sacco-Calderone (Vice President)	Roseland
Jonathan Schaer	Fairfield
Ray Stampone	Fairfield
Brian Trauman	North Caldwell
Maryadele Wojtowicz (President)	North Caldwell



WERSD 2023 Rankings (*Niche.com*)

- #14 Best Overall School District in NJ
- #3 Best Overall School District in Essex County

- #1 Best Public School for Athletics in Essex County
- #3 Best Public School for Athletics in NJ

- #5 Best Teachers in NJ
- #3 Best Place to Teach in NJ

AGENDA



- ★ Safety & Security
- ★ Middle School Model
- ★ Registration Requirements
- ★ Scheduling Process
- ★ Transition Activities

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Safety & Security

School Security



- Sandy Hook Promise (2018)
 - Say Hello Random Acts of Kindness
 - Say Something Anonymous Reporting
- NCPD Class III Officer
- Surveillance Cameras
- Chromebooks 1-to-1



Culture & Climate



- WE Lead
 - WE C.A.R.E.
 - No Place for Hate Campaign
 - Read Across America



THE NO PLACE FOR HATE® PLEDGE

MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL



I WILL SEEK TO GAIN UNDERSTANDING of those who are different from myself.

I WILL SPEAK OUT against prejudice and discrimination.

I WILL REACH OUT to support those who are targets of hate.

I WILL PROMOTE RESPECT for people and help foster a prejudice-free school.

I BELIEVE that one person can make a difference - no person can be an "innocent" bystander when it comes to opposing hate.

I RECOGNIZE that respecting individual dignity and promoting inter-group harmony are the responsibilities of all students.



WE C.A.R.E.

*Wrap your wrists
with our West Essex
motto!*

What is WE C.A.R.E.

WE CARE is a committee of 8th grade students whose main goal is to help students who feel alone or having a tough time. WE CARE brings people together and helps them feel welcomed and understood.

C - Collaboration- working together to create or produce something. If you are working on a project with another student you have to collaborate.

A - Awareness - knowing what is going on with people around you. Before helping others, make sure you are in a good place and doing well.

R- Resilience - the ability to pick yourself up after being put down in some way; carrying on even through tough times

E - Empathy - being able to understand other people's feeling and emotions.

WHY?

To support the common values in the statement WE C.A.R.E, and to encourage students to show these values on a daily basis in any club, sport, event, and even everyday life.

To provide knowledge about the Little Words Project and their mission to inspire and empower people all over the world.



The bracelets help us spread the WE C.A.R.E. message as well as allow us to show the incoming 7th graders that we care for them and want them to feel welcomed.

WE C.A.R.E Video



Culture & Climate



Bound for Greatness Mentoring Program



Culture & Climate



Assemblies

- *You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me*
- Social Media Assembly & Parent Night
- Cybersecurity Assembly
- *From Pain to Purpose*
- Frederick Douglass Performance



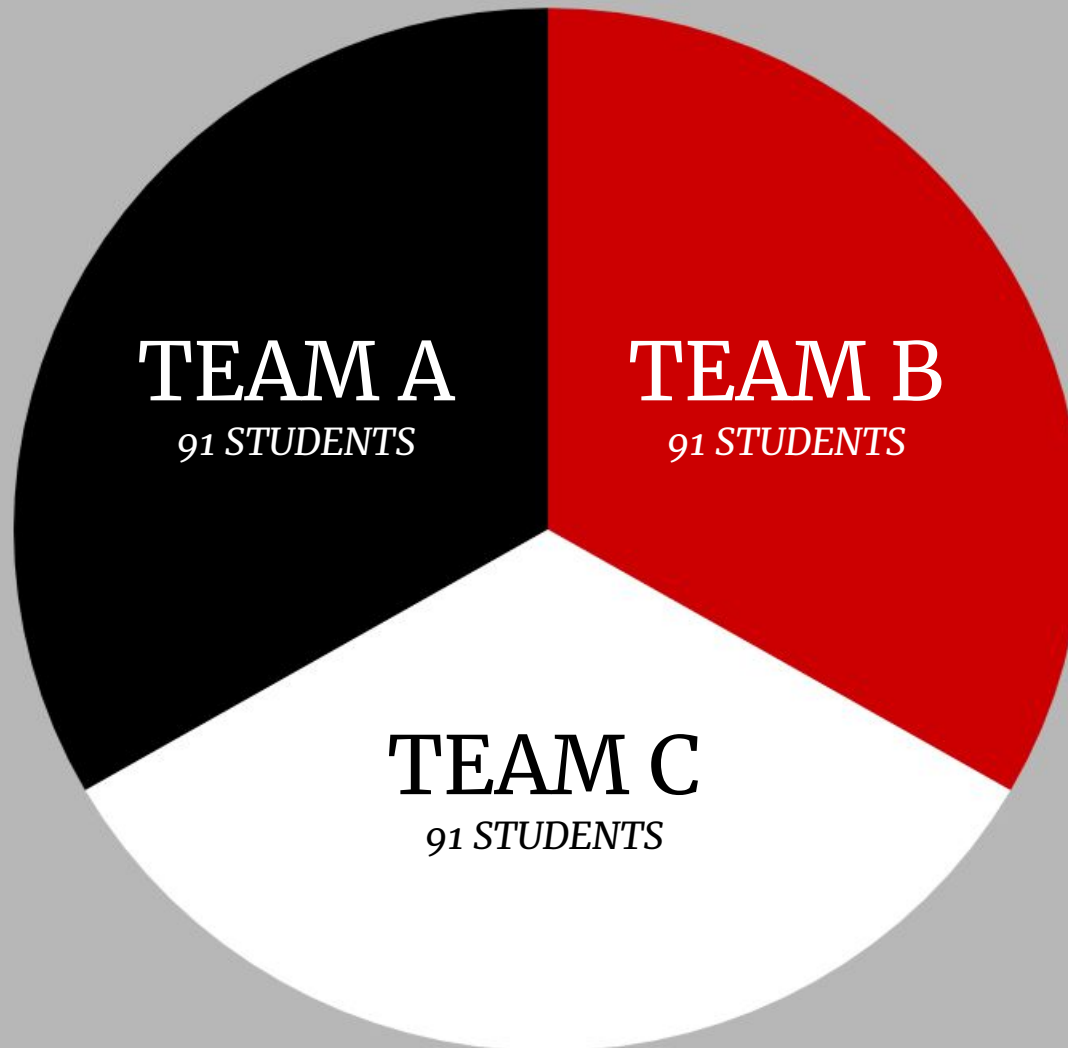
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Middle School Model

Team Model



Team Collaboration



- discuss interdisciplinary connections
- identify best teaching strategies
- track student progress
- create academic and behavioral interventions
- meet with students individually to discuss expectations and provide support
- communicate with parents

Academics



- Rigorous Core Academics
 - English, Social Studies, Science, World Language
 - Math 7, Math 7-1
- Reading Cycles
 - Research and Media Literacy
 - Reading for Young Adults
 - Communication and Rhetoric
 - Readers as Writers
- STEAM Exploration Cycles *or* Music Ensemble

Math 7-1 Eligibility



TEST	WHO	WHEN
NJSLA	All Students	Spring of Grade 5
MAP Assessment	All Students	Week of Feb. 26
Math 7-1 Readiness Exam	Select Students via Invitation	March 16 (9am) or March 21 (4pm)

**Contact Greg Aschoff
(gaschoff@westex.org) with questions.**



Educating the Whole Child

- Social-Emotional Learning
 - understand and manage **emotions**
 - set and achieve positive **goals**
 - feel and show **empathy** for others
 - establish and maintain positive **relationships**
 - make responsible **decisions**
- Counseling
 - Transition Activities
 - Mindful Mondays
- Extracurricular Activities

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Counseling Team

Role of the School Counselor



- Assist with your child's transition to 7th grade
- Act as a support system and confidant
- Foster your child's academic, social, and emotional growth
- Provide a safe space and open ears
- Navigate problems and make positive decisions
- Brainstorm solutions to ease fears and worries
- Celebrate successes and achievements!

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REGISTRATION PROCESS

Registration Process



- WERSD is separate district from elementary schools.
- All incoming students must submit a full registration packet
 - Original Birth Certificate and/or Current Passport
 - Parent's Driver's License ("in-district" address must be listed)
 - Proof of Residency (deed, lease, or contract of sale)
 - 3 Additional Proofs of Address (utility bill, voter registration, etc)
 - Custody Documents (if applicable)
- Completed packets to elementary Homeroom Teacher by February 22nd.
- Completed packets required for Move-Up Day (June 7).

Registration Process (cont)



1. Reminder - what we need:

- 2 Guardians
 - a. If there are not 2 guardians, please be sure that the primary guardian is where the student lives a majority of the week
 - b. Please be sure your cell phone is listed and your email is accurate
- 2 Emergency Contacts (other than the guardians)

Two-Household Families

- In the registration packet there is a sheet for two household families. If you are a two household family, please fill out the Parent Portal form for the additional household.

What you can access through Genesis

- Genesis is not just for report cards! We use it to post grades, communicate mid-marking period progress reports, and more. Parents should check Genesis weekly (not daily), and passwords should not be shared with students. Students will get their own Genesis Portal to keep track of grades.



Mrs. Pat Galese
Guidance Office Secretary
pgalese@westex.org

or

Mrs. Louise Fredo
Main Office Secretary
lfredo@westex.org

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Scheduling

Core & Elective Courses



Core Subjects (Grade 7):

- English, Reading Cycles, Social Studies, Science, Math, Physical Education/Health
- Special Education Services

World Languages:

- French, Italian, Spanish
- If a student wants to study French, start in the 7th Grade

Electives:

- Exploratory Cycles: Art, Computer Science, Music, STEM
- Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus

Rotate & Drop Bell Schedule



Block	Time	A Drop 4 & 8	B Drop 3 & 7	C Drop 2 & 6	D Drop 1 & 5
1	7:42-8:39	1	4	3	2
2	8:43-9:37	2	1	4	3
3	9:41-10:35	3	2	1	4
L	10:39-11:39	L	L	L	L
4	11:43-12:37	5	8	7	6
5	12:41-1:35	6	5	8	7
6	1:39-2:35	7	6	5	8

Typical Student Schedule



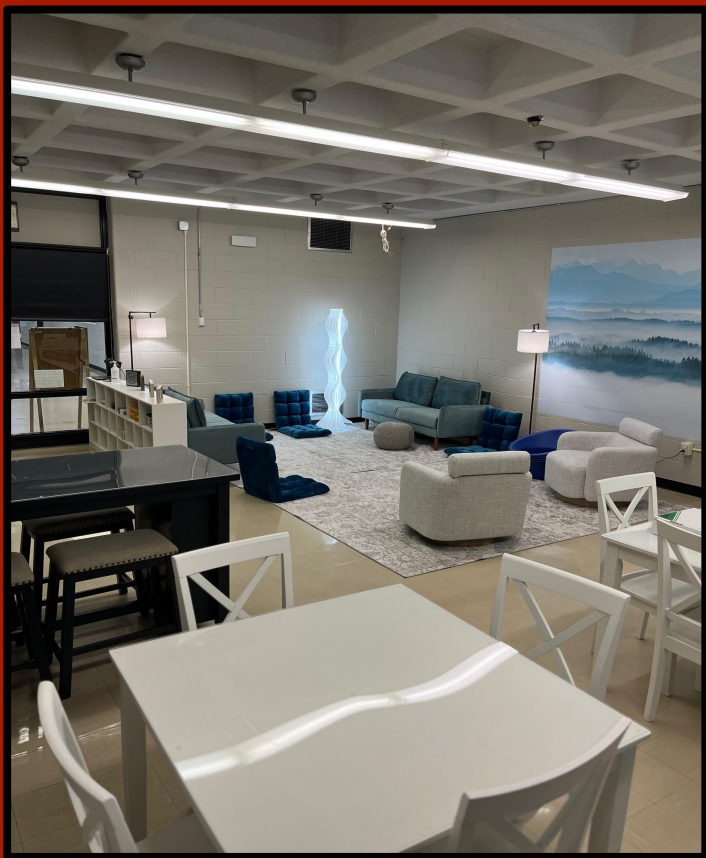
Bell Schedule	A	B	C	D
Class 1 7:42:AM 8:39:AM SS1071 1 SOCIAL STUDIES 7A Regan, John Room: 201 FY	RD1071 1 READING 7A Torres, Lanaya Room: 203 FY	FL1120 5 SPANISH 7 Paterson-Zuniga, Inga Room: 210 FY	MA1071 1 MATH 7A Morrissey/Gaffney Room: 216 FY	
Class 2 8:43:AM 9:39:AM MA1071 1 MATH 7A Morrissey/Gaffney Room: 216 FY	SS1071 1 SOCIAL STUDIES 7A Regan, John Room: 201 FY	RD1071 1 READING 7A Torres, Lanaya Room: 203 FY	FL1120 5 SPANISH 7 Paterson-Zuniga, Inga Room: 210 FY	
Class 3 9:43:AM 10:38:AM FL1120 5 SPANISH 7 Paterson-Zuniga, Inga Room: 210 FY	MA1071 1 MATH 7A Morrissey/Gaffney Room: 216 FY	SS1071 1 SOCIAL STUDIES 7A Regan, John Room: 201 FY	RD1071 1 READING 7A Torres, Lanaya Room: 203 FY	
Lab 1 10:41:AM 11:11:AM STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Culkin, Nicolette Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Regan, John Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Carrozza, Neil Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Corcoran, Shannon Room: 116 FY	
Lunch (Full Period) 10:41:AM 11:41:AM STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Culkin, Nicolette Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Regan, John Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Carrozza, Neil Room: 116 FY	STDYL7 6 LUNCH STUDY 7 Corcoran, Shannon Room: 116 FY	
Lab 2 11:11:AM 11:41:AM LUNCH7 2 LUNCH 7 Tamburri, Luisa Room: FY	LUNCH7 2 LUNCH 7 Tamburri, Luisa Room: FY	LUNCH7 2 LUNCH 7 Tamburri, Luisa Room: FY	LUNCH7 2 LUNCH 7 Tamburri, Luisa Room: FY	
Class 4 11:45:AM 12:39:PM PE1200 7 PE/HEALTH 7 Lambo, Anthony Room: 103SMGYM FY	EN1011 4 ENGLISH 7A Hagel, Deana Room: 208 FY	SC1071 4 SCIENCE 7A Zuhl, Jean Room: 118 FY	AR1200 8 ART 7 Lescota, Erica Room: 133 Q2	
Class 5 12:43:PM 1:37:PM AR1200 8 ART 7 Lescota, Erica Room: 133 Q2	PE1200 7 PE/HEALTH 7 Lambo, Anthony Room: 103SMGYM FY	EN1011 4 ENGLISH 7A Hagel, Deana Room: 208 FY	SC1071 4 SCIENCE 7A Zuhl, Jean Room: 118 FY	
Class 6 1:41:PM 2:35:PM SC1071 4 SCIENCE 7A Zuhl, Jean Room: 118 FY	AR1200 8 ART 7 Lescota, Erica Room: 133 Q2	PE1200 7 PE/HEALTH 7 Lambo, Anthony Room: 103SMGYM FY	EN1011 4 ENGLISH 7A Hagel, Deana Room: 208 FY	

Student Assistance Counselor (SAC)



- Introduction - Marie Purcell, SAC, LPC
- Services Provided:
 - Individual Counseling - anxiety, stress, depression, self esteem
 - Group Counseling * Get Organized! * WE Glow
 - Crisis Intervention and Prevention
 - Training for staff - identifying At-Risk students
- 504 Coordinator
- Frequent Concerns of Middle School Students:
 - Making NEW Friends and Maintaining Friendships
 - Healthy Relationships, Managing Social Media
 - Academic Challenges and Time Management
 - Learning to Self Advocate

NEW Counseling Classroom



*Thank you,
WEMS PTO!*

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MS TRANSITION

Common Student Fears



- Getting to class on time
- Class changes, navigating hallways
- Finding and accessing lockers
- Finding bathrooms and lunchrooms
- Getting on the correct bus
- Perception of their new teachers
- Homework demands
- Following new rules
- Establishing social norms

Transition Events



- Move-Up Day - June 7, 2024
- Open House- Week of August 21st, 2024
- WE Lead 7th Grade Orientation -Week of August 21st 2024
- First Days of School
 - Transition Lessons/Activities
 - Scavenger Hunt
- Spring Lake 7th Grade Trip
- 7th Grade Fun Knight
- Spirit Weeks
- Bobby Lenoy Dodgeball Tournament- November 2024

Athletics & Extracurricular Activities



Club Offerings

- Acting Club
- Art Club
- Book Club
- Builders Club
- Chess Club
- Dance Team
- Glee Club
- Identity/Inclusion Multicultural Club
- Jazz Ensemble
- Knightlights Literary Magazine
- The Knightly News
- Math Counts
- Rogate (gifted and talented)
- SAVE Promise
- STEM Club
- Steppingstone – MS yearbook
- String Ensemble
- Student Council
- WE Welcome

Athletics

Fall Season

- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Soccer
- Field Hockey
- Strength Training

Winter Season

- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Strength Training
- Wrestling

Spring Season

- Boys' Track & Field
- Girls' Track & Field
- Baseball
- Softball
- Strength Training

Descriptions of extracurricular activities can be found on our website.

*Students must pay a \$100 Activity Fee in order to participate in a sport or extracurricular activity.
This fee is paid once per school year and covers multiple activities.*

MS Sports Participation



Registration via Genesis Parent Portal >> Forms tab

1. 4 page Annual PreParticipation Physical Evaluation Form must be submitted
2. Health History Update Questionnaire, regardless of the Date of Examination
3. If applicable, Life-Threatening Allergy Action Plan or Asthma Treatment Plan must be submitted in order to clear your child for participation

**ALL PAPERWORK DUE NO LATER THAN
AUGUST 2024
to athletics@westex.org**

MS Sports Participation



It takes approximately 7-10 days to have your child cleared to participate in Athletics, clearance does not come from your doctor, it comes from our school physician.

- MS Field Hockey begins on or about *August 24, 2023*
- MS Soccer & Strength Training begin *August 28, 2023*

Schedule your doctor's appointments now!

ALL PAPERWORK DUE NO LATER THAN

AUGUST 8th 2024

to athletics@westex.org



Key Dates

Activity	Date
MAP Testing (Grade 6)	Week of February 26
Math 7-1 Readiness Test (Invitation Only)	March 16 or 21
Move-Up Day	June 7 (Tentatively)
7th Grade Open House	Week of August 19
WE Lead 7th Grade Orientation	Week of August 19



Select a School Language Login Search...

WEST ESSEX
Middle School

Faculty Parents Students
(973) 228-1200

- Home
- News
- WEMS**
- District
- Academics
- Parents & Community
- Activities
- Library
- Staff Directory

ABOUT WEMS

- About Us
- Our Mission & Beliefs
- Daily Bulletin
- Student Handbook
- Daily Bell Schedule
- WEMS School Store
- Yearbook & Photography
- NJ DOE Report Card
- Principal's Page
- Attendance Page
- Daily Letter Day Calendar

ACADEMIC

- Incoming 7th Graders
- Go to Incoming 7th Graders page

INFORMATION

- Field Trips
- Club Meeting Calendar
- NHS Peer Tutoring

ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Picture Retakes

https://ms.westex.org/wems/class-of-2025 /2021

JAN 10 MLK Day - No School for Students

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WE C.A.R.E.

collaboration. awareness. resilience. empathy.