



WILDCAT WATCH



August 2021

Volume 39 Issue 1

*For the Parents, Students and
Community of
Winter Park High School*

Administrators

*Note: This list reflects the
assignments as of publication date.*

MAIN CAMPUS

Principal

Matthew Arnold

Assistant Principals

Dan Caliar
Lakecia Green
Paul Maldonado
Jeffrey Sharpe
Soraya Smith

Administrative Deans

Curtis John
Samantha Love
Cheryl Romaine

School Resource Officer

Officer Jimmy Angeles
Officer Jon Stanford

Athletic Director

Andrew Chiles

FRESHMAN CAMPUS

Assistant Principal

Paul Wilhite

Administrative Deans

Grisel Louisjean
Bill Wilson

School Resource Officer

Officer Javier Rodriguez

MAIN CAMPUS

622-3200 Fax 975-2434

FRESHMAN CAMPUS

623-1476 Fax 623-1485

WEBSITE

winterparkhs.ocps.net

SOCIAL MEDIA

@WPHS_OCPS

winterparkhs.ocps



Dear Wildcats,

Thank you for your commitment to making Winter Park High School a safe place for higher learning with a focus on achievement. Winter Park is a place with high expectations for all students and faculty, where together we build a strong academic foundation based on state, national, and international standards. Winter Park is committed to establishing a cooperative and lasting partnership between home, school, and the community to assist our students in acquiring a high-quality education.

Here are a few outstanding achievement indicators that highlight a tradition of excellence for close to a century:

- Ranked by the *U.S. News and World Report* in the **Top 10% Nation-wide** (out of more than 20,000 schools)
- **96 Super Scholars** over the past five years – Accepted into a Top 20 College or University
- Approximately **3,500 AP and IB Exams administered yearly** to help students achieve college credits while in high school
- **Digital Video Production** – Has won national awards from C-SPAN Student Cam Documentary and Student Television Network
- **Navy JROTC** – our FAA Certified Pilot Ground School has produced 11 pilots; numerous students pass the FAA Certification for Drone Piloting; Dual Enrollment partnership with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.
- **Performing Arts** – 40 student-performers made All-County; 12 made All-State; 49 Superiors at District Solo & Ensemble; Theater achieved 13 Superiors at Regions and 5 Superiors at State Competition; Dance Team achieved a State Championship and 4th in the Nation.
- **Athletics** – 122 Team State Championships; 228 Individual and Relay State Championships; 82 Team State Runners-up; 10-time winner of the State FHSAA 'Sunshine Cup' All Sports Award; 16-time winner of the FACA 'Carey McDonald' State Athletic Program of the Year; 14-time winner of the Orlando Sentinel Varsity Cup
- Recognized as a **5-Star School** and **Golden School** by the Florida Department of Education

Winter Park High School has a rich tradition of academic, athletic, and artistic excellence. As we hold our students to high expectations, we look forward to recognizing the many achievements that will continue that tradition.

Here are some important dates and reminders:

- **Welcome Cats** – will be held for our incoming 9th graders on Thursday, August 5, from 8 AM -4 PM at the ninth grade center. This day will provide an opportunity to pick up laptops (new students to OCPS), schedules, ID badges, and other important

...continues on page 2



Vision

To be the top producer of successful students in the nation

Mission

To lead our students to success with the support and involvement of families and the community

Goals

Intense focus on student achievement
High performing and dedicated team
Safe learning and working environment
Efficient operations
Sustained community engagement

'Wildcat Report'

August 2021 • Issue #1
Published Four Times Per Year
Winter Park High School
2100 Summerfield Road
Winter Park, FL 32792

Principal's Message *continues...*

information. Please reserve a 15-minute block by going to our website and clicking on 'Sign up Genius.'

- **Freshman Orientation** – will take place on Thursday, August 5, from 5 – 7 PM. We will have many of our clubs, sports teams, performing arts programs, and other extra-curricular programs available to provide information that will help all of our incoming freshman get involved. Research shows that students are more successful academically when they are involved in extra-curricular activities outside of the regular school day. Additionally, students/parents will be able to see where their seven classrooms are located and talk to their teachers.
- **Welcome Back Cats** – will be held on the main campus for seniors, juniors, and sophomores on Tuesday, August 3. These sessions are designed for students to pick up a schedule, receive or replace an ID badge, and receive information regarding parking decals and lockers.
 - **Seniors:** 8 AM – 9:30 AM
 - **Juniors:** 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
 - **Sophomores:** 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM
 - **Extra-Curricular Showcase:** 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM all three grade levels are welcome to stop by and see the many sports, performing arts, clubs, and other extra-curricular opportunities to get involved.
- **1st Day of School** – will be Tuesday, August 10. Arrive early! Traffic is usually congested for the first couple of weeks.
- **Start/End Times** – for the upcoming year:
 - ◇ **9th Grade Center:** 7:10 AM – 1:58 PM; Wednesdays 7:10 AM – 12:48 PM
 - ◇ **Main Campus:** 7:20 AM – 2:20 PM; Wednesdays 7:20 AM – 1:10 PM

The best way to stay informed about individual/group recognition, upcoming events, and important reminders is through our weekly electronic newsletter. It will be available once the school year begins and is usually sent out every Sunday afternoon. Send a text message to 22828 to sign up for the newsletter. Enter the following text message content: WPHS. A prompt will then be sent asking for your email address. I hope you find this edition of the Wildcat Watch helpful, and I'm looking forward to a great 2021-2022 school year!

Thanks again for your support of Winter Park High School, "Home of the Wildcats!"

Sincerely,

Matthew Arnold
Principal



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Student Services

It is Back-To-School time again! Winter Park High School's Student Services Department would like to welcome all students back to school. The school counselors have been busy preparing for the 2021-2022 school year. Below is the updated contact information for the department.

MAIN CAMPUS SCHOOL COUNSELORS			
School Counselor	Student Last Name	Email	Extension
Jeffrey Manges	A-Cl	jeffrey.manges@ocps.net	618-2248
Lisa Mishkin	Co-Ge	lisa.mishkin@ocps.net	618-2243
Catherine Curry	Gi-La	catherine.curry@ocps.net	618-2239
Nicole Caron	Le-O	nicole.caron@ocps.net	618-3211
Jill Williams	P-Sh	jill.williams@ocps.net	618-2249
Ar'el Baker	Si-Z	arrel.baker@ocps.net	618-2242
NINTH GRADE CENTER SCHOOL COUNSELORS			
School Counselor	Student Last Name	Email	Extension
Danielle Exposito	A-K	danielle.exposito@ocps.net	624-2261
Tara Cayll	L-Z	tara.cayll@ocps.net	624-2260
COLLEGE AND CAREER COORDINATOR			
Elisa Mora		elisa.mora@ocps.net	618-2259
PROGRESS TO SUCCESS COORDINATOR			
Dawn Young		TBA	618-2285
SUPPORT STAFF			
Sarah Miranda	Clerk	sarah.miranda@ocps.net	618-3203
Felicia Ghiden	Registrar	felicia.ghiden@ocps.net	618-2262
Shirley Ulmer	Records	shirley.ulmer@ocps.net	618-2241

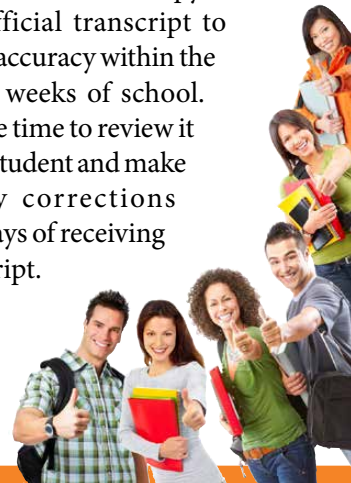
Our Student Services team is comprised of eight school counselors, a Progress to Success Mentoring Coordinator, a Mental Health Social Worker, a SAFE coordinator, a College and Career Specialist, an AP/IB coordinator, two 504 coordinators, ESE placement specialists, and our amazing clerical staff. Our team strives to provide excellent support to all our students.

ACADEMIC COUNSELING

Students will meet with their school counselor 3 times during the year to discuss graduation requirements, course selections, and general guidance lessons. Main Campus students will also visit the College and Career Center. Counselors are also available for individual appointments. Students can stop by the Student Services Office to schedule an appointment. Schedule change requests will be considered during the first week of school on a case-by-case basis. Students are encouraged to view their schedule and ensure their courses are accurate.

TRANSCRIPTS

Sophomores, juniors and seniors will receive a copy of their unofficial transcript to review for accuracy within the first three weeks of school. Please, take time to review it with your student and make necessary corrections within 5 days of receiving the transcript.



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Join WPHS PTSA!
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Your PTSA membership includes e-mail updates about school events and exclusive WPHS spirit items only available to PTSA members while supplies last.

Checks payable to WPHS PTSA, cash, credit card at Welcome Back Events or pay online under NON-PROFIT GROUPS at www.Schoolpay.com
<https://www.schoolpay.com/parent/payments/groups>

<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	Wildcat Membership: includes 1 PTSA membership and 1 WPHS spirit magnet
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	Wildcat Plus+One Membership: includes 2 PTSA memberships and 2 WPHS spirit magnets (If you have a Senior, name them as one member to be eligible for PTSA Scholarship)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	Silver Cat Membership: includes 2 PTSA memberships, 2 WPHS spirit magnet and 1 exclusive WPHS soft-sided cooler (If you have a Senior, name them as one member to be eligible for PTSA Scholarship)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$300	Gold Cat Membership: includes 2 PTSA memberships, 2 WPHS spirit magnet, 1 exclusive WPHS soft-sided cooler, 1 exclusive WPHS Custom Printed Corkcicle, 4 tickets to the Homecoming Barbeque and bleacher seating for 6 at the Homecoming Parade (If you have a Senior, name them as one member to be eligible for PTSA Scholarship)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	Teacher Appreciation Donation: This donation will go towards the purchase of gift cards for our teachers and staff.

Member name(s): _____

Address: _____

Campus (circle one): 9GC or Main Phone: _____

E-mail (please print clearly): _____

This membership drive is the ONLY fundraiser for the PTSA. Membership dues fund 100% of PTSA sponsored programs/events such as Faculty Enrichment Grants, Teacher Appreciation, College & Career Center, the school clinic, Homecoming BBQ, Baccalaureate Reception, PTSA scholarships and more!

To receive your spirit items without delay, log on to Schoolpay.com under NON-PROFIT GROUPS on the left side of the webpage and join today!

<https://www.schoolpay.com/parent/payments/groups>

If you prefer to mail your form:
Mrs. Francee Williams, Winter Park High School PTSA Membership
2163 Turkey Run
Winter Park, FL 32789

PTSA 2021-22 Membership Form: Administrative Use Only

Received spirit magnet(s) _____ Received gift(s) _____ Check Number _____

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BagbyTeam@FannieHillman.com

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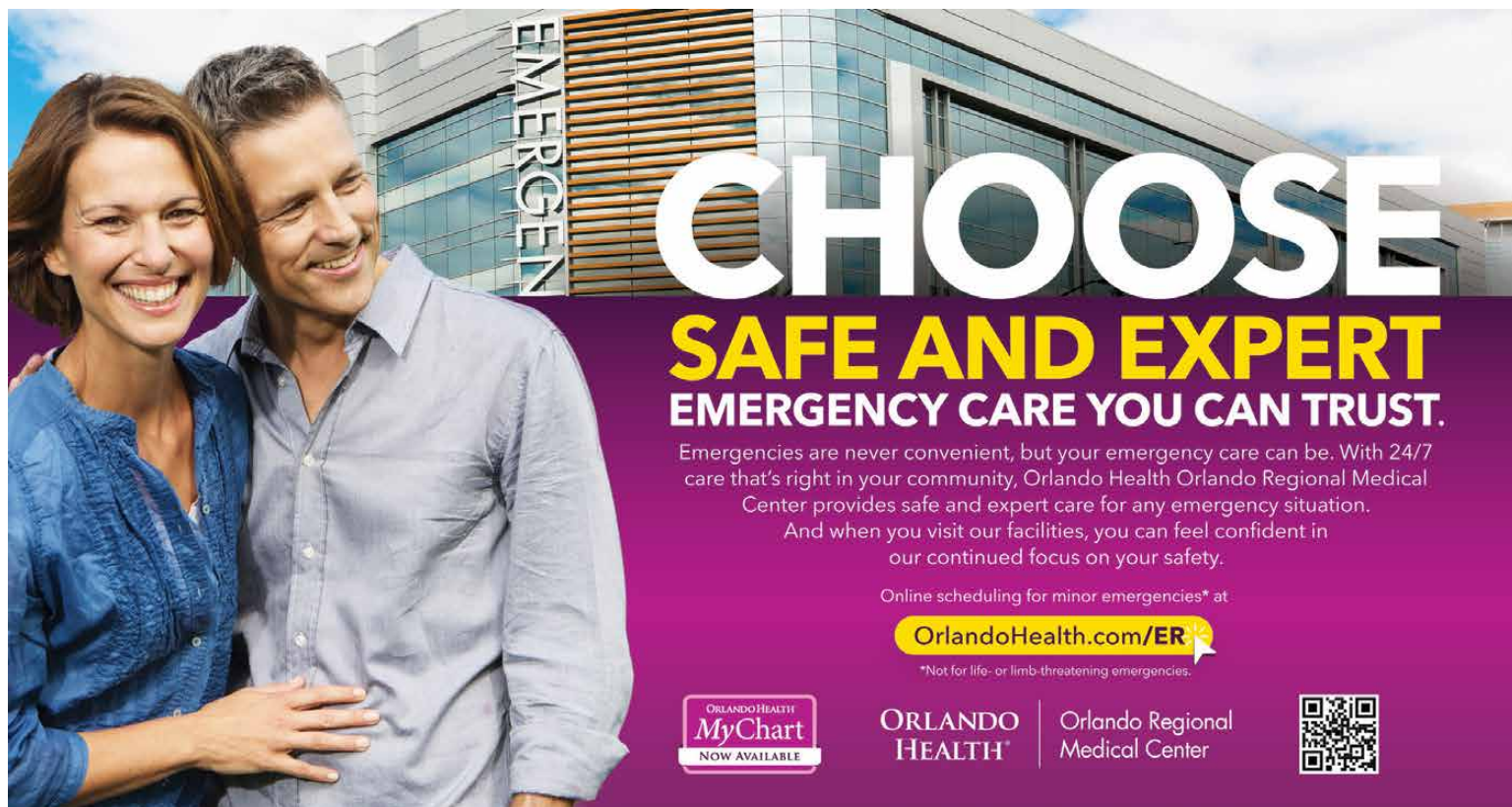
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We will launch our 2021-2022 annual campaign in the fall and look forward to connecting with all of you at the Welcome Back Cats events in August. Reminder, our Cat Shack will re-open once school starts, where you can buy ALL your WPHS shirts, swag, hats, etc.!! We hope you are having a great summer and look forward to seeing you soon. Please follow the WPHS Foundation and the Cat Shack on Facebook: @WinterParkHighSchoolFoundation and @wphscatshack and the Cat Shack on Instagram: @wphscatshack. **Go Cats!**

The Winter Park High School Foundation



Athletics

ATHLETIC PHYSICALS

All students interested in participating in a sport must have a completed athletic physical and an ECG on file with the athletic trainer before they will be allowed to tryout for a sport. More information can be found at <https://winterparkathletics.org/athletic-physicals/>.

FALL SPORTS

Important Fall Dates: Please visit www.winterparkathletics.org for more detailed information.

FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE / TRYOUTS FOR FALL SPORTS

- Monday, August 2nd Boys' & Girls' Cross Country – 6:15 am; Cady Way pool parking lot
- Monday, August 2nd Football – 6:45 am; WPHS Multipurpose Building (700)
- Tuesday, August 3rd Boys' Golf – 3:00 pm; Rio Pinar Golf course
- Tuesday, August 2nd Girls' Golf – 10:00 am; Winter Pines Golf course
- Monday, August 2nd Girls' Volleyball – returning players @ 10:00 am, Players new to WPHS @ 1:30 pm; WPHS gym
- Tuesday, August 10th Boys' & Girls' Bowling – 3:00 pm; Boardwalk Bowl
- Monday, August 10th Boys' & Girls' Swimming – 2:45 pm; WPHS pool
- Monday August 10th Boys' & Girls' Diving – 5:30 pm; WPHS pool

ATHLETIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING DATES

- Tuesday, August 3rd-Welcome back Cats – 12:30 pm-3:00 pm at the Main Campus
 - Thursday, August 5th – Welcome Cats – 5:00 pm-7:00pm at the Freshman Campus
- This event will assist in promoting our sports at Winter Park High School.

Individual Sports will be represented and General Athletic Information will be available on both dates.

ATHLETIC WEBSITE

Please visit our Winter Park Athletic Website at www.winterparkathletics.org. for more information on our athletic programs including coach's contact information, game schedules, athletic passes, athletic history, letterman jackets and more.



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COLLEGE and CAREER Center

The College and Career Center of Winter Park High School provides the following services to students:

- Assistance with career searches, interest surveys, and development of strengths through Scoir (Scoir.com)
- Assistance with determining the best schools for your student based on his or her career choices, interests, and needs
- Assistance with college, scholarship, and job applications
- Assistance with signing up and preparing for the SAT and ACT, and helping students determine their "best" test
- Practice interviews
- Assistance with the entire essay writing process as it pertains to admissions and scholarships

The Center also has a library of resource materials that range from SAT, ACT, and AP test practice to selecting the right majors, colleges, and careers. We are always looking for volunteers willing to assist with the many initiatives taking place. Interested volunteers can contact Mrs. Mora. The Center is open Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM to all students. Parents may make an appointment to meet with Mrs. Mora by calling 407-622-3200 ext. 6182259 or via email at elisa.mora@ocps.net.

2021-2022 School Calendar

Weekday(s)	Date(s)	Event
Monday-Monday	August 2-9	Pre-Planning
Tuesday	August 10	First Day of School
Monday	September 6	Labor Day Holiday
Thursday	October 7	End of First Marking Period
Friday	October 8	Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
Monday	October 11	Begin Second Marking Period
Friday	October 29	Teacher Professional Day/ Student Holiday Teacher Non-Workday
Monday-Friday	November 22-26	Thanksgiving Break
Friday	December 17	End of Second Marking Period
Two Weeks	December 20-31	Winter Break



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International Baccalaureate

Greetings! On behalf of the Winter Park High School International Baccalaureate faculty, I would like to welcome you to the 2021-22 school year and congratulate you on your decision to enroll in one of our two International Baccalaureate Programmes, or have decided to add an IB course to your schedule. We applaud your choice in a programme and courses which puts emphasis on educating the “whole person” and to use the life skills learned in high school to function successfully in college and in the work place after college. We strongly believe that the steps our students take today will help them shape their future tomorrow. The WPHS IB Programmes, and courses, aim to help young generations pave their own pathway. We would like to take a moment to congratulate our graduating class of 2021. They graduated with a high amount of scholarships and grants. They were accepted to a full range of colleges including Northwestern, Duke, Emory, US Naval Academy, Vanderbilt, UF, FSU, Belmont, UNC and Brown just to name a few. What is unique is all of the students will recognize the benefits of an IB education in college, and will receive college credit for courses. For those new to WPHS, we have two IB Programmes on campus. The IB Diploma Programme (DP) and the IB Career-related Programme (CP). The Diploma Programme has been in existence at WPHS for 35+ years and is world renown for being one of the strongest and most successful

DP in central Florida (# 1) in the state (# 6), nationally and globally. The Career-related Programme just graduated their third cohort of seniors. We are extremely proud of both programmes and looking forward to watching them continue to grow and develop with our amazing students.

We are now also offering IB courses to students not enrolled in either of our programmes. These students are referred to as “IB Course” students. This is extremely exciting news for our school. The benefits of participation in either of our two IB programmes and IB courses are numerous. A college level of instruction from global perspectives, development of strong study skills, and encouragement of critical thinking are just a few. We believe that the culmination of this course work is the examination itself. We strongly encourage each student to fulfill every stage of his/her commitment to excellence. Taking the examinations will enable students to be prepared for college examinations, both oral and written, and may facilitate acceptance and/or advanced placement on the university level. To electronically access more information about the International Baccalaureate Organization, please check our new website (https://winterparkhs.ocps.net/academics/international_baccalaureate) or please feel free to investigate more at www.ibo.org.

