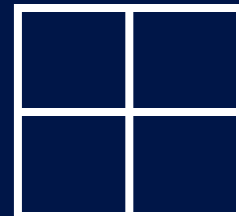


THE WHITNALL WINDOW

SUMMER 2021



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THE SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

With the fall quickly approaching, I hope that everyone in the Whitnall community is savoring the summer.

I want to take this opportunity to preview how we will be moving forward this upcoming school year. To best move forward, we must learn from the challenges of the past. In the spring, Dr. Tony Frontier from Cardinal Stritch University conducted focus groups with our teachers, students, and parents in order to gather their perceptions of the district's efforts to support student learning needs throughout the pandemic. He recently shared a summary of the results and identified general themes. The report can be found on our website under Navigating 21-22. We will be using this data to identify our strengths as well as our opportunities for growth.



At the end of July, the board took action to begin the 2021-22 school year by mostly returning to pre-COVID procedures with some mitigation efforts still in place. For instance, face coverings will not be required, but our custodial team's sanitation practices will continue. The full Moving Forward Plan is available on our website under Navigating 21-22. We will monitor conditions and update our mitigation efforts as necessary. District residents can follow our board meetings and website for updates.

Please be sure to check for community events, such as our grand opening weekend for Falcon Field's new video/scoreboard (more details on the back page). Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Lisa L. Olson

Dr. Lisa L. Olson, Superintendent

CLASS FACTS

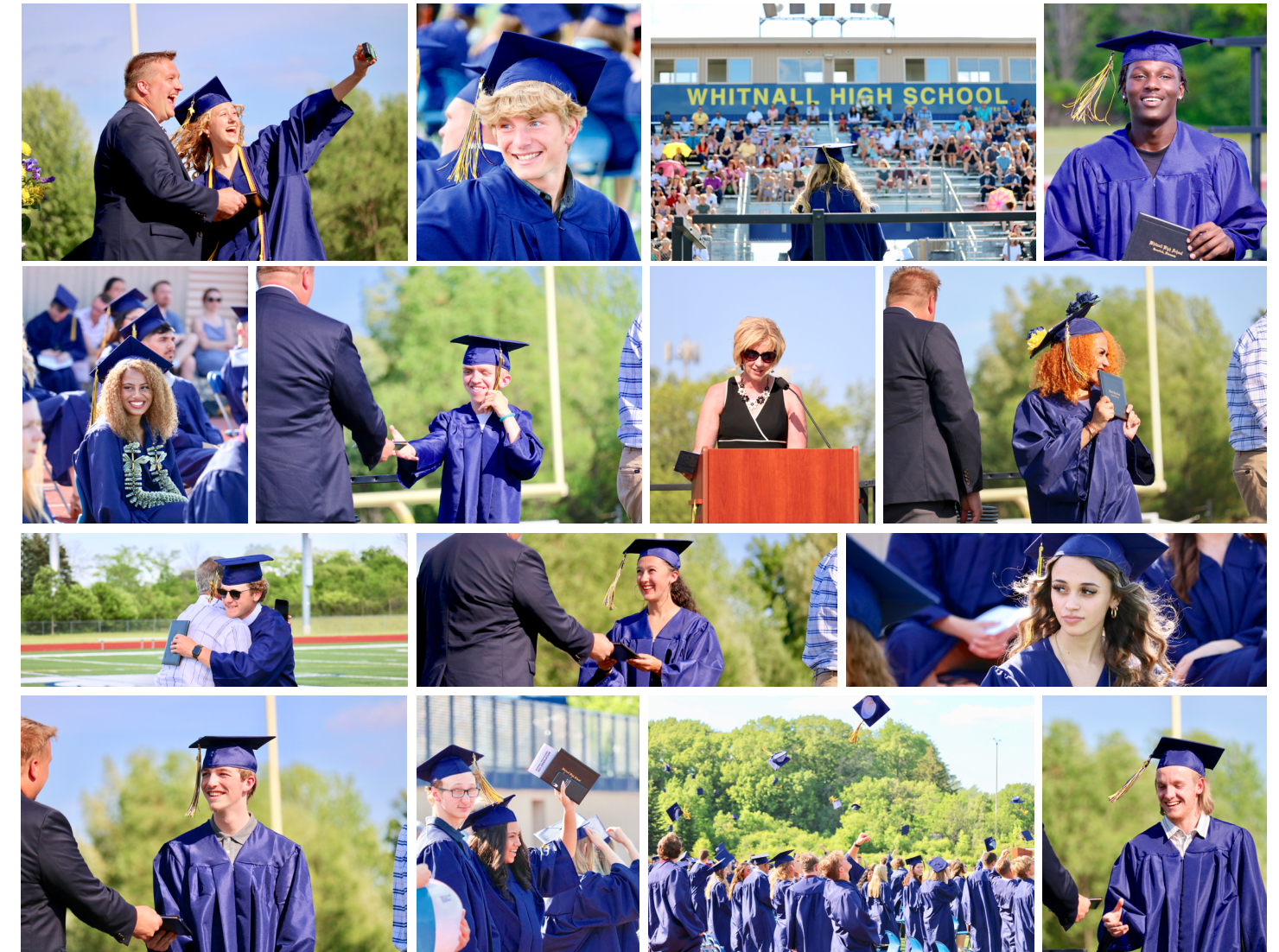
We are incredibly proud of the Class of 2021. This class collectively accepted over 1.5 million dollars in scholarships! It must also be noted that an impressive 77 students--almost 1/3 of the Class of 2021--maintained high honors during their high school careers. High honors means a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. The Class of 2021 was not only dedicated to academics, but also to athletics and activities. In addition to their involvement, they demonstrated their adaptability by participating in modified versions of traditional senior events, such as our first ever outdoor Grad Walk and our first ever outdoor commencement ceremony!

GRAD WALK

The Class of 2021 took a victory lap around the elementary schools and the middle school. Our younger students cheered as the graduates reconnected with their former teachers. The Grad Walk is one of those very special occasions when the entire Whitnall community comes together. As one of the signs held up by an elementary student read, "We will miss all of you."



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN

Whitnall's 2021 valedictorian was Manas Arora (left). Manas earned 27.75 credits upon graduating with a 4.699 GPA. While at Whitnall High School, Manas participated in student council, cross country, track, tennis, National Honor Society, and DECA (the student marketing organization). He will be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study finance. Whitnall High School's 2021 salutatorian was Ella Frank (right). Ella earned 27.75 credits upon graduating with a 4.655 GPA. While at Whitnall High School, Ella participated in Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, DECA, and cheerleading. She will be attending the University of Arizona, where she plans to study biology.



DISTRICT LEADERSHIP



LISA OLSON
SUPERINTENDENT
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2016



KATY WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2021



JACKIE WINTER
DIRECTOR OF PUPIL SERVICES
JOINED WHITNALL IN 1997



JON DUHR
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2021



JENN GENNERMAN
DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT & ANALYTICS
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2020



CINDY MIXON
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2021

BUILDING LEADERSHIP

CHARLES TOLLEFSEN
WHS PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2017



CHRIS D'ACQUISTO
WMS PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2005



MEG ZEI
EES PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2020



LORI KOMAS
HCE PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2005



RUSS TILLMANN
WHS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2019



RYAN RELICH
WMS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2014



KIM TRENDEL
EES ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2021



RYAN GREEN
HCE ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL
JOINED WHITNALL IN 2021

STRUCTURE

To the left is a visual of Whitnall's administrative team, organized by district leadership and then building leadership. You may notice some new positions and some new faces. During the 2020-21 school year, we reviewed our strategic objectives, survey feedback, achievement data, and district priorities and decided to make some adjustments to our administrator roles starting this upcoming school year. We added associate principals at our elementary schools in lieu of filling coaching positions to allow our elementary principals more time for instructional leadership. Our employee engagement strategic objective creates a need for greater support for our talent management model, so we have reorganized our human resources department to include a director position. In addition to these three restructured positions, we also have a few new faces. We have hired a new Director of Curriculum & Instruction, following Lynn Leroy's retirement at the end of last school year. We have also filled the vacancy for our Director of Business Services position. We are incredibly excited about these adjustments and hires and believe they will move us closer to our strategic objectives and ultimately help us better serve our students and staff. Information on each new member of the admin team can be found below.

KATY WILLIAMS

Katy Williams is our new Director of Curriculum & Instruction. Prior to joining Whitnall, Katy served as an elementary principal in a neighboring district for eight years. She has a doctoral degree in Leadership for the Advancement of Learning & Service, a master's degree in both Curriculum & Instruction and Educational Administration, and a bachelor's degree in Education.

JON DUHR

Jon Duhr is our new Director of Business Services. Jon has served as a Director of Business Services and as a Director of Teaching & Learning before joining Whitnall. He holds a master's degree in both Business Education as well as Educational Leadership. Jon also has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

CINDY MIXON

Cindy Mixon will serve as Whitnall's Director of Human Resources. Cindy joins us from the private sector, where she was a Vice President of Human Resources. She brings with her years of experience and a mastery of employee engagement, strategic planning, leadership, and team building. Cindy has a communications degree, as well as certification in coaching.

KIM TRENDEL

Edgerton Elementary's new Associate Principal is Kim Trendel. Kim is joining Whitnall after serving as interim principal for an elementary school in a neighboring district. Kim has experience as a teacher and as a teacher leader. She holds a master's degree in both Educational Leadership and Teacher Leadership & Instructional Enhancement. Kim also has a bachelor's degree in Special Education.

RYAN GREEN

Hales Corners Elementary's new Associate Principal is Ryan Green. Prior to joining Whitnall, Ryan served as an instructional and teacher coach. He has a master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction and a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

WELCOME, KATY, JON, CINDY, KIM, & RYAN!

ADVOCACY

Prior to the passage of the 2021-23 state budget, the school board engaged with legislators and regional advocacy groups in order to share the needs of the Whitnall School District. In June, the board wrote a letter to our state senator and three representatives describing the impact of the budget proposal. The letter discussed special education costs, declining membership enrollment, inflationary costs, and ESSER funds, among other considerations. The complete letter can be found on the Whitnall website under Board of Education > Legislation & Advocacy.

COLLABORATION

On June 14, the board held a joint work session with administration. The work session focused on the development of a district dashboard, which is the board's annual goal. The district's continuous improvement consultant led the group in creating a draft list of data that considers multiple stakeholder groups. The board will hold another joint work session with administration on August 16 to continue the progress made earlier in the summer.

INVOLVEMENT



In early June, board member Nancy Zaborowski attended the 2021 GPS Education Partners graduation. GPS Education Partners works with students to connect them with work-based learning opportunities in the trades. Whitnall had several students graduate from the program in 2021. Congratulations to those students and thank you to Nancy for representing Whitnall at the ceremony!



At our 2021 staff recognition event, board member Kevin Stachowiak addressed the entire district staff, thanking them for their adaptability, dedication, and professionalism during a highly unusual school year.



On June 5th, Whitnall School Board members attended the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2021. After entering with the procession, they took their place to the right of the stage and congratulated each and every graduate as they exited the stage with their diploma. The heat of the day couldn't stop our board members from showing their Whitnall pride and offering the Class of 2021 their best wishes.



Accompanied by Whitnall band students, our school board members participated in both the Greenfield and Hales Corners 4th of July parades. We can't think of a better way to represent Whitnall to the community than by showcasing our talented students and our committed school board members!



ADVANCEMENT BELONGING COURAGE ADVANCEMENT BELONGING COURAGE



**PROUD
HISTORY
BRIGHT
FUTURE**

THE WHITNALL WINDOW

Non-Profit
Org
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Milwaukee,
WI
Permit No.1



Whitnall School District
5000 S. 116th Street
Greenfield, WI 53228
414.525.8400
www.whitnall.com

WSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jonathan Cagle	President, Hales Corners, Since 2014
Quin Brunette	Vice-President, Greenfield, Since 2012
Kevin Stachowiak	Clerk, Hales Corners, Since 2015
Steven Butz	Treasurer, Greenfield, Since 2018
Karen Mikolainis	Member, Hales Corners, Since 2019
Jesse Stachowiak	Member, Greenfield, Since 2020
Nancy Zaborowski	Member, Greenfield, Since 2008



ALL ON BOARD UPDATE HOMECOMING GAME & COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT

Thanks to our All On Board initiative, Falcon Field is getting a new video/scoreboard! We will be celebrating with a grand opening weekend. See the board used for the first time at this year's homecoming game on September 24 at 7 PM. On September 25, we're hosting a community movie night! Food and fun will begin at 5 PM at Falcon Field. At 6:30 PM, find a spot on the grass and watch a movie on the new board! More details will be available as we get closer to the grand opening weekend, so be sure to watch our online channels!

Newsletter feedback?
Send to
lvasquez@whitnall.com

Follow us on social media!



@whitnallschools for all three!