

# Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter



Building the road to success

May 3, 2019

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## Important dates to note

Monday, May 6 - National Nurses Day

Monday to Friday, May 6 to 10 -  
Teacher Appreciation Week

Monday, May 13, 7 p.m. - Board of  
Education meeting at Charles Olbon

Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which will be sent out weekly when school is in session. This will serve as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools and with our students, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

Your Partner in Education,  
Michele R. Pillari, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## Board of Education adopts 2019-2020 district operating budget

The Woodland Park Board of Education held a public hearing for and adopted its 2019-2020 school district operating budget on April 29. The total budget is \$19,477,373. The local tax levy, the amount to be raised by taxation is \$16,256,971, which is up \$325,139, or 2%, from the current year's \$16,582,110 levy.

The owner of a Borough average home, assessed at \$345,496, will increase by \$55, from \$3,447 to \$3,502. Last year's average increase was \$93. The tax rate will increase from \$.9980 cents per hundred to \$1.014 per hundred, or 1.6 tax points. To calculate the impact, divide the assessed value of a home by 100 and multiply by 1.04.

District Superintendent Dr. Michele Pillari said that the spending plan maintains all existing programs. In addition, funding is included for a full time media specialist and moving a part time physical education teacher to full time. The budget also includes funding for a third Special Class III Police Officer, which will allow each school to have its own dedicated officer through this shared service agreement with the Borough.

### Additional budget points:

- Upgrading of laptops for grade 8 in order to continue and maintain the district's 1:1 technology initiative for grades 2-8.
- Renovation over the summer of five Charles Olbon School classrooms, which will include installation of air conditioning and removal of asbestos flooring. Two bathrooms and the surrounding hallway will also be renovated.
- Addition of two pre-K classes at Charles Olbon School.
- Increases number of full time techs provided by NRESC from two to three.
- New security camera system will be installed at Charles Olbon School.

Maintaining technology and wireless infrastructure are major factors impacting the budget as well as health benefit costs, according to Business Administrator Thomas DiFluri. Salaries and health benefits alone account for 75 percent of the budget. He added that a plus this year was that the district received an increase in state aid of \$101,770, after many years of flat funding.

The budget presentation given at the meeting can be located at <https://tinyurl.com/y5zm6ba9>.

# Students help plant six trees as part of annual Arbor/Earth Day ceremony

The Borough held its annual Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration on Wednesday with the third and fourth graders from Beatrice Gilmore School. The students assisted in planting six trees - three red oak and three maples - on Pridmore Field behind Memorial and Beatrice Gilmore Schools.



Mayor Kazmark spoke to the students about the meaning of Earth Day and Arbor Day. He asked the students if they knew what the land they were sitting on was before it was used for public schools. They were amused to learn that cows once grazed the very same spot, as the field are former farm lands of the Dowling and Mulrooney Farms. On hand was a member of one of those families, Matt Mulrooney, who is a Department of Public Works employee.



Alfred Baumann Library Director Linda Hoffman and Children's Department Director Caitlin Cromley-Linn were on hand to read a story to the students. "Because Of An Acorn" by Lola Schaefer and Adam Schaefer was read and a copy donated to the school library.



## Read All About It

The latest edition of "Buddy's News," a digital newspaper created by Beatrice Gilmore Newspaper Cub students is now available. To view the online newspaper, visit <https://www.wpschools.org/Page/3836>.



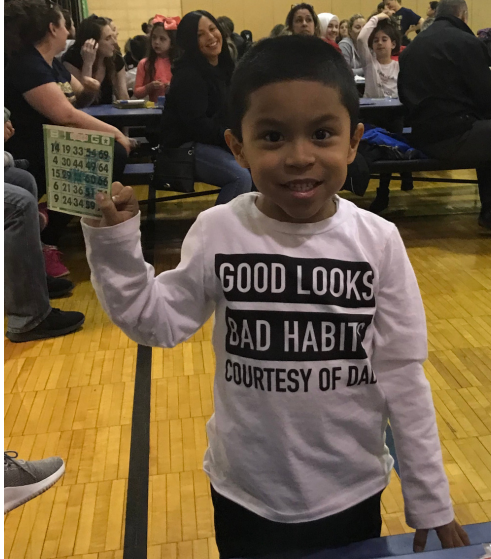
## Memorial School kicks off annual Youth Month with visit from mayor

Woodland Park's annual Youth Month kicked off on Wednesday with a visit from Mayor Keith Kazmark to Memorial School. There, he described the program and its similarities to running for real office. Students received descriptions of the jobs they could run for to be elected to by their peers.

"Participants will see how all operations of the Borough work," Kazmark said, noting that he had served as a Youth Month councilman as a student in 1992. Kazmark served as a councilman from 2002-2010 before being elected mayor.



The students will hold elections today in their homerooms. Following the elections, the students selected for the positions have a number of opportunities to see their government in action from a tour of the town on May 13 to presiding over Municipal Court, a Board of Education meeting and a Borough Council meeting.



## Bingo Night

The Charles Olbon Home & School Association recently held a fundraising bingo night for kids. One lucky little guy, shown above, won three times!

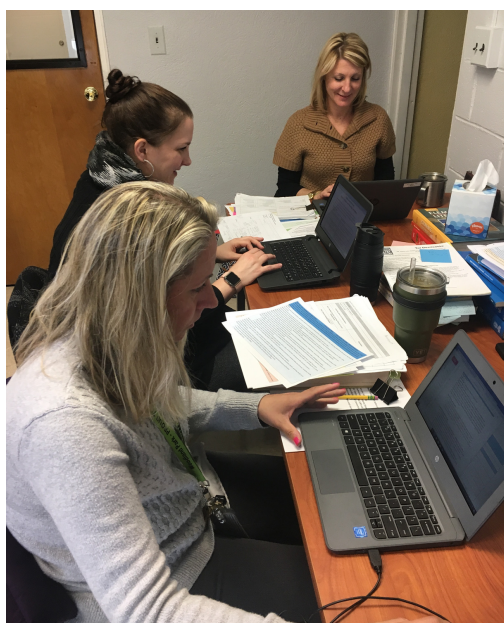


# Mystery Reader



School District Supervisor of Language Arts Elba Alves Castrovinci recently served as a mystery guest reader at the Alfred Baumann Library's Bananas and Books program. Meeting weekly, the middle school age participants are reading "Tuck Everlasting" together while enjoying healthy snacks.

# Ever Evolving



Memorial Middle School teachers Mrs. Meghan Glenn, Mrs. Joanne Kelly, and Mrs. Laura Masefield recently worked with ELA Supervisor, Elba Castrovinci to revise curricula.



The Woodland Park Board of Education is Proud to Announce Tuition Free Preschool!

### \*Who Qualifies for Full Day Preschool?

Any child who is a resident of Woodland Park and who will be 3 or 4 years of age by October 1, 2019.

### \*How many seats are available?

There are only 10 - 3 year old seats and 10 - 4 year old seats available for September 2019 to be filled by a lottery drawing.

### \*How do I get my child on the list?

You must pick up a lottery ticket at the Woodland Park Board of Education Office, 853 McBride Ave., Woodland Park, NJ.

May 6 to May 10, 2019 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

### \*When is the lottery drawing?

May 30 at 6:30 pm in

Woodland Park Municipal Chambers, Brophy Lane  
Woodland Park (will be televised on Optimum Channel 77,  
also on Verizon FIOS)



Memorial Middle School Presents

The WIZARD of OZ  
Young Performers' Edition

May 10, 7 PM  
May 11, 2 PM & 7 PM  
Beatrice Gilmore School Auditorium  
Woodland Park, NJ

Tickets are \$8 for Adults &  
\$5 for Students/Children  
For tickets visit

<https://memorialmusical.ticketleap.com/>

Email: [memorialmusical@gmail.com](mailto:memorialmusical@gmail.com)  
THE WIZARD OF OZ  
is presented by arrangement with  
Tams-Witmark, A Concord Theatricals Company  
[www.tams-witmark.com](http://www.tams-witmark.com)

# United By Autism



Staff members at Charles Olbon celebrated Autism Awareness by wearing shirts created by and sold throughout the district by the WP Special Needs Advisory Committee (WPSNAC). Mrs. Parker's class made puzzle pieces and wrote down ways they can be a friend to someone with autism. Below are a few pictures of Mrs. Krasnomowitz's class and Mrs. Davidson's class, engaged in an activity on the backstop.



## Science Showcase

Memorial School held its annual academic expo for fifth and sixth grades prior to spring break.

