

August 28, 2026 Newsletter

WE'RE BAAAAAACKKKKK!!

Welcome officially to the **2026–2027 School Year at WTES!** We're excited for another great year with our Westy community!

MEET YOUR 2026–2027 PTA BOARD

AK Parks, President | Children in 2nd & 5th

Medora Boyle, VP | Child in 3rd

Kirsten Lovo, VP | Children in 2nd & 5th

Darcey Peck, VP | Children in 2nd & 5th

Justin Harvey, VP | Children in 2nd & 4th

Matt Barrett, Treasurer | Children in 1st & 4th

Lauren Chapman, Assistant Treasurer | Child in 3rd

Lisa Phelps, Secretary | Child in 1st

Anna Tinter, Kindergarten Liaison | Child in Kindergarten

A few of our Board Members also have kiddos who are WTES alumni, so we have many years at WTES under our collective belts!

You can always reach me (AK) through the PTA email at **westtowsontpta@gmail.com**.

BOOKMARK THE PTA WEBSITE

We have a great deal of resources, information, links, and updates available throughout the year at: <http://westtowsontpta.org>

SYNC THE BCPS/WTES CALENDAR

Our shared Google Calendar includes BCPS calendar closings and will be updated throughout the year with school and PTA events and happenings.

Sync the calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=MWMzZjFIOGQxZGY2NDVhNTk1MjM0Yzg0>

[M2JiZDJiNzM5Zjk1ZjdkYmE4YWl0NWQyMDY1ODU1MTkyZjhiNmM5Y0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87849428564?pwd=3rJbuOJ4y7HbW2AYcH3wk4z1QpMbKw.1)

JOIN THE PTA + GET A NEW CAR MAGNET!

PTA membership is just **\$6 per household**. These dues cover the amount we are required to remit to our local and state PTA associations.

Join by September 15 and receive a new Westy car magnet!

Teachers: We have an additional joining incentive for you this year, so make sure you check it out!

When you join the PTA, you'll be added to our email list to stay in the know about everything happening throughout the year. **There are no obligations or volunteer requirements associated with membership!**

We also hold virtual PTA meetings on the **second Tuesday of each month from October through May (excluding December) at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom**. Meetings include PTA updates as well as updates directly from WTES Administration on topics such as testing, transportation, attendance incentives, upcoming events, and more.

Monthly meeting link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87849428564?pwd=3rJbuOJ4y7HbW2AYcH3wk4z1QpMbKw.1>

In addition to your membership dues, we hope you'll consider making an additional donation to help us reach our **\$10,000 fundraising goal** to support WTES faculty, staff, and students throughout the year.

Please note: If you would like to make an additional donation, you will need to add it as a separate item before completing your dues transaction.

Join the PTA/Donate:

<https://west-towson-pta-2026-2027-membership.cheddarup.com>

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

The September printable calendar is available here:

<https://canva.link/wtessept2026>

A hard copy will also come home in **Gold Folders next week**. The calendar will be updated to include September Spirit Days as soon as we have them, and we'll share those dates once they're available!

FALL THEATER REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration for the Fall Theater Program through Charm City Music School is now open. **This year's performance will be Willy Wonka Kids!**

Auditions will be held Thursday, September 10.

Weekly rehearsals will be held at school on **Thursdays beginning September 17 until 5:40 p.m.**

Register:

<https://charmcitymusicschool.opus1.io/w/wteswonka>

Performances will be Friday, November 20 and Saturday, November 21.

Thanks in part to ticket sales from previous WTES performances, we are able to provide **three scholarships this season!**

Scholarship application:

<https://forms.gle/CQ6yWqy9UWW24v9C8>

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Before/After School Clubs through Towsontowne Rec, held right at WTES, will begin **September 28.**

Registration is tentatively scheduled to open **August 31** and will remain open through **September 16 or until programs are filled.**

More information & registration:

<https://www.ttrec.org/west-towson-rec-clubs-2/>

The club schedule will be posted later today or tomorrow!

SPONSOR A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY LUNCH

Help us treat our WTES staff by sponsoring an upcoming Professional Development Day lunch or an **after-school snack/dinner on September 8 before Back-to-School Night!**

Details & Sign-Up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EABAC2AA7F4C43-65453543-professional>

WESTY SPIRIT WEAR

Grab your Westy gear from our Spirit Wear/Swag Shop:

<https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/maryland/towson/west-towson-elementary-school>

VOLUNTEER TRAINING & APPLICATION

Before entering the building and volunteering with students, you must complete the **BCPS Volunteer Training & Application**.

Both must be completed **at least 48 hours before volunteering**, and some activities, including field trip chaperoning, require approval **30 days in advance**.

We recommend completing these requirements **now** so they don't prevent you from volunteering throughout the year!

Step 1: Complete Volunteer Training & receive your certificate

Step 2: Complete the Volunteer Application

Both can be completed and submitted electronically here:

https://www.bcps.org/cos/communications/face/b_c_p_s_volunteers

CAFETERIA DUTY

We are waiting to hear if there is a need for cafeteria volunteers this year. If so, we will edit this post to include the sign-up and make a separate announcement as well.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Our **Book Fair Family Shopping Night** will be held on **October 2** (exact time TBD), with **in-school shopping October 5–9**.

We'll share a sign-up for parent volunteers as we get closer, but if you're interested in helping out, be sure to complete your **BCPS Volunteer Training & Application well in advance** so you're ready to go!

FLAVORS OF OUR FAMILIES IS BACK FOR ITS 3RD YEAR!

One of our favorite Westy traditions is returning! **Flavors of Our Families** will once again be held in conjunction with our **Book Fair Family Shopping Night on October 2**.

WTES families are invited to share **tastes and treats that represent their cultures, traditions, and family favorites** with our fellow Westy families. It's a fun way to celebrate the many cultures and traditions that make up our WTES community!

A sign-up will be coming soon for families interested in participating and sharing something special.

A LOOK WAY AHEAD: WESTY & WESTY ALUM KID MAKERS HOLIDAY MARKET

Tentatively December 6 | 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Pending BCPS confirmation

Save the date! We're planning a **Westy & Westy Alum Kid Makers Holiday Market**, where current WTES students and Westy alumni can showcase and sell their own handmade creations just in time for the holidays!

More details, including information on how our kid makers can sign up to participate, will be coming later this fall.

For now, pencil in December 6 and start brainstorming those creations!

ONE LAST THING!

Make sure to **flip over and save the card with the pencil** that you picked up at Sneak-A-Peek yesterday or will receive at home on Monday. The back has a handy snapshot of the **BCPS calendar** to keep nearby throughout the school year.

Here's to a great **2026–2027 school year!**