



Windham High School Celebrates New Beginnings

New Teachers on the Block

-Dayshalee Torres

As a whole new year begins here at Windham High school, both students and staff are gearing up for the tasks ahead. To introduce the 2018-2019 school year, two students questioned a whole new batch of teachers to get their perspective on Windham High School and the Whippet community.

After talking with over ten teachers most said that adjusting to a new school can be challenging but they are all eager and excited to join the Windham Whippets team and gain a sense of comfort in the community at Windham High School.

We snatched some quotes from the new teachers. The new science teacher, Mr. Ryan Sterling, quoted a song, saying, "In learning you will teach and in teaching you will learn." Another teacher named Mr. Libera, who works with Special Education students, said, "I feel at home at Windham." From these quotes we see that we have all types of unique perspectives coming in this year and were excited to see what comes next!

With an optimistic start to the year everyone in the school is committed to the growth of WHS students.

For a long time new and old teachers alike have seen the community and school system make tremendous strides to better education for our students, and things are no different this year. Teachers are already implementing new ideas and goals to contribute to the overall success of the school academically.

Welcome to this year's newest group of educators! Enjoy your year!

- Ms. Marisa Copely
- Mr. David Garvey
- Mr. Ajay Gonelli
- Mr. Muhammad Hasan
- Ms. Michelle Kavanaugh
- Mr. Harold Lamport
- Ms. Cinzia Lettieri
- Ms. Sarah Legister
- Dr. Aneud Morales
- Mr. Nicholas Libera
- Ms. Halley Schmidt
- Mr. Ryan Sterling
- Ms. Jill Trentham

Upcoming Events

-Karen de los Santos

October 3: Project Graduation Meeting

October 4: Parent Workshop: Understanding Student Academic Information: Report Cards, Transcripts, & IPRs

October 9: High School Renovation Meeting

October 10 & 24: Board of Education Meeting

October 13: Relay for Life

October 19: Dig Pink Volleyball Game Fundraiser

Looking for a sporting event?
Download the Windham Whippets app for free!

New Spaces

WHS Writing Center Has a New Home

-Elijah Nicholson

The student-staffed, peer-tutored Write Idea Writing Center is in its ninth year at Windham High School and has just moved to a new location on the first floor! The Write Idea tutors look forward to using this new location to work with their peers on writing throughout the year.



Write Idea tutors (L to R) Dereck Gonzalez Pellot, Jennifer Lopez, Dayshalee Torres, Hannah Bentley, Viaivannie Vargas Negron, and Grace Scott tutor each other on assignments as part of their regular practice.

A New Lab Space for Windham Early College Opportunity (ECO) Students

-Jennifer Lopez

Officially opened last spring, the new Windham ECO lab is affording ECO students the opportunity to learn on machines that are the industry standard. They gain valuable workplace experience without leaving campus!



Windham ECO students (L to R) Mario Roque, Elijah Vargas, Dayshalee Torres, Jennifer Lopez, Ilani Barbosa, and Dalexis Quinones use their new sanding machine to create models in the ECO lab.

WHS Welcomes GSA Club

-Grace Scott

Among our other "firsts," Windham High School will be starting a new club! The WHS Gay Straight Alliance, also known as the GSA, will be led by Ms. Kim Jaskiewicz, a Windham High School teacher. This club is coming to Windham High School because we believe that, among our diverse population at Windham Public Schools, we should provide a safe place for

the LGBTQ+ community and its allies.

In an interview, Ms. Jaskiewicz, said, "The GSA will be a good alliance for WHS because it will represent yet another piece of the diverse population that we have in WPS. It will provide a safe and inclusive space for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students and their allies. Every student deserves a safe and welcoming place to be." When I asked why she decided to start the club, she said, "I was approached

by another staff member to start the GSA. I am new to Windham and was interested in getting involved somehow in extra-curricular activities. This seemed like an important thing to implement here at Windham. The GSA will be educating, supporting, and advocating for students. I can't think of a better way to be involved in our school. The teachers and administration have been so supportive and are also very excited about the start of GSA."

The GSA will also be involved in planning some activities for the Lock-In for Literacy with our writing center this year. This year's Lock-In books feature characters who bring sexual diversity to the stories, and so it creates a great connection. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new addition to our school!

Write Idea Tutors Present at UCONN

-Karen de los Santos

Windham High School's Write Idea tutors were invited to present about the Lock-In for Literacy and Culture at the 11th Annual Conference for Secondary Writing Centers on September 21. Tutors Karen de los Santos, Viaivannie Vargas Negron, Grace Scott, and Dayshalee Torres presented a slideshow and video to an enthusiastic audience, who followed up with many questions about the event and the writing center itself.

The Windham High School Write Idea is a student-run, peer-tutored writing center in its ninth year of operation. Tutors work with students on personal and academic writing across the curriculum. The Lock-In is an overnight literacy event that is designed and run by the Write Idea tutors. Its purpose is to engage students in reading, writing about, and discussing literature. The upcoming Lock-In will take place on May 3, 2019, and this year's featured author will be Shaun David Hutchinson.