

# Western Beaver County School District

2018-2019

## School Administration

**Dr. Robert Postupac**  
Superintendent  
**David Brandon**  
High School Principal  
**Ron Busby**  
Elementary Principal  
**Ryan Matsook**  
High School Assistant Principal  
Athletic Director  
**Elizabeth Altenhof**  
Special Education Director

## Board of School Directors

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**Mike Vujakyla**  
**Alfred Steff, Jr.**  
Solicitor

## Title IX Statement

Western Beaver County School District is an equal opportunity education district and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX and Section 504.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact: Western Beaver County School District (724) 643-9310.



**Don't forget to turn in your Box Tops for Education!**

## *from the desk of the Superintendent...*



Welcome to the Western Beaver County School District. We are fortunate to have a community and Board of Education who strongly supports our schools and students. In addition to a supportive community, Western Beaver's faculty and staff are committed to providing each student with a safe and nurturing school environment.

Our Administration, Professional Staff, and Support Staff along with the Board of Education are dedicated to preparing students for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century global world. To meet this commitment Western Beaver County School District continues to use a variety of data to improve each student's educational experience. As the world continues to change at its fastest pace in history Western Beaver searches for meaningful connections to provide effective and educationally diverse instruction to foster student growth.

One of Western Beaver's most important challenges are the relationship between the local community and the learning community. Through open and honest communication we have developed an environment where trust and student safety is everyone's priority. Our schools focus on the whole child, providing numerous social and emotional services. Our schools take pride in promoting self-discipline, self-respect, and self-confidence. Our doors are open to all resources that support and serve our students.

During the past decade, Western Beaver has faced many challenges including declining enrollment, decreasing state funding, and unfunded mandates. This sharing of administrative services is not intended to lead to a merger of the school districts. Sharing of services, I believe, will be implemented in more districts to address these challenges that school districts continue to encounter. As you are aware, my services as Superintendent are now being shared with the Blackhawk School District. My dedication to the Western Beaver community has not changed. I am excited to continue this opportunity to strengthen both school districts and will continue to develop partnerships and share services.

Thank you for your continued support. Good luck to all of our sports teams, extra-curricular programs, band, and musical performers. Let's have fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert H. Postupac, Superintendent

*Don't forget!*

First day of school is August 28th!

Please let the district office know of any bus stop changes ASAP!

### Student Information System

Skyward Student Information System provides a Parent/Guardian Access Portal that allows parents to access information pertinent to their student(s). **Skyward Family Access** improves communication between our families and the school in the following areas:

- Student information, including demographics, schedule, attendance, and health information
- Student academic progress
- Co-curricular activities

Parents/Guardians of returning students will use the same information. **If you did not receive that information you may contact the Elementary or High School office.** We will send home Emergency Medical Cards and ask that parents/guardians update the necessary information. These updates can be done at any point throughout the year as changes occur and our offices will update the Skyward system.

### New Student Orientation

**Fairview Elementary: August 22, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. HS/6th Grade: August 22, 2018 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m**

New students will have a tour of the building and light refreshments will be served in the cafeteria after the tour. We look forward to meeting you and introducing you to your new school.

### Volunteer/Chaperone Policy

In order to be permitted to chaperone on field trips or volunteer at the school you must obtain the Act 34 Clearance and Act 51 Clearance. Clearance information is available on the district website.

### Elementary Attendance Policy

Please pay special attention to the newly revised Attendance Policy in the Student Handbook. The handbook will be available on the Western Beaver website by August 23rd. One of the greatest obstacles facing schools is the high rate of absenteeism. Students who are frequently absent miss important instruction and skill building; have fewer social opportunities; and have a higher drop-out rate when compared to students who attend school consistently. According to Pennsylvania State law and Students Rights and Responsibility Regulations **all students are expected to attend school regularly to benefit from the instructional program and to develop habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility. In a society such as ours, attending school is not only a privilege, it is an obligation.**

### Military Recruiters

Federal law require local education agencies (Western Beaver) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with: names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students, unless parents have advised the school that they do not want their student's information disclosed without prior written consent. If you do not want Western Beaver to disclose information to the military, you must notify the district in writing before Friday, October 5, 2018. Please address your letter to Mary Halfhill, Guidance Secretary, 216 Engle Road, Industry, PA 15052.

### Reminder from your School Nurse

**Attention parents and guardians please be aware that the state immunization law has changed and ALL required immunization documentation must be provided to the school PRIOR to the first day of school in order to attend.**

**Dental Exams** are required for students entering Kindergarten, 3rd, and 7th grade. **Physical Exams** are required for students entering Kindergarten, 6th and 11th grade. Forms for both can be found on our website on the Nurse's Office webpage.

## from the Cafeteria Manager

Welcome Back! I hope your summer was fun and filled with adventures. We are ready to begin another year and looking forward to a great year.

Our charge Policy is as follows: No One Shall Charge Over \$10.00. There Is NO CHARGING OF EXTRAS such as water, tea, salad dressing, extra servings. An alternate lunch that is USDA approved will be given if a debt over \$10.00 is owed. Please make sure your child has money on his/her account. You can make payments at school or on line at [www.schoolmeals.com](http://www.schoolmeals.com). You need your child's ID number to set up an account. This number stays with them from kindergarten thru high school. Debt letters are sent home once a month if your child owes a debt greater than \$10.00.

Lunch Prices are : \$2.35 at Fairview and \$2.60 at the high school, breakfast is \$1.00 at both schools. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day so please make sure your child has breakfast! Reduced prices are: \$.40 for lunch and \$.30 for breakfast.

Applications for free and reduced lunches can be filled out on line at [www.paschoolmeals.com](http://www.paschoolmeals.com), the superintendent's office, high school office or cafeteria. Please fill out an application even if you don't think you qualify. **ALL INFORMATION IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL**, your child punches in his ID number like every student so no one knows who is paid, reduced or free.

Our Mission statement is: To provide healthy, nutritional meals in a healthy, safe and cheerful environment to our students and staff.

If you should have any questions please contact me at 724-643-8500 option 5 or email me at [anne.white@westernbeaver.org](mailto:anne.white@westernbeaver.org).

Let's have a great year at Western Beaver and thanks for supporting our Cafeteria!

Cookie (Ann) White  
Cafeteria Manager

### First Day Menu

Hamburger or  
Cheeseburger  
Baked Fries  
Side Salad  
Fruit and Milk



## Free and Reduced Applications

To apply online for free and reduced meals, please visit [www.paschoolmeals.com](http://www.paschoolmeals.com). A paper application will not be included in this newsletter, but will be available upon request if you do not have access to the Internet. Call the district office at (724) 643-9310 to request an application or visit your child's school office.

### **Protected Handicapped Students Annual Notice Statement**

The Western Beaver County School District will not discriminate against protected handicapped students as defined in Chapter 15 of the regulations of the State Board of Education. The Western Beaver School District will provide each protected handicapped student enrolled in the district, without cost to the student or family, those related services or accommodations which are needed to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities without discrimination and to the maximum extent of the student's ability. For information regarding protected handicapped students please contact: Western Beaver County School District

### **USDA Nondiscrimination Statement:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal and, where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or if all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

## **Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs, Services for Gifted Students, and Services for Protected Handicapped Students**

### **Notice to Parents**

According to state and federal special education regulations, annual public notice to parents of children who reside within a school district is required regarding child find responsibilities. School districts (SDs), intermediate units (IUs) and charter schools (CSs) are required to conduct child find activities for children who may be eligible for services via Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For additional information related to Section 504/Chapter 15 services, the parent may refer to Section 504, Chapter 15, and the Basic Education Circular entitled Implementation of Chapter 15. Also, school districts are required to conduct child find activities for children who may be eligible for gifted services via 22 Pa Code Chapter 16. For additional information regarding gifted services, the parent may refer to 22 PA Code Chapter 16. If a student is both gifted and eligible for Special Education, the procedures in IDEA and Chapter 14 shall take precedence.

This notice shall inform parents throughout the school district, intermediate unit, and charter school of the child identification activities and of the procedures followed to ensure confidentiality of information pertaining to students with disabilities or eligible young children. In addition to this public notice, each school district, intermediate unit, and charter school shall publish written information in the handbook and on the web site. Children ages three through twenty one can be eligible for special education programs and services. If parents believe that the child may be eligible for special education, the parent should contact the appropriate school district or charter school identified at the end of this public notice.

Children age three through the age of admission to first grade are also eligible if they have developmental delays and, as a result, need Special Education and related services. Developmental delay is defined as a child who is less than the age of beginners and at least 3 years of age and is considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) The child's score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child's chronological age in one or more developmental areas. (ii) The child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean of standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help. For additional information you may contact the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit.

### **Evaluation Process**

Each school district, intermediate unit, and charter school has a procedure in place by which parents can request an evaluation. For information about procedures applicable to your child, contact the school, which your child attends. Telephone numbers and addresses can be found at the end of this notice. Parents of preschool age children, age three through five, may request an evaluation in writing by addressing a letter to the intermediate unit.

### **Consent**

School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation, or with the initial provision of special education and related services, without the written consent of the parents. For additional information related to consent, please refer the Procedural Safeguards Notice which can be found at the PaTTAN website, [www.Pattan.net](http://www.Pattan.net). Once written parental consent is obtained, the district will proceed with the evaluation process. If the parent disagrees with the evaluation, the parent can request an independent education evaluation at public expense.

### **Program Development**

Once the evaluation process is completed, a team of qualified professional and parents determine whether the child is eligible. If the child is eligible, the individualized education program team meets, develops the program, and determines the educational placement. Once the IEP team develops the program and determines the educational placement, school district staff, intermediate unit staff, or charter school staff will issue a notice of recommended educational placement/prior written notice. Your written consent is required before initial services can be provided. The parent has the right to revoke consent after initial placement.

### **Confidentiality of Information:**

The SDs, IUs and CSs maintain records concerning all children enrolled in the school, including students with disabilities. All records are maintained in the strictest confidentiality. Your consent, or consent of an eligible child who has reached the age of majority under State law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released, except as permitted under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The age of majority in Pennsylvania is 21. Each participating agency must protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages. One official at each participating agency must assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information. Each participating agency must maintain, for public inspection, a current listing of the names and positions of those employees within the agency who have access to personally identifiable information.

For additional information related to student records, the parent can refer to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

This notice is only a summary of the Special Education services, evaluation and screening activities, and rights and protections pertaining to children with disabilities, children thought to be disabled, and their parents. For more information or to request evaluation or screening of a public or private school child contact the responsible school entity listed below. For preschool children, information, screenings and evaluations requested, may be obtained by contacting the Intermediate Unit. The addresses of these schools are as follows:

<b>INTERMEDIATE UNIT</b>	
Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit 147 Poplar Drive Monaca, PA 15061 (724)774-7800	
<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES</b>	
Aliquippa School District 100 Harding Avenue Aliquippa, PA 15001 724-857-7500	Ambridge Area School District 740 Park Road Ambridge, PA 15003 724-266-2833
Beaver Area School District 855 Second Street Beaver, PA 15009 724-774-4010	Big Beaver Falls Area School District 1503 Eighth Avenue Beaver Falls, PA 15010 724-843-3470
Blackhawk School District 500 Blackhawk Road Beaver Falls, PA 15010 724-846-6600	Central Valley School District 160 Baker Road Extension Monaca, PA 15061 724-775-5600 ext. 1038
Freedom Area School District 1701 Eighth Avenue Freedom, PA 15042 724-775-7644	Hopewell Area School District 2354 Brodhead Road Aliquippa, PA 15001 724-375-6691
Midland Borough School District 173 Seventh Street Midland, PA 15059 724-643-8650	New Brighton Area School District 3225 Forty Third Street New Brighton, PA 15066 724-843-1795
Riverside Beaver County 318 Country Club Drive Ellwood City, PA 16117 724-758-7512	Rochester Area School District 540 Reno Street Rochester, PA 15074 724-775-7500
South Side Area School District 4949 State Route 151 Hookstown, PA 15050 724-573-9581	Western Beaver County School District 343 Ridgemont Drive Midland, PA 15059 724-643-9310
<b>CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICES</b>	
Beaver Area Academic Charter School Gypsy Glenn Road Beaver, PA 15009 724-774-5280	Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School One Lincoln Park Midland, PA 15059 724-643-9004
PA Cyber Charter School One Lincoln Park Midland, PA 15059 724-643-1180	

The school entity or charter school will not discriminate in employment, education programs, or activities based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, handicap, creed, marital status or because a person is a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. No preschool, elementary or secondary school pupil enrolled in a school district, intermediate unit, or charter school program shall be denied equal opportunity to participate in age and program appropriate instruction or activities due to race, color, handicap, creed, national origin, marital status or financial hardship.

**Additional Notice/Information:**

Additional information about Western Beaver's special education programs is available online at: [http://www.westernbeaver.org/pages/Western\\_Beaver\\_County\\_SD/Academic\\_Programs/Special\\_Education](http://www.westernbeaver.org/pages/Western_Beaver_County_SD/Academic_Programs/Special_Education) or by request from the Special Education Office 724-643-9310.

The website includes annual notices, information about the special education program at Western Beaver, training opportunities and other announcements for parents, and helpful resources.

### Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the district receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the [School] to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

See the list below of the disclosures that elementary and secondary schools may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from student's education records, without consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, §99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student if

To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in §99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(I) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§99.31(a)(1))

To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of §99.34. (§99.31(a)(2))

To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency in the parent or eligible student's State (SEA). Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§99.31(a)(4))

To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to §99.38. (§99.31(a)(5))

To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§99.31(a)(6))

To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§99.31(a)(7))

To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))

To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§99.31(a)(9))

To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to §99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))

Information the school has designated as "directory information" under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11))

From: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

### **Special Education Records at Western Beaver**

Records are kept in order to accomplish educational objectives of the student and the school and to comply with federal and state laws. Special education records including gifted support records of each student are maintained by the student's case manager in the student's respective building and in the Special Education Office and are kept secure and confidential. You have the right to inspect and review files in accordance with the above notice and the district's confidentiality policy. The complete records are kept for a period of six (6) years after completion of the student's program or the student's graduation from high school. Special Education records that will be maintained following the six (6) year period are all Evaluation and Reevaluation Reports and the final Individual Education Plan (IEP) and final Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP) (or GIEP and NORA for gifted students). All other paperwork, including IEP's or GIEP's that are not the most recent, will be destroyed.

Parents of students and students that graduated or left this school for the 2011-2012 school year are hereby notified that if they wish for a copy of any "IEP or GIEP" information before it is destroyed, they must make that request to Elizabeth Altenhof, Director of Special Education, by June 1, 2019. After June 1, 2019 all records, except for the above noted exceptions, will be destroyed.

If you have any further questions, or for more information, please visit the Western Beaver County School District website, special education page: [http://www.westernbeaver.org/pages/Western\\_Beaver\\_County\\_SD/Academic\\_Programs/Special\\_Education](http://www.westernbeaver.org/pages/Western_Beaver_County_SD/Academic_Programs/Special_Education) Or call the special education office at 724-643-9608 extension 2016.



## High-quality health care coverage from CHIP helps keep kids strong

### **CHIP COVERS**

- Routine check-ups
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- Hospitalization
- Dental
- Eye Care
- Eyeglasses
- Behavioral care
- Specialty care
- More

CHIP covers uninsured kids up to age 19 in Pennsylvania. It doesn't matter why your kids don't have health coverage right now; CHIP may be able to help. Most kids receive CHIP for free. Others can get the same benefits at a low cost.

CHIP is brought to you by leading health insurance companies who offer quality, comprehensive coverage.

There is no limit on income. If your income is below CHIP guidelines, your child may be enrolled in Medical Assistance.

**APPLY/RENEW**

[CHIPcoversPAkids.com](http://CHIPcoversPAkids.com) • 800-986-KIDS

