

**WEST ALLEGHENY  
VIRTUAL ACADEMY  
(WAVA)  
ORIENTATION  
2020-2021**



**West Allegheny School District**

*A Tradition of Excellence...  
A Vision for Tomorrow*



# West Allegheny Virtual Academy (WAVA)

- Donaldson Elementary
- McKee Elementary
- Wilson Elementary
- WA Middle School
- WA High School



Mrs. Toni Baldanzi  
tbaldanzi@westasd.org



Supervisor of Ancillary Programs





Dr. Dierker



Mrs. Wagner



Mrs. Gray



Mrs. Nolan & Mrs. Huchko

# K-8 School Principals





Dr. Frank Hernandez  
HS Principal



Mrs. Katherine Roche  
HS Academic Principal



Dr. Cheryl McHone  
HS Assistant Principal



Mr. David McBain  
Director of Athletics

# High School Administrators



# West Allegheny Virtual Academy (WAVA)

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Things You Should  
Know

# #1- Teachers in WAVA (Grades K-5)



Mrs. Kennedy

Grades K-1

Mrs. Bacu

Grades 2-3

Mrs. Saras

Grade 4

Mrs. DiCenzo

Grade 5

Mrs. Taranto

K-5 Physical Education



# #1- Teachers in WAVA (Grades 6-8)

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**Mrs. Siciliano**  
English Language Arts

**Mr. Mason**  
Science

**Mrs. Watkins**  
Social Studies

**Ms. Stadelman**  
6-8 Mathematics

**Mr. Taylor**  
Algebra & Geometry

# #1- Teachers in WAVVA (Grades 6-8)



**Mrs. Cook**  
Family Consumer  
Science

**Mrs. DeBor**  
German

**Dr. Barry-  
Corrado**  
Military Careers

**Mrs. Harn**  
Visual Art

**Ms. McLaren**  
Spanish

**Mrs. Morgan  
/Mrs. Sikorski**  
Computer and  
Information  
Technology

**Mrs. Rakoci**  
Health & Physical  
Education

**Mr. Snyder**  
General Music

# 6-8 Related Arts courses through WAVA

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- Online related arts courses are offered 1 per grading term – 4 per year  
*Exception – 6th grade will take PE year-round (same as in person) in addition to the 4 related arts*
- The related arts offered through WAVA are:
  - PE 6-8 (everyone is required to take PE)
  - Health 6-7 (required in grades 6-7)
  - Art 6-8
  - Computer Application (6) or App Design (7-8)
  - Intro to Robotics (7-8)
  - General Music (6-7)
  - Intro to German (8)
  - Intro to Spanish (7-8)
  - Family Consumer Sciences (8)
  - Intro to Military Careers (8)





# #1- Teachers in WAVA (Grades 9-12)

**Dr. Barry-Corrado**  
Social Studies & English

**Mr. Barry**  
Physical Education

**Mrs. Cook**  
Family Consumer Science

**Mr. Coulter**  
Engineering Tech

**Mrs. Cunningham-Hollihan**  
Spanish

**Mrs. DeBor**  
German

**Mr. Didio**  
Physics

**CWO Dubois**  
JROTC

**Mr. Fox**  
Instrumental Music

**Mr. Hamilton**  
Chemistry





# #1- Teachers in WAVVA (Grades 9-12)

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<p><b>Mrs. Lambert</b> Biology &amp; General Science</p>	<p><b>Mr. Lucas</b> Business, Computer &amp; Information Technology</p>	<p><b>Mrs. McFate</b> Health &amp; Physical Education</p>	<p><b>Mr. Murdoch</b> Mathematics</p>	<p><b>Mr. Peters</b> Music &amp; Technical Theater</p>
<p><b>Mrs. Shannon</b> English</p>	<p><b>Mrs. Sharlow</b> Vocal Music</p>	<p><b>Ms. Shuck</b> Visual Art</p>	<p><b>Mr. Vattimo</b> Mathematics</p>	



# # 2- Learning Schedules in WAVA (K-5)



- School day includes asynchronous independent work time
- Synchronous tutoring/office hour opportunities will be available through Zoom sessions scheduled by your teacher
- Students will log into Accelerate Education daily to access course work and for daily attendance
- Expectations for time, effort, and rigor are equitable to in-person instruction

K-5	Asynchronous Worktime	Synchronous Tutoring/Office Hours
ELA	• 60-70 minutes per day	• 40 minutes per day
Mathematics	• 60-70 minutes per day	
Science K-1	• 30-45 minutes 2-3x per week	
Science 2-5	• 30 minutes per day	
Social Studies K-1	• 30-45 minutes 1-2x per week	
Social Studies 2-5	• 30 minutes per day	
Physical Education	• 60 minutes per week	



# # 2- Learning Schedules in WAVA (6-8)



- School day includes asynchronous independent work time
- Synchronous tutoring/office hour opportunities will be available through Zoom sessions scheduled by your teachers
- Students will log into the Edmentum online learning platform daily to access course work and for daily attendance
- Expectations for time, effort, and rigor are equitable to in-person instruction

6-8	Asynchronous Worktime	Synchronous Tutoring/Office Hours
ELA	• 60-75 minutes per day	• 30 minutes 4x a 6-day rotation
Mathematics	• 60-75 minutes per day	
Science	• 30 minutes per day	
Social Studies	• 30 minutes per day	
Related Arts	• 20 minutes per day	• 30 minutes per 6-day rotation
Physical Education 6	• 30 minutes 2x per week	• 30 minutes per 6 day rotation



# # 2- Learning Schedules in WAVA (Grades 9-12)



- School day includes asynchronous independent work time
- Synchronous tutoring/office hour opportunities will be available through Zoom sessions scheduled by your teachers
- Students will log into the Edmentum online learning platform daily to access course work and for daily attendance
- Expectations for time, effort, and rigor are equitable to in-person instruction

9-12	Asynchronous Worktime	Synchronous Tutoring/Office Hours
<b>1 credit course</b>	• 30-40 minutes per day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core Academics – 30 minutes 2x per 6-day rotation</li> <li>• Related Arts/Electives – 30 minutes 1x per 6-day rotation</li> </ul>
<b>1.5 credit course</b>	• 45-60 minutes per day	
<b>2 credit course</b>	• 60-75 minutes per day	
<b>.25 or .5 credit course</b>	• 30 minutes 2-3x per week	

### Clarification on 5. credit courses

.5 credit courses that meet all year  
 .5 credit courses meet 1 semester

### Asynchronous Worktime

30 minutes 3x per 6-day rotation  
 30 minutes per day



# # 2- Learning Schedules

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- Acknowledgement forms must be completed to receive your child's schedule.
  - Link to the Acknowledgment form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7KBR7QP>
- Please contact your child's principal if you haven't received your child's schedule.
- When students log on to Canvas on January 19<sup>th</sup>, their new courses will be available.
- The Zoom link posted will allow students to join their appropriate class. Students use the same links throughout the day.



# # 2- Learning Schedules

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**Now that you know this, what can you do?**

## **Next Steps:**

- Log in to Skyward and review your child's courses
- Set a daily schedule for learning and stick to it. Post the schedule somewhere easily accessible
- Identify where in the schedule you may insert snack, movement, or activity breaks your child may need
- Post the schedule somewhere it is easily accessible
- Conduct practice Zoom calls with family or friends to help your child become more familiar with Zoom



# # 3- Student Needs in WAVA



- **A dedicated learning space in the home is key and should:**
  - Seek to minimize distractions
  - Provide access to a power source to charge a Chromebook or other device
  - Provide a flat space surface for writing
  - Ensure all materials are organized and within reach
- **Have appropriate equipment**
  - The district provides technology devices and grade level specific curricular materials
  - Materials pick up is scheduled for Monday, January 18th from 1:00-4:00 pm (no school for students)
  - Pens, pencils, notebooks, and other tools needed to be successful (see school supply list on district website)
- **A learning coach in the home is vital**
  - Students (especially those in younger grades), will need the support, assistance, and oversight of a caring adult as they work to complete independent assignments, manage their time, and ensure work is submitted in a timely manner reflecting their best efforts
  - Learning coaches should help students establish routines and follow the daily learning schedule
  - Review learning coach resources
- **Be accountable**
  - Keep on pace with schoolwork and assignments
  - Ask for help when needed



# # 3- Student Needs K-5

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## Accelerate Education

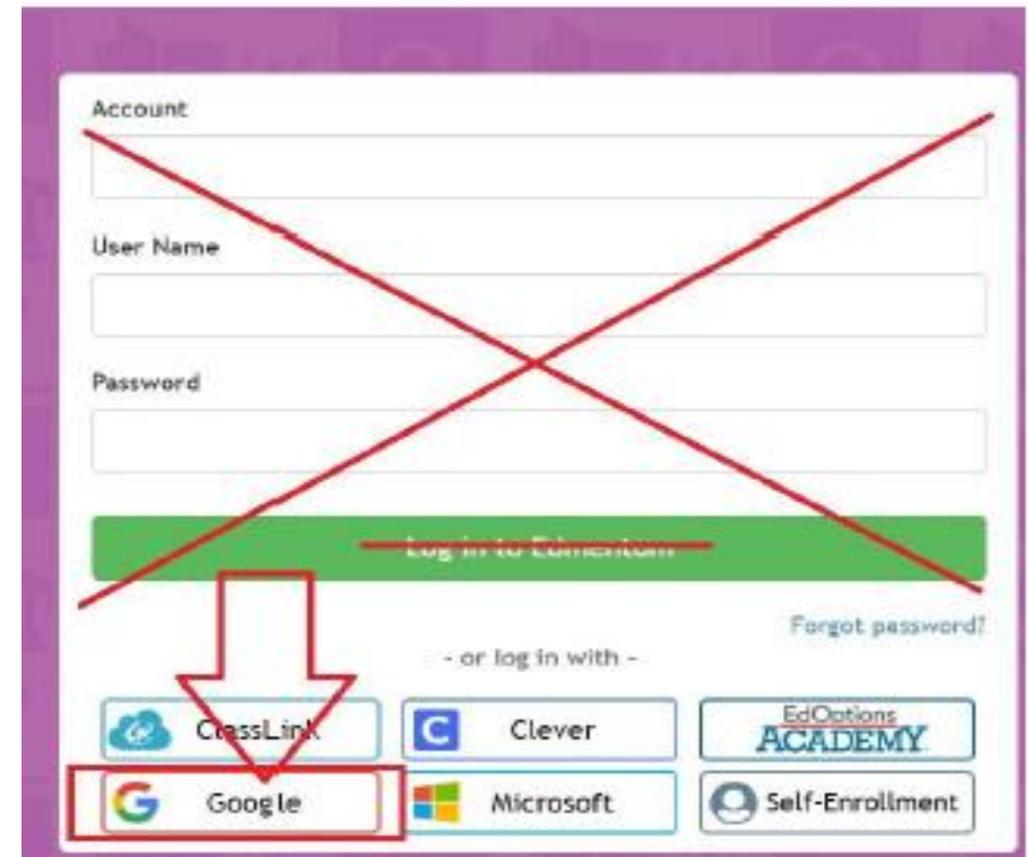
- WAVA uses the "[Accelerate Education](#)" learning platform for all course work in grades K-5
- Student usernames are the same as their computer login: first initial, last name, graduation year (ex. Tbaldanzi32)
- Student passwords:
  - Grade K: wavak (all lower-case letters)
  - Grades 1-5: 10-digit ID # (same as the computer login password)
- Make sure to bookmark the website so students can access their schoolwork easily



# # 3- Student Needs 6-12

## Accessing Edmentum:

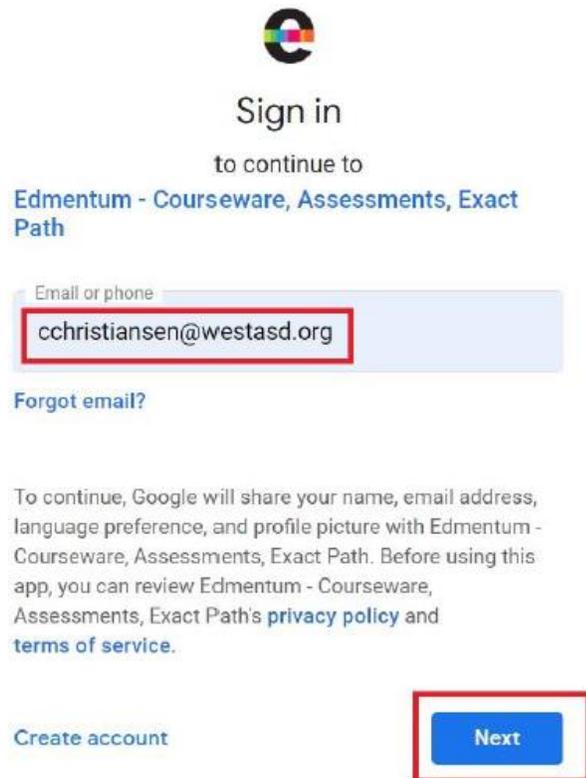
- WAVA uses the [Edmentum](#) online learning platform for most course work in grades 6-12
- West Allegheny School District uses a single-sign in to Edmentum. Students that are using a school device will login in with the Google button
- Students that are using a different device can login in with the Microsoft button



# # 3- Student Needs 6-12



- Type in your West Allegheny email address and click next



Sign in  
to continue to  
Edmentum - Courseware, Assessments, Exact Path

Email or phone  
cchristiansen@westasd.org

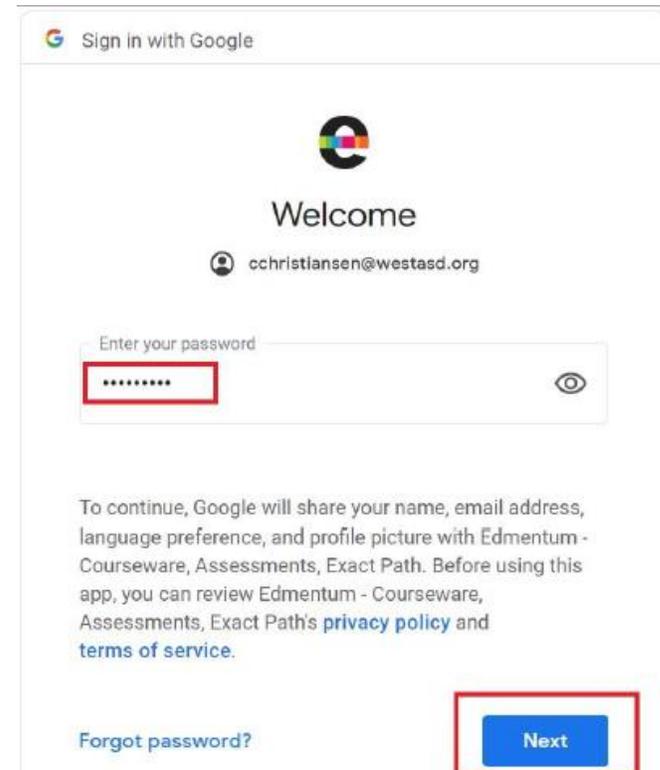
[Forgot email?](#)

To continue, Google will share your name, email address, language preference, and profile picture with Edmentum - Courseware, Assessments, Exact Path. Before using this app, you can review Edmentum - Courseware, Assessments, Exact Path's [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

[Create account](#) [Next](#)

- Type in your password and click “Next”

The password is the same you use to login to computers, email, Chromebooks and Skyward



Sign in with Google

Welcome  
cchristiansen@westasd.org

Enter your password  
.....

To continue, Google will share your name, email address, language preference, and profile picture with Edmentum - Courseware, Assessments, Exact Path. Before using this app, you can review Edmentum - Courseware, Assessments, Exact Path's [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

[Forgot password?](#) [Next](#)



# # 3- Student Needs 6-12

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- The following courses will be taught asynchronously with some synchronous components through Canvas with the assigned school teacher(s): **Band, Chorus, Piano, Guitar, Audio Tech, Technical Theater, and AP Computer Science Principles**
  - Students should reach out to their teachers through Canvas for course work information



# # 3- Student Needs 7-12

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## Accessing Middlebury:

- WAVA uses [Middlebury Interactive Languages](#) for **Intro to German, Intro to Spanish, French and Mandarin Chinese** courses
- Student usernames are the same as their computer login: first initial, last name, graduation year (ex. Taldanzi32)
- Student password: westalleggheny1
- Make sure to bookmark the website(s) so students can access course work easily



# # 3- Student Needs 9-12

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## Accessing Pearson Connexus:

- WAVA uses [Pearson Connexus](#) for the following courses: **AP Language, AP US Government, AP Psychology, AP Economics, AP Calculus, AP Statistics, American Sign Language II, 3D Modeling**
- Student usernames are the same as their computer login: first initial, last name, graduation year (ex. Tbaldanzi32)
- Student password: WAPearson1!

## Accessing AP World History:

- WAVA contracts with AIU3-Waterfront Learning (WFL) to provide students with **AP World History** through Edgenuity
  - Students and families will receive an email with login information directly from WFL



# # 3- Student Needs

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**Now that you know this, what can you do?**

## **Next Steps:**

- Identify a learning space and allow the preparation of the space to be a family project (Consider allowing your child to decorate the space and/or name the space, be sure to remove distractions)
- Go to the WAVA enrollment webpage and review the grade specific school supplies list and ensure your child has everything he/she needs  
(<https://www.westasd.org/WAVAErollmentForms.aspx>)
- Discuss with your child how he/she should ask for help when needed from both the teacher and the learning coach
- Help students log into their online learning platform(s) and bookmark the website(s) on student devices



# # 4- Expectations in WAVA

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## Attendance

- Attendance is mandatory and is documented daily as students log on to their online learning platform and complete schoolwork daily
- Student not logging and completing schoolwork daily are considered “absent” from school. Instances of truancy (habitual non-attendance in school) are handled in accordance with School Board attendance policy
- In the event of an absence, parents should email attendance excuses to the school principal

## Curriculum/Standards

- Curriculum is aligned to grade level district and state standards

## Behavior- Positive Behavior and Interventions and Support

- The student code of conduct still applies, and positive school-appropriate behavior is expected
- Parents/guardians are expected to monitor student behavior and ensure engagement in instruction
- In the event of disruptive student behavior during a synchronous tutoring session, teachers will be asked to mute and remove the disruptive student from the session and contact the parent

## Academic Integrity

- Academic integrity is a shared partnership between administrators, teachers, students, and parents to ensure that the standard of academic honesty is upheld
- Therefore, any kind of academic fraud such as cheating, plagiarism, helping others to cheat or participating in academic misconduct is prohibited
- Teachers need accurate feedback on student understanding and performance to help drive their instruction

Recording is prohibited



# #5- Staying Connected in WAVA



## Canvas Learning Management System

- Canvas is a software platform that allows students, families, and teachers to create, access, and manage learning resources both inside and outside of the school building.
- Canvas was chosen by a team of Administrators and Teacher as our Learning Management System for its wide range of easy-to-use tools for teachers, students and parents.
- Canvas and Skyward work together and have the following breakdown of core functions:

CANVAS	SKYWARD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Snapshot into your child's course</li><li>• Course Grades K-5</li><li>• Inbox to communicate with teachers</li><li>• Zoom link for tutoring sessions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attendance record</li><li>• Calendar with due dates 6-12</li><li>• Course Grades 6-12</li><li>• Report cards 2-12 (no standard based report cards K-1)</li><li>• Demographic/ Contact information</li><li>• Student Schedules</li></ul>

## Two Canvas Videos



Released 8-18-20



Released 8-21-20



# #5- Staying Connected in WAVA

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- Dedicated synchronous tutoring times and office hours to support students with learning
- Teachers are available via email or to meet with parents/guardians during non-synchronous class times and office hours by appointment
- Parents will continue to receive weekly communications from the school principals
- Students may choose to participate in any athletic or extra curricular activities offered by the school. Please contact the principal to coordinate participation
- Students may continue to participate in meal service:
  - Pick-up for breakfast and lunch at WAMS behind school at cafeteria door (parking lot loop) for all schools at 9:00-10:00 a.m. OR 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- Each school will continue to provide special opportunities for students to stay connected:
  - **Donaldson**- student newsletter, shoutouts, virtual assemblies, regular principal check-ins
  - **McKee**- virtual community time, Zoom sessions with in-person peers, regular principal check-ins
  - **Wilson**- PBIS, morning meetings, regular principal check-ins
  - **WAMS**- PBIS, Indian Pride, student recognitions, and administrative check-ins
  - **WAHS**- virtual pep rallies, virtual assemblies, and zoom class meetings



# # 5- Staying Connected in WAVA

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**Now that you know this, what can you do?**

## **Next Steps:**

- Be sure your updated contact information is available in Skyward
- Watch the district videos on Canvas and review Canvas resources on the District's website
- Download the Canvas App and practice logging in to both the parent and student portals
- Regularly check your email and continue to read all district and school-based communications
- Ensure your child participates in his/her school engagements provided by the principals



# WELCOME WAVAS STUDENTS!!!

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- If you have questions, please reach out to your teachers and principals.
- If you need technology assistance please contact the [wahelpdesk@westasd.org](mailto:wahelpdesk@westasd.org). Be sure to include your child's name and your contact information in any emails.
- We look forward to seeing you online for the first day of the second semester, January 19, 2021.

