

2019

WESTLAKE QUALITY PROFILE



#WeAreWestlake



Superintendent Letter



This is an exciting time for the Westlake City School District! Throughout the district, we are celebrating achievements such as academics, wellness initiatives, safety programs, an improved state report card and a brand-new, state-of-the-art elementary building. As we embark on an exciting new year as an A-rated district, we know it would not be possible without the support of our students, families, community and faculty. Throughout this Quality Profile, you will gain insight on programs, academics, finances and a detailed stakeholder report that help showcase how excellent the Westlake City School District truly is.

In the last two years, the Westlake City School District has focused on delivering on our promises through social and emotional learning to directly support our students, and it's paying off. The Westlake City Schools consistently rank in the

top 8% of school districts statewide by providing students a foundation in the basic skills while offering programs and courses that encourage individual academic success.

The district continues to be recognized at the regional, state and national levels for our efforts in fiscal stewardship. We have achieved more than the promised \$1.2 million in savings by consolidating four elementary buildings into one. This was accomplished through a gradual reduction in staffing levels, including a retirement incentive that coincided with the opening of our new building.

We are proud of all of the incredible student athletes, creative thinkers and thought leaders we have and continue to cultivate in Westlake. The success of our students can be attributed to their hard work in the classroom, on the field or court, and on the stage as well as our caring staff and supportive parents and community. This Quality Profile highlights our students' successes in academics, the arts and athletics as well as the achievements of our staff and district overall. As a district, we are dedicated to serving our motto – We Educate for Excellence – and it shows through this year's Quality Profile.

Dr. Scott Goggin

Superintendent

Mission

We Educate for Excellence...

Empowering all students to achieve their educational goals, to direct their lives, and to contribute to society.

Vision

The Westlake City School District will provide a dynamic, student-centered, 21st Century learning environment. Our district will be characterized by high achievement, actively engaged learners, mutual respect, shared knowledge, pursuit of new skills and capabilities, collaborative learning, willingness to take action, a team commitment to data-driven continuous improvement, and tangible results.

We Educate for Excellence

It's a mission the Westlake City School District takes seriously and strives to promote to our 3,500 students and about 600 staff members. The Westlake City Schools consistently rank in the top 8% of school districts statewide by providing students a foundation in the basic skills, while offering programs and courses that encourage individual academic success. Our program is driven by continuous improvement and a strategic planning process. We also enjoy strong support from our parents and community.



Academics

Westlake City Schools provides a dynamic, student-centered learning environment for all students. We are proud to offer educational opportunities designed to engage learners and develop 21st century skills through collaboration, shared knowledge and mutual respect. Westlake is among the top 8% of Ohio public school districts with the highest academic Performance Index score of 102.6.

Westlake High School consistently ranks in the Silver category from US News & World Report and among the top 8% of public high schools in Ohio. Dover Elementary, Hilliard Elementary and Lee Burneson Middle Schools were recognized by the State Board of Education with an Overall A Award for performance on the 2017-2018 Ohio School Report Cards.

International Baccalaureate Programme

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme housed at Westlake High School - one of only four IB Diploma Programmes in Cuyahoga County - offers students a unique opportunity to study academic subjects in an integrated fashion while allowing for personal choice. The IB Diploma Programme focuses on developing several aspects of the learner - intellectual, physical, emotional, ethical and social - by preparing students to be successful once they transition into productive members of a global society.

Our four elementary schools (Bassett, Dover, Hilliard and Holly Lane) were authorized as IB World Schools in 2015. This year they will combine under the umbrella of Westlake Elementary School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy - a commitment to a high-quality, challenging and international education. Our four elementary schools were among the 23 schools to offer the IB Primary Years Programme in Northeast Ohio, providing students with a rigorous and well-rounded education.

International Baccalaureate by the Numbers:

1	68	11
Graduate with an International Baccalaureate Diploma	Students participated in International Baccalaureate coursework in the 2018-2019 school year	International Baccalaureate courses offered



COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

Ohio's College Credit Plus (CCP) program is a dual credit program that allows 7-12 students to earn high school and college credit at the same time. The program promotes rigorous academic pursuits and provides a variety of options at no cost to college-ready students. Westlake offers 19 CCP courses.

- English Composition I & II
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Pre-Calculus
- Calculus
- Elementary Probability & Statistics I & II
- Principles of Biology
- Environment, Ecology & Evolution
- History of Civilization I & II
- U.S. History to 1877
- U.S. History since 1877
- Beginning French I & II
- Beginning Spanish & Culture I & II
- Survey of European Classical Music

Advanced Placement

Realizing that students need a variety of learning opportunities, Westlake High School offers 20 Advanced Placement courses. AP courses are rigorous and designed to expose students to college-level material and work. Through AP's college-level courses and exams, students can earn college credit and advanced placement, stand out in the college admissions process, and learn from a group of dedicated and skilled teachers.

AP by the Numbers:

- 13 National AP Scholar Awards
- 39 AP Scholar Awards
- 63 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 15 AP Scholars with Honors
- 670+ AP exams taken



2018 Average ACT Scores

	WHS	State	National
Total Tested	286	127,392	1.9 million
English	23.1	19.3	20.2
Math	23.6	20.3	20.5
Reading	24	20.8	21.3
Science	23.3	20.4	20.7
Composite	23.3	20.3	20.8

**2 WHS students scored a perfect 36 on the ACT exam.*

2018 Average SAT Scores

	WHS	State	National
Math	626	547	531
Reading & Writing	617	552	536
Composite	1243	1099	1068

6	9	1	3
National Merit Finalists	National Merit Semifinalists	National Merit Commended	National Merit Scholarship Winners

ARTS

Westlake offers award-winning, diverse and competitive fine arts programs to enhance student creativity, coordination and discipline for a complete educational experience. Student participation in extracurricular activities is a sign of both leadership and a well-rounded student. Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills.



Visual Arts

Westlake offers experiences in a wide variety of mediums and advanced courses to broaden our students' talents. Our visual arts program emphasizes art creation/production, as well as art response/appreciation. Courses include AP Studio Art, Animation, Ceramics, Design, Drawing, Illustration, Painting and Photography.

Performing Arts

Students can discover and pursue individual talents and interests in the performing arts. The program aims to help students gain insight into a wide variety of musical activities, including Chorus, Ensemble, Show Choir, Symphonic Choir, Chorale, Jazz Ensemble, Band and Orchestra. The Center Stage Players present a balanced program of plays and musicals to promote interest in the theatrical arts. The high school Shakespeare Club provides a unique experience that provides students a thorough understanding of the playwright.

Arts Highlights

- 5 WHS artists and writers were honored in the Cleveland Clinic eXpressions Program.
- WHS was named a 2018-2019 Cleveland Clinic Banner School for its success in leveraging community resources to advance student learning.
- A WHS senior was selected for the second time as a member of the All-State Orchestra.
- 5 WHS students were selected to perform with the Contemporary Youth Orchestra.
- The WHS Chamber Orchestra received a superior rating in Class AA and Concert Orchestra received an Excellent Rating in Class B in the OMEA State Orchestra Contest.
- WHS Symphonic Band received a Superior rating in Class AA and Concert Band received a Superior rating in Class C in the District IV OMEA Large Group Adjudicated Event.

ATHLETICS

Westlake Demon Athletics

The Westlake City Schools offers athletic opportunities for students at the middle and high school levels. A well-rounded education includes a variety of opportunities. Athletics and extracurricular activities build character, teamwork and engagement. Last year, 578 students - 50% of the high school student population - participated in at least one sport. Westlake High School offers 25 interscholastic sports. Lee Burneson Middle School offers 13 sports team opportunities.

Athletic Highlights

- 2 Coaches of the Year
 - o Mike Berlekamp/Boys Golf
 - o Saamil Jhaveri/Girls Tennis
- 7 State Qualifiers - Gymnastics, Girls Cross Country, Girls Tennis & Wrestling
- 3 SWC MVPs - Gymnastics, Cross Country & Girls Tennis
- 4 SWC Championship Teams - Girls Bowling, Boys Golf, Boys & Girls Tennis
- 19 SWC Champions - Gymnastics, Girls Tennis, Girls Cross Country, Girls Bowling, Girls Swimming, Wrestling & Track
- 1 State Placer - Girls Tennis
- 1 All-Ohio Athlete - Girls Tennis
- 1 OHSAA District Champion - Girls Cross Country

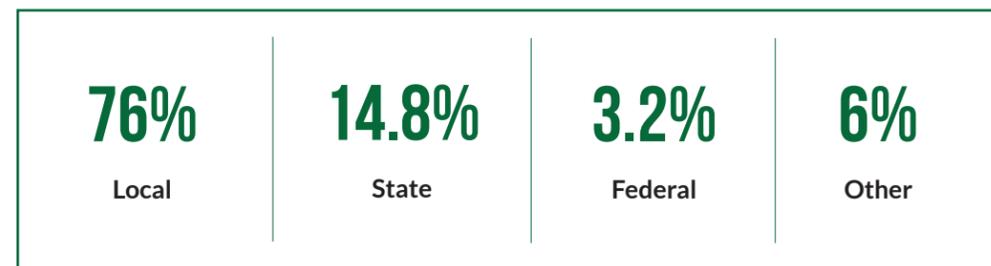


FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

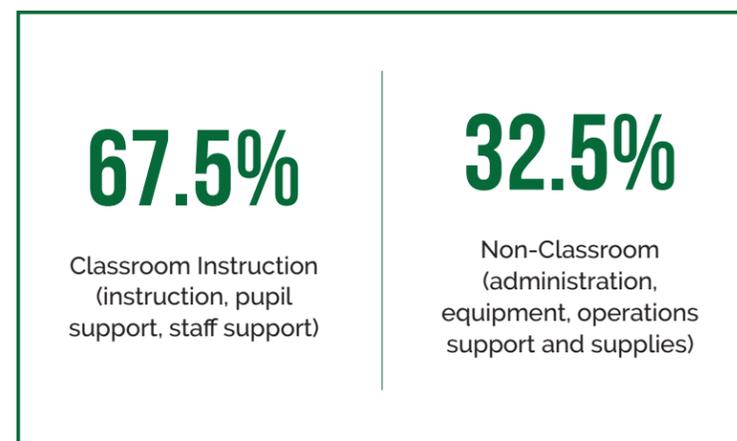
The Westlake City Schools provide a good value for our taxpayers' investment in our schools. The Westlake City School District has one of the lowest effective millage rates in Cuyahoga and Lorain counties, meaning our residents pay a lower operating property tax to the schools. The district works hard to stretch tax dollars - the last new money operating levy was in 2006. Our school district is recognized at the regional, state and national levels for our efforts in fiscal stewardship:

- Auditor of State Award with Distinction for fiscal integrity
- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting awards from the Government Finance Officers Association
- Consistent clean audit reports from the Auditor of State for excellent record keeping
- A bond rating among the very best of Ohio's public schools
 - o Moody's AA1 rating
 - o Standard and Poor's AA+ Stable Long Term rating

Where Does the Money Come From?



Where Does the Money Go?



Westlake Schools Stakeholder Report

In 2016, the Westlake City Schools had a unique opportunity to seek a bond issue and permanent improvement levy that would not raise taxes. The result was the opening of Westlake Elementary School, which was designed to incorporate student-centered learning principles while becoming an asset in the community for the next 50 years.

The teaching and learning spaces allow the district to maintain its mission to Educate for Excellence by providing expanded opportunities for support services, including school counselors, Title I reading, gifted, English Language Learner, health education and World Languages, as well as an expansion of our International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.



Promised

- Commitment to save over \$1 million annually in operating costs, and eliminating Band-Aid repairs that drain limited funds.
- Bringing four buildings under one roof will provide increased access to support and therapy services daily.
- Bringing staff together under one roof will encourage collaboration and coordination between teachers, streamlining the curriculum.
- The new facility will have improved safety and security measures.
- We have no intention of selling any of our assets. We intend to maintain the properties for district use.

Delivered

- Actual savings total \$1.5 million and a dedicated maintenance fund protects taxpayers' investment in our schools.
- Support services, such as Title I reading, gifted and English Language Learner services, are being provided earlier in the school year because we are able to better utilize staff under one roof. School counselors are now more accessible to students as well, providing social, socio-emotional and mental well-being lessons and individual counseling.
- With planning time embedded into many teachers' typical day, grade level meetings are easier to coordinate and do not require teachers being pulled out of classroom instruction and replaced with substitutes.
- WES provides additional layers of security not possible in the older buildings, including a vestibule and a school visitor management system to screen visitors, and a dedicated School Resource Officer.
- It is our intention to retain all 4 former elementary buildings as school property and create a plan for district use.

Issue 121 helped Move Westlake Forward into the final phase of the Master Facilities plan, meaning all of Westlake's children are in inspiring learning spaces meant for today's education.



STAFF & STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Points of Pride

- **The Westlake City School district was awarded a \$17,575 Martha Holden Jennings Foundation grant** to help staff provide students with 21st century skills balanced with substantive subject matter in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine).
- **3 WHS seniors were among the 2,500 National Merit Finalists selected by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation** to receive \$2,500 National Merit Scholarships.
- **An eighth-grade LBMS student** placed fourth in the State You Be The Chemist Challenge.
- **The WHS Technology & Engineering Department earned two state champion titles** for “Best of Show” awards and the rare Zupancic Award at the Ohio Technology & Engineering Educators Association state conference school exhibits competition.
- **A WHS senior was named the Ohio SADD Student of the Year.**
- 2 elementary music teachers, **Amy Schillinger and Alison Gregory, were invited to sing with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra Chorus.**
- **A Westlake student received the Connecting for Kids Kind Kid award for demonstrating kindness and compassion to peers.** Elementary Intervention Specialist Christina Meecha received the Educator/Professional of the Year Award.
- **A WHS senior volunteered with Bugles Across America** to play taps at funeral services for local veterans.
- **Hilliard Elementary Itinerant Preschool Teacher Linda Reid received the 2019 Outstanding Educator Achievement Award** from the ESC of Northeast Ohio and State Support Region 3.
- **46 LBMS students were named semifinalists in the Ohio Library of Congress’ Letters About Literature Contest.** 1 student was named a state finalist.

- **School Nurse Barb Detwiler** received the Cleveland Animal Protective League’s Foster Care Volunteer of the Year Award, as well as the Lifetime Achievement Award and President’s Volunteer Service Award.
- **A WHS sophomore was a Top 20 finalist in the Young Entrepreneur Pitch Challenge** for designing a bathroom shelving unit.
- **WHS Music Director Hilary Patriok** was inducted into the Mu Chapter of Ohio, the National Bandmasters Fraternity.
- **Dover Intermediate School’s Demon Leaders** student leadership program for sixth-grade students welcomes and provides assistance to building visitors and new students.
- **WHS Principal Paul Wilson accepted the Educational Administrator of the Year Award** from the Educational Office Professionals of Ohio.
- **Project Link** provides before/after school, summer, enrichment and tutoring programming to more than 1,000 students annually. This summer, Camp Link posted its largest attendance rate to date, with even more students participating in various enrichment programs throughout the district.



COMMUNITY

Giving Back

- **One School, One Book:** Westlake’s four elementary schools partnered with 20+ community businesses to place more than 2,000 books in students’ homes.
- **WHS students donated** more than **18,000 service learning hours** to the community.
- **Dover Intermediate School** welcomed **Sunrise Senior Living Community** and participated in the intergenerational Go for Life outreach program.
- **A DIS student organized Socktober** to collect socks for The City Mission of Cleveland.
- **WHS National Art Honor Society** assembled toiletry bags, donating 50 to St. Herman’s House and 50 to Laura’s Home Women’s Crisis Center.
- **WHS Computer Coding Club helped educate senior citizens** on the use of their laptops, iPads and smartphones at the **Westlake Community Services Department.**
- **LBMS Service Committee** donated treat bags to the **Westlake Police Department.**
- **Members of the WHS Marching Band** performed for a Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve resident as part of Crossroads Hospice Gift of the Day.
- **WHS AP Environmental Science students partnered with Cleveland Metroparks** to help with a native plant installation at the Wolf Picnic Area in Bay Village.
- **The WHS Cultural Pollinator Garden,** led by science teacher Melissa Barth and the Beekeeping Club, opened thanks to donations from First National Bank, City of Westlake Service Department, Pattie Group, Dean’s Greenhouse, Westlake Garden Club, WCSD building and maintenance staff, WHS Art Department, WHS Technology/Engineering Department, AP Environmental Science students, and third grade Holly Lane Elementary classes.
- **LBMS Burneson+ hosted a 1.5-mile Kindness Walk** to promote positivity, kindness and mental health awareness.
- **A WHS art student created the winning illustration for Projitech LLC’s guiding principles project** that illustrates quotes from employees and displays them in their corporate office.
- **LBMS Intervention Specialist Erin Blahnik’s class donated \$500 to the Cleveland APL** from dog treat sales.
- **Dover Elementary School raised \$11,558** to benefit the Taussig Cancer Institute Radiation Oncology Department at Cleveland Clinic as part of the Kids Give Back School Program.



Westlake City School District
24525 Hilliard Blvd.
Westlake, OH 44145

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