

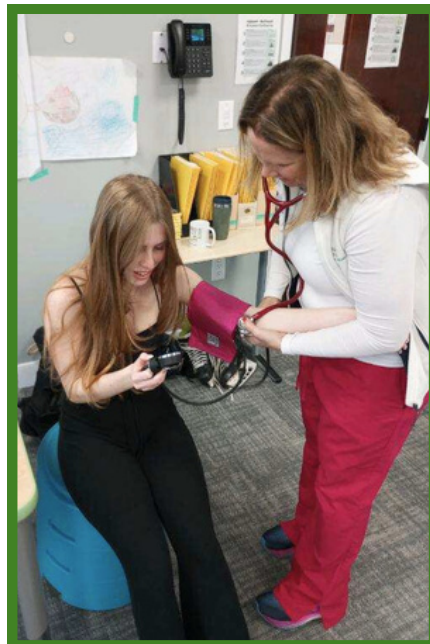
JANUARY UPDATE

UPPER SCHOOL



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS FOR WWS FAMILIES

STUDENTS IN ACTION



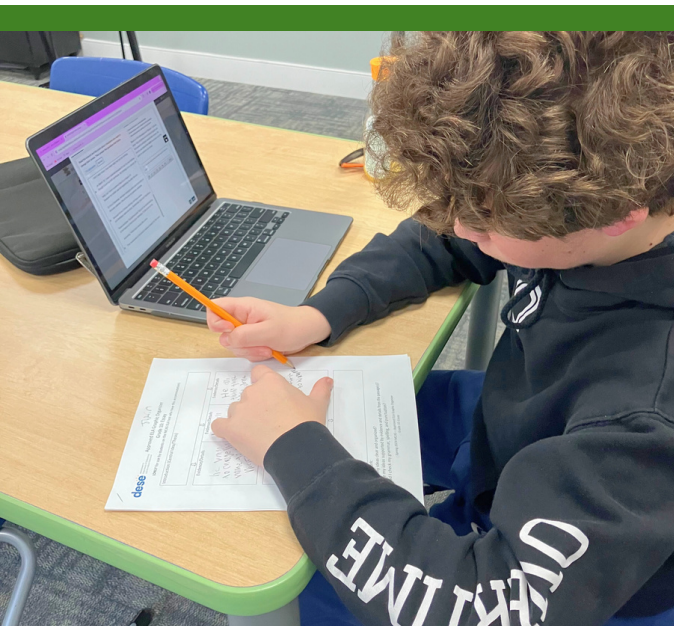
««« CAREER DAY

Upper school students participated in their first Career Day on January 26th. Students learned about careers in healthcare, law enforcement and construction while also participating in career interest inventory sessions and mock interviews. We were honored to have so many community members on campus for the day!



➤➤➤ MS SHADOW PROGRAM

More than 20 upper school students assumed leadership roles by guiding an 8th grader through a half day in the upper school. The objective of the shadow program was to illustrate the distinctions between the upper school and middle school programs for incoming students, fostering increased familiarity and excitement among the student body.



MCAS SUPPORT FLEX <<<

Last year we piloted an MCAS support group during flex for students who are required to take the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System. The first year of the program was successful as we saw the number of students who received passing scores by the end of their 10th grade year increase. Current 10th grade students who will take the MCAS now participate this support flex on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Meanwhile, 9th graders will receive targeted assistance directly in biology, as it is the sole subject in which they are assessed this year.

PROGRAM & POLICY

➤➤➤ PROGRESS REPORTS

Trimester 2 progress reports will indicate attendance by semester. Since our handbook policy describes attendance in relation to semesters, it is appropriate for our reports to follow suit. For this reason, parents will see 2 rows for attendance: one row from first day of school - January 12 and one row from January 16 - June 12. Regular attendance is a critical component of student success. Please refer to page 7 of the [student-parent handbook](#) for our official attendance policy regarding credit recovery.

Trimester 2 progress reports will also include a new independent work habits/homework skill in every content area, which will be labeled “Homework: Executive functioning and independent time management.” Being able to independently work on an appropriately differentiated assignment is a critical academic and life skill. Students will be assessed on this new standard each trimester using the 1 - 3 scale.

➤➤➤ WORK PLANS

In order to further improve student independence, several teachers across the content areas have piloted “work plans” in each class. A “work plan” uses the daily agenda to frame the student’s classwork, provide a place for them to observe and reflect on their work habits and make a plan for work completion. So far, work plans have increased student engagement. Ask your child what class they have used a work plan in so far!

➤➤➤ CAREER & COLLEGE COUNSELING

Admissions decisions are coming in! See below for a sample of schools students have already been accepted to:

- Curry College
- Dean College
- Framingham State
- Gordon College
- Hawaii Pacific
- Lesley University
- Lynn University
- Merrimack College
- Marist College
- New England Institute of Technology
- Norwich University
- St. Anselm College
- The College of Saint Rose
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Boston
- UMass Lowell
- University of New England

We should be getting more acceptances in the next few weeks! Also, we have started meeting with 11th grade students to begin the college process. Parents of juniors will receive college planning checklists prior to February vacation.

➤➤➤ LIBRARY CARDS

All WWS students will be receiving Windham Public Library cards so that they can access digital resources to support a greater level of research and audiobooks. If your child is 14 or under, you will be receiving a paper copy of a library registration card to sign and send back to school. We look forward with partnering with our local library to increase access to resources!



➤➤➤ FROST TRAIL

We are excited to offer the Frost Trail during the upcoming 24 - 25 school year and beyond. WWS recognizes that there are numerous avenues students may explore after graduation. The Frost Trail offers a program of studies for those students who intend to choose a direct-to-career, 2-year college path, or other non-collegiate post-graduate opportunities. A parent presentation was recorded and emailed home on January 25th. If you are interested in learning more about the Frost Trail, please watch that presentation and email kvicente@windhamwoods.org with any questions. You may access the slides that accompanied the presentation [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 9 - Masquerade Dance from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Great Hall

See [here](#) for the permission slip.

February 13 - "Fancy February" dress up day on campus

February 27 - Virtual DC Parent/Student Info Night at 7:00 pm

March 2 - Winter Stroll Family Event 12:30 - 1:30

March 22 - Vegas Night from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Great Hall

April 9 - 12 - Washington, DC Trip for registered students

May 10 - Junior/Senior Prom

We are working hard to bring their vision to life and will have more details in the coming weeks!

June 2 - Red Sox Game - Family Event
Buy tickets [here](#)!

June 7 - Upper School Graduation

Yearbook Orders - We have partnered with Josten's Yearbook for our first upper school exclusive yearbook. Use [this link](#) to purchase yours today!



ECO UPDATE

Ms. Wright's advisory, which includes our senior class, has been "Adopting an Advisory" every Wednesday during the morning block for the last two months. The seniors work together to plan various activities to build community within their "adopted advisories." Activities have consisted of diving deep into various topics for conversations, baking together on "waffle Wednesdays", combining their brains to solve puzzles, planning schoolwide Meetings on the Hill, and leading brainstorming sessions about how to respect our campus. So far, it's been a hit. It's great to see our seniors take on this leadership role!

"TREAT PEOPLE AS IF THEY WERE WHAT THEY OUGHT TO BE AND YOU HELP THEM BECOME WHAT THEY ARE CAPABLE OF BEING."

DANIEL J. SIEGEL, BRAINSTORM: THE POWER AND PURPOSE OF THE TEENAGE BRAIN