

# THE WATERVLIET CHRONICLE

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## WELCOME BACK! BY KRISTA LEACH

As we return for the 2009-2010 school year at Vliet, it is easy to see that we are in the midst of change. As construction equipment fills our fields and parking lots, anticipation is building for our new gym and classrooms. New faces greet us in our hallways and classrooms. New policies challenge us to achieve higher standards. Enthusiasm seems high for what should be a great school year.

“I am excited knowing that I’m approaching the end of one chapter of my life and the beginning of another,” said senior Jeremy LaMarche.

This enthusiasm is not just

limited to the students. Even our superintendent, Mr. Padalino, is excited. On his blog, Mr. Padalino wrote, “I can say without hesitation that I have never looked forward to a school year as much as I do this year.”

Students enjoying lunch. Welcome Back and Good Luck!



## W.H.S. UNVEILS NEW ACADEMIC POLICY BY SHEMIKA KILPATRICK

This year, Watervliet students will be held to even higher standards as the board of education recently approved a revised extra-curricular activity eligibility policy. This policy states that, to participate in extra-curricular activities, a student must have a

minimum 65 average and no more than one failing grade. According to the policy (on the school’s website), the first time a student fails to meet the 65 average or fails more than one class, they will have two-weeks to improve those scores and remain eligible for extra-

curricular activities. However, this two-week “grace period” will only be allowed once per student. Afterward, if a student continues to have an average below 65, or is failing more than one class, they will be ineligible for all extra-curricular continued on page 2

### INSIDE:

- *Defense leads football team to 3-0 record*
- *Profile: Art Club*
- *Student Council Elections*
- *Character Ed. update*

### Sports Schedule

- 9/24: Mod. Football vs. Canjo  
Tennis @ Academy  
Mod. Volleyball @ Burgh
- 9/25: JV Volleyball vs. Voorheesville  
Varsity Volleyball vs. Voorhees
- 9/26: Mod. Soccer vs. Schalmont  
Varsity Football @ Voorheesvi
- 9/28: JV Football vs. Voorheesville  
Varsity Volleyball vs. Emma
- 9/29: Tennis vs. Academy  
Varsity Soccer @ Mechanicvill  
Mod. Soccer @ RCS  
Tennis @ Voorheesville  
Mod. Volleyball vs. Waterford  
CC @ Holy Names  
JV Volleyball @ RCS  
Varsity Volleyball @ RCS
- 10/1: Mod. Football @ Cohoes  
Varsity Soccer vs. Schalmont  
Volleyball vs. Cobleskill  
Mod. Soccer vs. Cobleskill
- 10/2: Varsity Football @ Canjo
- 10/3: Mod Soccer vs. Mechanicville

**STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS HEATING UP** BY AMBER DAWSON

On Tuesday, September 29, the student body of WHS will march into the auditorium as the nominees for students council offices present their platforms and campaign for your vote. These speeches follow a week of public campaigning and poster making, and will address the reasons why the nominees believe they are best suited to serve in these roles.

The nominees (as of publication) are as follows:

Co-President:  
 Kevin Angus  
 Sierra Lynch  
 Peta Evans  
 Public Relations:  
 Djuan Blakemore  
 Amanda Luck  
 Public Relations nominee  
 Djuan Blakemore stated that his interest in public relations is something he would like to explore for a possible career,

so this is something he is taking very seriously. All nominees believe one of the most important roles of the Student Council is to make sure the students have a voice when decisions are made in our school.



**NEW POLICY**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“THIS IS NOT MEANT TO PUNISH STUDENTS. IT IS MEANT TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO TAKE THEIR SCHOOLWORK SERIOUSLY”

activities until the next marking period.

When asked about this new policy, Ms. Caplan stated that this is not a new program, but an improvement on an existing one. She believes that this policy will help to “ensure that our students are academically sound.” Furthermore, she feels that this policy will help students “seek the help

that they need to be successful.”

“This is not meant to punish students. It is meant to encourage students to take their schoolwork seriously,” she stated.

Many of our students had very strong reactions to this policy. One senior believes that this will only increase the over-whelming amount of

pressure already on him. Another senior believes that it unfairly targets athletes. Some, however, welcomed the new policy, as one senior remarked, “Well, now nobody’s going to be screwing around.”

**EXTRA-CURRIULAR PROFILE: ART CLUB** BY APRIL WELLS

Art club is one of the many clubs and activities here at W.H.S. Most students agree that the art club is an opportunity for creativity and individuality. It is also a great way to meet new friends, look closely at various artistic forms, and have fun.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the year for the art club in recent years has been

the field trip. The art club has gone on trips to places like New York City and Boston.

The art club is also responsible for many of the murals painted on the walls of our school. Most recently completed is the one in the first floor stairwell by the main office.

The advisor of the art club is Mrs. Lavick. Mrs. Lavick

believes that one of the most rewardig aspects of being the advisor of the art club is having the opportunity to work closely with students she might not normally get to see otherwise.



The Art Club meets in room 205. Listen to announcements for meeting dates and times.

## SHUTOUTS ALL THE WAY BY DYLAN EDMUNDS

The Watervliet Football team started its 2009 season by posting three consecutive shutouts in their first three games, outscoring opponents by a combined score of 111-0.

The Cannoneers are exceeding expectations already this year, as they replace 19 players lost to graduation last year.

Leading the offense is quarterback Brandon Legault,

who passed for 123 yards and four touchdowns in Vliet's 64-0 victory over Ichabod Crane. Also in that game, the Cannoneer defense allowed a total of 19 yards (that's right, 19 yards all game), recovered two fumbles, and had two interceptions.

While they are happy with their first three games, the team realizes that their final four games will be very difficult. Finishing the year with games against Canjo, Fonda,

and Chatham will test the young Cannoneers.

Currently, Vliet is ranked #5 in the Troy Record Power Poll. Their next game is this Saturday at Voorheesville.

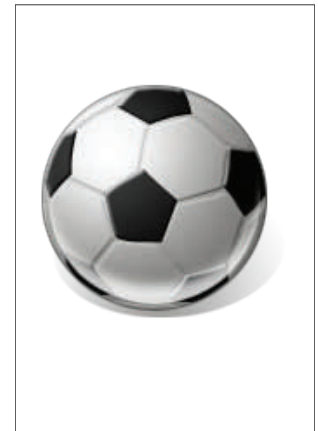


Coach Bernard has the Cannoneers off to a 3-0 start!

## GIRLS' SOCCER LOOKS TO IMPROVE BY JEREMY LAMARCHE

The Watervliet girls' soccer team is working to improve on last year's season. The team is led by seniors Nora Anderson and Makenzie Manning. The team is brimming with confidence this year and is looking to make the playoffs for the first time in several years. Anderson enjoys the role of team leader and thinks it is "great to lead the girls on the field."

In addition to success on the field, Manning stated that another important goal of the team is to have fun. As of press-time, the Lady Cannoneers are 1-2, having won their first game of the season 3-2 against Cohoes. Manning and Nicole McLaughlin did the scoring for Vliet. Their next game is 9/29 @ Mechanicville.



## CHARACTER ED. UPDATE BY SYED HUSSAIN

Character education is one of the leading clubs of Watervliet High School. Mr. Wareing, the club's advisor for more than 3 years, was interviewed and he told us, "The main purpose of the club is to polish the moral character of the students both through activities and leading examples." Character education is actually based on vol-

unteer work and it involves serving in the senior citizen center, raising funds for the poor, and serving at the soup kitchen.

Character education was founded in WHS more than 10 years ago and since then it has been doing a great job in promoting volunteer work. When we asked the members of the club about their favor-

ite event, they said that they love everything they do for the club because it improves their moral character and they can also use these things for college.

Last year, one of the most successful events sponsored by the character education club was *Do the Right Thing*, and as a reward 88 students were sent to Six Flags. The

every Monday and plan their strategies for the upcoming events. Some of the events coming up this year for character education club are *Pajama day*, *hat day* and *chicken dinner tickets for homecoming weekend*.

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## EDITORIAL

### KANYE: HOW COULD YOU BE SO HEARTLESS? by Mitchell Clough

Kanye West is known for speaking his mind and early on during the VMA's, he didn't disappoint.

When Taylor Swift won Best Female Video for 'You Belong With Me,' Kanye jumped onstage, grabbed the microphone from the country singer's hands and did what he does best.

"Yo Taylor, I'm really happy for you. I'm a let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time," he yelled, to many boos. Swift's video beat Beyonce's 'Single Ladies' for the award. According to an MTV source, Kanye is getting booted from the show for his actions.

Personally, I am a fan of Kanye's lyrics and work, but I think his "real big ego" got the best of him at the VMA's. I wasn't the biggest fan of Taylor Swift when she first became popular, but her recent work is catchy and I do bump "You Belong To Me" when it plays on the radio when I'm driving. I felt bad for the young country singer turned pop star when her speech was interrupted and the poor girl stood there like a deer caught in the headlights. Although Kanye West did apologize (almost to the point of tears) on the Jay Leno Show, he gave us an example of how to conduct oneself with a total lack of class.

## DEAR PHOEBE

Dear Phoebe,

I have a small crush on a guy in a lower grade. He's super cute and way nice. The problem is that I don't know if he's interested in me. I'm too shy to just ask him. What can I do to get his attention as well as get him interested in me? I don't want to be "just friends."

Confusedgirl 24

relationship with that person. If you guys are friends and have been for a while, you should feel comfortable enough to just ask the guy. If this is someone who you see in a class or in the hallway, then you should start off more casually, like a friendly hello every once in a while (don't forget eye contact and a smile). You never know what can happen from there...

Dear Confused,

I think it all depends on the person and your

*Dear Phoebe is an advice column for all students. In each edition of the Chronicle, one question will be selected and answered. To submit your questions, write them down and place them in the box in room 203.*

## MOVIE TIME by Giovanni Esposito

This week's must see movie is *Inglorious Basterds*, starring Brad Pitt, Eli Roth, Diane Kruger, Melanie Laurent, and B.J. Novak. This movie, set during WWII, tells the story of a team of men set to kill Nazi's and, ultimately, Hitler.

Another must see movie this week is *Surrogates*, starring Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell. This movie sounds really cool! It is set in a futuristic world where humans live in isolation and interact through surrogate robots. Kind of like a video game. A cop (Willis) is forced to leave his home for the first time in years in order to investigate the murders of others' surrogates.

**Babysitting Movie:** This month's babysitting movie choice is *Cars*. This Disney-Pixar classic is perfect for both boys and girls, and addresses important themes, such as the importance of teamwork, humility, and responsibility.