CONNECT WITH US
School phone: 203-937-4360

**Principal, D122**
Mrs. Pamela Gardner  x7109
pamela.gardner@whschools.org

**Assistant Principal, Grade 9, D127**
Mrs. Dana Paredes  x7110
dana.paredes@whschools.org

**Assistant Principal, A-N, Grades 1012, D115**
Mr. John DellaCamera  x7139
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**Assistant Principal, N-Z, Grades 10-12**
Mrs. Patricia Robles  x7103
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Website: whhs.whschools.org

**Counselor Directory, by student's last name**
Dr. Rose Paolino,  x7118  A-BO
rose.paolino@whschools.org

Mrs. Norma Merced,  x7124 BP-EV
norma.merced@whschools.org

Mrs. Heather Kannengeiser,  x7123 EW-LANZ
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Mrs. Heather Doraz,  x7121 LAO-PAS
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Mrs. Deborah Kachmar,  x7122 PAST-SA
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Mrs. Holly Benedetti,  x7119 SB-Z
holly.benedetti@whschools.org

Website: bit.ly/whhscounseling

**WHHS ONLINE**

Website:
WHHS.whschools.org

On Facebook:
facebook.com/whschools

On Youtube:
youtube.com/westhavenschools
youtube.com/whhsmorningnews

**ONLINE RESOURCES**

Power School/Parent Portal:
ps.whschools.org/public

Naviance:
connection.naviance.com/westhaven

Remind 101:
remind101.com

**FREE CELL PHONE APP**

Search West Haven Public Schools in your cell phone app store.

On the app:
Naviance
Parent Portal
School Counseling
Newsletters
2017-2018 College/Career Prep Calendar

FALL

✓ September 5  Back to School Night
✓ September 13-20th  Common Application Workshops
✓ September 22 & 27  Common Application Workshops
✓ October 4  College/Career Fair
✓ October 11  PSAT for all 9-11th grade students
✓ October 13  UConn Group Tour
✓ October 26  Parent’s Visiting Day - no school for students
✓ October 26  Coffee with the Counselors for grade 9 parents
✓ November 1  Financial Aid Night (FAFSA)
✓ November 4  SAT (at WHHS)

WINTER

✓ December 2  SAT (at WHHS)
✓ January 5  Alumni Day
✓ February  Coffee with the Counselors for grade 10 & 11 parents

SPRING

✓ March  Gateway Community College  Application Day
✓ March 22  Parent’s Visiting Night (Early Dismissal)
✓ March 29  ASVAB - Career Assessment
✓ March 29  National College Fair
✓ April 5  College Planning Night all grades
✓ April  Campus Connection college tour trip
✓ May 11  College/Career Signing Day
✓ May 5  SAT (at WHHS)
I understand that my participation in my son’s/daughter’s education will help his/her achievement and preparation for college and career readiness. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

We, as parents, will support our child’s learning in the following ways:

- Register and monitor my child’s grades and attendance on PowerSchool via Parent Portal
- Notify my child’s teachers (via email, letter, phone call, teacher’s webpage) of any concerns
- Support the school’s discipline, dress code and other policies as stated in the WHHS handbook
- Make an effort to attend school events, such as Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and Open House
- Make sure homework is completed
- Create a parent account on Naviance/Family Connection (accessible from the WHHS website) for all my child’s college/career planning
- Actively participate in my child’s Student Success Plan located on Naviance (My Planner tab)
- Stay informed about my child’s education through school messages via phone, mail, email, and/or text messages, and respond as appropriate
- Discuss community service and volunteering opportunities with my child
- Encourage my child to join a WHHS club and/or activity
- Learn about NCAA eligibility for student-athletes

THINGS TO CONSIDER

GETTING INVOLVED
Volunteering at school
Joining the PTSA
Joining the School Counseling Parent Advisory Committee
Attending at least one or more PTSA or School Governance Council meetings

CONNECTING WITH US
Registering on “Remind 101” when notified of staff using it (teachers, school counselors)
Liking us on Facebook: WHHS School Counseling Department and West Haven Public Schools
Frequently visiting the School Counseling webpage on whhs.whschools.org
Subscribing to School Counseling and school district email newsletters by visiting whhs.whschools.org, and clicking “News”
Downloading the school district cell phone app by searching “West Haven Public Schools” in the app store

EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES
Investigating summer enrichment programs (Naviance and online)
Attending College Planning Night
Visiting a college of interest with my child
Speaking with other parents about planning for college expenses
I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

We, as students, will share the responsibility to become college/career ready. Specifically, we will:

- Register on Naviance for all college/career research
- Complete a Career/Interest Inventory on Naviance
- Explore careers and begin a career list on Naviance
- Check grades on PowerSchool regularly
- Participate in community service; begin volunteering and record hours on appropriate forms
- Take the PSAT 8/9 in October (College Board assessment)
- Attend School Counseling grade nine welcome group (fall)
- Complete SSP Goal Setting via Naviance (S.M.A.R.T. Goal Setting)
- Start to build my resume on Naviance
- Carefully and thoughtfully complete course selection; correlate with college/career focus
- Participate in extracurricular activities (join at least one club and/or sport)
- Learn how to earn college credits while attending WHHS
- Read WHHS Freshman College/Career Handbook
- Register on “Remind 101” when notified by staff who are utilizing it (teachers, school counselors)
I understand that my participation in my son’s/daughter’s education will help his/her achievement and preparation for college and career readiness. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

**THINGS TO CONSIDER**

**BEGINNING A POST-SECONDARY PLAN**
Visiting a college website to schedule a campus tour
Talking to my child about his/her plan for college and expenses; asking about loans, grants and scholarships
Encouraging my child to take the SAT and/or ACT in the spring of junior year

**ACCEPTING OUR INVITATION**
Attending WHHS Parent Visiting Nights in fall and spring
Attending the WHHS College Fair in the fall
Attending College Planning Night in the spring

**CONNECTING WITH US**
Frequently visiting the WHHS School Counseling website at whhs.whschools.org for college/career planning

**W**e, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Be sure I am registered on PowerSchool’s Parent Portal; opt for weekly grade reports and monitor grades regularly online
- Stay informed and connected: Review WHHS newsletter as soon as I receive it for important events, check e-mail regularly for messages from school, connect to WHHS through social media such as Facebook and Remind 101
- Request clarification, if necessary, on information received
- Help my child research careers: Together, my child and I will use Naviance to research, choose career clusters, watch videos and use inventories such as *Do What You Are* to help create a career list, which helps students choose colleges
- Review PSAT results with my child, ask about tools for my child to improve
- Be an active participant in my child’s course selection process, encouraging high-level courses
- Encourage and help explore community service opportunities for my child, since 40 hours of service equals an honor cord at graduation
I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Checking my email regularly and ensuring Naviance has my current email address

Registering on Remind101 to receive reminders on my phone so I do not miss important events and support

Liking WHHS School Counseling Department and West Haven Public Schools on Facebook

ACCEPTING OUR INVITATION

Attending Campus Connection overnight excursion in the spring of sophomore and junior year

Attending college representative visitations during junior and senior year, checking complete listings, and signing up on Naviance

Becoming familiar with the Career Center’s resources

Attending College Planning Night in the spring

STAYING UP-TO-DATE

Reviewing the WHHS newsletter as soon as I receive it and stopping to read any articles and sign up for/attend any events that apply to me

Grade 10

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to become college/career ready. We will:

- Get connected to WHHS: join a club, play a sport or instrument, begin to update my resume
- Check grades on PowerSchool regularly, ask for a copy of my transcript, and understand all of my transcript (cumulative GPA, class rank...)
- Perform community service: Consider volunteering in my area of interest, such as a nursing home if I want a job in the medical field
- Sign on to Naviance to:
  - Complete “Do What You Are” personality survey to find careers matching my personality
  - Review lists of “favorite careers and clusters,” add one or two Career Clusters I am considering, as well as careers I am thinking about
  - If I have colleges in mind already, add them to “colleges I am thinking about”
  - Update resume in Naviance: Any new clubs? Awards or achievements? Summer programs? Community Service? Talents or skills?
  - Review and update my Student Success Plan goals under My Planner
  - Review emails about college/career events
- Learn how to earn college credit at WHHS (see Sophomore Handbook for more details)
- Take the PSAT in October (WHHS) for practice on SAT-style questions and prep for college
- Attend my Individual Sophomore Portfolio Session (Student Success Plan) with my school counselor during semester two
- Continue to research colleges and careers on Naviance and expand my lists
- Ask my school counselor about the University of New Haven Charge Into the Future (half tuition scholarship at UNH) and Charging Ahead (free college credit) programs, and UNH summer academies (free through scholarships)

THINGS TO CONSIDER

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Checking my email regularly and ensuring Naviance has my current email address

Registering on Remind101 to receive reminders on my phone so I do not miss important events and support

Liking WHHS School Counseling Department and West Haven Public Schools on Facebook

ACCEPTING OUR INVITATION

Attending Campus Connection overnight excursion in the spring of sophomore and junior year

Attending college representative visitations during junior and senior year, checking complete listings, and signing up on Naviance

Becoming familiar with the Career Center’s resources

Attending College Planning Night in the spring

STAYING UP-TO-DATE

Reviewing the WHHS newsletter as soon as I receive it and stopping to read any articles and sign up for/attend any events that apply to me

Grade 10

Student Responsibilities

We, as students, will share the responsibility to become college/career ready. We will:

- Get connected to WHHS: join a club, play a sport or instrument, begin to update my resume
- Check grades on PowerSchool regularly, ask for a copy of my transcript, and understand all of my transcript (cumulative GPA, class rank...)
- Perform community service: Consider volunteering in my area of interest, such as a nursing home if I want a job in the medical field
- Sign on to Naviance to:
  - Complete “Do What You Are” personality survey to find careers matching my personality
  - Review lists of “favorite careers and clusters,” add one or two Career Clusters I am considering, as well as careers I am thinking about
  - If I have colleges in mind already, add them to “colleges I am thinking about”
  - Update resume in Naviance: Any new clubs? Awards or achievements? Summer programs? Community Service? Talents or skills?
  - Review and update my Student Success Plan goals under My Planner
  - Review emails about college/career events
- Learn how to earn college credit at WHHS (see Sophomore Handbook for more details)
- Take the PSAT in October (WHHS) for practice on SAT-style questions and prep for college
- Attend my Individual Sophomore Portfolio Session (Student Success Plan) with my school counselor during semester two
- Continue to research colleges and careers on Naviance and expand my lists
- Ask my school counselor about the University of New Haven Charge Into the Future (half tuition scholarship at UNH) and Charging Ahead (free college credit) programs, and UNH summer academies (free through scholarships)
I understand that my participation in my son’s/daughter’s education will help his/her achievement and preparation for college and career readiness. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Register on Naviance, participate in the college/career planning process, and help my child update his/her resume
- Attend College/Career Connection Night in the spring
- Register and/or monitor student progress and attendance on Power School Parent Portal
- Attend Individual Planning Portfolio Session/Student Success Plan appointment with my child and his/her school counselor
- Encourage my child to take rigorous courses (AP/honors) and those related to career interests
- Stay connected with School Counseling through the WHHS website, Naviance, Facebook, Twitter and Remind 101
- Encourage my child to take the PSAT in October (WHHS) and the SAT/ACT in the spring of junior year
- Inquire about NCAA eligibility for student athletes
- Encourage my child to continue doing community service and to stay involved within school

THINGS TO CONSIDER

REVIEWING PAYMENT OPTIONS
Exploring potential scholarship eligibility for my child via Naviance and fastweb.com
Talking to my child about planning for college expenses
Attending Financial Aid Night (November)

BEGINNING COLLEGE VISITS
Visiting a college(s) with my child
Attending College/Career Fair in the fall
Encouraging my child to attend the National College Expo (WHHS spring trip)
Exploring Campus Connection for my child
I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

**THINGS TO CONSIDER**

**PREPARING FOR APPLICATIONS**
- Being aware of ALL deadlines (college, scholarship, college visits)
- Developing topics for my college essays
- Inquiring about the WHHS College Application Kick Start program

**EVALUATING FINANCIAL OPTIONS**
- Exploring scholarships on Naviance and fastweb.com
- Attending Financial Aid Night (FAFSA) in November

**REVIEWING CAREER PATHS**
- Taking the ASVAB assessment (WHHS, April) if still undecided about a career or considering the military

**TAKING ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY**
- Checking my email regularly and ensuring Naviance has my current email address
- Registering on Remind101 for reminders on my phone about important events and support
- Liking WHHS School Counseling Department and West Haven Public Schools on Facebook and following @whschools on Twitter
Grade 12

Parent Responsibilities

I understand that my participation in my son’s/daughter’s education will help his/her achievement and preparation for college and career readiness. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

MAKING IT A TEAM EFFORT
Visiting colleges with my child
Talking to my child about planning for college expenses

ACCEPTING OUR INVITATION
Attending Parent Visiting Nights (fall/spring)
Attending Financial Aid Night (December, WHHS)
Attending College Goal Sunday for support in completing the FAFSA (January, Gateway CC)
Attending FAFSA Workshop (February, WHHS)
Attending College/Career Signing Day (May)

W
e, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Attend College and Career Planning Night
- Look for parent notification (sent via mail) of senior portfolio meeting and graduation requirements
- Complete Parent Brag Sheet for the school counselor letter-of-recommendation process
- Review my student’s college list in Naviance
- Sign Parent Transcript Release form (if child is under 18)
- Complete required financial aid forms (FAFSA/ CSS Profile)
- Check grades frequently on Power School’s Parent Portal
- Adhere to the National Decision Day deadline of May 1, which is when my child must commit to the college he/she chooses to attend
Student Responsibilities

I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

**THINGS TO CONSIDER**

**STUDYING FINANCIAL OPTIONS**
- Attending College Funding Strategies (October)
- Attending FAFSA Workshop (February)
- Attending Financial Aid Night (December)
- Learning more about opportunities to earn free college credit, utilizing the Career Center

**MEETING WITH COLLEGE REPS**
- Researching on-site admission days held by the School Counseling Office and signing up for dates for colleges for which I am qualified
- Attending visits from colleges and career institutes in the Career Center
- Participating in Campus Connection (fall)

**SEEKING APPLICATION ASSISTANCE**
- Attending Common Application Workshops in September and October at WHHS

**REVIEWING POLICIES**
- Remaining mindful of the attendance policy

We, as students, will share the responsibility to become college/career ready. Specifically, we will:

- Sign up on Naviance to attend college admissions presentations
- Attend College/Career Fair (fall)
- Register for SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Test(s)
- Attend my senior portfolio meeting to review and sign my senior graduation contract
- Frequently check grades on PowerSchool’s Parent Portal to make sure I am meeting graduation requirements
- Request and follow the teacher and school counselor letter-of-recommendation process
- Finalize my college list in Naviance under “Colleges I am Thinking About”
- Write my college essay
- Apply to college(s) by December 1
- Return parent transcript request form
- Request transcripts through Naviance after applying to colleges
- Research scholarships online and on Naviance and complete applications for all eligible scholarships
- Complete required financial aid forms (FAFSA, CSS Profile) beginning October 1
- Attend Alumni Day (WHHS, January)
- Request mid-year transcripts for colleges
- Complete the Senior Scholarship survey on Naviance to be considered for WHHS scholarship awards
- Commit to and notify my chosen college by May 1
- Update college admission decisions on Naviance under “Colleges I am Applying to”
- Complete senior survey on Naviance (a graduation requirement)
- Inquire about NCAA eligibility for student-athletes
- Complete all community service hours and have documentation to School Counseling by May 1
- Participate in College/Career Signing Day (May)
Register on Naviance; use it for resume-building and research on careers/colleges.

Join sports and/or clubs and find volunteer opportunities.

Learn how to earn college credit while attending WHHS.

Begin considering college and career options and record them in Naviance.

Start: Freshman Year

Gather information about yourself and complete your resume on Naviance.

Determine if college is right for you.

Begin college planning, and log on weekly to your Naviance account.

Attend Portfolio Session (Student Success Plan) with a school counselor.

Take the PSAT in October to practice SAT-style questions.

Enter Sophomore Year

Use Naviance to gather college and scholarship information.

Take practice tests (PSAT, ACT, SAT). Decide when to take the official tests.

Visit colleges and see if you should schedule interviews with representatives.

Review special resources for athletes and visual or performing arts.

Consider non-college options if desired.

Enter Junior Year

Roadmap
Log in to Naviance and start the year! Keep records of all you do.

Review Senior Self Checklist available in college planning handbook.

Review all college application requirements and deadlines.

See which schools require counselor or teacher input, common app and transcripts.

If needed, ask teachers for recommendations (give at least 2 weeks to complete).

If needed, submit materials for counselor recommendation (give at least 2 weeks).

Give transcript release to counseling office. Request transcripts on Naviance.

If needed, contact college board and/or SAT to forward test scores to your college.

Give transcript release to counseling office.

If needed, submit materials for counselor recommendation (give at least 2 weeks).

Choose among college acceptances and record in Naviance!

Apply for scholarships and turn in financial aid forms by required deadlines.

Contact the ACT to request test scores be sent to your college.
START: Freshman Year

Register on Naviance; use it for resume-building and research on careers.

Join sports, clubs and/or volunteer activities to assess job interests and skills.

Learn which WHHS classes relate to career interests and when to take them.

Complete “Do What You Are” personality survey to find career matches.

Research salary, industry outlook and required education and training for careers.

Research career-path STEM and Gateway/WHHS classes that give college credit.

Visit and become familiar with WHHS Career Center (located in the café).

Attend Portfolio Session (Student Success Plan) with a school counselor.

Begin considering career options and record them in Naviance.

Attend College/Career Fair in the fall.

Eliminate career options that no longer interest you and focus on top choices.

If undecided about a career or the military, take the ASVAB assessment in the spring.

Update career options in Naviance and utilize Career Center.
Roadmap

Contact possible employers for informational interviews, job shadowing and internships.

Set long-term and short-term career goals; outline steps to achieve them.

Continue updating your resume and making connections with companies.

Determine if you need additional schooling or training for chosen industries.

Research trade schools or programs based on career interests.

Consider meeting with representatives of trade schools when they visit WHHS.

Search job openings online and attend job fairs held by companies or organizations.

Begin applications for trade schools, job certifications, training or job openings.

Choose from school or program acceptances or job offers!

Ask teachers or current employers to be references for job or school applications, if needed.

Finish!
A new adventure awaits you.

Enter Senior Year
School Responsibilities

Preparing All Students to be College/Career Ready:

We understand the importance of the school experience to every student and our role as educators and models. Therefore, we agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of our ability. **West Haven High School will (aligned with Core Values):**

- **Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least twice per year) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual student’s achievement.** Other conferences may be scheduled as necessary. The school will contact families of students having academic or behavior problems when these issues are in danger of affecting the student’s academic achievement.

- **Provide parents with frequent reports on their student’s progress.** Individual student progress reports will be mailed home at the 4-5 week mark of each 9-week marking period. Final report cards will be mailed home at the end of each marking period. Administration and teachers will contact families of students having academic or behavior problems via telephone, mail, or email. Utilization of PowerSchool and Remind 101 will be used to communicate academic progress and tasks to complete.

- **Provide parents with reasonable access to staff.** Staff will be available for consultation with parents during conference periods and other times when arrangements are made. At the beginning of the year, teachers will inform parents of conference periods and/or the best time and method for communication, including phone and email. Teachers and staff will respond to parents within 1-2 school days.

- **Promote and support parental involvement** by holding annual registration/information sessions related to the use of PowerSchool and Naviance/Family Connection. These web-based portals help to facilitate communication between school and home. This will also be done by providing opportunities for parents to join organizations like School Governance Council, Parent Advisory Committee for School Counseling and Project Graduation.
WHHS
Core Values and Beliefs for Learning

The West Haven High School community is dedicated to providing a positive and safe environment that celebrates differences while inspiring students to be self-motivated learners, critical thinkers and effective communicators. We believe all students should have access to 21st-century educational opportunities to prepare them to be responsible, ethical, and contributing members of a global society.

**Academic Expectations for Student Performance**

West Haven High School Students will focus their learning on:

- Critical and creative problem-solving
- Constructing and/or analyzing arguments based on evidence
- Meaningful and fluent communication
- Digital and informational literacy

**Social Expectations for Students**

West Haven High School Students will focus their learning on:

- Actively participating, within the school community, both independently and collaboratively
- Taking responsibility for their actions and obligations

**Civic Expectations for Students**

West Haven High School Students will focus their learning on:

- Demonstrating respect for themselves and others
- Promoting a positive and safe school climate
- Promoting and demonstrating the components of a healthy lifestyle