



# EAGLE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 4 2024-2025 School Year

December 2024



## LETTER FROM DR. ROSS

Dear Friends and Families

What a month this has been! We have enjoyed the beautiful transition of our season, watching the leaves turn vibrant colors. The reds, the oranges and all the highlights in between have been spectacular. So has the growth and vibrance at West End School.

From the beginning of a new basketball season, to our scholars learning business and entrepreneurial skills, we are in an amazing season of growth and possibilities for our scholars. Our scholars have heard words of wisdom and encouragement from amazing community leaders such as Coach Scottie Davenport from Bellarmine University and one of our newly appointed assistant police chiefs in Louisville Metro, Corey Robinson. So many amazing leaders consistently come in to encourage our young men. They were even able to hear from Carl Brazley, former pro football player and current entrepreneur, along with Di Tran, who is an engineer, business owner, and published author to over 40 books. These communal leaders show our kids that anything is possible.

As our "School for Girls" continues to rise brick by brick, so is the anticipation of having our young ladies join us in 2025. The advisory team for the girl's school met in November. The team challenges us to really think outside the box to create a learning environment and experience that will be second to none. With their support and guidance, we are beyond excited to what the future will bring.

On a personal note, I have had the pleasure of sharing our story at both state and national events. I was the keynote speaker at the SEAL Conference held by Murray State University, where I was able to spend time with a couple WES alumni that now attend MSU. Being able to share what it means to be a WES scholar and the purpose of each scholarship offered, brought both excitement and expectation to the MSU community.



I also spoke at the ISACS National Conference in St. Louis. Being able to share our experiences and our growth with school leaders across the country reminds me of how lucky we are to have the opportunities provided by West End School.

Thank you for believing not only in West End School, but specifically for believing in me. The best is yet to come and our journey of excellence is just beginning.

*Dr. Greg Ross*

**Dr. Greg Ross**  
**Head of School**



**Dr Ross with Judge Edwards**



**Dr. Ross with Di Tran**



**Dr. Ross with Carl Brazely**



**Dr. Ross with WKU**



**Dr. Ross with Scotty Davenport**



## WEST END SCHOOL ALUMNI: STACIE FARRIS

Hello!

WES held its annual Thanksgiving Alumni Open Gym over the holiday. It is always great to have our graduates return home! Over twenty young men came for fellowship and hoops. We look forward to seeing them at the Alumni 3 on 3 Tournament over Christmas!



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:



### AHNA WATT

WES '20  
FRANCIS PARKER '24  
FRESHMAN AT BEREA

Ahna Watt is a WES 2020 graduate and a Francis Parker 2024 graduate. He is a Freshman at Berea College, where he is studying computer science. He also plays for the Berea soccer team. While at Francis Parker, Ahna played on the soccer, basketball, and track teams, including serving as Captain of the soccer team. Ahna also worked as a WES summer worker while in high school.

When asked about his time at WES, he said his favorite memories were the drives back from sporting events. Ahna feels that the most important thing he learned while at WES was “to trust the process, because you may not like it while you are here, but it is very much worth it once you graduate and look at the opportunities WES has given you.” His advice for current WES students is to work hard and keep believing. Ahna describes WES as an opportunity, special, and impactful. Finally, when asked about who influenced him the most during his time at WES and why, he said, “Ms. Stacie because she’s done so much to help me and has gone out of her way so many times to make sure I succeed.”

We are proud of Ahna and the amazing young man he has become. We look forward to the great things he will accomplish in the future!



## ALUMNI 3 ON 3 TOURNAMENT:

WES Alumni: You are invited to the Second Annual Alumni 3 on 3 Tournament! Get your team of 3 or 4 alumni students together and show off your skills! The reigning team is the WES Class of 2017. Will they repeat or will a new team rise to the top? We encourage all alumni to come support your classmates and fellowship!

**Day: Saturday, December 21st.**

**Time: Bracket announced and games begin at 11 a.m.**

**Double elimination**

## Alumni Photos:

The Alumni held a picnic in July 2024 and played some basketball.



Darian Wade and Amy Trager



Sandra Trager and Simeon Hill



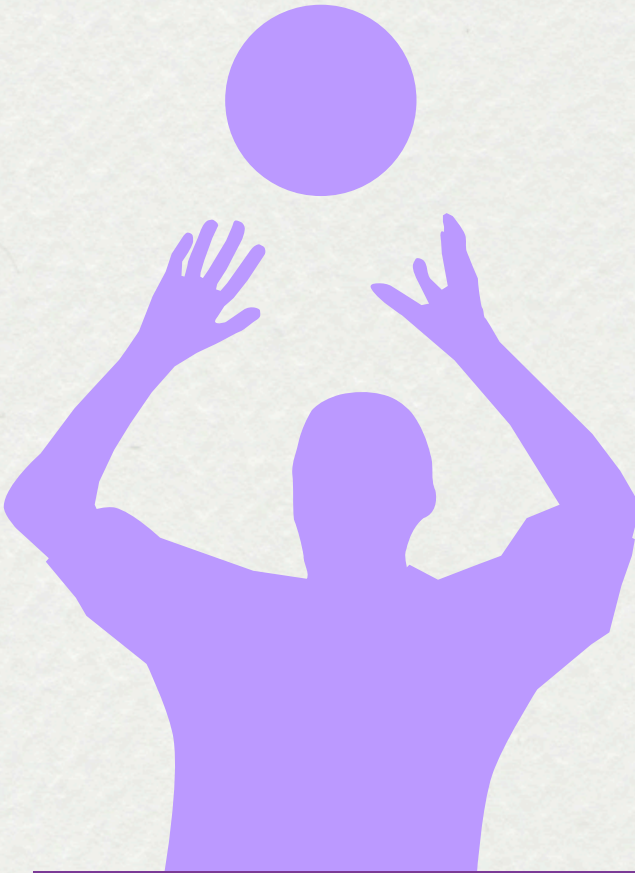
Picnic Amy Trager with Alumni Darian Wade at Summer Picnic



WES Alumni met for fun basketball the day after Thanksgiving to work off some turkey and pie!  
Alumni Basketball Gathering November 2024



## ATHLETICS UPDATE: JEREMY HEDGES



- Basketball season is underway! Please join us for a game, you can see our schedule here: [School Calendar](#)
- Little Dribblers is currently taking place on Tuesday's after school from 3:30-4:15. Any help is welcome. All hands on deck :)
- Intramural basketball registration is finalized with 35 participants.
- Intramural practice begins the week of December 11th. Practices take place Wednesday or Thursday evenings, 6:15-7:30. Games are held on Saturday mornings at 10am beginning Jan 11th.

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- **December 11, 2024 Basketball versus Crosby 5:00 PM**
- **December 13, 2024 Basketball versus LKY at 5:00 PM**
- **December 20, 2024 Christmas Concert and Sharp Futures Auction 9:00 AM to 12:00 AM**
- **December 21, 2024 Alumni 3 on 3 Tournament**
- **January 6th, 2025 Staff Back to School Day for Professional Development**
- **January 7th, 2025 Students Back to School**

For a Full Calendar including all Athletic Games please see our [website](#)



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPDATE: MEGAN SHOOK

Quarter 2 ends on December 20th! Can you believe the year is halfway over!? Report cards will go home after Christmas break. Winter MAP will be January 21st-24th this school year. Teachers have been proactive and intentional with active goal setting with students. We are excited to see the progress not only with MAP, but overall!

Instructional action item ideas over Christmas break:

- Students have log-ins to these sites:
  - [IXL](#) (all grade levels, standards practice w/ all subjects)
  - [RazPlus](#) (grades K-5th, reading focus)
- Read 20 minutes each day/night
- Visit your local library!
- [Storyline Online](#) (various read alouds)
- [PBS Kids](#)
- [READ, WRITE, THINK](#) (literacy focus, all grades)
- [STORYBIRD](#) (students can create and publish storybooks)
- [National Geographic Kids](#) (science focus)
- [Khan Academy](#)
- [TIME for Kids](#)



### SHARP FUTURES



West End School is proud to announce a partnership with the Sharp Futures program.

Sharp Futures held a groundbreaking at West End School on November 19th, 2024 for their newest barbershop mentoring space. The 2,500 square foot building will house the barbershop mentoring program along with the Wishing Well After School Cohort program. The six week program launched on October 28th is an innovation afterschool program that fosters creativity and entrepreneurial skills in young people through hands-on learning and mentorship.

Through the cohort, students will develop self-confidence, leadership and teamwork skills through social, emotional and trauma informed techniques. West End Students will also gain practical skills in business, craftsmanship and creative fields to set them up for sustainable success. The students will auction some of their work during our Christmas program and Auction that will be held on December 20th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon in the gym. Thanks

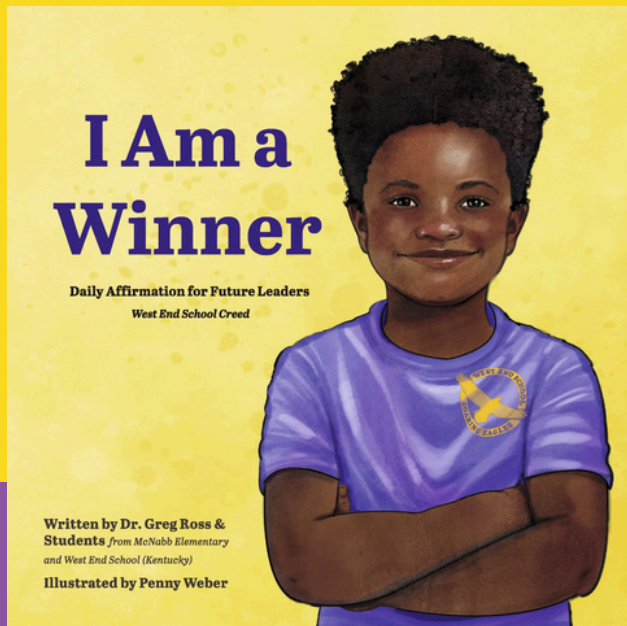




# WEST END SCHOOL "I AM A WINNER"

Every day during Morning Meeting, our West End Scholars say the "I Am, We Are" creed. It is powerful.

Dr. Ross has worked with a leading illustrator to create a children's book on the creed and the story of our school. This book will be available for purchase the week of December 16th through 20th in the front office. It will be \$14.99 per copy. ALL PROCEEDS go to West End School to fund student scholarships. If you would like to reserve a copy, please call 502-776-5236 (office) and plan for pickup the week of December 16th through December 20th.



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER: MRS. DANIEL



Bamba Aziz, Ray Jeffries,  
Eli and Myles Williams  
and Dr. Ross

December Greetings WES Family!

Can you believe we are in the last and final month of 2024?! It absolutely feels as if this year has flown right past and here we stand on the cusp of saying our Goodbyes to 2024 and Hello to 2025.

Our WES Scholars have been participating in a variety of Social and Emotional Learning activities and Guidance Programs. We paid homage to the Sheroges and Heroes on 911, with a school wide assembly in September. In the month of October we went on a Kindness Campaign, we focused on making Healthy Life Choices with Red Ribbon Month and WES Wear Red Day. Our October finale was our Halloween Parade and classroom celebrations. The month of November was dedicated to Thankfulness; we celebrated with our Annual WES Family Thanksgiving Dinner which was a huge success, due in part to the kind donations and volunteerism of our WES Parents/Families and Community Partners!

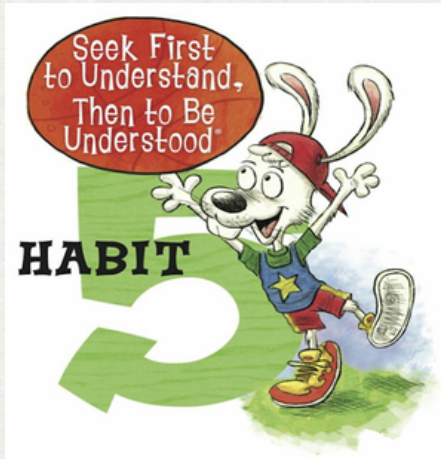




Pre-K Class for Red Ribbon Week



Kindergarten for Red Ribbon Week

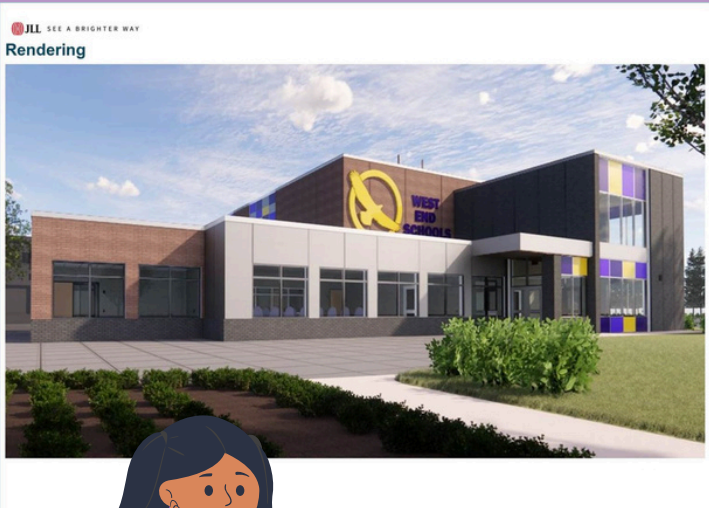


Here we are now...December Celebrations are in the air everywhere! The month of December looks very different for many families. For Guidance throughout the month of December, we are focusing on the diverse religious and cultural celebrations that are revered by many. In doing so we are utilizing our Leader In Me Habit #5 of Seek First To Understand, Then To Be Understood.

We seek knowledge and learn to be culturally aware of the various diverse celebrations outside of Christmas. This allows our Scholars to understand and learn to respect the beliefs of others without judgement or bias. It also teaches the importance of learning others' perspectives before sharing our own and learning to empathize with the beliefs of others.

Please see this link for [December Mental Health Reminders](#).

ADMISSIONS: ADRIANNE



West End School currently has 140 amazing scholars. In August 2024, we expect 145 male scholars and 60 females as we add classes for Girls in Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd. We are excited to announce that we are accepting applications for August 2025. We have a limited number of slots for boys and are working through the admissions process. We are now accepting applications for Girls in Pre-K through 2nd. [Please click here for additional details about Admissions for August 2025.](#)

The new building is on target for August 2025. Everyday you can see a change. Exciting! Feel free to stop by and see the construction in progress.







F.L.O.W. hosted an amazing Pep Rally on November 12th which was enjoyed immensely by students and staff. Thank you F.L.O.W for creating school spirit!

[Click Here to Register](#)

**We cannot wait to see you!**

## VOLUNTEER FRONTIER : KATY BADE

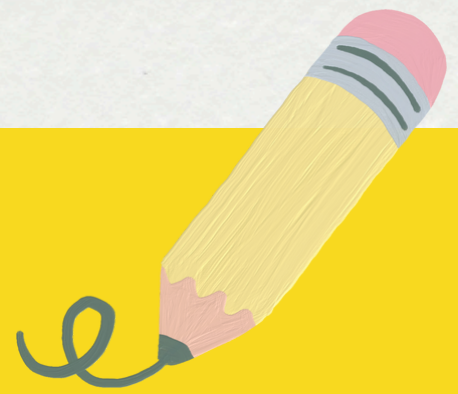


What an amazing group of volunteers we had at the school-wide Thanksgiving Lunch this year. Leading the charge was Roberta Hershberg who served up the turkey that she had generously donated (with the help of her friends and neighbors) and was cooked by her daughter Susan, owner of Wiltshire Pantry. This is the 12th year that this winning team has given their time and talent to our Thanksgiving feast! Also in the ranks were SO many AMAZING parents and family members who provided all of the sides and desserts, AND helped with serving! The day was filled with gratitude, fellowship, and joy.

Be on the lookout for a separate email with all of the volunteer opportunities for the upcoming semester! We have so many options and would love for you to be a part of our team!



## COO CORNER: STACIE FARRIS



**WES Wish List:** Are you looking for a way to help WES? Follow this [LINK](#) to see our wish list. You can work individually or a Supply Drive makes a great group project.

**WES Apparel Store:** Represent WES! Go to the [Apparel Store](#) and buy some merch! Pick up available during school hours.

**Power School:** Families: If you need assistance with Power School, please email me at [stacie.farris@westendschool.org](mailto:stacie.farris@westendschool.org) or stop in the office.

## WEST END MISSION, VISION AND CREED

**Mission:** West End School provides a safe and structured environment for boys in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 8th in which academic rigor, character development, and responsible action establish the foundation for a purposeful life.

**Vision:** A community where children develop the scholarship for academic achievement and the character to change the world.

[Click Here to see the West End School Creed.](#)

**Each child at West End School attends via a scholarship provided by Donors who are committed to proving there is genius in every neighborhood. Your support provides both education and opportunities that shape future leaders.**

If you are interested in touring the school or discussing donation opportunities, please reach out to [Info@westendschool.org](mailto:Info@westendschool.org)

