



Warrior Weekly

Volume IX, Issue XXXIV
Friday, May 1, 2020

Student Centered, Future Focused!

Stay Connected

We invite you to stay connected with Weddington High School on **Facebook** (Weddington High School) or on **Twitter** (@WHSWarriors). We also encourage you to monitor your **Naviance** accounts for information on college and career planning. Daily announcements and information are shared, so please follow us so you do not miss any Weddington High School news! We also frequently update our website at <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/55>

General UCPS News

At this time, the UCPS-specific details of the state's grading plan for students in Grades 9-11 have still not been finalized. At this point, we await final approval on these details from the UCPS Board of Education, which we hope will happen at their next scheduled meeting next Tuesday, May 5. Once finalized, these details will be shared with WHS stakeholders.

This current school year will run through the originally scheduled last day of school, June 9.

At this point in time, neither the state nor UCPS have set any plans for required summer school or an early start to next school year.

Graduation and Senior Activities

A note from our principal, Dr. Jones:

I completely understand the parent and student questions and anxiety around all of the uncertainty around school decisions, particularly for our seniors. All of my principal colleagues in UCPS are "getting blown up" with questions, comments, criticism, etc. around senior recognition. I say that to say that WHS families are not alone in their wondering and their worry about these things. I suspect that it's difficult for people to understand the complexity of the many moving parts behind the scenes which go into these decisions and associated planning, particularly the details around the orders from the governor and the expectation that UCPS high schools will operate with a high degree of uniformity when it comes to senior activities (particularly graduation). Things are so fluid and changing rather quickly, and that reality impacts our ability to make concrete decisions for future events and then initiate the planning and preparation for them. I do want you all to know that our school and our district continue to extensively discuss and plan for the recognition and celebration of our seniors through

graduation, a special senior week, a senior banquet, the Top 20 banquet, academic signing day, yearbook distribution, prom, and few others surprises. Our seniors deserve these things, so they will not go undone!

GRADUATION CAPS AND GOWNS

We are extremely pleased to share that seniors will be able to pick-up their caps and gowns on Monday, May 11. This will be a drive-through style event. More details will be shared with seniors and their families early next week.

Graduation: When and where? Who can attend? How will it work?

Nothing is solidified regarding graduation details, including time, location, guests, etc. We (high school principals and associated UCPS Central Services leaders) are in the process of planning a few different alternatives (modified in-person event in our WHS stadium with social distancing, virtual, hybrid of the two). The decision of which route we go will be primarily based on the governor's orders as well as receiving the ultimate blessing from our UCPS Board of Education and local authorities. We hope to have more solidified details and information about graduation communicated to our community by the end of next week.

Next School Year: Class Offerings and Athletics

FAQ's as of late:

-Will there only be certain classes offered next school year?

-Will there be athletics next year in the state of North Carolina?

The answer to the three questions have not yet been determined by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, respectively. We cannot make local decisions on these issues until the state acts first. Like many of the other "issues" which are up in the air right now, I assure you that at WHS, we will do our very best to communicate information to our WHS community in a manner which is as timely as possible, but not before directives/decisions are passed down by the state and then filtered through our UCPS Board of Education for specific implementation details which are unique to our district.

Canvas Parent Observer Information

Parents wishing to stay informed of their child's activities on Canvas, the main UCPS virtual learning platform, may review the information on the document attached to this Warrior Weekly email message. The document contains instructions on how to be a parent observer for a student's course(s). If you have any Canvas access questions, please contact WHS assistant principal Mrs. Marni Menkin (marni.menkin@ucps.k12.nc.us).

Driver's Education Eligibility Certificates

Beginning the week of May 11, students/families will be able to pick up their driver's education eligibility forms from WHS. If this is a need for your family, please be on the lookout during the week of May 4 for communication from WHS (website and eblast) around this topic.

Prom

Due to current stay at home orders from Governor Cooper and CDC recommendations on group sizes, Weddington High School will not be able to hold our prom on May 16th at the Ritz Carlton. However, we are still hoping to host a free prom at the school if current stay at home orders are lifted and if we can meet group gathering size recommendations on or before Saturday, June 27th. As a result of these changes, we will be

refunding ticket purchases for seniors over the next several weeks. Once processed, all refunds will be mailed to seniors. Tickets purchased for juniors will be transferred to next year's prom. We will continue to update our Weddington families as we get more information from the state.

WHS Theater News

Check out this fantastic story which closely involves many of our WHS students who are part of our theater program: <https://www.blumenthalarts.org/news/detail/pbs-charlotte-to-debut-broadcast-special-celebrating-the-blumey-awards-sponsored-by-wells-fargo-may-12-at-8pm>

Scholar-Athlete Awards

Once again, Weddington High School is setting the standard for excellence in the state of North Carolina when it comes to the well-roundedness of our students. The North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) recently announced their annual NCHSAA Scholar-Athlete team award recipients. These awards recognize the athletic teams in North Carolina who had the highest GPA for their particular sport, regardless of athletic classification (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A). A huge message of congratulations goes out to our student-athletes and coaches who earned these awards through commitment and hard work:

- *Spring 2019: Baseball (3.6), Women's Lacrosse (3.8), Men's Lacrosse (3.5)

- *Fall 2019: Football (3.6)

- *Winter 2019-2020: Wrestling (3.7)

Senior Banners

Attached to this Warrior Weekly email message is a document which provides families of senior students with the opportunity to participate in a senior recognition banner opportunity organized by the Town of Weddington.

NCVPS Update

Students enrolled in virtual courses through NCVPS should be advised that there will not be any final exams for NCVPS courses.

Yearbook

Who could have predicted how relevant our yearbook theme of "Individually Connected" would be? This is a year to remember. What better way is there for our Weddington family to hold onto the positive memories than with a beautiful yearbook? In just a few weeks, families will be sitting together, looking through the glossy pages, connecting with all of the individual memories of the year. There are still a few copies available. Be sure to order yours today at <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?ref=A01049353>

Plans are in the works for yearbook distribution. Such plans hinge on the evolving nature of social distancing requirements and guidelines in our state. Stay tuned, but rest assured that we will have a process in place for students to pick-up purchased yearbooks at some point in the very near future.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation week is next week, May 4th-8th. How will you and your child show your child's teacher appreciation for their hard work to guide and support your child's learning and growth?

News and Notes From the Office of School Counseling

2020-2021 Course Selection

Phase One: April 27 - May 1

Counselors will wrap up a week long effort to connect with 8th - 11th grade students who have **not** input course selections for the 2020-2021 school year.

Phase Two: May 4 - May 8

Counselors will connect with students who were **not able to sit with a counselor** for course review/submission before March 13. If you are a student in this category, please click on this link <https://forms.gle/yWiCML7rAffzgV79> and follow the steps to schedule a virtual meeting with your counselor.

Phase Three: May 11 - June 12

Master schedule building will be in full swing! Counselors will be **unable** to input/review/submit courses for students.

SPCC

Want to learn more about SPCC? Join Ms. Rajan on Wednesday at 1:00 for an SPCC town hall style meeting. Click on this link to join in the conversation:

meet.google.com/zmm-npdm-bxy

Action for Happiness Calendar

Meaningful May (attached to this Warrior Weekly email message)

School Counseling Canvas Page

1,482 students have accepted their invitation to join the School Counseling Canvas page! Counselors are thrilled by this participation and encourage the few of you who have not accepted to do so. Please reach out to Dr. Jordan (mary.jordan@ucps.k12.nc.us) if you'd like a second invitation to pop up in your student email inbox.