

West End Secondary School



**WEST END SECONDARY SCHOOL
EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AT
THE HIGHEST LEVEL BY CULTIVATING
THEIR INNATE CURIOSITY AND
NURTURING THEIR NATURAL ABILITY TO
WONDER AND CREATE.**

Our Presenters



Jessica Jenkins, Founding Principal

Lynne Galyas, Assistant Principal

Tammy Calvo, Middle School Counselor & Student Council Advisor

Karyn Gooden, Parent Coordinator and Proud Parent of 2 students at WESS!

Michele Balsam, Founding Teacher & Leader

Chrissy Grenier, Model Teacher & Leader

Nikki Zernone, Arts Teacher Leader & Lead Art Teacher for Manhattan
Secondary Schools

Ami Kantawala, Dedicated parent

Deborah Caraballoso, Dedicated parent

Students:

Macalister, 7th Grade

Olivia, 8th Grade

Jack, 8th Grade

Aarav, 9th Grade

Sam, 9th Grade

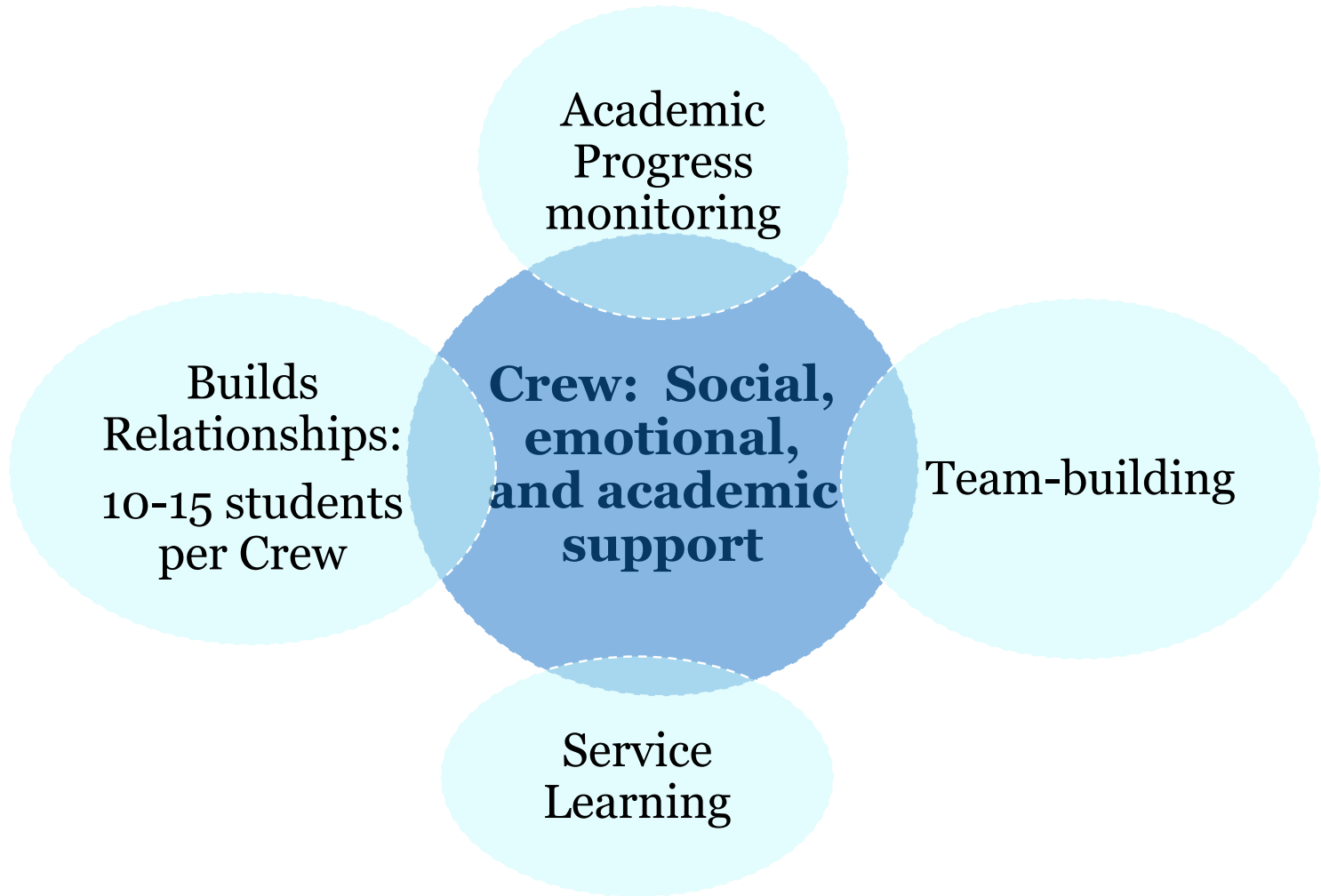
Admission Criteria & Next Steps



2020-2021 Process

- This year WESS is excited to take part in the District 3 lottery.
- Interested in applying? Please rank us according to your preference and be sure to maintain communication with your elementary school parent coordinator or guidance counselor for updates and deadlines.
- **We are a 6-12 school and we want to recruit families who plan to stay with us at WESS through High School!**

Social Emotional Learning



Crew meets twice a week for 45 minutes and is a highlight at WESS! Students remain with the same crew for the entire time they are at WESS.



In September, a 3-day camping expedition introduces our new students to crew.

Here, students explore the meaning behind “We are crew, not passengers.”



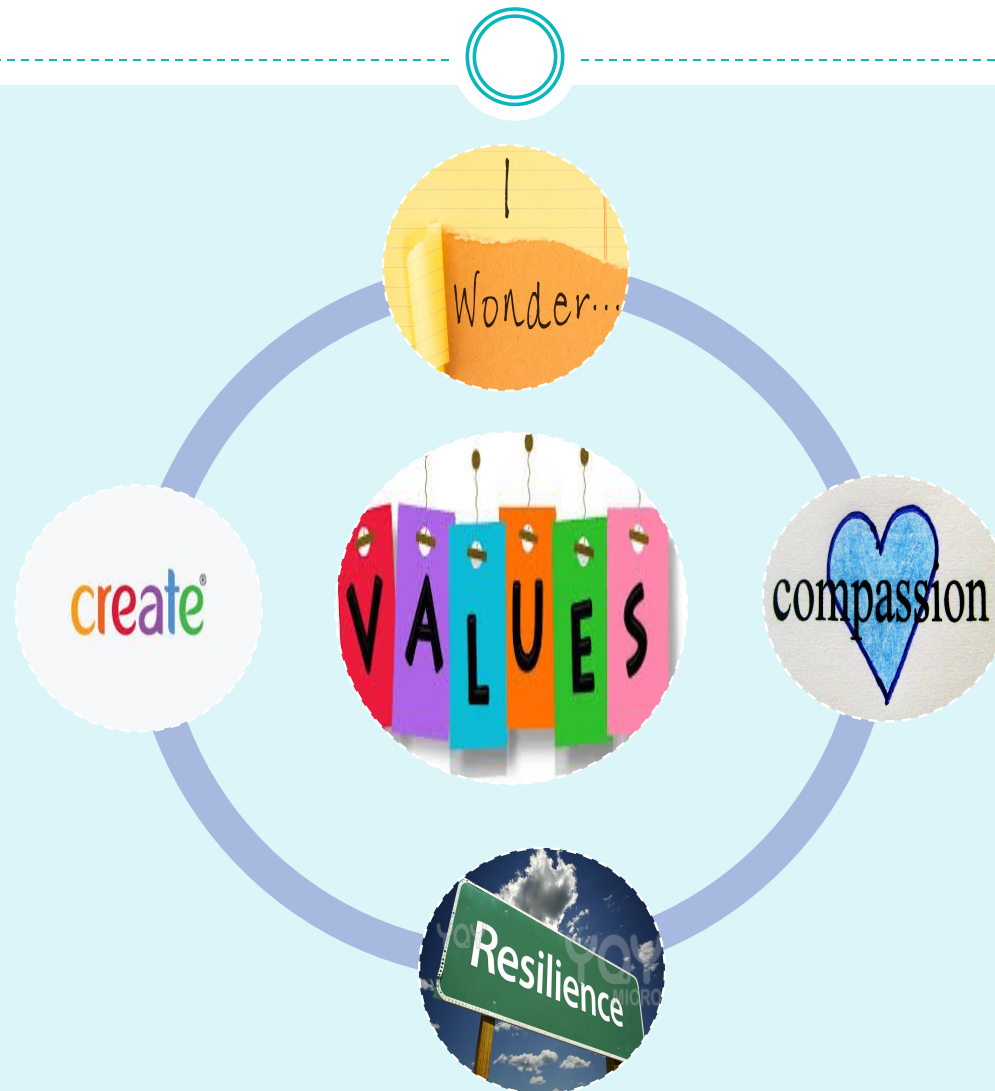
Virtual Crew Expedition



Due to the pandemic, our 6th grade students participated in an online, virtual crew expedition this year. We do expect to return to Sharpe Reservation next fall for a two night camping expedition in the beginning of the school year to orient students to life at WESS and learn what it means to part of a crew!



What Do We Value?





Teaching & Learning at WESS

We teach content
through broader
topics that promote
learning in the
context of the world
in which we live

We choose
compelling topics to
cultivate our
students' innate
curiosity rooted in
learning standards





WESS teachers
promote authentic
learning and utilize
NYC as our learning
lab

We create space for
students to work
through challenging
tasks with the
necessary supports
to discover,
question, and make
meaning





In Social Studies, students studied the origins of our interdependence with waterways

Down the Drain Expedition





In ELA, students began with a case study on Carl Hiaasen's environmental novel *Flush*, where students wrote essays on how a perspective developed in a novel around pollution of a body of water.





Science: Students studied the effect that Combined Sewer Overflows have on the New York Harbor Ecosystem. Students dissected oysters to discover how body parts of oysters contribute to their ability to filter water. They also conducted oyster labs to determine how dissolved oxygen levels impact the number of oysters feeding.



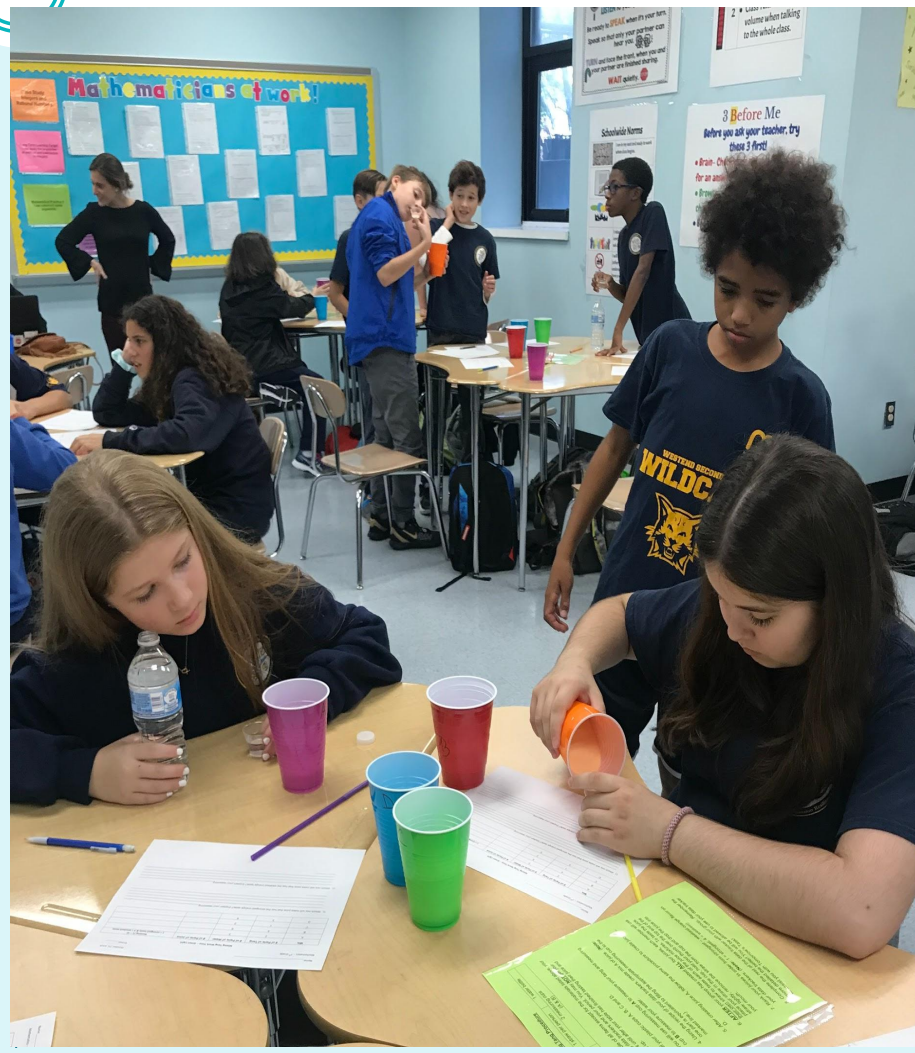


In Math, students created graphs to display water quality measurements taken from NY Harbor sites. Students used these graphs to analyze the water quality data in math and science class.



Our Rigorous Math Program

- Real-world applications
- Opportunities for grappling
- Instruction is differentiated (red light → rainbow light) to meet the needs of all students and provide support and challenge
- Self-assessment is a routine practice and instruction is driven by data.
- All student take the Algebra Regents exam in 8th grade



Arts at WESS



Dance • Visual Arts • Music

- All programs are based in creative art-making
- Connections to grade-wide expeditions
- Transferable Skills- collaboration, problem solving, performance and presentation, reflection



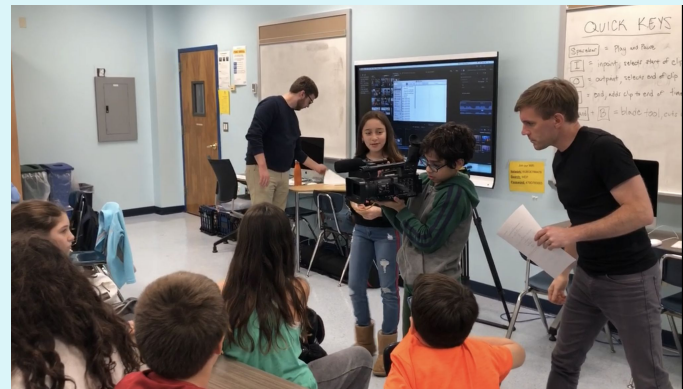
A Partnership with Take Two Film Academy



Take Two Film Academy provides filmmaking and media literacy residencies at WESS to help students explore, present, document and share what they learn during their expeditions.



Lesson in Video Editing using Final Cut Pro



Lesson in Camera Operation

Technology at WESS



- Students are required to have a laptop or chromebook
- HW and classroom assignments submitted through Google Classroom
- This year, all classes are synchronous (live classes on zoom)



Preparation for High School



By the end of 8th grade, all students will have taken the following high school courses:

Algebra I

Living Environment

US History

By the end of 8th grade, students who pass a proficiency exam will receive one year of high school credit for Spanish. All students are required to take Spanish.

After School Activities



Manhattan Youth is proud to provide a comprehensive, well-balanced after-school program. We run WESS sports teams (volleyball, soccer, table tennis, basketball, track, cross country, baseball), produce the Broadway Jr. musicals, and fill every afternoon with activity choices that appeal to the different interest of each student.

Extra-Curricular Activities: Before, During, and After School



In addition to a comprehensive sports program through Manhattan Youth, we offer:

- Community Service
- Tutoring
- Debate
- Robotics
- Musical Theater
- Band
- Social Justice Club
- Opportunity to contribute to the HS newspaper
- Math Team
- Arts & Crafts
- Student Council & NJHS

Parent Engagement and Communication



Significant opportunities for parent involvement:

- Active Parent Association
- Equity Team
- Crew Parents
- Facilitate or participate in Book Clubs
- Serve as an expert (a guest “professor” in one of our classes)
- WESS Beautification
- Communication on the part of the school is ongoing

Learn More! Resources



- *Leaders of Their Own Learning* – Ron Berger
- *Learning that Lasts* – Ron Berger
- EL Education website [here](#)
- More Information about WESS can also be found on our new website: www.westendsecondary.com
- You can also view in depth curriculum guides on our website!