

THE CHARGER

WHS adds new principal, teachers, support staff

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Starting the 2018-2019 school year, WHS students and staff have experienced many new changes, such as technology, new policies and a security system. Students will also see several new faces in the classrooms.

After four years as principal at the Wabaunsee Elementary Schools, Jan Hutley took over at the high school. She took the position after former principal Jeff Stuewe resigned after seven years at WHS.

"I am excited to be around high school kids again and be involved in their activities," Hutley said.

Hutley also taught as high school teacher in anatomy and biology for 15 years. She has implemented a new class to WHS called Leadership Studies.

"I taught it before and I really think that it is important for high school students," Hutley said. "Students always give me positive feed-

back and feel like confident in using it in their everyday lives. I truly believe leadership isn't something you're born with, it's something you learn over time."

The FCS department also had a drastic change with a familiar face to WHS. After Ashley Weber's resignation of FCS teacher and FCCLA advisor last year, the district hired Diane Breiner as an interim for the position. Breiner previously taught FCS and advised FCCLA at WHS for 28 years.

"I was so excited after realizing I would be coming back to WHS to teach, because everything was like it was when I left," Breiner said. "FCCLA does a lot of similar things, such as STAR events and National Cluster meetings. It's just a really easy fit for me."

FCCLA has also been a huge part of WHS and its students, Breiner intends to keep it that way by having a very productive year while "keeping it fun."

"Mrs. Weber did an amazing job

here at raising the bar for FCCLA to continue to be so active and successful," Breiner said. "The officer team has been great at organizing upcoming events for FCCLA and helping me get back into the swing of things."

Girls basketball head coach Shanna Perine took over the P.E. position after Skyler Suther's resignation in June. She will be working as an interim as well.

"I'm excited to be around my athletes here," Perine said. "It gives me a chance to see them and the students at WHS each day."

Perine will be going into her fifth year as head coach. She also previously taught P.E. at Wabaunsee Junior High.

"I'm most looking forward to working with kids who want to



Principal Jan Hutley speaks to Emma Michaelis and Sierra Quathamer during leadership class. Hutley is teaching the class this year.

better themselves not only mentally, but physically as well," Perine said. "I'm here to help them achieve whatever it is they want to achieve. My goal is their goal and helping them get there."

Another familiar staff member also changed roles. Jeanne Parry

moved from media tech/librarian to secretary.

"Although I do miss things about the library, I love working here in the office," Parry said. "I do more of the financial side to things and it can be a little more hectic at times, but I like having more interaction with the students and parents."

Taking over her responsibility as media tech/librarian is Heather McCreight. McCreight has previously taught fourth grade and art at the elementary level.

"I really want to get back into teaching," McCreight said. "I decided to use this experience to see if I enjoyed the high school environment as much as elementary."

McCreight is also in charge of the new Spanish program for the students.

Finally, Tim Songs took over the head custodian position after Fred Johnson retired at the end of the summer.

Spanish changes format

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WHS Spanish classes will look a little different this year.

Following the June resignation of Spanish teacher Rachel Cox, no replacement was found to fill the position. Accommodations had to be made for new Spanish classes. "It was either offer Spanish or not offer Spanish, and I was definitely not a proponent of not offering that class to our kids," principal Jan Hutley said. "I wanted to make sure they had those opportunities from a highly qualified teacher and so that's how we came to Greenbush."

Students will now be working interactively with two Spanish teachers teaching from home. Stacey Lukas will teach Spanish 1 and 2, and Twyla Lomen will be teaching Spanish 3 and 4.

Classes will take place via an interactive video program much like FaceTime. The teacher's live image will be projected onto a screen and they will be able to view the class as well. While the majority of the class will be done interactively, the teachers will have the opportunity to come teach in person every other week throughout the year.

New Librarian/Media Tech Heather McCreight has agreed to supervise and facilitate the class. "I think I have a learning curve, but anything's possible," McCreight said. McCreight will be present for the entirety of the class hour and will enforce order during the class.

Cox also taught English 4, which will now be taught by Laura Delfelder. Delfelder also teaches English 2 and College English. "Taking on English 4 has made me focus a little less on other classes and more on time management, but as far as content it's mostly the same," Delfelder said.

Fall sports teams charged for season

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LARGE TENNIS SQUAD OPENS SEASON WITH A WIN

Tennis season opened Friday with a first place finish at the Wamego Invitational.

The team defeated Wamego, Sabetha, Atchison and Topeka High. In her first meet as a singles player, junior Autymn Schreiner finished 4-0 to win first in #1 singles.

"It was tiring. It's a lot different than doubles," Schreiner said. "I got better at moving up and down on the court and knowing where I need to be."

Sophomores Kendyl Bolinder and Raegan Feyh finished 2-2 in #1 doubles.

"We played really well for the first week of the season. We got better at communicating during points," Feyh said.

Senior Kylie Evans finished 2-2 in #2 singles and senior Kinsey Stuewe and junior Kaytlyn Meseke finished 3-1 in #2 doubles, good for second place.

"This is usually a tough tournament, so I'm pleased with how well the girls competed. Autymn played great in her first singles tournament and the doubles teams adjusted well to new partners. I'm excited to see how they continue to develop," coach Brendan Praeger said.

With 18 girls, the team is the biggest in years. Ten players return from last year's squad, all with varsity experience. The team was also able to add assistant Brandi Miller to the coaching staff. "Adding an assistant allowed us to add a couple more JV meets and allows us to practice on days when half the team is competing. It will really benefit the team as we work to stay competitive every year," Praeger said.

The JV team competed at Emporia Monday, and the team takes



Sophomore Maddy Wertzberger serves during the Amy Schutter Memorial Tournament Saturday in Alma. The Chargers finished 2nd place with a 3-2 record.

two varsity squads to Clay Center Thursday. "They had a team drop out, and we have enough players to fill two spots, so it will be a good opportunity to get varsity time early in the season," Praeger said. The girls also play at Seaman Saturday and Wednesday.

VOLLEYBALL FINISHES SECOND AT HOME TOURNAMENT

Volleyball opened its season Saturday with a second place finish at the Amy Schutter Memorial Tournament in Alma.

The Chargers defeated Oska-

loosa 25-11, 25-8, and Osage City 25-20, 26-24 in pool play, but fell to Centralia 25-14, 15-25, 25-19.

"Getting second wasn't a bad start to the season but I know we can get better and build on what we already have," sophomore setter Jordan Magette said.

The Chargers bounced back with a victory over Rock Creek 11-25, 25-18, 25-23, to make the tournament championship game.

"We did good for our first tournament, but we found stuff that we need to improve on" junior libero Alexis Hafenstine said.

In the championship match, Centralia beat Wabaunsee again, 25-19, 25-13,

With eleven returning players and five promising freshman, the team is looking forward to a promising season. "We're working to get better and be better than last year," senior middle hitter Alyssa Lohmeyer said.

Head coach Tracy Capoun returns to the head volleyball position after a four-year break. She previously took a team to the state tournament.

"This is a very talented group of girls, we're working hard to get better for sub-state," Capoun said. "Our motto is HEART, (honor, effort, attitude, respect, team) and the girls are taking it very seriously."

Volleyball competed Tuesday at Riley County and will compete September 8 in a tournament at Lyndon.

FOOTBALL ENTERS SEASON WITH HIGH EXPECTATIONS

With new leadership and a new schedule, players hope to change the culture of Wabaunsee football this season.

"The season is going really well. We're working to get better with every practice," new head coach Jess Rutledge said. "I'm excited to see the results of our hard work."

With a newly implemented point system for accountability and more intense summer conditioning, the boys are prepared for a comeback season. They're also bringing an entirely new offense to the field this season.

The boys are also looking forward to surprising people with talent this year and how far they've come. "One of the things that will help the most is support," senior captain Noah Mills said.

The team kicks off its season Friday at home against Christ Preparatory Academy. "I'm really proud of how far we've come," sophomore Adam Miller said.

CROSS COUNTRY IN THE RUNNING FOR TWO STATE TITLES

Cross country is working to have two state qualifying teams in October.

"My goal is to medal at state this year but I also want to have the team place. I think with hard work the boys and girls teams can both qualify for state," junior Bryce Tharman said. The team has been training hard and preparing for their opening meet, September 1 at Marysville.

"We're working for league, regional, and state meets," coach Roger Alderman said. The girls have a good shot at state this year bringing back a full first place league team of freshman including Kyndal Maike, Celia Emmert, Sarah Vanstory, Emma Alderman, and Ashlyn Dugger. Other returning varsity girls include Emma Frey, Sierra Quathamer, Jessica Vanstory and Kimi Buchanan. Junior Maddy Hutley, a member of the 2016 MEL championship team, returns after a year of playing tennis.

The boys return a 5th place state team this season, working hard to make it again. Those runners include Eli Mumpower, Alex Warner, Luke Stuhlsatz, Bryce Tharman, and Isaac Lira.