

## Upcoming Events

Aug 14: Cinderella Dress Project (12:00 pm)

Aug 17: 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School

Aug 20: Senior Sunrise (6:30 am)

Aug 25: Powder Puff Football (7:00 pm)

Aug 27: Homecoming Carnival (4:30-6:30 pm)

Aug 28: Homecoming Dance (8:00-11:00 pm)

### Cross Country

Aug 14: Intersquad Meet

### Drama

Aug 27: Alumni Dinner

### Football

Aug 13 @ Hunter

Aug 20 @ Alta

Aug 27 vs Syracuse (HC)

### Girls Soccer

Aug 14 @ Ridgeline

Aug 17 vs RSL

Aug 19 @ Salem Hills

Aug 24 vs Lone Peak

Aug 26 @ Skyridge

### Tennis

Aug 13 @ Cedar Valley

Aug 17 @ American Fork

Aug 19 vs Corner Canyon

Aug 24 @ Skyridge

Aug 25 @ Mt. Ridge

Aug 26 vs Pleasant Grove

### Volleyball

Aug 13: Team Tryouts

Aug 19 @ Mt. Ridge

## MEET DR. SMITH: OUR NEW PRINCIPAL

Written By: Quinn Randall & Victoria Araujo Alba



As we settle back into the new normal and welcome the next class of students, one of this year's changes to Westlake is the introduction of our new principal, Dr. Christian Smith. We had the chance to sit down with him to understand who he is and his plans for Westlake. Based on our conversation, we think we're in for a great year.

When Dr. Smith finished high school in Alabama, he didn't originally plan on becoming a teacher. His father had done well with a family business of industrial piping, and Dr. Smith planned on following in his footsteps. However, shortly after graduation, Dr. Smith went on a life-changing trip to visit a business school in Kentucky. During this trip, both Dr. Smith and his father realized that business was not for him. On the way back, they happened to be passing by a school in Lexington. They stopped to see what it took to become a teacher and

soon he was an English teacher in Kentucky. After moving from Kentucky to Utah, he taught English at Lehi High. He continued his career in education, most recently as the principal of Polaris High.

During our discussion, Dr. Smith emphasized the idea of bringing the school closer together. He stated that when he was growing up, schools were the center of students' lives. In the modern age, with more kids getting jobs and the Internet connecting us to each other in different ways, the feeling of community is not as strong in our schools. Dr. Smith plans to bring our student body closer together through tailgate parties, lunch discussions, and Westlake swag.

Another important topic that he talked about is how his

time as a teacher influences how he will guide the school. When he was a teacher, he taught struggling students and rowdier classes. As he put it himself, "Just because you break a rule doesn't mean you're bad, doesn't mean I have to flip out at you... just because you're failing a class doesn't mean you're stupid, it means we've got to figure out a way to help you learn." He

### DR. SMITH'S ONE PIECE OF ADVICE

"Just do your best; quit comparing yourself to everybody. Some people are going to be 'C' students. That's okay - be fine with it. As long as you did your best, be fine with it."

knows that not everyone who finishes high school will go to a university, and he doesn't think any less of those who don't.

Overall, we're looking forward to Dr. Smith's leadership here at Westlake. He has a welcoming personality and understands students. The ideas and goals Dr. Smith is bringing to his new position will make Westlake *that* much better.

**Picture Day** is on Aug 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> during English classes. These are for the yearbook and your ID card, which you will get that day; appropriate school dress is required. If you are a Senior without an English class, go before school, during lunch, or, with teacher permission, during another class.

**Club Rush Week** is September 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> during lunch. Be sure to check out the various clubs that are available at Westlake High School.

CLUBS – IF YOU HAVE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT NEED TO BE POSTED, EMAIL: [WHS\\_THUNDERNEWS@ALPINEDISTRICT.ORG](mailto:WHS_THUNDERNEWS@ALPINEDISTRICT.ORG).

## JOURNALISM CLUB

Want to write articles for The Thunder News? Wonder how articles get from the writing room to the front page?

Join us on Wednesdays from 11:45 – 12:15 in C246.

# HOW TO WESTLAKE – A NEW STUDENT’S GUIDE

(... and a Refresher for Old Students)

## Regular Bell Schedule

A1/B5	7:45 – 9:07
A2/B6	9:13 – 10:35
1 <sup>st</sup> Lunch	10:35 – 11:20
A3/B7	11:26 – 12:48
A3/B7	10:41 – 12:03
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lunch	12:03 – 12:48
A4/B8	12:54 – 2:15
Buses Depart	2:20

## Wednesday Bell Schedule

A1/B5	7:45 – 8:40
A2/B6	8:45 – 9:40
A3/B7	9:45 – 10:40
A4/B8	10:45 – 11:40
Lunch	11:45 – 12:15
Buses Depart	12:15

Students attend either first or second lunch based upon their A3/B7 teacher as follows:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Lunch

**CTE Classes:** Backus, Bahr, Beagley, Burdett, Dabrowski, Edwards, Ercanbrack, Gowans, Holt, Morales, Page, Pickett, M. Taylor, Test, Whiting, Wilson

**Language Arts Classes:** Blakesley, Child, A. Davis, Durham, Gingerich, Potter, Rallison, Roundy, Schmolke, Sosa, Sturm, S. Taylor, Whitaker

**Science Classes:** Ashton, Bastian, Bodily, Carling, Gordon, Grimes, Hatt, Meek, C. Miller

**Social Studies Classes:** Barrus, Felix, Hoopes, Gerun, Jolley, Miner, Peay, Russell, Sedgwick, Wixom

**Visual Arts Classes:** Boyles, Dajany, Edwards, McCann, Purdy

**World Language Classes:** Cooper, Gee, Jessup, Kemp, Tam

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Lunch

**Math Classes:** Beus, Billman, Derbidge, Jones, Kelly, Lambert, Openshaw, Reini, Somers, Stone, Warner

**Performing Arts Classes:** Brady, Budge, Hatch, Hornback, Megginson, Merrill, Morrey, Sosa

**Physical Education Classes:** Allen, Anderson, Champagne, Fisher, Fox, Kekuaokalani, Kipp, Rushing, Schlee, Wong

**Other Classes:** Anderton, Baugh, Kelly, Mangum, McClure, Milne, Price, Tuckett, Whitehead, Wright

**All of Seminary, MATC, and Eastshore Center**

## WESTLAKE RESOURCES

**Success at Westlake requires a lot of effort. However, you are not alone. Westlake has these resources for you:**

### Westlake’s Homepage

*The central hub for all school information.*

[www.whs.alpineschools.org](http://www.whs.alpineschools.org)

### Skyward

*Check Skyward daily for grading information.*

(Link on WHS homepage)

### Canvas

*Where you will probably do most of your homework.*

(Link on WHS homepage)

**Also, follow Westlake High School on social media:**

### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/westlakehighschool>

### Instagram

[https://www.instagram.com/\\_westlakehigh/](https://www.instagram.com/_westlakehigh/)

### Twitter

<https://twitter.com/thorsnews>

### Thor’s Pantry

*If your family is struggling having enough food for any meal, contact the front office, the counselors or Mr. Schmolke.*

*Additionally, Thor’s Pantry will be open on Fridays for 30 minutes after the end of A4/B8.*

### The Wellness Center

*If you are feeling stressed during school, work with your teacher to go Westlake’s Wellness Center.*

*You can find out more information from the counselors, your teachers, the front office, your peers or in room C138.*

**DON’T GET IN TROUBLE  
KNOW AND FOLLOW WESTLAKE’S DRESS CODE  
FIND IT ON [www.whs.alpinedistrict.org/dress-code/](http://www.whs.alpinedistrict.org/dress-code/)**

Know of something that should be highlighted in the Thunder News? Email:  
[whs\\_thundernews@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:whs_thundernews@alpinedistrict.org).