

West Point School Board
West Point, NY 10996

SY 2008/2009

Dear Parents of West Point Schools:

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Active participation in your child's education makes an enormously positive impact—not only on your child's success, but also on the entire West Point Schools' community. We invite you to become as involved as you can be.

The West Point Schools have a wonderful history of educational achievement in large part because everyone involved—parents, teachers, staff, principals, superintendants, and school board—work as a team to do what's right for our children. That's a tradition worth celebrating. Please continue to guide your children, to communicate regularly with teachers and administrators, to volunteer for projects as you are able, to support the PTO and the Booster Club, and to attend school board meetings.

Of course, as in any large organization, “issues” will arise—disagreements, mistakes, misunderstandings, etc. It is very important for our children's sake to resolve issues as fairly, quickly and efficiently as possible, which usually means resolving them at the lowest level. To that end, we offer this guidance:

1. If you have a classroom-level academic or discipline concern, please first talk to your child's teacher. The teacher is most likely to know all the relevant facts and people involved and can take care of most issues. If you and the teacher cannot resolve the issue, feel free to write or speak to the principal about it.
2. If your concerns regard school-level matters, please address them directly to the appropriate principal at the [elementary school](#) or [middle school](#). Our principals are committed to resolving your concerns. If you are uncomfortable talking directly to a principal alone, feel free to contact the school liaison, 938-8899, or any member of the school board. She and we are your advocates. Any issue that you and the principal cannot resolve can be referred to the district superintendant's office.
3. If your concern regards a system-wide policy or procedure, we encourage you to contact [Mr. Michael Gould](#), the district superintendant, or [Mr. Gary Gerstner](#), the assistant superintendant, both of whom are based out of Quantico, VA, but visit West Point regularly. Again, we are happy to assist you in this process, if you wish.
4. Another way to share your ideas or express your concerns is to do so at a school board meeting. Attendees at the meetings typically include: the board members, both principals, the district superintendant and deputy superintendent, representatives of the PTO and Booster Club, teachers, and many others. If you have an idea or concern that you would like to bring before the board, please complete a “Topic-of-Interest” form. The forms are available at the District office, which is located on the lower level of the middle school, or by calling 845-938-3506. The school board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:30 pm. Any adjustments to that time will be published in the respective schools' newsletters.

Thank you for partnering with West Point Schools to educate your child. It is a privilege to serve you.

West Point School Board: