

MISSION

The mission of Westside Middle School, as an exemplary model of early adolescent education, is to prepare students to become responsible citizens by providing a quality, success-oriented program through a caring school/family/community partnership.

A Note From The Principal

As October comes to a close and November begins, my thoughts drift to many fond memories of family and friends celebrating Thanksgiving. I am thankful for how the school year has unfolded thus far. Every day I can see the teachers working hard, committing themselves to helping students to be engaged in the learning process. Parents are making the commitment for students to get any extra assistance both at home and school. The result of this commitment is higher levels of learning from our students. Westside is a special place and the commitment to student success on all levels constantly reminds me of how thankful I am to be part of this district.

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, November 22,
2017

Thanksgiving Break

NO SCHOOL

Thursday, November 23,
2017

Thanksgiving Day

NO SCHOOL

Friday, November 24, 2017

Thanksgiving Break

NO SCHOOL

Conferences

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend parent teacher conferences. We had a good turn out, and our teachers appreciate the chance to work together with parents to help students grow and experience success. Please remember that grades are only one indication of your son or daughter's progress.

Student-School Connectedness

Our Guidance Department recently coordinated the Gallup Student Poll as part of a District-Wide effort to measure hope, engagement, entrepreneurial aspirations, and career/financial literacy. Administered during SPARK, the survey is part of our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and focuses on the relationship between student engagement and academic success. According to Gallup's research, engaged students are excited to be at school and positively contribute to the learning environment.

At WMS, we are very purposeful in providing opportunities for students to be engaged or connected to our school. For example, in school curricular activities such as band, music, and art provide opportunities for students to perform and further develop their skills. Extra curricular offerings can have an academic focus, club focus, or athletic focus. WMS has 7 academic competition teams ranging from Quiz Bowl to MathCounts. There are 12 active clubs ranging from programming and student council, to the guitar club. For the athletic focus, we combine interscholastic and intramural programs for both grade levels open to all students. We feel strongly in providing a variety of offerings for students to be involved. In turn, being involved and connected at school exposes students to a wide range of peers, helps build positive relationships with peers and adults, and teaches valuable life lessons regarding adversity. For

more information regarding opportunities to be involved, please visit our school website. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Eymann or myself if we can be of any assistance. You can reach me at olsen.russell@westside66.net or Mrs. Eymann at eymann.kimberly@westside66.net, follow our school's webpage at <http://wms.westside66.org>, or follow me on twitter @Principal_Olsen. I hope this November Update finds you and your family healthy and safe. It is a privilege to be the principal at WMS. Please stop by and say hello!

Russ Olsen
Principal

Notes From Attendance

Liz Webb, Attendance Secretary

If for any reason your child needs to miss school or leave early, please send a note with the date and reason the student will be gone, or call the attendance office a day or two prior to the absent date. The students may sign themselves out in the Main Office, but CAN NOT leave the building until a parent/guardian comes up to the main entrance doors, rings the bell, and is identified. If someone other than the parent/guardian is picking up your student, please let us know, who that person will be, prior to the pick up.

(402) 408-8649

Notes from the A.D.

Dan Carlson, Athletic Director

The fall sports season is over and I would like to thank all of our dedicated athletes, parents, and coaches for making it another successful year. Like most seasons, it was a mixture of wins and losses, but successful in effort and life lessons learned throughout the season.

On October 12th, we recognized all of our athletes at the fall sports recognition event. All student-athletes received certificates of participation and were recognized by their coaches for their efforts this fall. The following students were recognized as winners of our Ultimate Warrior Award: Madilyn Siebler, Natalie Brownfield, Natalie Pease, Margaret Parsonage, and Taylor Cramer(volleyball), Isaiah Lewis and Keione Hagens(football), Zoe Sundermeier and Jack Gerard(cross country). Once again congratulations to all athletes!

November is a big month for Boys' Basketball. Bruce Zabel begins his 1st year as Head Boys' Basketball coach and will lead a staff including Lance Mosier, Bruce Moulton, Rondel Korbelik, Dave Vallinch and Mike Keller. We will have nearly 100 boys participating in our competitive and intramural basketball programs at WMS. Please contact Coach Zabel or one of the assistants to discuss the competitive basketball program. Intramural competition will begin in late November.

Dan Carlson

Athletic Director

Communication from WMS Community Club

Barbara Wimmer, WMSCC President

Happy November! A HUGE "Thank You" to the families who helped contribute to our Fall Athletic Awards Night and Teacher Conference Dinners in October. And a special shout out to Kristi Davis who coordinated the meals for the teachers. Meals included food from Planet Sub and 402-BBQ. We love supporting our teachers!

Logo wear is back! Just in time for the holidays logo wear order forms will be distributed soon. Look for the forms with some new design and color options. Contact Susan Gass for more information or questions - sgass@cox.net.

Keep Tagg'ing! Merchants have contributed 5% of your purchases back to our school. August and September we raised \$122.00 for our PBiS program. TAGG has added over 80 businesses this past quarter so make sure you download the TAGG app. Great local businesses like Shucks, Dundee Dell, Planet Sub, Little Espana, Lotus House of Yoga, Petrows, Zen Coffee and Wild Rice Sushi.....plus SO many more!

Always thankful for your support!

Barbara Wimmer

WMSCC President

wimmers@cox.net

Curriculum News

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Jackie Ryan

Career Education is an important part of Family Consumer Science. Students use the Nebraska Career Connections (NCC) website (www.nebraskacareerconnection.com) to access current information concerning career education. Each student is assigned a NCC account starting in the seventh grade. Students will have access to this account not only through their middle school career but also throughout their high school career to help them to manage their career goals and needs.

Also, within the nine weeks that students are in FCS, they will access and apply information from MyPlate. During the middle school years, students are growing extremely rapidly making it even more important to have a healthy lifestyle. MyPlate recommends the following; eat a variety of fruits and vegetables, sleep for at least seven hours each night, drink six to eight glasses of water a day, and complete continuous physical activity for at least 60 minutes each day. There are three components of MyPlate. Those components are: balance calories, increase certain foods (such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains) and reduce foods high in sodium and sugar. The website offers a number of resources for meeting these recommendations. Visit the website at www.choosemyplate.gov with your student today!

You can find more information regarding our course in the "Course Description" in PowerSchool or on our Blackboard site. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns!

Cold Weather Care for your Mac Book

Mitch Scheffler & Ben Fraizer, Tech Support

1. Before turning on your computer, allow it to sit out and reach room temperature (between 50 and 95 Fahrenheit). Powering on the computer while the ambient temperature is outside of this range can cause damage to the computer.
2. Do not leave your computer in the car or any place where it might be exposed to extreme temperatures for extended periods of time (more than a few hours).
3. Keep your computer sleeve/case zipped up to help prevent snow and rain from getting inside, but be aware that the bag is not waterproof.

Please call the WMS Tech Support Department with any additional questions or concerns about your computer.

Tech Support Office: (402) 408-8606

Lunch Account Information

Tired of writing a check or sending cash with your student to pay for school meals? Go to the website myschoolbucks.com to pay for meals online. Follow the easy instructions on the web. Your student's ID number is required to open an account. This ID number can be found on the class schedule or by calling the WMS main office. You may choose to set up an account that will charge your credit card when you reach a pre-set low balance, or you may put money in the account yourself. It's an excellent way to take one more thing off your "to do" list.

Notes From the Nurse

Thank you to those who have turned in 7th grade physicals and updated immunizations. If you have not turned these in, please do so as soon as possible. Nebraska state law requires this information to be turned in at the beginning of 7th grade.

Any student with a chronic health condition (such as asthma, diabetes, or a seizure disorder) requires a health action plan updated annually. Please turn in this documentation if you have yet to do so.

If your student has changes in health or updates to immunizations, please keep us informed and send documentation to school. We want to ensure the safety and health of your student and provide the care that he or she may need.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Phone (402) 408-8652 Fax (402) 390-6454

November Athletic Calendar

11/06/17	Mon.	V/JV Boys' BB vs. Beadle MS	Beadle MS	3:45 PM
11/07/17	Tues.	Boys' BB Gold/White vs. Papillion Jr. High	WMS	3:45 PM
11/09/17	Thurs.	V/JV Boys' BB vs. Millard Central MS	WMS	3:45 PM
		Boys' BB Gold/White vs. Ralston MS	WMS	3:45 PM
		Boys' BB Blue/Green vs. Wilson MS.	C.B. Wilson MS	4:00 PM
11/11/17	Sat.	JV Boys' BB Invite	WMS	9:00 AM
11/13/17	Mon.	V/JV Boys' BB vs. Logan MS	Logan MS	4:15 PM
11/14/17	Tues.	Boys' BB Gold/White vs. C.B. Kirn MS	C.B. Kirn MS	3:45 PM
11/16/17	Fri.	V/JV Boys' BB vs Bellevue Lewis & Clark	Lewis & Clark MS	4:30 PM
		Boys' BB Gold/White vs. LaVista MS	WMS	3:45 PM
		Boys' BB Blue/Green vs. Ralston MS	WMS	3:45 PM
11/20/17	Tues.	Boys' BB Blue/Green vs. Liberty MS	Liberty MS	4:00PM
11/28/17	Tues.	V/JV Boys' BB vs. LaVista MS	LaVista MS	4:00 PM
11/30/17	Thurs.	V/JV Boys' BB vs. Fremont MS	WMS	3:45 PM
		Boys' BB Blue/Green vs. Beadle MS	Beadle MS	3:45 PM

November Calendar

11/6/17	Mon.	Don and Mille's Night	Don & Mille's	4:00 - 9:00 PM
11/10/17	Fri.	Picture Retakes	WMS	All Day
11/14/17	Tues.	Band/Chorus Concert	WMS-PAC	7:00 PM
11/22/17	Wed.	THANKSGIVING BREAK- NO SCHOOL		ALL LEVELS
11/23/17	Thurs.	THANKSGIVING DAY - NO SCHOOL		ALL LEVELS
11/24/17	Fri.	THANKSGIVNG BREAK - NO SCHOOL		ALL LEVELS

The Westside Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, age, national origin or disability. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Kami Jessop, Director of Special Services, 390-2110.