

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.

Dates to Remember

Library Hours

The WMS Library is open
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Student using the Library after school are expected to work on homework or read quietly. Those students not working will be asked to leave. Contact Quinn McGuire to sign up.

A Note From The Principal

It is hard to believe we are already into September. The school year is off to a good start for our students and teachers. Both curriculum nights were well attended and I had heard many positive comments about our staff and their enthusiasm for the new school year. The partnership between parents and the school is so critical. Our staff really appreciates the support. Additionally, if there is any time we need to support your student, please feel free to contact the school. We are here to serve the families we work with.

Student Planners

Every student at WMS was given a planner (spiral notebook and electronic version) to help them stay organized and to help assist in daily communication with parents. Daily, the teachers will write the phrase 'learning goal' and 'cw' for class work on the board. The rationale is for students to clearly see the objective for each class period, everyday. Students are expected to record the learning goal for each class in their school provided assignment notebook. Take a look at your child's assignment notebook to see what they are learning at school. Think about using a phrase like, "Tell me more about adding and subtracting integers." This will force a conversation and help avoid the response of "I didn't learn anything today," when you ask how their day went.

Attendance

September is Attendance Awareness Month and WMS continues to work at increasing our Average Daily Attendance rate. I've included eight reasons why attendance matters.

- **Learning.** Students who attend school learn more than those who don't. Even for children with perfect grades, frequent absences interfere with learning.
- **Socializing.** Daily contact with peers helps children develop social skills. Intermittent attendance makes it hard for them to feel like part of the class.
- **Caring.** Insisting that children attend school every day shows children that their parents want what's best for them and that education is important.
- **Security.** Being tardy or absent is stressful for children. Having a predictable routine and knowing they'll be on time helps children feel more secure.
- **Habits.** Attending school regularly and arriving on time helps establish good habits that carry into adulthood.
- **Independence.** When children attend school regularly, they learn to function in settings outside the home.
- **Belonging.** Every child is valued at our school. When children are gone, their teachers and classmates miss them and what they bring to the classroom.
- **Legal.** Student attendance is the law. Society expects all children to attend school regularly. Truancy can lead to court involvement.

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 September 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.

Homework requests can also be made before 10:00 a.m. if your student is absent two (2) or more full days.

(402) 408-8649

Notes from the A.D.

Dan Carlson, Athletic Director

The fall sports season has officially begun with the start of football, volleyball, and cross country. Please feel free to contact the coaches below with any questions you may have.

Football.....Lucas Apfelbeck, Jake Hoover, Matt Bova and Erick Martin

Volleyball.....Shelby Sedlacek, Megan Sigilito, Kalen Carlson and Leanne Kniewel

Cross Country.....Emily Graham and Cassa McConville

The mission of the Westside Middle School Athletic department is to provide early adolescents of varying skill levels with diverse opportunities for competition and life lessons through athletics. As part of this mission, we provide parents, coaches, and athletes with best practices for making athletics a positive experience. Below are some tips for parents on how to make the most out of your child's game day experience. The spirit of these tips can also be applied to your role in supporting their overall development.

BEFORE THE GAME

- Tell your child you will be proud of them regardless of how well he or she plays.
- Tell your child to play hard, have fun, and it's o.k. to be nervous.

DURING THE GAME

- Let the coaches do their job and avoid giving advice to the athletes. If you are using verbs from the stands, you are probably saying too much.
- Cheer good plays and good efforts by both teams.
- Mention good calls by the officials to others. Avoid criticism of officials.
- Enjoy the game, it will be over before you know it.

AFTER THE GAME

- Let your child tell you about the game (avoid giving your post-game analysis unless asked). Ask open-ended questions:

“What was the most/least enjoyable part of the game?”

“What did you learn from the game?”

- Tell your child that you are proud of him or her! (especially if the game didn't go well)
- Thank the officials for doing a difficult job.
- Thank the coaches for their effort.

As always, visit our website for the most up-to-date schedules. Feel free to contact me at 402-408-8669 or carlson.daniel@westside66.net any time with questions concerning WMS athletics. You can also get athletic updates on from my twitter feed: @wms66athletics

Dan Carlson

Athletic Director

Traffic

During the first few weeks of school, traffic in and around WMS can be very confusing and frustrating at times. Here are a few tips to help with the transition:

Before school, students are expected to enter the building through the Performing Arts Center (PAC) doors on the south side the building. Please use the entire length of the drop off lane rather than directly in front of the entrance. It is OK for middle school students to exercise their legs by walking a bit farther. This will help reduce the amount of back-up on Alpine Drive. Additionally, please drop students by the curb rather than the passing lane. This will allow other drivers to pass, and it is safer for pedestrians.

After school, Arbor Street is a one-way street for three blocks, from 86th Avenue to 85th Avenue. In an effort to keep traffic flowing, please use a rolling technique until your student is picked up. Traffic can become congested if vehicles are stopped in the passing lane. This is not safe for pedestrians, and it causes back up of buses and other parents.

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

WMS COMMUNITY CLUB

Barb Wimmer - Community Club President

Hello WMS Families!

Thank you for all your responses to volunteer and support our community club. There is still time to sign up and support our club. Attached is our interest indicator and I encourage you to find a way to be involved.

Logo wear is on sale until this Thursday, Sept 7th. Your forms have to be turned in to the office by 3:30.

Conference meals are coming up in October. We need volunteers to coordinate these for our teachers. Please contact me if you specifically would like to help.

Our next meeting is Thursday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 in the new library.

Attached are the minutes from Thursday, August 31st. meeting.

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.

September Athletic Calendar

9/05/17	Tues.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Millard Central Reserve Volleyball vs. LaVista Jr. High	Millard Central MS LaVista Jr. High	4:00 PM 4:00 PM
9/07/17	Thurs.	7/8 XC Bellevue West HS XC Festival V/JV Volleyball vs. LaVista Junior High Varsity Football vs. LaVista Junior High JV Football vs. LaVista Junior High	Bellevue West High School LaVista Jr. High WMS LaVista Jr. High	5:00 PM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM
9/08/17	Fri.	7/8 XC Millard South Invite	Walnut Grove Park	6:00 PM
9/09/17	Sat.	JV Volleyball Invite 7/8 XC Omaha Central MS Meet	WMS Fontenelle Park	8:00 AM 11:30 AM
9/11/17	Mon.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Logan MS 7/8 XC Papillion Jr. High Meet	WMS Halleck Park	4:00 PM 4:00 PM
9/12/17	Tues.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Beadle MS Reserve Volleyball vs. Kirn/Liberty Tri	WMS WMS	4:00 PM 4:00 PM
9/14/17	Thurs.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Liberty MS Reserve Volleyball vs. Fremont MS Varsity Football vs. Kiewit MS JV Football vs. Kiewit MS	Liberty MS WMS Kiewit MS WMS	4:00 PM 4:00 PM 3:45 PM 4:00 PM
9/18/17	Mon.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Kiewit MS	Kiewit MS	4:00 PM
9/19/17	Tues.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Ralston MS Reserve Volleyball vs. Papillion/Wilson Tri	WMS WMS	4:00 PM 4:00 PM
9/21/17	Thurs.	V/JV Volleyball vs. Anderson MS JV Football vs. Anderson MS	WMS Anderson MS	4:00 PM 3:45 PM
9/22/17	Fri.	7/8 XC Russell MS Invitational	Walnut Grove Park	5:00 PM
9/26/17	Tues.	V/JV Volleyball vs. C. B. Wilson MS Reserve Volleyball vs. Ralston/Wilson Tri JV Football vs. Ralston MS 7/8 XC Sarpy County Challenge	C.B. Wilson MS WMS Ralston MS American Heroes Park	3:45 PM 4:00 PM 3:30 PM 4:30 PM
9/27/17	Wed.	7/8 XC Bryan MS Invite	Omaha Bryan MS	4:00 PM
9/28/17	Thurs.	Varsity Football vs. Millard North MS JV Football vs. Millard North MS	Millard North MS WMS	3:45 PM 4:00 PM
9/29/17	Fri.	Varsity Volleyball Invite Reserve Volleyball vs. Lewis Central MS	Abraham Lincoln High School C. B. Lewis Central MS	4:00 PM 4:15 PM
9/30/17	Sat.	Varsity Volleyball Invite	Abraham Lincoln High School	8:00 AM

September Calendar

9/08/17	Fri.	WMS Fun Night	WMS	7:00 - 9:00 PM
9/11/17	Mon.	Picture Day	WMS	ALL DAY

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.

Westside Middle School Community Club

August 31, 2017

Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Barb Wimmer.

Introduction of members.

Review and approve April 20th minutes.

WMS Update:

Russ Olsen, Principal:

- Just under 1000 student enrollment.
- Large 8th grade class of +500 students
- New library opened as central focus of building
- teams enjoying use of new common area in each team area
- 2 more phases of renovation to complete in 7th grade area.
Hopefully done by winter break.

Kim Eymann, Assistant Principal:

- PBIS is going well
- behavior referrals way down

Barb Wimmer, President:

- No report - Thanks for your support to start off the year

Lisa Reciek, President Elect:

- No Report

Kerri Roberts, Treasurer

- Budget Handed out
- LOGO Wear last year great profit
- Box Tops and HyVee receipts go towards PBIS and not CC Budget
- Award night donations can sometimes end in profit due to donations. Decision made to keep nights in the budget since it is not always known if donations will come in year by year.

- This is the year for VI VI. CC Budget for 4 Tickets @ \$500.
\$250 from 2016 Budget, \$250 from 2017 Budget
- Budget for donations for Vote Yes for Westside campaign

Susan Gass, Advisor:

- No Report

New Business:

1. LOGO Wear

- with no orientation and construction, LOGO sales were slow.
- Final orders are to be turned in by Sept. 7th
- Will look into seeing if High School can print LOGO Wear for next year
- New Designs for Xmas orders

2. TAGG

- 5% goes to PBIS rewards program. Not managed by CC

3. Need committee chairs for Conference Meals and Teacher Appreciation Week

4. Volunteers needed for Fun Night on Sept. 8th. Possibly High School Students for service hours.

5. Yes for Westside needs volunteer callers and door hangers.

Russ Olsen

- Directory - Is this something we want to take on and how do we want to distribute the list of those of opted in.
- Does not make \$\$ for CC, so feel sending out an electronic version is best option.

- Is CC open to discuss an opportunity to sponsor a 2nd semester Fun Night for students? Possibly work with Student Council to plan and organize with a CC budget. Needs to be help before Spring Break.

Beth Morrissette, Westside School Board Member:

- Came to discuss the Vote Yes for Westside Levy Override

- Current Levy of \$0.10 expires this year
- District asking for a vote to extend levy to \$0.15
- Levy money is used for general district operations like:
 - smaller classrooms
 - 2 classroom section schools
 - avoid more budgets
 - salary schedules to compete with other city districts in order to maintain high level teachers
 - pursuing Grant money
 - support all kids with variety of needs
- Bond money is used more for capitol improvements such as renovations

CC votes to approve \$500 donation to Vote Yes for Westside to cover cost of Campaign.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 21 - WMS Library @ 6:30



Westside Middle School Community Club Interest Indicator

We need your help! Westside Middle School's Community Club (WMSCC) organizes and supports numerous events that benefit our children and the middle school staff. These activities wouldn't be possible without parental involvement. We invite all 7th and 8th grade families to participate in the various committees listed below. Please complete both pages and mail to the address listed below or turn in at the WMSCC table at WMS Orientation on July 27th, Aug 2nd or Aug 3rd.

Student Name(s): _____

2017-2018 Grade Level(s): _____

* For incoming 8th Graders

* if you added your information last year we will continue to include you unless you request we remove you from the emails. You DO NOT need to complete a new form unless something has changed.

* if you didn't receive Community Club emails last year please complete the form and we will add you to the email this year!

Please note: We will be using Constant Contact, an online scheduling application, for organizing our volunteer opportunities. Please fill out the information below:

Parent(s) Name	Email	Phone

OR, please consider donating monetarily! I am willing to

_____ Donate! Funds are used to purchase tools/technology to aid teachers in presenting lessons and material in creative and innovative ways and to support WMSCC in these efforts.

\$20_____ \$50_____ \$100_____ Other_____

Please include donation with form. Checks made out to WMSCC

_____ Assist! Assist WMSCC in fundraising activities on an as-needed basis.

Mail or email form to:
Barbara Wimmer, WMSCC President
9923 Broadmoor Rd.
Omaha, NE 68114
wimmers@cox.net

Want to hang out with us? WMSCC meetings are usually one Thursday a month at 6:30pm. A schedule of meetings will be distributed around the first week of school.

WMS Community Club Sponsored 2017-2018 Events

Here's what you can help with!

Logo Clothing: Help with the sale of Westside logo wear at Orientations, Curriculum Nights, and other opportunities throughout the year. Contact Susan Gass to assist - sgass@cox.net

Curriculum Nights: 7th Grade - August 24th 5:30-8:00pm, 8th Grade August 29th 5:30-8:00pm. Sell logo wear and provide information for signing up to help Community Club volunteers.

October and March Conference Dinners: October 16th and 18th / March 12th and 14th - Monetary and food donations are needed to provide a dinner and a snack station for teachers during Parent/Teacher Conferences. Volunteers also needed to help with set-up and clean-up.

Sports Award Recognition Nights: Oct, Dec, Mar, and May - Monetary donations and desserts are needed to provide refreshments for parents and students during ceremonies. If your child is participating in a sport please consider volunteering during these seasonal events!

Student Recognition: Monetary and food donations are needed to provide refreshments for parents and students during four services - Block Awards, National Junior Honor Society, and 7th and 8th Grade Honors Nights.

Staff Appreciation Week: Usually March or April - volunteers are needed to organize and execute.

8th Grade Career Day: mid-May - numerous volunteers are needed to speak at this event. Please indicate below if you are interested in speaking about your career.

The information you share will help students evaluate career opportunities and prepare for their futures by selecting appropriate high school and college courses.

WMSCC sincerely thanks you for your generosity, your time and your support!