



# Middle School Newsletter

## October, 2019



### WEST DE PERE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### West De Pere Schools Mission Statement:

The mission of the School District of West De Pere is to create a comprehensive educational and social environment for students, and staff which will produce life-long learners with the capacity to succeed in a global community.

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Dear WDP Middle School Families,

Writing to you, this the first day of October, with a full month of school on the books. Our middle school enrollment right now is about 850 students, grades 6-8. To put that into perspective, we had approximately 500 students in that same space twelve short years ago when Hemlock Creek opened and we became a 6-8 middle school. I'm sure during open house night last month you may have felt first hand just how full we are, perhaps just from parking your car. It will likely be that way again on nights like parent-teacher conferences or other all-school events. Despite that, I hope your child reports to you that things at school do not seem crowded and for the most part, seem like business as usual. That said, we all eagerly anticipate construction of our new 5/6 intermediate school next door! (and some space relief ☺) Other items to share with you include...

#### Advisory Period

A key ingredient to student success is the development of positive and supportive teacher-student relationships. Despite our best efforts on a daily basis to make sure all students feel like they have at least one meaningful relationship with an adult at school, we recognize that not all students feel that way sometimes. As a result, we are always searching for new ways to ensure that all students feel connected to school in a positive way. To that end, a new effort last year was the creation of an advisory period. Activities that occurred during advisory period varied from week to week, but often focused on developing strong bonds among students, their classmates, and teachers. Advisory period met for 30 minutes once a week, typically on Wednesdays at the end of the day. All other class periods on advisory period days were shortened by a couple of minutes. Every teacher in the building was involved in advisory period activities, which created small groups of about a dozen students. As a whole, our staff felt that there were many positive benefits of the advisory program and planned to continue it this year. Our first advisory period day will be this Friday, October 4. Our hope is that it continues to be something that students look forward to and find beneficial.

#### Parking lot traffic patterns and before school student drop-off

You'll find a traffic pattern map in this month's newsletter. Parent drop-off of students in the morning before school should occur in the front circle drive or by the stop sign on the service road that connects the Middle School and Westwood Elementary. Please do not drop off your child on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Westwood Drive, or in the middle school staff parking lot. Dropping off students in any of those areas frequently adds to traffic congestion and creates potentially unsafe walking situations for students. Due to the change in school start times this year, it seems like the time of greatest traffic congestion is a 10-minute window of time from 7:15-7:25am, near the service road that connects the Middle School and Westwood Elementary – or where the buses enter the Middle School property to drop students off. This may be a place and time to avoid for impatient drivers, those running late, or those generally in a hurry to drop off their children. We are counting on your help with this – thank you!

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on **October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-8:00pm**. Conference time slots are 10 minutes in length. If you are not available to conference during the date/times offered, need a longer conference time, or find that all of the conference time slots have been filled by the time you attempt to sign-up, simply contact the individual teacher to schedule a different conference date and time. More information regarding conferences, including the registration process, can be found at this web address:

<http://www.wdpsd.com/middleschool/parents/parentteacher-conferences>

#### Washington D.C. trip information meeting

Parent information meeting for those families interested in the 2020 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington D.C. trip – **October 24, 8:00p.m.** (MS commons) – immediately following parent-teacher conferences that same evening. This meeting is open to all students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, but of particular importance to those in 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year.

Sincerely,

James Finley, PhD

## **Phantom Phundamentals Update**

### **September – Citizenship**

The month of September was filled with exciting reports of our students demonstrating strong character. I am encouraged as I read the teachers nominations and felt you would enjoy reading a few as well.

**Kadie Micheau, Grade 6 – COMPASSION.** Kadie took the time to help a classmate understand how a lock works. Kadie practiced with her until the classmate was comfortable.

**Michael Fiala, Grade 7 – CITIZENSHIP.** Michael voluntarily picked up a mess left after a student who had left their breakfast at a commons table and walked away.

**Evan Grosklous, Grade 8 – CITIZENSHIP.** Evan asked the teacher at the end of class if she needed help with anything.

### **Optional 8th Grade Year Washington, D.C. Trip**

Throughout the school year, there will be opportunities for students in all grades to fundraise to help support their 8th grade DC trip if they choose to participate. Gas cards and Seroogy candy sales are available to students in all grades. Gas cards are available year round, Seroogy sales will be early October - November & February - April.

If your son/daughter is interested in participating in the DC trip, please complete the form on the DC site (link below). For any further inquiries regarding the trip, please contact Ms. Pamperin at [apamperin@wdpsd.com](mailto:apamperin@wdpsd.com) or Ms. Slowinski at [eslowinski@wdpsd.com](mailto:eslowinski@wdpsd.com).

### **Current Washington, D.C. Fundraisers**

#### **Gas Cards**

Shell Gas Cards are available in the middle school office. Students earn 8% on every card sold. Bring cash or check (Payable to West De Pere Middle School) to the middle school office for purchase. We carry \$50 or \$100 cards. (Please include your child's name on the check/envelope.)

#### **Seroogy Candy Sales**

The Seroogy candy bar sales will be available in the middle school office early October. Students may pick up a box of 48 assorted Seroogy chocolate bars for \$72.00. \$36 per box goes toward the student's DC account. (Please include your child's name on the check/envelope.)

#### **Washington D.C. Information**

For more information - <https://sites.google.com/wdpsd.com/dctrip/>

## **Counselor's Corner**

When counseling students in a school setting the issue of confidentiality occasionally comes up. Sometimes students will come in and say, "Will you promise not to tell anyone if I tell you something?" A counselor is required to report certain situations such as abuse, a life in danger or if a student is making a serious threat to harm someone. We are faced with a trust factor here. It is the expectation of students that when information is shared with a counselor it will be kept confidential. If this were not the expectation, most students would not seek the support of the school counselor. However, trust that parents will be informed if their child is in any danger or in need of parental intervention. It is the goal of the counselor to create a collaborative relationship with parents and where a student can feel safe and comfortable talking. When you as a parent have a concern, feel free to contact the counselor and discuss what your concern is. Open communication between school and home can only lead to success as a team.

## **Art Corner**

The De Pere Lion's Club will once again offer a peace poster contest to students ages 11-13. If you're interested in winning \$50 cash, this year's theme is, "Journey of Peace." See Mrs. Schlatter for rules and specific paper size. Posters are due to Mrs. Schlatter by November 5th.

Are you interested in creating art, crafts and having fun with fellow friends/students? Then join Art Club! Please come to our first meeting on Monday, October 21st after school until 3:30pm. At the first meeting, students will sign-in, get a list of Art Club dates for the entire school year and maybe make something that day. If your child/student cannot make the first meeting, please come when you can. Art Club will be held every Monday after school in the Art room (Mrs. Schlatter's room (306)) until 3:30pm. Everyone is welcome, and I hope to see you there!

"Be brave enough to live life creatively. The creative place where no one else has ever been." - Alan Alda

## Important Middle School Dates

October 4	Picture Re-Take Day
October 8	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
October 10	Athletic Grade Check
October 11	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
October 12 & 13	3on3 Basketball Tournament
October 14	Last Day of 1st Marking Period
October 21	Practice begins for Boys' Basketball
October 24	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
October 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00—8:00 p.m.
October 25	No School
October 31	Athletic Grade Check
November 1	Athletic Picture Day
November 5	Last Day of 1st Quarter
November 12	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
November 14	Athletic Grade Check
November 22	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
November 26	End of 2nd Marking Period
November 26	Athletic Grade Check
November 28 & 29	No School
December 5	Middle School Musical @ HS 7:00 p.m.
December 7	Middle School Musical @ HS 6:00 p.m.
December 10	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
December 17	Band & Choral Holiday Concert at Weidner Center 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 23—Jan 1	No School (Winter Break)
January 2	Practice begins for Girls' Basketball
January 2	Practice begins for Wrestling
January 9	Athletic Grade Check
January 10	Athletic Picture Day
January 14	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
January 20	No School
January 22	Last Day of 3rd Marking Period
January 22	Last Day of 2nd Quarter

January 22	Last Day of Semester 1
January 22	Athletic Grade Check
February 6	Athletic Grade Check
February 11	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
February 27	Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8 p.m.
February 28	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
March 4	Last Day of 4th Marking Period
March 10	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
March 13	District Solo & Ensemble
March 14	District Solo & Ensemble
March 20	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
March 23—March 27	No School (Spring Vacation)
April 1	Last Day of 3rd Quarter
April 6	Practice begins for 7/8 Track 3:00-4:30 p.m.
April 8	Practice begins for 6th Track 3:00-4:30 p.m.
April 9	Athletic Grade Check
April 9	MS Talent Show 7 p.m. @HS
April 10	No School
April 14	MS Art Show / Music Recital in Commons
April 14	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
April 17	Athletic Picture Day
April 23	Last Day of 5th Marking Period
April 23	Athletic Grade Check
May 1	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
May 7	Athletic Grade Check
May 12	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 p.m.
May 18	Spring Choir Concert @ HS 6th, 7th & 8th Gr. @ 7 p.m.
May 21	Spring Band Concert @ HS 6th, 7th & 8th Gr. @ 6:30 p.m.
May 25	No School (Memorial Day)
May 25	Memorial Day Parade—8th Gr. Band
June 3	8th Grade Promotion @ HS 7p.m.
June 5	Last Day of School



### Notification of Change

Please notify the office of any address, home, or emergency phone number changes that occur throughout the school year. Correct information will allow us to be able to better communicate with you.

**Online Conference  
Sign Up**

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, October 24th from 1:00-8:00p.m. Please remember to sign-up for conferences online between Oct. 16-23.

### Early College Credit Program/ Start College Now

The Early College Credit/Start College Now Program was established to allow 11th and 12th grade pupils to enroll at an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) in Wisconsin and take courses that lead to credit granted toward high school graduation. A pupil who intends to enroll in IHE must adhere to the following time lines: 1. By March 1, for the fall semester and by October 1, for the spring semester, notify the school counselor of the intention to attend IHE under the Early College Credit/Start College Now Program. 2. Immediately contact the IHE from which admission is being sought to determine the application and admission process required by the IHE. 3. As soon as possible, notify your school counselor whether the pupil has been admitted to the IHE and whether the pupil is registered to attend a post-secondary course. 4. Students must provide their own transportation and maintain a minimum course load at West De Pere High School. 5. Districts are not required to pay for or grant credit for a post-secondary course if the district offers a comparable course with an approximately 80% match in course content. The High School Principal by May 15, for the fall semester and December 15 for the spring semester, will notify the pupil if the post-secondary course selected will be awarded high school credit and how much credit will be awarded. If you have any questions regarding the Early College Credit/Start College Now program, please contact Student Services (338-5208).

## Athletic Information for 2019-2020 School Year

In preparation for the 2019-2020 school year, please be advised of the following information regarding participation in athletic activities in grades 5 – 8.

### Sport Offerings:



- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Boys & Girls Basketball
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Soccer & Cross Country (Fall)  
Boys & Girls Basketball & Wrestling (Winter)  
Track & Field (Spring)
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Football, Volleyball, Soccer, & Cross Country (Fall)  
Boys & Girls Basketball & Wrestling (Winter)  
Track & Field (Spring)



To participate in sports for the 2019-2020 school year, all athletes (grades 5-8) must complete the following **before** they can practice or participate: **(Forms can be found on the website [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), click on Middle School, Athletics, Athletic Forms or forms are available at the middle school office.) Note: all of these forms including the Code and Rules Video should have been completed during the online registration process, EXCEPT the current physical. Your Physical exam paperwork must still be submitted to the Middle School Office before the athlete will be allowed to participate. Thank you.**

- **CURRENT PHYSICAL** (No less than every other year with April 1<sup>st</sup> as the earliest date) on or after April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2018
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION AGREEMENT** – Medical Insurance Required (must be updated yearly)
- **CONCUSSION FORM** (must be updated yearly)
- **CODE AND RULES VIDEO** (done individually by **each** athlete in the family AND a parent/legal guardian), while a student at Westwood, Hemlock Creek, or West De Pere Middle School.

**Note: If you completed a Code & Rules video previously, you do not need to complete again!**

The Code and Rules video is available for review online – go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), click on Middle School, Athletics, Code of Conduct and click on the video and survey link (survey must be **submitted** to record your session).

### Important Dates for the 2019-2020 Athletic Year:

October	21	Boys Basketball Practice Begins 8 <sup>th</sup> – MS, 4:30-6pm; 7 <sup>th</sup> – MS, 3:00-4:30 pm; 6 <sup>th</sup> – HC, 3:20-4:45pm; 5 <sup>th</sup> – WW, 3:30-5pm Note: The bus will take Grade 6 to HC and return for a 5:00 pick up at the middle school. Grade 5 students from HC will be bussed to WW after school with no return bus.	
October	24	Parent Teacher Conference Night	
January	2	Girls Basketball Practice Begins 8 <sup>th</sup> – MS, 3:00 – 4:30pm; 7 <sup>th</sup> – MS, 3:00-4:30pm; 6 <sup>th</sup> – HC, 3:20-5:00 pm; 5 <sup>th</sup> – WW, 3:45- 5pm Note: The bus will take Grade 6 to HC and return for a 5:10pm pick up at the middle school. Grade 5 students from HC will be bussed to WW after school with no return bus.	
January	2	Wrestling Practice Begins – 3:00 – 5:00pm at HC. 6-8 Graders will be bussed to HC from MS and returned to the MS after practice for pick up.	
March	5	Parent Teacher Conference Night	
April	6	7/8 Track Practice Begins – 3:00-4:30 pm	
April	8	6th Track Practice Begins – 3:00-4:30 pm	

**Parents of Athletes:** Contact information: Please make sure the school's office has updated contact information on file. The information that is in PowerSchool will be used to contact you for events and notifications. Text Messages: Due to FCC regulation changes, in order to receive text messages on your mobile device each device will need to text "Y" or "Yes" to 68453. This will enable your device to receive important messages from your child's school. If you wish to stop receiving messages at any time simply text "Stop" to 68453. Go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), Parents, Parent Notification and follow instructions.

PLEASE GO TO [WWW.BAYCONFERENCE.ORG](http://WWW.BAYCONFERENCE.ORG) FOR PRACTICE/GAME SCHEDULES.  
SIGN UP ON "NOTIFY ME" TO RECEIVE ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE SCHEDULE

For a tutorial on bayconference.org, go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), click on Middle School then Athletics, then Bay Conference Tutorial Sheet.

## West De Pere Middle School PACT Meeting Minutes- September 10th, 2019

**Attendees:** Christina Syring, Natasha Kolbet-Simpson, Brandy Clapper, Mary Hillmann, Sue Planert, Jennifer Golueke, JJ Simpson, and Mandi Janquart

Approval of Secretary's Report from May 14, 2019 - approved by Mary H. and JJ S,

Approval of Treasurer's Report from May 14, 2019 - approved by JJ S. and Sue P.

**8th Grade Promotion Recap:** The consensus was that the event went over great. All the families and students seemed generally appreciative of our efforts. The food reduction fit the amount of people. Things to consider for next year, is possibly creating a sign asking our visitors to take one cookie at a time. Thank you to Trisha for organizing and those that helped clean up and serve our 8th grade families.

### Fundraisers:

**Cross Country Meet:** PACT will once again have concessions for their home meet at Southwest Park on September, 30th. Christina S. is spearheading the efforts with assistance with Natasha K. and JJ S. They will have popcorn, drinks and snacks. Christina will email Mr. Lokken so he can reach out to the other schools to inform of our concession stand at the park.

**3 on 3 Tournament:** The date is set for October 12 & 13. The information was sent out to parents and forms are in the commons of the middle school. JJ S., Christina S., and Dr. Finley will be chairing the event. Schools in the area and the Driveway will be given information so that they are aware of the event to be added to their "Tuesday notes." Limits on our volunteer's food came up as a possibility as well as asking for Donations.

Apparel Sale: Mary H., is considering running an apparel sale this year. She is considering designs and other places for this year's sale.

### Open Forum:

**2019 Fun Run for the Timbers:** Last school year, Fallen Timbers brought to our attention a 5K fun run. Early bird registration is the 19th of September.

**Lanyards:** Christina S. sought out a different vendor for our 6th grade and new student lanyards. She is waiting on a final bill. She posed to the PACT team if they would like to consider getting an all-black lanyard without the logo and replacing it with a break away feature for the safety of our students.

### Committee Chairs:

Sue P will be the chair for the Sunshine Committee.

JJ S., Christina S., and Dr. Finley are chairs for the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Christina S. and Natasha S. are the chairs for the Cross-Country Meet concessions.

### PACT Board Members:

Christina S. and Natasha K. are Co-Presidents.

Mandi Janquart is Treasurer

Open Positions

PACT welcomes Mary Hillman as the Secretary for the 2019-2020 school year.

PACT also welcomes JJ Simpson as Co-President to fill in the position after our long time

President, Christina S. leaves the school district in the upcoming months.

Motion to adjourn, Mary H. and seconded by Sue P.

Next PACT meeting is Tuesday October 8, 2019 at 6:30 in the Middle School Library

### French Club News

The French Club kicked off its start to the new school year with its first meeting on September 19. Félicitations to the students who were elected French Club officers! Sixth grade representatives are Holt Wojciechowski and Jocelyn Abbott. Seventh grade representatives are Anton Widas and Ember Foat. Eighth grade representatives are Nick Bostedt and Jazmyn Abbott. French Club is open to all students grades 6-8 who have French this school year, and students are still invited to join! Students can look forward to one French Club event per month throughout the school year. The next French Club event will be a French Game Night held on Thursday, October 10 from 2:55-3:45 p.m.!

