



# Middle School Newsletter

## February, 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 West De Pere Middle School Families,

#### Spelling and Geography Bee Champions



Avi Gupta  
Spelling Bee Champion

CONGRATULATIONS!



Brady Kamler  
Geography Bee Champion

#### Building Lockdown

Your child may have come home from school a couple weeks ago and mentioned that school went to lockdown. I understand how any time a parent receives news like that it's very unsettling. Due in large part to the number of tragic incidents in schools across the country over the past few years, whenever a school goes to lockdown status it has generally become assumed that some significant crisis must be occurring. The practice of lockdown in and by itself simply means that students and staff are directed to stay in classrooms and not leave until the all clear signal has been given. Lockdown is part of the A.L.I.C.E. strategy to combat an aggressive intruder or active shooter should that unthinkable situation actually occur. But schools sometimes use lockdown for purposes other than an aggressive intruder or active shooter. For example, in order to maintain a drug-free environment we work cooperatively with local law enforcement to bring their drug dog into school as a general training exercise. There are other times when perhaps the school is dealing with a student health emergency in the hallway or another public location in the school and privacy is a concern. In cases like these we might call for a lockdown, but make clear to students and staff that all normal school activities in the classroom can continue to occur. Our use of lockdown in these situations is simply to restrict student and staff movement in the hallways and other public places within the school. In general, we utilize this strategy for events like this no more than a handful of times throughout the school year and it fits with our belief that safety in school is job #1. Please be assured that if there was ever an event at school that even remotely jeopardized the safety of your child or significantly altered their normal school day, some kind of communication from the school regarding the event would follow soon after.

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held on **March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4:00-8:00pm**. To schedule a conference with your child's teachers, follow these steps:

- Go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com). Once there, under the SCHOOLS tab, select MIDDLE SCHOOL
- When you have reached the middle school home page, under the PARENTS tab, select PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES. Follow the directions located there.

The window of time for parents to go online and sign-up for conferences is **February 27-March 6, 2019**. Conference time slots are ten 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.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Finley, Principal

## **Phantom Phundamentals Update**

### **January – Honesty**

Students at West De Pere Middle School continue to impress the teachers and staff with their acts of character at school, in extra-curricular programs, and at home. Here are a few examples of the way that our students are demonstrating strong character.

*Brandon Reed, Grade 6*, showed Honesty when he found money in the hallway and turned it in.

*Connor Rosner, Grade 7*, demonstrates Compassion when he stays after class on a regular basis to clean up and organize classroom supplies for the next group.

*Jose Machicote, Grade 8*, showed Respect and Compassion when he genuinely volunteered to politely hold the doors for the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade body when returning from the musical without being asked.

### **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.

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

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

#### ***All Grade Levels***

##### **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 and grade level on the check/envelope.)

##### **Seroogy Candy Sales**

About mid-February, Seroogy sales will begin again. Order forms will be available for the Easter chocolate and coffee sales. (Students will earn 50% on chocolate and 40% on coffee sales.) Boxes of 48 assorted Seroogy chocolate bars for \$72.00 will also be available. \$36 per box goes toward the student's DC account. (Please include your child's name and grade level on the check/envelope.)

### **Open Enrollment**

Wisconsin's public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live. **The regular open enrollment application period is from February 4 to April 30, 2019.** For more information, please visit the open enrollment web site at: [dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment](http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment) or call the district office at (920) 337-1393, extension 8025.

### **French Club News**

French Club students got together on January 10 for the French Club Movie event! Students brought blankets and pillows to get comfortable while enjoying popcorn and watching the French movie *Le Petit Nicolas*. February's French Club event will be held on Thursday, February 7 from 2:45-3:30 p.m. in Madame VDB's classroom. We will be celebrating Mardi Gras!

### **Save the Date!**

West De Pere Summer School

June 12th - July 2nd

This year's classes will be held at Hemlock Creek and West De Pere High School.



## Important Middle School Dates

February 5	MS Forensics @ Wrightstown 4-8pm
February 7	Athletic Grade Check
February 12	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30pm
February 18	MS Forensics @ Pulaski 4-8pm
February 15	MS Dance 7-9pm
February 25	MS Gym Yoga Family Night 6-7pm
February 26	A Cappella @ De Pere Fire & Police Awards Ceremony 5:30-7:30pm
March 5	Last Day of 4th Marking Period
March 7	Parent Teacher Conferences 4- 8pm
March 8	Early Release @ 11:00am
March 11-21	Heritage Days Gr. 6
March 12	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30pm
March 15	District Solo & Ensemble
March 16	District Solo & Ensemble
March 21	Grade 6 FACE to Festival Foods
March 22	Early Release @ 11:00 am
March 22	A Cappella to Sing for 5 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Elementary Schools
March 25—March 29	No School (Spring Vacation)
April 2	Last Day of 3rd Quarter
April 4—9	MS Book Fair
April 8	Practice begins for 7/8 Track 2:45-4:30pm
April 9	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30 pm

April 9	MS Art Show / Music Recital in Commons
April 10	Practice begins for 6th Track 2:45-4:30pm
April 11	Athletic Grade Check
April 12	Athletic Picture Day
April 12	MS Dance 7-9pm
April 19	No School
April 24	Last Day of 5th Marking Period
April 25	Athletic Grade Check
May 3	MS Talent Show @ HS 7pm
May 7	NJHS Induction Ceremony MS 6:30-7:30
May 9	French 8 Milwaukee Field Trip
May 9	Athletic Grade Check
May 9	MS & HS Jazz Night 6-9pm
May 10	Early Release @ 11:00 am
May 13-17	Sprit Week
May 14	PACT Mtg. @ MS 6:30pm.
May 20	Spring Choir Concert @ HS 6th, 7th & 8th Gr. @ 7 pm
May 23	Spring Band Concert @ HS 6th, 7th & 8th Gr. @ 7 pm
May 27	No School (Memorial Day)
May 27	Memorial Day Parade—8th Gr. Band
June 4	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion 7pm
June 6	Last Day of School

### Art Corner

Mrs. Schlatter will be on an after school committee that will meet every other Monday. These meetings will impact Art Club times. Mrs. Schlatter has an updated schedule for every Art Club member (Jan. 28, Feb. 11 & 25, March 11, April 1, 15 & 29 and pizza party on May 13). Thank you for being flexible with this new adjustment.

Art Club will be tie-dyeing t-shirts for Mr. Zielinski. He uses these t-shirts to hand out to students when they receive a Phantom Phundamental nomination. The tie-dyeing will occur on Monday, February 11th, so please be prepared with wearing old clothes! We will be dyeing 125 t-shirts, along with any Art Club member that brings in their own t-shirt. The color we will be using is orange. If anyone would want to help with tie-dyeing, please contact Mrs. Schlatter (tschlatter@wdpsd.com).



6th graders have an opportunity to design a water conservation poster with showing the theme: “One Water.” Students will need to contact Mrs. Schlatter for information, rules and specific sized paper. Posters are due to Mrs. Schlatter by February 15th.

Fallen Timbers is in need of a new logo. They have reached out to area schools to develop a new logo. This contest is for any grade level. Please see Mrs. Schlatter for information, rules and specific paper. Logo designs are due to Mrs. Schlatter by February 22nd.

The De Pere Women’s Club hosts an Art Contest each spring called the Helen Mears Contest. Students can turn in artwork that was created in art class or clubs, such as, 4-H, Girl Scouts or Cub Scouts. The Helen Mears Art Contest will be held at the beginning of March, so if you would like to submit any artwork that you have created at home, please give your piece(s) to Mrs. Schlatter by February 8th. Middle School students compete with other De Pere Schools for a money prize and/or a ribbon. The awards ceremony is held at the De Pere Community Center, on Wednesday, March 13th in the late afternoon.

The annual Art Show will be held on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in the Middle School Commons from 6:00-7:15pm. The commons will be filled with student artwork that Mrs. Schlatter has collected throughout the school year. Starting at 6:00pm, there will be band and chorus performances along with cookies and punch. Mrs. Schlatter will hand out awards starting at 6:45pm. See you there!

*“Life is the art of drawing without an eraser.” - John W. Gardner*

## West De Pere Middle School PACT Meeting Minutes - January 15, 2019

Attendees: Christina Syring, Natasha Simpson, Mandi Janquart, Christina Hendricks, Theresa Jahnke, Michelle Wagner & Trisha VanDeHei

Approval for Treasurers Report - approved by Theresa J., and Natasha S.

Approval of Secretary's Report - approved by Michelle W., and Trisha V.

Community Caring Program - Theresa J., will get in touch with the counselor, Laura Karlen, in regards to two Middle School families that had a recent death in the family. It was approved to donate \$100 to each family.

Teacher Conferences Luncheon (3/7 - 4-8pm) - Christina H. will contact Sgambati's and figure out a menu. Will report at February Meeting.

8th Grade Promotion (6/4) - Trisha V., chair and Sue Planert, co-chair.

PACT Scholarships Update - Christina H., reported that three have been handed in, anticipating many more closer to the deadline on January 31st. There will be a reminder announcement in the Daily Bulletin the week before the due date.

Fundraisers - Christina S., looking to have a March/April apparel sale.

Open Floor

- Mr. Mills asked PACT if we would like to have concessions at the Chess Tournament on Saturday, January 26th. No one is available.

- We need to add to the agenda next month about PACT's future officers.

Motion adjourn, Michelle W., seconded by Natasha S.

Next PACT meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12th @ 6:30pm in the Library.

### Lost and Found

Please feel free to stop by school at your convenience to see if your son or daughter may have lost items in the lost and found located in our commons.



### District Wide and Regional Spelling Bees

Finalists from grade-level spelling bees took part in the 2018-19 District-Wide Spelling Bee at the middle school on Friday, January 18th. There were 24 spellers, four from each grade 3-8, who made it to the district level round. Spellors were well-prepared and many words were spelled. Congratulations to all who participated in the District Bee, but a special recognition goes to the District Champion, 7th grader Avi Gupta. Avi will go on to compete in the regional spelling bee held at Edison Middle School on February 18th.

### Middle School 2019 Book Fair

Mark for the Middle School Book Fair. This year's dates your calendars will be from Thursday, April 4, 2019 through Tuesday, April 9, 2019. Students will have the opportunity to purchase books during designated school hours. It will also be open during the Art Show. Parent volunteer forms will be sent with the February newsletter. We look forward to your support of this fun event!

