



KNIGHT NEWS

March/April, 2018

All dates and times are subject to change. Please see our website for most current details.

- 3/6 Board of Education meeting, Weeks
- 3/10 Regional Odyssey of the Mind, BOCES
- 3/15 Middle School Dodgeball Tournament
- 3/16 Superintendent's Conference Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 3/17 Southern Tier Scholastic Science Fair @ SUNY Broome
- 3/19 Modified Sports Begin
- 3/20 Board of Education Meeting, Palmer
- 3/30-4/6 Spring Recess (NO SCHOOL)
- 4/9 MS PATS meeting
- 4/10-4/11 NYS ELA Assessments
- 4/10 Board of Education meeting, Middle School
- 4/13 End of 3rd Marking Period
- 4/16 Board of Education meeting, High School
- 4/28 Regional History Challenge, Middle School

The mission of the Windsor Central School District is to create a stimulating environment where students are independent learners and grow to become successful citizens. This environment is created by a challenging, integrated curriculum delivered by a caring and competent staff.

From the Desk of Mr. Strahley

As always, the school year seems to fly by. It is with great enthusiasm that the Middle School has begun the second half of the year. Thoughts of Spring are not *too* far ahead for us, but before then I'd like to take a moment to share with you some of what we have been doing at the Middle School and what is in store for us in the near future.

As a school, we have been busy and productive. We are proud of our students' efforts in the classroom and beyond. We were proud to have our combined bands perform at the B-Devils game in January. Our many clubs and teams continue to thrive. As very successful winter sports seasons have come to an end, spring sports try-outs will be underway in no time. Our Odyssey of the Mind teams are currently at work preparing for their local competition and will soon take the stage. Our Math Counts team competed at SUNY Delhi in February. We also held our annual school-wide Spelling Bee. Congratulations to Aubrey Dixon and Grace Emmick for coming in first and second place, respectively. They will be invited to represent our school in the regional competition later this month.

Our "**Pack the House**" event, which included multiple exhibits and interactive attractions from all of our student clubs, was highlighted by our Talent Show and Science Fair. The evening was a huge success. I am not aware of a Middle School Science Fair half as large and robust as ours, and many of our winners will move on to the regional fair at SUNY Broome in March. As always, we are well represented at this event and bring home many awards. I look forward to another successful showing this year.

We are also very proud to build a partnership with Binghamton University's MHOPE (Mental Health Outreach Peer Educators). After meeting with this group of graduate students dedicated to supporting mental health at the college level, we invited them to attend our Pack the House event. There they shared information and made connections with families. They have also agreed to come to our cafeteria over the next three months to set up information tables during our lunch blocks where students would be welcome to gain awareness of mental health stigmas, building healthy relationships, and developing coping skills in an interactive way. At this time, we are the only school this group has partnered with, and we are confident that this will have a positive impact on our students and school.

We are proud of our vibrant Middle School culture, but we know that academic achievement is a priority for us. As an award-winning Professional Learning Community, we understand that periodic is a necessary component in the instructional process. We use assessment data to help us best meet the needs of our student population. A great deal of test analysis and action planning lead to better instruction and intervention. With state assessments approaching, we will continue our practice of using data to inform our instruction and prepare our students for current and future success. If you have any questions regarding any local or state assessments, why we value them, or how we use them, please contact me.

As always, it is an honor to be part of this school and district, and I thank you for the opportunity to serve your children and this community. Our entire faculty and staff appreciate your continued support of our middle level program and efforts to create the best learning environment for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr. Youngs at 655-8247.

Guidance Office News—Mrs. White

Hope everyone is staying warm and keeping safe this winter! The middle of winter brings us to thinking about spring scheduling. **All 8th grade parents/guardians:** be looking for a letter in the coming weeks regarding scheduling for high school. We are hopeful you will all be able to attend these meetings, as this is an exciting transition for your student and we want to be able to answer all of your questions!

In keeping with having your student thinking about college and careers, representatives from the Department of Transportation came to speak to our entire 8th grade last month. The students had lots of great questions for them! We are hoping to get more guest speakers here throughout the remainder of the year to talk to students about different career paths.

As always, please feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns regarding your child. I hope to see most of you all coming months!



Yearbooks are on sale!

Preorder your yearbook online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (Yearbook ID Code: 12680417) or send in a check payable to WCMS Yearbook. Please see Mrs. Cappello with any questions.

Yearbook Pricing:

Standard Book \$20
Upgrade to Hard Cover + \$5
Student's Name in Foil + \$5
Icons (4 maximum) + \$2/icon



Middle School Directory

Kevin Strahley

Principal

607-655-8247

kstrahley@windsor-csd.org

Andrea White

Guidance Counselor

607-655-8248

awhite@windsor-csd.org

Rebecca Adolf

School Nurse

607-655-8244

radolf@windsor-csd.org

Guidance Office

607-655-8248

Toby Youngs



Rebecca Lamack-Lupo

Windsor Central School District

1191 NY Route 79

Windsor, NY 13865

Main Office

607-655-8247

Transportation Office

607-655-8241



A Message from Mr. Youngs

I know that Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, but we are hopeful that Spring is right around the corner! We have had many things happen over the past month that I wanted to take some time to recognize. We had another great turn out at our annual "Pack the House" event on February 2nd. Thank you to all of you who attended. Our students showed their talents by performing in our talent show and by displaying all of their work at the Science Fair. We also recently enjoyed our annual Volleyball tournament and dance. We had 17 volleyball teams compete to be crowned our volleyball tournament Champions! All of the proceeds from the tournament are used to benefit our students at our "Up with Life" day in May. Thank you Mrs. Balachick for organizing and running this special night. School spirit and good sportsmanship were on display, and this is the kind of thing that truly separates our school from others. We look forward to more of the same during our incredible Dodgeball Tournament coming very soon (March 15). All proceeds from that event will be used for our 8th grade trip to Washington, DC. This is an event no one wants to miss.

Spring Modified sports also begin in March, so make sure you send in Health History Update Forms before the start of the season. We are very proud to have over 60% of our student body involved in at least one Modified sports team, and we hope we can get everyone on a team this spring. Please look for signs or check with us in the main office to learn more about what is offered to our 7th and 8th grade students.

Here are a few important dates for the upcoming month:

- Thursday, March 8th- STEAM Pathways event at Binghamton University for grades 7 and 8. Sign up with your Counselor if interested.
- Thursday, March 15th- Dodgeball Tournament
- Friday, March 16th - Superintendents Conference Day (NO SCHOOL)

This is a busy place with plenty of opportunities for all. We strive for 100% participation in at least one of our events, programs, and enriching experiences. As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.



Windsor Central School District

1191 NY Route 79

Windsor, NY 13865

Board of Education

Peter Nowacki, President
Margo Kibbler, Vice President
Rhea Deyo
Stephen Feehan
Carin Shaffer
Kathy Swezey
Kevin Truman

Administration

Dr. Jason Andrews, Superintendent
Scott Beattie, Asst. Superintendent for Instruction
Andrew Fiorentino, Asst. Superintendent for Business

***"Hope is not a strategy
for success."***

~Sharon Kramer

Guidance Office News—Mrs. LaMack-Lupo

As our nation is once again trying to heal and learn from yet another violent tragedy, we would like to extend our support to our students and their families. As you know, our school and district make school safety a priority, and we continue to work in collaboration with local emergency response teams to ensure the security and welfare of all of our students and staff. Below is a summary of research I collected to help families support their children in these scary and confusing times.

Tips for Parents on Talking to Your Child about School Shootings

1. **Process your own emotions first.** If you frantically tell your child that everything will be okay, they'll feel the discrepancy. This may cause them to feel that it's not okay to process and talk about feelings. Talking with trusted adults about your feelings is one way to help yourself. Be honest and show appropriate emotions with your children, just be careful not to lean on them for your support.
2. **Ask your child what they already know about the event.** Since your children are connected to friends, and social media, let them tell you what they have learned so far. Respond by acknowledging your child's feelings rather than focusing on the event. Listen without judgement and answer their questions in an age appropriate manner.
3. **Filter exposure to the event as much as you are able.** Limit viewing the news and monitor adult conversations that are in earshot of your child. Repeated exposure to disturbing images and frightening talk can further traumatize your child.
4. **Validate your child's fears.** You may not agree with their fears, but don't dismiss them. Reinforce what they need to do to feel safe. Encourage them to report anything they see or hear that is unusual and/or troublesome, and reinforce that this is NOT tattling. Let them know that speaking out is the right thing to do.
5. **Maintain everyday routines.** This will help create a sense of safety for your child. Spend family time together. Don't underestimate the power of just being present to calm your child. And most of all, emphasize hope and positivity.

For additional helpful information, check the following websites:

- The Red Cross
- American Psychological Association
- American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

As always, you can reach me or Mrs. White in the Middle School Guidance Office at 655-8248 with any general or specific questions or concerns you may have.

