



Windsor Middle School KNIGHT NEWS

March/April, 2017

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

- 3/10 Superintendent's Conference Day
(NO SCHOOL)
- 3/14 Board of Education meeting, CR Weeks
- 3/16 Dodgeball Tournament
- 3/18 Regional Odyssey of the Mind, BOCES
- 3/18 Southern Tier Scholastic Science Fair @ SUNY Broome
- 3/20 Modified Sports Begin
- 3/28-3/30 NYS ELA Assessments
- 3/28 Board of Education meeting, A.F. Palmer
- 4/7 Marking Period 3 Ends
- 4/11 Board of Education meeting, Middle School
- 4/11 Capital Project Vote 10 AM – 8 PM
- 4/13 6th Grade Career Day
- 4/14-4/21 Spring Recess
(NO SCHOOL)
- 4/26 Board of Education meeting, HS

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

Greetings from the Middle School. As always, it seems this year is flying by. The nicer weather in the way is a welcomed sight, and we ready ourselves for another wonderful spring. Our Middle School has been busy and productive, and I'd like to take a moment to share some of what our students have been up to and highlight some of what we have planned.

Though the weather made for many choppy weeks since the New Year, our students have engaged in many positive activities. We all enjoyed our amazing Pack the House event, where among many other things our talent took to the stage and our scientific research was presented. It was a great night and fantastic to see so many people come out to join us. Our Science Fair winners will be moving on to the regional competition soon, and we wish them luck. However, I'd like to share some exciting news about how Mrs. Kocak's students took their projects one step further by sharing the results and scientific impact of their research and experimentation with those in the field who might benefit from it. They wrote letters to these people and organizations and have gotten extremely positive results. They have been thanked by many, including Lourdes, UHS, Coca-Cola, the National Environmental Protection Agency, and the Governor of New York. In fact, Katelyn Gary and Erica Daquin have been invited to a regional exhibition at Binghamton University to share their findings! We are so proud of their work and being able to connect our students to the real world of science.

In the past few months, we have continued to do the things that make our school such a positive place to learn and grow. Our students have worked hard in their classes and in their many co-curricular activities. Our Math Team competed at SUNY Delhi, and our Spelling Bee winners competed in Corning. In addition, many of our band and chorus members participated in BCMEA. We started a 6th grade mentor program with Binghamton University interns, and many students have begun participating in the new Visiting Wizards program. We also continued our Mix It Up at lunch program, and our volleyball tournament and dance were a huge success again this year. Our winter sports teams wrapped up their season, and a new season is about to begin.

It is a dizzying pace here in the Middle School, but all of this helps us attempt to reach every student to make the Middle School years a time of connectedness and positive growth. Of course, all of this is balanced with our high level of academic focus. By the end of this month, our students will participate in the first round of state testing, and I am confident that they will continue to outperform most of the region and state on them. We feel assessments like these are an important component of the educational process and do not see them as unnecessary or inconvenient like some in other districts do. We feel that our students are well prepared for them and expect 100% of our students to participate in them. If you have any questions about any of the exams, please contact me directly.

Finally, I'd like to remind you of the upcoming capital project vote in our district. Please make sure you learn about what is up for voter approval that will enhance the Middle School and all other buildings in the district. I would like to encourage you to vote, and I thank you for your support of our schools and their students.

Before you know it, Spring Break will be upon us, but we have much to look forward to before that. Thank you, as always, for the opportunity to work with your children in this wonderful school and district. Your continued support of our middle level education is appreciated, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Guidance Office News - Ms. Lamack-Lupo

Providing Technology Guidelines and limits for your child

In order to help your child enjoy the benefits of technology and minimize the risks to their safety, you need to become a tech savvy parent. As a tech savvy parent, it is up to you to provide your child with technology guidelines as well as to set limits on its use. Here are a few helpful tips:

Technology Guidelines

- Tell your child never to put personal information online. This includes their full name, age, phone number, school name, address or any other identifying information.
- Discuss what information is appropriate for social networking sites, and always ask your child to show you their profiles. Emphasize the importance of privacy. As a parent, be sure you have access to your child's passwords and let them know that their passwords should never be shared with anyone else.
- Make your child aware that anything put on the internet becomes public AND permanent. Remind them not to put anything online that they wouldn't want a parent, teacher or a coach to know.
- Emphasize to your child that you expect them always to use technology responsibly. This means that they should never post or share anything that is inappropriate or hurtful to another.

Set Limits

- Use parental control software to block, monitor or filter sites that may contain inappropriate content. Check the privacy settings on your child's cell phone and social networking sites.
- To prevent your child from making late night calls or texts, require that any electronics be recharged in your bedroom after your child goes to bed.
- Consider drafting an Internet Safety Contract and have your child sign it. There are many available online, or you can create your own. This is a great activity to do with your child so you can clearly explain the rules and your reasons for them. Discuss any consequences that may result from not following the contract so everyone is clear.

Some terms that tech savvy parents need to know:

- Cyberbullying: using technology to embarrass, harass or threaten another person
- Gaming: games played online with others. Check game ratings at www.esrb.org
- Malware: software designed to damage a computer or gain personal information without the users knowledge
- Messaging: communicating via text messages, photos and videos
- Sexting: sending sexually explicit images or messages by cell phone
- Social Networking Sites: websites, such as facebook, twitter and Instagram, used to post photos, videos and personal information

Middle School Directory

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Transportation Office

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A Message from Mr. Youngs

Hello Families,

I cannot believe that Spring is right around the corner! It has been a busy couple of months at the middle school. I want to thank all of you who attended our annual "Pack the House" night on February 3rd. It was a great turnout and our students appreciated all of the support. We recently had our annual volleyball tournament where about 160 students competed in this great culture-building event. On March 16th we will be hosting our annual dodgeball tournament from 2:30-5:30. We are expecting to have around 180 students competing in this exciting event. These events and the participation that we get from our students is what sets our middle school apart from the others. I want to thank everyone who was involved in making these events a huge success. There are many more exciting events planned in the future so stay tuned! As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

P.S. The 8th Grade trip to Washington D.C. is getting closer. Please continue to take advantage of the fund raising opportunities to help off-set the costs of the trip.



Windsor Central School District
1191 NY Route 79
Windsor, NY 13865

Board of Education

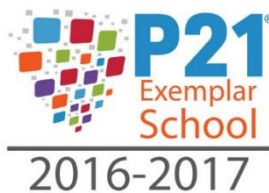
Peter Nowacki, President
Margo Kibbler, Vice President
Rhea Deyo
Stephen Feehan
Carin Shaffer
Kathy Swezey
Kevin Truman

Administration

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

*"If you want to go fast,
go alone. If you want to
go far, go together."*

~African Proverb



CAPITAL PROJECT VOTE

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

High School (District 1), CR Weeks Elementary (District 2),
Floyd L. Bell Elementary (District 3)

PUBLIC HEARING

Windsor High School

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 – 6:00 PM

CALENDAR CHANGE

Please note: **Friday, May 26**, will be a day of instruction for students and staff.

