



Windsor Middle School KNIGHT NEWS

January/February, 2017

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

- 1/16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 1/17 Board of Education meeting, HS
- 1/19 ELA Mid-Terms
- 1/20 Golden Ticket Day
- 1/27 Marking Period 2 Ends
- 2/3 Pack the House 6 PM
- 2/4 MathCounts, SUNY Delhi
- 2/7 Board of Education meeting, HS
- 2/16 Superintendent's Conference Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 2/17-20 President's Day Weekend (NO SCHOOL)
- 2/25 Odyssey of the Mind, Competition @ BOCES
- 2/28 Board of Education meeting, Bell

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

It is with great enthusiasm that the Middle School is completing the first half of our school 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. Our Winter Concerts in Band and Chorus were extremely entertaining, and we were proud to have our combined bands perform at the B-Sens game in January. Our many clubs and teams continue to thrive. As the winter sports come to an end, spring try-outs will be underway in no time. Our Odyssey of the Mind teams are currently at work preparing for their competition and will soon take the stage. In December, two teams of 6th graders competed at the annual Mathalon competition in Vestal. Once again, our teams were well prepared and did very well. In fact, one of our teams placed 3rd in the event, marking only the third time we have come home with a trophy. It was also the first time that any of our students placed in the individual round. Cassie Johnson tied for 2nd place! Congratulations to her, our coaches, and all of our competitors. Our MathCounts team will look to build upon this success as they compete at SUNY Delhi in February.

The biggest night of our year is fast approaching, as well. Our "**Pack the House**" event, which includes multiple exhibits and interactive attractions from all of our student clubs and is highlighted by our Talent Show and Science Fair, will be Friday, February 3. We look forward to seeing you at this wonderful event.

We are proud of our warm and welcoming Middle School culture, but we know that our focus is on academics. We conduct an ELA Mid-Term assessment in January to help track individual progress and identify grade-level trends. As a Professional Learning Community, we value assessment data such as this to help us best meet the needs of our student population. A great deal of analysis and planning follow these exams. 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 anyone has any question regarding any local or state assessments, please contact me.

In addition, I'd like to announce that Ms. Jamie Ash has joined our faculty. She will be teaching Math in 7th grade, coming to us with great energy and vast experience. I trust she will take little time to become a vibrant member of our school community. Please help me in welcoming her to our school and district.

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.

CALENDAR CHANGE

Please note that school will NOT be in session on

February 16.

It will be a Superintendent's Conference Day for staff.

We apologize for any miscommunication or confusion.

Guidance Office News—Mrs. White

In 8th grade we continued our college and career readiness effort with a visit and presentation from a representative from SUNY Broome. She talked to the students about the affordability of college, how college classrooms can encompass studying abroad, the importance of grades and extra-curricular activities and the income earning potential of students who attend at least a two year school.

I will continue to go into advisories over the next several months to keep this discussion going. In the future, I will have students explore their strengths and weaknesses, as well as their likes/dislikes in order to help them narrow down their decisions about what career path they may choose.

If you have questions/concerns about anything pertaining to your child as it relates to school or his/her development, please reach out to me at 655-8226 or at awhite@windsor-csd.org.



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. Yearbooks will also be on sale at Pack the House.

Yearbook Pricing:

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

**See enclosed
ORDER FORM**

Middle School Directory

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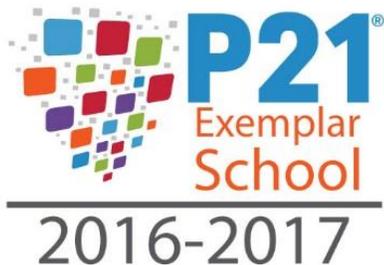
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Transportation Office

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A Message from Mr. Youngs

I hope all of you had an enjoyable and restful Holiday season! Our students came back to us energized and ready to learn after the Holiday Break. The next two months are a very busy time of year for us here at the Middle School. We will be having our second "Golden Ticket" event on January 20th. It is an incentive-based event meant to reward our students who have been successful both academically and behaviorally and also provide an additional layer of support for our struggling students. We also have our "Pack the House" event which will be held on Friday, February 3rd. This is an outstanding school-wide event that gives our staff and students an opportunity to showcase all of the hard work that they have put forth thus far this school year. We will have our science fair, talent show, art show, technology demonstrations, goldfish toss, chili cook-off, as well as many other offerings. It is an amazing event and we hope to see all of you there to PACK THE HOUSE!

For all of our 8th grade families, thank you for sending in your payments for your child's 8th grade trip to Washington, DC. I wanted to remind you that your children will have opportunities to earn money toward their trip. We conducted a very successful gourmet popcorn sale, and we will have our Gertrude Hawk fundraiser coming up in the near future. In the past, 50% of the total money that students raised went toward their trip. We also offer students opportunities to work events or even work around the school to help raise money if the need is brought to my attention. We never want any student to miss this wonderful opportunity because of funding. Send your child in to see me if they would like opportunities to raise money toward their trip.

It is hard to believe that the year is almost half over. It has been extremely rewarding for me to be working with the fine students and staff of Windsor Middle School. I have enjoyed continuing my relationship with many of you and building relationships with so many more of you. I have learned much in a short time and will continue to grow in this position, and I look forward to making a positive impact on the culture of this building and the lives of the students. I am thankful for this opportunity.

As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.



Windsor Central School District

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Board of Education

Peter Nowacki, President

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"We cannot afford to have only a few students learn well and reach high levels of competence and performance. To remain competitive in our increasingly complex and technologically sophisticated world, we need all students to learn well."

~Thomas Guskey