



Windsor Middle School KNIGHT NEWS

November/December, 2019

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

- 11/1 Golden Ticket
- 11/4 MS Picture Make-Ups
- 11/4 MS PATS Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 11/5 Election Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 11/8 Marking Period Ends
- 11/11 – Veterans Day (NO SCHOOL)
- 11/12 Board of Education Meeting, HS, 6:00 PM
- 11/13 Sports Parents Meeting, HS, 6:00 PM
- 11/14 All-Star Ceremony, 8:00 AM
- 11/27-11/29 Thanksgiving Recess (NO SCHOOL)
- 12/10 Band and Chorus (Grades 7 and 8) Concert, 7:00 PM
- 12/12 Band and Chorus (Grade 6) Concert, 7:00 PM
- 12/17 Board of Education Meeting, HS, 6:00 PM
- 12/23-1/1 Winter Recess (NO SCHOOL)

"The Mission of the Windsor Central School District is to ensure each learner is future ready by providing empowering educational experiences."

From the Desk of Mr. Strahley



It seems as though school has just started, and yet the calendar has already turned to November! After an absolutely beautiful Fall, the snow and ice seemed to come out of nowhere this year, but enjoying four seasons is a special part of living in upstate New York. It has been a busy and productive Fall for the students of Windsor Central Middle School, and we will continue to build on this momentum over the next few months.

As first marking period has come to an end, you will be receiving report cards that intend to give you a more complete picture of the achievement of your child in each course. Besides a "grade", students are given feedback on the Product Criteria (course content), as well as Process Criteria (learning habits) for each course. This is in addition to the individualized comments you receive from each teacher. From this, we hope you are able to form a solid picture of how your child is progressing toward each course outcome, and we welcome you to schedule a parent conference if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's experience in any course.

The end of October also included the end of our Fall Modified sports season. Windsor Central Middle School is proud of our many teams, the number of participants in each of them, and the success of our student-athletes on and off the playing fields. Last year we had over 60% of our students play on at least one school sports team, which is more than any school I am aware of. We are also proud of how our student-athletes represent the Windsor community with distinction in sportsmanship and character. Our Winter sports are about to begin, and we are anxious to see all of our individuals and teams compete well and conduct themselves reputably.

Homecoming was just one of the wonderful events our students participated in this Fall. We also sent a record three teams of students to the Engineering Day at BOCES, as well as another strong group of students to the area's Yes Leads! Program. Our Spirit Week showed our school pride, and our "Fill the Bus" campaign demonstrates our connection to community. Haunted Happenings was another huge success due to the efforts of our volunteer parent organization (PATS), Student Council, and faculty participants. In addition, our robust Mod 11 enrichment offerings are in full swing. We will continue to offer engaging opportunities for our students throughout the year.

To assist me in hearing from all "customers", I have the privilege each month of eating lunch with a randomly selected group of students in each grade. These luncheons offer me an opportunity to discuss with the students all topics related to the school. Their voice matters to the school and to me. Their insight is helpful, and their overwhelming satisfaction with the school is rewarding. I always look forward to these lunch sessions.

I value feedback from our families, as well, and hope you will not hesitate to contact me with any questions and commentary regarding our middle-level program. You are a vital part of our school's mission, and I thank you for your continued support of your child's education and all we do for them. We welcome your ongoing communication.

Recently, I was asked to deliver a keynote address at a state-wide conference of Middle School educators. It was an incredible rewarding experience for me, and it gave me great pride to talk about the many wonderful things we do for the students of our school. I have for long known what a special place Windsor Central Middle School is to learn and grow, but it is especially satisfying to have other educators across the state recognize and appreciate the achievement of our students and the culture of excellence we have created. Surrounded by supportive community and engaged in meaningful work with a world-class faculty, I have the pleasure each day of helping to bring to life our district's mission of ensuring that each learner is future-ready by providing them empowering educational experiences. As an internationally recognized Professional Learning Community, I believe we are on the right path and will continue to advance our educational program through a spirit of continuous improvement.

For more news and highlights about our school, follow me on Twitter: @KStrahleyWMS

A Message from Mrs. Strick

After a great start, the school year is well underway. We just finished the first month of our Mod 11 program for the 2019-20 school year and we are seeing many of the students attending clubs. I wanted to remind all parents and guardians that students sign up for clubs on a daily basis. If a student signs up for a club, it is the students' responsibility to inform their parent or guardian that they are staying after school. Students will always have an opportunity to use the phone in the main office for this purpose. Our primary focus of the extended day program is to increase engagement and connection between the students and our school. We thank you for your continued support in encouraging your child to participate in Mod 11.

Our Olweus Kickoff was a huge success. Students were able to develop connections to their peers and our staff members. Camfel productions came to our school to challenge our students to make positive choices for themselves while demonstrating respect for those around them. We will continue to develop and foster new experiences to continue upholding the positive school culture in the building.

In October, we sent home information for the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. All of the information is now located on our website at: <http://www.windsor-csd.org/EighthGradeTrip.aspx>. Additionally, the information was pushed out through our school district's app under the Windsor Middle School Newsfeed. The first payment of \$85 is due on November 25th. Please make all checks out to the Class of 2024. Students should turn in payments to the Main Office. Students will have multiple opportunities throughout the year to raise funds to help cover the cost of the trip. It is a trip that we would like every 8th grade student to experience. If you have any questions regarding the trip, please contact me through email, estrick@windsor-csd.org, or call 607-655-8247.



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Board of Education

Peter Nowacki, President
Margo Kibbler, Vice President
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Administration

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

"A small body of determined spirits, fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission, can alter the course of history."

~Mahatma Gandhi

Yearbooks are on sale!

You can preorder your yearbook online at www.ybpay.lifetouch.com.

Yearbook ID Code: **12680420**

You may also see Mrs. Cappello for an order form and send in a check payable to **WCMS Yearbook**.

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

News from the Guidance Department

We are happy to report that our embedded career exploration program, “Careers and Cookies”, is off to a record-breaking start! We have had over 100 students attending the first few weeks this year, and we hope those numbers will continue to grow. In the near future, students will have the opportunity to meet with an Air Force Pilot, Zoo Keeper, Coordinator of Special Events and Theatre, and a Nurse Practitioner. We encourage all students to participate, even if they think they have every intention or no intention of pursuing each of these careers—the idea is to expose and broaden the perspective and understanding of the different careers out there in every student...and there are cookies in it for every participant (thanks to our continued partnership with Visions Federal Credit Union).

Please continue to check out our website for pictures and updates about this great program! You can reach us with questions about this or any other scheduling or counseling issue at 655-8248. Thank you for your continued support!



Varsity Swimming record-setter, Dakota Payne



Congratulations to our Modified Football Team on an incredible season!