

WES PTO Principal's Report

November 14, 2019

Little Theater

Welcome!!

1. **Thank you, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Ambler and Mrs. Jones,** for another successful Book Fair! Students, teachers, and families look forward to this event all year! Also, a thank you to **Mrs. Dahlstrom and Ms. Borine** who worked with our new 5th grade Student Ambassadors to help support our PTO during the Fair.
2. **Thank you** to **Mrs. Adams** and **Mrs. Ross** for our annual Trunk or Treat celebration. A good time was had by all!
3. **SWPB Update:** This year, the SWPB committee has partnered with Jimmy Johns to recognize our "Students of the Month." Students will be nominated by teachers and those students with the most nominations, will earn a Student of the Month certificate and a free Jimmy Johns sandwich. Jimmy Johns donated enough certificates for 2 students from each classroom to earn a certificate **each month** for the entire school year!

Also, the high school recently sent down their football team captains to speak to our ambassadors about leadership and teamwork. The roundtable discussion included topics of middle school opportunities, peer pressure, goals and qualities of a leader. Thank you to Patrick Baoujoukos, Taylor Margolis, Sam DiLella, Brendan Surbeck and to Tom Ryan who worked with Brock and Tracy Tracy to make this happen.





4. Curricular Updates:

- a. F and P window has just closed. Students were assessed individually to identify their instructional levels for fluency, decoding, and comprehension for lesson planning purposes and growth measures. Results of this assessment will be shared with parents at report card conferences.
- b. Data and SRT teams continue to meet to plan for building and individual student needs.
- c. Teachers continue to meet/mentor with our Humanities coach.
- d. Central Administration and building principals continue to meet/mentor on best instructional practices, inter rater reliability of staff/ expectations, and state initiatives to serve all students, staff, and the community.
- e. Teachers work collaboratively every two weeks at the building level to prepare, investigate, and share best instructional practices. The Humanities and Inclusion coaches provide resources and strategies as well as building and central administrative teams.

5. Conferences: Below is from the handbook.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS AS PARTNERS

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences

Parent/Guardian-teacher conferences are held twice each year in conjunction with student progress summaries. These scheduled conference dates appear on the school calendar. Please note that school is not in session for students during these conference days. In addition to conferences with the regular classroom teacher, families may request a conference with a specialist (i.e. art, music, physical education, learning support, gifted support, etc.).

Parents/Guardians will be contacted prior to the scheduled conference days indicating the date and time for the conference. Many teachers ask parents/guardians to indicate preferred conference times during the annual open house in the fall. Our teachers will make every effort to schedule conferences at a time convenient for parents/guardians. A few early morning or late afternoon times are made available, but these time slots are limited. We urge families to make arrangements with their employer to have some time during the workday for these important meetings, which are held twice each year.

The conference is an opportunity for the teacher and parents/guardians to discuss a child's academic progress and personal and social development. At the conference parents/guardians will have the opportunity to review samples of their child's work. These samples are housed in the student's portfolio. Requests for conferences with the child's teacher or other specialist teachers (i.e. art, music, physical education, etc.) at times during the year other than the scheduled times should be made directly with the teacher. This includes both individual appointments and phone conferences.

6.Extra-Curricular Updates:

- a. After school clubs are underway and students seem to be enjoying them!

7.Volunteer update/ Reminders

- a. It is highly recommended that all parents complete their clearances to avoid any confusion. Everything you need to know is located on the district home page with a graphic that describes the volunteer levels.
 - i. Go to Home page, last button- volunteers. Click on the clearances side and the links will take you where you need to go. Make sure you click **Volunteering** and the clearances will be free. Also make sure you see where to go for the fingerprinting- you do not go to the police station.
- b. Please wear your printed badge when in the building...please sign out when you leave...and please don't make alternative trips to your child's classroom when volunteering...thanks!**
- c. Please be sure your child dresses appropriately for the weather! As per the handbook students are not given the option of remaining indoors while the class goes outside for recess, therefore they need to be prepared to go outdoors. In severe weather conditions or wind chill factors below 20 degrees we will limit the time outdoors and/or schedule an abbreviated recess period.

- d. Chat with the principal a half an hour before every PTO meeting. Further, any time you have a question or concern please email and we can set up a time and date to talk.
- e. There are several spots in the main parking lot and back lot that are reserved either for different staff members/purposes or for handicap visitors. Please keep this in mind when visiting WES and do not park in these designated spots.

8. Upcoming dates to keep in mind!

- a. 11/10- 4th Annual 5K/The Running Bee
- b. 11/11-PTO Meeting 7:00 PM
- c. 11/13 -11/14 - SWPB pool party 5:30-7:00 pm at RHS (K-1 and 2-5).
- d. 11/14 American Education Day Visitation Day. Information on specifics are on the website, were sent home and posted on Schoology.
- e. 11/15-Cultural Arts-Cello Fury
- f. 11/25 Evening Parent Conference K-5
- g. 11/26 & 11/27 - no school for students all day conferences- please plan on attending as we are striving for 100% participation
- l. 11/28-29 - Thanksgiving Break
- h. 12/6- Cultural Arts – Mother Goose for Kindergarten
- i. 12/12 - Craft Night – 6:30 p.m.
- j. 12/20 - Holiday Sing – 2:15 p.m. – Students Only
- k. 12/23-1/1 – Holiday Break
- l. 1/3/20-Schoolwide Booster Assembly – 2:50 p.m.
- m. 1/6/20-Marian & Friends Puppet Show – Cultural Arts – Grades 1st/3rd

Next PTO meeting Monday January 6th- 7:00 pm.

Any additional questions or topics please write them on a post-it note with your name and best way/time to get in touch with you and I will respond as soon as I can.

Thank you for working with us to provide the best educational experience we can for all of our students!



Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ferguson