

# CommunicAT

SUMMER 2021



## STAYING ONE10 STRONG DURING A PANDEMIC YEAR



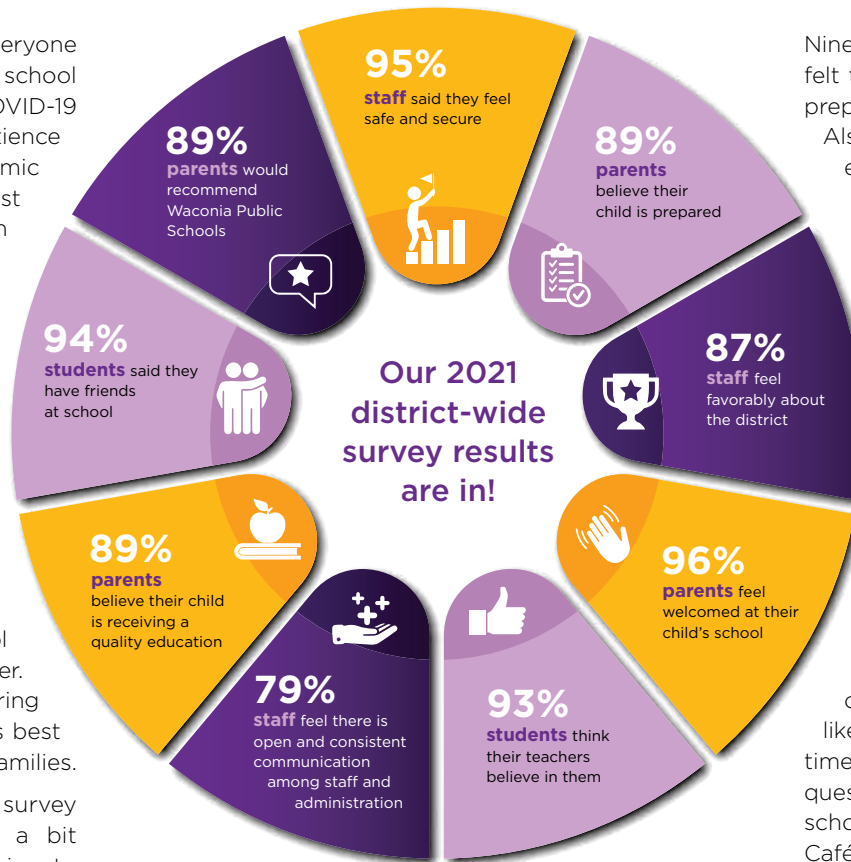
**PAT DEVINE**  
Superintendent,  
Waconia  
Public Schools,  
ISD ONE10

This year more than ever, everyone is glad that the 2020-2021 school year is behind us. The COVID-19 pandemic taught us patience and flexibility. With pandemic expectations moving so fast and conditions changing on a daily basis, ONE10 was challenged more than ever yet we all found a way to get through it together. We learned an entirely new way of teaching and learning. We missed the “old ways” but, together, became accustomed to

the new way of doing things.

Moving ahead, we want to take the best of what we have and enhance it with the best that we learned during the 2020-2021 school year to emerge even better and even stronger. We delivered the best education possible during challenging times by always prioritizing what is best for the health and safety of students, staff, and families.

At the conclusion of every school year, we survey our parents, students, and staff. We were a bit apprehensive about what the results were going to show us. We realized there were frustrations and not everyone agreed with decisions that were made at ONE10. We poured everything we had into the 2020-2021 school year, and the numbers reflect it. We are pleased to share results from surveys that were sent to all parents and staff. We also surveyed students in fifth through 12th grade. The overall responses were incredibly encouraging—proving once again that we are truly ONE10!



Ninety-one percent of parents who responded also felt that it is important for Waconia Public Schools to prepare their child to live and work in a diverse world. Also, 89% believe that their child is receiving a quality education and is prepared for the next level. This is highly encouraging considering the back and forth between in person, hybrid, and distance learning along with all of the students who had to quarantine. This is proof that we have great kids, supportive families, and committed teachers.

Thank you to all parents who provided feedback. There is always room for improvement, but it is good to know that ONE10 remained on course and on track during the pandemic.

### ONE10 STUDENT SURVEY

Though marks from the student survey are high, there are a few outliers that affected the overall average of 81% (which is encouraging despite the outliers). Fifty-four percent of students said they like the school meals, and 50% said they got enough time to relax during the day. We expect the meals question to get back to a much higher percentage next school year if we are able to remain in person and serve Café #110 lunches every day. Of the highest marks, 94% said they have friends at school, 93% feel their teachers provide help when needed, and 93% strongly agreed or agreed with the statement: I know that my teachers care about me and want me to learn.

Of course, we would want all of these numbers to be at 100%. So, as we celebrate a 93% positive score, at ONE10 that makes us think about the 7% who may not have friends. What can we do to help them? How can we make all students feel included? That's the kind of lens that we use when looking at these numbers. Even though they are incredibly supportive and positive, there is still work yet to be done. And that approach is exactly what makes us ONE10!

### ONE10 STAFF SURVEY

The staff survey is used to help us improve internally. Overall, 87% of staff who responded felt very favorable or favorable when it comes to the district. The highest marks (95%) involved safety and security. Also, 96%, strongly agreed or agreed with the statement: I am part of a successful team focused on our students' learning and needs. Our staff is awesome, but there are always places where we can do better. Although 79% feel that there is open and consistent communication among staff and administration, there is room for improvement in that area.

As much as we celebrate these outcomes, we can and will do better in the 2021-2022 school year. That's the ONE10 spirit!



## AN INCLUSIVE DISTRICT

Waconia Public Schools has been laying the Cultural Competency groundwork for several years and now, in the fall, the district will continue building on that foundation.

The purpose of this work is to ensure an inclusive learning environment, so that the ONE10 School Community will

- ▶ have the capacity to recognize and respond to cultural commonalities and differences;
- ▶ feel safe, valued, and respected; and
- ▶ be prepared to live and work in a diverse world.

Kathy Oliphant, Director of Teaching and Learning, is leading the district's Cultural Competency efforts. A district-wide subcommittee meets on a regular basis to provide direction and oversight of the district's strategic action plan. This plan is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure continuous improvement and that actions are responsive to the needs of students.

According to Oliphant, “Our efforts are not focused so much on instruction, rather, how teachers incorporate inclusive practices into their classroom environments. Feeling safe and having a sense of belonging at school sets the stage for learning.”

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, ISD 110 will partner with The Y Equity Innovation Center of Excellence to establish Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Teams in each building.

These faculty teams will increase awareness and help build positive school cultures that support equity and inclusion.

“This work is not easy, but necessary. It will be an ongoing process that will take time and effort to nurture. ISD 110 continues to carry out its desired daily experience for students, which is to feel welcomed, safe, cared for, accepted, and supported for who they are.”

— KATHY OLIPHANT  
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

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## ONE10 CLASS OF 2021 RETIREES

Waconia Public Schools is a destination district for staff. Once they get here, they usually stick around quite a while! ONE10 has several people who will be enjoying retirement when the school bell rings for the first time in the fall.

We would like to thank our retirees for their hard work and, most importantly, their dedication to making ONE10 the best it can be. We wish you all the best. Happy retirement!



**Dave Aeling**  
Waconia High School  
Industrial Technology Teacher  
32 years in ONE10



**Mark Fredericksen**  
Waconia High School  
Principal  
33 years in ONE10



**Bob Klitzke**  
Waconia Middle School  
Business Education Teacher  
17 years in ONE10



**Jodene Bass**  
Bayview  
Title I Educational Assistant  
19 years in ONE10



**Phyllis Haberman**  
ISD 110 District Office  
Receptionist  
10 years in ONE10



**Marianne Nelson**  
Waconia Middle School  
Special Education Support  
Professional  
24 years in ONE10



**Michele Felt**  
Waconia High School  
Special Education Support  
Professional  
13 years in ONE10



**Tracy Hart**  
Waconia Middle School  
Math Teacher  
23 years in ONE10



**Denise Storms**  
Waconia High School  
Custodian  
14 years in ONE10



**Rick Wagener**  
Waconia High School  
Kitchen Manager, Café 110  
9 years in ONE10

**HAPPY RETIREMENT!**

## TIERED BUS SCHEDULE COMING IN THE FALL



Tiered bus schedules, which were piloted during the pandemic, will become a regular part of the school day in the 2021-2022 school year. Tiered busing accommodates staggered starts to the school day. Elementary (K-5) students will start slightly earlier, and secondary (grades 6-12) students will start slightly later. Prior to school year 2020-2021, all Waconia schools started around the same time in the morning. "Tiered busing" refers to the process of loading buses twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon, so it's phased by K-5 students first and grades 6-12 students next.

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**Brian Koch, owner and president of Koch Bus Service, described the tiered busing plan. Students in grades K-5 will ride together, and students in grades 6-12 will ride together. Students will arrive closer to the start of their school days.**  
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There will be no K-12 buses, so elementary students will not be on buses waiting for secondary student dismissal in the afternoon.

- ▶ Student start times agree with data showing that middle-schoolers and high schoolers benefit from later start times.
- ▶ Elementary students will not ride the bus with secondary students, which yields a better experience for our younger bus riders.
- ▶ Buses will have more capacity for each route, allowing for growth that is coming in the district.

.....  
**Tiered busing can be provided at net zero, financially. Koch said there would be no additional cost to the district.**  
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### Positive outcome of COVID-mandated circumstances

Superintendent Pat Devine and Brian Koch had discussed tiered busing previously, due to the size of ISD 110. When COVID restrictions required delivery of new education models, they piloted the plan this past school year.

“Having elementary students only riding the bus with other K-5 students allows for age-appropriate conversation and social interaction while on the bus.”

- KEITH BAUNE  
LAKETOWN ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

"Another benefit includes shorter bus rides for students, specifically students who live outside of the Waconia city limits, who previously would have had to transfer buses at Waconia Middle School prior to getting home in the afternoon," according to Laketown Principal Keith Baune.

In addition to the research-backed learning benefits of later start times for teenagers, Waconia High School Principal Paul Sparby says the extra time in the morning creates "opportunities for our staff to work together in their professional learning communities and a time for staff meetings and IEP meetings. It will also provide a time for students to come in early and get the additional supports and interventions they may need to be successful in the classroom."

Waconia Middle School Principal Shane Clausen said he hopes extra time in the morning opens more before-school activities for middle schoolers. His aim is to extend learning possibilities during the school day.

Busing is a safe form of student transportation, he added, and he hopes this plan increases ridership. Busing helps reduce traffic around the high school and middle school.

Administration compared academic school day lengths with surrounding school districts, and ISD 110's are very similar.

Total daily academic time is 395 minutes for elementary school, 395 minutes for high school, and 405 minutes at the middle school (extra minutes at WMS are due to more passing times).

School Day Schedules 2021-2022	Start/End Times
Elementary Schools	7:55 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Middle School	8:25 a.m.-3:10 p.m.
High School	8:30 a.m.-3:05 p.m.

## STUDENTS GIVE TO OTHER STUDENTS



Laketown Elementary students collected donations to fill summer swag bags for kids in the community. All of the items were dropped off at the Waconia Food Shelf.

## FIFTH-GRADERS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS ON MOVING FROM ELEMENTARY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

All three elementary schools—Bayview, Southview, and Laketown—hosted outdoor fifth-grade farewell ceremonies. As is tradition, fifth graders reflected on favorite elementary school memories and shared what they are anticipating in middle school. Below is a sampling of what they wrote.

“Gratefully, we were able to return to school in person, but it was like no other school year. We went to school in masks, and we fought through it. Some parts felt pretty normal, like playing soccer at recess with everyone. Our teachers worked hard so we could be in school. Then we went to distance learning, and it was difficult. We fought through that and made it through. We’ve learned that life is hard, but together we are better. We are flexible fifth graders, ready to take on sixth grade.”



“As we look ahead to middle school, we enjoy the hard work we put into elementary . . . and while we will miss Bayview, we will enjoy the big change. We will get to see all of our friends from other schools.”



We realized how hard we worked to overcome this crazy year of wearing masks and social distancing. I think we can all agree that the ride or journey itself was much more exciting than the destination. We’re happy to be the class of 2028!”

“As we end our fifth grade year, all we can think about is what is next at Waconia Middle School! 6th grade is getting so close we can taste it. This year has been like none other. We’ve gone to school virtually, had to social distance, wear masks, interact with only 18 people all day long, AND we took the MCAs. But this year, along with our virtues of Laketown PRIDE, have set us up for success and we look forward to showing middle school what we are made of.”



Hills. THANK YOU to all of the great people including staff, parents, teachers and friends. . . . It was a great time!”



Southview taught me how to do math and learn how to read. But they also taught me how to use my caring heart and be a good person. And that is something I will bring with me to middle school.

One thing I’m excited about is getting to pick my classes! I always wanted to be able to, and now I finally have a chance to! There are so many choices! Thank you to teachers, staff and everyone who has helped me and made my time at Southview the best years of my life. But time is up, and it’s time to move on, so to sixth grade here we go!”

“Today is the day we honor all of these amazing fifth graders and myself for passing through all six years of being here at Southview Elementary. My favorite grade had to be fifth. The best part was skiing with all of my friends at Hyland

## WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPANDS EXPLORATORY COURSE OFFERINGS

Beginning next year, seventh-graders and eighth-graders will experience changes to the exploratory class offerings at WMS.

Exploratory courses expose middle school students to a wide variety of academic content outside of the core subjects of Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies, according to Shane Clausen, Waconia Middle School principal.

Students discover passions to further explore in high school or they discover areas they may no longer pursue. Exploratory courses offer windows into many career fields new to students.

During their three years at WMS, students experience a wide variety of fun, hands-on activities in Art, Family and Consumer Science, Industrial Technology, and Project Lead the Way STEM courses, Clausen said.

### NEW EXPLORATORY OFFERINGS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022



“Our community can take pride in these exploratory courses and the amazing staff who are creating high quality learning experiences for our future workforce.”

– SHANE CLAUSEN  
WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

#### STEM AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS 7

Seventh-grade students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more. This course is part of a nationally recognized engineering STEM curriculum developed by Project Lead The Way (PLTW; www.pltw.org).

Teachers: Britta Devinsky and Jessica Rose

#### INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY WOODWORKING EXPLORATIONS 7

This seventh-grade Industrial Technology program begins exploration of woodworking technology and processes. The main focus is on safety practices in the Woodworking lab. Students combine new information and skills learned in this class with previously learned skills from Math, Language Arts, and Science classes. Every student plans and builds a small woodworking project. Throughout this process, students develop and use 21st-century skills of communication, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving.

Teacher: John Kelzer

#### STEM MAGIC OF ELECTRONS 8:

In this unit, eighth-grade students examine the behavior and parts of atoms and the impact of electricity on the world around them. They learn skills in basic circuitry design and propose designs such as a burglar alarm for an art museum. This course is part of a nationally recognized engineering STEM curriculum developed by Project Lead The Way (PLTW) www.pltw.org.

Teachers: Brian Honkomp and Cindy Shook

#### INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING/ ENTREPRENEURSHIP 8

This 8th grade Industrial Technology program continues exploration of woodworking technology, concepts, and processes through student projects. Students continue developing 21st-century skills to plan, design, and build a small woodworking project. Students also learn about the challenges of starting and running a small business in the Manufacturing/Entrepreneurship unit. As a class, students set up their own company and mass-produce a product for sale. This course prepares students for the Industrial Technology and Engineering courses offered in high school.

Teacher: John Kelzer

## FOOD’S ON, COME & GET IT! CAFÉ #110’S SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Café #110, Waconia school district’s nutrition services program, is offering free lunches to district families again this summer.



Curbside meal kits are available on Thursdays. The meals will be packaged in five-day kits with breakfast and lunch items. Meals can be picked up starting at 7:45 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. at Waconia High School.

Café #110 will create two different lunch entree kits to be taken home and assembled. Meals will be creatively tailored for kids and families with great homemade appeal and lots of fresh local ingredients, according to Barb Schank, Nutritional Services director.



The “Deli Kit” will include bread, deli meat and cheese, garden salad, ranch dressing, fruit, and milk to prepare deli sandwich meals.

The “Hot Kit” will contain raw ingredients to prepare hot meals (e.g., local fresh ground beef, cheese, hamburger buns, veggies, fruit and milk to prepare cheeseburger meals).

Both kits will have the same breakfast meal components.

Waconia Public Schools through its Café #110 first began offering free mobile lunches to district families last spring when classrooms were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program continued into summer, and as school resumed, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) extended flexibility and used congressionally appropriated federal funding to enable that enables school districts across the country to provide meals to kids 18 and younger at no charge.

Now, the federal reimbursement continues to help ensure that children, no matter what the family situation, have access to nutritious food.

Schank calls the program a win-win-win partnership for kids, for families, and for Café #110. Kids will get great summer meals, families will get some financial and time relief from meal planning and preparations, and Café #110 can continue its mission by capturing federal reimbursement to keep the program viable.

Email [cafe110@isd110.org](mailto:cafe110@isd110.org) for more details and to get a meal kit pre-order form.

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## GO WILDCATS!

## 'WACONIA WORKS' HIGHLIGHTS COMMITMENTS IN TRADES, MANUFACTURING

Student-athletes have signing ceremonies when they commit to a college, why not students who commit to a career?

That's the premise for the first-ever "Waconia Works" signing day held at the high school on May 11.

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The event was an opportunity to recognize Waconia High School seniors for their decision to enter the workforce full-time post-graduation with a local company in the area of manufacturing or the trades, in addition to highlighting the local businesses that provide those opportunities.  
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Kyle Glaeser, Alex Roell, and Ben Fensko recognized for their decision to enter the workforce upon graduation with local manufacturing and trade companies



Kyle, for example, has been working in the welding department for Sackett-Waconia and will be pursuing a welding diploma from Alexandria Technical and Community College. Alex has been awarded the Chrysler apprenticeship program automotive technician scholarship. He will be working at Waconia Dodge part-time and be offered a full-time position as an automotive technician after completing the program. Ben has already worked at Laketown Electric for three years as a shop manager and now is an apprentice electrician planning to attend school at Dunwoody College of Technology in Minneapolis.

The signing ceremony is the culmination of a partnership involving Waconia Schools, the Chamber of Commerce, and the business community.

The program featured three graduating students and their employers: Student Kyle Glaeser with Sackett-Waconia director of operations Paul Peterson and team; Alex Roell with Waconia Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram owners Andy Strong and Eric Strong; and Ben Fensko with Laketown Electric owner Matt Bergmann and team.

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As part of the signing arrangement, a student commits to working for a local company, and the business in turn provides career/technical education programming and hands-on learning experience.  
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Waconia Public Schools superintendent Pat Devine said the pendulum in education has swung too far toward a college degree when some students and many business needs are better suited toward technical and trade skills. And both he and Chamber president Christine Fenner pointed to local school-business partnerships to fulfill those needs, such as Teachers in the Workplace and student internship programs.

Also, as part of the program, Modern Design Cabinetry owners Jo and Troy Eiden introduced their summer interns: Zach Johnson, Lexi Hill, and Konrad Breeggemann are also former Waconia students who are working full-time for them now.

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## ALL-STATE CHOIR NAMED

Six Waconia singers were named to the 2021-2022 MMEA All-State Choirs. Students will spend a week at All-State Camp in early August rehearsing under a trio of remarkable conductors that culminates in a performance in the St. John's Abbey on the campus of St. John's University.

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This is the second consecutive year Waconia High School Choirs have reached the maximum number of singers allowed in All-State.  
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- Nathan Langer:** Mixed Choir-Tenor II
- Mason Machtemes:** Tenor Bass Choir-Bass II
- Sofia Limoges:** Alto II, Soprano Alto Choir
- Elli Ess:** Soprano II, Mixed Choir
- Paul Heuer:** Bass I, Tenor Bass Choir
- Noah Gerber:** Mixed Choir-Bass I

**GO WILDCATS!**

## ONE10 PARTNERS WITH SOUTHWEST METRO TO OFFER FULL-TIME ONLINE LEARNING

Distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic was learn-as-you-go not only for students and families but for teachers as well. It was the first time ONE10 delivered this type of learning model.

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It is no secret that distance learning was not for everyone, but there are many who thrived and prefer the model.  
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That is why Waconia Public Schools is partnering with SouthWest Metro Intermediate District 288 to offer a full-time distance learning option in the 2021-2022 academic year. ONE10 students who choose this option will remain students of the school district—they will remain a Wildcat.

There is a full-time-only option for K-5 students and, students in grades 6-12 can be full-time or take online elective courses as their schedule allows. K-12 students will be allowed to move between full-time online and in-person learning at predetermined points throughout the school year.

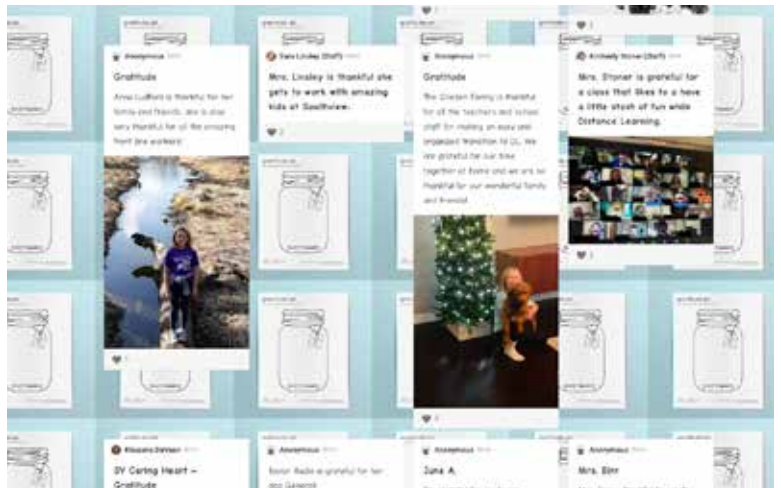


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There is no extra cost for students to participate in this online learning option.  
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Details along with an enrollment catalog will be available in late July. In the meantime, interested families and students can get more information through a link on our website, [www.isd110.org](http://www.isd110.org), or by calling (952) 567-8050.

## VIRTUAL GRATITUDE JAR

Being grateful regularly has been proven to improve a person's overall attitude toward life. The Southview Elementary school community launched an online grateful jar. Students, families, and staff share their stories of being grateful. This is just one example of how the ONE10 spirit continued to shine through during the pandemic.



## LITTLE WOMEN AND ANNIE JR. CELEBRATE JOY OF CREATING THEATER TOGETHER

A labor of love. That's how Amanda Byrne, Waconia High School theater director and ISD 110 English/Language Arts teacher, described the meaning of *Little Women* to students and staff, based on the amount of time and effort that each person contributed to pulling off the production.

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 Despite the challenges, "telling a story onstage is such a beautiful expression of creativity, life, and empathy and is something that we never want to take for granted," Byrne said.  
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When planning Waconia Middle School's musical *Annie Jr.*, director Sharayah Bunce aimed to allow for highest student participation without sacrificing student safety. This, and more, was accomplished; all with the determination "to stir a love of theatre in as many students as I could during this strange season of COVID restrictions."



### On rehearsing and producing *Little Women* and *Annie Jr.*

"We double-casted the main characters in *Little Women* to give more students opportunities and to ensure we would still have a show if someone in the cast was sick or quarantined," Byrne described. "We held rehearsals both via Zoom and in person. Rehearsals were limited to 25 people at a time, including directors and students. Due to our numbers, we were not able to have a live pit orchestra, so we utilized pre-recorded rehearsal and performance tracks from MTI.

"We were masked throughout rehearsals and could only unmask at strategic points when students were either alone onstage or 12-feet distanced. Our live audience was capped at 250, but we also livestreamed the shows via the school's Performing Arts Center YouTube channel."



*Little Women* Purple Team: Breanna Heinrichs, Ryan Rector, Kate Schutte, Sarah Golden, and Johanna Makela. Photo courtesy: Matt Sackett.

For *Annie Jr.*, Bunce utilized three separate, full casts that were staggered across rehearsals over five weeks. Each week contained two or three songs over about 15 pages in the script. Evan Jones covered teaching the vocals. "By the end of each week, we had fully choreographed, memorized, and costumed each section of the show," Bunce said. "Videographer Tana Meyer filmed each entire section and fantastic editor Chris Meyer pieced together final video of all five weeks of work."

WMS seventh-grader Mya Sannes, who played "Annie 3," enjoyed this process of recording and watching others perform. "We congratulated each other and complimented each other, making it a really fun experience," Mya said.

The WMS casts enjoyed a final viewing of *Annie Jr.* at the end of May, and cast members and their families received a final video file to share. "While ticketing and streaming the production could have occurred, our licensing process was constantly evolving, and we truly just wanted to share the show and do theater together," Bunce said. One WMS family projected the performance onto a large screen in their backyard for neighbors and friends to enjoy.

### On making theater during the uncertainty of COVID-19

Amara Jones-Myers, a senior cast in *Little Women* as Aunt March, felt thrilled about performing but also recognized her duty to keep others safe. "We made sure to wear our masks and maintain our distance as much as possible, which required us to be more emotive and expressive on stage," Amara said.



"I really enjoyed being with my theater community once more. Throughout this past year, we were isolated from our friends and our community. Due to this, it made me happy to smile at others' jokes, cheer when my fellow actors succeeded, and express my passion to our wonderful Waconia community.

— AMARA JONES-MYERS  
 WACONIA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR



*Little Women* Purple Team: Amara Jones-Myers and Kate Schutte. Photo courtesy: Matt Sackett.

"I will remember the unique experience of performing in a double-casted show. It was so fun to watch the scenes that you would usually be acting in. It was also great to be able to bounce off ideas and techniques to our counterparts. Despite the challenges of having less rehearsal time, it was a show that I am very happy that I got the chance to experience before I head off to college.

"Overall, theater is amazing because it builds a family of support and friendship that allows people to become astonishing, and Waconia's production of *Little Women* accomplished just that."

### Honors awarded, future wishes

Hennepin Theatre Trust's Spotlight Education program awarded Honorable Mention, Overall Performance, to WHS *Little Women*, with Outstanding awards given for Vocal Performance and Run Crew. Honorable Mention in a Leading Role went to Reilly Sazdoff as Amy, Breanna Heinrichs as Jo, Lily Zimmerman as Jo, and Abby DeMarce as Beth. Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role went to Megan Berney as Marmee, and Honorable Mention in a Featured Role went to Amara Jones-Myers as Aunt March.

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 "We hope that the community will remain supportive of the arts programs our school district has to offer and will invest in furthering the development and enrichment of our theater program here in Waconia," Byrne said.  
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## IT IS WHAT IT IS

"It is what it is" pretty much summed up the one-of-a-kind senior experience for the Class of 2021. But, in Principal Mark Fredericksen's commencement address, he didn't quite agree with that statement. He believed that this class didn't sit back and let stuff happen, which is what the motto suggests. Rather, students adapted, took charge, showed grit, tried something new—as Fredericksen suggested, "it is what I make it." And these seniors made the best out of a very bizarre, stressful, and unpredictable situation.

### Here are some of the accomplishments of the WHS Class of 2021:

- › 90 students graduating with honors
- › 6 students earned a 4.0 GPA
- › 2 seniors received Triple A awards
- › Local companies and organizations gave **\$200,000 in scholarships** to students
- › 43 National Honor Society students
- › 11 seniors on student council
- › 1 National Merit Finalist
- › 1 National Merit Scholar
- › 311 seniors graduated

This was the first class to attend all four years at the new high school, which means they were in the same building for eight years. Finally, due to his retirement, they are the last class to have Mr. Fredericksen as principal. "I couldn't have picked a better class to graduate with—you are an extraordinary class," Fredericksen said as he concluded his commencement address.

Well done, Class of 2021. It is what you make it!



## 2020-2021 SPRING ACTIVITIES



**GIRLS GOLF**

**All-Conference:** Sydney Tomes, Avery Arvig  
**All-Conference Honorable Mention:** Taylor Raether, Alexis Stotko



**BOYS GOLF**

**All-Conference:** Gus Leivermann  
**Honorable Mention:** Grant Oscarson



**GIRLS LACROSSE**

**All-Conference:** Signe Aleckson  
**Honorable Mention:** Heather Winkels, Victoria Lundgren



**BOYS LACROSSE**

**All Conference:** Chase Holcomb  
**Honorable Mention:** Luke Peters



**SOFTBALL**

**All-Conference:** Heather Grengs, Nicole Weinberger  
**Honorable Mention:** Sophia Kuntz, Ellana Keaveny, Kaylee Barrieau



**BASEBALL**

**All-Conference:** Karson Dobmeier, Diego Ramirez  
**Honorable Mention:** Sam Koppi, Koen Balmer, Easton Fleck



**TENNIS SENIORS**

### BOYS TENNIS

Our first year was filled with fun, friendship, and competition. We played hard against quality opponents and gave ourselves a chance to win many matches. The highlight of the team season was our win against Hutchinson, in which we won 6-1. Everyone worked hard the whole season and truly came together as a team under the guidance and leadership of our team captains, Ryne Anderson and Paxton Rech.

## CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS



## GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Sections: 2nd

Conference: 1st

### All-Conference

**4x800:** Maya Lindstrom, Jamie Sorenson, Addy Kaeding, Madeline Lage. Alternates: Emily Gustafson & Carrigan Mair

**4x400:** Maya Lindstrom, Carrigan Mair, Addy Kaeding, Madeline Lage. Alternates: Laney Meyer & Aubrey Mair

**4x100:** Jordan Grell, Jordan Machacek, Bethany Langer, Amber Kellen. Alternate: Brynley Theis

## TRACK & FIELD SENIORS



## BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Sections: 8th

Conference: 3rd

New school Pole Vault record:  
State 4th place - Travis Reighard

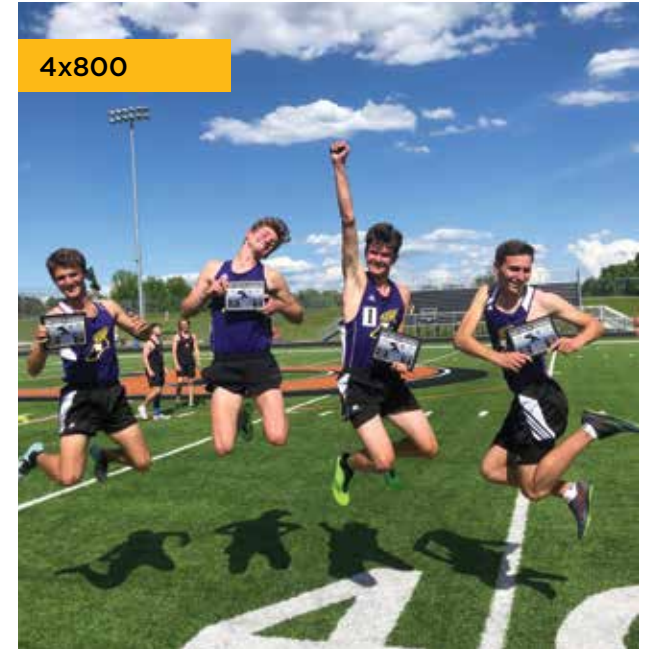
## POLE VAULT



## 4x400



## 4x800



## BIG BLACK IS BACK

The streets of Waconia resonated with marching band music once again. Just like everything else last June, the pandemic had shut down the 2020 band festival. But, on Saturday, June 19, the Lake Waconia Band Festival filled the air with music. Several bands, including Waconia High School's "Big Black" marching band, participated in the event.



# CommuniCAT

SUMMER 2021



## 2021-2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

For All Academic Calendars and High School Activities visit [isd110.org](http://isd110.org)

### AUGUST

- 23-26 Teacher Workshop
- 25 K-12 Open House
- 30 First Day of School (Gr. 1-12)

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 First Day of School (Kindergarten)
- 2 Early Childhood Open House
- 6 Labor Day (No School K-12)
- 30 WMS Conferences (evening)

### OCTOBER

- 1 2-Hour Early Release (K-12)
- 4 WMS Conferences (evening)
- 8 Homecoming
- 11 WHS Conferences (evening)
- 18 WHS Conferences (evening)
- 19 K-5 Conferences (evening)
- 20 K-5 Conferences (day)/WMS & WHS Flex Day (No School K-12)
- 21 Ed MN State Conference (No School K-12)
- 22 No School K-12

### NOVEMBER

- 2 End Quarter 1 - WMS
- 12 Teacher In-Service Day (No School K-12)
- 19 End of Trimester 1 - K-5/WHs
- 22 Teacher Work Day/WMS Flex Day (No School K-12)
- 23-24 Teacher Flex Days (No School K-12)
- 25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday (No School K-12)

### DECEMBER

- 9 WMS Conferences (evening)
- 23-31 Winter Break (No School K-12)

### JANUARY

- 17 MLK Day (No School K-12)
- 19 WHS Conferences (evening)
- 20 End Quarter 2 - WMS
- 24 WHS Conferences (evening)

### FEBRUARY

- 3 K-5 Conferences (evening)
- 4 K-5 Conferences (day)
- WHS In-Service/WMS Flex Day (No School K-12)
- 18 2-Hour Early Release (K-12)
- 21 Presidents' Day/Teacher Flex Day (No School K-12)
- 24 WMS Conferences (evening)
- 28 WMS Conferences (evening)

### MARCH

- 3 End of Trimester 2
- 4 Teacher Workday/WMS Flex Day (No School K-12)
- 7-11 Spring Break (No School K-12)

### APRIL

- 1 End of Quarter 3 - WMS
- 15 2-Hour Early Release (K-12)
- 18 No School K-12
- 20 WHS Conferences (evening)
- 25 WHS Conferences (evening)

### MAY

- 7 Prom
- 29 Class of 2022 Graduation
- 30 Memorial Day (No School K-12)

### JUNE

- 2 Last Student Day
- 3 Last Teacher Work Day

GO WILDCATS!