

WACONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS . EXPLORE YOUR PASSIONS, CREATE YOUR SUCCESS.

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Elementary:

Fall Fundraiser: Bayview Elementary, Laketown Elementary and Southview Elementary share sincere gratitude with our elementary families for your support of our Fall Fundraisers. Due to strong family participation, we are able to Engage, Enhance, and Expand school programming at all our sites.

Health and Wellness: At the elementary level, we are partnering with <u>CycleHealth</u> to create a new cycle of health and wellness. This program empowers our learners to experience year -round wellness. Learners are offered a wellness challenge for each season, plus, three world class adventure races. Cycle Health visited all 3 elementary schools last week to launch the Fall Resilinator Challenge with 4th & 5th Grade students. The Fall Challenge runs through the month of October, culminating with the Resilinator Challenge, Get Gritty on Sunday, October 27th, at Hyland Lake Park Reserve. We look forward to a good showing of Wildcat participants at this fun event.

Faculty Focus: On Friday, October 4 elementary teachers (K-5) engaged in extended PLC. They focused on reviewing the Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum and begin learning about Standards Based Grading and Reporting.

Middle School:

The WMS Culture and Climate Committee's goal is to promote WMS core values of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity and Kindness throughout the school. This week included the addition of RESPONSIBILITY to the lunch room that was completed by Ms. Rosburg's PLP class. We also have designed apparel to celebrate Unity Day on October 23rd and continue to spread Kindness throughout WMS. This year we will be celebrating Kindness days throughout the school year and encouraging students to wear orange or their Waconia Kindness shirt. Please click the link below to see what is available for purchase. **Note that the deadline to order for delivery prior to Unity Day is noon on Friday, October 11th.** Paper order forms are also available in the WMS main office. WMS Kindness Apparel Website

Friday was a two-hour early release day for students and staff worked together on one of the priority school improvement goals, Implementing our Connect Advisory program. Teachers met in grade-level teams to review what is going well, what has been learned and what adjustments can improve the program moving forward. Teachers also spent time reviewing the Second Step curricular resource for social and emotional learning and planning activities for the months

ahead. We are continuing to learn a lot in the first year of delivering the Connect advisory program.

Each month we take the time to recognize students who were caught by WMS staff going above and beyond to show their Core Values of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, and Kindness. August and September Character Counts winners include: Yamila Alza, James Barrieau, Ryia Bender, Angela Blegen, Audrey Boberg, Zach Clark, Tanner Conklin, Roque Duarte Perez, Wyatt Fox, Dylan Johnson, Ryder Kelzer, Abigail Krcil, Maxwell Nego, Masen Seevers, Avery Sheldon, and Laura Stockinger. Thank you for showing your Core Values and making WMS an amazing place to learn and grow!

Congratulations to our September Teacher of the Month-- 7th-grade math teacher, Mrs. Rose! Mrs. Rose Was nominated by former student Sean Fritz (8th grade). Powerful comments from the nomination letter included:

"I loved the funny stories...."

"You made the hard math super easy to understand."

"You have made a very positive difference in my education and have made the beginning of 8th grade much easier."

High School:

Last week the ABC (Accepting, Belonging, Community) club welcomed students as they entered the school in the morning with "hellos" and "good morning" greetings. The effort is an off-spring of the Sandy Hook Promise and is designed to help create a stronger sense of community and belonging. It was fun to watch the faces of students as the entered the building; there were a lot of smiles.

The International Club is sponsoring a Trick or Treat for UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) fundraising project. The club has been involved for several years with this project and all of the funds are being donated to UNICEF.

We're pleased to announce that Peter Brown, high school industrial technology teacher, is being inducted into his high school Hall of Fame. Peter graduated from St. Paul Hyland Park and taught there before coming to Waconia. Congratulations to Peter.

The fall musical 'Fiddler on the Roof' will run this week with four performances on October 10-12. Congratulations to the entire cast, crew, pit band, and directors Amanda Byrne and Liz Smith on another outstanding production.

Activites: www.waconiaathletics.com

Congratulations to the Wildcat Girls Soccer team on their 3rd consecutive WCC conference championship. Both girls and boys soccer teams have had a great fall and are into section play. The girls as the #4 seed in the 2A tournament and the boys as the #1 seed, with an impressive record of 14-1-1, in the Class 6A tournament. Go Wildcats!

Community Ed:

Our Early Childhood Department have been offering parents of Kindergarten age children an opportunity to continue with their parent education. The last two years they have been offering Lunch & Learns at all of the Elementary School buildings. Parents will have lunch with their child and then the child goes to recess, and the parents go meet with one of our Parent Educators. Parents learn about ways to support their Kindergarten learner as they make their way through their very first school milstone. This program has been very well received. There is one more offering this fall on Friday, October 25 at Bayview. Otherwise there are more offerings throughout the winter and spring. Please refer to the Community Education brochure if you are interested in attending one of these sessions.

Human Resources: All Minnesota school districts must complete and submit an annual Assurance of Compliance to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) by November 15. School districts are required to complete this process to assure compliance with state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. By completing the Assurance of Compliance, the School District is providing written assurance that it does not discriminate in its use of funds provided through both the federal and state government and that all mandated reporters have been informed of their mandated reporting duties under the state law. Our School District is in compliance with the requirements and will verify that compliance to the MDE through the electronic submission process.

The School District's Insurance Advisory Committee held its first meeting of the school year earlier this month. The Committee is comprised of employees from across the district representing all employee groups. The purpose of the Committee is to collaboratively work together to ensure the district's insurance benefits meet the diverse needs of all employees. Committee members learn about the often complex topic of insurance together, which allows open communication and a common goal of obtaining the best possible results. The Committee meets most months during the school year.

Student Services:

Friday's early release was a great opportunity to train Education Support Professionals (ESPs) in special education. They participated in small group activities about topics such as working with students with autism, developmental cognitive delays, and behavior challenges. The initial anecdotal feedback from the ESP group was positive and surveys are being collected to gain more information to improve future trainings. Thank you to the special education teaching staff from the PLC groups for autism, developmental cognitive delays, and behavior for providing the training. In addition, the ESPs in Early Childhood Special Education continued their Pyramid Model training.

Superintendent:

In this months video blog there are three areas that were emphasized; Parent Involvement, Social-Emotional Growth education, and Student Activity Involvement.

- We are very thankful of the parent involvement we have at ONE10. We consistently see our parents finding ways to show support and interest in their child's educational experiences. We have amazing elementary PTO support and that is shown through the successful fundraisers, the attendance at parent teacher conferences, and the overall excitement student's show toward school because they know their parents care about education.
- Our Social-Emotional Growth educational programs continue to be enhanced and have had a positive impact on our building cultures. We have Social-Emotional Growth curriculum embedded in the following programs: LT PRIDE, SV Caring Heart, BV Wildcat Pride, WMS WEB and Connect Programs, and WHS Wildcat Advisory. We see the impact that is made with our students with their deeper understanding of age appropriate social-emotional growth education.
- As we wrap up our fall activity season it is worth noting that we continue to have impressive participation numbers. Upper level ONE10 students get involved at a participation rate of about 85%. We know that student involvement in school activities has been proven to help with student success. Best of luck to the activities in postseason play and to our fine art programs in their performances.

Crisis Communication

Our School Crisis Committee met this week to continue our work with enhancing our communication protocols for crisis and emergencies within ONE10. Safety is always a number one priority for our school and we are putting together a communication plan that will enhance our current process. We are working both internally and externally in developing these communication protocols.



Sharing a story from Coach Christian Gilbert and Waconia Wildcat Cross Country:

I love Waconia XC, It has become a part of me and I would not be the person I am today without the 1,000 upon 1,000s of experiences I have had with the athletes, coaching staff and families of this organization, it's basically my family. A ton of us "Waconians" loaded up buses (and cars), headed down to Mankato & ran around a golf course either competing or screaming like crazy people...100s of little stories happened, some went home sad, some with a new sense of accomplishment, some with big smiles... We had hotdogs, we exchanged high fives... We experienced a xc meet... It's what we do and we all seem to like it! I have a special role within the organization and I get to experience things from a different perspective as the "leader"... Today I had the privilege of a hand shake and a personal thank you from a coach from an opposing team (Faribault)... He had to thank me for what my athletes did for one of his athletes during a race. He wanted me to know how much it meant to him, his team and one of his athletes... This coach proceeded to inform me that a group of my runners noticed that one of his runners was having some problems on the course. His Athlete is visually impaired and was having issues navigating the course. He then informed me that a group of Waconia JV boys created a running circle around this Faribault athlete and assisted the runner throughout the course and to the finish line... He just wanted to thank me and my team for being such a great group of people and that it really made a difference in a kids race today! I honestly didn't really know how to respond other than what I always say, "well thank you, I have good kids on this team & I expect great things from them"... It was a quick simple conversation & a moment I will remember for years to come! HUGE HIGH FIVES to the JV Boys involved & thanks to all the families, friends, athletes, & coaches of wacxc for being awesome...I like my family! #allin #goodkids #proudcoach

A Few Reminders, Highlights and Acknowledgements from the week:

- Ed MN Break is next week. There is no school for students Wed Fri, 10/16-10/18 next.
- WHS theater students presented Fiddler on the Roof. We have such great talent at ONE10. It was a great show this past weekend.
- ONE10 has be named a Seizure Smart School. We are one of only four school districts in the state of MN with this distinction. A big thanks to our school health department and to our staff and students for going through the necessary training.
- Paul David and Pat Devine are presenting at the fall MASA referendum workshop on Monday, 10/14.
- A thank you to the staff, students and parents for their survey feedback about the school start date. The 2020-21 school calendar was developed with input from the admin, school board and teachers. A big thanks for their input in establishing next year's calendar.
- The ONE10 Fall CommuniCAT will be mailed out in about a week
- It's that time of year to make sure you are set up to receive school closure announcements. Log into your Infinite Campus site to confirm.
- Hockey boards are being installed by our hockey boosters.





Bayview Read-a-Thon was held on Friday. The theme was "Wild about Reading". Students were transported to the jungle...complete with elephants, giraffes, lions and jungle sounds. **We Are ONE10!!**