

Greetings,

MEA Break is next week. I hope you enjoy the break with your family. Hopefully, many/all of you can find a bit of special time to connect with each other and make lasting memories with your kids.

On Wednesday, our teachers will be working with trainers on restorative practices and trauma informed activities and supports. Restorative practice is a productive way to help students repair a relationship after a harm has been done. It goes beyond a simple “sorry” and helps both students recognize any and all harm that may have been caused by these actions. It also helps support kids who have hurt others to see the impact of their actions and that they have the power to reconnect and repair a situation. Our trauma informed practice will help our staff with mindful practices for themselves and students as they provide tools for all students to regulate their mind and body. It should be a great day of learning.

Unity Day is Wednesday 10/23...we wear Orange that day as a show of Unity against bullying behavior. Unity Day is a nationally recognized movement to bring awareness to Bully Prevention. We want to unite Westonka against bullying. At Shirley Hills we teach “Stop, Walk and Talk” as a strategy to stop bullying behavior as it is happening. Ask your child for the specifics of SWT...let me know if they don’t know, I’ll do a booster training for our school!

Special Reminders for when we return on Monday, October 21st:

- Rollerskating starts on Monday - see below for more details.
- Cherrydale Product Pick-up will be Tuesday in the cafeteria from 3:45-6:00pm.
- Wednesday is UNITY DAY - Please have your children wear **ORANGE**.

Wow...we are not wasting any time when we come back to school!

Have a memorable break!

Scott

Mr. Eidsness
952-491-8401
eidsnesss@westonka.k12.mn.us

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

10/15 Gr 4 to Mill City Museum, 10:15-3:00pm - bag lunch needed
10/15 Gr 3 to Orchestra Hall & Art Institute, 10:30-3:00pm - bag lunch needed
10/15 Last day to order SOAR Family t-shirts
10/16 Teacher Professional Day - NO SCHOOL
10/17-18 Education Minnesota Break - NO SCHOOL
10/21 WeCAN Coat Drive ends
10/21 Roller Skating begins in Phy Ed classes
10/22 Cherrydale Product Pickup, 3:45-6:00pm
10/23 UNITY DAY
10/26 MWHS Trick-or-Trot 5k & Fun Run
10/28 PTA Meeting, 6:30-8:30pm, Media Center
10/31 Halloween Activities
11/15 Grandparents & Grandfriends Day

ROLLER SKATING IN PE CLASSES OCT. 21 - NOV. 8

- All students will be participating in a rollerskating unit beginning after MEA break
- Skates and wrist guards are provided for all students.
- **All students must wear helmets or they will not be allowed to skate.**
- You can send a helmet from home and keep it at school until the unit is over.
- If you do not have a helmet, Mr. Halvarson does have some for students to use, and they will be sanitized between classes.
- Students may not bring rollerblades.
- Please make sure your child wears socks to school on their Phy Ed days.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming. It will be here from November 4th to November 15th. It will be open on November 4th from Noon to 8:00 p.m. for conferences, November 7th from 4:00pm - 8:00pm, and November 15th from 9:00am - 4:00pm for Grandfriends Day. We will be taking pre-orders for the newest DogMan book, Fetch 22. We will also make eWallet available; a safe convenient payment option for students. We thank you in advance for your support!!

CHERRYDALE PRODUCT PICK UP - OCTOBER 22ND

- Fundraiser products will be available for pick up from 3:45 to 6:00pm in the school cafeteria
- **IMPORTANT:** If you are thinking of picking up your child at the end of the day before you pick up your order, please get your child in the parent pick up line and then proceed to the south end of the building to get your order.
- If you cannot make that time, you must make arrangements for someone else to pick up your product, as we do not have storage space for frozen items.
- If you forgot to keep the pink copy of your order, those will be available in the cafeteria.

GRANDFRIENDS DAY IS NOVEMBER 15TH

- Information and RSVP forms will be sent home with your child today.

- RSVP & End of Day Plans forms are due November 4th.

FALL CONFERENCE SIGN UP IS NOW OPEN IN SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS

- From the Shirley Hills website, click on FAMILY ACCESS at the bottom of the screen.
- At the next screen, enter your Skyward Login information. (If you don't have this information, please call Mrs. Clipper at 952-491-8409).
- If this is the first time you have tried to log into Family Access, the next screen that appears may ask you to change your password to something you can easily remember. Simply create a new password and click Save.
- When you get to your Family Access account, click on Teacher Conferences on the left side of the screen.
- If you have more than one child in the district, there will be a box for each student.
- To the far right of the student's name, click on All Conferences
- On the next screen, find the HOMEROOM class. This may be the only class listed or it may be the last one in a list of five.
- On the line with the Homeroom class, click Select a Time.
- The next screen shows all conference times. Any available conference time slot will have the word SELECT to the far right.
- Click on Select for a time that works for your family.
- A small screen will pop up showing the teacher's name, room number and the time you have selected. Click Save, and you're done.

"WE ARE FAMILY" T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

You may have noticed our staff wearing t-shirts with our school theme for this year, "We Are Family". If you are interested in purchasing shirts for your child(ren) or yourselves, we are taking orders through October 15th. Place your order online at the following website:

<https://www.customink.com/g/wfb0-00c0-0rzh>

Questions? Contact Mrs. Hausladen at hausladene@westonka.k12.mn.us.

SIT WITH A SITTER EVENT IS NOV. 12TH

Babysitters, are you looking to connect with more families in the area who are looking for babysitters for their children? Families, are you looking for more babysitters to add to your list? Join us the Westonka Early Childhood Advisory Councils (WECAC) 3rd annual "Sit with a Sitter" event on Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 at Grandview Middle School. This will be an evening for babysitters to meet families and for families to meet different babysitters. Registration is \$5 for babysitters and \$10 for families. Please register using the following links:

- Babysitters, register by 10/26/2019 at bit.ly/SitterRegFall19
- Parents, register by 11/05/2019 at bit.ly/ParentRegFall19

Questions? Please contact Amanda @ amandamayjenkins@gmail.com or via text @ 515.205.4029.

LEVY INFORMATION

We are grateful for local support of Westonka Public Schools, which has brought positive growth, recognition and success to our students and community.

On Nov. 5, 2019, Westonka residents will be asked to vote on a “revoke and replace” levy with a tiered payment structure. If approved, all three of the district’s current voter-approved levies will be revoked and replaced with a single, 10-year levy with a two-step increase. Instead of asking for a larger increase up front, this levy accesses funds only as they are needed by the district.

If the levy passes, the district will:

- **Secure long-term funding** to avoid impactful reductions
- **Stay competitive** with neighboring school districts in class sizes and programming
- **Accelerate progress** in Westonka’s award-winning schools
- **Maintain the lowest school taxes** in Hennepin County

If the levy fails:

- **\$750,000 in reductions** will be needed for 2020-2021. One can expect the following impacts:
 - **Administrative cuts.** The first area of focus for reductions will be to minimize the cost of administration and operations (transportation, facilities, technology, utilities, etc.). Each year these budgets have been challenged, as the district makes annual reductions in this area.
 - **Larger class sizes.** The majority of district expense is classroom teachers. This reduction will push some primary class sizes to upper 20s, some middle school classes to mid 30s, and some high school to upper 30s.
 - **Fewer electives.** A reduction of teachers results in fewer course offerings. The number of course electives for students will be impacted. This will result in less diversity of classes to match student interests and abilities.
 - **Less student support.** The district will have fewer support staff, who are relied on for student safety, mental health, and smooth operations of schools.
 - **Activities reductions.** The number of coaches and middle school activities will likely be impacted by these reductions.
 - **Limited professional development opportunities.** The funding allocated to provide professional development to advance instruction and curriculum will reduce.

Please watch this video for a summary of the referendum, and visit [westonka.k12.mn.us/referendum](https://youtu.be/Y_ryDy0RJ6s) for more details. https://youtu.be/Y_ryDy0RJ6s