

Greetings,

Next week is a busy week with Halloween. Halloween includes classroom parties and the costume parade in the afternoon. Parents are welcome to come for the costume parade at 3:00pm. This event is easy, grab a chair when the gym opens up and enjoy the costumes as the kiddos walk through. COSTUMES - PLEASE keep in mind that student costumes when at school cannot include fake/toy weapons or gory effects. We need to be mindful that we have the littlest of eyes and maturity who have difficulty in separating realities. Our littles can, and do, become very scared from realistic costumes and weapons.

Lastly, we have our Fall Conferences starting on November 4th from 12:00-8:00pm and on November 7th from 4:00-8:00pm. Please schedule your conference through Family Access. Conferences are quite possibly the most important event we hold all year! Conferences are a great time to align families with teachers creating a dynamic team focused on each child's wellbeing and learning. I hope to see all of you here during conferences.

Take Care,

Scott

Mr. Eidsness

952-491-8401

[eidsnesss@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:eidsnesss@westonka.k12.mn.us)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

- 10/26 MWHS Trick-or-Trot 5k & Fun Run - **KAREN ATTACH FLYER**
- 10/28 PTA Meeting, 6:30-8:30pm, Media Center
- 10/31 Halloween Festivities
- 11/01 Conference Sign Up closes
- 11/04 Grandparents+Grandfriends Day RSVP forms due
- 11/04 Teacher Professional Day (AM), Conferences (4-8pm) - NO SCHOOL
- 11/05 Cherrydale Fundraiser Limo Rides, 1:00-3:00pm
- 11/06 4th Grade Kindness Retreat at St. John's - bag lunch needed
- 11/07 Book Fair & Conferences, 4:00-8:00pm
- 11/10 Family Roller Skating at St. Louis Park Roller Garden, 5:00-7:00pm
- 11/13 Culver's Night, 4:00-8:00pm
- 11/15 Grandparents+Grandfriends Day & Book Fair

## **WESTONKA SCHOOLS REFERENDUM INFORMATION**

If you live in the school district, by now you should have received multiple forms of communication about the upcoming school district election on Tuesday, Nov. 5. As a reminder, you can find all of the facts about the levy referendum and school board election on the district website at [www.westonka.k12.mn.us/referendum](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/referendum).

In-person absentee/early voting is conducted at the Westonka Educational Service Center, 5901 Sunnyfield Road E, Minnetrista (across the parking lot from Mound Westonka High School), during regular business hours.

Beginning Tuesday, Oct. 29, in-person absentee voters will be able to vote by “direct ballot,” meaning they will be able to feed their ballot into a ballot counter just as is done on Election Day. Due to public response to direct ballot absentee voting in recent elections, the district is offering some extended early voting hours next week:

- Tuesday, Oct. 29 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 30 - 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 31 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 1 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 2 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 4 - 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Residents can find where they will vote on Election Day at [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org).

## **FALL CONFERENCE SIGN UP INSTRUCTIONS**

- 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.

- Conference sign up through Skyward/Family Access will close Friday afternoon, November 1st. If you need to make changes after that, you will need to contact your child's classroom teacher directly.

### **TEACHER BUFFET FOR CONFERENCES**

One of the nicest things our PTA does for teachers every year is to provide a hot buffet-style meal on one of our long conference days. This year, they have scheduled the buffet for Thursday, November 7th, from 4:00-7:00pm. More information and a SignUpGenius link will be shared early next week.

### **HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES OCTOBER 31ST**

MWHS students will be here for a Halloween concert in the morning, followed by a presentation on safety tips for Trick or Treating. Our parade will start at 3:00pm this year and the students should make their way to the gym by about 3:15 (chairs are set up for parents who wish to watch). Classroom teachers will share their classroom party plans with you. Many thanks to our PTA for providing treats for the day, popcorn and water bottles.

### **FAMILY ROLLER SKATING EVENT IS NOV. 10TH**

PTA's annual Family Roller Skating Event is November 10th, 5:00-7:00pm, at the Roller Garden in St. Louis Park. Admission fee includes skates, if needed. More details will follow.

### **FALL BOOK FAIR STARTS NOVEMBER 4TH**

The Bookfair is coming soon. It will be open for conferences, Monday, November 4th from Noon to 8:00 p.m.; Thursday, November 7th from 4:00 -8:00 p.m. and on Grandfriends Day, November 15th from 9:00 - 4:15 p.m. The eWallet feature is a fabulous and safe way to allow your child to shop the bookfair and you only pay for what your child actually spends. The online version of the book fair opens on Wednesday, October 30th and books purchased will be sent directly to you. All sales will benefit our school Media Center to add new books to our collection. Here is the link to access our Shirley Hills Bookfair: [Shirley Hills Scholastic Bookfair](#) Thanks in advance for your support!