

November 15, 2019

Hello Wilde Lake Middle School Community,

I wanted to reach out and invite you to join us next Wednesday November 20 for a day of learning at the Lake. Next week is American Education Week, which is an exciting opportunity for our students and staff to show off all the great things happening here at WLMS. While you are welcome to visit any time during the week, specifically between the hours of 8:15 am and 2:30 pm, we have chosen Wednesday to highlight a variety of opportunities our students have here at WLMS. Below you will find a timeline/schedule of those opportunities to engage with students while you are in attendance visiting your child's classes. Due to limited space in the cafeteria we will not be able to permit parents/guardians to eat lunch with their student. I apologize for the inconvenience but keeping the safety of our students at the forefront we simply don't have the cafeteria capacity to accommodate everyone.

I look forward to seeing many of you next week and engaging in conversations around all the great things happening at the Lake. As promised, below you will find the schedule for Wednesday along with some parking and procedural tips.

Thank you for all you do to support our students and staff.

Mr. Rattay
Principal

Upcoming Events:

Nov. 16 – Free Coat Drive and Resource Fair
Nov. 18 – 22 – American Education Week (Nov. 20 – Special Day of Learning at the Lake)
Nov. 19 – GOTCHA Store
Nov. 20 – 27 – Book Fair
Nov. 20 – PTSA Chipotle Fundraiser – See attached flier
Nov. 22 – 1st Quarter Activity/Celebration Day including the annual Turkey Trot
Nov. 22 – Spirit Day – Jersey Day
Nov. 25 – 26 – 3 Hour Early Dismissal for Conferences
Nov. 27 - No school for Students
Nov. 28 – 29 – Thanksgiving Break – Schools and Offices Closed

Winter Coat Drive and Resource Fair

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is sponsoring a free winter Coat and Clothing Fair along with Community Information and Resources at WLMS. The event runs from 9:00am – 2:00pm on Saturday, November 16th. See the attached flier for more information.

American Education Week - Special Day of Learning Opportunities (Nov. 20);

CHECK IN PROCEDURES:

1. Please park in designated parking spaces. If you park in the bus lane, cars must be moved by 2:15.
2. Please check-in with the reception table in the main office. Please remember to bring your identification.

3. While in the building please wear your visitors badge at all times and ensure it is visible for staff to see.
4. Please sign-out prior to leaving. Should there be an emergency we need to account for all visitors in the building.

Besides from visiting your child's classes, here are some other opportunities to check out:

All Day – Media Center Book Fair

Pd. 1 - Intermediate STEM Class with Mr. Spicher

Pd. 1, 2 – Strings class with Ms. Dice

Pd. 1, 2, 4, 7 – French class with Ms. Belz

Pd. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 – Spanish class with Ms. Rawlins-Prins

Pd. 2 and 3 – Café in the Cafeteria – Donuts and Coffee served by our students

Pd. 2 – Forensics Enrichment Activity with Mr. Spicher

Pd. 2, 8 – Chorus class with Mr. Hrico

Pd. 2 – Jazz Band class with Mr. Messick

Pd. 2, 3, 7 – Project Lead the Way – Energy Expo with Ms. Bernard

Pd. 3 – Percussion class with Mr. Messick

Pd. 3 – Entomology class with Mr. Spicher

Pd. 4 and 5 – Lunch shifts – Dance Practice with Ms. Johnson-Brown and Ms. Cole-Fleet

Pd. 6 – Intermediate Photography with Mr. Spicher

Pd. 7, 8 – Band classes with Mr. Messick

Pd. 7 – Oyster Project with Mr. Spicher

BOOK FAIR

Our school is hosting a Follett Book Fair! Supporting a love for reading is critical to student success. Supporting your school is just as important. The Follett Book Fair encourages your child's reading habits, builds their personal libraries and raises funds for the school, all at the same time.

What makes Follett Book Fairs different? Follett has been supporting schools for more than 140 years which means you can expect a larger selection of titles, from a wider range of publishers. These are the books your children want to read!

Visit follettgift.com to purchase a Follett gift card for your child. We accept cash, checks (made out to WLMS PTSA) and credit cards. You do not have to pay tax, as it is run courtesy of our PTSA.

Books go on sale on WEDNESDAY, November 20th and the fair closes the following **WEDNESDAY, November 27th**. Students may visit **during lunch** or at the end of the **school day**. We are also open throughout all parent conference afternoons & evenings.

If you would like to volunteer at the book fair please email sarah_russo@hcpss.org. All parental book fair volunteers receive a 20% discount on books. Teachers will have their own wishlists available as well, if you'd like to thank a particular teacher!

Support your school and the avid readers in your family by visiting the book fair. We hope to see you there! All of our sales benefit the school.

Lost and Found – we have many items in our lost and found. If your child did not come home with a jacket, sweatshirt, lunchbox, etc...please check the lost and found coat rack in the cafeteria. All items not claimed after Conference Week, will be donated to charity.

PTSA News -

GOTCHA Store - We need volunteers for the GOTCHA store and new donated items for the 2019-2020 school year. The GOTCHA store opens this TUESDAY [11/19] and we are accepting donations at WLMS front office until MONDAY [11/18]. This program is set up to encourage positive behavior and has been a huge success over the years. Please help us make it a great year for the kids! The next dates for the store are 12/20, 3/13, 6/9 - we will update the signup for the next store after this Friday. Sign up genius link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040d45a5ac2da7fa7-gotcha>

Parent Teacher Conferences - Our teachers have been hard at work educating our children and they are looking forward to meeting everyone during parent-teacher conferences. They have a long day and we want to feed them as a small token of our appreciation. Please consider signing up to bring in a dish, drink, serveware or donate. We are also in need of volunteers to help serve the teachers during parent-teacher conferences. We cannot be successful without your help. Sign up genius link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040d45a5ac2da7fa7-parent>

MAIN EVENT FUN DAY- Come to Main Event on Sunday, November 24th from 11AM to 2PM! All you need to do is spend at Main Event and give us (the PTSA) will be there to collect receipts. Part of the proceeds will go directly to the WLMS PTSA. We will also be there raffling off some very cool items! Look for us and pick up some raffle tickets. Hope to see you there!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D45A5AC2DA7FA7-wlms>

AMAZON SMILE - If you shop on amazon, please setup your charity to WLMS PTSA. Shop on amazon smile :) and help your WLMS community.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (GENERAL) - We cannot do this alone, it takes a village and we need you - help, time, money, ideas or all of the above. We created this form to help collect volunteer information and will keep this open as long as we have positions that we need to be filled. Trust me, we understand that there isn't enough time in the day but our kids and WLMS needs for us to join forces and make this a great school year. The WLMS PTSA believes in taking help in any shape or form, if you have a friend and want to run something together, that's great; if you don't have time but want to direct donate, that's great; if you want to donate food for our events, that's great! You get the idea ;)

We want to work with you and with your availability, below you will find all the non-executive positions (this means you do NOT have to regularly attend meetings, phew!) that are currently in need of a volunteer(s). Again, these positions, for the most part, can be shared or run on your own - that means if you want to help but aren't sure you can fully commit, we encourage you to volunteer and we can figure out the details once we collect all the community feedback. #ittakesavillage

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1muYqiQq8OmcUOdSw7vOVu0PwWJuBfQXObtB_wYyImQ/edit

Performing Arts Booster News:

Boosters Fundraiser

We would like to let everyone know that our event will be held at **Barnes and Noble** at Columbia Mall on Thursday December 5th, 2019 from 4:30 to 8:30 pm. We will have wonderful student entertainment 6:30 to 7:30. We will be providing gift wrapping and we hope to see everyone there!

Please visit the **Community News and Programs** page at <https://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

In case you missed it:

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences

The conferences will be held Monday through Wednesday, November 25th – 27th. Each teacher has indicated the times that they will be available to hold conferences. **To allow equitable access to our staff, we ask that parent/guardians schedule conferences only for those classes for which there are concerns. Unlike your experience in elementary school, middle level educators do not have a slot for each and every student. So, please be strategic about who you'd like to see and mindful of the need for your neighbors to have the same access.** As always, if you have a pressing concern, you are welcome to contact the teacher directly, to discuss it outside of the county conference window.

The *scheduling window* opens on **Monday, November 11 at 8:00 am** and *will close* on **Friday, November 22 at 11:59 pm**.

Attached are written directions on how to schedule a parent/teacher conference or you can check out this video for how to schedule a conference <https://youtu.be/QcMwkklgkls>