

WAITE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 13, 2017

1800 - 34TH AVENUE N.E. • MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418
612-668-1600 (MAIN OFFICE) • 612-668-1610 (FAX) • 612-668-1615 (24-HR ATTENDANCE LINE)
MRS. ROCHELLE MCGINNESS, PRINCIPAL

Principal's Corner

Greetings Waite Park Families,

Tis' the Season

It is the season when we will no doubt experience inclement weather. With that comes a slower commute and conditions that will cause buses to be late upon arrival and dismissal. Minneapolis Public Schools Transportation Department (MPSTD) works tirelessly to provide your children with the most efficient and safe ride to and from school. In the event buses are late it, is difficult for the Waite Park office to inform all of our families of the exact time the buses will arrive as each bus is on a different route and schedule. I apologize for any undue stress this may cause. Please understand that winter weather will increase the chance that a bus will arrive late in the morning or afternoon. I assure you that on a daily basis we monitor all of our bus routes and communicate with the MPSTD to decrease transportation issues that may cause disruption to our families and their routines. In the event of a school closing, late start or early dismissal, you will be informed through School Messenger, text, website, Facebook, Twitter, Radio and TV. In the event our after school activities are cancelled, you will also be informed via School Messenger and a phone call from your child. Please discuss a back-up plan with your child in advance so they know where to go after school if a cancellation occurs (home, Rec Plus, Audubon, etc.).

Outside Recess

Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. We will go outside every day for recess unless the temperature or the wind-chill is below zero.

Drop off and pick-up and Patrol Flags

When dropping your child off, please do not stop on the bus-line on 34th Ave. You must continue down the street by the bus sign number 1. You may also park on Ulysses if you need to bring your child in the building. Breakfast will be served starting at 9:00 am and the bell will ring at 9:10 am. If your child(ren) arrives after the bell, they must sign in at the office to receive a late pass.



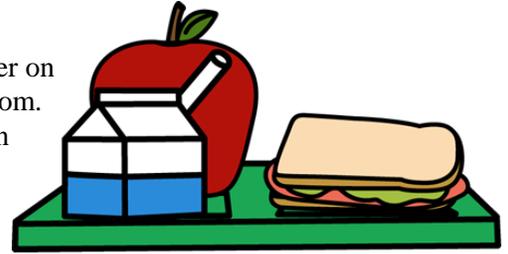
When picking your child(ren) up, please arrive by 3:40 pm. Please do not park in the front lot or on 34th Ave, where the buses are loading. This causes unnecessary congestion and a huge safety issue. You should park on Ulysses Street and enter through Door # 1. Please go to the gym and a staff member will have you sign your child(ren) out. Please make sure if a Patrol flag is down, you must stop your vehicle and wait for the flag to be put back up. Also, when walking to your vehicle please do not cross the street in between buses; please use the patrolled crosswalks. Thank you for your



cooperation in following these extremely important procedures. As always, if you have a question please contact the main office.

Lunch Accounts

In order to review your lunch account balance and manage funds, you must register on schoolcafe.com. You can use your registration information from schoolmealapp.com. Parents may add multiple students to the account. You can find schoolcafe.com on the MPS website. If your lunch account currently has an outstanding balance, we have sent a bill home with your student. If you have questions, you can contact our Lunch Coordinator, Tatiana Krawec, at 612-668-1600.



Lost and Found

We currently have a table in the main hallway full of lost and found clothes. Please check this table to see if your child has lost anything. Articles of clothing that are not claimed by Friday, January 12th will be washed and donated to Good Will.

Winter Break

School will not be in session Monday, December 25-Friday, January 5. We will resume school on Monday, January 8, 2018. Have a restful Winter Break!!!

Sincerely,

Rochelle McGinness

Rochelle McGinness
Principal

Fourth Grade

Waite Park 4th Graders to Partner with Bakken Museum

The fourth grade students have been studying Energy and Electromagnetism in science. We started by looking at energy sources such as light energy (solar) and electrical energy (batteries). Through the use of bulbs, batteries, wires and a variety of holding devices students learned about series and parallel circuits. This was followed by lessons on magnetism.



Magnetism led us into the use of electromagnets. The lessons centered around “Thinking Like a Scientist.” Students have explored, predicted, and created a Maglev System, which included the building of a levitating train.

On December 14th, a Bakken instructor will lead students through a number of experiments where they will get to experience static electricity first hand. This engaging and energizing presentation has a hands-on focus allowing students to learn about electricity by experiencing its effects, asking questions, and creating their own experiments to try, leaving the students excited to learn more about science.

PTA NEWS

Thank You!

Thank you to all the volunteers who pitched in to make this year's Craftstravaganza one of the most fun (and delicious) events yet!

Without your generous donations of time, talent, and patience, community building events like this wouldn't be possible.



A special thanks to everyone who shared treats from around the globe that have special meaning to their families for the Foodstravaganza table.



Box Tops For Education

As you're whipping up your holiday treats and feasts this year, don't forget to look for Box Tops for Education labels on the package of some of your ingredients... it may seem small, but these little rectangles collectively add up to significant funds for our school and students! Please be sure to cleanly cut on the dotted lines (extra label = extra weight in postage and/or extra work for the PTA in doing the trimming). All Box Tops can be deposited in the collection drawer outside the front office.

Thank you!

The next PTA meetings will be held Thursday, December 14th and Thursday, January 11th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Enter through Door #2. Snacks and childcare provided!