

WAITE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

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MRS. ROCHELLE MCGINNESS, PRINCIPAL

Principal's Corner

Greetings Waite Park Families,

Site Council regarding 2018-2019 Budget

Add your voice to the conversation about the 2018-19 school year Budget! Please join us on Monday, February 26th at 4:00 pm in the Media Center. Please RSVP to the main office if you are planning on attending 612-668-1600.



Parent-teacher conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, February 15th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Friday, February 16th from 8:00 am to 4:00pm. You will be able to schedule conferences on-line. Go to the Waite Park homepage and click on the winter conference link. The book fair will also be open during conference in the Media Center.

No School

School will not be in session on Friday, February 16th due to conferences and on Monday, February 19th due to President's Day.

Safety Drills

We are required to conduct a certain amount of safety drills each year. In the coming weeks we will practice our code yellow and red drills. In the spring, we will practice our evacuation and fire drills. Our teachers discuss proper procedure for each drill so our students know what to expect.

School Choice cards

School Choice cards are due on February 17th. You can go to the MPS website and click the red "Enroll Now" button. If you need help, please call the main office.

Sincerely,

Rochelle McGinness

Rochelle McGinness
Principal

First Grade

We are doing a unit on fairy tales and folktales, which the children love! For each fairy tale we read, we identify the elements that are in it and we write a summary. When we are finished with the unit, the students will bring home their special “Fairy tale” book to share with you.

In math we are working on being strong and fluent on addition and subtraction facts. We are working on strategies such as doubles plus one and decomposing and composing numbers to help us determine the answer. For example, when figuring out $5+7$, you can decompose the 7 to 5 and 2. You know $5+5=10$, and 2 more is 12. We don't just want the students to memorize the facts, we want them to really understand numbers so they can apply strategies when figuring out more complex problems. We also have been working on solving addition and subtraction story problems. We continue to work on counting money.



PTA NEWS

Spring Social - Saturday April 28th

The Spring Social is the PTA's biggest annual fundraiser. It's an adults only event (Rec Plus offers childcare so that parents can join us), and after a years long hiatus.... WE'RE BACK IN NORTHEAST!

Ask anyone who's attended in the past: there's nearly endless food, plenty of drinks, and an amazing silent auction where you can bid on anything from local art to tickets for city-wide events. The funds go straight to the PTA, benefitting your kids, their school and our community by supporting classroom field trips, academic projects, the school safety patrol, assemblies, etc.



Where: The Food Building, 1401 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis

When: Saturday, April 28th, 6 to 11 p.m.

Childcare: Register with Rec Plus at ActiveNet or in person after school (**please note this is an adults only event**)

Tickets are available in the school office, on the PTA blog or at the door on the day of the event. Advance tickets are \$20 each, tickets at the door are \$25 each.

****Special presale pricing on tickets available during conferences this week! Stop by the PTA table near the Media Center (on your way to the book fair) and get two tickets for 30! ****



How You Can Help

Events like this don't happen without a lot of help from our school community. There are numerous ways to help, big and small...The workload is broken down into committees and is quite manageable with many hands. We'd love to see some new parents get involved, particularly as some of our seasoned event planners age out to middle school and beyond...

- **Classroom Baskets**: Each classroom puts together a classroom basket for the silent auction around a designated theme. This allows each family a chance to contribute by sending an item to school to add to the basket, and gets the kids excited about participating in some way. Stay tuned for details on your classroom's theme.
- **Donate Auction Items**: Do you know someone who would be willing to donate art, jewelry, gift cards, tickets or even cash to help us purchase silent auction items? Perhaps you're a business owner, or know of one, who would like to donate goods and gain some great neighborhood exposure at the same time? We'd love to hear from you! In the past, families have donated cabin trips, catered dinner experiences, and handmade items. All donations can be coordinated through Megan Sparks (mmurphysparks@comcast.net), Jill Pearson-Wood (jill.pearsonwood@gmail.com) or just leave them in the school office and we'll pick them up!

- Volunteering: There's lots to do to plan and prepare for this event, from decorating, sourcing food and drink, PR/communications, entertainment, and on and on. If you want to help, please contact Megan or Jill (see above) to learn more.

Thank You!

A big thanks to all the families who came out Friday the 2nd for the annual Family Dance Night and Book Bonanza! Events like this are made possible by the fundraising efforts of the PTA, as well as your donations of time and money. Thank you!

The February PTA meeting will be held Thursday, March 8th from 6 to 7:30 pm. The April meeting will be Thursday, April 12th. Childcare is always available, and light refreshments are served. Please join us!