

WAITE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 8

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MRS. ROCHELLE MCGINNESS, PRINCIPAL

Principal's Corner

Greetings Waite Park Families,

TESTING SEASON IS UPON US

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade students at Waite Park will be taking The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) this month.

The MCA tests are state tests in mathematics, reading and science that meet the requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). They are given every year to students in grades 3-8 and high school to measure student growth and performance against the Minnesota Academic Standards that specify what students in a particular grade should know and be able to do.

WAITE PARK MCA TESTING SCHEDULE - SPRING 2017

Third Grade

- 106
 - MCA Reading: Wednesday, April 19th, Tuesday, April 25th and Thursday, April 27th
 - MCA Math: Monday, May 1st and Thursday, May 4th
- 108
 - MCA Reading: Tuesday, April 18th, Friday April 21st, and Friday, April 28th
 - MCA Math: Monday, May 1st and Wednesday, May 3rd
- 114
 - MCA Reading: Monday, April 17th, Thursday, April 20th, and Monday, April 24th
 - MCA Math: Wednesday, April 26th and Tuesday, May 2nd

Fourth Grade

- 113
 - MCA Reading: Monday, April 17th, Wednesday, April 19th and Friday, April 21st
 - MCA Math: Wednesday, April 26th and Friday, April 28th
- 116
 - MCA Reading: Tuesday, April 18th, Thursday, April 20th and Monday, April 24th
 - MCA Math: Tuesday, April 25th and Thursday, April 27th

Fifth Grade

- 115
 - MCA Reading: Tuesday April 18th, Thursday, April 20th and Monday, April 24th
 - MCA Math: Tuesday April 26th and Friday April 28th

- MCA Science - 5th Grade Only: Date to be determined, students will take the first or second week in May.
- 117
 - MCA Reading: Monday, April 17th, Wednesday, April 19th and Friday April 21st
 - MCA Math: Tuesday, April 25th and Thursday, April 27th
 - MCA Science - 5th Grade Only: Date to be determined; students will take the first or second week in May.

You can help your child be successful by making sure he/she is well rested and has a nutritious breakfast on the days of testing. Please see that your child arrives on time and avoids missing school on testing days.

For more information on the 2017 MCA testing please visit the Testing page on the Waite Park website or ask your child's classroom teacher.

A Visit from Anne Garity

This April and May we are fortunate enough to have Dr. Anne Garity facilitate our spring Professional Development. Dr. Garity brings over 20 years of experience working in the mental health field with children and their families. Dr. Garity has created the Developmental Repair Model; this model is closely aligned with the Responsive Classroom approach that we are already implementing here at Waite Park.

As stress and trauma are better recognized as casual to children's behavior challenges, it is imperative that adults adjust their approach to provide support to our children. The Developmental Repair Model relies on knowledge about how children learn and provides opportunity for educators to shift practice in order to understand and respond to children who experience stress and/or trauma.

As always, please contact me directly with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Rochelle McGinness
Principal

Important reminders:

*Report cards will be sent home with your child(ren) on Friday, April 14th.

*Spring Pictures will be on Friday, April 28th.

Third Grade

Students in the third grade have been focused on their learning in all disciplines. A recent highlight was our trip to the Mill City Museum. While there, they learned about the history of Minneapolis and the use of the Mississippi River in the flour milling industry. They practiced their reading and inference strategies as they searched for information in a scavenger hunt. As scientists, they learned about water as a source of energy, and used their engineering skills to design the most effective ways to tame the St. Anthony Falls to make the milling industry most productive. They identified some real-world 3-D figures such as cones and prisms as they learned about some strategies used to prevent erosion of the falls and explosions in the flour mills. The students had a great day of learning, and they look forward to using this experience to deepen their understanding of communities during their Social Studies classes.



The MPS GEMS-GISE summer program will offer two STEM Academy experiences for students this summer. Hurry and get your registrations submitted!

- **Who:** GEMS/GISE students and Minneapolis Public School (MPS) students currently in grades K-8.
- **What:** A summer program focused on STEM learning in a project-based and problem-based curriculum and instructional approach.
- **Where:**
 - **GEMS/GISE East Campus: Waite Park Elementary School** - Grades K-4 (Current Grade Level) *hours: 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.*
 - **GEMS/GISE Northeast Middle School** - Grades 5-7 (Current Grade Level) *hours: 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.*
- **When:** June 26th through August 3; Monday through Thursday (No classes the week of July 4th)
- Transportation and lunch are provided.

Join us for the GEMS-GISE Science of Speed Tournament...

- **Who:** GEMS/GISE students and their family and friends.
- **What:** Science of Speed Tournament
- **Where:** Seward Montessori 2309 28th Street South
- **When:** Saturday, April 29, 2017, 8-11:30 a.m.

Join us for the 5th Grade Math Competition...

- **Who:** 5th Grade students and their family and friends.
- **What:** District Math Competition
- **Where:** North High School, 1500 James Ave. N.
- **When:** Saturday, May 6, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

The Spring Session of After School Activities ends Thurs. May 4!

PTA NEWS



Is it possible you haven't heard yet about the upcoming Spring Social? In the event you're a new family to the school (looking at you High Five and Kindergarten parents), or still have a few lingering questions, see the below. This penultimate event of the fundraising season is right around the corner - you won't want to miss it!

If you're looking for ways to help, we still have a number of volunteer spots available the night of the event (manning game stations, taking tickets at the door, selling raffle tickets...) Sign up online via VolunteerSpot at <http://signup.com/go/Hd7eFd>

What IS this event?

The Social is a major annual fundraising event hosted by the Waite Park Community School PTA, and it has been a Waite Park tradition since 2007.

When and where is the Social? Where do I park?

The Social is Saturday, April 22nd from 6:00 to 11:00 pm. Like last year, we're excited to host the event at the beautiful 514 Studios in the North Loop (514 North 3rd Street). Parking is available on street, or next door in the Darby's parking ramp (317 North 5th Avenue, between 3rd and 4th St).

How much does it cost and where do I get tickets?

In advance: \$20.00. Buy them at the school front office or on the PTA blog page at waiteparkpta.blogspot.com. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$25.00.

What will be there to eat and drink?

Local caterers who happen to be Waite Park parents and supporters will provide delicious dinners, desserts and appetizers. Other food and beverages will be donated by some of your favorite Northeast restaurants and suppliers.

What will I do with the kids?

The Social is strictly an adult event (21+), but the kids can have fun, too. Registration is available now for childcare at Waite Park's Rec Plus site during the Social. Park staff will feed and entertain a limited number of kids, ages 5-13, from 5:30pm to 11pm. To register your child, go to ActiveNet (activenet.active.com/minneapolisparcs) or call the Park at (612) 370-4959.

Will I know anyone there?

Most likely, yes. And you can always invite a friend! This event is open to anyone who wants to support Waite Park School. We're expecting about 200-250 guests.

What events are planned? What will be in the silent auction?

You'll be enjoying a fabulous dinner, a wine and beer raffle as well as other games, and a live and silent auction while you socialize with friends and neighbors. Many Silent Auction items have been donated by local businesses, and each classroom at Waite has assembled a themed basket of their own (not too late to send in those items, by the way - collecting through April 14th). Prizes will be available for a wide range of budgets. Payment will be accepted at the end of the evening by check or credit card, or pick up following the event can be arranged.

What should I wear?

Dress is casual to semi-formal. You will have no kids in tow, so seize the opportunity to go out in something other than a t-shirt and yoga pants.

Where does the money go?

All proceeds benefit the Waite Park PTA to support our students, teachers and staff. The PTA funds buses for field trips, classroom project grants, community events like the summer carnival, dances, book sales, Family Dinner Night, and much more.

Join us for our next regularly scheduled meeting - Thursday, May 11th at 6pm!

As always, free childcare is available! The meeting takes place in the multipurpose room in the park area. Enter from Door #2.