

WAITE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 12, 2018

1800 - 34TH AVENUE N.E. • MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55418  
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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 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, local radio and television stations. In the event our afterschool 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.).

### DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURE

**Thank you to all of our families for their help in implementing our new Drop-off/Pick-up procedure.** The goal is to keep our children safe and eliminate unnecessary traffic on 34<sup>th</sup> Ave. which is our bus lane. Procedure is outlined below:



- Students should be **dropped off on ULYSSES ST. starting at 9:00 am.** Cars should be facing North and continue down Ulysses and exit on a street other than 34<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- Children who are dropped off after 9:20 am will be marked as tardy
- Students will be **picked up on ULYSSES ST. starting at 3:35 pm.** Cars should be facing North and have their family number on the passenger side visor so that it is visible for staff to see
- Adults need to stay in the vehicle, your children will come to you. Cars will move up in line as children are picked-up and cars depart
- Cars should continue North down Ulysses St. and exit on a street other than 34<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- The yellow sign indicating "Drop-Off and Pick-Up Here," is the beginning of the line. **NO PICK-UP past the yellow sign.**



### **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.

### **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 11<sup>th</sup> will be washed and donated to Goodwill.

### **Winter Break**

School will not be in session Monday, December 24-Friday, January 4. We will resume school on Monday, January 7, 2019. Have a restful Winter Break!!!

Sincerely,

*Rochelle McGinness*

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Principal

## *English as a Second Language*

English as a Second Language or ESL provides specific English language instruction across grade levels. We support in math and reading in a variety of ways. In kindergarten, we rotate between the three classrooms during math time for math groups and then pull out small reading groups. We just finished using a ten frame to practice recognizing numbers up to ten and a short unit on verbs, nouns and adjectives.

In 1<sup>st</sup> grade we pull out three different groups. One group works on specific grammar like sequence words, nouns and verbs, while the other two groups do a 25-minute guided reading session. Right now we're working on final consonant blends.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> grade we pull groups to work on reading and writing. We also just finished all of our Cogat testing.

In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade we support during both math and reading. In reading we pull a small group during guided reading. In math we're part of a co-taught math rotation, wrapping up division and multiplication before break. Looking forward to fractions!

In 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> we pull out guided reading groups Monday through Thursday. We just finished reading and presenting on natural resources. We talked a lot about how different properties of natural resources allow us to use them in different ways. Then on Fridays we co-teach science and social studies. One room is planning a road trip across America to see all the different landforms we learned about.

It's a busy schedule, but it's a lot of fun to see what all the different grades are doing.

All Best,

-Mr. Sanville & Ms. O'Connell