

WAITE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

WILDCAT NEWS



ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 9, 2016

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MRS. ROCHELLE MCGINNESS, PRINCIPAL

Principal's Corner

Greetings Waite Park Families,

Native American Family Involvement Day

Next Thursday, November 17th we will be celebrating Native American Family Involvement Day (NAFID). Our families are invited for coffee and treats with the principal starting at 9:15 a.m. in the Media Center. You are then welcome to visit your student in the classroom.

Treats from Around the World – Celebrating Culture

How does your family celebrate their culture? Is there a special dessert you make around the holidays or family celebrations? All food is rich with history and tradition, so why not expand your horizon and share a slice of a different culture's life? In December you will have a chance to do so with your Waite Park School Community! We are excited to showcase the diversity of Waite Park through a "Dessert Potluck" that will be held during our annual Craftstravaganza (Friday, December 2nd from 6:30-8pm). It's simple: Make your favorite treat, and bring it to share at the event. We will have tables set for you to share your treat, and will also have a form to fill out explaining the origin, history and ingredients of your dessert. You can even share the recipe if you like!



Interested? Please contact Amanda at 612/743-4810 or amanda.muenzner@mpls.k12.mn.us if you would like to know more.

Northeast Middle School Information Night

Northeast Middle School will be hosting an information night on Thursday, November 10th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. You will meet with current families and staff, hear a presentation from Principal Rowe, and tour the building. Northeast Middle School is located at 2955 Hayes St. NE. Please contact Erica Gates Rounta at 612-668-1503 if you have any questions.

School Choice Portal

The School Choice Portal will open on November 15th. Incoming Kindergarteners must submit a school request card to be enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year. You can submit your school request form at mpls.k12.mn.us or call 612-668-1840 or 612-668-3700 for more information. The deadline for priority placement is February 4, 2017.

Holiday Break

School will not be in session Wednesday, November 23-Friday, November 25. Please take this opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends and give thanks for all we have. We will resume school on Monday, November 28th. Also, there will be NO After School activities the week of November 21st due to the Holiday Break

Sincerely,

Rochelle McGinness
Principal



Specialists



Waite Park artists just completed a unit connected to our Minnesota State Science Standards. Some examples of these standards are Parts and Life Cycle of an Insect, How Trees Change Throughout the Seasons, Animal Adaptations, Parts and Life Cycle of a Flower, and Environments. Each grade level used observation and various lines to draw, the drawings were then completed with oil pastel and watercolor. Please look for examples of this work throughout the halls of Waite Park.

Waite Park media students are researchers and readers! Grades 2-5 have been learning how to use our new self-checkout system. Grades 1 & 2 have been learning about good-fit books and focusing on reading for enjoyment. Kindergarten has been learning about our online resources; they are currently learning to navigate to Tumblebooks; ask them to show you how to get there from home (start out at the Waite Park website). 2nd and 3rd grade are now starting units on Google Drive and December will be devoted to learning Coding for all grades.



Waite Park musicians learn by singing, word rhymes, moving, music games, and playing instruments. Third grade musicians this fall and winter will be learning to play the recorder. Fourth and fifth graders are building ensembles which include xylophones, drums and percussion, movement, word rhythms and rhymes. Younger students learn music concepts largely through singing games and playing rhythm patterns. Key historic events are featured throughout the year, such as African American history.

Waite Park athletes are off to a great year. We have been working hard to follow the Waite Park Way by being **RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE!** This helps the student develop great character and sportsmanship through being active! The Hi-5 students have been working on Locomotor Movement and Spatial Awareness. The K-2 students has been building on spatial awareness and just completed a unit in Low Organized Games. The 3-5 students just finished the NFL Flag Football curriculum that used a combination of individual and small group skill development aligned with SHAPE America's National Standards & Grade Level Outcomes for K-12 Physical Education. The students will work on physical health by focusing on the 5 components of fitness throughout the school year. I am excited to see what this school year brings for our Waite Park athletes!



PTA NEWS

Coin Drive Raises More Than \$4,000 for Waite Park!

The Waite Park PTA is excited to announce that the Fall Coin Drive raised more than \$4,000 for Waite Park! The funds will support many school activities, including field trips, family events, after school scholarships and special classroom events.

Students brought in \$3,500 in coins, which exceeded our goal!



The top three classroom totals are:

- Room 115, Ms. Harms, 5th grade: \$683.93
- Room 107, Mrs. Thompson, 2nd grade: \$407.06
- Room 120, Mrs. Carpenter, 1st grade: \$323.13

A special thanks to Waite Park's Family Liaison Amanda Muenzner and her student helpers, for collecting, sorting, and counting several hundred pounds of coins!

We also received classroom sponsorship from Binder Heating & Air Conditioning, Castle Building & Remodeling, and the Pearson-Wood family in memory of Grandma Judy Pearson.

If you or a relative of a Waite Park student would like to contribute, we are still accepting classroom sponsors. \$100 gets you sponsorship of a classroom. Just send a check to school marked "classroom sponsor" and send to the attention of PTA.

Thanks for your support!

Give to the Max Day

Another option for families to help in reaching our Fall Fundraising goal is to contribute on Give to the Max Day, November 17th. Give what you can and ask friends, neighbors and relatives to donate too! Many employers have matching programs as well. Donations can be made online, so family and friends from around the country (or globe!) can participate:

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Pta-Minnesota-Congress-246>

give TO THE **MAX** 
NOV. 17, 2016



Craftstravaganza Volunteers Needed!

Our annual evening of fun, treats, community and crafts will be back Friday, December 2nd. Please join us in the gym from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for a variety of projects - kids can make handmade items to give as gifts or to keep for themselves.

We could also use some adult hands to help out with the projects - if you're interested in volunteering to lead a project at a table, please stay tuned in to the PTA Blog, Facebook page and the school's website and newsletter for a link to sign up.

No special crafting experience necessary, we'll even give you the idea(s) and the supplies. If you do have an idea for a great activity, please let us know, we'd be glad to make it happen!

PTA meetings are held the second Thursday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the park area, multipurpose room (enter through door #2). Childcare is always available, and light refreshments are served. Please join us!

November's meeting will be 11/10, December's will be 12/8