

WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

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Ryan Rieber- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal

As it does every year, the first semester has flown by! We just completed our mid-year assessment period so we can see the growth of our students and use this data to make the adjustments needed to ensure our students are getting the best education possible. We look forward to sharing your child's progress with you at our **parent/teacher conferences on February 11th and 13th**. Please make sure to schedule a time with your child's teacher. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with your child's teachers. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us!

Another tradition is our PTO family movie night, and again it was a hit! It was so nice to get our families together outside of the school day. We would like to thank those of you who brought food donations for our local food bank. Our community has a growing range of needs, and this is a great way to help out our fellow community members. There are a number of PTO events coming up during the remainder of the year. Please check out our calendar to see when and where we can gather as a school community again to enjoy an evening with our families and support our kids! Also, our PTO is always looking for members to join our organization. If you are interested, our PTO meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 in our library. Please consider joining our PTO and assisting our students.

Our elementary school has begun an exciting opportunity for students to give back at lunchtime. The Care and Share Table is a chance for students to share uneaten, unopened food from their school lunches with friends who are still hungry. Our goal is to see less food wasted and more food in bellies! The Care and Share Table has been running for a few months but we can always use more volunteers! Here is a link to a google document where you can sign up to help.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dnC2Z0smLZ0viYmf0BUdj_7LjK2XKqoQaPsJv5kR_So

February is Black History Month and as part of this some of our classrooms have been reading about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Through this learning, there have been good discussions on being respectful of those around us. In this month's parent connection, here is a resource to watch with your child to help with the conversation of being respectful to those around us.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOzrAK4gOSo>

So far we have had a good winter, but we know that it can flip on a dime. Winter weather is tricky, and when there are school cancellations/delays it is always stressful. The best way to stay informed on this is to utilize local news stations and Skyward messages when decisions are made. We would encourage you to sign up for text alerts from either WXOW or WKBT. At times I will be alerted through these resources prior to getting notification myself.

-Ryan Rieber, Principal

**West Salem School District 3 yr. old
Child Development Days**

Thursday, February 27th from
3:30-5:30PM

OR

Friday, February 28th from 9-11AM

If you have a child who will be three by September 1, 2020 (Or if your child missed our 4 year old screening in January) please plan on bringing your child to one of the free developmental screening clinics at the West Salem elementary school. Early childhood staff and a speech therapist will be available to interact with your child while looking for specific developmental milestones.

They will have you fill out a questionnaire regarding your child's development and take the time to discuss all of this with you. Please plan on the whole process taking approximately 45 minutes. Please call Amber Clark at 786-1662 ext 3117 to let us know which date works for you

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, February 11th
&
Thursday, February 13th

**Kindergarten Registration
2020-2021**

Now that West Salem has a 4-Year-Old Kindergarten program in place, we no longer have a kindergarten registration. If you have a student who will be five years old by September 1, 2020 and your child does not attend our 4K program, please contact the elementary office at 786-1662 to pre-register. All 4K students currently attending West Salem's program will automatically receive kindergarten enrollment information.

2020 Summer School Program

It's that time of the year again to start thinking about Summer School!

Be sure to mark your calendars!

This year Summer School for K-8 students will be held:

July 20th through August 7th
from 8:30am - 11:35am
(buses depart at 11:45am)

The school district will again be offering swimming lessons. Please note that swimming lessons are not held during the July-August Summer School session.

Dates and times will be announced soon.

**The spring music concerts
are approaching quickly!**

Kindergarten: Tuesday, March 10th at
6:15pm

First Grade: Monday, March 9th at 6:15pm

Second Grade: Tuesday, March 10th at
7:15pm

Third Grade: Monday, March 9th at 7:15pm

All concerts are at the Heider Center.
Please watch for important information to
come home prior to the shows regarding
arrival, dress, and seating.

**Elementary Morning
Procedures
before 8:00 am bell**

When the temperature before school
“feels like” +10 degrees or higher
students are allowed to be outside.

**When the welcome flags are out, it
means that students are inside.**

- * Kindergarten goes to the
Assembly Room
- * Grade 1 goes to the **front** gym
- * Grade 2 goes to the **back** gym
- * Grade 3 & 4 go to their
respective hallways

(K-2 may take
backpacks/coats to
lockers first)



Absences Parents are requested to call the school between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. whenever a child will be absent from school. You may also leave a voice mail message before 7:30 a.m. If we do not receive a call, the school secretary will contact you. This is done for the safety of your child, as we, along with you, need to be assured that your child is either at home or at school. If the school has been contacted, a written note is not needed when the child returns. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher if the child has missed two or more consecutive days of school for purpose of make-up work.

EXCUSABLE absences are: 1) Illness on the part of the student. An excuse from a physician may be requested as necessary. 2) Serious illness or death in the immediate family. 3) Special circumstances provided written parental permission for the absence is given in advance to administration. 4) Emergency situations within the family.

UNEXCUSABLE absences and tardiness: Students who are absent from school with the consent of their parent or guardian, but whose absence does not fall under excusable absences shall be considered unexcused, tardy, or truant. Students who develop a record of unexcused absences will be subject to the State and County Truancy Law that ultimately results in truancy proceedings.

WSES Physical Education JUMP FOR A CAUSE event

Our PE staff is hosting an event that will impact our local community through donations. This year we have chosen the West Salem Area Community Care and Share Pantry to benefit from our event. There will be a school-wide competition to see which grade level can bring in the most items. Items have been given a point value based on the need at the pantry. The grade level with the most points at the end of the week will earn an extra PE class. Food items will be collected **February 10th-13th**.

We still will focus on the benefits of exercise and heart health. This year's JUMP FOR A CAUSE event will take place during your child's physical education class on **Thursday, February 13th**.

| 2 point items | 1 point items |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">-peanut butter-canned tuna-canned chicken-canned fruit-pasta/spaghetti sauce-toilet paper-Kleenex-cleaning products-paper towels-toothpaste and toothbrushes-shampoo-bath soap-dish soap | <ul style="list-style-type: none">-cereal-jelly-bagged plain rice-boxed or canned dinners-apple juice-pancake syrup-canned vegetables-cans of soup & beans-stuffing-crackers-macaroni & cheese-pasta-oatmeal |

All donations are encouraged and appreciated! Please check expiration dates before bringing items in. If you have any questions, please contact us!

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We appreciate the cooperation and understanding of all our families during any weather related early dismissals. While we try our best to avoid disrupting regular school schedules as it may inconvenience some parents, staff, and students, the decision to close schools is a clear indication that weather conditions could endanger the safety of children and staff. We encourage parents/guardians to have an emergency backup plan or identify an individual who will serve as an emergency contact if school or after-school programs are canceled. Please notify your child's teacher of any changes to your students early dismissal plans in case of future weather related dismissals.

