

February 2021

# WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

475 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

Phone 608-786-1662

Fax 608-786-3415

Tami Bagstad- Principal

Lisa Gerke- Associate Principal



Hello Panther Families!

This has been quite the year! We are so very excited to have our students back with us every day, and would once again like to THANK YOU for all of the support you provided your students during our first semester of online and face-to-face instruction! They would not have made the growth they did without your support!!

I am looking to start a Parent Advisory Committee - not only to get to know you better, but also to meet on a monthly basis to find out what your experiences are this year, and how we can continue our partnership on our continued journey & tradition of excellence here at the elementary! Please email me if you are interested, or even if you would like to just have a "get-to-know-you" meeting - I would be very honored and willing! This is something that I was not able to provide with the way school started this year, but moving in forward, I am excited for the possibilities! I would love to zoom with you, so please email me if interested!!  
([bagstad.tami@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:bagstad.tami@wsalem.k12.wi.us))

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** (Zoom format again) on **February 16 & 18**. Please be sure to schedule a time with your child's teacher as we did this fall! This is an excellent opportunity to connect with your child's teachers and continue the partnerships you have created this year. If you have any questions, concerns, or celebrations, please reach out to us!

We are getting to the time of the year where the weather could be beautiful one day and not-so-beautiful the next! Please be sure to equip your child with all of the winter weather necessities: Coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, boots, snow pants, face masks,....Please be sure all are labeled! Students will have outdoor recess unless the temperature is below a real feel temperature of zero degrees.

- Tami Bagstad, Principal

### **4K Registration and Screening 2021-2022**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not able to safely host our “traditional” 4K registration and screening events this year. Instead we will be hosting a virtual 4K registration event and inviting families to sign up for an in-person screening opportunity. Assuming community numbers allow, we will host small group screening sessions at the elementary school.

If you have a student who will be four years old by September 1, 2021 please join us for our virtual 4K registration and in-person screening. You will be asked to complete online registration information. After completing your child’s online registration you will receive a link to sign up for one 30 minute in-person screening session at the elementary school. Please mark your calendars for one of the following screening session:

- Tuesday, February 23rd (evening sessions)
  - 30 minute sessions starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
- Thursday, February 25th (evening sessions)
  - 30 minute sessions starting at 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, February 26th (afternoon/day sessions)
  - 30 minute sessions starting at 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Please contact the elementary office at 608-786-1662 or email Jane Frank at [frank.jane@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:frank.jane@wsalem.k12.wi.us) to pre-register.

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

As part of ongoing Child-Find efforts our district is committed to ensuring that we keep up with screening children even during this time of enhanced safety measures due to COVID-19. We have changed our screening process for the 2020-2021 school year. This change will allow us to continue to screen and make early identifications of children who may need extra help now or in the near future.

We traditionally host an in-person screening event in February paired with a parent questionnaire. This year we are going to use Ages and Stages (ASQ) and/or Ages and Stages Online. If you have a child who will be three years old by September 1, 2021 please contact Amber Clark at 608-786-1662 ext 3117 or [clark.amber@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:clark.amber@wsalem.k12.wi.us) to get online screening instructions or to request a paper screener be mailed to you. Once screening results are received (online or paper), someone from the Early Childhood team will contact you with your child’s results. An optional virtual or in-person observation may be offered if there are any developmental concerns.

### **Kindergarten Registration 2021-2022**

**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, 2021 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.**

### **2021 K-4 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 19th through August 6th  
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.**

### **Important Message from the Principal regarding Personal Devices:**

Personal Devices updates for parents: Use of personal devices: Our handbook states: Personal Property Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Games, Music Players, etc.) Reference: Board Policy 443.3 Students may not use cell phones or other 2-way communication devices during school hours (7:30am-3:10pm). If a student is seen with their cell phone, they will be considered in violation of this policy. An exception is if a teacher would request students to use cell phones for an educational purpose. Students violating this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with the established procedures as follows: First Offense: Phone confiscated, warning given and the phone returned to the student at the end of the school day. Second and Subsequent Offense: Phone confiscated and a parent must come to school to retrieve the phone. After multiple offenses, other consequences may be assigned including, but not limited to, detentions. Cell phones are strictly prohibited in the locker rooms at all times. If a student is found using their cell phone in the locker room, the phone will automatically be confiscated and a parent will be required to come in to retrieve the phone.

Students may bring personal electronic devices to school to use during inside recess (inclement weather) as long as games, music, etc. are appropriate for the school setting. Students are not allowed to use electronics during outside recess. Personal electronic devices may be used for instructional purposes with teacher permission. We emphasize that the school is NOT responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Please note that student lockers DO NOT lock. Use of inappropriate websites, games, etc. may result in disciplinary action

\*\*The underlined sentence about recess and use was in effect before all students had 1:1 district-issued devices this year. In looking to give students some entertainment during inclement weather, this was allowed. Now that all students have a school-issued device, all personal devices are not to be used during school hours, as originally stated in the first part of this language. Another bonus of having school-issued devices is the opportunity for educational play during such times! Thank you!

## NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

K-3 students have started working on their spring concerts in music class. In an effort to help keep our WS students, staff, families, and community members safe, concerts will be recorded in early March in the music classroom and sent out as a virtual concert for families to enjoy.

## EARLY RELEASE DAY

WED. FEBRUARY 10TH  
STUDENTS RELEASED AT  
12:20PM  
BUSES DEPART AT 12:30PM

NO SCHOOL  
FOR ES & MS  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Five students from Ms. Lotspaih's art classes will have artwork displayed at the 2020-21 Youth Art Month regional virtual exhibit this month! This art show displays outstanding student art from west central Wisconsin! A big congratulations to Nora Johnson (4th grade), Colton Stricker (3rd grade), Harper Haas (2nd Grade), Emmitt England (1st Grade) and Jace Miller (Kindergarten)! This is a huge honor and we are so proud of these students! These artists will have the chance to be selected to move on to the state celebration of Youth Art Month in March!



Kindergarten - Jace Miller



Emmitt England - 1st Grade

February 2021

Harper Haas - 2nd Grade



Colton Stricker - 3rd Grade



Nora Johnson - 4th Grade

