

# Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 7

January 14, 2022



*"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed. "*  
*-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-*

## Hello WCS Community!



## Happy New Year WCS Community!

Our theme for this school year is "Rebuild, Repair, Restore" and as we ring in a new year this focus is more important than ever. Although to some people it would appear that the recent surge in Covid-19 cases is a bit of a setback, the staff and I are steadfast in our commitment to meeting the needs of our students. Looking ahead into 2022 we have so many things to be positively excited about as a school community. From new learning experiences and opportunities to building and strengthening relationships, great things are in store for WCS in 2022!



### Additional Revisions to COVID-19 Procedures

Effective 1/11/2022

Effective immediately in M.S.A.D. No. 75, because we have adopted a universal masking policy, per the revised SOP we will no longer contact trace students and staff who test positive for COVID-19. Given the high case numbers in the community it is best to assume that at some point during the day everyone may be exposed to COVID-19. It is important to engage in the long-standing prevention strategies of properly wearing a mask, washing hands regularly, spacing while

eating and drinking, and if a student or staff member is sick, they need to stay home. For additional information, please refer to the letter that was sent via School Messenger to MSAD #75 households on January 13, 2022: [1-13-22 MSAD 75 COVID-19 Updated Procedures.pdf](#)



We greatly appreciate the daily cooperation and support that parents/caregivers extend during the K-5 morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. In an ongoing effort to ensure safety and efficiency, we respectfully remind parents/caregivers that students should **not** be dropped off and/or picked up via the main parking lot. Please contact me (Mrs. Rineer) to discuss an alternate plan if you feel that your student is unable to exit/enter your car in 60 seconds or less during arrival/dismissal. If you have already secured permission to drop off/pick up in the school parking lot this school year, you do not need to contact me. Thank-you!

## School Wide Positive Behavior Challenge



Throughout the month of January our School Wide Positive Behavior Challenge is focused on being responsible learners. Students are earning extra PAWS slips for demonstrating

responsible behavior in all school settings. Each classroom has been given the challenge to fill a large jar with the extra PAWS slips. For every jar that is filled, a desk will be purchased for a student in the country of Malawi through the K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Desks) Fund sponsored by Unicef USA. More information is available about this fund at: <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/protect/education/kids-need-desks-kind>

Not only does this challenge help reinforce responsible school behavior but also helps to foster social responsibility and greater global awareness. The cost per desk is \$38.00. If any individuals or businesses would like to sponsor one of the desks, please contact me at [nineerr@link75.org](mailto:nineerr@link75.org). Thanks you!

## Instructional Updates



This month students in Kindergarten through fifth grade will engage in NWEA reading and math assessments. This is the first year that our entire district is administering the NWEA in grades K-12. NWEA is also the assessment the state is using for the fall and spring Maine Education Assessment (MEA). The data from these assessments will help staff to measure fall to winter academic progress for students in grades one through five. Kindergarten will complete the assessments for the first time this month.

As part of our effort to rebuild, repair and restore gaps in student learning, classroom teams

along with the Special Education and Response to Intervention teams will work together to review the data points from the NWEA. The teams will use this and other student data points to create academic programming that is targeted and highly responsive to each student's strengths and needs. If you have any questions about these assessments and/or your student's progress, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

## Playground Winter Clothing



It's that time of the year where the elements are dictating that students dress warmer outside. Here are the expectations for all students at WCS:

\*If it's 15 or below as per thermometer or wind chill we will stay inside for recess.

\*If it's 32 degrees or lower, students must wear a coat on the playground, as well as take hats and gloves/mittens outside with them.

\*If there is snow on the ground and a student wants to play off the blacktop area (ex. fields, structures, etc.) a student must also wear boots and snow pants.

\*If you need assistance securing winter clothing for your student, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school counselor, Mr. C. or our school social worker, Miss Carin at 725-4391.

## Volunteer Opportunities



Although we are still unable to invite volunteers into in our schools during the school day due to Covid-19 safety protocols, volunteer opportunities are still available within our school community. This includes our school's Playground Committee and FOWC, our fundraising group. These groups meet monthly via zoom. Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend. The Playground Committee will meet this month on Tuesday, 1/18 at 5:00 P.M. Via Zoom (see link below). FOWC will meet this month on Wednesday, 1/19 at 5:00 P.M. via zoom (see link below). Please consider how you might be able to support one or both of these committees. Each committee provides participants with the opportunity to positively contribute to and support our school community. If you have any questions about these committees, please feel free to reach out to me, Mrs. Rineer at: [nineerr@link75.org](mailto:nineerr@link75.org).

### **1/18 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:00 P.M. via Zoom**

<https://zoom.us/j/93222341791?pwd=cVpQUXRRRnFKMWWiWDU0bG5xZkxqdz09>

Meeting ID: 932 2234 1791

Passcode: 821453

### **1/19 FOWC Meeting, 5:00 P.M. via Zoom**

<https://zoom.us/j/96318293622?pwd=cGxNS3FzbGNEOHROdGx5TGltUkpQT09>

Meeting ID: 963 1829 3622 Passcode: 532897

Thank-you WCS community for your continued support. If you have any needs, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school team here at WCS.

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

[rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org)

(207)725-4391



**Many thanks to 111 Main Catering, owned and operated by WCS parents Jennifer Banis**



**and Ian Talmage, for recently preparing and donating an amazing holiday luncheon for the entire WCS staff. The scrumptious meal included fine cheeses, fruits, vegetables, meats, breads, brownies and lemon squares. It was all simply incredible and very much appreciated. Thank-you!**

\*Thank-you to FOWC and to all of our school community for supporting the basket auction fundraiser that was held in December. The funds raised will be used for upcoming special projects, field trips and classroom needs.

\*Thank-you to the many businesses, organizations, churches, groups, families, and/or individuals who made holiday gift giving possible for families within our community. The generosity and support was positively overwhelming. Thank-you!





# Pre-Screening Tool for School Attendance

Within the past 24 hours have you had a fever\* or taken fever reducing medicine?

YES =



Do you feel sick, had Vomiting/diarrhea, fever\*, sore throat, new cough, or felt unwell?

YES =



Have you been told to stay home and isolate/quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure?

YES =



## Most Common Symptoms of COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever \*
- Chills
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

## Less Common Symptoms:

- Muscle pain
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Rash
- Swelling or redness of hands/feet
- Red eyes/eye drainage
- Congestion/runny nose

*\*Fever is 100.4°F/ 38°C regardless of measurement location (oral, temporal).*

Stay home with any **YES** response to the questions above.

Symptoms of illness can have many causes. Please keep your student home and contact your school nurse or primary care provider if your student is unwell. Students who present with symptoms while in school will be dismissed to home at the discretion of the nurse.

*\*A fever is 100.4F/38C or greater.*



Updated 10.19.2021



## January/February

**1/17** Martin Luther King Holiday, No School

**1/18-1/24** NWEA Testing, K-5

**1/18** Playground Committee Meeting, 5:00 P.M. via Zoom

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**1/19** 5th Grade Band Concert, Orion/MAMS, 7:00 P.M.

**1/26** Grade 5: Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey Administered

**2/3** Grade 4: National Assessment of Educational Progress Administered

**2/21-2/25** Winter Break 2

please join us at our community food pantry



We Include, Nurture & Give

**W.I.N.G.**

the food pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School

Drive-up service available  
Mt Ararat Middle School front entrance  
Monday 10a-1p  
Friday 5:30p-7:30p

Fresh produce, Dairy, Frozen foods, &  
Hygiene products are all available to anyone.

FMI contact  
207.729.2950 ext. 7202

in cooperation with  
 **MCHPP**  
Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program