



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2021

Every Child.....Every Class.....Every Day

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR / DR. JORDAN SINZ

Reflect & Start New!

We recently have turned the page on 2020-21 and moved into the 2021-22 year on July 1. Before we focus on this new year, it is important to reflect on what has been. At the district level, I am very proud of the progress that we made in 2020-21. Here are a few items that resonate.

1. We successfully passed a capital referendum on November 3, 2020. The School District is extremely grateful to the community for supporting the facility referendum question. The amount of work that has (and will) be completed in the middle/high school by the end of this summer is astounding when you consider the construction crews had approximately 60 days to work. As for the construction of the elementary school – the perimeter of the building has been established as footings, and foundation walls have recently been poured. It is exciting to consider the possibilities that lie ahead when we are together on a PK – 12-grade campus! Furthermore, this project will allow the district to stand on stable operational ground as we plan for our long-term financial needs and attract and retain staff members to our district.
2. Our district has handled the pandemic with grace, empathy, and an understanding of the competing values this situation has fostered. The situation has been very challenging, but we have continued to turn the dial. We did this by taking feedback, communicating frequently, and focusing on trying to do what is best for kids. We are in the process of solidifying plans for school safety protocols when we welcome students on September 1. It is clear that things will be more normal than the start of the 2020 school year, but it is also important to understand that precautions will be in place to support the health of our students, staff, and community. The administrative team plans to seek school board approval for our health procedures on August 9.
3. We have continued to focus on our continuous improvement efforts (literacy-based school improvement plans) and our development as a professional learning community. It would have been easy to throw our hands up and say we are going to take a year off because of the pandemic or the referendum. Instead of doing that, we continued to stress these crucial items. Consequently, the work has not slipped into the background, and we are poised to continue to foster higher levels of student learning.
4. We facilitated an agreement with a local child care provider to bring a before/after school and wrap-around program to Black Earth Elementary School. This agreement proved to be of immense value during the pandemic.

What a year! We look forward to working with our school district community to make 2021-22 amazing. Enjoy the rest of the summer, and we will be in session soon!

Black Earth & Mazomanie Elementary News

SCOTT MOORE, Black Earth Principal | DALE GREEN, Mazomanie Principal

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We are working hard to welcome students back in-person starting on September 1st. School hours are as follows: Early Childhood | 11:30AM - 2:00 PM Tue-Fri, 4K | 7:50AM - 10:35AM (morning session) and 12:05PM - 2:50 PM (afternoon session), Kindergarten-5th grade | 7:50 AM - 2:50 PM.

Our traditional, "Back to School Night/Open House" is on the calendar for Thursday, August 26th from 2:00 - 6:00 PM. We hope you take this opportunity to meet your teachers and drop off school supplies. New this year, Lifetouch will be on-site to take student pictures. School registration is online again this year, information is available on our district website and parents should have received a skyward email message with details. Online registration opens on August 4th.

We did some hiring this spring and want to extend a warm "Welcome" to the following new elementary staff members; John Altenhofen (Elementary School Counselor), Kelle Moran (Elementary School Art), Samantha Sartori (5th grade), and Sarah Martinsen (5th grade)! Please be sure to introduce yourself to these wonderful folks if you have the chance.

Again this year, we will be partnering with Lifecycle Kids to provide wrap-around care for 4K students as well as before and after school care for 4K-5th grade students. Both programs will be housed at Black Earth Elementary. If you have questions about programming or pricing, please contact Frannie at frannie@lifecyclekids.com or call Karen at (608) 370-3927.

Please take a look at the 2021-2022 school calendar for your family and school plans. The calendar is available on the district website. {WHSd website→Calendar→[2021/2022 School Year](#)}

The 2021-2022 classroom supply lists are also available on the district web page on Black Earth or Mazomanie Elementary home page.

{WHSd website→Our Schools→Black Earth Elementary→[School Supply Lists](#) on top of page}

{WHSd website→Our Schools→Mazomanie Elementary→[School Supply Lists](#) on top of page}

Elementary Dates:

Wednesday, September 1st | First Day of School for Students

Monday, September 6th | No School, Labor Day

Thursday, September 2nd | WHPTO Meeting at Mazo Elementary | 6:30 PM

Wednesday, September 22nd | Inservice: Early Release Day

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Dale Green at 608-767-2737 x-5012 or dgreen@wisheights.k12.wi.us and Scott Moore at 608-767-2251 x-4104 or smoore@wisheights.k12.wi.us. We are looking forward to another great school year!



We made it to the 2021- 2022 school year, hooray!!! This year we plan to once again get together on the 1st Thursday of each month. Meetings begin at 6:30 PM. Our first meeting will be held in person on Thursday, September 2, 2021 @ Black Earth Elementary School. Agenda items that will include fundraising, student/ teacher needs, open positions

Just a reminder that there are open positions on our PTO team. Any elementary parent is eligible for participation in the PTO. We look forward to new members and some great new ideas. If you are interested, please join us at the 9/6 meeting. See you there. Current open positions include Co Presidents/ Building Representatives (BE/MZ) and Co Treasurer.

Don't forget as you get that back to school shopping taken care of, to be sure to scan those receipts for Box Tops with the app. In addition, be sure to use the Amazon Smile program that helps give back to the Heights PTO.

Middle/High School News

ELIZABETH DOSTAL, MS/HS Principal | ANDREW PICKETT, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

As July wanes, we are eagerly anticipating a return to school with students in-person. August promises to be a busy month as construction wraps up and we set the stage for the first day of school.

What will school look like this year? It will be similar to “normal” but there will be changes too. What school will look like, feel like and be in many cases will rely on what we know reflects the best evidence in both health and in learning.

- Students, age 12 and older, are eligible for vaccination against the COVID 19 virus. For those who seek a “normal” school year, getting your vaccination is one small step you can take. If you are vaccinated and exposed to someone who has COVID 19, you will not need to quarantine. If you are not vaccinated and exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID 19, you will need to quarantine. Also, the more people who are in our building who are vaccinated, the better our “herd” immunity. Herd immunity is achieved when between 70 to 80% of our school population (students and adults) are vaccinated. Currently, only 55% of our students who are vaccine eligible are vaccinated. Low vaccination rates indicate that we may need to implement more “layers” of protection (masking, distancing) to reduce risk. Vaccines are widely available in our area and if you choose to vaccinate, you could be fully vaccinated by the time we begin school on September 1.
- We are in the process of sending home score reports from the Wisconsin FORWARD examination and for the ACT ASPIRE Summative examination given in the Spring. The FORWARD tests students’ proficiency on the Wisconsin Academic Standards while the ACT ASPIRE measures students’ progress towards meeting college and career readiness content standards and college and career readiness performance standards. As you review your test scores, you may have noticed a decline in comparison to past years. This does not mean you suddenly lost brain cells. Remember that both tests are measuring achievement in regard to the standards; last year, despite everybody’s diligence in making the best of a difficult situation, students did not have as much “practice” as in previous years. The dip in test scores was expected.
- How will we respond to those test scores? Teachers will analyze our scores and deepen instruction around areas where students need more practice. Additionally, we are adjusting our study hall system to provide specialized support as needed. Students who fell below benchmark on spring tests and/or fell below grades of C in the academic core classes will be placed in Targeted Support (middle school) and Mentor Study Hall (high school) at the beginning of the year. As students rise (consistent course grades above C and meeting benchmarks on tests) they will be exited to Study Hall in the library. The goal of both Targeted Support and Mentor Study Hall is to increase students’ learning and to teach them methods to learn independently.

We are excited to welcome all of students back to school and know that this year, despite potential challenges, presents all of us with the opportunity for tremendous growth. Together, we will have an exceptional year!

Athletics

ANDREW PICKETT, MS/HS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Please find the current up to date information at:

<http://www.capitolconferencesouth.org/public/genie/487/school/1/>

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Versus</u>	<u>Location</u>
High School Cross Country					
Varsity	Sat	08/28/2021	9:00am		Iowa Grant High School
High School Football					
Varsity	Sat	08/28/2021	7:00pm	St. Mary Catholic	Wisconsin Heights High School
High School Boys Soccer					
JV	Tue	08/24/2021	5:00pm	River Valley	Wisconsin Heights High School
Varsity	Tue	08/24/2021	6:45pm	River Valley	Wisconsin Heights High School
JV	Thu	08/26/2021	5:00pm	Platteville	Wisconsin Heights High School
Varsity	Thu	08/26/2021	6:45pm	Platteville	Wisconsin Heights High School
High School Girls Volleyball					
Varsity	Sat	08/21/2021	9:00am	Invite	Lancaster High School
JV2	Tue	08/24/2021	5:00pm	River Valley	River Valley High School
JV	Tue	08/24/2021	5:00pm	River Valley	River Valley High School
Varsity	Tue	08/24/2021	5:00pm	River Valley	River Valley High School
JV	Thu	08/26/2021	5:00pm	Invite	Lodi High School
Varsity	Sat	08/28/2021	9:00am	Invite	Monroe High School

Media Center News

MARY JANE EDERER



What's New!

We're excited to see everyone again, and in the upcoming weeks, we'll be updating our library pages with sites and information for use during the school year.

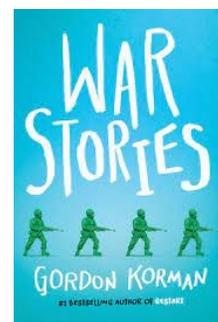
Reading Adventures!

As summer winds down, don't miss your opportunity to enjoy this summer's book walk. The book walk along Wolf Run Trail has been updated with a beloved book character--Pigeon! Pigeon Wants A Puppy by Mo Willems will likely resonate with both children and adults this summer! To enjoy this story with your children, park near the green houses on the east side of the High School building, begin your walk along Wolf Run Trail and read the book together as you enjoy the weather! This event is being sponsored by the WHSD Libraries and the Black Earth Public Library. If you're unable to make it to Wolf Run Trail, our libraries will also be hosting a Book Walk in Black Earth during Field Days later this month!



What Are You Reading?

I've recently started reading War Stories by Gordon Korman. War Stories follows the main character, Trevor, and his great-grandfather, G.G., to France. G.G. is the last surviving member of a regiment that helped to liberate the village of Sainte-Regine from the Nazis during World War II, and he has been invited back to Sainte-Regine to celebrate the 75th anniversary of that battle. G.G. is Trevor's hero, and he's excited to begin their journey. Unfortunately, Trevor begins to realize the stories that he has heard his entire life might differ from the reality of the situation. I'm not quite finished with this book, but I am curious about the ending



If you are interested in reading more about Trevor, you can find this book at either the Mazomanie Elementary or Middle School libraries!

Notes from the Nurse

KATY HOWE, School Nurse

The start of the school year is coming fast. I wanted to put out a reminder about immunizations for this year. All incoming Kindergarteners and 6th graders have required immunizations they need before the school year.

Kindergarten

Any students entering Kindergarten will need to get their last set of shots for a few years, besides the recommended annual flu shot. Before school make sure your student has:

- 4 doses of DTaP (1 dose needs to be after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of Polio
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- 2 doses of MMR
- 2 doses of Varicella

The usual Kindergarten shots include 1 dose of DTaP, Polio, MMR and Varicella. These are typically in a combination so there are only 2 pokes.

6th Grade

All students entering 6th grade will need a Tdap booster (for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis). Tdap is the only required immunization by the State of Wisconsin, however, the Meningococcal and HPV vaccines are also recommended nationally at age 11 or 12.

COVID-19 Vaccine

The COVID-19 vaccine is not required for school but it is recommended to get it when it becomes available for your child's age group. Currently, individuals 12 and older are eligible for the vaccine. The more people we have vaccinated in our buildings, the less likely we will have a COVID-19 outbreak. Students that are fully vaccinated (2 weeks after the last dose of the vaccine) also would not need to quarantine if they were exposed to someone with COVID-19, as long as they have no symptoms. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. If you are eligible, it is important to get vaccinated to help slow the spread of COVID-19. The more it spreads, the more it changes, creating new variants. These variants are often easier to spread and could cause more serious illness. Getting the vaccine helps reduce the number of people in our community that could get COVID-19 which protects those in our community who are unable to get the vaccine.

If you have any questions about your child's immunization status, please let me know. I am happy to look it up to see if they are up to date and if not let you know what they are missing.

Notes from the Music Department

ANIELA HAAS, GINA ADEMINO & EMALIE STERNBERG



We are excited to announce that Summer Band & Color Guard begins this month for students entering 5th-12th Grade! Here is the schedule:

Aug. 2-19: 5th-8th Grade Summer Band rehearsals scheduled at both elementary schools

[For the full schedule, please visit the district website](#)

Aug. 6: MS/HS Color Guard Practice, 9-10:30 AM @ BE Elementary

Aug. 11: Combined Gr. 6-8 Band Rehearsal for Field Days Parade, 9:30-10:30 AM @ BE Elementary

Aug. 13: MS/HS Color Guard Practice, 9-10 AM, @ BE Elementary
High School Band Rehearsal, 6-9 PM, tentatively @ WHHS Band room

Aug. 14: BE Field Days Parade, meet at 11:30 AM, for Gr. 6-12 members, performance details TBA.

Aug. 23: Combined Gr. 6-8 Band & Color Guard Rehearsal, 5-6 PM tentatively @ WHMS.

Aug. 25: High School Band Rehearsal, 6-9 PM, tentatively @ WHHS Band room.

Aug. 27: High School Band performs at home football game, call time 6 PM.

Aug. 30: Combined Gr. 6-8 Band & Color Guard Rehearsal, 5-6 PM, tentatively @ WHMS.

Sept. 10: High School Band performs at home football game, call time 6 PM

Sept. 12: Mazomanie Wild West Days Parade, meet @11:30 AM.
Gr. 6-12 members, performance details TBA

Sept. 17: High School Band performs at home football game, call time 6 PM.

Announcements

Does your family have access to a truck and/or a flatbed that we could use to pull the band for either parade? Please contact Gina Ademino, MS Band teacher gademino@wisheights.k12.wi.us or 608-767-2586 x 3402.

Music Boosters: Mark your calendars for our first meeting of the year on Monday, Sept. 6th at 6:30 PM at the middle/high school Band Ensemble Room.

The best music is live music! We are so fortunate to have a wealth of summer concert series in our area. Be sure to check it out~ [Mazo Summer Calendar](#) including: *Mazomanie Music Conservancy (MMC) The Lake Marion Tuesday Concerts (Aug. 3-24, 6 PM), *Gandy Dancer Bluegrass Festival in downtown Mazomanie on Aug. 21st, *Live Music Mondays, Mazomanie Performing Arts Pavilion (through Aug. 23, 7 PM) *3rd Thursday Concerts downtown Mazomanie.

Wisconsin Heights 2021-2022 School Calendar

Board Approved 3/22/2021

Inservice- No School	First Day of School	Early Release	
No School	Parent / Teacher Conferences - No School	Last Day of School	
PLC- No School	New Teacher - No School	Teacher Workday - No School	

JULY 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY 2022						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST 2021						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2022						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

SEPTEMBER 2021						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MARCH 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

OCTOBER 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL 2022						
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NOVEMBER 2021						
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28	29	30				

MAY 2022						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30	31				

DECEMBER 2021						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2022						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Summer School July 5 - 29
Online Registration Opens Aug 4
If unable to register online, contact District Registrar
Inservice - New Teachers only Aug 18-19
Inservice - All Teachers & EAs Aug 23-24
PLC- All Teachers & EAs Aug 25*
Inservice - All Teachers Aug 26-27
Open House and School Picture Day Aug 26
First Day of School (PK-12) Sept 1
NO SCHOOL Sept 6
Early Release Sept 22
PT Conferences; NO SCHOOL Oct 20
NO SCHOOL (Teacher PD Day) Oct 21
NO SCHOOL Oct 22
End of 1st Quarter (6-12) Nov 4
End of 1st Trimester (PK-5) Nov 23
NO SCHOOL Nov 24-26
WINTER BREAK Dec 24 - Jan 2
First Day Back from Break Jan 3
End of 2nd Quarter (6-12) Jan 14
NO SCHOOL (Teacher Work Day) Jan 17
NO SCHOOL (Teacher PD Day) Feb 14
School Day; Conferences 4:00- 8:00 PM Feb 24
End of 2nd Trimester (PK-5) Feb 24
PT Conferences; NO SCHOOL Feb 25
End of 3rd Quarter (6-12) Mar 18
Early Release Mar 18
SPRING BREAK Mar 21 - 25
NO SCHOOL April 15
Early Release May 27
Graduation May 29
NO SCHOOL May 30
Last Day of School - Full Day June 3
End of 4th Quarter and 3rd Trimester June 3
Inservice; Snow make-up day, if need June 6
Curriculum Week June 6 - 10

NOTES:

1. Early Release Times
K-5 - 11:20 AM MS/HS - 11:50 AM
2. Staff Development on
Early Release Days 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM
3. Parent-Teacher Conferences
October 20 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
February 24 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
February 25 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
**Teachers are off in the afternoon

STAFF NOTES:

175 Instruction Days
 2 PT Conference Days
 7 Inservice Days
 1 Teacher Workday
 3 Paid Holidays-Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Memorial Day
 188 Contract Days

Teachers choose which workday they work between January 17 and June 7

***August 25th - Professional Learning Time (8 hours)**

WISCONSIN HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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"Every Child... Every Class... Every Day"



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