

Oiler Spills
May 2019
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The school year is quickly winding down and everyone is preparing for summer. The School City of Whiting will be offering summer school for students in grades 1-12 this year. Summer school should be viewed as an extension of the school year that provides students the opportunity to make important gains in academic achievement as well as earn missing credits in middle school and high school in core academic areas. Our summer school programming is an effective intervention to get students who may have fallen behind back on track. Letters to parent regarding summer school will be going home this month. Summer school programs for grades 1st through 8th grade will begin June 3rd and end June 21st. Class hours will be 8:00 am-12:00 pm each day. The WHS summer school program will begin on June 3rd and end June 28th. Classes for high school students will be 7:30 am-12:30 pm daily. Questions regarding summer programs should be directed to the school offices.

At the regular April board meeting, the non-resident lottery for the 2019/2020 school year took place. For the upcoming school year, student requests for enrollment exceeded the number of spots available in Kindergarten, 6th, and 9th grade. As required by Indiana law, non-resident students must be accepted through a lottery process when this occurs. Nine students were accepted for available kindergarten spots, seven students for 6th grade, and thirty students for 9th grade. Students not chosen during the lottery process were placed on waiting lists. It is a testament to our school system and staff that we have parents from outside of Whiting seeking enrollment. We are always happy to welcome new students into our schools.

In the recent legislation session, there was much discussion about the entrance age for kindergarten as it relates to school funding. You may have read about this issue in the local newspapers or have heard others talking about a change in the kindergarten cutoff date of August 1st. HEA 1001 changed the age at which a district can include a kindergarten student in its annual report to generate funding. This bill has not changed the cutoff date of kindergarten entrance. I know this can be confusing to parents so I want to let everyone know that there was no change to the kindergarten entrance law which requires students to be at least 5 years old by August 1st to officially enroll in kindergarten. Any changes in the new legislation only applies to funding for kindergarten.

Student registration dates for the 2019-2020 school year have been set. Parents must register all students, both current and new, before the start of the 2019/2020 school year. Phase I registration for new students to the district will take place during the weeks of June 10th-June 14th and July 8th-July 12th from 8:30 am-2:00 pm in the respective school offices. Phase II registration which is mandatory for all students, new and current, will take place in the WHS cafeteria. Families with last names A-L may register on July 30th from 1-3:45 pm and 5-6:45pm. Families with last names M-Z may register on August 1st from 1-3:45 pm and 5-6:45pm. For families wishing to register current returning students online and pay their fees using credit cards may do so from Friday July 19th through Friday July 26th. All registration forms and links for the online registration will be available at www.whiting.k12.in.us.

Please take advantage this summer of our School City of Whiting summer nutrition program. The program which serves all children in Whiting will begin on June 3rd and end on August 2nd. Daily serving times will be 10:30 am-12:30 pm on Monday through Friday. Please come out and participate in this free program that offers a daily nutritional lunch. Students attending summer school programs will be able to attend the lunch program after daily dismissal of the summer school.

Finally, I would like to end this month with a thank you to all SCW staff for their continued dedication to the students of Whiting. It is through the hard work of our staff that our students continue to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. I would also like to thank our School City of Whiting Board of Trustees for their continued support of the goals and mission of the district. I hope everyone will have a safe, enjoyable, and relaxing summer break!