

Welcome to Junior High

September 8, 2020



Hello! We are excited and ready for the ups and downs of this school year. We decided to send out a quarterly newsletter to help keep you informed. The first one is to introduce ourselves, since you did not get the chance to meet us.

Mrs. Westphal



My name is Mrs. Westphal and I am the Junior High Math Teacher. I am married, with three grown children and two grandchildren. I managed a restaurant/bar, worked in banking, and was owner/operator of a property-casualty insurance agency for several years prior to becoming a math teacher and a Cal-Wheat Warrior. I am looking forward to reconnecting with the 8th grade students and meeting this year's 7th grade students. I am excited to have access this year to an innovative new curriculum that is a digital upgrade of the highly rated Illustrative Mathematics program. This is going to be an exciting year with lots of possible twists and turns. Hang on to your hats, it's time to enjoy the ride!

Mrs. Wiebenga



Hi! My name is Mrs. Rebecca Wiebenga, and I am the Junior High Resource Teacher. I am married to Tom. We have 2 children who are actively involved in sports. We also have a Shorkie who has stolen our hearts. My favorite place other than at Cal-Wheat is on the beach. In my free time, I enjoy swimming. My job as a Resource Teacher gives me the pleasure of traveling from classroom to classroom with my students. I also love being able to see the students in small groups. I hope to get to work with all the students throughout this year. I am looking forward to an exciting, safe school year.

Mrs. Forret



Hey Warrior parents! I am Mrs. Lori Forret, and I teach Junior High Science. This is my 3rd year at Calamus Wheatland as a teacher, but spent many

more years here as a student, being part of the Class of 1992! Out of college, I started teaching at Assumption High School in Davenport, where I spent 22 years before getting the opportunity to come back to Cal-Wheat. My son just started his freshman year at Iowa State and my daughter is a Cal-Wheat sophomore. Along with teaching Junior High, I also teach High School Health and Biology. I tell my students that science is all about trial and error and adapting to change. We are all living through that in 2020. We will continue to try new things and adapt to whatever comes our way. After all, We Are Warriors!

Mrs. Gray



Hello! I am Mrs. Gray, and I teach Junior High English. I am excited to be a Cal-Wheat Warrior! This is my 5th year teaching, but my first year teaching junior high. I started my teaching career in the Davenport School District teaching 2nd and 3rd grade. My husband and I have two kids and live in the community. My son is in Kindergarden and my daughter turned one in May. I am looking forward to getting to know your child and helping them develop their skills for reading, writing, speaking and listening. I am thrilled to be here and cannot wait to see what the rest of the year brings! Go Warriors!

Mr. VanBlaricome



My name is Mr. VanBlaricome, and I am the Junior High Social Studies Teacher. I also teach 9th grade US History for high school

students. An additional aspect of my job that I enjoy is that I am also the Junior High and High School Student Council Advisor. The combination of these positions at Cal-Wheat allow me to see the students grow in the classroom, year after year, but also lets me see them develop their leadership and organizational skills to become leaders in our school community.

