



WACONIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ISD 110

WMS WEEKLY UPDATE 2025-26

ISD 110 2024-28 Strategic Plan- [Click Here](#)

ISD 110 Core Values: *Respect, Collaboration, Inclusiveness, Empathy, and Resilience*

The Wildcat Way at WMS: *Be Respectful and Responsible—Show Integrity and Kindness.*

Friday, November 21, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, November 21 - Last day of Trimester 1 (Final trimester Grades available by 3:30 on 11/25)

Monday - Friday, November 24 - 28 - No School - the WMS Office will be closed

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2 - Please check student schedules for Trimester changes

- Unified Bowling field trip

Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts - details below

Tuesday, December 9 - WMS Choir Concerts - details below

Tuesday, December 16 - WMS Band Concerts - details below

Wednesday, December 17 - 7th & 8th Grade Bands to Southdale Mall (details to be shared later)

Monday, December 22 - Friday, January 2 - Winter Break No School

Monday, January 5 - WMS Staff Development No School

Tuesday, January 6 - Return from Winter Break

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

END OF 1ST TRIMESTER REMINDERS

1st Trimester ended today, and staff are preparing to finalize grades. We plan to have report cards ready for review in the Infinite Campus Portal by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, 11/25. We do not mail report cards, although we can if requested. Honor rolls will be available on-site and on our website on Friday, December 12th to allow for any incomplete grades to be taken care of.

A student may have an incomplete if they requested and received an extension to finish classwork for 1st trimester. 6th Grade STEM, Media Arts, Phy. Ed., Band, Choir, Non-music Enrichment, and General Music will receive final grades at the semester (middle of the second trimester). A hard copy of student schedules will be given to students next week. Students and families should review class schedules for the 2nd Trimester and contact counselors or the principals if errors are discovered. Trimester breaks are a good time to check in with students to ensure they have the necessary supplies, such as paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, and folders. If you want your child to be considered for additional support in a math or reading skills course, please contact your child's math or language arts teacher.

MINNESOTA AUTHOR VISIT BRINGS HISTORY TO LIFE

WMS 6th graders had a special opportunity on Friday, November 21st, when Minnesota author William Durbin visited to speak with students. His visit came after students finished reading his debut novel, *The Broken Blade*, in their Minnesota History classes.

Durbin's book follows a young Voyageur on his first journey from Montreal to Grand Portage during the fur trade era, making it a perfect tie-in to Minnesota History state standards. Students were excited to hear firsthand about his writing process, historical research, and the real stories that inspired the novel.

We are grateful to Mr. Durbin for bringing history off the page and into our classrooms!



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

December 1-5, our school will be participating in Anti-Bullying Week. Throughout the week, students will engage in activities and lessons to raise awareness, promote understanding, and highlight the importance of preventing bullying in our school, community, and online spaces.

As part of our Anti-Bullying Week, students will participate in specific lessons during Connect class designed to promote anti-bullying, respect, empathy, and positive behaviors. Students will also review steps to identify, respond and report behaviors that hurt others. To further promote Anti-Bullying Week, we are excited to host a Coloring Contest. Students can express their creativity and show support for respect, reminding us that we are all unique and valuable people.

Anti-Bullying Lessons:

Lesson 1 (All Grades):

- Showing Respect/Sensitivity & Creating Anti-Bullying Posters

Lesson 2:

- 6th Grade: Responding to Teasing/Bullying
- 7th Grade: Responding to Inappropriate Behavior
- 8th Grade: Showing Empathy

Principals Connect (All Grades):

- Bullying/Harassment

We look forward to a meaningful and impactful Anti-Bullying Week! Together, we can make a difference.

CHOIR CONCERT INFORMATION

- **Monday, December 8th, Choir Concerts for B-Day Students:**
 - 6th grade: Arrive at 5:45 pm, Concert at 6 pm
 - 7th grade: Arrive at 6:30 pm, Concert at 6:45 pm
 - 8th grade: Arrive at 7:15 pm, Concert at 7:30 pm
- **Tuesday, December 9th, Choir Concerts for A-Day Students:**
 - 6th grade (including 6th hour B-day students): Arrive at 5:45 pm, Concert at 6 pm
 - 7th grade: Arrive at 6:30 pm, Concert at 6:45 pm
 - 8th grade: Arrive at 7:15 pm, Concert at 7:30 pm

- Concert Attire is about looking nice or choosing something you would wear to a special event—no specific colors required. Please follow our school dress code when selecting concert attire.
 - If you have a prior commitment the evening of your student's scheduled concert, they are encouraged to attend the opposite concert. Please email me to let me know they will be switching concerts to assist with concert attendance.
-

BAND CONCERT INFORMATION

- **Tuesday, December 16th**
 - **6th Grade Bands**
Hours 1A and 6A - 6:00 pm
Hours 2A and 5B - 6:45 pm
 - **All 7th Grade Bands - 7:30 pm**
 - **All 8th Grade Bands - 8:15 pm**

Students should arrive at the music area dressed and ready 15 minutes before concert time.

OFFICE HOURS & WEEKLY UPDATE

The Waconia Middle School Office will be closed from November 24-28.

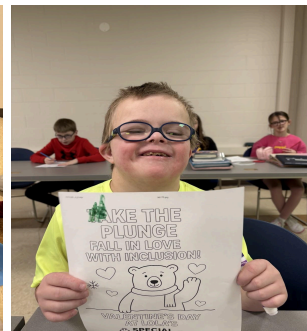
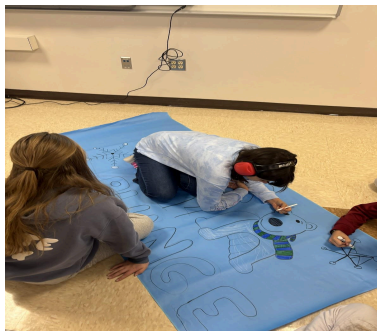
If you would like to reach out to our staff, you can email them by using their first initial and last name @isd110.org [For the WMS Staff Directory. Click Here](#)

There will not be a Weekly Update on Friday, November 28th.

ATTENDANCE: PHONE 952-442-0660 or Email: wmsoffice@isd110.org

POLAR PLUNGE - FEBRUARY 14TH, 2026

Join our Waconia Middle School team in signing up for the Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 14th, 2026. A minimum of \$75 fundraised is required. Half of the funds raised will go directly to our district's Unified programs! Our Unified athletes and partners have made signs to place around the school & are excited to participate or watch our middle school plungers! [Sign up link](#)



The Minnesota Polar Plunge Overview

The Polar Plunge is the **biggest annual fundraiser for Special Olympics Minnesota (SOMN)**.

- **What It Is:** It is a series of events held across the state where individuals and teams raise money for Special Olympics, and then take a quick, chilling jump into the freezing waters of a Minnesota lake or a mobile plunge pool ("Plungester") during the winter months.
- **The Requirement:** Participants generally must raise a minimum amount of money (often \$75) to take the Plunge. Those who prefer to stay dry can often participate as a "Too Chicken to Plunge" donor.

How Participation Helps Special Olympics

All funds raised by Polar Plunge participants directly benefit **Special Olympics Minnesota**. Your participation provides year-round support for thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities across the state. This includes:

- **Year-Round Training and Services:** Funding for sports training, equipment, and services for athletes.
- **Competitive Experience:** Support for athletes to compete in local, state, and even national/world Special Olympics games.
- **Promoting Inclusion:** Helping the organization work toward creating a world that accepts and welcomes every single person, regardless of ability.

How Participation Helps Schools

The Polar Plunge has a specific program designed for students and staff called the **"Cool Schools Plunge"** or a revenue-sharing model that provides direct benefits to participating schools:

- **Revenue Share Program:** Special Olympics Minnesota offers a **Revenue Share** opportunity for school teams.
 - **Unified Champion Schools (UCS):** Schools designated as UCS—which promote inclusion and acceptance—can have **50% of the funds** they raise online redirected back to their Unified club or similar inclusive programming. All ISD 110 schools are UCS schools.
 - **Other School Teams:** Other school teams, clubs, or classes can receive a **35% share** of the online funds they raise.
- **Funding Inclusive Programs:** The money schools receive is often used to support their local inclusive efforts, such as:

- Buying new uniforms for unified sports teams (which include students with and without intellectual disabilities).
 - Covering transportation costs to sporting events.
 - Supporting other inclusion efforts like Best Buddies or Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) programs within the school.
 - **Building Community:** The event fosters a sense of unity, teamwork, and a culture of inclusion among the students and staff.
-

IT'S AN HONOR!

The Rubik's Cube mural located in the WMS front entry and pictured below was created to honor the retirement of Mary Beth Ostlie, the Administrative Assistant to the Principal at Waconia Middle School.

Her letter announcing her retirement read, "After more than 30 wonderful years of serving the school, the time has come to step into the next chapter of my life— retirement." She further shared, "I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to be part of such a vibrant and dedicated educational community. The relationships I have built with staff, students, and parents have meant so much to me, and I have cherished every moment spent supporting this school's mission."

Thank you to Mrs. Ostlie! We will miss everything about her and are appreciative of her lasting impact in ISD 110.

Thank you to the students and staff for their work in creating the mural:

Cameron Massey, Miles Peterson, Savanna Kinkel, Nora Armstrong, Eli Sonnek, Sam Dundee, Ben Kinkel, Timothy Golden, Avery Bryan, and Mr. Kinkel.



Friday, November 14, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, November 17

- Girls Lacrosse off-season practice 6:30-8:00 pm @Southview Elementary details previous week

Friday, November 21 - Last day of Trimester 1 (Final trimester 1 grades available by 3:30 on 11/25)

- Author William Durbin visits the 6th Grade (Funded by the WMS PTO)

Monday - Friday, November 24-28 - No School -The WMS Office will be closed over Fall Break

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2 - Please check student schedules for Trimester changes

Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 9 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 16 - WMS Band Concerts

Monday, December 22 - Friday, January 2 - Winter Break No School

Monday, January 5 - WMS Staff Development No School

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UPCOMING READING ASSESSMENT (repeat from two weeks ago)

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve our abilities to support every student's reading growth, Waconia Middle School will be using a new statewide reading assessment tool, Capti ReadBasix, for students who are reading below grade level, as indicated by the September FastBridge (FAST) reading assessment. Capti ReadBasix will provide our staff with additional insight into your students' reading strengths and help to identify specific areas of growth. Results will be used to help guide instruction and ensure that all students continue to develop into skilled readers.

The Capti ReadBasix will take about thirty minutes to measure Word Recognition and Decoding, Vocabulary, Morphology, and Reading Efficiency. Students are scheduled to take it during our scheduled academic WILD time on November 20. Students identified to take the assessment will receive an invitation on Monday in their Connect classes.

If you have any questions about Capti ReadBasix or how the results will be used, please reach out to their English Language Arts teacher or Principal Clausen.

WMS ART CLUB

Students will learn about conceptual art. They will come up with a concept, an idea or a message they would like their art piece to have, then pick a medium, and the materials they will use to create their artwork, before starting to create a work(s) of art for the Art Show at the end of Quarter 2. They will plan, create, revise, critique, and adapt their project throughout the quarter until they have a completed work of art including a title and artist statement about the work to present during the Art Show. Along the way, we will explore different mediums and methods for researching, planning, and creating art.

Art Club is available 2nd Trimester and meets on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00pm

Register your student through the [isd110 activities registration site](#)

For more information contact: Ms. Losure at mlosure@isd110.org

POLAR PLUNGE

The Polar Plunge is a school-wide fundraiser that WMS participates in to help raise money for Special Olympics Minnesota. When you or a group sign up under the “Waconia Middle School” team, half of the money raised stays right here at Waconia Public Schools to support our Unified programs! If you are interested in joining the Waconia Middle School team on February 13th or taking the plunge virtually, sign up at www.plungemn.org and select the existing team “Waconia Middle School”. More information about this year’s student activities related to the Polar Plunge will come at a later date.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DELIVERY OPPORTUNITY

Love INC Carver County, St. Joseph’s Catholic Community (Waconia), and St. Victoria Parish (Victoria) are partnering to provide frozen turkeys and all the ingredients needed to prepare a Thanksgiving meal for Carver County residents who could use some extra support this holiday season.

Please note that this is not a precooked meal delivery program. Deliveries will take place on Friday, November 22nd, between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM.

All participants must register by **November 17th**.

To Qualify:

- Open to permanent residents of Carver County.
- You must be home on November 22nd between 9 AM and 12 PM to receive your delivery.
- If you are unable to be home during that time, please contact the Bountiful Basket Food Shelf for information on receiving a turkey meal during your next visit.

[Click here to register](#) for the Thanksgiving Food Delivery Opportunity




YOUTH WINTER DRIVE

DROP OFF DONATIONS*

from **NOV 3 - NOV 30**

*Donations can be dropped off in bins at local public schools, participating businesses around town, and at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

PROVIDING WINTER WEAR TO THOSE IN NEED!

Please donate gently used winter outerwear in Infant Size to Adult XL

- Boots
- Hats
- Gloves/Mittens
- Snowpants
- Coats
- Scarves/Neck Warmers

QUESTIONS? Contact Julie Loscheider
952-442-3703 | jloscheider@stjosephwaconia.org

41 E First Street, Waconia MN 55387 | www.stjosephwaconia.org
Church: 952-442-2384 | School: 952-442-4300




YOUTH WINTER EVENT

PROVIDING WINTER WEAR TO YOUTH IN NEED!

Any youth in need of winter wear this winter are invited to come to pick one up at St. Joseph Catholic Church!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Event will be held in the Parish Center of **St. Joseph Catholic Church.**
(In the lower level of the church)

**ALL ARE WELCOME
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

QUESTIONS? Contact Julie Loscheider
952-442-3703 | jloscheider@stjosephwaconia.org

41 E First Street, Waconia MN 55387 | www.stjosephwaconia.org
Church: 952-442-2384 | School: 952-442-4300

Friday, November 7, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, November 3 - Friday, November 14 - WMS Student Council Annual Food Drive (see details below)

Friday, November 7 - MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment) results went home with students.

Monday, November 17

- Girls Lacrosse off-season practice 6:30-8:00 pm @Southview Elementary details below

Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1

- Author William Durbin visits the 6th Grade (Funded by the WMS PTO)

Monday - Friday, November 24 - 28 - No School - WMS Office will be closed

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2

Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 9 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 16 - WMS Band Concerts

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[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

THANK YOU, WACONIA COMMUNITY

Thank you to the Waconia community for getting out to vote last Tuesday. With the passing of the school referendum, we are truly grateful for your trust and continued support.

Strong schools are a reflection of a community that values its children and prioritizes education. Your support allows us to continue providing meaningful learning experiences and opportunities that help all students grow and succeed.

On behalf of our staff and students, thank you for your partnership and belief in the work we do each day at Waconia Middle School and throughout our district.

S. Clausen
Principal
Waconia Middle School

OCTOBER STAND-OUT STAFF OF THE MONTH!

A huge **Wildcat** congratulations to **Mrs. Damasin**, our **October Stand-Out Staff of the Month!**

The WMS PTO proudly recognized Health and Physical Education teacher **Mrs. Damasin** after **8th-grade student Brenna Senne** submitted a heartfelt nomination. In her nomination, Brenna wrote, *"She is always kind to her students and always wants to hear everyone's thoughts and feelings, never discouraging anyone because of their response."* Brenna also shared, *"She always helps us to be the best person we can be and teaches us valuable lessons for the future."*

Way to go, Mrs. Damasin and Brenna!

Both received a Target gift card and some sweet treats from the WMS PTO as part of the recognition.

There were many impressive staff nominations in October, and we love seeing students celebrate the people who make WMS such a special place! Keep those nominations coming—students can submit them to the main office, their Connect teacher, or **Mrs. Wilkinson** in the front office at jwilkinson@isd110.org.

Check out Mrs. Damasin and Brenna pictured below!



2025 MCA RESULTS FOR WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Your child took the state-wide MN Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) last spring (May). Our school received the results, and we have sent them home to you with your child in a sealed envelope today, November 7th. Please check your child's backpack or ask them to share it with you. Some students did not participate in the test, and students who took the test in another school district will receive their results in the mail from their previous school.

After reviewing the testing information, please sit down with your child and discuss his/her performance. Congratulate your child in areas of strength and help to discuss and set goals in growth areas. These are assessments your child will take each spring through his/her school years. The Reading and Math MCA is given to students in Grades 3-8 and Grades 10 & 11. The Science MCA is given to students in Grades 5, 8, and 11.

If you have questions about MCA information, please feel free to contact one of your child's content area teachers. Thank you for reviewing this information and sharing it with your child.

GT FIELD TRIP

On Wednesday, the 7th-grade High-Level Learners class went to Breakout Games Escape Room at Ridgedale Center. Students either tried to flee a mysterious mansion, leave a deserted island, or locate a missing spy agent. This field trip allowed students to think critically and work collaboratively in a challenging setting. These students will now be creating their own escape room at the middle school for some 6th-grade students.



WACONIA GIRLS LACROSSE

Who: Anyone interested (grades 7th-12th) in checking out girls lacrosse!!! No prior experience needed.

What: Girls lacrosse off-season practices/open gym time.

Where/When: November 17th, December 12th and January 23rd from 6:30-8:00 pm

@Southview Elementary

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Women of Waconia Toy Drive

Gift Choosing Day is Friday, December 5, 2025 from
9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. at
Freshwater Community Church

If you need help this Holiday Season to provide gifts for your children (infant through 18 years old), you are welcome to attend the 2025 Women of Waconia Toy Drive – Gift Choosing Day on Friday, December 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Freshwater Community Church located at 138 West 1st Street, Waconia.

You will be **required** to show proof of address that you live in the Waconia area (Waconia School District 110 boundaries) which can be one of the following: Driver's License, Picture ID with address, Electric/Water Bill, Letter from School, or Voter Registration Card.

If you are a guardian of a child, you must bring the documentation stating that you have legal custody.

No reservation is required, just show up. Masks are not required, but please follow the CDC guidelines for wearing a mask, if appropriate.

For more information contact women_of_waconia@yahoo.com or visit the Waconia Toy Drive Facebook page.



Colecta de juguetes de Mujeres de Waconia

Día de Elegir Regalos es viernes, el 5 de diciembre 2025 de
9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. en la
Freshwater Community Church Waconia

Si necesita ayuda para esta temporada de vacaciones y festejos para proporcionar regalos para sus niños (lactantes hasta los 18 años de edad), que sea bienvenido(a) a asistir a la colecta de juguetes de Mujeres de Waconia 2025 - Día de elección de regalos el viernes 5 de diciembre de 9:00 a.m. a 6:30 p.m. en la Iglesia Freshwater Community Church (138 West 1st Street, Waconia).

Se le **requerirá** para mostrar un comprobante de domicilio que vive en el área de Waconia (Escuela Waconia Distrito 110 límites) que puede ser uno de los siguientes: licencia de conducir, identificación con foto con la dirección, billfactura de agua/eléctrico, carta de la escuela, o tarjeta de registro de votantes.

Si eres tutor/guardián(a) de un niño, debes traer la documentación que acredite que tienes la custodia legal.

No se requiere reservar, sólo preséntate. No se requieren máscaras, pero siga las pautas de los CDC para usar una máscara, si corresponde.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con women_of_waconia@yahoo.com o visite la página de Facebook de Waconia Toy Drive.

WACONIA CLAY TARGET CLUB

Spring 2026 Team for Boys & Girls Grade 8-12

Please note that this is a spring sport, and it will not be possible for your participant to participate in both the Clay Target Club and another WHS Spring sport.

This is a Minnesota High School Club/Sport that will challenge you to be the best you can be at the sport of Trap Shooting. This club is affiliated with the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League and will follow their rules and regulations. There is a maximum of 50 students allowed to participate on the team and will first open to current team members. The team will shoot at our home location each week. The scores will then be posted online for virtual competitions against the other schools in our conference. There will be a State Championship on the first weekend in June in Alexandria, MN and a Minnesota State High School League's State Tournament on the 2nd weekend later in June.

The season will consist of several practice rounds at the beginning of the season, 6 competition rounds and a fun round added in to complete the season. Competition and Practice rounds are once a week on Thur from 3:30 to 6:30pm. Each shoot will consist of two (2) rounds of 25 clays. This club will run from mid-March until the second week in June and will conflict with other spring activities! High School Athletic Letters will be awarded to participants achieving a predetermined average.

Parents/Volunteers: This will be a student/parent sport. Involvement by parents is required, this is not a drop off sport due to certain regulations that must be followed. Volunteer coaches and safety monitors are needed to allow this program to take place. Coaches, volunteers and safety monitors are required to pass a background check. There will be 3 mandatory safety meetings that will need to be completed in order to participate.

Items needed to participate are a Firearms Safety Certificate, hearing & sight protection, and any 12ga or 20ga Shotgun. The shooting vest, rounds of clays and shells are provided in the fee structure. Absolutely NO GUNS OR SHELLS will be allowed on District 110 property. Other fees may apply for training sessions, apparel, etc. Clay Target Club is expected to fill fast and go to a waitlist of students.

Check out the league information at <http://mnclaytarget.com>
Even though we only shoot on Thursday's, students cannot be in other spring sports with Clay Target. It simply does not work. Many folks have tried and end up losing their money due to too many conflicts.

Registration - [REGISTER HERE](#)

CURRENT MEMBER

Participated Spring 2025 team | Mon, Nov 3

NEW MEMBER

Grade 10-12 Wed, Nov 5

Grade 8-9 Fri, Nov 7

Grade 7 Fri, Nov 14

F-CLAY26: Waconia Clay Target Club

\$100 Club Fee

\$10 late fee after Dec 12 if space available

Maximum number of Members: 50

Leader: Dan Fulkerson & Todd Williams

First practice is end of March/beginning of April. (Weather dependent) 3:30 pm

Parent/Volunteer Coordinator

If you participated on the Spring 2025 team or you want to be a parent volunteer coordinator allowing your student "Current Member" enrollment you MUST do so when registration opens on Monday, November 3 with Waconia Community Education & Recreation either in person or online at www.waconiacommunityed.org

Refunds/Eligibility

There will be no refunds, credits or transfers given after Dec 12, 2025. Please be sure of your participation and commitment level at this time. To register for the Clay Target Club you need to have passed Firearms Safety Training and be 12 years old by Oct 31, 2025. If you do not have a Firearms Safety Certificate # you will not be able to register. Check out the league at <http://mnclaytarget.com>

Friday, October 31, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, November 3 -Friday, November 14 - WMS Student Council Annual Food Drive (see details below)

Tuesday, November 4 - Election Day (see information below)

Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1

- Author William Durbin visits the 6th Grade (Funded by the WMS PTO)

Monday - Friday, November 24 - 28 - No School

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2

Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts

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Make a Plan to Vote on or Before Nov. 4

As many of you likely know, ISD 110 residents face an important decision on Tuesday, Nov. 4 regarding an operating levy that will shape the future of our schools and our community. We have worked diligently to provide clear, accurate information so families and residents can make informed choices. From mailings and social media posts to videos, community presentations, and school-to-home newsletters, our goal has been to ensure you have the resources you need to understand what's at stake.

Early voting continues at the District Office, located at 512 Industrial Boulevard through November 3. Beginning last Friday, the process became even faster, moving from absentee balloting to direct balloting, which generally takes less than five minutes. Parking is available right near the entrance, with spaces specifically reserved for voters and lines of any kind are rare.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. All eligible voters are encouraged to participate and make their voices heard. Designated polling places include Waconia Ice Arena, St. Bonifacius City Hall, and New Germany City Hall. You can confirm your polling place at pollfinder.sos.mn.gov.

If you are still trying to make an informed decision on how to vote, here are some resources you might find helpful:

Referendum Website

A comprehensive website regarding the operating levy referendum is available at www.isd110referendum.org.

Superintendent Gersich's Presentation

Superintendent Gersich has given a 30-minute presentation to a number of community groups and at an Open Community Forum that was held on October 7 at Waconia Middle School. [Click here](#) to view a recording of that presentation can be viewed on the District's YouTube Channel.

Mailings

The District mailed all ISD 110 residents three separate mailings over the past two months with information about the operating levy. Click on one of the three links below to access an electronic version of those mailings.

[Mailing #1: Fact Sheet](#)

[Mailing #2: Notice of Special Election](#)

[Mailing #3: CommuniCAT Referendum Special Edition](#)

Videos

The District produced three videos around the three main pillars of Prioritizing People, Preserving Programs, and Protecting Class Sizes to inform residents about the potential outcomes of this operating levy. You can view those three videos on the District's YouTube Channel below:

[Prioritizing People Video](#)

[Preserving Programs Video](#)

[Protecting Class Sizes Video](#)

Email Questions

A special email address has been created for residents to ask questions regarding the operating levy referendum. If you have a question for District leaders, you can email that question to isd110vote@isd110.org.

CANDY CRAZE

If you have an excess of candy in your home, please help prevent students from bringing it to school. If candy is brought to school, please be reminded that students should only be bringing food items for their own consumption.

AI Guidance about what you can do with too much candy...

You can donate candy to organizations like Operation Gratitude and Soldiers' Angels, which send it to troops overseas. Other options include local food banks, homeless shelters, nursing

homes, and dentists who often have buy-back programs. Always call ahead to confirm that the location accepts candy donations.

Organizations:

Operation Gratitude: Sends candy in care packages to military and first responders.

Soldiers' Angels (Treats for Troops): Collects candy for troops and veterans.

Operation Shoebox: Sends candy to deployed troops around the world.

Ronald McDonald House Charities: Many local chapters accept donations to give to families staying at the house.

UNICEF: Offers a program to send candy to children in other countries.

Local donation sites:

Food banks and shelters: Homeless shelters, food pantries, and soup kitchens often welcome candy donations for those in need.

First responder stations: Fire stations and police stations may accept candy, so it's best to call and ask first.

Retirement homes and nursing homes: These facilities often accept candy for residents.

Local businesses: Some local businesses, including dentists and orthodontists, have candy buy-back programs where they trade candy for other items.

Before you donate

Call ahead: Always call ahead to your preferred donation site to make sure they accept candy and to confirm their drop-off times.

Check condition: Ensure all candy is unopened and in its original packaging.

OCTOBER WMS SUPPORT TEAM UPDATE

This month, our 6th and 7th-graders took part in a Counselors Connect lesson in the auditorium focused on "Doing Hard Things." We explored how middle school can bring new challenges, like keeping up with homework, studying, staying focused, and staying organized. Developing these skills helps students grow more confident and capable both in and out of the classroom.

Students learned several strategies to help them stay on top of their responsibilities and chose one to practice for the week, including staying organized, making a to-do list, focusing in class, asking for help, planning and prioritizing, and taking care of themselves. We encourage families to help reinforce these habits at home! Middle schoolers are still learning how to be actively engaged in their learning, and your support makes a big difference. Ask your student which strategy they chose to focus on and how it's been going so far.

If you're interested in reading more about helping kids (and adults) manage stress and build healthy coping habits, check out this helpful article from the CDC: [Managing Stress](#).

Carly Sylvester – School Counselor (Grade 6 and Grade 7 Gold): csylvester@isd110.org

Samantha Deren – School Counselor (Grade 7 Purple and Grade 8): SDeren@isd110.org

Angela Gabrelcik – School Social Worker (Grades 6, 7, and 8): agabrelcik@isd110.org

WHS CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM HEADS TO STATE

The WHS High School cross-country team was celebrated by students and staff with a rousing parade as the athletes head for the state championships tomorrow.

Our Lady Cross Country Varsity Wildcat Squad includes...

Senior Danica Kendrick...who has committed to running at the University of MN Duluth next year!

Junior: Jaidee Goering

Sophomores: Avery Hess, Brekken Miller, & Charley Ronglien

Freshman: Hazel Dubbe

8th Grader: Brynnn Waterhouse

7th Graders: Devin Hess, Brit Hendrickson, & Mackenzie Mueleners

The Waconia ladies are currently ranked 4th in Minnesota Class AAA.

The ladies now head to the University of Minnesota Les Bolstad Cross Country course for the Minnesota State Cross Country Championship on Saturday, November 1st, where they will battle it out with all the top Class

AAA teams...Way to GO Lady Cross Country Wildcats!!

WMS STUDENT COUNCIL ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The WMS Student Council is excited to kick off our annual food drive! Please consider donating. This year, the donations will go to Gather and Grow Food Shelf. Each WMS Connect Class will collect food shelf items. The friendly competition to bring in the most items is on! The top grade-level Connect class will earn a Float Party. The last day to bring items in is Friday November 14th! Together, we can conquer hunger!

See below for ideas of the most needed items. This is an all-around win-win event for our students, who will contribute to helping our community. Thank you for your support in helping others.

WMS Connect classes will collect food donations for the Waconia Food Shelf. *Please consider donating!*

Top 10 Needs

Jars of Pasta Sauce

Pasta Noodles

Peanut Butter

Boxes of Cereal

Hearty Soups

Fruit Cups / Pouches

Rice a Roni

Boxes of Crackers

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

FOOD INSECURITY OPTIONS THROUGH GATHER & GROW FOOD SHELF

With the federal government shutdown ongoing, there is a growing concern about food insecurity issues. Waconia Public Schools partners with the Gather & Grow Food Shelf to offer District families several options to ensure students and families continue to have the food they need to stay healthy, focused, and supported both at home and at school.

Option #1: Weekend Meal Bag Program

This program is open to all Waconia Public Schools families. Students or a caregiver can pick up meal bags in the school's front office on Fridays between 9:30 a.m. and 10 minutes after the final bell rings. Families are encouraged to return reusable bags when they pick up new bags. Sign-up links are below:

[Waconia High School Program Sign Up Form](#)

[Waconia Middle School Program Sign Up Form](#)

[Waconia Elementary School Program Sign Up Form](#)

Option #2: Monthly Mobile Grocery Delivery

Families who struggle to get to the Gather and Grow Food Shelf during their operating hours can utilize this mobile food delivery program. On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, Gather and Grow will deliver groceries to Cologne, New Germany, St. Boni, Watertown, Minnetrista, Mayer, Victoria, and Waconia communities. More information, including an [online ordering form](#), can be found [here](#).

Supporting Gather & Grow

If you are looking for ways to support the Gather & Grow Food Shelf, you can do so by participating in the Bag Hunger donation drive that is currently taking place at your child's school. More information about getting involved or donating items can be found on the [organization's website](#).

NEED FOOD?

Resources in Carver County

Local food shelves and other food assistance programs are open and ready to help.

FOOD SHELVES

Contact the food shelf to make an appointment to shop for free groceries.

Bountiful Basket Food Shelf

www.bountifulbasketfoodshelf.org
Chaska:
1600 Bavaria Road, Chaska
(952) 556-0244

Cologne:
102 Lake St. W., Cologne
(952) 588-2802

CAP Agency Food Shelf

www.capagency.org/
738 1st Ave E., Shakopee
(952) 496-2125

Gather & Grow

www.gatherandgrowmn.org

Waconia:
11 South Elm Street,
Waconia
(952) 442-3878

Watertown:
309 Lewis Ave South,
Watertown
(952) 955-1980

Mi Casita Pantry

www.micasamn.org/services
1503 Jefferson St. S., Shakopee
(952) 245-0697

Southwest Carver County Food Shelf

www.southwestcarvercountyfoodshelf.com
10 First Avenue NE, Norwood Young America
(952) 467-1870

FREE COMMUNITY MEALS

St. John's Lutheran Church
<https://www.sundayschoolmeal.org/>
Free meal every Monday
5:15-6:15pm
(952) 448-2433

Chaska Moravian Church
115 E. 4th St., Chaska
Free meal every 2nd Saturday of the month
11:30am-12:30pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
505 Westminster Ave SW, Watertown
Free meal every 1st Thursday of the month
5:30pm

OTHER PROGRAMS



**EMERGENCY
FOOD BAGS
AVAILABLE**

**Food shelves in Carver County
have prepared emergency bags
for those in need of food support.**

**Limited quantity available at all
Carver County Libraries during
their open hours starting 11/3.**

**One emergency bag per
household per week.**

Find additional food support at
www.findfoodcarvercounty.org

 **BOUNTIFUL
BASKET
FOOD SHELF**

 **GATHER
AND
GROW**

 **CARVER
COUNTY
Public Health**

 **Southwest
Carver County Food Shelf**

 **CARVER
COUNTY
LIBRARY**

UPCOMING READING ASSESSMENT

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve our abilities to support every student's reading growth, Waconia Middle School will be using a new reading assessment tool, Capti ReadBasix, for students who are reading below grade level, as indicated by the September FastBridge (FAST) reading assessment. Capti ReadBasix will provide our staff with additional insight into your students' reading strengths and help to identify specific areas of growth. Results will be used to help guide instruction and ensure that all students continue to develop into skilled readers.

The Capti ReadBasix will take about thirty minutes to measure Word Recognition and Decoding, Vocabulary, Morphology, and Reading Efficiency. Students are scheduled to take it during our scheduled academic WILD time on November 20.

If you have any questions about Capti ReadBasix or how the results will be used, please reach out to their English Language Arts teacher or Principal Clausen.

YOUTH WINTER OUTERWEAR DRIVE

WMS will be hosting a drop-off box for donations from November 3rd - 30th near the main entrance.




YOUTH WINTER OUTERWEAR DRIVE

DROP OFF DONATIONS*

from **NOV 3 - NOV 30**

*Donations can be dropped off in bins at local public schools, participating businesses around town, and at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

PROVIDING WINTER WEAR TO THOSE IN NEED!

Please donate gently used winter outerwear in Infant Size to Adult XL

- Boots
- Hats
- Gloves/Mittens

- Snowpants
- Coats
- Scarves/Neck Warmers

QUESTIONS? Contact Julie Loscheider
952-442-3703 | jloscheider@stjosephwaconia.org

41 E First Street, Waconia MN 55387 | www.stjosephwaconia.org
Church: 952-442-2384 | School: 952-442-4500




YOUTH WINTER EVENT

PROVIDING WINTER WEAR TO YOUTH IN NEED!

Any youth in need of winter wear this winter are invited to come to pick one up at St. Joseph Catholic Church!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Event will be held in the Parish Center of **St. Joseph Catholic Church.**
(In the lower level of the church)

**ALL ARE WELCOME
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

QUESTIONS? Contact Julie Loscheider
952-442-3703 | jloscheider@stjosephwaconia.org

41 E First Street, Waconia MN 55387 | www.stjosephwaconia.org
Church: 952-442-2384 | School: 952-442-4500

Friday, October 24, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances details below

Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

Sunday, November 2 - Daylight savings time - set clocks back one hour

Monday, November 3 - Yearbook Club Informational Meeting 3:20 Media Center (info below)

Wednesday, November 5 - 7th Grade GT Escape Room Field Trip

Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1

- Author William Durbin visits the 6th Grade

Monday - Friday, November 24 - 28 - No School

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2

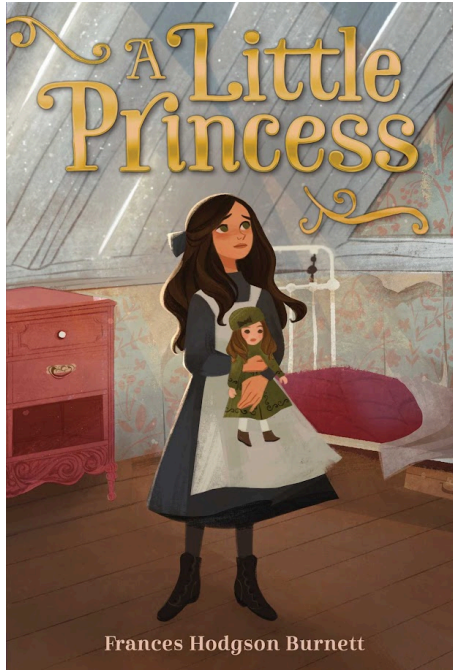
Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 9 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 16 - WMS Band Concerts

Monday, December 22 - Friday, January 2 - Winter Break No School
Monday, January 5 - WMS Staff Development No School

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)



WMS FALL PLAY: *A Little Princess*

We are thrilled to invite you to the **Waconia Middle School Fall Play**, *Frances Hodgson Burnett's A Little Princess*! Our talented students have been working hard to bring this classic story to life, and we can't wait for you to see their amazing performance.

Showtimes:

- **Thursday, October 23** at 7:00 PM
- **Friday, October 24** at 7:00 PM
- **Saturday, October 25** at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Location: Waconia Middle School Auditorium

Tickets:

- Students/Kids – **\$6**
- Adults – **\$8**

Pay at the door or purchase online: [GoFan Ticket Link](#)

Come support our amazing WMS performers and enjoy an unforgettable show!

WMS BAND STUDENTS SHINE

We're excited to share that six Waconia Middle School band students have been selected to perform in the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA) Small Ensemble Honor Band.

A big congratulations to Gemma Lee, Malia McConnell, Sky Ahrens, Elise Niebauer, Sarah Fasching, and Adelyn Condit for earning this outstanding honor. These talented musicians will represent WMS in St. Anthony Village

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who supported the WMS Media Center at the Scholastic Book Fair! Because of you, we raised almost \$1,400 Scholastic Dollars that we can use to add books to the Media Center. Thank you for supporting literacy!

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

This week, librarians from the Carver County Library came in to talk to the 6th-grade and 8th-grade ELA classes about the Carver County Library virtual card. ISD 110 students receive a free virtual library card in grades 6 through 12, expanding their access to ebooks, audiobooks, tutoring services, research databases, and other resources. 6th graders learned what they could use their new virtual card for, and 8th graders learned about the research databases they can access through the Carver County Library.

HALLOWEEN GUIDANCE AT WMS

With Halloween falling on a Friday, we'd like to remind families that students are not encouraged to wear costumes to school. All clothing should meet the daily dress expectations outlined in the student handbook. This includes refraining from wearing hats, hoods, masks, or face paint during the school day.

We also ask that students leave candy and treats at home throughout the following weeks.

For students who have outgrown traditional trick-or-treating, consider a fun and meaningful alternative—"trick-or-treating for food items" to support the Waconia Food Shelf or the Student Council's upcoming Stuff-A-Truck Food Drive. Many WMS students have participated in this wonderful act of community service in previous years, and it's a great way to spread kindness this Halloween!

THANK YOU, WMS PTO!

A huge thank-you to our amazing **WMS PTO** for providing delicious dinners for our staff during our fall **parent-teacher conferences**! Your kindness and generosity are so appreciated and truly help make our conference evenings special. We're so grateful for all you do to support our teachers and the WMS community!

YEARBOOK CLUB

Help build the Waconia Middle School Yearbook! Learn more about the Yearbook Club at our informational meeting on Monday, November 3rd. We'll meet in the Media Center after school. Want to capture this school year's amazing memories?

Join the Waconia Middle School Yearbook Club! You'll get to join the creative team that designs and puts together the official yearbook.

At the informational meeting, you can discover how to become a yearbook pro and help:

- Take awesome photos of your friends and school events.
- Help design a book that everyone will love looking back on for years to come.
- Interview students and staff to tell the stories of WMS.
- Become a leader and work with other creative students.

Ready to get started? Come to the informational meeting on Monday, November 3rd, in the Media Center after school!

XC HAUNTED HUSTLE 5K/LITTLE GOBLIN HALF MILE

Join the Waconia Wildcat Cross Country Team Saturday, October 25th, the run starts at 9:00 AM for an awesome 5K TRAIL run! YEP, you read that right...TRAIL RUN...meaning we are throwing everyone on our Bayview Elementary Waconia XC Practice course! **Our course** features the **Spooky Woods** and **Death-defying hills**. A gritty 5k that brings runners over the hills and through the woods to the finish. We know many people probably look at our team's 5K times in the newspaper, and maybe some of you compare their times to your last 5K attempt? Well, was your attempt on an actual XC course, or was it on the smooth/easy pavement? "Pain is weakness leaving the body"...**we challenge** the parents, the grandparents, the brothers and sisters of our XC family...**we challenge** the people of Waconia and neighboring communities...**we challenge** any student to come and "toe the line" and complete our Haunted Hustle 5K. This is your chance to experience what our kids train for and put themselves through on the course. Prizes for best costume (must start and finish your race in costume) will be awarded for each race. Awards for the run/walk will be given to the top 3 males and top 3 females.

ENTRY FEE: FREE...we will have a "Donation" Box if you want to help out the team towards new uniforms.

RISK/LIABILITY WAIVERS: We will have a sign-in area where ALL runners need to "check in" and sign a waiver to enter our course as a participant!

Keep On Wildcating! -Your WacXC Staff

FALL FAMILY FUN NIGHT FREE EVENT

Carver County Family Resource Center is offering a "FALL FAMILY FUN EVENT" on Thursday, October 30th, from 4-6 PM in Chaska. [Click here for the informational flyer](#)

Friday, October 17, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Parent Preview Oct 21

Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences

- WMS Celebrates Unity Day - Wear Orange

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances details below

Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

Sunday, November 2 - Day light savings time - set clocks back one hour

Wednesday, November 5 - 7th Grade GT Escape Room Field Trip

Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1

- Author, William Durbin visits 6th Grade

Monday - Friday, November 24-28 - No School

Monday, December 1 - Start of Trimester 2

Monday, December 8 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 9 - WMS Choir Concerts

Tuesday, December 16 - WMS Band Concerts

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

SECOND NIGHT OF FIRST TRIMESTER PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The second night of WMS mid-trimester parent-teacher conferences are on **Wednesday, October 22nd**. Students are welcome to participate, although they are not required to attend. WMS families can choose in-person and/or virtual conferences, although a limited number of time slots are available for virtual conferences. [The window to sign up for virtual conferences on the 22nd is open \(see links below\)](#). We ask families available to attend in person to reserve virtual time slots for families with barriers to attending conferences in person.

WMS staff will be available in person from 5:00-8:00 PM. Except for our counselors and special education staff, teaching staff will be set up for drop-in, arena-style conferences. Arena-style conferences have historically provided an efficient option to see more than one of your child's teachers. Special education staff and counselors will be in their respective teaching/office spaces. Conferences are limited to ten minutes or less to provide equal access to all parents. Planned parent-teacher conferences are not the only opportunity to meet with staff, and parent-teacher meetings can be organized at other times as needed.

If you want to check availability and/or sign up for a virtual conference with any of your child's teachers, please click the links below to review the instructions. If you are planning to come in person, you do not need to do anything at that time. If you are having trouble signing up for a virtual conference, contact the teacher at the email address listed on the LINK form below.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to sign up for virtual conferences on Oct. 22nd

[CLICK HERE](#) to review the list of teacher email addresses and virtual conference sign-up links

UNITY DAY

On Wednesday, October 22, Waconia Middle School students will celebrate Unity Day—a nationwide event that promotes kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Our Unified athletes and their peers have been busy creating signs and posters to display throughout the school, spreading the important message that everyone belongs. On the 22nd, we encourage all students and staff to wear orange to show unity and support for a community where every person is accepted and included. Please join us in wearing orange!

JAZZ BAND

We are very excited to start our extra curricular middle school jazz bands and percussion ensembles the week of November 3rd!

Attached is a link for registration if your student would like to participate this year - Links can also be found on schoology

Gold Jazz Band - 6th grade level meets Thursdays after school until 4:00pm

Purple Jazz Band - 7th and 8th Grade level meets Wednesdays before school from 7:15 - 8:00am

Wildcat Jazz Band - Auditioned higher level meets Tuesdays before school from 7:15 - 8:00am

We are currently running auditions for Wildcat Jazz during band classes this week and next.

Registration is open for Gold Jazz Band (6th Grade no audition required) and Purple Jazz Band (7th and 8th Grade no audition)

All of our middle school jazz bands are open to all instruments and will begin the week of November 3rd.

If you have any questions please reach out to Mr. Snyder psnyder@isd110.org

Register by logging into the district website then follow the steps below:

[District Homepage | Waconia Public Schools](#)

- My Accounts
 - Click on EduTrakConnect
 - Click the "Soccer Ball- Sports and Activities" icon on top. You'll see your student Name and Student ID
 - Here you'll see a list of items that are applicable for your student
 - Click "assign" to purchase the fees that apply to that student, then click blue button to "Checkout"
 - Follow the prompts to add a payment method and complete your payment.
-



WMS FALL PLAY

Don't Miss *A Little Princess*!

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming Waconia Middle School **Fall Play**, **Frances Hodgson Burnett's *A Little Princess***!

We're excited to bring this personal favorite to the stage. The timeless story of **Sara Crewe** is a powerful reminder that **true worth comes not from your circumstances, money, or possessions, but from how you treat others.** It's a message that will resonate with every student, parent, and community member who sees it.

While it explores some **heavy themes**—including grief, loss of a parent, poverty, and mistreatment—it ultimately shows the strength of kindness and character in the face of adversity.

See the Show!

All shows will be held at the Waconia Middle School auditorium.

We encourage you to come and support our talented WMS students in this beautiful production!

Parent Preview: Tuesday, October 21

Public Performances:

Thursday, October 23rd at 7:00pm

Friday, October 24th at 7:00pm

Saturday, October 25th at 2:00pm & 7:00pm

Tickets pay at the door

Student/Kids:\$ 6.00

Adults: \$8.00

or Click to pay online at <https://gofan.co/app/school/MN19678>

Friday, October 10, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday - Tuesday, October 9-14 - Fall Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, October 13 - Conferences -1st night of trimester one mid-term parent-teacher conferences

- Book Fair open 3:30 - 8 p.m. during conferences

Wednesday, October 15 -Staff Development, No School E-12

Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17 - MEA Break, No School

Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Parent Preview Oct 21

Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences

- WMS Celebrates Unity Day - Wear Orange

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances

Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

Wednesday, November 5 - 7th Grade GT Escape Room Field Trip

Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1

- Author, William Durbin visits 6th Grade

Monday - Friday, November 24-28 - No School

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

WILDCAT FOOTBALL GAME REMINDER

Reminder regarding Friday night football at Waconia High School. All students grades K-8 are expected to have a parent/guardian at the event with them. All ticket sales are online sales only and we do not do accept cash ticket sales at the gate. Tickets can be purchased at <https://gofan.co/app/school/MN19678>

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

It's here!! The fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the media center on October 9, 10, 13, and 14. We'll also be open 3:30 - 8 p.m. on October 13th for fall conferences. [Preview the books](#) and [check out our website](#) for more information.



LLCC

ADVENTURES



THAT TRIP TO LONG LAKE: OUR 6TH GRADERS WENT WILD!

Our 6th graders just got back from an awesome nature adventure! They headed up to the Long Lake Conservation Center—a super cool spot right in the middle of Aitkin County.

Long Lake is basically a giant outdoor classroom where kids get to explore, discover, and really connect with nature. Their main goal? To help students like ours fall in love with the outdoors and learn how to be great stewards (or caretakers!) of the environment for life. They've been doing this since 1963, so they know their stuff! Waconia students have been going there many years.

What Did We Do Out There?

Our class got the full nature immersion experience, including an overnight stay! The Center sits on a huge 760 acres of woods, bogs, and a private lake.

Students got to explore:

- Miles of hiking trails.
- The unique bog boardwalk (stepping through a squishy, amazing bog!).
- Lakes, woods, and maybe even went hunting for geocaches.

It was a fantastic chance for the kids to get their hands dirty, build new skills, and gain a real respect for the natural world around them. We're thrilled they got to experience the wild side of Minnesota!

UNITY DAY

On Wednesday, October 22, Waconia Middle School students will celebrate Unity Day—a nationwide event that promotes kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Our Unified athletes and their peers have been busy creating signs and posters to display throughout the school, spreading the important message that everyone belongs.

On the 22nd, we encourage all students and staff to wear orange to show unity and support for a community where every person is accepted and included. Please join us in wearing orange!



WACONIA SCARECROW TOUR

Vote for WMS! "Harvest Spooktacular" is here! Waconia Middle School is part of the 18th Annual Waconia Chamber Scarecrow Contest — happening Oct. 9–19!

Huge thanks to Jesika Wilkenson for her amazing creativity and to our WMS PTO for sponsoring this festive masterpiece.
Stop by WMS to see our entry and check out all the scarecrows around town.
Vote by dropping off your ballot at the Waconia Chamber of Commerce or WMS Main Office.
Let's show our Wildcat spirit and make "Harvest Spooktacular" the winner!

7th GRADE FIELDTRIP TO CHILDRENS THEATER

Our 7th grade students recently set sail for adventure at the Children's Theatre Company to experience *Treasure Island*. The production brought Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale to life with pirates, sword fights, live music, and plenty of excitement!

Students followed young Jim Hawkins on his daring journey across the sea—a story filled with courage, friendship, and tough choices. The live music, sea shanties, and creative staging made it feel like the audience was right there on the ship, part of the adventure.

Adapted for the stage by **Stuart Paterson** and directed by **Rick Dildine**, this energetic performance gave students a chance to see how teamwork, storytelling, and imagination come together to create unforgettable theatre magic. It was truly a day to remember!

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The information below was sent to families in an email on Monday, October 6th.

WMS mid-trimester parent-teacher conferences scheduled for **Monday, October 13th**, and **Wednesday, October 22nd**, are fast approaching. The goals of parent-teacher conferences can include face-to-face introductions, sharing unique student needs, feedback on current academic progress, course curriculum questions, assessment processes and progress, and/or core values reflection and feedback. Students are welcome to participate, although they are not required to attend.

WMS families can choose in-person and/or virtual conferences, although a limited number of time slots are available for virtual conferences. [The window to sign up for virtual conferences on the 13th and the 22nd will open today, October 7th, at 5:30 PM.](#) We ask families available to attend in person to reserve virtual time slots for families with barriers to attending conferences in person.

On both evenings, most WMS staff will be available in person from 5:00-8:00 PM. Except for our counselors and special education staff, teaching staff will be set up for drop-in, arena-style conferences. Arena-style conferences have historically provided an efficient option to see more than one of your child's teachers. Special education staff and counselors will be in their respective teaching/office spaces. Conferences are limited to ten minutes or less to provide equal access to all parents. Planned parent-teacher conferences are not the only opportunity to meet with staff, and parent-teacher meetings can be organized at other times as needed.

If you want to check availability and/or sign up for a virtual conference with any of your child's teachers, please click the links below to review the instructions. If you are planning to come in person, you do not need to do anything at that time. If you are having trouble signing up for a virtual conference, contact the teacher at the email address listed on the LINK form below.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to sign up for virtual conferences on Oct. 14th and/or Oct. 23rd
[CLICK HERE](#) to review the list of teacher email addresses and virtual conference sign-up links

FALL STUDENT SURVEY INFORMATION:

Each year, our school counselors strive to meet the needs of all students at Waconia Middle School. One of the ways they offer support to all students is through the voluntary student survey. The survey is a tool used by school counselors to best meet the self-reported needs of our students. Student answers and responses are read by Ms. Sylvester and Mrs. Deren and will not be shared with others unless they feel a student's safety or the safety of others is at risk.

Beginning Monday, October 27, students will be given the option to complete the survey during Connect and can choose to share as much or as little as they would like. Please take a moment to view the Fall 2025 Student Survey using the links below. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to either of our school counselors:

Carly Sylvester - Grade 6 & Grade 7 Gold - csylvester@isd110.org

Samantha Deren - Grade 7 Purple & Grade 8 - sderen@isd110.org

LINKS:

Grade 6 Family Copy -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iPt-VoPuCjNj4MFhsDX8JZRrDC15wnWC/view?usp=sharing>

Grade 7 Family Copy -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12PtDNUHkLlj8FxYqznR6ec6mi9aij6GE/view?usp=sharing>

Grade 8 Family Copy -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pYoA2iKBAF99lxs3DP00m3h1I5A8bZwh/view?usp=sharing>

SCHOOL PICTURES ARE READY!

View and order pictures, retakes or originals, at <https://shop.jostenspix.com/login>

- WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Event Code: FE23925
- Also Needed: Infinite Campus Student ID
- Have questions or concerns about your child's picture? Call Josten's Customer Care Team at 1-877-515-1447.



MAINTAINING WHAT MATTERS MOST

Waconia Public Schools 2025 Operating Levy

The upcoming operating levy referendum is designed, in part, to preserve the programs that make Waconia Public Schools such a vibrant place to learn. One of the reasons our schools thrive is that 91% of students say they feel engaged and involved in their school.

Offering a wide array of electives and advanced-level courses is a hallmark of a high school that attracts students and families. This levy will help maintain programs such as Advanced Placement and College in the Schools courses, giving students the opportunity to challenge themselves academically and earn college credits while still in high school.

Learning at Waconia goes beyond the classroom. Students can explore their passions through fine arts programs, athletic teams, and student clubs. These opportunities help them develop lifelong skills—leadership, problem-solving, resilience, creativity, communication, and collaboration—that will benefit them for years to come.

As a reminder, early voting is available at the District Office now until November 3, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, when polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Visit pollfinder.sos.mn.gov to find your polling place.

Friday, October 3, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, October 6 - 6th Grade Purple Team to Long Lake

- Duck Cup Speaker for 7th & 8th graders - details in the previous week

Wednesday, October 8 - 6th Grade Gold Team to Long Lake

Wednesday, October 8 - 7th Grade Field Trip Children's Theater- *Treasure Island*

Thursday - Tuesday, October 9-14 - Fall Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, October 13 - Conferences -1st night of trimester one mid-term parent-teacher conferences

- Book Fair open 3:30 - 8 p.m. during conferences

Wednesday, October 15 -Staff Development, No School E-12

Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17 - MEA Break, No School

Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Parent Preview Oct 21

Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances
Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release
Friday, November 21 - End of Trimester 1
Monday - Friday, November 21-28 - No School

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

GRADE 6 LONG LAKE DROP OFF AND PICK UP DETAILS:

For more information, please [click on this link](#).

We're looking forward to a fantastic week with our 6th graders as they head out to the Long Lake Conservation Center field trip.

FALL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES AT WMS - OCTOBER 13TH, AND OCTOBER 22ND

WMS mid-trimester parent-teacher conferences scheduled for **Monday, October 13th**, and **Wednesday, October 22nd**, are fast approaching. The goals of parent-teacher conferences can include face-to-face introductions, sharing unique student needs, feedback on current academic progress, course curriculum questions, assessment processes and progress, and/or core values reflection and feedback. Students are welcome to participate, although they are not required to attend.

WMS families have a choice of in-person and/or virtual conferences, although a limited number of time slots are available for virtual conferences. The window to sign up for virtual conferences will open at 5:30 PM on Monday, October 6th. A messenger message will be sent to provide directions and a reminder about the option to sign up for virtual conferences. We ask families that are available to attend in person to reserve virtual time slots for families that have barriers to attending conferences in person.

On both evenings, the majority of WMS staff will be available in person from 5:00-8:00 PM. With the exception of our counselors and special education staff, teaching staff will be set up for drop-in, arena-style conferences. Arena-style conferences have historically provided an efficient option to see more than one of your child's teachers. Special education staff and counselors will be located in their respective teaching/office spaces. Building maps and room location information will be available at the main entrance. Please plan to bring a copy of your student's schedule or have a device that can access it electronically.

To provide equal access to all parents, we request individual conferences to be ten minutes or less. Planned parent-teacher conferences are not the only opportunity to meet with staff, and parent-teacher meetings can be organized at other times as needed.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars! The fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held on October 9, 10, 13, and 14. We'll also be open 3:30 - 8 p.m. on October 13th for fall conferences. [Preview the books](#) and [check out our website](#) for more information.



WHS Presents: **“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”**

Where: WHS PAC

When: October 9-12

Tickets: \$10 adults, \$7 seniors/kids at [CUR8.com](https://www.cur8.com), search “Waconia.”

With a dizzying array of colors and musical genres, the Waconia High School Theatre department brings the classic “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” to the Performing Arts Center stage this fall!

First premiering in the 1970s, the show was nominated for six Tony awards, made into a 1999 feature film starring Donny Osmond, and continues to delight audiences around the world today.

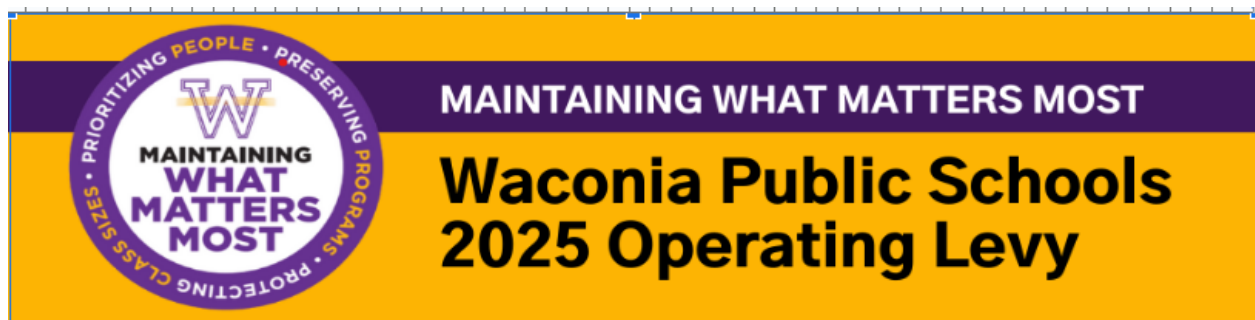
Powerhouse senior Narrators Abby Rausch and Bennett Trapp will lead audiences through this campy retelling of the Biblical story of Joseph, sold into slavery by his 11 brothers and eventually becoming Pharaoh's right-hand man in Egypt.

Featuring senior Oliver McKeever as Joseph and junior Miles Tyhurst as the Pharaoh, this show is stuffed with 30 additional high schoolers, an on-stage orchestra, and a kids' chorus made of children from local elementary schools.

Funny, campy, and family-friendly, this show runs just 90 minutes with an intermission. Tickets at [CUR8.com](https://www.cur8.com), search "Waconia".

YEARBOOK 2025-2026

The 2025-2026 WMS Yearbook is now available for purchase! Yearbooks can be purchased for **\$32** through **Friday, October 17th**. This is the year's lowest price - yearbooks can still be bought after this day, but the price will increase to \$35. Orders can be placed on [Jostens' website](https://www.jostens.com). This link is also available on the WMS web page. Contact Britta DeVinny (bdevinny@isd110.org) or Laura Grimm (lgrimm@isd110.org) with questions.



The District has released a three-part video series to help families learn more about the upcoming operating levy referendum and what it means for our schools. The series highlights the three key pillars of the referendum—**Prioritizing People, Preserving Programs, and Protecting Class Sizes**—and explains why each is essential to supporting students and staff.

Prioritizing People: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpN-qJFXsCM>

Preserving Programs: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWUQ5NC7R_8

Protecting Class Sizes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH0-sMTFe9E>

We encourage you to take a few minutes to view these short videos and better understand the impact of the levy on our schools.

Early Voting is Now Open

Early voting for the November 4 operating levy referendum is now available at the District Office (512 Industrial Blvd.) Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The referendum

question is the only item on the ballot, so once you've made your decision, you can vote early at a time that's convenient for you.

Friday, September 26, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, October 2 - School Picture Retakes- details below

Monday, October 6 - 6th Grade Purple Team to Long Lake

- Duck Cup Speaker for 7th & 8th graders - more details below

Wednesday, October 8 - 6th Grade Gold Team to Long Lake

Wednesday, October 8 - 7th Grade Field Trip Children's Theater- *Treasure Island*

Thursday - Tuesday, October 9-14 - Fall Scholastic Book Fair

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Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances

Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

7th GRADE FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORMS DUE NEXT MONDAY!

CLICK HERE for information and the field trip permission form for the 7th grade field trip to see Treasure Island and the Children's Theater. The trip is planned for Wednesday, October 8th and permission forms and payment are due to Connect Teachers by Monday, September 29th. Online payments are available.

BIG THANKS - BIG IMPACT! - WMS PTO UPDATE

The WMS PTO would like to thank everyone who donated to the "One and Done" fundraiser this year. The \$12,109.00 received in donations will go toward field trips and bussing for the field trips, teacher grants, school beautification (planters and photo canvases in the entryway),

teacher conference dinners, and many more items. Together we can make a difference for Waconia Middle School.

Each month the PTO recognizes Stand Out Staff. Students can nominate a staff member by writing a short letter stating how this person has impacted them personally or gone above and beyond to create the exceptional environment enjoyed at our school. The staff and nominating student both receive a small gift from the PTO. Encourage your student to nominate staff throughout the year.

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help with picture retakes on Thursday, October 2. If you are interested in assisting with this or another volunteer opportunity, please explore the following links to find where you can contribute.

Volunteer Opportunities:

[Click here](#) to sign up for a PTO Committee

2025 ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS FINAL RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 CHAMPION- LISA GRAMS!

2025 Waconia Middle School Rock, Paper Scissors Championship

Connect Class Champions		Road to the Championship	
6th Gold	6th Purple	6th Gold Championship	6th Purple Championship
Henry Lukens	Mya Goulet	Henry Lukens	Max Lundquist
Miriam Braun	Gabby Kintziger	vs	vs
Dominik Quevedo	Graham Hupila	Bergen Boyer	Gabby Kintziger
Bryleigh Russell	Beau Salib	WINNER	WINNER
Bergen Boyer	Max Lundquist	Henry Lukens	Max Lundquist
Ben Mielke	Will Schommer	6th Grade Champion	
Ellie Mielke	Anna Safratowich	Henry Lukens	
7th Gold	7th Purple	7th Gold Championship	7th Purple Championship
Quintin Hedlof	Caleb Kapaun	Ivan Dubbe	Lisa Grams
Rikhi Davis	Nathan Boyd	vs	vs

Taylor DeWolf	Harley Bauer
Jada Reisgraf	Soren Swenson
Quinn Gothman	Isla Friederichs
Brylee Cordes	Ezra Kerber
Ivan Dubbe	Lisa Grams
8th Gold 8th Purple	
Thomas Vanderlinde	Ike Berger
Tim Golden	Rio Pham
Lauryn Weirauch	Sawyer Meis
Alexis Butor	Lily Burkhart
Hunter Hedin	Brynn Waterhouse
Breslyn Kirkpatrick	Avery Tyhurst
Sully Derner	Kipton Croucher

Quintin Hedlof	Harley Bauer
WINNER	WINNER
Ivan Dubbe	Lisa Grams
7th Grade Champion	
Lisa Grams	
8th Gold Championship	8th Purple Championship
Thomas Vanderlinde	Rio Pham
vs	vs
Breslyn Kirkpatrick	Brynn Waterhouse
WINNER	WINNER
Thomas Vanderlinde	Rio Pham
8th Grade Champion	
Thomas Vanderlinde	
Staff Championship	Staff Championship
A. Gilbertson	M. Young
Staff Champion	
M. Young	

6th Grade Champion	7th Grade Champion
Henry Lukens	Lisa Grams
WINNER	
Lisa Grams	
8th Grade Champion	Staff Champion

Thomas Vanderlinde	V S	M. Young
WINNER		
Thomas Vanderlinde		
School Championship		
Thomas Vanderlinde	V S	Lisa Grams
2025 WMS SCHOOL CHAMPION		
Lisa Grams		

PICTURE RETAKE DAY- WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2

Picture Retake Day is coming up on **Wednesday, October 2nd**.

- **Who needs to participate?**
 - Any student who was not photographed earlier this year will have their picture taken.
 - Families who would like a retake may request one after viewing their student's pictures using the information below:
 - View and order at <https://shop.jostenspix.com/login>
 - WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL
 - Event Code: FE23925
 - Also Needed: Infinite Campus Student ID

👉 Reminder: Please avoid wearing green for school pictures.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We're looking for two parent volunteers to help with Picture Day. If you're interested in assisting, please sign up by clicking here. [Picture Day Volunteer](#).

DUCK CUP SPEAKER

On **Monday, October 6th**, WMS will welcome a guest speaker through the Duck Cup Organization, based in New Prague, MN. We have partnered with Duck Cup in the past, and they have provided impactful presentations for our students.

This year's speaker will meet separately with our 7th and 8th-grade students for 45-minute sessions focused on mental health, overcoming challenges, and building coping strategies.

You can learn more about the Duck Cup Organization and this year's speaker here:

[Duck Cup Memorial Organization](#)

Important information for families:

1. If you would prefer your child *not* participate, please contact your WMS school social worker.
 - **Angela Gabrelcik:** agabrelcik@isd110.org (School Social Worker)
2. If a student becomes overwhelmed during the presentation, a quiet space, and support staff will be available. Additional support can also be provided afterward if needed.
3. Following the event, students will have the opportunity to share feedback. They may also request a follow-up with one of our counselors or social workers if they would like additional support.

It's important to create space for mental health conversations. One of Duck Cup's guiding messages is: **"It's OK to not be OK."** We are grateful for the chance to partner with this organization and to provide our students with resources and connections.

[CLICK HERE](#) to review a flyer about the event and learn more about the speaker. If you have any further questions or concerns, please let us know.

FAST BRIDGE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Each year, students at WMS take the FastBridge Assessments three times - in the fall, winter, and spring. FastBridge is an efficient, research-based assessment that helps us monitor progress, identify areas of strength, and determine where students may need additional support in reading and math.

On October 1, you will receive an email with your child's reading and math results. For security, you will be asked to enter your child's birthdate, school, and grade to open the report. Please note that the email link will only remain active for one week.

If you have any questions about the results, our upcoming parent-teacher conferences on October 13th and October 22nd will be an excellent opportunity to discuss them with your child's teacher, counselor, or administrator. Please keep in mind that FastBridge is just one measure of learning. We consider multiple data points to support a child's growth and success.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars! The fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held on October 9, 10, 13, and 14. We'll also be open 3:30 - 8 p.m. on October 13th for fall conferences. [Preview the books](#) and [check out our website](#) for more information.



Please join us at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7, at the Waconia Middle School Auditorium for an Open Community Forum regarding the Operating Levy Referendum that will appear on the November 4 ballot.

Superintendent Dr. Brian Gersich will give a presentation at the outset of the forum that will last approximately 30 minutes and then there will be time for a Q & A session with attendees.

Please note that Superintendent Gersich's presentation is also available on demand on the District's YouTube channel. You can find that recording by visiting www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISumHs_z3IA. You can also learn more about the operating levy by visiting www.isd110referendum.org.

Also know that early voting is now available between now and November 3, 2025, at the District Office (512 Industrial Blvd.), Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC/LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

For four weeks in September/October, students will be listening to various music genres at lunch that have influenced many musicians we hear today. These songs originate from various places and span multiple decades. We will cover a full spectrum of Latin music, including music from Spain, Mexican ballads, Cuban to Colombian Salsa, and today's bachata. Our song selections weren't merely hits, but instead, songs that made a difference, marked a moment, and influenced many—great tunes.

Thursday, September 25th Playlist:

Artist/Song/Music Genre

- Celia Cruz- *La Vida Es Un Carnaval* - Latin-Cuban
- Las Ketchup - *Asereje* - Spanish Pop
- Ritchie Valens - *La Bamba* - Chicano Music
- Estabon Armado & Peso Pluma - *Ella Baila Sola* - Mexicana
- Alvaro Soler - *Sofia* - Pop Latino
- Marc Anthony - *Vivir Mi Vida* - Musica Tropical
- Tito Puente - *Oye Como Va* - Latin
- Banda MS - *Hablame de ti* - Mexicana
- Gloria Estefan & The Miami Sound Machine - *Conga* - Latin-Cuban

Friday, September 19, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, September 22 - Beginning of Homecoming Week

- **DRESS UP Student Choice: Class Color Challenge** – Each grade wears a specific color: Black (8th), White (7th), and Purple (6th).

Tuesday, September 23 - **DRESS UP Twin/Group Day**: – Match with a friend or group.

Wednesday, September 24 - 2 Hour Early Release

- **DRESS UP - Comfy/Pajama Day** – Roll out of bed and come comfortable and cozy.

Thursday, September 25

- **DRESS UP Hat Day/Jersey Day**- Show off your favorite (school-appropriate) hat and/or rep your favorite team.

Friday, September 26 - Pepfest, Homecoming Parade, Football Game

- **DRESS UP- Wildcat Spirit Day** – Everyone wears purple and gold to show pride in being a Wildcat.

Thursday, October 2 - Picture Retakes

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Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances

Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

8TH GRADE CANOE TRIP

What a fantastic outing we had with the Class of 2030! It was a hot, sunny end-of-summer, early-fall day for the 27th annual 8th-grade canoe trip on the St. Croix River. Students paddled 7 miles down the river on smooth water with only a brief breeze now and then. While some students started off zig-zagging across the river, they all eventually got themselves moving forward. The concept of flotillas started popping up, and varieties of groups started forming to share in the effort and have a laugh. After pulling canoes from the water, we all enjoyed a picnic lunch. After eating hot dogs, students jumped back into the water, spent time with friends, played some games, and enjoyed the beautiful day. This annual adventure promotes togetherness in our 8th-grade class and creates memories for years to come. Students (and staff) returned exhausted, but smiling after a long day of fun in the sun. A big shout-out to our chaperones! Thank you for giving up your day to spend time with our students and helping

provide extra eyes and the occasional helping hand along the length of the river! We couldn't do it without you!



HOMEcoming WEEK FUN AT MIDDLE SCHOOL

WMS Homecoming Dress-up Days

- 9/22, Monday - Class Color Wars Each grade wears a specific color: Black (8th), White (7th), & Purple (6th).
- 9/23, Tuesday -Twin/Group Day: – Match with a friend or group.
- 9/24, Wednesday - Comfy/Pajama Day – Roll out of bed and come comfortable and cozy.
- 9/25 Thursday- Hat Day/Jersey Day- Show off your favorite (school-appropriate) hat and/or rep your favorite team.
- 9/26, Friday - Wildcat Spirit Day – Everyone wears purple and gold to show Wildcat pride.
- Pepfest & Rock, Paper, Scissors Championship - Friday during the school day
- Homecoming Parade - 5:00 PM estimated time.
- Homecoming Game 7:00 PM Waconia Wildcats vs. Burnsville

YEARBOOK 2025-2026

The 2025-2026 WMS Yearbook is now available for purchase! Yearbooks can be purchased for **\$32** through **Friday, October 17th**. This is the year's lowest price - yearbooks can still be bought after this day, but the price will increase to \$35. Orders can be placed on [Jostens' website](#). This link is also available on the WMS web page. Contact Britta DeVinny (bdevinny@isd110.org) or Laura Grimm (lgrimm@isd110.org) with questions.

PICTURE ORDERING AND RETAKES DAY

[CLICK HERE for ORDERING INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS](#). This link is valid if you are ordering pictures now or if you plan to order retakes. Retakes will be on Thursday, October 2nd.

WEB LEADERS BRING THE HOMECOMING HYPE

This Friday our awesome 8th grade WEB Leaders joined 6th graders at lunch to spread the excitement for the upcoming Homecoming Week! They mingled, shared smiles, and practiced their speaking skills while sharing next week's fun dress-up days. It was a fantastic way to kick off the celebrations and build Wildcat spirit across grade levels!



PTO UPDATE

The WMS PTO Fundraiser "One & Done" is wrapping up. Thank you to all who have donated. If you would still like to donate, use the PayPal QR Code. You can also send your donation in an envelope with your child. We ask for a \$50 donation per family, and 100% of the proceeds benefit WMS!.
THANK YOU for all your support, contributions and generosity! The final amount collected will be shared in an upcoming communication.



Early voting for the Waconia Public Schools 2025 Operating Levy Referendum begins on Friday, September 19. There are several different ways you can complete the voting process between now and November 4, and those options are outlined below.

Vote Early In Person

Early voting will begin on Friday, September 19, 2025, and will continue through Monday, November 3, 2025. Residents of ISD 110 can vote in person at the District Office, located at 512 Industrial Boulevard in Waconia. Voting hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Vote Early By Mail

Step 1: Complete an absentee ballot application by going online to <https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/abrequest/index>

Step 2: Once your application has been completed and submitted, you will be mailed an absentee ballot. Read the instructions that come with your ballot carefully.

Step 3: You will need a witness when you vote and complete your ballot. The witness can be either a U.S. Citizen (at least 18 years old) or a notary.

Step 4: Mail the ballot back in the self-addressed stamped envelope that comes with your ballot. Your ballot will not count if it is received after Election Day (Tuesday, November 4).

Vote In Person on Election Day

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4. There will be three polling places for this special election including the Waconia Ice Arena, St. Bonifacius City Hall, and the New Germany City Administration Office. Find your polling place by visiting pollfinder.sos.mn.gov.

You can learn more about the 2025 Operating Levy Referendum, *Maintaining What Matters Most: Prioritizing People, Preserving Programs and Protecting Class Sizes* by visiting www.isd110referendum.org or download a one-page Fact Sheet here: bit.ly/110FactSheet.

2025 Waconia Middle School Rock, Paper, Scissors Championship					
Connect Class Champions		Road to the Championship			
6th Gold	6th Purple	6th Gold Championship		6th Purple Championship	
Henry Lukens	Mya Goulet				
Miriam Braun	Gabby Kintziger	vs		vs	
Dominik Quevedo	Graham Hupila				
Bryleigh Russell	Beau Salib	WINNER		WINNER	
Bergen Boyer	Max Lundquist		v s		
Ben Mielke	Will Schommer	6th Grade Champion			
Ellie Mielke	Anna Safratowich				
7th Gold	7th Purple	7th Gold Championship		7th Purple Championship	
Quintin Hedlof	Caleb Kapaun				

Rikhi Davis	Nathan Boyd		vs		vs
Taylor DeWolf	Harley Bauer				
Jada Reisgraf	Soren Swenson		WINNER		WINNER
Quinn Gothman	Isla Friederichs			v s	
Brylee Cordes	Ezra Kerber		7th Grade Champion		
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8th Gold	8th Purple		8th Gold Championship		8th Purple Championship
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Tim Golden	Rio Pham		vs		vs
Lauryn Weirauch	Sawyer Meis				
Alexis Butor	Lily Burkhart		WINNER		WINNER
Hunter Hedin	Brynn Waterhouse			v s	
Breslyn Kirkpatrick	Avery Tyhurst		8th Grade Champion		
Sully Derner	Kipton Croucher				
			Staff Championship		Staff Championship
				v s	
			Staff Champion		
	6th Grade Champion		7th Gade Champion		
		v s			
	WINNER				
	8th Grade		Staff Champion		

	Champion			
		v s		
	WINNER			
	School Championship			
		v s		
	2025 WMS SCHOOL CHAMPION			

Friday, September 12, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, September 12 - Waconia Wildcats Tackle Cancer Football Game details below

Wednesday, September 17 - 8th Grade Canoe Trip- St. Croix River

Thursday, September 18th -

Informational Meeting 6th Grade Long Lake Chaperones-

- Zoom meeting ([LINK CLICK HERE](#)) from 5:00-5:45 pm
- In person, 6:00-6:45 pm in room D110 at WMS.

Monday, September 22 - Beginning of Homecoming Week

- **DRESS UP Student Choice: Class Color Wars** – Each grade wears a specific color: Black (8th), White (7th), and Purple (6th).

Tuesday, September 23 - **DRESS UP Twin/Group Day**: – Match with a friend or group.

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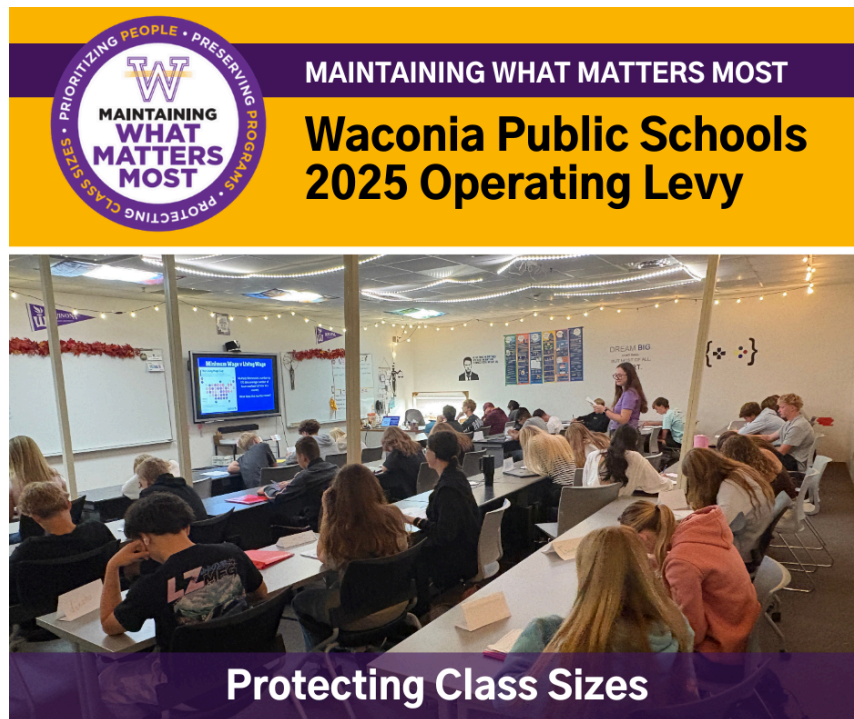
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[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)



MAINTAINING WHAT MATTERS MOST

Waconia Public Schools
2025 Operating Levy

Protecting Class Sizes

One of the goals of the Nov. 4 Operating Levy Referendum is to protect class sizes across all grade levels from future budget reductions.

At the elementary level, maintaining targeted class sizes helps students build a strong foundation in reading, writing, math, and problem-solving—the skills that carry them through their entire K–12 journey.

At the secondary level, manageable class sizes allow teachers to build meaningful relationships with students, provide timely feedback, and help each learner grow and prepare for their future—whether that's college, career, or beyond.

When we protect class sizes, we protect opportunities for students to connect, learn, and thrive.

Learn more about Maintaining What Matters Most: Prioritizing People, Preserving Programs and Protecting Class Sizes by visiting www.isd110referendum.org or download a one-page Fact Sheet here: bit.ly/110FactSheet.

Early voting begins September 19 at the District Office. Make a plan to vote on or before Election Day, November 4!

ONE and DONE PTO FUNDRAISER

The One and Done fundraiser started Monday and runs until Friday, September 19th. This is the only fundraiser the WMS PTO puts on to support our school. Please see the link below for more information.

The PTO helps fund field trip fees and transportation costs, teacher grants, school beautification projects (including planters and photo canvases in the entryway), teacher conference dinners, and many other items. Most recently, the PTO purchased two new microwaves for student use in the lunchroom.

How to donate:

Simply complete [this form](#) (one per family) along with cash, check made out to WMS PTO, or PayPal using this QR Code. →



Return forms to your child's Connect teacher by **Friday, September 19**. We are asking for a suggested donation of \$50 per family, although any amount would be greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL PICTURES ARE READY!

View and order at <https://shop.jostenspix.com/login> (updated 9/13/25)

- WACONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL
- Event Code: FE23925
- Also Needed: Infinite Campus Student ID
- Have questions or concerns about your child's picture? Call Josten's Customer Care Team at 1-877-515-1447.

- If you registered during the last couple of weeks of summer and receive a message when trying to order stating that you are not a WMS student, please email Jamie Hise at jhise@isd110.org for assistance with the message.
-

WILDCAT WAY DRAWINGS

This past Friday and Monday, WMS celebrated 15 students who have demonstrated *The Wildcat Way* by earning and turning in Wildcat Way tickets. Students receive tickets for showing Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, and Kindness in their classes and around the building. Tickets can be entered into drawings held bi-monthly, mid-trimester, and at the end of each trimester. Last week marked the first of many drawings to come—keep demonstrating *The Wildcat Way*! Go Wildcats!

STUDENT PICKUP DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

If you need to pick up your student during the school day, please call the office ahead of time at 952-442-0650 or leave a message on the attendance line at any time of day at 952-442-0660. This gives us a chance to notify your student so they can gather their belongings and be ready in the office when you arrive. This small step helps ensure a smooth and efficient process for you, your student, and our staff. Thank you for your cooperation and support!

PLAN AHEAD- HOMECOMING WEEK DRESS UP DAYS AT WMS

- **Monday, 9/22 - Student Choice: Class Colors Challenge** – Each grade wears a specific color: Black (8th), White (7th), and Purple (6th).
 - **Tuesday, 9/23 - Twin/Group Day** – Match with a friend or group.
 - **Wednesday, 9/24 - Comfy/Pajama Day** – Roll out of bed and come comfortable and cozy.
 - **Thursday, 9/25 - Hat Day/Jersey Day**- Show off your favorite (school-appropriate) hat and/or rep your favorite team.
 - **Friday, 9/26 - Wildcat Spirit Day** – Everyone wears purple and gold to show pride in being a Wildcat.
-

GET YOUR PINK ON!
WILDCAT
FOOTBALL
TACKLE CANCER
NIGHT



Join us as we team up to Tackle Cancer!
September 12th, 2025
Wildcat Stadium 7 p.m.

Benefitting the Randy Shaver Cancer
Research & Community Fund

Friday, September 5, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, September 9 - Purchase Pink Merch at lunches (Benefitting the Randy Shaver Research and Comm Fund)

Friday, September 12 - Waconia Wildcats Tackle Cancer Football Game details below

Wednesday, September 17 - 8th Grade Canoe Trip- St. Croix River

Thursday, September 18th - Informational Meeting 6th Grade Long Lake Chaperones
Monday, September 22 - Beginning of Homecoming Week
Wednesday, September 24 - 2 Hour Early Release
Friday, September 26 - Pepfest, Homecoming Parade, Football Game
Thursday, October 2 - Picture Retakes
Monday, October 6 - 6th Grade Purple Team to Long Lake
Wednesday, October 8 - 6th Grade Gold Team to Long Lake
Wednesday, October 8 - 7th Grade Field Trip Children's Theater- *Treasure Island*
Thursday - Tuesday, October 9-14 - Fall Scholastic Book Fair
Monday, October 13 - Conferences -1st night of trimester one mid-term parent-teacher conferences, Book Fair open 3:30 - 8 p.m. during conferences
Wednesday, October 15 -Staff Development, No School E-12
Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17 - MEA Break, No School
Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Parent Preview
Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences
Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances
Wednesday, October 29 - 2 Hour Early Release

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

MEET YOUR STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM

Welcome to a new school year at Waconia Middle School! We're excited to introduce our Student Support Team, which includes two school counselors and one school social worker. Our goal is to help every student feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

School counselors work with students in classrooms, small groups, and one-on-one settings to support their academic, social, and emotional development. They also help students set goals and prepare for the future.

Our school social worker partners with students and families to provide resources, build coping skills, and address learning and well-being barriers.

We're here for your child and your family—please reach out anytime!

Carly Sylvester – School Counselor (Grade 6 and Grade 7 Gold): csylvester@isd110.org

Samantha Deren – School Counselor (Grade 7 Purple and Grade 8): SDeren@isd110.org

Angela Gabrelcik – School Social Worker (Grades 6, 7, and 8): agabrelcik@isd110.org

REMINDER: REQUIRED BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARENT FORMS

582 student forms have been completed; approximately 300 are still to go. If you haven't had a chance to do this, please take the time. For each student, fill out the electronic form.

[CLICK HERE:2025-26 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORM](#). Please complete as soon as possible for each student.

8TH GRADE CANOE TRIP

The Waconia Middle School's Eighth Grade is planning a canoe trip down the St. Croix River on Wednesday,

September 17th. We will load the buses, leave Waconia at 8:45 AM, and return at 4:30 PM.

(Please note this

time and make arrangements for student pick-up!) The focus of this trip is to allow our students to try out their

canoeing skills in a safe and supervised setting, and get to know their peers and teachers in a fun middle school experience. The eighth graders have participated in this trip throughout the past 25+ years, and these trips have been a HUGE success! Students, teachers, and chaperones had a blast cruising down the St. Croix River to our destination...the post-canoe CookOut!!!! [CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

6TH GRADE LONGLAKE CONSERVATION CENTER FIELD TRIP

Today, your 6th-grade student received the forms and information for our annual Long Lake Conservation Center (LLCC) field trip. Please review these materials with your student and return the completed forms to your child's Connect teacher by Thursday, September 12.

For your convenience:

- [CLICK HERE](#) for a digital copy of the forms your student is bringing home.
- Fees can be paid online. [CLICK HERE](#) for instructions to pay fees online.

Chaperone Opportunity

We invite parent or guardian volunteers to join us as chaperones at LLCC. If you are interested in chaperoning, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the Google Form or contact our chaperone coordinator, Mrs. Lemmerman, at vlemmerman@isd110.org.

Note: All chaperones will be required to complete and pass a background check before the trip.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's Connect teacher. Thank you for your support in making this a memorable and meaningful experience for our students!

Sincerely,

The 6th Grade Team

Waconia Middle School

WMS CLUBS AND FINE ARTS ACTIVITIES 2025-26

WMS Clubs and Fine Arts Activities are organized and updated for the 2025-26 school year.

[CLICK HERE](#) to review and learn how to register for current clubs, fine arts, and athletic opportunities for WMS students. This document will be shared and updated at many points

throughout the year to inform students and families of new and upcoming opportunities. A few Fall activities are starting up within the next two weeks. Families are also encouraged to check out the great youth enrichment and youth recreation opportunities offered by Community Education in the electronic brochure. [2025 ISD 110 Community Education Brochure- CLICK HERE](#)

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Mark your calendars! The fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held on October 9, 10, 13, and 14. We'll also be open 3:30 - 8 p.m. on October 13th for fall conferences. [Preview the books](#) and [check out our website](#) for more information.

YEARBOOK 2025-2026

The 2025-2026 WMS Yearbook is now available for purchase! Yearbooks can be purchased for **\$32** through **Friday, October 17th**. This is the year's lowest price - yearbooks can still be bought after this day, but the price will increase to \$35. Orders can be placed on [Jostens' website](#). This link is also available on the WMS web page. Contact Britta DeVinny (bdevinny@isd110.org) or Laura Grimm (lgrimm@isd110.org) with questions.

PTO UPDATE

The One and Done fundraiser is kicking off on Monday and runs until Friday, September 19th. This is the only fundraiser the PTO puts on to support our school. Please see the link below.

The PTO helps fund field trips and bus transportation for these trips, teacher grants, school beautification projects (including planters and photo canvases in the entryway), teacher conference dinners, and many other items. Most recently, the PTO purchased two new microwaves for student use in the lunchroom.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ubsbajtnPfDb3EyRxgSIID5bX2GgAVxG/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104177382519047106215&rtpof=true&sd=true>

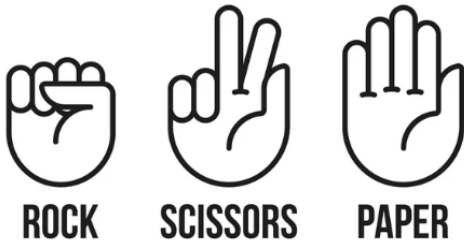
If you are interested in assisting the PTO with a volunteer opportunity, please explore the following link to find where you can contribute.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities:

- [Click here](#) to sign up for a PTO Committee
-

CONNECT CLASS COMPETITION:

Throughout the week, Connect Advisory classes started our schoolwide Rock, Paper, Scissors contest by playing down to a class champion. The next step will be to create small competitions leading up to the Homecoming Pep Fest, where we will hold the final matches and crown the 2025 schoolwide champion. Last year's school champion was current 7th-grade student Max Stiffer. Thank you to the WMS PTO for providing small prizes throughout the competition.



WILDCAT FOOTBALL

TACKLE CANCER NIGHT RAFFLE



Be a Wildcat VIP

**BUY A \$10 RAFFLE
TICKET TO BE A WILDCAT
VIP**

**COMPLETE WITH A
WILDCAT BASKET**

**YOU ALONG WITH 5 OF YOUR
FRIENDS WILL HAVE RESERVED SEATS
IN THE STANDS DURING OUR
HOMECOMING GAME ON SEPT 26TH**

Tickets available at the game on Sept 12th
or purchase from the Touchdown Club

THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE END OF THE GAME-
YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

Benefitting the Randy Shaver Cancer
Research & Community Fund

Friday, August 29, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, August 29 - No School

Monday, September 1 - No School

Tuesday, September 2 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Auditions 3:30- 5:30 PM (Information below)

Wednesday, September 3 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Auditions 3:30- 6:00 PM (Information below)

Wednesday, September 9 - Purchase Pink Merch at lunches (Benefitting the Randy Shaver Research and Comm Fund)

Wednesday, September 17 - 8th Grade Canoe Trip- St. Croix River

Thursday, September 18th - Informational Meeting 6th Grade Long Lake Chaperones

Monday, September 22 - Beginning of Homecoming Week

Wednesday, September 24 - 2 Hour Early Release

Friday, September 26 - Pepfest, Homecoming Parade, Football Game

Thursday, October 2 - Picture Retakes

Monday, October 6 - 6th Grade Purple Team to Long Lake

Wednesday, October 8 - 6th Grade Gold Team to Long Lake

Wednesday, October 8 - 7th Grade Field Trip Children's Theater- *Treasure Island*

Monday, October 13 - Conferences -1st night of trimester one mid-term parent-teacher conferences

Wednesday, October 15 -Staff Development, No School

Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17 - MEA Break, No School

Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Parent Preview Oct 21

Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, Oct. 23-25- WMS Fall Play 'A Little Princess' Performances

[WILDCAT ACTIVITIES/ ATHLETICS SCHEDULE -CLICK HERE](#)

WE'RE OFF TO A GREAT START!

Week one of the 2025-26 school year is complete, and based on the students' smiles, it was a fantastic week at WMS. Like every year, there are new procedures to learn, problems to solve, and fun to be had. We are all looking forward to a great year. Enjoy the holiday weekend.

REMINDER: REQUIRED BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARENT FORMS:

Approximately 550 student forms have been completed, and around 300 more are still to be completed. If you haven't had a chance to do this, please take the time. For each student, fill out the electronic form.

Click here:2025-26 [WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#) Please complete as soon as possible for each student.



IS YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE?

Is your contact information in the Infinite Campus Family Portal up to date and accurate? Have you elected to receive text messages in addition to emails and phone calls when the school district has urgent and time-sensitive information to communicate?

You can find easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions on how to update your contact information and ensure you are set up to receive text messages by visiting <https://bit.ly/110ContactInfo>.

BIKING TO SCHOOL?

Motorized bikes, including e-bikes, are not legal for anyone under the age of 15 to operate. Students can not bring items to school that they cannot legally possess/operate. Our school resource officer encourages families to review the state statute outlining the law or contact the Carver County Sheriff's Department for more information. [CLICK HERE- State Statute](#)

WMS staff will kindly connect with and communicate the statute to students who bring an e-bike to school. If the e-bike continues to be brought to school, families will be contacted.

CHROMEBOOK

If your student does not have a device and you would like them to use a district Chromebook, please complete this online form. [CLICK HERE](#)

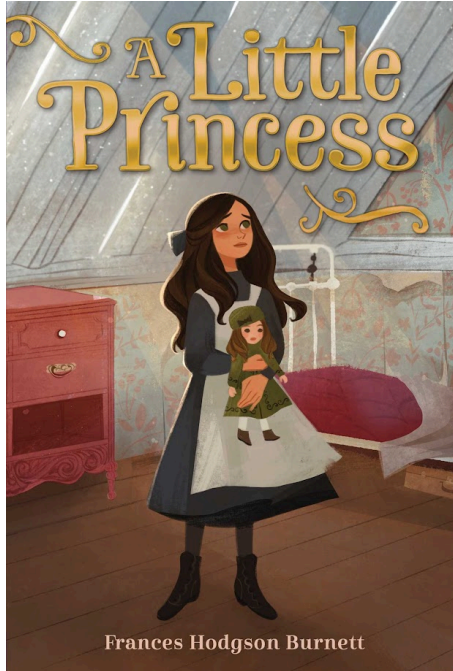
PICTURE DAY

Picture day on Thursday was a success. A big "Thank you" to our parent volunteers who helped us!

[CLICK HERE for ORDERING INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS](#). This link is valid if you are ordering pictures now or if you plan to order retakes. Retakes will be on Thursday, October 2nd. If you are newly registered within the last couple of weeks and receive a message when trying to order stating that you are not a WMS student, please email Jaimie Hise at jhise@isd110.org for assistance with the message.

WMS 2025-26 YEARBOOK ORDER

[CLICK HERE](#) to order your WMS 2025-26 yearbook. The special price is \$32 from now through October 17th and \$35 from October 26th through the end of the school year.



WMS FALL PLAY

ABOUT A LITTLE PRINCESS...

A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett is my favorite book, so I am thrilled to be directing the stage version this year at Waconia. The play is about how your circumstances (money, possessions, popularity) don't make someone a good person; how you treat others makes you a good person. The story of Sara Crewe will resonate with everyone who sees it. Most of your students probably haven't read the book, but I would highly recommend it! There are also multiple film adaptations, including my absolute favorite, the 1995 version directed by Alfonso Cuarón. A Little Princess deals with some heavy themes, like loss of a parent and grief, along with poverty and mistreatment.

ABOUT BEING IN A PLAY...

Performing in a play is an experience that young people will remember for the rest of their lives, and it is truly our pleasure to work with your students on this exciting project.

Shows will take place from October 23rd through October 25th

Cast

Cast Auditions are September 2nd & 3rd with Callbacks September 4th

Parts will be announced on the evening of Friday, September 5th

Crew

Crew Forms are Due September 4th

Crew Jobs will be announced on Sunday, September 7th

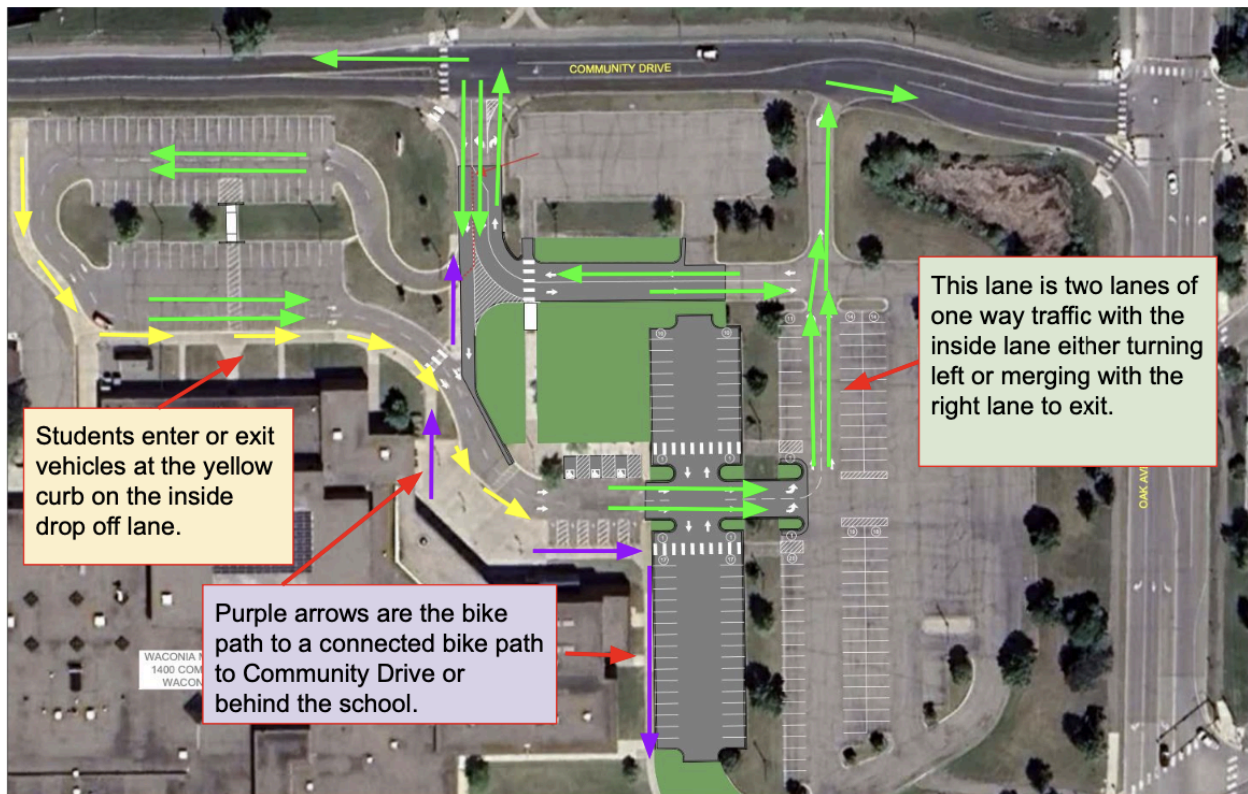
A Parents Meeting will be held on Monday, September 8th, at 5:30 in the Auditorium

Audition and Information Packets for WMS Theater's Fall Productions of A Little Princess are now available outside the band and choir room!

WMS PARKING LOT RENOVATIONS

Renovations and improvements to the WMS main parking lot are almost complete. We will be adding additional signage and markings to assist drivers in navigating in and out of the main parking lot. The revised design of the parking lot enhances pedestrian and bike safety. Below is

a map with green arrows indicating the direction of traffic, yellow arrows marking drop-off/pick-up zones, and purple arrows designating bike routes.





Kick Cancer Soccer Game



EAGAN WILDCATS VS WACONIA WILDCATS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

BOYS JV, B & 9A: 6 PM / WHS WEST FIELDS

BOYS VARSITY: 7 PM / WHS STADIUM

Celebrating Survivors & Honoring Fighters!



- FREE WILL DONATION
- BUY A LUMINARY
- SUPPORTING LOCAL
PAY IT FORWARD FUND
- WEAR YOUR CANCER
COLOR OF CHOICE



WACONIA Middle School

WILDCAT FOOTBALL

**PURCHASE YOUR PINK MERCH AT
LUNCH**

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH

cash, checks or
Venmo(Waconia
Touchdown
Club)

\$1
beads
bracelets
eye pink
tattoos

athletic/turf tape

\$2
pom poms
\$3
feather boas

\$5
heart glasses
arm sleeves
\$10
socks



**Benefitting the Randy Shaver Cancer
Research & Community Fund**

Friday, August 22, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday, August 25 - First Day of School

Thursday, August 28 - [School Picture Day- CLICK HERE](#) [Volunteers Needed- CLICK HERE](#)

Friday, August 29 - No School

Monday, September 1 - No School

Tuesday, September 2 - WMS Fall Play Auditions 3:30- 5:30 PM (Information below)

Wednesday, September 3 - WMS Fall Play Auditions 3:30- 6:00 PM (Information below)

Wednesday, September 17 - 8th Grade Canoe Trip- St. Croix River
Thursday, September 18th - Informational Meeting 6th Grade Long Lake Chaperones
Monday, September 22 - Beginning of Homecoming Week
Wednesday, September 24 - 2 Hour Early Release
Friday, September 26 - Homecoming Parade
Thursday, October 2 - Picture Retakes
Monday, October 6 - 6th Grade Purple Team to Long Lake
Wednesday, October 8 - 6th Grade Gold Team to Long Lake
Wednesday, October 8 - 7th Grade Field Trip Children's Theater- *Treasure Island*
Monday, October 13 - 1st night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences
Oct. 15-17 - MEA Break, No School
Tuesday, October 21 - WMS Fall Play 'Little Princess' Parent Preview Oct 21
Wednesday, October 22 - 2nd night of first trimester mid-term parent-teacher conferences
Oct. 23-25 - WMS Fall Play 'Little Princess' Performances

HELPFUL LINKS

[2025-26 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#)
[2025-26 WMS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST](#)
[2025-26 WMS STUDENT CALENDAR](#)
[2025-26 WMS MAP](#)
[2025-26 WMS DAILY SCHEDULE](#)
[2025-26 WMS STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)
[2025-26 ISD 110 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)
[2025-26 ISD 110 STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

HERE WE GO... WELCOME BACK TO WMS!

The Waconia Middle School staff is excited and ready to welcome students for a successful first day of school on **Monday, August 25th**! After a productive week of planning and preparation, our team is eager to fill the building with the energy and enthusiasm of our students. Schedules are ready, Lockers are assigned.

We're set for another fantastic school year at WMS!

If your student could not attend the open house or hasn't reviewed their schedule, please make sure they double-check it for any recent updates.

School Hours

- Classes begin at **8:30 AM**
 - Dismissal is at **3:15 PM**
-

TRANSPORTATION REMINDERS

Bus Riders: Riding the bus is the safest transportation option to and from school. Koch Bus Service: 952-442-3370.

Parent Drop-Off:

- Please do not drop off students before **8:05 a.m.**
- Use the **designated drop-off lanes** and follow traffic flow.

- If the line backs up to Community Drive during pick-up, please find a parking spot in the east lot (nearest Oak Avenue).

Important:

- The **roundabout entrance is for buses only**—please do not use this area for drop-off or pick-up.
 - The **only approved pick-up areas** are the drop-off/pick-up lane and the **east parking lot**
 - Please follow the arrows in the parking lot to the designated area for student drop-off in front of the building.
-

REQUIRED BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARENT FORMS:

If you haven't had a chance to do this, please do so now. Please complete the electronic form for each student.

Click here: [2025-26 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#) Complete them as soon as possible for each student.

BUS ROUTES AND ARRIVAL TIMES

Koch Bus Company has been working with the school and drivers to ensure buses arrive to school before 8:25 AM. Some routes are still being adjusted, so your patience is appreciated. Please have your student to their bus stop 10 minutes before their scheduled pick-up time. This helps ensure timely arrivals for all students.

BIKING TO SCHOOL?

A reminder that motorized bikes, including e-bikes, are not legal for anyone under the age of 15 to operate. Students should not bring items to school that they cannot legally operate. Please review the state statute outlining the law or contact the Carver County Sheriff's Department for more information.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

[Click Here to Review Cafe #110 Lunch Menus](#)

ISD 110 students can receive one breakfast meal and one lunch meal FREE every school day. All free meals must meet criteria that require a serving of fruit or a vegetable to be taken along with the entrée at breakfast and lunch.

Family accounts must have a positive account balance to purchase à la carte items. Note: all balances from last year have been carried forward, both positive and negative.

DRESS CODE POLICY

Please review the daily dress expectations to ensure consistency with the school board's policy. [CLICK HERE](#) to review the expectations.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Josten's school picture day is Thursday, August 28. Picture retakes will be on Thursday, October 2nd. Please refrain from wearing green for pictures. [CLICK HERE for ORDERING INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS](#)

Parent volunteers are needed for this. If you'd like to volunteer, please click here. [VOLUNTEER](#)

6TH GRADE WEB ORIENTATION

On Tuesday, about 80% of our 6th-grade class joined us for WEB Orientation. It was an afternoon filled with activities that helped the students get to know each other and what it's like to be a Wildcat at Waconia Middle School. Our 8th-grade WEB Leaders did a great job welcoming our newest class to WMS!





WMS FALL PLAY- "LITTLE PRINCESS"

Auditions for the WMS Fall Play, Little Princess, start in the 2nd week of school. Sign-up sheets for auditions and for students interested in crew are located in the music hallway. Participation is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade students. Registration and fees information will be shared next week.

Play Summary- *Young Sara Crewe would rather stay with her dear father in India than leave for Miss Minchin's boarding school in grim, bustling London, but her father insists she receive an English education. Using her books and her imagination, she is able to quickly win friends and make the best out of every situation. In this heartfelt and faithful adaptation of the beloved novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, one girl's goodwill and courage reveal what being a princess truly means.*

- Auditions- WMS Auditorium
 - Tuesday, September 2nd
 - Wednesday, September 3rd
 - Thursday, September 4th (Callbacks)
- Performances- - WMS Auditorium
 - Tuesday, October 21 (Parent Preview)
 - Thursday, October 23
 - Friday, October. 24
 - Saturday, October 25, Afternoon
 - Saturday, October 25, Evening

[Preliminary Rehearsal Schedule- CLICK HERE](#)

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the director at tessevarada@gmail.com or wmstheatre@isd110.org.

Thank you,
Tess Rada
Little Princess Director

Friday, August 15, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, August 19 - 1:45 pm - 5:30 pm WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event

Tuesday, August 19 - 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm 6th Grade Only Open House

Wednesday, August 20 - 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm District Wide Open House

Monday, August 25 - First Day of School

Thursday, August 28 - School Pictures

Friday, August 29 - No School

Monday, September 1 - No School

Wednesday, September 25 - 2 Hour Early Release

HELPFUL LINKS

[2025-26 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#)

[2025-26 WMS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST](#)

[2025-26 WMS STUDENT CALENDAR](#)

[2025-26 WMS MAP](#)

[2025-26 WMS DAILY SCHEDULE](#)

[2025-26 WMS STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

[2025-26 ISD 110 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

[ISD 110 STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ISD 110 TECHNOLOGY HELP](#)

Schedules

Schedules are out and lockers have been assigned. There has been considerable excitement among students and staff. We have worked hard to answer questions and adjust schedules. We have communicated the challenge of staffing elective courses with families when students did not get their first or second choice. Elective teachers are typically shared across grade levels, and they have a set number of annual sections as full-time staff.

When a section is full, we do not have another that can be added. It also becomes difficult to fill an elective request when there are other elections for band, choir, accelerated math, special education, math and reading skills, enriched language arts, high-level learners, etc. As much as we want to meet every need and request, there are times we can't. The inability to receive all elections is not uncommon for scheduling at the secondary level. Thank you in advance for understanding the difficulty in making changes to student schedules.

Contacts for Schedule Questions

- Waconia Middle School Main Office: (952) 442-0650
- Jamie Hise, Assistant Principal: jhise@isd110.org
- Shane Clausen, Principal: sclausen@isd110.org

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete a schedule change request form.

WEB LEADER TRAINING

We had an amazing two full days of training approximately 55 8th-grade students as this year's WEB Leaders (Where Everyone Belongs). Leaders spent 10 hours this week learning leadership skills and engaging in fun activities to welcome this year's 6th-grade class to WMS during the upcoming 6th-grade orientation/WEB Event on Tuesday, August 19th.



REMINDER WEB EVENT- 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

(Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event: Mark your calendars-- all transitioning 6th-grade students are invited to join the WEB Kick-Off event scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19, 2025, from 1:45 to 5:30 PM**. The event is part of our WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program, and

busing will be available. The event will include WMS staff and roughly 55 trained 8th-grade WEB mentors. The fun and welcoming event will provide incoming students with building tours, mentor connections, guidance, and enthusiasm to start their middle school experience. Students are encouraged to eat lunch before the event and wear comfortable clothes (warm in the gym, cooler in classrooms). They will come into the school through the main entrance, and WEB Leaders will be there to guide them from the moment they arrive to the end of the event. Information about the WEB program can be found at <http://www.boomerangproject.com/web/what-web>.

6TH GRADE ONLY OPEN HOUSE NIGHT

We will host the 6th-grade-only open house following the WEB kick-off event from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19th**. 6th-grade teachers will be on-site to meet students and parents on a night dedicated to incoming students and families. The district-wide open house will take place the following evening, Wednesday, August 20th, from 3:30 to 7:30. 6th-grade students and families are welcome to attend the open house on Wednesday evening, although most of our 6th-grade staff will only be on-site on Tuesday evening.

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION

- Tuesday, August 19th, 6th Grade Only Open House 5:30-7:30
- Wednesday, August 20th, All District Open House 3:30-7:30

The open house is an opportunity to explore the building, find your classes, meet the staff, check your lockers, practice new combinations, and complete any necessary back-to-school tasks. For students with medications or health plans to drop off at the health office, Carly Haskins, the nurse, will be available in the main office during the open house nights.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Josten's school picture day is Thursday, August 28. Picture retakes will be on Thursday, October 2nd. Please refrain from wearing green for pictures. [CLICK HERE for ORDERING INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS](#)

Parent volunteers are needed for this. If you'd like to volunteer, please click here. [VOLUNTEER](#)

MORNING PARENT DROP-OFF REMINDERS:

To help ensure our students have a safe start to the day, please be sure to use the front parking lot for student drop-off. The bus parking lot near the roundabout needs to remain clear for buses only. There are signs at the bus entrance indicating this. In addition, to help students have a successful start to their school day, note that the student school day starts at 8:30, and it can take roughly 4 minutes to get to their locker and class from the entrance.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP PROCEDURES:

Parent drop-off and pick-up are outlined for safety and ease. Please do not block Community Drive at pickup; park instead. Take a right turn and use Highway 5 if you are going to WHS from the WMS parking lot and from WHS to WMS.

Students are encouraged to ride the bus to and from school using Koch Transportation. The safest way to and from school is on a bus. Koch Bus Service: 952-442-3370

Students are supervised in the mornings beginning at 8:05 AM. Students should not arrive at school before 8:05 AM. Students must participate in a supervised activity if they stay after school.

DRESS CODE POLICY:

Please review the daily dress expectations to be consistent with the school board policy. [CLICK HERE](#) to review the expectations.

WMS PTO UPDATE

WMS PTO is excited to kick off the new school year!

Board members Jill Derner, Karen Jordal, and DeAnna Eldred met with Mr. Clausen on August 11 to begin discussing and planning events for the coming year.

The PTO currently has an opening for a Co-President and a Treasurer on the board.

The Co-President positions include the following responsibilities:

- Liaison to the WMS Principal
- Generate PTO Update bullet points for weekly WMS Newsletter
- Create agenda, schedule, and facilitate PTO Meetings - August (Board only), Sept, Jan (Board only), May
- Lead One & Done Fundraiser and coordinate all aspects
- Create Open House materials, purchase supplies, and coordinate manning the PTO table
- Liaison to all WMS PTO committees
- Responsible for maintaining the WMS PTO By-laws

The Treasurer position includes:

- Averages 2-3 hours a month, with busy months in September and March
- Deposit donations and pay expenses & reimbursements
- Manage and balance the WMS PTO bank account
- Provide an updated budget and checkbook balance at every PTO Meeting
- Responsible for submitting our State and Federal Non-Profit paperwork
- Create WMS PTO Annual Budget and obtain Board approval
- Obtain WMS PTO Board approval to spend outside of the approved budget
- Check the PTO school mail slot on a timely basis

If you want to learn more about these positions, please email sclausen@isd110.org.

If you are interested in assisting beyond serving on the board, please explore the following links to find opportunities where you can contribute.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- [Click here](#) to sign up for a PTO Committee
- [Click here](#) to volunteer to help with Picture Day on August 28

Friday, August 8, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, August 8- Student Schedules released in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal @ 5:30 PM

Tuesday, August 19 - 1:45 pm - 5:30 pm WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event

Tuesday, August 19 - 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm 6th Grade Only Open House

Wednesday, August 20 - 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm District Wide Open House

Monday, August 25 - First Day of School

Thursday, August 28 - School Pictures

Friday, August 29 - No School

Monday, September 1 - No School

HELPFUL LINKS

[2025-26 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#)

[2025-26 WMS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST](#)

[2025-26 WMS STUDENT CALENDAR](#)

[2025-26 WMS STUDENT HANDBOOK](#)

[2025-26 ISD 110 ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

[ISD 110 STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ISD 110 TECHNOLOGY HELP](#)

2025-26 Student Schedules:

We are excited to announce that WMS student schedules for the 2025-26 school year are currently available on the Infinite Campus portal. Thank you to our students and families for

your patience as the schedules took a week longer than expected. Once logged into the portal, click on the student in the top right and then navigate to the left column to select "Schedule".

Our middle school schedule is complicated and complex. It is designed to meet a wide variety of needs, options, and experiences we offer at WMS. The effort invested in detailed schedule design creates optimal and individualized learning experiences for all our students. If you notice Read 180, Reading Skills on your child's schedule, they have been scheduled to receive additional reading or math support. If your 6th-, 7th-, or 8th-grade child would benefit from additional reading support, please contact the school administration to discuss available options.

High-Level Learners classes are optional. Sixth-grade students who have been assigned to our High-Level Learners (HLL) PLP class may need to choose which class to miss if they previously elected both the Band and Choir classes. 7th and 8th-grade students who have been assigned to our (HLL) PLP are taking this class as an everyday trimester class. This may affect these students differently depending on their music class elections. This may also mean missing a required encore class, such as every other day Physical Education and every other day Health. Students were assigned to their chosen electives as available.

8th-grade students who did not elect a music class have been scheduled into an every-other-day art course titled *Visual/Media Arts No Music* each trimester. There will be some instances in which they will also have the standard Art 8 class in addition to the alternating classes. A request can be made to elect a different course, although due to tight scheduling, changes will not always be possible. There are a limited number of Team Sports classes available for 7th and 8th graders, and they are currently full.

Schedule changes that will be possible include:

- Adding Band or Choir in 6, 7, and 8
- Adding 7th and 8th Grade Enriched Language Arts
- Adding 8th-grade Art in place of a current elective Encore class
- Adding Reading Skills
- Declining an Accelerated Math Placement
- Adding classes that are missing or adjusting classes that are doubled up
- Special Education needs
- Team/teacher alignment for families of twins or triplets
- Summer parent requests that did not get fulfilled

Changes that are not possible:

- Moving classes to be with known friends and classmates
- Changes to elective course assignments, except to add Art in 8th grade
- Additions to 7th or 8th Grade Team Sports classes
- Specific teacher requests not previously submitted
- Additions to Accelerated or Double Accelerated Math
- Changing a Music election

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete a schedule change request form.

Contacts for Schedule Questions

- Waconia Middle School Main Office: (952) 442-0650
- Jamie Hise, Assistant Principal: jhise@isd110.org
- Shane Clausen, Principal: sclausen@isd110.org

Infinite Campus Parent Portal Assistance:

- Katie Schulte: kschulte@isd110.org
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STUDENT LOCKERS

Lockers will be assigned to students by the end of next week. Combinations and locker numbers will be available to review in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal on or before August 18th. 6th-grade students are encouraged to purchase a school padlock at Open House for \$7.00. 7th and 8th-grade students will receive a locker with a built-in combination lock. Backpacks, cell phones, and smartwatches will be expected to be left in locked student lockers throughout the day. Exceptions will be made during the first week of school as students learn and practice new locker combinations.

NEW FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHTS

It was great to see families and a few students on Tuesday and Thursday nights. For those unable to attend, links to the slideshow and handout are below.

[6th Grade Welcome Letter/ New Family Information 2025](#)

[New Family Presentation Handout 2025-26](#)

[New Family Presentation Slides 2025-26](#)

[New Family Presentation Video Recording 2025-26](#)

REMINDER WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event

All transitioning 6th-grade students are invited to join the WEB Kick-Off event scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19, 2025, from 1:45 to 5:30 PM**. The event is part of our WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program, and busing will be available. The event will include WMS staff and roughly 50 trained 8th-grade WEB mentors. The fun and welcoming event will provide incoming students with building tours, mentor connections, guidance, and enthusiasm to start their middle school experience. A light snack will be provided, and students are encouraged to eat lunch before the event. Information about the WEB program can be found at <http://www.boomerangproject.com/web/what-web>.

[CLICK HERE](https://forms.gle/LZRBcVpwRjE6Cab67) (https://forms.gle/LZRBcVpwRjE6Cab67) to request bussing to and/or from the WEB Kick-off or visit the WMS webpage. Bussing requests must be received by Tuesday, August 12, 2025. Please contact WMS administration if your child needs special accommodations for this event.

Friday, August 1, 2025

(Scroll down for previous weeks.)

Welcome to the 2025–26 School Year at WMS!

Dear WMS Families,

We're so excited to welcome you to another great year at Waconia Middle School! Whether your student is brand new to WMS or returning for another lap around the track, we can't wait to walk alongside them as they learn, grow, and discover what makes middle school such a powerful and fun time.

At WMS, we believe in *The Wildcat Way*: **Be Respectful and Responsible—Show Integrity and Kindness**. These aren't just words on a wall—they're the heart of our school culture, guiding how we treat each other, how we learn, and how we grow as a community.

Each Friday, you'll receive this **WMS Weekly Update** with news, reminders, important dates, and helpful info to keep your family informed and connected. Middle schoolers might not always offer up the details you're hoping for, but this newsletter is here to help you stay in the loop.

Thank you for being part of our WMS family. We're glad you're here—and we're ready to make it a memorable year, together!

Shane Clausen

Principal, Waconia Middle School

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, August 5 - 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm 6th-grade Parent Information Night, WMS Auditorium

Thursday, August 7 - 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm 6th-grade Parent Information Night, WMS Auditorium

Friday, August 8- Student Schedules will be released in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal

Tuesday, August 19 - 1:45 pm - 5:30 pm WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event

Tuesday, August 19 - 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm 6th Grade Only Open House

Wednesday, August 20 - 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm District Wide Open House

Monday, August 25 - First Day of School
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HELPFUL LINKS

[2024-25 WMS BACK-TO-SCHOOL REQUIRED ONLINE FORMS](#)

[2025-26 WMS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST](#)

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[ISD 110 STAFF DIRECTORY](#)

[ISD 110 TECHNOLOGY HELP](#)

WMS WEEKLY UPDATE

We inform middle school parents by sending the “WMS Weekly Update”. You will receive an email at the end of each week with the subject line “WMS Weekly Update.” This provides a brief overview of the week and information about upcoming events.

The document is updated weekly; you can scroll back to view past updates if you miss any. Since middle school students may not always share details about their school day, we encourage families to stay engaged by regularly reviewing the WMS Weekly Update.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact mostlie@isd110.org.

NEW FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHTS AT WMS:

Moving to a new school building can be challenging for parents/guardians. We have designed two evening opportunities to welcome families, provide an overview of our programs, and answer some frequently asked questions. WMS New Parent Information nights are planned from **5:00 pm to 6:15 pm on Tuesday, August 5th, and Thursday, August 7th**, in the WMS Auditorium (attend one). The information nights are scheduled before student schedules are

released on Infinite Campus on or before Friday next week. This meeting is optional but highly encouraged for new families. Students are welcome to attend, but attendance is not required.

PARKING NOTE: Our parking lots are under construction. Please park in the west parking lot and enter through the west entrances. The west parking lot can be accessed through the roundabout on Community Drive.

WEB EVENT- 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

(Where Everyone Belongs) Kick-Off Event: Mark your calendars-- all transitioning 6th-grade students are invited to join the WEB Kick-Off event scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19, 2025, from 1:45 to 5:30 PM**. The event is part of our WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program, and busing will be available. The event will include WMS staff and roughly 50 trained 8th-grade WEB mentors. The fun and welcoming event will provide incoming students with building tours, mentor connections, guidance, and enthusiasm to start their middle school experience. A light snack will be provided, and students are encouraged to eat lunch before the event. Information about the WEB program can be found at <http://www.boomerangproject.com/web/what-web>.

[CLICK HERE](https://forms.gle/LZRBcVpwRjE6Cab67) (<https://forms.gle/LZRBcVpwRjE6Cab67>) to request bussing to and/or from the WEB Kick-off or visit the WMS webpage. Bussing requests must be received by Tuesday, August 12, 2025. Please contact WMS administration if your child needs special accommodations for this event.

6TH GRADE ONLY OPEN HOUSE NIGHT

We will host the 6th-grade-only open house after the WEB kick-off event from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19th**. 6th-grade teachers will be on-site to meet students and parents on a night dedicated to incoming students and families. The district-wide open house will take place the following evening, Wednesday, August 20th, from 3:30 to 7:30. 6th-grade students and families are welcome to attend the open house on Wednesday evening, although most of our 6th-grade staff will only be on-site on Tuesday evening.

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION

- Tuesday, August 19th, 6th Grade Only Open House 5:30-7:30
- Wednesday, August 20th All District Open House 3:30-7:30

The open house is a time to explore the building, find classes, meet staff, check lockers, practice new combinations, and complete any necessary back-to-school tasks. For students who have medications or health plans to drop off at the health office, Carly Haskins, the nurse, will be available in the main office during the open house nights.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Josten's school picture day is Thursday, August 28. Picture retakes will be on Thursday, October 2nd. Please refrain from wearing green for pictures. [CLICK HERE for ORDERING INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS](#)

Parent volunteers are needed for this. If you'd like to volunteer, please click here. [VOLUNTEER](#)

2025-26 BACK TO SCHOOL FORMS - FILL OUT ONE PER CHILD

How to FILL OUT - MY ACCOUNTS-Back to School Forms

Online Forms can be accessed by going to:

1. lsd110.org
 2. My accounts
 3. Click on the WMS Back to School Forms tile.
 4. Please complete this for your child. If you have more than one child, please complete this for each child.
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2025-25 STUDENT FEES

All necessary field trip fees will be included in field trip costs and our PTO will continue in their role of supporting grade-level activities and providing classroom grants. Families are encouraged to support the WMS PTO One and Done Fundraiser in the fall.

6TH GRADE

- Academic Lock- \$7.00: 6th-grade students will have their own lock to put on their assigned academic locker. This allows students to take the lock home and practice the combination ahead of the start of school or in the evenings. Locks are built into the lockers in 7th and 8th grade, and the purchased lock can then be used for future 7th and 8th-grade PE classes. It is recommended to purchase a school lock for two reasons: we maintain a list of names and serial numbers to return the lock to its owner if it is lost.
- FYI-Long Lake Conservation Center Overnight Field Trip- estimated \$160.00. The option to pay in full or make two payments of \$80.00 will be available in your child's account. More information about the trip will be provided at a later date.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education uniforms are a requirement for every student in 7th and 8th grade. This includes a WMS PE shirt and shorts. You can purchase them online, at the Open Houses, or in the WMS Office throughout the school year. Please bring your online payment receipt for verification. If you have a PE uniform passed down from another student, that will fill this requirement. Write your child's name on both pieces. 6th-grade students will not be changing into PE uniforms this year. They will be expected to have appropriate and safe shoes for physical activities.

PE Uniform Set: \$25.00

PE Shirt: \$10.00

PE Shorts: \$15.00

Combination Lock: \$7.00

(Combination locks become student-owned and can be used throughout all three years at WMS. Locks that are purchased from WMS are easier to identify and return to students when they are misplaced.)

BAND FEES

Band Instrument Rental: \$75.00

(This is if your child is renting a school-owned instrument.)

Band Percussion Rental: \$50.00

(This is if your child is using school-owned percussion instruments for band lessons and class)

HOW TO PAY FEES - MY ACCOUNTS- ONLINE PAYMENTS

Please note this process has changed from prior years. Refer to this click-cast for a demonstration on how to access "My Accounts" and make payments. ["HOW TO VIDEO" TO MAKE PAYMENTS ONLINE](#) - click here for a short tutorial.

Online fees can be paid by going to:

1. isd110.org
2. My accounts
3. Click on Smart SchoolK12
4. Click the "cart" icon on top. You'll see your student's Name and Student ID:
5. Click the blue button "Select Student Fees"
6. Here you'll see a list of items that are applicable to your student.
7. Click "Add Item" to purchase the fees that apply to that student.
8. Then, under the student, in "other school fees", select "Click to pay".
9. When you are done, click "Pay Now" at the top of the screen.
10. Follow the prompts to add a payment method and complete your payment.

Please contact WMS Principal Shane Clausen at sclausen@isd110.org to learn about and request assistance with any school fees. The "[2025-26 Application for Educational Benefits](#)" is available at your student's school and on our webpage. [Nutrition Service](#): Completing this application could benefit your family with scholastic scholarships; complete and submit it if your family could benefit.

DISTRICT 110 TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

Go to the [TECHNOLOGY TOOLKIT](#) for all District 110 technology resources.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE [BRING-YOUR-OWN-DEVICE INFORMATION CLICK HERE](#)

NUTRITION SERVICES

This school year, ALL "free meals" must meet criteria requiring a serving of a fruit or vegetable to be taken along with the entrée at breakfast and lunch. Family accounts should have a positive balance to purchase à la carte items. All balances from last year have been carried forward, both positive and negative. If your child is allergic to any food, please contact your school nurse.

Click here for the [2025-26 Meal Benefits Application](#)

This is also available at your student's school office and on our webpage, [Nutrition Services website](#). Completing this application could benefit your family with scholastic scholarships; complete and submit it if your family could benefit.

For additional information and questions related to our lunch program, go to the [Nutrition Services website](#). For any questions regarding your account, contact Sara Pingeon, Cafe #110 Meal Account Specialist at spingeon@isd110.org or call 952-442-0682

STUDENT INSURANCE

ISD #110 Waconia Public Schools does not provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school or at school events. Since children are particularly susceptible to injuries, the district encourages you to review your present health and accident insurance program to determine if your coverage is adequate.

If you do not feel your insurance is adequate, because of a deductible, a coinsurance clause, or if you do not have insurance, the district encourages you to review the Student Insurance Program available to district families through a private provider.

THE STUDENT INSURANCE PROGRAM: The student insurance program provides benefits for medical expenses incurred because of an accident at school, and the program's major expense benefit is designed primarily for families with no other insurance or with high deductible plans.

Click this link to find information on how to purchase student insurance.

[English version](#)

[Spanish version](#)

WMS PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Getting involved in your child's middle school experience is incredibly rewarding, and the Waconia Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is the perfect way to do just that! We are passionate about enhancing our school community and providing a supportive environment for our students and families. By participating in the PTO, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with other parents and teachers, share your ideas, and help organize various fun and enriching activities throughout the school year. Your presence and input can truly make a difference!

Waconia Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization invites you to actively participate during your child's middle school years. We are involved in many activities throughout the school year and would love your help and ideas. Watch for PTO meeting dates posted in the "WMS Weekly Update".

Please consider joining us for our fall meeting!

CLICK HERE FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: [WMS PTO SIGN UP GENIUS](#)

FALL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Fall parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 13th and 22nd. Families typically choose one of the nights to attend our arena-style conferences and meet with staff. [Click here to review the Student Calendar.](#)

DISTRICT 110 TEACHING AND LEARNING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Teaching and Learning Advisory Council (TLAC) is the formal advisory group for District 110 whose purpose is to review and advise on K-12 curriculum and programming prior to presentation to the Board of Education. Parents and community members are an important voice on this council and comprise the majority of its members. Other members include high school students, representatives from the Board of Education, and members of the Teaching and Learning Team. Four meetings are scheduled for this school year.

- Monday, October 6, 2025, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 1, 2025, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 2, 2026, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 20, 2026, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

If you are interested in being a part of TLAC, please fill out this form by September 19th: [TLAC Interest Form](#).

Please contact Erika Nesvig, Director of Educational Services, enesvig@isd110.org, with any questions.

HOMECOMING SHIRTS AND PIN SALES

Show your school spirit on Homecoming by wearing a Homecoming t-shirt and pin!!

Wear it to the Homecoming parade and WHS football game on Friday, September 26th to cheer on our Waconia Wildcats!

[ONLINE STORE CLICK HERE](#)

Order & Pickup Details:

- Student/Faculty Orders: Will be delivered to schools on September 23rd and 24th.
- Community Orders: Available for pick-up at Nice Shirt Co on:
 - September 24th (4–6 PM)
 - September 25th (2–6 PM)

The online store is open now through September 2nd!

Thank you for your support! We're excited to celebrate Homecoming with our students, families, and the entire community, from Pre-K through 12th grade.

Go Wildcats!