

Waynesboro Area Middle School

Family Newsletter

August 31, 2023



Waynesboro Area
Middle School

Coming Up at WAMS!!!

9/4 - Labor Day - No School!

9/13 - Fall Picture Day

9/29 - Walk-A-Thon

10/2 - Walk-A-Thon RAIN DATE

10/6 - No School for Students!

10/9 - No School!

10/10-13 - 6th Grade Institute Field Trips!

10/19 - Picture Make-Up Day

10/20 - Early Dismissal for Students

10/27 - 1st Marking Period Ends

Athletics

Click [HERE](#) to access the District Athletics Website.

Click [HERE](#) to access WASD ArbiterLive for available schedules, practices, etc.

For all other questions or information regarding athletics please call the athletic office at 717-762-1191 ext: 1221

Athletic events, practices, etc. are not handled or planned at the building level.

Please follow [THIS](#) link to see the 2023-24 WASD Calendar.

[Mr. DeAngelis - Principal's Message](#)

[Mr. Klink - Assistant Principal](#)

[Mr. Newhard - Assistant Principal](#)

Back to School Edition

The 2023-24 School Year has officially begun! I hope all of our families and learners have had a smooth transition from summer vacation to the first days of school. Rest assured that we generally take the first week or two at a slower pace as we re-integrate students into the school building and the school day.

We are all excited to be back!



In addition to this Newsletter, please also make sure to regularly check the [School Website](#), the Parent/Guardian Portal, [Abre](#), and the [WAMS Facebook Page](#). Information is also shared via boroblasts and email. Also, check out the [District Website](#)! Thanks!

WASD Tech Help Desk for Learners

If your child's Chromebook is in need of repair, please submit a ticket through the WASD Learner Help Desk. Click [HERE](#) to access the site.



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

We are excited
to get started!

Make sure to check the
WAMS website!!!
www.wasd.k12.pa.us/o/wams

Call the Front Desk at
extension 1306 for help
logging into the Portal!

YOUR TEACHERS WISH YOU A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR AHEAD!

Waynesboro Area Middle School
702 E 2nd St. Waynesboro, PA 17268
717-762-1191 Ext. 1306
Please call with questions!

Please see in the
Newsletter for
**Team Leader
information**
and emails!



Waynesboro Area School District 2023-2024 School Calendar

Approved 6/13/2023



July 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
Teacher Days = 0 Student Days = 0						

August 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	TI	A	A	18	19
20	21	22	F	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
Teacher Days = 10 Student Days = 7+2						

September 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	N	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Teacher Day = 20 Student Days = 20						

October 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	A	7
8	N	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	E	21
22	23	24	25	26	Q	28
29	30	31				
Teacher Days = 21 Student Days = 20+1						

November 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	T	18
19	TI/PT	PT	N	N	N	25
26	N	28	29	30		
Teacher Days = 19 Student Days = 16						

December 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	P	23
24	N	N	N	N	N	30
31						
Teacher Days = 15 Student Days = 15						

January 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	N	N	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	N	16	17	SQ	TI	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
Teacher Days = 20 Student Days = 19						

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	E	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	TI	17
18	P	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		
Teacher Days = 20 Student Days = 19						

March 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					E	2
3	T	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	Q	27	N	N	30
31						
Teacher Days = 19 Student Days = 19						

April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	N	N	A	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
Teacher Days = 20 Student Days = 19+1						

May 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	N	28	29	30	LGQT	
Teacher Days = 22 Student Days = 22						

June 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	187th	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
Teacher Days = 1 Student Days = 0						

PSSA Testing Dates

ELA- Apr. 22-26

Math, Science & Makeups - Apr. 29- May 3

Keystone Testing Dates

Winter Jan. 4-18

Spring May 13-24

AP Testing

May 6-13

Early Dismissal Times

Secondary (6-12) - 11:50 Elementary (K-5) 12:50

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Elementary		WAMS		WASHS	
11/20	4-7PM	11/20	3-6PM	10/5	3-7PM
11/21	8AM-8PM	11/21	7:30AM-7PM	3/7	3-6PM
		1/25	3-6PM		

Last Day of Marking Period (Gr. 6-12)

1st Quarter - Oct. 27

2nd Quarter - Jan. 18

3rd Quarter - Mar. 26

4th Quarter - May 31

Last Day of Trimester (Gr. K-5)

1st Trimester - Nov. 17

2nd Trimester - Mar. 4

3rd Trimester - May 31

Teacher Days = 187 Student Days = 180

Snow Make-Up and FID Days

5 FID Days Will Be Used After Snow Make-Up Days 12/22 & 2/19

Code Definitions

A- Act 80 Day/ No School

E- Early Dismissal

F- First Day of School

G- Graduation

L- Last Day of School

M- Make-Up Day

MA- Mandatory Work Day - All Staff

N- No School

P- Possible Snow Make-Up Day

PT- Parent Teacher Conferences

Q- End of Quarter (6-12th)

S- WASHS Semester End

T- End of Trimester (K-5th)

TI - Teacher Inservice Day/ No School

WAMS Happenings and Changes!!!

School Pictures ~ Tuesday, September 13th and the makeup date is Tuesday, October 19th.

WAMS Musical ~ Finding Nemo Jr will be performed on November 3rd & 4th. All 6 - 8 grade students are invited to participate in this musical. Auditions will be held on September 5th - 8th.

WAMS Walkathon ~ Friday, September 29th this is a fun event where students are given the opportunity to collect donations and then walk around the WASH track and then go to Memorial Park for lunch where they can purchase lunch from various food truck vendors. They will also have an opportunity to dunk an administrator or even a teacher in the dunk tank that day. This event is used to raise funds to support various school activities and trips. Please support our students by helping your students to obtain pledges from family members, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. More details coming soon!

Football Games ~ Football season is underway! Please see a few reminders as we cheer on the Indians!

- Athletic events are a function of school! General conduct, behavior, etc. must be in accordance with school and district policy!
- Parents/guardians must accompany their child and be readily available if needed (and not represent more than 2 other students). WAMS students without a parent/adult present will **not** be permitted entry.
- Students who receive any type of suspension are not permitted in athletic events on the day of the suspension or infraction.
- Disrespectful behavior, foul language, general misconduct, etc. that poorly represent the district and community will not be tolerated!
- **These games are meant to be a fun family and community event to support our athletics teams- please help us keep it that way!**

Arrival and Dismissal!

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Arrival and Dismissal will look slightly different this year as we continue to improve the effectiveness of having a large number of students enter and dismiss from the building daily. Changes always are made with student safety and effectiveness in mind.

### **Arrival**

Arrival will look much the same as it did last school year. The late bell rings at 7:38, students are expected to be in the building and ready to be in class by that time. The doors open at 7:15 regardless of the weather. We ask that students not be dropped off much before that time if possible. 6th grade students will report to the cafeteria when entering, 7th-grade students will report to the gym when entering, and 8th-grade students will report to the auditorium when entering. Students will be able to report to the first period starting at 7:30. All students may eat breakfast! Bus Riders will walk over to WAMS from WASHS. Car Riders may be dropped off in the Summitview Parking lot and walk the back sidewalk to the WAMS rear entrance as in years past.

### **Dismissal**

Dismissal is slightly different than last year, but for parents and guardians, there will appear to be little difference. WAMS will be doing a slightly staggered release for bus riders; 6th grade exiting first, then 7th, and finally 8th. This will allow for a smoother transition over to WASHS as well as allow additional teachers to be present to help escort and monitor students as they dismiss and load buses. Walkers and Car Riders will be dismissed at 2:28 and will all exit the front of the building. Like last year, car riders are picked up out front!

## **Outside Agencies**

The District welcomes the help and advocacy of numerous outside agencies operating within Franklin County in supporting our students. Please note it is the sole responsibility of the individual or agency to submit clearances and other required paperwork to the District Central Administrative Office at Clayton Avenue PRIOR to the start date with a student in the building, and they must also be in possession of a photo ID or identification purposes to enter a school building. Person(s) without clearances and without ID will not be permitted inside of a school building.

Again, this is the sole responsibility of the individual person or agency.



## Counselor's Corner!



Meet our counselors(Left to Right!); Mrs. Colette Rooney (7th grade), Ms. Diana Carey (8th grade), and Kelsie Weaver (6th grade).

WAMS Counselors are so happy to see our learners back from summer break. Getting back into the swing of things can be overwhelming for everybody - learners, parents, and even teachers. Creating routines takes time, but doing so can make all the difference in how successful your year will be. Also, a little more sleep and fresh air, combined with a little less screen time and social media, can go a long way in staying both healthy and positive.

Here at WAMS, we are fortunate enough to have connections to many resources that can help our learners and their families. A few we'd like to highlight are:

- \*Check and Connect - provides a mentor who monitors attendance and academics and meets weekly with learners.
- \*Backpack Program - provides a bag of healthy snacks for learners to take home every Friday
- \*Mental Health Support Counselor - an on-site therapist to provide short or long-term services (Wed-Fri)
- \*School-Based Counseling through Laurel Life - licensed counselors come to WAMS weekly to meet with learners
- \*Student Assistance Program - provides interventions to help address any barriers to learning
- \*McKinney-Vento Act - provides resources for learners experiencing homelessness
- \*Strengthening Families Program - excellent program run by Healthy Communities Partnership (starts 10/3)

Please contact your learner's grade-level counselor to get information on any of these valuable resources.  
We want to welcome all learners and families to WAMS. We are ready to help.

Let's make it a great year!

## The Principal's Place!

### **Ben Newhard - 8th-grade Assistant Principal**

Welcome back to WAMS for the 2023-2024 school year! This is my third year at the Middle School. This school year I will be working with the 8th grade students. I am grateful for this unique opportunity, as it allows me to loop with the same students from 6th grade until they finish out their middle school careers. Furthermore, this looping experience

allows me to both strengthen existing relationships and continue to develop new ones with students in the building. I believe positive relationships with all stakeholders are a key factor in a successful school experience.

I also believe communication is crucial to ensure success. Likewise, I believe it is imperative to have open communication between parents/guardians, staff, and students throughout the year to enhance the learning experience here at WAMS. If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to reach out to your student's teachers, counselor, or administrator by phone or email. My personal contact information may be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

Another key area for success at WAMS is student attendance in the building. This not only includes being present each day but also ensuring your child arrives at school on time before the late bell (7:38 AM). Being present daily allows students to develop healthy routines and prevents missing classroom instruction that could lead to falling academically behind. Please reference the attendance and tardy policies in the newsletter as well as the WAMS Student and Family Handbook.

While at the middle school, your student will have numerous opportunities to become involved in clubs and extracurriculars. I encourage all students to try something new each year as it helps develop and build their confidence as well as foster new relationships with their peers in the building. Students are encouraged to take safe risks by exploring new paths as this is all part of the middle school experience to prepare them for their future.

Lastly, I wanted to take a moment to share some information about myself. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, working on cars, being outside, and anything history-related! One thing most people do not know about me is that I am a living historian, and participate in World War II reenactments. Another unique hobby I enjoy is spending time working on and restoring old Volkswagens.

### What do I need to know about the office?



**If you have any questions or concerns always feel free to stop by the front office. You can also contact us at 717.762.1191x1306**

### **IMPORTANT FOR ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS:**

Parents ~ if your child is tardy they are permitted to come into the building without a parent. However, if you are picking up your student you must come in the building to sign your child out. **You must have a photo id to pick up your child.**

If you need a grandparent, relative, or friend to pick up your child please specify on the note who will be picking up your child. **A photo id must be shown in order to pick up any learner at WAMS.**

**Emergency Cards, Attendance Pads, and a few other forms were sent home with your learner on the first day. Please complete the Emergency Card & COPPA form and return it with your student.**

**WASD Calendars are still being printed we will distribute them as soon as they arrive.**

When a student is absent or leaving early for an appointment parents should send in a note. Those notes are turned into the office first thing in the morning.

If you forget to send a note no need to worry ~ Just call the WAMS Office and let us know. We will have you write a note when you pick up your learner.

Excuses are due within 3 days of your learner returning to school. You may also email Mrs. Fleagle at [mary\\_fleagle@wasdpa.org](mailto:mary_fleagle@wasdpa.org) with a note.

### District Passwords

Passwords are important! Please see the bullets below for district requirements on student passwords. Also, please discuss the importance of NEVER sharing passwords, codes, combinations, personal information, etc. with anyone!

- Users will be asked to change their password every 60 days
- Users won't be able to use their previous 10 passwords
- Passwords must be at least 6 Characters
- Passwords can't contain any part of the user name
- Passwords must contain at least three of the following:
- Uppercase Letter
- Lowercase Letter
- Number
- Symbol

### Airdrop - Turn it off!

"Air-drop" is a phone function where others can wirelessly upload pictures, videos, and digital content onto another person's phone or device. This is an amazing feature of phones and devices when family and friends are swapping pictures of a fun trip, good memories, or the latest grandbaby picture; however, depending on your setting, you could be opening your phone to strangers being able to "drop" inappropriate content on your phone. When the setting is set to "Everybody", anybody with an iPhone, cell phone service, and within 40 feet try to upload content to your phone - even if they don't have your number! When this occurs you will be prompted to "accept" the content. Please warn students to never accept content from people/accounts they don't know! Even better, users can change their settings to only accept "contacts" i.e. phone numbers we have saved, or off altogether.

Please see [here](#) for instructions and support on how to change Airdrop settings!



# Communication at WAMS

## What does communication look like at the Middle School and how do I get information?!

### Number 1: your child!

- Every day at WAMS all students receive information daily in a multitude of ways, the most common are;
  - Morning and afternoon announcements are made daily
  - The administration makes announcements daily at all lunches
  - Teacher announcements and Braves Block
  - TV Slides throughout the building and cafe with updated announcements daily!
  - As your student gets older and progresses towards WASHS and life, it is essential for them to be responsible for information!

### Number 2: teachers and team leaders!

- Every team has a team leader who can act as a primary contact for all parents and guardians on a team
  - Please contact your team leader if you have general questions about team activities, rules, field trips, or anything else!
  - Specific questions about a classroom, grade, or assignment can be directed specifically to the classroom teacher.
  - You can always request a team meeting to speak with everyone!
  - All teams communicate in various ways, including the remind app, email, the portal, etc. Check with your team leader for specifics!

### Number 3: the parent portal and Schoology

- The portal is a wonderful place to check for updated news about events and activities and grades in general. Contact the office for login information!
- Schoology is more specific information regarding grades, assignments, and team events. Contact your student's teacher for login information!
- I recommend checking both weekly!

### Number 4: The Website

- Announcements and important information are made available frequently on the website! I recommend checking the website at least weekly! These announcements also go to the WAMS Facebook Page. Please note: Facebook is not monitored.
- The website also includes our WAMS Monthly Newsletter! Check it out for all the latest information!

### Number 5: The Office

- For other information or questions please contact the office at 717-762-1191 ext: 1306!
- Questions about notes, tardies, absences, attendance, etc. can be directed here.

### Finally, Number 6: Autocalls!

- Autocalls are generally reserved for very general building-wide information and emergencies.



## Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School: Pay Attention to Attendance

*Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students access learning opportunities and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job. Families can also advocate for resources to help students learn if they cannot attend in-person.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

#### **Make school attendance a priority**

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your teen maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-Covid-19 related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your student healthy, and if you are concerned about Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your teens must stay home because they are sick or in quarantine, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

#### **Help your teen stay engaged**

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your teens are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact the school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your teen's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your teen to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your students if they are showing signs of anxiety.

#### **Communicate with the school**

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties.
- Check on your teen's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents or community agencies if you need support.



Updated November 2022

Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!

# Team Leaders!

| Team              | Team Leader   | Team         | Team Leader   | Team | Team Leader     |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|------|-----------------|
| 6A                | Joseph Minich | 7A           | Ken Carlson   | 8A   | Catherine Myers |
| 6B                | Nichole Embly | 7B           | Chris Dennis  | 8B   | Sarah Hodge     |
| 6C                | Jessica Flack | 7C           | Tawnya Finney | 8C   | Zach Horn       |
| Special Education | Holly Hess    | Related Arts | Mike Bercaw   | 8D   | Brandy Spielman |

Welcome back to school, Team 6A! We are excited to get the year started and have had a great first week. Keep it up! We're looking forward to what looks to be the beginning of a fantastic school year. Please use the [Team 6A website](#) to view a list of daily assignments on the Absent Work calendar for our 6A core classes.

Team 6B is off to a fabulous start! We are super excited to work with our learners and get to know you! The 6B Team is looking forward to a successful 2022-23 school year! Thanks for all you do!

Team 6C has had a fantastic start to the school year. We are excited to work with our students and have a fantastic 2022-2023 school year. Parents and guardians, thank you for your continued support!

Team 7A teachers are looking forward to a great year! Don't forget that if you need parent access to Schoology please email Mr. Carlson for your parent access code. [Team 7A website](#).

The 7B teachers are excited to meet and work with our new group of students.

Team 7C teachers this year are Ms. Smith (Math), Ms. Adams (ELA), Mr. Heebner (Science), and Mrs. Finney (World Cultures). We look forward to an exciting year of learning activities! Please be sure to visit our [Team 7C Website](#) to learn more about your teachers and the curriculum. Also, check out our [7C Weekly Assignments](#) for important announcements and daily assignments.

Team 7D would like to welcome everyone back! We hope everyone had an awesome summer and we are excited to get this year going!

Team 8A sent out an email to learners and families at the start of the year. You should have received an email from Catherine Myers with important team and school information. If you did not receive this email or have any questions please email Mrs. Myers at [Catherine\\_Myers@wasdpa.org](mailto:Catherine_Myers@wasdpa.org). All learners and families are invited to join the team Remind app to get updates about homework and other school announcements. Please email Catherine Myers if you would like more information about this app or any other WAMS questions. Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Tester, Mrs. Duffey, and Mrs. Eskridge are looking forward to working with you this year.

Team 8B is off to an awesome start for the 23-24 school year. You should have received a welcome back email from Miss Hodge with some updates on the team. If you do not receive this email please reach out so I can ensure we have the correct email address ([sarah\\_hodge@wasdpa.org](mailto:sarah_hodge@wasdpa.org)). Team 8B utilizes the [Remind App](#). Please use the following [link](#) to sign up if you haven't already. Team 8B teachers are Sarah Hodge (Science & Team Leader), Beth Coleman (Pre-Algebra), Kirsten Pfannebecker (ELA), and Jessica Pauselius (American Cultures). Please reach out with any questions or concerns. Have a fantastic day!



On Team 8C, it has been a pleasure meeting and getting to know our learners for the 2022-'23 school year. We have had a wonderful first week of school, and couldn't be more excited to see your child grow and thrive in 8th grade! An informational message was sent via email during the first week of school that detailed contacts and expectations. If you did not receive this message, make sure to reach out and update your contact information. We look forward to an awesome school year!

Team 8D is anticipating a wonderful 2023-2024 school year. We encourage parents and guardians to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. You should have received an email from Mrs. Spielman with contact information. If you did not receive this email, please double-check that your contact information in Sapphire is up to date.

Related Arts - We are excited to be back!

Special Education - We are excited to be back to school and working with your learner. Listed below are the Special Education teachers who work with each grade level. Some teachers work with multiple grade levels.

Kerri Ribarchik - 6th grade Learning Support  
Daniel Lattimore - 6th-grade Learning Support  
Jessica Bryan - 7th-grade Learning Support  
Derek Becker - 7th-grade Learning Support  
Holly Hess - 8th-grade Learning Support  
Eric Krinks - 8th-grade Learning Support  
Samantha Hepler - 6th - 8th Emotional Support  
Pam Smith - 6th - 8th Life Skills  
Briann Roland - 6th - 8th Autistic Support

## ***Dress Code!***

The Waynesboro Area School District has a dress code that is enforced every day! If you have not had a chance to read the district Dress Code please do so [HERE!](#)

Students who are sent to the office for dress code will have the opportunity to change if they have alternative clothes, may choose from extra clothing items we have available in the nurse's office (all laundered after each use), or may call home for additional clothing items to be brought into school.

## ***Bullying....***

Bullying is **NOT tolerated** in the Middle School or in the District! If you suspect bullying in any way please alert school staff **immediately!** It is extremely important that students report bullying and other inappropriate interactions as quickly as possible. **We as school staff and officials will be unable to help or address the issue if we don't know it's happening!**

If cyber-bullying or bullying in general is occurring off of school grounds or after school hours my recommendation is to call the Boro Police, Washington Township Police, or PA State Police depending on where you live or where the incident occurred. ***After calling the police please let school staff know about the incident so we can take proactive measures here in the building.*** In case of cyberbullying, I also recommend taking screenshots, pictures, or videos of the incident on social media to give to the police.

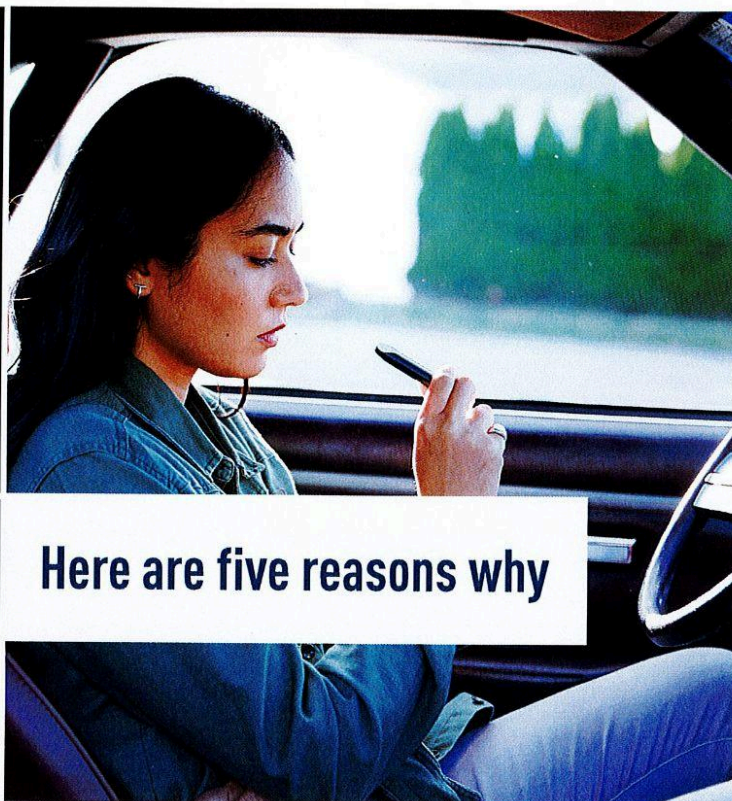
The district policy regarding bullying can be accessed [HERE](#).



FDA

# VAPING

**HARMS YOUR HEALTH**



**Here are five reasons why**



**Most vapes contain nicotine, the same highly addictive chemical in cigarettes.**



**Vapes can contain as much nicotine as a whole pack of cigarettes.**



**Teens are at greater risk for nicotine addiction because their brains are still developing.**



**Vapes can contain chemicals, such as formaldehyde, that can cause cancer.**



**Teens who vape are more likely to start smoking cigarettes.**

Watch videos and get more info at  
[fda.gov/youthvapingresources](https://www.fda.gov/youthvapingresources)



CTP-242

# Cell Phone Policy!

Cell Phones are **NOT** permitted to be used during the school day! Students are encouraged not to bring cell phones to school at all! If your students decide to bring a cell phone, it is advised to keep the phone off and put it away in their locker or book bag. If the student chooses to keep the phone on them, it must be off and not visible at all times! If the student is caught using their phone FOR ANY REASON during the school day the phone will be confiscated and consequences are issued. Please note: this includes calling because the student is sick! If a student is sick, they should go to the nurse immediately to receive treatment! Students may then call from the nurse's office. Remember; **OFF** and **AWAY!**

Please note: this includes AirPods, earbuds, smartwatches, and other devices/technology! AirPods/earbuds are permitted at the teacher's discretion to connect only to the Chromebook for instructional purposes. The District is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of phones or personal devices.

## Vaping - An ongoing nationwide problem for schools...

WAMS administration handles many incidents where a learner was found to be in possession of one an e-cigarette, also known as a vape; although I am sad to say that there were probably many more that the administration did not catch or were not aware of. The graphic below illustrates some of the different types of e-cigarettes on the



market.

From: [breathepa.org](http://breathepa.org)

According to the [Breath, Pennsylvania](http://Breath.Pennsylvania) website:

- Nicotine levels may be much higher in e-cigarettes than in cigarettes.
- E-cigarette cartridges contain many harmful ingredients, including heavy metals and chemicals linked to lung disease.
- E-cigarette devices can explode, causing burns and projectile injuries.

There definitely is a trend for students to engage in vaping while in the restrooms. We encourage learners to keep themselves out of such a situation and report it if seen. Learners found in such a situation are subject to their personal items being searched. Learners found in possession of vape or vape cartridges will receive a day of in-school suspension and a non-traffic citation from WASD Police. (Possession of e-cigarettes on school property by anyone is against the law in Pennsylvania.) Fines and court costs for the first offense are around \$150.

Some vapes, like #8, are compatible with cartridges that contain THC, one of the chemicals in marijuana. Vapes will be tested by WASD Police. Possession of a vape that tests positive for THC is a violation of WASD Policy 227 regarding controlled substances/paraphernalia. Learners will be suspended from school for 10 days, be required to attend an informal hearing before the disciplinary committee of the school board, and will likely face additional consequences (exclusion from WASD events, sports, activities, and educational reassignment for a period of time).

**Bottom line: Please help us keep e-cigarettes out of our school by talking to your child about vaping and periodically checking their bookbag!!!**



## IMPORTANT Safety Info for Families

Several WASD Board policies reference the use of prescription medications and the use/possession of drugs or alcohol on school property.

- **POLICY 210 - Medications**

*All prescription and over-the-counter medications MUST be kept in the school nurse's office at all times unless medical documentation is on file for the learner to self carry. Common examples include inhalers and epipens. Please contact our school nurse, Mrs. Torey Kauffman ([Torey\\_Kauffman@wasdpa.org](mailto:Torey_Kauffman@wasdpa.org)) with any questions.*

- **POLICY 222 - Tobacco and Vaping Products**

*All tobacco products and vaping products are prohibited on school property and on school-sponsored events. Learners found to be in possession of tobacco and/or vaping products are subject to disciplinary consequences and referral for prosecution.*

- **POLICY 227 - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia**

*Controlled substances, look-alike drugs, and paraphernalia are prohibited on school property and on school-sponsored events. "Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution."*

*Please review these policies and talk to your child about the **importance of keeping these illegal substances out of our schools.***

## Lunch Policy 2022-2023

**For the latest and most up-to-date information regarding district food services please go [HERE!](#)**

Free Breakfast is in effect this school year! Parents who elect to have their students eat lunch will need to pay for lunches or complete the appropriate free and reduced lunch forms. Please visit [Free and Reduced Lunch Benefits](#) to visit the district free and reduced lunch form and information.

**Meal Prices are set each year. Meal Prices for the 2023-2024 school year are as follows:**

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Elementary Breakfast | <del>\$1.80</del> Free |
| Elementary Lunch     | \$2.80                 |
| Secondary Breakfast  | <del>\$1.90</del> Free |
| Secondary Lunch      | \$2.95                 |
| Reduced Breakfast    | <del>.30¢</del> Free   |
| Reduced Lunch        | <del>.40¢</del> Free   |
| Adult Breakfast      | A la Carte             |
| Adult Lunch          | \$4.30                 |

|      |      |
|------|------|
| Milk | .60¢ |
|------|------|

**Monthly menus are available to view [here](#).** This site will be updated once the school year begins!

**For the latest and most up-to-date information regarding district food services please go [HERE!](#)**

## 6th Grade Orientation Video

Each year we receive a number of really good questions regarding entering 6th grade, general building logistics, and other relevant questions. Each year the WAMS Administrative team releases a video discussing the many commonly asked questions and reviewing much of the general information of the building and school day. I have received a lot of positive reviews from parents and guardians indicating the video is helpful and worth watching! This year's video came out to a total of 40 minutes worth of information! Please watch at your own convenience!

### [2023-24 6th Grade Orientation Video](#)

### [Students of the Month](#)

*Students of the month are commended for exemplifying the characteristics we hope to see in all of our learners - Respect, Kindness, Hard Work, and a Positive Attitude. Learners are selected based on nominations by the WASHS teaching staff.*

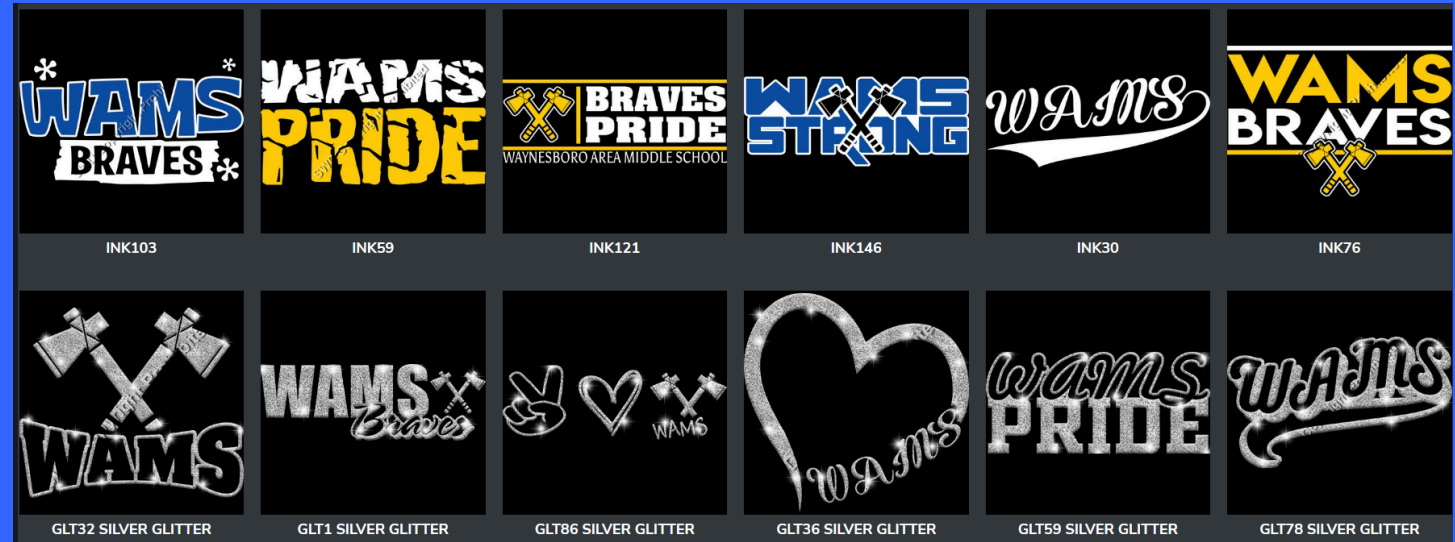
**Each Month WAMS will recognize the WAMS Students of the Month in this section of the Newsletter! Each grade level WAMS team and Related Arts staff will select a student of the month. The selected Students of the Month will receive a yard sign to proudly display for the community to see during their selected month! WAMS administrators will deliver the sign at the beginning of the month, and pick the sign up at the end of the month. In addition to the sign, students will receive a letter of recognition and other tokens of appreciation.**

## WAMS SUMMER RUNNING

**The WAMS Boy's & Girl's Cross Country teams have been working hard in the "off-season" this summer. On June 14th, members of the team started a summer running challenge. Runners set goals of reaching 50, 75 Or 100 miles before the official season begins on August 16th. Many have exceeded their original goals and several have already logged over 100 miles this summer! Official practices begin on Tuesday, August 16th and the team will open their season on their home course against Shippensburg Middle School on Wednesday, September 7th. Anyone who is interested in joining the team can reach out to Coach Fuss for more information.**

## We've Got Spirit! How About You?

This year WAMS has its own spirit wear store! Learners and family members can order WAMS pride t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and more! The store will be open throughout the year and is available at [www.waynesborospiritwear.com](http://www.waynesborospiritwear.com). Various discounts will be offered throughout the year. PLEASE NOTE: To kick off the school year, there will be a two-week free shipping window from 8/26/22 through 9/12/22! Orders throughout the year have free shipping with a total of \$50 or more. Choose from 6 regular and 6 glitter designs, and show your WAMS pride!



## WAMS Safety and Security with Officer Matthews

Officer Matthews is a full-time staff member at the Middle School and will be all around the building interacting with students, helping supervise lunches, hallways, bathrooms, arrival, dismissal, etc. This section of the newsletter will provide monthly updates and tips regarding safety, security, and other important issues related to the District Police.

Officer Matthews is a lifelong resident of Waynesboro, with 3 children and 3 grandchildren who live locally. He has 30 years of experience as a police officer. This experience includes serving as a police officer for the federal government, state level, and local level in Franklin County. Officer Matthews was a First Responder to the 9/11 terror attack on the Pentagon, as well as having served as a DC Sniper task force member. Other experience includes serving as Chief executive officer and anti-terrorism officer position for the Federal Government. Officer Matthews holds various degrees including Law Enforcement through Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Carroll County Community College, Hartford County Community College, and Leadership Development and Executive service at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. His interests include Waynesboro and Civil War History! We are beyond excited to welcome him to our staff!



As this school year begins, always remain aware of your surroundings. While walking to and from school, around the schools, and parking lots stay alert. **"We have a lot of learners, but none to spare- always be aware!"**



**WALK THIS WAY**  **PennDOT.gov**

**Pedestrian Safety Tips**

|                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br><b>Unplug</b><br>Don't be a distracted walker. | <br><b>Make eye contact</b><br>Don't walk until traffic stops. | <br><b>Be bright</b><br>Wear reflective clothing at night. | <br><b>Never Jaywalk</b><br>Use crosswalks and intersections. | <br><b>Stay Alert</b><br>All the way across the intersection. | <br><b>Watch for turning</b><br>Vehicles of all kinds. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

 **pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Library Corner



Welcome back to school and the WAMS Library! There are thousands of great books, 3D printers, a recording studio, and Makerspace stations waiting for our students. I'm so excited that we will be adding Virtual Reality experiences to the Media curriculum this year. Students have 24/7 access to hundreds of ebooks and audiobooks along with our databases in MackinVia.

Both MackinVia and our library catalog, Destiny Library, can be accessed in Clever on the students' Chromebooks. Check out our [library portal](#) for access to additional library resources.  
WAMS Librarian - holly\_witmer@wasdpa.org

## School Nurse

**6th Grade Physicals** The Pennsylvania School Health Act requires a physical examination for each 6th-grade student. It is recommended this examination be completed by your family physician, since he or she can best evaluate your child's health needs and assist with any necessary treatments and immunizations.

The physical form can be found [HERE](#) on the school district's website or requested from the school nurse. A physical completed 1 year prior to the start of the upcoming school year can be used. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse.

Please visit the District Nurse's page [HERE](#)

### Admin Contacts

Mr. Eric DeAngelis, Building Principal  
[eric\\_deangelis@wasdpa.org](mailto:eric_deangelis@wasdpa.org)  
717-762-1191 x1301

Mr. Mark Klink, Assistant Principal  
[mark\\_klink@wasdpa.org](mailto:mark_klink@wasdpa.org)  
717-762-1191 x1302

Mr. Ben Newhard, Assistant Principal  
[ben\\_newhard@wasdpa.org](mailto:ben_newhard@wasdpa.org)  
717-762-1191 x 1303

Ms. Mary Fleagle, Attendance Secretary  
[mary\\_fleagle@wasdpa.org](mailto:mary_fleagle@wasdpa.org)

Mrs. Beth Rock, Secretary  
[beth\\_rock@wasdpa.org](mailto:beth_rock@wasdpa.org)

Mrs. Cinnamon Singrey, Receptionist  
[cinnamon\\_singrey@wasdpa.org](mailto:cinnamon_singrey@wasdpa.org)



It's Everything WASD,  
in your pocket.

Cafeteria Menus · Events · Staff Directory · Alerts · Athletics



### School Counseling Contacts

Ms. Kelsie Weaver, 6th Grade Counselor  
[Kelsie\\_weaver@wasdpa.org](mailto:Kelsie_weaver@wasdpa.org)  
717-76-1191 x1314

Mrs. Collette Rooney, 7th Grade Counselor  
[collette\\_rooney@wasdpa.org](mailto:collette_rooney@wasdpa.org)  
717-762-1191 x1313

Ms. Diana Carey, 8th Grade Counselor  
[diana\\_carey@wasdpa.org](mailto:diana_carey@wasdpa.org)  
717-762-1191 x1311

In case you missed our other newsletters, please see below!

[WAMS Newsletter - July 2023](#)