

# WORTHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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### WMS News

Hello, WMS Families and Friends,  
This is the strangest finish to a school year ever! It is so disappointing not seeing one another at school every day. Staying apart must be helping though, as the illnesses do not seem to be students or staff from our school district. It is refreshing to Zoom into classes and meetings and talk to people in a completely new way, and sometimes we get to see their messy bedrooms.

There is no school for students May 1 and May 4; these will be workdays for teachers to make plans to finish out the school year doing Distance Learning. Mid-term reports will come out next week, it sounds like some

of you will be receiving long lists of missing work. That is disappointing as teachers are making an effort to ask for quality work, not quantities of work. Make sure your child is doing their part.

Sometime in May we will invite students in to clean out their lockers.

May 29- WHS Graduation parade around town, go outside and cheer them on!

June 1- Turn-it-in day for the whole district at Prairie Elementary: iPads, paper homework, and library books (watch for details)

Summer School? Who knows? We are working on some ideas and we will let you know what we come up with.

Enjoy the weather, maybe this is



a year to grow a garden and put your kids in charge!! Do not hesitate to call us if you need anything, someone is in the office every day and the rest of us are working from home.

Hang in there; we are all in this together!

Mr. Luke

Check out the  
ISD 518 website:  
[www.isd518.net](http://www.isd518.net),  
Worthington Public  
Schools on Facebook,  
and Follow us on In-  
stagram & Twitter  
Worthington ISD518



## 6th Grade News

Way to go 6<sup>th</sup> Graders! We are so proud of your positive attitudes and amazing effort! You jumped into distance learning and continue to amaze us. Keep it up!

Parents, we know this distance learning time is not ideal... trust us when we say we would LOVE to be back in our classrooms and working with our students face-to-face physically rather than virtually. Every home has a different routine, and we understand that. Even within our own homes, we have to make changes and get creatively flexible. All you need to do is call or email. Let's repeat that: All you need to do is call or email. Let us know how things are going for you as parents. When we ask our 6<sup>th</sup> graders, we often get "fine" or "I don't like it", but that is about it. It's crazy trying to keep connected with more than 100 students when they don't want to Zoom, or they don't respond to Schoology messages. They simply don't know how to express their feelings. Please be our eyes and ears. If your student is overwhelmed, reach out to us so we can work together. If you question if a student is getting work done, send a note to the advisory teacher. We can problem solve together!

Advisory: Some of our students are fearful and ashamed if their family is directly affected by the virus. Please know this not something to be judged by... anyone can get it, and we are concerned for your health. Let the advisory teacher know privately if your family is directly affected by the virus, so we can make adjustments to expectations until your family is ready. We have been trying to use advisory as a time each morning to check in with students individually and as a whole. We would love to have our students there so we can see them, connect with them, and help them. Some mornings are just a quick check in, some mornings cover missing work, and some involve activities to bring a little joy/fun. Assistance: Students and parents: **we need some pictures!** Please email your advisory teacher any good quality pictures you have from events this school year. These can be ones from classroom activities, band/choir/orchestra concerts, sports events, etc. We need pictures for the yearbook and maybe one other little project we like to do at the end of the year. The sooner we can get them, the better! Thanks in advance!

Field Trip: With the announcement of the school year continuing with the distance learning and not re-entering the classrooms, we must also announce that our 6<sup>th</sup> grade Field Trip to St. Paul is cancelled.

We are working on getting things in place for a virtual field trip. We can still have fun and still tour some amazing places- we just have to be creative and do it in a different way. Stay tuned for details! One Last Request: Get outside. Find a place in the sun away from others and just sit in the sun- soak it up. Put a blanket on the grass and stretch out. Watch the bugs and wildlife. The sun is necessary for immune system support and helping with our mental health- happiness and sunshine does wonders for the human body. As long as you stay 6 feet away from others not living with you, you can be outside.

Missing our 6<sup>th</sup> graders,  
Team 6A and 6B teachers



## Spelling & History Bee News

Many talented WMS students have participated in our academic bees this school year. Regrettably, some of the competitions students have qualified for will not be held. The National Science and History Bees, for example, as well as the SW MN Spelling Bee will not be taking place. We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the students who have participated and excelled in our school's 2019-2020 bees. Congratulations students!

### WMS National Geographic Bee Winners:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Emanuel Saravia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lauryn Ahlers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Austin Kinser

### SWWC Spelling Bee Participants:

Isaac Kinser, Ayana Leovan, and Alex Reum

### WMS 5th and 6th Grade Spelling Bee:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Thomas Anguiano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Austin Kinser, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ayana Leovan, 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Daelen Sithad, 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Cassie Schulz, 6<sup>th</sup> Place: Gwieth Okok

### 2020 National Science Bee Qualifiers:

**5th grade** - Emily Dahlquist, Nadia Gebremariam, Jackson Jeffers

**6th grade** - Brittney Chavez Raya, Angela Dailey, Jackson Fouch, Austin Kinser, Karlie Lowe, Christina Mireles, Raegan Phelps, Timothy Souwankham, Jose Sierra Perez, Daelen Sithad, Yobany Winch

**7th grade** - Isaac Kinser, Alexis Reum, Cutter Jacobs, Emanuel Saravia, Quin Mathis, Lauryn Ahlers, Kaw Blay, Wyatt Adolph, Yeyint Khing, Dwayne Bouakham

**8th grade** - Ryan Lais, Kendra Chantharath, Benjamin Schreiber, Lance Gordon, Katherine Lopez, Randy Garcia, Elli Canil, Samantha Cortez, Dee Sin, Anaka Wede

### 2020 Regional History Bee Qualifiers:

Lauryn Ahlers, Kyle Ahrenstorff, Quinn Benz, Kendyl Blanchette, Kaw Blay, David Dominguez, Mary Dykema, Hugo Garcia, Brandt Joens, Natya Khamphanh, Austin Kinser, Isaac Kinser, Ayana Leovan, Claire Mahlberg, Victor Mendoza, Paulina Osorio Toj, Marjorie Pineda Gamez, Diego Ramos, Alejandro Rodriguez, Dylan Schuett, Dee Sin, Jacari Swinea, Anthony Towns, Caden Van Briesen



### Music Corner for May 2020:

Greetings from the WMS music staff: Mr. Andersen, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Paulsen, Ms. Rukstales, Mrs. Jenson

Thank you for a great year with your child in band, choir, and orchestra. We feel badly for students with the way the school year is ending.

#### **POSTPONED BAND CAMP for grades 6, 7 & 8:**

WMS 6 thru 8 Grade Band Camp for June has been postponed due to COVID-19.

Plans are to move band camp to August 3-14 (AM). The Valleyfair is still in the process of being rescheduled (depends on Valleyfair opening this summer).

**August 3-14:** Incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade Band Camp

**August 3-14:** Incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra Camp

**August 3-14:** 6 thru 8 grade Orchestra Camp will follow 6 thru 8 band camp.

Dear Worthington Middle School Music Students and Parents,

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, it is with great sadness that we are cancelling 5-8 Band Concert (April 20th), 6-8 Choir Concerts (May 7th & 8th), the 6-8 Orchestra Concert (May 15th), and the 4-5 Orchestra Concert (May 12th). This decision is being made using the CDC guidelines to ensure the safety and health of our students and community members.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these difficult times,

WMS Administration and Music Staff

### 5th Grade News

It's already the last month of school! You have a few more weeks to finish strong! We miss seeing all of our 5<sup>th</sup> graders! Your 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers hope you are all staying healthy. Continue to check Schoology for your assignments. Even though you cannot see your teachers in person, know that we are here for you! We want you to learn and we can help answer any questions!

*Student handbook is located on school website and also on your student's iPad! Please take a moment to read.*

