

November 2018

West Deptford Middle School

675 Grove Road, West Deptford, NJ 08066

www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us : 856-848-1200

STAFF VS STUDENTS SOCCER GAME

Our fourth annual STAFF VS STUDENTS SOCCER GAME was held on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at West Deptford Park. Thanks to the hard work and support of our WDMS community, we were able to raise \$1701 to help support the West Deptford Police Athletic League (PAL).

As you may know, the West Deptford Police Department is actively involved in providing various enrichment programs for students in our community. The West Deptford Police Athletic League (PAL) is a non-profit organization, which relies heavily on donations and sponsorships. WD PAL supports many programs that benefit our students such as the Spookypalooza, National Night Out, Fifth Grade LEAD Program, Junior Police Academy, Punt-Pass-Kick Competition, Hooked on Fishing and more! West Deptford Middle School wants to assist WD PAL in continuing these valuable programs that positively impact our students.

On a cold night under the lights, you could feel the excitement as members of the WDMS staff, Officers from the WD Police Department and WDMS students took the field. In a hard fought, highly competitive game, it was the team of WDMS staff and WD police who ultimately came out on top with a 2-1 win over the students! Great job to all who participated!

NEW BATHROOM ARTWORK



8th grade

7th grade

6th grade

5th grade

There is power in positive affirmations and statements that describe a desired goal. With repetition, students can be motivated and inspired to see those goals come to fruition. WDMS is committed to prevention efforts in all shapes and sizes! We are always willing to use creative ways to remind our students that they are special, unique, capable of anything and that they can and will change our world!

Our inspirational/positive affirmation poster campaign is one way we are reinforcing this belief. Each student bathroom in the building has poster-sized stickers mounted as daily reminders of their potential and greatness. The students voted for the quotes they liked the most and those were hung in their wing's lavatory.



Upcoming Events

November 1

7th/8th grade Flag Football
Tourney 3-4:30pm

November 6

PTO Mtg-6:30pm WDMS library

November 7

Q1 report cards distributed- via
School Messenger

November 7-9

School closed for students

November 14

Winter sport physicals due

November 15-21

PTO Book Fair in WDMS library

November 16

Principal's List Ice Cream Party

November 16, 19, 20

Girls' basketball tryouts

November 21

Early Dismissal-12:29pm

November 22-23

School closed-Thanksgiving holiday

November 26, 28, 30

Boys' basketball tryouts

November 26

Wrestling practice begins

November 28

PTO Wendy's night 5-8 pm



CONFERENCES: December 10 - 13

Over the past several years, parents have shared their concerns regarding Parent/Teacher conferences for students in Grade 6-8. Specifically, parents have indicated they would prefer to meet with the teacher(s) of the subject(s) they are having difficulty instead of the randomness of meeting with their child's period 2 teacher. In addition, parents of students doing well in all subjects would have preferred no conference at all.

With this in mind, we will once again offer Parent/Teacher Conferences on an "as-needed" basis for students in grades 6-8 that have been identified by their teachers as needing a conference to discuss academic and/or behavioral concerns. Parents of students who are not identified as needing a conference may contact their child's guidance counselor at any time during the year to schedule a teacher meeting or may request to be on a waiting list should conference times allow.

Grade 5 conferences will remain student-led with each parent and student having a conference.

All Special Area teachers will be available at a designated location for any parent that is interested in discussing content pertinent to their class.

More information regarding Parent/Teacher conferences and sign-up will be provided in the beginning of November.

ATTENDANCE

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school and select option "2". If your child will be leaving early, please provide the main office with a note on that day.

New Jersey Law and West Deptford Board of Education policy require that every student attend school regularly. Please note: All students must be in school a minimum of 4 hours for them to be considered present. This applies to both half days and full days of school. *Vacations are considered unexcused absences.*

On full days, students must arrive by 10:37 AM to receive credit for the day. Students leaving before 11:55 AM will be recorded as absent. Students who are absent are allowed one day for each day's absence to make up assignments missed. Upon returning to class, students must determine from their teachers any work to be made up. When a student fails to complete the work missed during any absence, he/she receives a zero for those assignments. A complete version of the WDMS attendance policy can be found on the middle school website under "For Students".

STUDENT DROP OFF/PICK-UP

The school day for students officially begins at 7:45am. Students must be in homeroom by 7:55 am or they will be marked late. For your convenience, the doors will be open at 7:30am for students that wish to arrive early. These students will report directly to the cafeteria until 7:45am. Any student arriving before 7:30am will be left unsupervised and outside (in possible inclement weather) until 7:30am.

Although we realize emergencies do occur, if you know in advanced that you will need to pick your child up early, we ask that a note be sent in with your child the morning of the day he/she will be leaving early. Your child will then be given a pass to show his/her teacher at the indicated dismissal time. Without the parent note informing us of an early pick-up, no students will be called out of class until the parent arrives in the main office and proof of identification has been given. A parent phone call requesting the student to meet them in the main office for pick-up is not an option.

FROM THE WDMS HEALTH OFFICE

It's cold and flu season! Below are some helpful tips for keeping your child healthy during the school year.

- ✓ Frequent handwashing is one of the simplest-most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. The Mayo clinic suggests soaping up for as long as it takes to sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer
- ✓ Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- ✓ Keep hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth
- ✓ Stay current on all childhood vaccines including the flu shot

Students should stay home from school for at least 24 hours if they have:

- ✓ A fever of 100 degrees or more
- ✓ Chills
- ✓ Sore throat or cough
- ✓ Diarrhea or vomiting

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!

Yearbook orders will be accepted now through January 30th. You can place your order in school or online. To order online go to www.balfour.com and enter our school name. Orders will be accepted in school every Friday during homeroom in Mrs. Ward's room E11. In school orders must be placed in person, not in staff mailboxes. Yearbooks cost \$42 and can be purchased with cash or check. Please make checks payable to WDMS.

STAYING CONNECTED AT WDMS

It is important to stay on top of your student's grades, attendance, and school events. PowerParent provides access to all of this information. Please register for a PowerParent account in the main office (if you do not already have a PowerParent login). In addition, our school website is a great resource to help you stay up-to-date. Almost every piece of vital information, from either the staff or main office, is posted on the WDMS website. In addition, you can stay connected with WDMS via our Official Facebook and Twitter pages.

WDMS ATHLETICS

Individual sport schedules and coach contact information are available on the WDMS website under the Athletic tab. Athletic late buses depart WDMS at approximately 4:30pm. Students may not stay after school without teacher supervision. If attending a sporting event as a spectator, students must leave and return at the beginning of the event. *In the event an athletic event is postponed or canceled at the last minute, a "Remind" message will be sent from our Athletic Coordinator, the team Coach and a message will be posted in red at the top of the WDMS website.* If interested in receiving Remind texts regarding the WDMS Athletics, please text @wdmsath to 81010 to sign up for Remind Text from our Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Jakubowski.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

No child will be permitted to ride on other buses for any reason. Students can only ride the bus assigned to them. If you have a one-day childcare issue, the person watching your child should pick them up at the school. No students will be permitted to switch between buses.

Students will NOT be given permission by WDMS administration to walk to any other location except home. (i.e. ice cream stand, pizza place or a friends)

For additional transportation information, please visit our district website at:

http://www.wdeptford.k12.nj.us/district_info/transportation

LATE BUSES

Late buses are every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Late buses depart at 3:45pm. Late bus runs are typically longer as there are only five late buses covering a larger area. Students may not stay after school unless a teacher supervises them. If attending a sporting event as a spectator, students must leave and return at the beginning of the event.

PTO NEWS - NOVEMBER 2018

- 6 - PTO Meeting 6:30
- 14 - Book Fair Set-up
- 15 - Book Fair begins
 - Book Fair Family Night 3pm-8pm
 - P/U Claire's Gourmet orders 3pm-8pm
 - P/U Spiritwear orders 3pm-8pm
- 21 - Last Day Book Fair
- 28 - Wendy's 5pm-8pm

STUDENT COUNCIL: SCHOOL STORE

The WDMS Student Council School Store visits each grade level one day per month during homeroom. Various school supplies are sold including pencils, pens, earbuds, stylus pens, erasers, notepads, and more! In an effort to promote hydration and the use of our water bottle filling stations, the school store also sells WDMS water bottles. Click [here](#) to see the November sale details.

ITEM DROP OFF

Please understand that the WDMS Main Office is a busy location as it is the hub of our school. In the event your child left an item at home and a parent brings it to school, you will be asked to sign the item in when it is dropped off. We will do our best to notify your student that the item has been dropped off.