



WARMAN COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

September 2013

Message from the WCMS Administration

Welcome to Warman Community Middle School. It was so very exciting to have students attend for the first day on Tuesday, September 3. August was an extremely busy month with construction and building readiness going at breakneck speed. A big thank you to our general contractors Wright Construction and their subsidiaries for their commitment to our project and our students. Also a big bouquet of recognition to our school staff who only had a handful of days at the end of August to move into the school and prepare for students. WCMS staff has been going the extra mile for students. Work to our school will be continuing into the fall in ways that do not interfere with our educational program. Thank you all for your kind words and support during this exciting time. Careful planning has gone into the development of our school, but there are many details to sort out in the coming months. We appreciate your patience, support and any assistance you can provide as we work to make WCMS the best it can be.

Welcome to Our Newsletters

We plan to publish a school newsletter once a month (usually at the end of the first week) to help keep everyone in the loop about what is happening at WCMS. The newsletter will be emailed to the WCMS families for whom we have an email address and placed on our school blog. Paper copies can also be obtained at our school office. Please remember to check our school blog site (blogs.spiritsd.ca/WCMS) as your best source for up to date news and information.

School Access Plan

We have been monitoring the safe and efficient flow of students to and from our school and the Legends Centre facility. Overall, things have gone smoothly in the first days, but would ask that you review the following and discuss with your children as needed.

1. A reminder that students should not arrive at school before 8:45am.
2. Students riding bikes, skateboards and scooters to school are asked to park them upon arrival. School staff and Legends staff have had to remind some students about not biking, skateboarding, etc. in the Legends Centre parking lot adjacent to bussing lanes. School and city staff ask that students not be biking or skateboarding in the parking



WARMAN COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

lot at lunch time whether they have permission to be off campus or not. This is a hazard for the students and our bus drivers.

3. Parents picking up/dropping off students are asked to do so on Gowan Road or areas to the west of the school. Please do not make arrangements to have your student meet/find you in the Legends Centre parking lot. Students darting between buses and wandering around in the Legends Centre parking lot are putting themselves in a hazardous situation.
4. Students have generally been doing a good job of using pathways through the park, using sidewalks and crosswalks. We are appreciative to the City of Warman for improvements they have made to signage and zoning along Centennial Blvd. Our staff has been monitoring the intersection of Centennial and Clubhouse and will continue to do so in the coming weeks. We are also appreciative of RCMP and City of Warman Bylaw Enforcement for assisting us in monitoring this area. We ask for parent/guardian assistance in reviewing pedestrian safety with your children.

Thank you Mr. Shiels

We were honoured to have former WES teacher and well-known local photographer Wayne Shiels be with us on our first day to capture the moment with many wonderful photographs. Thank you Mr. Shiels.

Noon Hour Supervision Positions Available

We have several paid positions available for noon hour supervisors at WCMS. Noon break is from 12:33-1:23pm each day. Positions are flexible from every day to specific days per week. Interested applicants must submit to a criminal record check. For more information, contact Lisa Mason at WCMS.

Circle of Power and Respect

One of the things we are excited about offering at WCMS to meet the needs of our preadolescent and adolescent students is a start to the day with a homeroom morning meeting. We will be using a resource recommended by the Association for Middle Level Education called CPR – Circle of Power & Respect. This will be a significant learning process for us this year, but we are excited about the potential this start to each day will have for the support and growth of students' social-emotional needs. More information on this program can be found on the attached, Developmental Designs – An Introduction for Families, and on the link contained within.



WARMAN COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Extracurricular

The first week of school has seen many activities starting or getting organized. Currently there is cross-country (gr.4-7), soccer (gr.6), and drama and music opportunities underway. (Note that gr.7-9 CVAC soccer has been moved to a spring season this year). Volleyball (gr.7) will also be starting shortly. Make sure you get involved!

School Picture Day

Please note that our school picture day has been changed from September 18 to Wednesday, September 25.

Special Education

We, Atina Ford Johnston (Grades 4-5) and Linda Balon-Smith (Grades 6-7), would like to introduce ourselves as the Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT) and welcome your children to our wonderful school. As parents or guardians, please ensure that your child has had a recent hearing and eyesight check up. Sometimes learning challenges are a result of poor eyesight or hearing which can be easily supported with glasses or an FM system (available in the classroom). If you have any questions regarding your child's learning challenges or supports, please call the school at 306-683-3000. We look forward to working with you and your children this year.

Cross Country

The WCMC Cross Country Track Team is already up and "running"! Practices take place Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:33 pm. We meet outside of the A wing entrance (facing Gowan Road). Students will eat in their classrooms following their run. Participants need to wear proper footwear to practice i.e. no flip flops, Dawgs, etc. Attendance at practice is crucial, as our first meet is on September 16. We are excited to see all the interest in running and we are looking forward to another fun and successful cross country season.

Warman Community Library Update

Hello from Warman Community Library! Although we are not yet up and running, we are looking forward to having students access books in the upcoming weeks. We are also looking forward to becoming a joint-facility with the Wheatland Regional Library in late October or early November.

For now, we are asking that all students obtain a Wheatland Regional Library card to access the library. We have sent forms home with each student, and are asking that they be returned as soon as possible. If your child already has their own library card, simply fill in their name and library barcode number and sign the section that grants us permission to keep a copy of their card on



WARMAN COMMUNITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

file (so they don't need to bring their card to school every day). If your child does not have a card, please fill in the complete form. Eventually, the Wheatland Library staff will need to confirm proof of address with parent ID. We will hope to get this done on student-parent-teacher interview night in November, and more information will be sent out at that time.

As the teacher-librarian, I look forward to getting to know students through working in classrooms and through visits to the library. I also plan to run book clubs and library clubs once our facilities allow for it! Stay tuned for more updates as things change at a very rapid pace!