

OCTOBER MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Primary – written by Principal, Lori Casey

- Curriculum Nights were held on September 26th and 27th. The turnout was very good and teachers received many positive comments. Teachers communicated to their parents about his or her own instructional strategies and teaching styles.
- The Primary staff wore pink and jeans on Lee National Denim Day on October 2nd and raised \$331 for Breast Cancer Research.
- The Kindergarten Plus program began on October 20, 2008 with 25 students. The Kindergarten plus program assists those students who need additional assistance in kindergarten to be successful. A second session will open on December 1st.
- The Primary school held a disaster drill (for the AM class) and a Code Yellow lockdown (for the PM class) on October 17 with the Lake County Sheriff and the Gurnee Police Department.
- The Primary Playground received another facelift for the students. For his Eagle Scout Project Warren High School Student Spencer Carver facilitated blacktop painting on the Primary Playground. The Playground Committee drew up blue prints, ordered stencils and paint. Spencer and his crew spent the weekend of October 25 drawing a huge clock, hopscotch, footprint paths and other fun colorful educational paintings for the students to enjoy.
- According to state law, school age children must have a complete physical with immunizations up to date by October 15th each year. After review of student files, all were compliant by the October 15th deadline.

Elementary – written by Principals, Dr. Ken Hyllberg and Ann Goldbach

- All first and second grade students who scored in the bottom 35 percentile or below on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment have been screened using the Assessing Math Concepts. Students may receive additional math support depending on the outcomes of the assessment. The assessment aligns with concepts and skills taught in the math curriculum. This is also an important screening tool that helps with the implementation of Response to Intervention.
- Stop, Drop and Read was this month's theme to engage students in books and increase the love of reading. The Reading Incentive Committee sponsored this event and has two goals: develop stronger home school connections and encourage students' love of reading at home and at school.
- Raise the Roof! attendance incentive campaign is under way at the Elementary East and West schools to energize and motivate students to come to school during the last week in October. If Elementary places in the top five schools in Lake County for attendance, both principals will sit on the roof of the school and wave to students as they arrive in the morning. The date for this will be determined as weather permits. Flyers were sent home and a Special Delivery was sent out communicating this attendance incentive to parents and students.
- Firemen from the Gurnee Fire Department visited students in October for Fire Safety Month. Students learned about stop, drop and roll and the importance of smoke detectors. The fireman shared the equipment they use to stay safe and put out fires.
- The Elementary Playground Committee is reviewing designs to consider handicap accessibility, use of multiple muscle groups and identify age-appropriate pieces of equipment. Fundraising events have yielded about \$2,200. The next two fundraisers in November and December are scheduled at Jewel.

Intermediate – by Principal, Dr. Kent Ashton

- The Intermediate School has put a renewed emphasis on student goal setting this year. To support our teachers and students, the administrative team has committed to having individual goal conferences twice this year, fall and spring, with every student in the school. The fall conference will focus on student areas for growth and improvement based on the fall MAP test. The spring conference will be an opportunity to challenge each student to reach his or her RIT growth target score. It is our intent that these conferences will emphasize to each student the importance of doing their best on the spring MAP test.
- The Intermediate School staff focused their two October staff development opportunities on student goal setting and student MAP scores.
- The School Improvement (SI) Leaders are collaborating this year is to achieve “High Growth” on the MAP Assessment. They have formed a MAP Task Force whose main objective is to pool resources and find strategies that can be shared with other teachers in order to provide support and help everyone achieve our goal.
- The Intermediate students have experienced the following wonderful assemblies in October from the PTA and the Woodland Educational Foundation:
 - On October 8, all Intermediate students were treated to a fun and meaningful program about 6+1 Traits Writing. This approach to writing is part of our district-wide Language Arts implementation. Through the engaging activity, the students learned the essential components of writing.
 - On October 14, the 5th Grade students were entertained by a professional orchestra, which came to our building to teach the various orchestra instruments and to demonstrate the love of music.
 - Supported by grant funds from the Woodland Educational Foundation, an assembly was held on October 6 to kick off our Pay It Forward Program. Lead by the owner of The Present Moment Store in Libertyville, Mrs. Sue Opeka, the 30-minute program introduced the concepts involved with this program, which promotes kindness amongst girls in our society. At a time that is especially impressionable, our 5th Grade girls are encouraged and supported in their efforts to make a difference in the school community through positive acts of kindness.
- The 4th Graders at Intermediate were updated on Fire Safety techniques and procedures, by the Gurnee Fire Department. The firefighters shared an impactful, live-action video and reviewed the necessary procedures to follow for Home Fire Safety. The students were encouraged to create a home safety plan with their families and to return it to the firefighters, who will revisit later in the year for a Fire Safety Celebration.
- The Intermediate School held our annual Fall Fest Parties on October 17th. We are very appreciative of those parents that volunteer their time to come in to assist the classroom teachers with the parties.
- The Intermediate School held a Code Red lockdown drill on October 3rd during one of the student recess periods. The students were moved to the south end of the property where a landscape berm is located that would be sufficient for students to go behind and be out of sight in the case of an actual emergency. The police department complimented the staff on how quickly and efficiently we can move students to safe locations.

Middle School – by Principal, Scott Snyder

- Middle school staff members spent the October 13th inservice day reviewing the students' MAP scores and setting both individual and team growth goals. As part of the individual goal setting process, staff members identified additional students on their team who would benefit from our Exploratory Math and Reading Programs
- Red Ribbon Week took place the week of October 27th. In observance, WMS students were treated to two very timely assemblies:
 - Camfel Productions presented assemblies to each grade level during physical education classes on Monday, Oct. 27th. This multi-media production was entitled *Trust Me!?* and presented several age appropriate vignettes on topics such as bullying, gossip, drug/alcohol abuse, and positive/negative friendships. The importance of core values such as trust, honesty, respect, and caring was emphasized throughout the vignettes.
 - The middle school's Health Department arranged for a demonstration by the Gurnee Police Department's canine officer, Phil Mazur and his dog, Shane. On Thursday, October 30th, Officer Mazur shared information with 6th grade students on how police dogs are trained to conduct searches for drugs, explosives, and people. Shane also demonstrated his skills in conducting such searches and how he protects his human partner. The assembly clearly reinforced the drug-free message of Red Ribbon Week.
 - Additionally, members of our Health Department planned week-long spirit activities for all students and decorated our school with Red Ribbon items in support of drug-free lifestyles.
- The PTA held its annual book fair for WMS staff and students the week of October 20th. A special staff preview day was held on October 17th to allow staff the opportunity to see the available titles in advance so they could talk them up with their students. The PTA also eliminated the sale of the toy-type items which the staff greatly appreciated. We also participated in Scholastic's *One for Books* drive in conjunction with the fair. A friendly competition between the houses raised over \$ 280 which Scholastic will match and distribute over \$500 in books to three different charitable organizations.

Curriculum and Instruction - written by Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability, Dr. Anne Swanson

- The Illinois School Report Cards have been posted on the Woodland website. The scores were made available statewide on Friday, October 31st.
- On October 13th, teachers in grades 2-8 worked extensively on student goal-setting.
- Steve Thomas, Director of Continuous Improvement and Accountability, and the reading specialists are working on the benchmark assessments that are part of our new LA adoption. These assessments will help support the RtI process, as it is a school improvement endeavor.
- Deb Pelletiere and Dawn Luebke will travel to Scholastic's math leadership showcase to view a program to support math remediation in grades 2-6. Scholastic provides funding to help reduce costs for districts of over 5,000 students.
- Bridges teachers have identified 241 students who will be served 2nd quarter.

Human Resources – written by Director of Human Resources, Kim Burke

- 190 certified staff and 11 educational support staff received tuition reimbursement this semester.

- 81 teachers will receive a lane change for the first semester.
- Our Benefit Cooperative provided flu shots *free* to 307 District #50 employees as part of the wellness feature of the health insurance benefit.
- Elementary West Principal Recruitment – The Human Resource department is in the beginning stages of recruitment of the Elementary West principal. The dates for posting information, candidate selection and interview panels are being set.

Operations and Facilities – written by Director of Operations, Don Selzer

- O&F leadership attended *Collective Efficacy: Transitions and Creating a Community of Purpose* training October 14, 2008 at the Intermediate School.
- John Fuhrer, Facility Manager, attended *The Year in Review: The Highlights and Lowlights of Illinois School Law 2008* presented by the District attorney, HLERK, October 16, 2008.
- O&F staff set up and monitored 99 after-school or non-school events for the month of October, thanks all O&F staff.
- The District's public service program realized 634 hours of work for the month of October. The work accomplished consisted of grass cutting, weed trimming/pulling, organizing of Middle School and Primary School maintenance garages, trash pick up and District vehicle cleaning.

Support Services – written by Assistant Superintendent of Support Services, Penny Dagley

- The special education parent group- SPEAC held its October meeting. The topic was sensory integration. The parents learned how they would be able to address sensory issues at home.
- The Autistic parent group met and we heard a speaker on Estate Planning. The parents had many questions and indicated the presentation was very informative.
- The district problem solving team has been working in small groups to help in writing the district's Response to Intervention plan. The plan must be submitted to ISBE by January 1, 2009.
- Code Red and/or Code Yellow drills have been held at all of the schools. Similar drills will be done in the spring as well. In December Officers McDermott and Agos will be conducting a simulation with the administrators of our roles in lockdown drills.

Technology – written by Director of Technology, Dann Giese

- The implementation of the new phone system has been a huge success. Everyone has been extremely positive about the new features and services.
 - The attendance lines have assisted the offices greatly.
 - The online directories have been widely used and complimented.
 - The call history available to staff has been extremely popular.

Woodland Music Booster Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2008

President Becky Saul called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report from April 10, 2008 was read. No changes were made and the minutes were approved. The motion to accept the report as written was made by Sue Deitrich and seconded by Carolyn Awe. The approved minutes will be sent directly to the school board.

Treasurer's report:

The treasurer's report was reviewed. The Sept. 25 financial report showed available funds of \$3143.39. Outstanding monies must be used by Oct. 1. If wish lists change, please go through the regular channels of approval. Unused fund will be placed back to general fund for reallocation as of November 1. The motion to accept the report was made by Elise Matussek and seconded by Kim Ertman.

Old Business:

BAND CAMP- Held over August 4 -8. Thank you to the many parent and student volunteers who helped make the week run so smoothly. The week ended with a pizza party for all the students who attended.

GURNEE DAYS CONCERT AND PARADE- Summer Symphonic Band performed a concert in the park on Saturday. They did a wonderful job. A big thank you to the returning students who came back for rehearsals and the performance. The Marching Band performed in the Gurnee Days parade Sunday, August 10, 2008. Congratulations to the Woodland Middle School Marching Wildcats for winning the best marching band award for the third consecutive year.

BAND UNIFORMS AND CHOIR SKIRTS- All band uniforms and choir skirts have been returned from the cleaners and placed into storage areas ready for distribution. This work was done during Band Camp. Choir parents also helped one evening to inventory all the choir skirts. Thank you choir parents for helping during summer break.

FILL THE DRUMS AND WARREN HOMECOMING PARADE: The WMS Marching Wildcats participated in both events. They did a great job!!

New Business:

1. **FUNDRAISER FOR 2008-2009- CHAIR PERSON** Margaret Schrimpf Kick off date Sept 24, 2008, Orders due Oct. 15, 2008, Pick up date Nov. 13, 2008. Packets were distributed without issue. New incentive program forms will be due Oct. 15 at the Middle School and Oct.16 at Intermediate. Orders will be process and are due to Geckler on Oct. 24. The last possible date for orders is Oct. 17. Pick up will be on Nov. 13.

We've never done incentives because it used to cost a portion of our profit, but now Geckler offers it for free, so we are taking advantage of it. Monetary donations are acceptable and instructions for this are on band website. It is not clear how donations will work towards incentives or total sales. Students get credit for Internet sales but it only nets a 40% rather than a 55% profit. This option is better for out of state sales. Students must register online before sales will qualify. Fundraiser pins will not be distributed because of the incentive program.

Fundraiser has always been held at the middle school and it was proposed that we rotate between the intermediate and middle schools. Kim Ertman will check with building principals for space availability and logistics.

Directors need to bring calendars and dates to the April meeting in order to decide on fundraiser start and end times for the following year.

2. WISH LIST FOR 2008-2009- Purchase Orders from 07/08 school year must be used by Oct. 31, 2008. Wish Lists for the 2008/2009 school year are due on or before Nov. 20, 2008. Wish lists must be signed by all the directors in the department and the building principal.
 3. IGSMA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST: WMS will host this contest in 2009. Form a list of committees that will be needed so we can begin to find people to chair these committees. It was decided that it was best and easiest for directors to send out requests for volunteers and information regarding the event because boosters is limited in the number of emails that we can send.
 4. BUDGET FOR THE 2008/2009 SCHOOL YEAR: Budget presentation. Approve budget in October 16, 2008 meeting. Judges, accompanist fees, awards, special expenditures like costumes, etc. need to be discussed at the building level to efficiently adjust and amend the official budget.
- ISYM SCHOLARSHIPS- Applications available Oct. 20, 2008 (Monday after the Music Booster meeting). Applications due November 26, 2008. A committee of one administrator (MS), band director (MS), choir director (MS), and music booster officer is needed to meet in Nov. to choose the scholarship winners. Awarded at winter concerts.
- ITEMS FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD: Best Marching Unit Award from parade and \$3700 plus donation to Iowa Disaster Relief from the Fill the Drum- Marching Showcase held at WTHS on September 17th.

. UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Concert	Date	Place	Time
Int. 4 th West Choir	12/3	MPR	6:30
Int. 4 th East Choir	12/4	MPR	6:30
Middle School Choir	12/16	Café A	7:00
Intermediate Band	12/17	MPR	6:00,6:45,7:30
Intermediate Band	12/18	MPR	6:00,6:45,7:30
Middle School Band	1/15		6:30
WMS Local Solo & Ensemble	2/7	WMS	
WTHS Jazz Fest	2/17		
IGSMA Dist. Solo & Ensemble	2/21.		
IGSMA District Contest	3/13 or 3/14		
IGSMA District Jazz Contest	3/19		
Festival of Bands WMS	TBD		
IGSMA State Contest/Band	4/25		
State Jazz Contest	5/2		

Director and Administrator Comments

Kim Ertman- Welcomed Emily Packer to the Intermediate staff. Intermediate band has started and doing great. The directors are pleased with the good numbers of students and their musical talent.

Eva Titlow – Intermediate choir sizes are good. She wanted everyone to recognize this as Christy Buntrock’s last year of service to the district.

Susan Holt - Voice screening is ongoing and choirs will be formed soon. The starting date will be Oct. 2 for the three choirs.

Beth Buehlman- Concurs with Susan Holt’s comments.

Greg Zalapi- Sixth grade band started this week. Three bands were formed for the sixth grade. They are working on coming to band on time and audition material.

Elise Matusek: There was beautiful weather and lots of parents were present for the Marching Showcase and over \$3700 was raised and donated to Iowa Disaster Relief. The WMS Marching Band won Best Marching Unit Award from the Gurnee Days Parade. The concert season starts October 20th and the Spring concert has been changed to May 20, 2009.

Mike Witkowski- Congratulations on a great marching season. He’s looking forward to great concert, and wants to welcome Elizabeth Buehlman and Greg Zalapi to the MS staff.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Witkowski and seconded by Eva Titlow. The meeting ended at 7:42. The next meeting will be held on Oct. 16th, at 6:30 PM in the Middle School Band Room.