



Tiger Times



Sunset Hills Elementary School Newsletter

September 2017

9503 Walnut Street Omaha, NE 68124 (402) 390-6480 Info Line: (402) 390-2255 www.westside66.org

Mission Statement

The mission of Sunset Hills School, as part of a cohesive, involved community, is to provide a quality, well-rounded education by maximizing opportunities for each learner in a safe and caring environment.

News Briefs Remember

Students will be allowed into the building at 8:30 a.m. and school starts at 8:40 a.m.

Dear Families,

Thank you for your support as we started another great year at Sunset Hills. As you can see, our new building is coming along quite nicely. As of right now, construction crews are on schedule to complete the project in time for the 2018-19 school year.

With the opening of our new building, we will need to celebrate the history of our current building. Please let me know if you have any ideas around this. Currently, Omaha Magazine is doing an article to highlight the Sunset neighborhood. I'll communicate the publication date when I know it.

We hope you can join us next Tuesday, Sept. 12th, for Curriculum Night.

Ms. Patterson



When: Picture Day
When: Monday, September 25
Who: All Sunset Hills Students
Each student will be photographed, but to receive a portrait package you must send payment with your order on picture day.

Smile



Reminder

3pm Dismissal
Every Wednesday
of the school year

EMAIL

Email is a great way to communicate with your child's teacher. The Westside format is as follows:
Lastname.Firstname@westside66.net

NO SCHOOL

October 20th and
Oct 23rd -
Professional
Development
Day



Backpack Program

This year the Heartland Food Bank Backpack program is available to any of our Sunset Hills families that have a need. Please contact Kris Bivens, Sunset Hills School Counselor: 402-408-8522 for more information.

Calendar Reminders

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sept 19 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm | Oct 2-3 6th Grade Outdoor Ed |
| Sept 22 Spirit Day | Oct 12-19 Book Fair |
| Sept 25 Picture Day | Oct 17-18 Conferences 4-8pm |
| Sept 28-29 6th Grade Outdoor Ed | Oct 20 NO SCHOOL |
| Oct 3 Community Club Mtg - 6:30pm | Oct 23 Professional Development Day - NO SCHOOL |

Sunset Hills
Expectations
Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be Responsible

Dine out for Sunset Hills

Too busy to cook dinner? Visit Don & Millie's on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and Planet Sub on the 4th Tuesday of each month to support Sunset Hills Community Club. Both businesses will donate a portion of the night's proceeds to SHCC.

Cut out Those Box Tops!



Another great way to help Sunset Hills earn FREE money is to save "Box Tops for Education." please turn in your box tops to the container on the shelves by Mrs. Farwell's desk. Thanks!!

Please consider contributing to the success of Sunset Hills during the 2017-2018 school year by volunteering for one or more than one activity. No contribution is too small! It truly takes EVERYONE to make these opportunities for our students worthwhile. There are still some open spots! See the sign-up genius link on how you can help! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4ca9ac2aabfb6-sunset>.

Mark your calendar for our next **Community Club** meeting on **Tuesday, October 2**. Free babysitting provided by 5/6 graders! We had a great representation of parents at our first meeting and hope to see those and more next time!

Newsletter Information

The monthly newsletter is scheduled to be sent out electronically on the first Friday of each month. If you are interested in submitting any newsletter information please turn it in to the office, or email farwell.lori@westside66.net, by end of day Monday the week it is scheduled to go out.

Don't forget to submit your photos online for the 17-18 yearbook!
Go to: <https://images.schoolannualonline.com/login>
Enter username: 408933678
Select the photo(s) you wish to upload. Enter information about the photo Click "Save Details".



Room Party sign-ups will be available at **Curriculum Night on 9/12**.

Once again, there will be 2 parties this year-

Halloween and Valentine's Day.

Please consider being a part of these events by contributing supplies, treats, taking pictures for yearbook or attending. Room parties are facilitated by parents, so we need **YOU** to make them a success!



EY Blog (<http://ey.westside66.org/>).

On our blog, we periodically post events and contests under the Enrichment tab (<http://ey.westside66.org/category/other-events-contests/>).



Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

Every week at Sunset Hills, students are presented with a social skill of the week or an expectation of the week. School-wide expectations are behaviors that are stated positively and facilitate the teaching and learning process. It allows all staff to use the same language and establish the expectations in every school environment.

Tiger Paws are the school-wide reinforcement system used at Sunset Hills. They are a proactive, preventative plan for positive reinforcement. Tiger Paws are small yellow cards with a paw symbol on them. Students are reinforced with Tiger Paws when he or she shows safe, respectful, and/or responsible behaviors. Staff use Tiger Paws to recognize, reinforce and shape appropriate behaviors.

Tiger of the Month awards will be given throughout the 2017-18 school year. The purpose of the Tiger of the Month award is to celebrate and reinforce the school wide expectations. To receive the Tiger of the Month award, students have to consistently demonstrate appropriate skills and/or show improvement in practicing the 3 B's: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible.

One student from each classroom is recognized with the classroom Tiger of the Month award. Once each classroom representative is chosen, one of those seven students will receive the school wide Tiger of the Month award. A local bank also rewards the winner with \$50 to place in a savings account.

For the month of September, the following skills and expectations will be reinforced:

September 5: Recess/Playground expectations

September 11: Accepting Feedback

September 18: Arrival and Dismissal expectations

September 26: Asking for Help

Accepting Feedback

1. Look at the person
2. Say 'okay'
3. Stay calm

Asking for Help

1. Look at the person
2. Ask the person if they have time to help you
3. Clearly explain the help you need
4. Thank the person for helping

Welcome Back! At Sunset Hills we have been integrating a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program to help encourage a positive and consistent learning climate for our students. It focuses on creating strong relationships and positive interactions with our students so that they are safe, comfortable and ready to learn. In our monthly newsletters, you will notice some tips, strategies and common language that we encourage you to try at home - be sure to check it out!!!! If you have questions, concerns or would like more information about PBIS, I am more than happy to discuss and share our goals and mission for our students at Sunset Hills. We are looking forward to a GREAT year!!!

Rebecca Alfieri - Parent Representative of PBiS school team

The Westside Community Council will once again sponsor the Battle of the Books for the 2017-2018 school year. This event is open to all 4th through 6th grade students in the District.

Battle of the Books is a team competition where students work with their teammates to answer questions about the books from the list below. All questions are of the form "In which book... ?" Students answer with the book's title and author.



Teams consist of three to five students, but at most four students may compete in any round of the competition. Each team is guaranteed at least 2 rounds of competition. Since this is a team event, individual students do not have to read all the books on the list in order to participate.

Registration will run from November 3rd through November 21st. Please see your November school newsletter for registration information. The battle will be held March 24, 2018 at Westside Middle School.

List of Books for Westside's 2017-2018 Battle of the Books

1. *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George
2. *Redwall* by Brian Jacques
3. *Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer* by Kelly Jones
4. *Masterminds* by Gordon Korman
5. *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
6. *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine
7. *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
8. *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
9. *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
10. *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
11. *Love, Ruby Lavender* by Deborah Wiles
12. *The Castle in the Attic* by Elizabeth Winthrop

All of these books will be available to borrow from your school library. Some are still being purchased and may not be immediately available. The books are also all available to borrow from the Omaha Public Library. Visit <https://goo.gl/1P9L0H> for direct links to the books in OPL's card catalog.

If you would like to purchase books, check out The Bookworm, Half Price Books, Amazon.com, or Half.com. Mention Battle of the Books at The Bookworm for an extra 20% off!

Our website is currently under construction, but everything you could want to know about Westside's Battle of the Books competition will soon be found at <https://sites.google.com/view/westsidebotb>. You can also contact us at westsidebattleofthebooks@gmail.com.

Westside Community Schools

School District 66
909 South 76th Street
Omaha, NE 68114
402.390.2100

Student Calendar 2017-18

July 2017

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					

August 2017

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		

September 2017

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

October 2017

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				

November 2017

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		

December 2017

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						

January 2018

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			

February 2018

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			

March 2018

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

April 2018

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					

May 2018

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		

↓
1:00 Dismissal

June 2018

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

Bold dates indicate days students will be in school.

SCHOOL BEGINS
Semester 1: August 15
Semester 2: January 8

Parent-Teacher Conferences
* October 16-18
* March 12-14

***Elementary** conference days:
Tuesday and Wednesday

***Middle School** conference days:
Monday and Wednesday

***High School** conference days:
Monday and Tuesday

Last Day of School
May 25
1:00 Dismissal

NO SCHOOL

- Professional Development - September 1
- Labor Day - September 4
- Intersession - October 20
- Professional Development - October 23
- Thanksgiving Break - November 22-24
- Winter Break - December 25 - January 5
- *Oakdale & Swanson moving days- Jan. 8 & 9
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - January 15
- Presidents' Day - February 19
- Intersession - March 16
- Spring Break - April 2-6

**SAVE
THE DATE**



**WESTSIDE
ANNUAL HOMECOMING PARADE**

Wednesday, September 13 @ 6pm

Join us to walk in the parade and represent

Sunset Hills Elementary

More Details to Follow

Little Warrior CHEER CLINIC

Details: Little Warrior Cheerleaders will learn motions, jumps, & cheers during the clinic and then cheer during the 1st quarter of the Varsity Football game!

Who: Girls & Boys PreK (4-years-old) – 8th grade

Clinic: Tuesday, October 10th 5:30-7:00pm

* Check-in from 5:15-5:30 pm by the main gym

Performance: Friday, October 13th

* Check-in by the main gym from 6:30-6:45pm

* Cheering on the track during the 1st quarter of the Varsity Football Game

Cost: \$30 – includes clinic cost, t-shirt (if registered by Wednesday, September 27th) and cheerleaders entrance fee to the football game

*\$25 – multiple child registration discount

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, September 27th at 11:59pm

****If your child is registered before the deadline, they will receive the t-shirt size that is ordered. We will accept late registration the evening of the clinic but there is no guarantee for a t-shirt or the desired t-shirt size. Only a few extra t-shirts will be ordered.****

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

T-shirt size: _____ (Options: Youth XS-L, Adult S-XL)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Additional Purchases (please circle): Pink cheer bow -\$5 pink cheer poms - \$15

Bows and poms are pink for the breast cancer awareness game.

Registration form and payment **MUST** be received by **Wednesday, September 27th** to ensure participation and t-shirt. Make checks payable to "WHS Cheer". Please include your child's name with payment (cash or check) & mail to:

Westside High School Cheerleading
8701 Pacific Street, Omaha, NE 68114

Please do not hesitate to contact Joy Fuller with any questions:
Fuller.joy@westside66.net

Online Registration

<https://goo.gl/forms/jzzDzQMVEtm83eC3>

August 11, 2016



Dear Westside Families,

As our school year gets underway, we would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to our new behavioral health partners, Children's Behavioral Health at Children's Hospital and Medical Center. This collaboration allows us to address the mental health needs of our children and families district-wide. Westside Community Schools is excited about the enhanced services and student supports this new relationship will provide. Below is a brief outline of services offered through the Children's Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program:

With this program, students and their families have two options:

1. Contact your school Counselor, Social Worker, or School Psychologist for information about Children's Behavioral Health.
2. Call Children's Behavioral Health directly at 402-955-3900 to schedule an appointment. Children's Behavioral Health is located at 1000 North 90th Street (southwest corner of 90th and Western Streets).

Throughout the community, students and their families encounter a range of concerns, including stress, depression, cyber-bullying, gender identity, inattention, impulsivity, test anxiety, grief, family conflict, communication problems, eating disorders and self-destructive behaviors. Our partners at Children's Behavioral Health are well equipped to help us address these concerns, and their providers are eager to begin work with our Westside families.

The services offered through the Student Assistance Program include **free assessments and short-term counseling**, where students and their parents are invited to complete two free face-to-face sessions. Children's Behavioral Health therapists are able to help you address any cognitive, emotional, developmental, or personal issue that your student or family might be facing. These assessments can be scheduled at your convenience, within 48 hours if necessary.

We are excited about this new partnership with Children's Behavioral Health and believe that it will continue to enhance the existing mental health supports for students and families within the Westside Community Schools. Please feel free to contact your school for more information.

Best wishes for a successful school year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kami Jessop".

Kami Jessop
Director of Special Services
Westside Community Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Vance Ph.D.". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mike Vance, Ph.D.
Director
Children's Behavioral Health



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation Are Prohibited

Westside Community Schools prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, marital, parental or pregnancy status, military status and any other basis protected by law in its programs and activities or in admission or access to, or treatment in, hiring and employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Retaliation for reporting discrimination or harassment or for participating in an investigation is also prohibited and will not be tolerated.

If you have concerns SHARE them with the building principal, a dean, counselor or any other building administrator or teacher or the Title IX Coordinator listed below. You may, but are not required to, fill out a Report of Concern Form, which is available on our website: www.westside66.org, in the main office or from the Title IX Coordinator.

The Title IX coordinator can also answer questions about our nondiscrimination policies and procedures. The designated Title Coordinator for students, parents, and others is

Director of Student Services
Westside Community Schools
909 S 76th ST
Omaha, NE 68114
402-390-2100

Board Policy 5330 "Equal Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination" has information for students and parents about harassment and discrimination. For further information about anti-discrimination laws or to file a complaint of discrimination you may also contact

Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Dept. of Education
One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 268-0550, Fax (816) 268-0599, (TDD) (800) 877- 8339, or
ocr.kansascity@ed.gov.