



Tiger Times



September 7, 2018

Sunset Hills Elementary School Newsletter

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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.

Curriculum Night

On September 13th, from 5:45-6:45, the staff of Sunset Hills will host curriculum night. This year, we are trying a new format for the evening. Staff will be stationed at informational tables in the gym and lunchroom. Teachers will send classroom information and procedures, specific to their room, out to families on Monday, September 10th.

News Briefs



This is an adults-only evening and the intent is for families to gather information on schoolwide programming. This is not an evening to have personal conferencing with classroom teachers. If you do need to speak on an individual basis with a teacher, please make an appointment with them for another day. Conferences for all students will be held on October 15th and 17th.

2018-2019 Music Dates

- Nov. 1, 5 & 6 Gr. 6:30 Gym
- Feb. 7, 1 & 2 Gr. 6:30 Gym
- Apr. 9, 3 & 4 Gr. 6:30 Gym
- May 6, Kdg. 6:30 Gym

Battle of the Books

The Battle of the Books is back! The Westside Community Council will again sponsor this celebration of reading for fourth through sixth graders on March 30 at the Westside Middle School. We are again the event's co-chairs and would like to thank you in advance for your support.

Registration begins in October. You can find more details in the attached flier in this newsletter. This year's book list is the ten 2019 Golden Sower nominees.

Lockdown Drill: Monday, September 10th at 10:00am

We will hold our first lockdown drill next Monday morning. During this time students will be asked to remain in their classroom. No one will be allowed in, or out, of the building between 10:00-10:15am. If your child has a scheduled appointment, please plan accordingly. Thank you.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please email us at westsidebattleofthebooks@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support,

Jackie Anderson and Mary Schafer
2019 Battle of the Books co-chairs



Calendar Reminders

- Sept. 13 Curriculum Night 5:45-6:45 pm
- Sept. 18 Don & Millie's Night 4-9 pm
- Sept. 21 Spirit Day
- Sept. 24 Picture Day
- Oct. 1-2 6th Gr. Outdoor Ed

- Oct. 2 Comm. Club Mtg - Media 6:30 pm
- Oct. 11-17 Scholastic Book Fair
- Oct. 15 Conferences 4-8 pm
- Oct. 17 Conferences 4-8 pm
- Oct. 19-22 No School

Sunset Hills 2018-2019

AUGUST

- 9 Sneak-A-Peek/Back to School Picnic
5:30-6:30pm
- 14 SCHOOL BEGINS- 8:40am
- 21 Don & Millie's Night- 4-9pm
- 23 Parents Only Night Out- Sunset pool - 7pm
- 30 Band/Strings Curriculum
Presentation @ WMS- 6-6:45pm
- 31 Professional Development Day-
NO SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Labor Day- NO SCHOOL
- 4 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 6 6th Grade Outdoor Ed Parent Mtg-
6:30pm @WMS Performing Art Center
- 13 Curriculum Night- 5:45-6:45pm
- 18 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 21 Spirit Day
- 24 Picture Day

OCTOBER

- 1-2 6th Grade Outdoor Ed
- 2 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 11-17 Bookfair
- 16 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 15 & 17 Conferences 4-8pm
- 19 NO SCHOOL
- 22 Professional Development Day-
NO SCHOOL
- 26 Spirit Day
- 26 Halloween Parade & Parties- 2:00pm

NOVEMBER

- 1 Picture Retake Day & All School Photo
- 1 5/6 Gr. Music Program - Gym
- 6 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 9 Veterans Day & Grandfriends Day 2:00pm
- 16 Spirit Day
- 20 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 21-23 Thanksgiving- NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

- 4 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 5 Gingerbread Houses- 3:30pm
- 11 5th & 6th Grade Band/Strings Concert
@ Sunset Hills- 9:30am
- 17 Evening Band Concert @ WMS, 5th
& 6th graders- 6:00pm rehearsal,
7:00pm performance
- 18 Evening Strings Concert @ WHS for
District Wide 6th graders- 6:00pm
rehearsal, 7:00pm performance
- 18 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 20 Evening Strings Concert @ WHS for
District Wide 5th graders- 6:00pm
rehearsal, 7:00pm performance
- 21 Spirit Day
- 21 Winter Celebration- 2:30pm
- 24 Winter Break begins- NO SCHOOL

JANUARY

- 7 SCHOOL RESUMES- 8:40 am
- 8 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 15 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 18 Movie Night - 6-8pm
- 18 Spirit Day
- 21 Professional Development Day-
NO SCHOOL - MLK Day

FEBRUARY

- 5 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 7 1/2 Grade Music Program - Gym @ 6:30
- TBD Skate Daze- 6-8pm
- 12 District Strings Solo & Ensemble
Concert @ WHS optional concert for
6th graders; 7:00pm performance
- 14 Valentine Parties- 2:00pm
- 18 Professional Development Day-
NO SCHOOL - President's Day
- 19 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 22 Art and Soup Night- 6-8pm
- 22 Spirit Day

MARCH

- 5 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 5 Spring Pictures
- TBD Book Fair
- 7 Conferences 4-8pm
- 12 Conferences 4-8pm
- 15 Spirit Day
- 18-22 SPRING BREAK
- 19 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 28 Band-o-rama Extravaganza @ WHS
7:00pm Concert; 5th grade rehearsal
9-11:30am, 6th grade rehearsal
12:45-3:00pm, Concert- 7:00pm @WHS

APRIL

- 2 Comm. Club Mtg, Media- 6:30pm
- 9 3/4 Gr. Music Program - 6:30 pm Gym
- 15-18 Staff Appreciation Week
- 16 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 18 Spirit Day
- 19 Teacher Comp Day - NO SCHOOL
- TBD Talent Show
- 26 Kdg Round-Up-
No School for Current Kdg Students
- 27 District Wide Big Band Dance@ WHS
4:00pm elementary rehearsal, 5:30pm
Concert @ WHS
- April 29-May 3 Screen Free Week

MAY

- 2 District Band & Ensemble
Concert @ WMS optional concert for
6th graders; 7:00pm Concert
- 3 Carnival
- 6 Kindergarten Music Program - 6:30pm
- 7 Comm. Club Mtg, Media - 6:30pm
- 7 5th & 6th Grade Band/Strings Concert
@ Sunset Hills- 9:30am
- 14 District Strings West Fest;
5th & 6th Grade Strings @ WHS-
6:00pm rehearsal, 7:00pm performance
- 17 All School Family Picnic
- 17 Spirit Day
- 21 Don & Millie's Night - 4-9pm
- 24 Last Day of School - 1:00pm dismissal



Students can celebrate reading in Westside's Battle of the Books! The Westside Community Council will once again organize a Battle of the Books event for the 2018-2019 school year. This event is open to all 4th through 6th grade students in the District. Registration will begin in October, and the battle will be held on the morning of March 30, 2019 at Westside Middle School.

Westside's Battle of the Books is a quiz-bowl style competition. To participate, students will form teams of three or four students. Teams may have five students, but at most four students may compete in any round. Since this is a team event, individual students do not have to read all of the books on the list to participate.

Please note that this year, each team will be expected to provide at least one parent volunteer to assist during part of the competition in addition to a team parent to accompany the team on battle day. The Battle of the Books relies on parents and volunteers to make the day a success.

For this competition, students will read the 2019 Golden Sower nominees.

1. *Soar* by Joan Bauer
2. *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown
3. *All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* by Leslie Connor
4. *Moo: A Novel* by Sharon Creech
5. *Garvey's Choice* by Nikki Grimes
6. *Slacker* by Gordan Korman
7. *Wish* by Barbara O'Connor
8. *Maxi's Secrets: (Or, What You Can Learn from a Dog)* by Lynn Plourde
9. *Towers Falling* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
10. *Save Me a Seat* by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan

All of these books are available to borrow from the Omaha Public Library and will be available in the school libraries. If you would like to purchase books, check out The Bookworm, Half Price Books, or Amazon.com.

Email: westsidebattleofthebooks@gmail.com
Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/westsidebotb/home>

MackinVia

Checkout and read library eBooks at home on our new app!

1. Download the MackinVia App or go to mackinvia.com



2. Type in your school's name.

3. Click Log In, then Log In with Google.

4. Type in your student email and password.

Media Volunteer Opportunity

Parent volunteers needed to help as media center assistants.
Tasks? Check-in, check out and re-shelve books and help student find books.

When? About 3 times a month for 30-60 minute sessions
(depending if it is a "Library" Day)

Can be done anytime during school hours

Can choose your day of the week according to your schedule
(asking for a consistent day to set up a schedule)

For questions or to sign up to participate:

Contact Coille Putman putmancj@cox.net

Or call/text 402-983-6938.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



Counselor's September Notes

Dear Parents/Guardians

As your School Counselor, I am also the contact person for several Community Programs that may be of interest to you. Please note the following programs are in place again this year.

***Children's Behavioral Health:** A resource for families whose children attend Westside Community Schools. Children's recognizes the benefit of treating not just the child or adolescent but their families as well. Two visits are part of the Westside/Children's contract and are at no expense to the family

***Westside Clothing Closet:** A resource to help families (adult and children) with clothing needs year round.

***Operation School Bell:** Is a resource in the community that offers clothing and other items to children as needed. The clothing is new and the service is confidential and free to families that meet certain qualifications. There are limited number of students that can be referred from each school. The deadline is the middle of September

***Westside Coat Closet:** Is another resource that can provide gently used professionally cleaned jackets and coats for children. There are a limited number of adult coats. The Coat Closet is open year round

***The Omaha Food Bank** offers the Backpack Program to students at our school. A bag of food is distributed to the participants on Friday to take home for the weekend.

***Westside Food Pantry:** A Resource for families in need of food during the summer and the school year.

***Holiday Assistance:** During the winter holiday season there is a program for families to receive gifts through Westside High School.

I encourage you to contact me if you are interested in any of these programs, or with any questions.

Kris Bivens

School Counselor Sunset Hills/ Swanson

402-408-8522, 402-405-8725

bivens.kristen@westside66.net

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible

Every week at Sunset Hills, students are presented with a social skill of the week, as well as an expectation of the week. School-wide expectations are defined 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.

Quarterly, 2 students from each classroom will be recognized at an all-school assembly. The purpose of the recognition award is to celebrate and reinforce the school wide expectations. To receive this 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.

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

September 4: Following Instructions
September 10: Accepting Feedback
September 17: Following Instructions
September 24: Asking for Help

Recess/Playground expectations
Asking Permission
Arrival and Dismissal expectations

Accepting Feedback:

Look at the person
Say OK
Stay Calm

Asking for Help

Look at the person
Ask the person if they have time to help you
Clearly explain the kind of help you need
Thank the person for helping

Following Instructions:

Look at the person
Say OK
Do what's asked of you right away
Check back

Westside Community Schools continues the implementation of MTSS, which stands for Multi-Tiered System of Supports.

What is MTSS? MTSS is a process of providing instruction and support to promote the academic and behavioral success of all children. Individual children's progress is monitored and results are used to make decisions about further instruction and intervention. The MTSS process is flexible and designed to meet the needs of all students. This process allows for a continuum of support based entirely on students' individual needs. This support may be provided with other students by the classroom teacher or other support staff, either within or outside the classroom.

What does this mean for my child? A key component of the MTSS process is that all children receive high quality instruction in their classroom. Universal screenings are used to review the progress of all students and are given three times per year. As a result of the screening, students may be identified as needing supplemental intervention in addition to instruction they are receiving in their classroom. If your child is identified as needing intervention you will receive notification. Please contact your child's building principal with questions.