

# INSIDE YOUR SCHOOLS

A newsletter for our District Residents.



WINTER 2019

## BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE

On **November** 7th, 2018, our communities passed a bond referendum that will allow the district to enhance safety and security for our students, staff, and guests, improve accessibility for people with disabilities, and address our critical facility needs. Since November, the following has occurred:

**December** 6th, 2018, the school board awarded Wold Architects the bid to provide architect and engineering professional services for the bond referendum projects.

**January** 10th, 2019, the school board approved Ehlers Investment Partners, LLC to provide the district with bond proceed investment services. After selling bonds related to the successful referendum, these funds are invested to maximize earnings.

**District-Wide Core Planning Group** - This group includes principals, secretaries and other staff members who will work through logistics for the upcoming referendum projects.

***\*\*This is a tentative timeline, all projects are subject to change.*** Programming information, including the location of all summer programs, will be provided to families closer to program start date. Updates on the referendum projects will be listed online at [www.WinonaSchools.org](http://www.WinonaSchools.org).

### TENTATIVE SUMMER 2019 PROJECTS

#### **Goodview Elementary - Closed**

- Security projects
- Rooftop unit for Early Childhood
- Resealing of hard surface parking and play areas and re-stripe

- Accessibility projects
- Lighting programming
- Roof replacement

#### **Jefferson Elementary - Closed**

- Security Projects
- Fire alarm replacement
- Reconstruct hard surfaces and re-stripe
- Exterior ramp work

#### **Washington-Kosciusko Elementary**

- Security Projects

#### **Winona Middle School**

- Replace pool unit
- Security projects

#### **Winona Senior High School - Closed**

- Security projects
- Reconstruction of parking lot, curbs and sidewalks
- Fire alarm replacement
- Accessibility projects
- Locker replacement

#### **Winona Area Learning Center**

- Security Projects

### TENTATIVE SUMMER 2020 PROJECTS

#### **Jefferson Elementary - Closed**

- Domestic piping replacement and abatement
- Electrical systems

#### **Washington-Kosciusko Elementary - Closed**

- Fire alarm replacement
- Resealing of hard surface areas and re-stripe
- Domestic piping replacement and abatement

#### **Winona Middle School - Closed**

- Resealing of hard surface parking/play areas and re-stripe
- Fire alarm replacement
- Flooring replacement in hallways & stairwells



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# AVID STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

In the beginning of Emma Pallaske's freshman year at Winona Senior High School she struggled with note taking, studying and organization. Her locker was packed full of worksheets that were left uncompleted, she felt hopeless about passing her classes and the thought of college never crossed her mind.

During that first quarter, she decided that she wanted to make a change but needed support to make that happen. She chose the AVID program as she knew it would help her develop strategies to get organized, learn how to take better notes in class and provide her with a strong support system.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness program designed to help students develop the skills they need to be successful in college.

The AVID interview process was intimidating but Emma did her best to show her determination to become an A student with hopes to attend college. To her surprise, she was accepted!

During the first week in the program, each student establishes their "big binder". This binder organizes each of the students classes. When the student completes assigned work for one class they can begin work on their other classes. "I wasn't sure how to feel about AVID coming in. I had to carry around this big binder, I had to keep writing in this planner, and Mrs. Helgeson would check to see if I actually took good notes." said Emma.

AVID Tutorials are just one of the learning strategies used in AVID classrooms. Many tutorial coaches are education students from Winona State University that are trained in AVID tutoring and are in classrooms weekly. During tutorial sessions, each student writes down a question about a certain topic or problem they have struggled with in class. The question and what the student knows about the topic is recorded on a white board. Tutors and peers then ask questions to give the student leads to help them answer their questions. "I didn't know what my actual question was, I just knew at the time that if I didn't understand something I would tell the

teacher "I don't get it." said Emma. The tutorial process requires students to get down to what their actual "point of confusion" is, and to get away from "I don't get it" statements.

The AVID classroom provides students with a safe place to ask questions, get support, and develop relationships with the teacher and fellow students. It provides students with the support to become confident in their abilities, increase their

organizational and critical thinking skills, and prepare them for the rigors of college. "I was failing classes because I would've thought that I am just not good enough for school." said Emma. Now as a sophomore she has the confidence to continue classes that are preparing her for her college career.



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION TRIPS



**Junk Bonanza 4/11/19**-This is the place for antiquers, junkers and flea market lovers in search of vintage finds, beautiful antiques and repurposed pieces.

**Festival of Nations 5/5/19**-The Festival of Nations is the longest running multicultural festival in the Midwest.

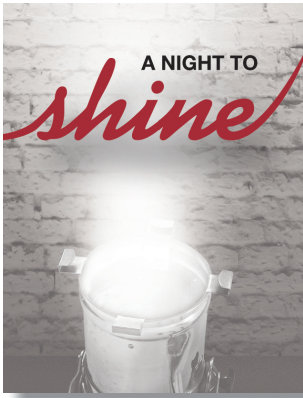
**Horse Races 5/18/19**-Enjoy the thrill of live horse racing and all that Canterbury Park has to offer.

**Spring in the Cities 5/30/19**-Enjoy the first blooms of spring as you join us on our trip to the cities to see acres of floral, gift, garden and home ideas.

**Mamma Mia 6/22/19**-The hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father.

To register visit [www.WinonaSchools.org/communityed](http://www.WinonaSchools.org/communityed) or call 507.494.0900

# FOUNDATION FOR WAPS EVENT



The Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools is thrilled to present A Night to Shine event which will take place at Visions Event Center on February 23, 2019 from 6-10 pm. The Event Committee has been working hard since last year's event to bring you another exciting opportunity to celebrate public education in Winona and put the fun in fundraising.

The \$50 ticket covers a welcome drink, appetizers, sirloin steak & shrimp scampi dinner or vegetarian pasta option. The attire is semi-casual and jeans are always welcome! All proceeds for the event will go to Academics, Arts, Athletics and Activities for our schools. To purchase tickets or for more information visit [www.foundationwaps.org](http://www.foundationwaps.org).

## WMS COUNSELOR SUPPORT

When we envision a school counselor, we often think of a person who helps fill out scholarship forms, plan a class schedule or helps a student experiencing some difficulty in their lives. Today's school counselors perform these activities and much more. They assist students with social-emotional skills, academic planning, crisis interventions as well as providing support to their fellow staff members.

Winona Middle School (WMS) counselors provide support to all students in 5th through 8th grade. During this time, middle school-aged students experience changes both developmentally and physically. It can be a difficult time and counselors can help students understand themselves, prepare them for transitions and teach them core skills that will be lifelong.

The transition from elementary to middle school can be scary but yet exciting for students. WMS counselors mission is to help students make a smooth transition and welcome them with open arms to the middle school. In March, the WMS principal and counselors visit each 4th-grade class to talk through changes and smooth transitions that will occur when entering 5th grade. Examples include: switching classes, having several teachers, maintaining classroom expectations, homework responsibilities and an organized locker. Students are introduced to the Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) mentor program. In May, all 4th-grade students visit the middle school to tour the building and have the

opportunity to ask questions of current middle school students. During the first week of school, the WEB leaders guide their 5th-grade students to and from class, help them with the lockers and answer any questions they may have. Students establish a relationship that helps ease the transition and provide a warm welcome to their new school.

When new families move into the district, one of the first people they meet is a school counselor. Families are provided a school tour, an opportunity to provide information about their student and the student meets with a "first friend." New students are checked on daily the first week and again after two weeks and periodically as needed once they have transitioned.



Inside the classroom, counselors provide lessons based on anti-bullying, rumors, study skills, test taking skills, anxiety, suicide awareness, mindfulness, and stress-reducing techniques. Each lesson provides opportunities to learn how to react socially and emotionally along with providing organization skills.

Counselors at each educational level have important roles that vary by age and student to student. They are the heart of a school and provide support to students, families, and staff. The week of February 4th is National Counselors Week; please take the time to thank a counselor for their support in our schools and communities.

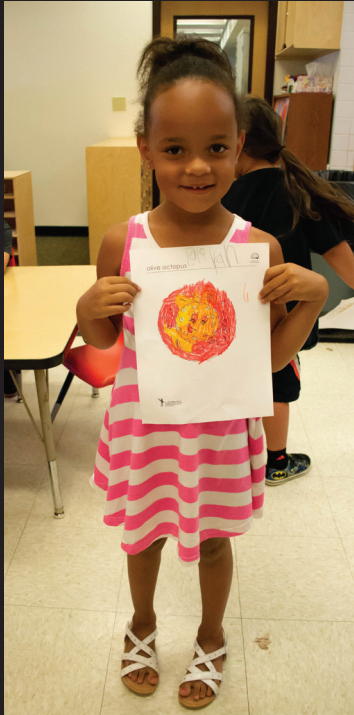




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## EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS

**Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)** is a Community Education program for all families and children birth through kindergarten.

**Early Childhood Screening** is a quick and simple check of how your child is growing and developing. When completed between the ages of 3 and 4, screening can detect possible health or learning concerns, so the child can get help before they start school. To schedule an appointment visit [www.WinonaSchools.org/screening](http://www.WinonaSchools.org/screening) or call 507.494.0913.

**Getting Ready Together** is a summer program that provides qualified incoming kindergarten students intensive instruction and help develop reading and math skills. Applications are due March 8th.

**Community Kids Preschool** provides two, three, four or five days a week options. Our program brings preschool age children together with the goal of offering engaging, nurturing, creative learning opportunities in a safe and enriched classroom. Children will explore, create and learn! Enroll at [www.WinonaSchools.org/communityed](http://www.WinonaSchools.org/communityed)

**Rios Spanish Immersion Program** will be accepting applications from February 4th - March 3rd for incoming kindergarten students.

**Future Winhawk Registration Night** is February 18th from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Winona Middle School, 1570 Homer Road. During this event kindergarten families will have the opportunity to meet elementary principals, secretaries, representatives from district departments and ride a school bus! WAPS Tech Support will also be available to assist with registration needs.

**Kindergarten Open House** is March 28th 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. You are invited to visit your new school, meet teachers, tour classrooms and become part of the Winhawk family.

Learn more about kindergarten by visiting [www.WinonaSchools.org/kindergarten](http://www.WinonaSchools.org/kindergarten).

## STAY CONNECTED

Stay current on  
school events and  
student success!  
[www.WinonaSchools.org](http://www.WinonaSchools.org)  
[facebook.com/WAPS861](https://facebook.com/WAPS861)

## SCHOOL BOARD

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