



**Westview
Elementary**

The Bulldog Bulletin

Editor: Nicole Gorman; nj.gorman12@gmail.com

December 2020

Principal's Corner

Greetings!

Communication is tricky ~ what do you need; how do you need it; how many times; how many ways; narrative or bullets...It is always a wondering. We have 24-hour access to information on television, radio, phones, computers and iPads. We can learn, create, share and ask. It is wonderful and can be overwhelming.



Just some thoughts for today:

- It is important for parents to know that while daily schedules may vary by grade level, every student will have consistent times for live teacher instruction and self-paced, independent learning and assignments. It is very important that students and families review the daily schedules provided by our teachers, as attendance will be taken every day.
- Create a productive learning space based on your child's learning preferences where it is comfortable-but not too comfortable
- Limit distractions (TV, pets, food)
- Have all of your child's school supplies and learning materials easily accessible in their learning space so they can be independent.
- There may be days we ask families to come to the school to pick up additional learning supplies/books to offer the variety of materials for equitable experiences

We continue to have our custodial staff routinely cleaning and maintaining our facility, our kitchen staff preparing and serving meals, our office staff answering questions and our nurse tracking our health.

As we experience yet another transition in our schools, one that is difficult on us all, remember that we are stronger together. In the midst of a pandemic filled with unknowns, our goals remains the same: providing high quality education and social-emotional support in a safe and predictable learning environment, maintaining a strong community and collaborating as partners.

With gratitude,
Tami

Revised 2020-21 School Year Calendar

No-School Dates = No school for *all* students = No school for *some* students

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Dec. 9 | Teachers workshop (<i>no school</i>) |
| Dec. 4 | End of Trimester 1 |
| Dec. 23-Jan. 1 | Winter break (<i>no school</i>) |
| Jan. 13 | Districtwide staff development for high school (<i>no school grades 9-12</i>) |
| Jan. 18 | Martin Luther King Day (<i>no school</i>) |
| Jan. 20 | Districtwide staff development day (<i>no school grades K-8</i>) |
| Jan. 22 | Conferences for high schools (<i>no school grades 9-12</i>) |
| Feb. 10 | Teachers workshop for high school (<i>no school grades 9-12</i>) |
| Feb. 12 | Conferences for elementary and middle schools (<i>no school grades K-8</i>) |
| Feb. 15 | Presidents' Day (<i>no school</i>) |
| Mar. 17 | Teachers workshop (<i>no school</i>) |
| Mar. 12 | End of Trimester 2 |
| Mar. 22-26 | Spring break (<i>no school grades K-12</i>) |
| April 21 | Districtwide staff development |
| May 28 | Conferences for middle schools (<i>no school grades 6-8</i>) |
| May 31 | Memorial Day (<i>no school</i>) |



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COVID-19 Full Distance Learning Information



As our district returns to full-time distance learning, our commitment to the health and safety of our students, families and staff remains our top priority. Though we are not together in our buildings, it is very important that the COVID-19 Response Team at our school remains informed about all household COVID-19 information. Whether your child participates in distance learning, Tier 1 child care, 196 Digital Academy or in-person targeted services, our school's COVID-19 Response Team is continuing to track COVID-19 data.

Please continue to call or email us if you or your child is ill or are experiencing symptoms, if you or your child is identified as a close contact to someone who is COVID-19 positive, and if there are any positive test results in your household. We are obligated to continue tracking this data for the district, county and state, and will be assisting with contact tracing. This is also one of the data points that will be used in determining the learning model and our opportunities for in-person experiences. This strategy contains virus spread while protecting the community.

It is important you and anyone in your household stay home and discontinue any activities outside of your household if you are feeling sick, regardless of whether symptoms are related to COVID-19. Less common symptoms of COVID-19 include: sore throat; nausea; vomiting; diarrhea; muscle pain; fatigue; headache; nasal congestion; runny nose, and chills. More common symptoms include: fever over 100.4; new or worsening cough; difficulty breathing, and a new loss of taste or smell.

The state of Minnesota is providing barrier-free testing to every resident. You can order a test online and have it shipped to your home at no cost. Included in the test are instructions for taking the test and consulting with a health professional. Order your free at-home saliva test at <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/state-of-minnesota/>.

Remember, please call or email your child's school nurse or principal, if you or your child is ill or are experiencing symptoms, if you or your child is identified as a close contact to someone who is COVID-19 positive, and if there are any positive test results in your household. We will assist with screening your symptoms and walk you through the reporting process if symptoms are deemed COVID-19 related.

The Licensed School Nurse at **Westview** is **Katrina Villella**. Contact information is Katrina.Villella@district196.org 952-431-8383. School nurse office hours are 8:30-4. The school's main number is 952-431-8380 and school hours are 8am-4pm.

The COVID Response Team will be answering emails and phone calls evenings and weekends.

Sincerely,
Tami Staloch-Schultz
Katrina Villella



Reminders & Information



Free Seven-Day Meal Kits Available for All Distance Learning Students

All students are eligible for free seven-day meal kits to support their distance learning.

To take part in this, please complete the **Seven-Day Meal Kit Interest Survey**. (Survey can be found on the District website under food and nutrition.)

This will allow the Food and Nutrition Services Department to prepare the number of meal kits needed.

The survey only needs to be completed once.

Meal kits will be available for pick up near the entrance of any District 196 school on:

- Monday, 4-5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 7:30-9 a.m.
- Wednesday, 10-11 a.m. (Digital Academy Meals will continue)
- Thursday, 7:30-9 a.m.
- Friday, 7:30-9 a.m.

Families with children in multiple schools are encouraged to pick up all seven-day meal kits at one school.

A Word from Patsy Ryan

During these new, strange times I want to make sure you know we are here for you and your family. This was never what any of us expected, and yet, here we are, navigating through a life we could not have imagined in our wildest dreams.

School staff, as well as, all of our families make a great team supporting all of our little Bulldogs.

In case you are not aware, Westview has a school-based relationship with Associated Clinic of Psychology (ACP). We have offered school-based mental health services right here at school for many years. Now during the pandemic your child can still meet using telehealth for therapy with Sarah Najafalipour.

Please click on the link below for some tips to make distance learning go smoothly. <https://youtu.be/4bbBkmE5ql8>

Please contact Patsy.ryan@district196.org and I can answer questions, or set up a referral to ACP. Call or email if I can be of any support for your family. Just like we tell your children, "We got this; together we can do hard things."

Patsy Ryan
Westview Elementary Social Worker
952-431-8386
Patsy.Ryan@district196.org



Gobble, Gobble, Give Update

The Westview Student Council thanks everyone who donated to **Gobble Gobble Give** week. Our bulldog strong community collected 1,162 items of food and \$567! It was a very special way to see our community come together on our last days of in person learning.

Comfy Cozy Day will be December 22nd!

Westview Office Update

Even though students are currently at home learning, the Westview office is still open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please do not hesitate to call 952-431-8380, if you need something.

Campus Portal

It is very important you have access to your Campus Parent account. If you have not used it this year, be sure to call the office and we can send you the access code you would need. You can check attendance and also will be able to access your child's report cards once posted, as we will not be mailing them home.



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Reminders & Information



A Word from Mrs. Theirl

Our Online Scholastic Fall Book Fair is here!!
Monday, Nov. 23rd through
Sunday, Dec. 6th 2020

Our fall Book Fair is now open and completely online! Shopping the Book Fair supports our school and helps your child discover new books, favorite characters, complete series and more! Looking for gift ideas this holiday season? Give the gift of reading with a portion of the proceeds directly supporting the Westview Elementary Library!

Browse from your device and check out the new option to shop Book Fair exclusives directly from the interactive book lists. Also, enjoy FREE SHIPPING directly to your home on book-only purchases over \$25.

Thank you for your support and in helping us reach our goal of 200 books sold. To browse, shop and view our goal progress in real-time, simply visit our Book Fair homepage below. In order for purchase proceeds to be directed to Westview, you will

need to sign-in with an existing Scholastic account or create a new one!

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/westviewbulldogs>

Westview Family Zoom Event

We are excited to have a Westview Move Mindfully/Yoga Calm Family coming in December!

December 7th 6:30-7:30 PM
FREE

A Connected Home: Sunup to Sundown

The challenges of 2020 have taken a toll on all of us and have a direct impact on our overall health and well-being. Join us to explore fun and practical mindfulness strategies including breath work, movement and rest techniques. Design your family's toolkit of simple techniques/routines to use intentionally throughout the day so you can enjoy spending time together and shift from chaos to connected.



What you will learn:

- Morning Routines, After School Transitions
- Bedtime Routines, Building Connections
- Successful Schoolwork Strategies

Register here to receive a Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75123456789>
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75123456789>
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75123456789>
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75123456789>

Mental Health Highlight

Associated Clinic of Psychology has partnered with ISD 196 for over a decade to provide school-based mental health services. Services at Westview are provided by licensed clinician Sarah Najafalipour, who has worked with many Westview families over the past five school years she has been with Westview. Sarah is currently able to meet with students in-person at school or virtually! Please feel free to reach out to Westview Social Worker, Patsy Ryan (952-431-8386) for questions regarding the program or to discuss a referral, or visit <https://acp-mn.com/community-school-based/> and fill out the online referral form. Let us help!



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Bulldog Paw Prints

Helpful Tips, Reminders & Information about the Westview School Community

2020 Staff Appreciation Update

In November, the PTO provided gifts of appreciation to the teachers and staff at Westview during their long days at conferences. They were able to choose from four different gift bags that were loaded with different options of goodies. "Before you meet the cutie, wash away the cooties" included a little cutie clementine and hand sanitizing wipe. "Thanks a Latte for all you do" included a package of instant vanilla latte with a little bag of Oreo cookies. "You are ESSENTIAL behind your mask spray. We ap-Reeses-ate you" included an essential oil blend mask spray made and donated by Katherine Quashnick and a fun size Reeses peanut butter cup. "We would KNOT BEE here

without you" included a bag of knot pretzels and Beesential lip balm. It was great to be able to recognize the teachers and all they do. Please reach out if you have ideas or interest for coordinating future appreciation events for our teachers.



2020 Important Dates

- **Dec. 4**
End of Trimester 1
- **Dec. 9**
No school
- **December 23-Jan. 1**
Winter break, no school

Follow WV on Facebook

Want to keep up to date on many things Westview? Be sure to like the Westview Elementary Bulldogs Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wvbulldogs>. Since there will not be a school calendar this year, you will want to check either our Facebook page, this bulletin and our website at www.district196.org/wv for all the upcoming important dates.



Contact Info Changes

Call the office or email Lisa.Kissell@district196.org with updates to your phone numbers, emails or addresses throughout the year. It is very important we have the latest information for everyone.



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PTO Pit Stop



Events, Reminders & Information about the Westview PTO

PTO Notes & News

PTO Meeting—Save the date:

No PTO meeting for December
See everyone next year on Jan. 11, 2021; 6-7 p.m.
Meetings may be in-person or via Zoom. Make
sure to check Facebook and email for updates.

1000 Petals: We are looking into scheduling a
virtual family fun night. 1000 Petals will give
calming techniques, mindful movement. Date TBA.

Parent Leader update: It was suggested from
parents of children already doing distance learning
to have a zoom meeting for the shift of all children
moving to distance learning. They could pass on
tips to ease the transition, help with apps,
questions etc. TBA

Art Adventure is looking for a few volunteers! It's
a fun, easy commitment! The volunteers take a
short class through Minneapolis Institute of Art
(MIA) and they learn about a few pieces from the
museum. Then we pass that info on to the children
(virtually this year). If you are interested, please
contact Monica Sandoval
at Monica.vanhorn@gmail.com.

Book Fair: Book fair is 100% virtual this year.
Please place your orders online, books will be
delivered to your home. It will run from November
23 - December 4.

Follow PTO on Social Media

Check out the ways you can stay
in the loop:



Follow us on Instagram
[@westviewmnpto](https://www.instagram.com/westviewmnpto)



"Like" our Facebook page
[www.facebook.com/
westviewmnpto](https://www.facebook.com/westviewmnpto)



Sign up for text alerts
through Remind by texting
@377gcd to 81010



Reach us by email at
westviewmnpto@gmail.com

Box Tops

Westview benefits from your box
tops, and now it's going digital!
After shopping, all you need to
do is scan your receipt within
14 days. Download the app
first and select Westview
Elementary as your recipient.
You also get to see how much
you've donated throughout the
year!



SEE THIS...
CLIP IT



SEE THIS...
**SCAN
YOUR RECEIPT**



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PTO Pit Stop



Events, Reminders & Information about the Westview PTO

BULLDOG GLITTER & GLOW CONTEST

How it works

1. Show your Bulldog spirit by putting up lights and decorations outside your home.
2. Send your address to westviewmnpto@gmail.com by December 6th. We will add it to a map that will be distributed to Bulldog families (names will not be shared).
3. Bulldog families can reference the map to tour the displays and vote on their favorites!
4. Winners announced on December 21st.

Categories

- Brightest
- Best Bulldogs spirit
- Best inflatables
- People's Choice

We will have a random winner from those who submit their votes, so even if you don't have lights up you can still win! Prizes will be announced soon.

Organized by Westview Elementary PTO