

APRIL 2022

THE BULLDOG BULLETIN

Updates for the Westview Elementary Community



Principal's Corner

Dear Families,

Finally, signs of light, literally and figuratively, and signs of spring in March in Minnesota~raining yesterday and snowing today! We are at the two year anniversary of significant changes to our schools and communities in response to a health pandemic. And, with no masks required and activities opening up for students, noticeable noise and different types of connections being made.

I have a bag of dirt on my desk. The soil is black, dried out and in a small, see through, snack-size Ziploc. I know it's there every day; sometimes I notice it and pause for a reflection. That might make me smile on some days or could make me sad on others. The symbolism of that dirt has provided me clarity in making decisions over the years. Often, it gives me confidence that hard work and time on task will pay off. It has helped me move past fearful or stressful days. My dad passed away ten years ago during Spring break week from cancer during my first year as the Westview principal. I got the call in the morning after just arriving to work and was already planning to spend that afternoon and next three days with him and my Mom on our family farm. I spent almost every weekend that year with him, sometimes with my high school daughter though usually she wanted to hang out with her friends at home. I would process my week on Friday nights driving the 90 minutes south, the last few on dirty gravel roads, and usually start my visit with a student story as he always asked how my week went. Then, I would forget about work for two days and invest in the tasks needing to be done around the house and outside work in the yard and quiet time with him. He wasn't going to be able to plant the fields that year and had selected a trusted friend to do it, but that didn't stop him from thinking and talking about this season or the many before this. He grew up on this farm and it had been in the family over 100 years. The morning of his funeral, my sister and I woke early, grabbed some tools and the plastic bags and sat in the middle of a field spooning dirt. We shared some stories about him, his passion and pride for his work on the farm and our family memories of working the land together. We invited anyone who wanted a bag of dirt to spread in their own gardens/fields to take as a way to honor him. I miss him and keep mine as a visible reminder of what he stood for and the lessons he taught me on the farm about hard work, family and unconditional love. As we enter into our final season of the school year, let's embrace the opportunities of growth and nurture each other with support, kindness and respect.

In unity ~ Tami

Westview Summer Garden

By Lorinda Miller



We plan to plant seeds this month and are adding some different items to our garden this year! We have purchased a few pollinators, some items that can be harvested for tea, some new and exciting vegetables, and sunflowers because...well, who doesn't love sunflowers!

If you have suggestions OR Plants/Seeds that you have had success with and want to donate, please pass them along to Lorinda Miller, Food Service Manager at Westview, at lorinda.miller@district196.org.

Lorinda will be reaching out to families in early May for volunteer opportunities but the harvest is welcome to ANYONE!

WV Spring Carnival Updates

By Westview Carnival Committee

Westview's Spring Carnival committee's planning is well underway and the committee needs your help!

If you or someone you know can donate an item, gift card or service towards the spring carnival raffle, please contact Nicole Gorman at nj.gorman12@gmail.com or Rebecca Nutter at rhayne@gmail.com.

Thank you to those who have already committed to providing items to the raffle. The raffle is a fundraiser for the WV PTO.

With Westview's Spring carnival inching closer we will be looking for volunteers to help run booths and set up/cleanup. The sign up link is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0444A8A92CA5FE3-2022>. Please keep an eye out for an email as well with the link and more information. Thank you in advance for helping make the carnival a wonderful evening of fun. See page 6 for more carnival information.

PTO UPDATES



**Save the Date PTO Meeting:
May 16 from 6-7 p.m.**

Did You Know?

The Westview PTO is committed to providing the best educational and social experience for Westview students and their families. We exist to provide financial and volunteer support, bring the community together through events, build morale with staff appreciation, and enhance the quality of Westview students' learning experiences.

PTO In Search Of:

Treasurer and **Secretary** for the 2022/2023 school year; these positions can be less than 12 hours a school year, any interest please reach out to Michelle Doepke at mruckmar@yahoo.com.

Thank You from WV PTO

Thank you to all those who have volunteered this school year - we could not do these things without you!!

PTO officers, Art Adventure, Bulldog Bulletin, Bulldog Bingo, Scholastic Book Fair, carnival, fundraising such as Butter Braids and the Apex Fun Run, Spirit Wear, community garden, staff appreciation, 5th grade celebrations, first grade books, scholarship, student directory, yearbook, Panera Bread donations, recycling programs, staff giving trees, social media, and the outdoor learning spaces. The PTO is involved in over 20 activities and events at Westview that depend on parent volunteers!

Attention 4th Grade Families

By Mariah Meyers

Now is the time for your student to Join the Band for their 5th grade school year! As a 5th Grade Band Student, your student will experience the following:

- A Positive Peer Group
- Individualized Instruction
- Reinforcement of Literacy and Math Concepts
- Multiple Opportunities to Perform
- FUN!

Students receive one weekly small-group lesson on their instrument. Everyone participates in Big Band Rehearsals on Wednesday mornings from October to April.

Worried about cost? District 196's Band For All program provides scholarship instruments for families who qualify for the Educational Benefits Program.

Students have been meeting with Ms. Meyers to pick their instrument and can continue to sign up! Contact her at Mariah.Meyers@district196.org if you have any questions or concerns.



4th Grade Art Projects

By Kayley Isaacson

Fourth grade students dyed paper with tissue paper in warm and cool colors. They then created landscapes and buildings of their choice with half of the artwork nighttime and half daytime. I was so impressed with their creative ideas for their projects!

A Word from Mrs. Theirl

By Lindsey Theirl

February was "**I Love to Read**" Month and students of all grades were encouraged to participate in the WV Library's "I Love to Read Checklist."

All students that submitted a checklist to Mrs. Theirl received a prize and five lucky Grand Prize winners were selected from all entries. Students can pick up their prizes during their library time.

Great job to all for your excellent reading and congratulations to our Grand Prize winners!

1st Grade - Emily Nutter

2nd Grade - Audrey Ketcham

3rd Grade - Ryan Gade

4th Grade- Nahlia Rossen

5th Grade - Brielle Essig

The **Maud Hart Lovelace Book Club** will hold its final meeting on **FRIDAY, April 8th at 8:30 a.m.** in the Library. (Please note this is a date change from Wednesday, April 6th). All students that have completed our 10 nominee books will cast their vote for their favorite and receive an invitation to the MHL Book Club Celebration Party that takes place on Friday, May 6th (exact time TBD, but will take place after school).

FINAL Yearbook Order Reminder!

By Gwen Krueger

April 8th is the deadline to purchase a Westview Yearbook. If you misplaced your order form, you may get another one from the front office or your child's teacher or go directly to Lifetouch at ybpay.com. The Westview Elementary School yearbook code is 2212022.

CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS APPLY AT
WV.DISTRICT196.ORG/ACADEMICS/PTO-
SCHOLARSHIP



Westview PTO Scholarship

Application Deadline
April 29, 2022

RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



FROM THE STORE



✓ Produce bags

✓ Store bags

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FROM YOUR PANTRY



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✓ Cereal box liners

✓ Case overwrap

✓ Bread bags



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✓ Newspaper sleeves

✓ Dry cleaning bags

✓ Bubble wrap

✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



NexTrex

trex.com/recycling 1-800-Buy-Trex

Volunteer Opportunity

My name is Stephanie Nord and I am an interventionist at Westview. I support students with literacy and math across all grade levels. We have a few kindergarteners that could use help with their counting and identifying numbers. I am looking to find adult volunteers to come in from 2:10-2:50. During that 40 minute period of time, you would work with individual students for 5-10 minutes. Training and all the materials would be provided.

Please contact me if you are able to come volunteer one day a week. We have two volunteers for Wednesday and Thursday. So if you can help on Monday, Tuesday or Friday please let me know what day would work for you.

Thank you so much for your support,
Stephanie Nord
Stephanie.nord@district196.org

Plastic Bag Recycling Ends April 15!

By Melissa Wikstrom

Remember to drop off your clean and dry plastic bags to Westview (collection bins in the entrance) by April 15! Winners for the NexTrex program for the 2021-2022 school year will be announced on Earth Day and every pound is tracked and gives us an opportunity to win a prize from Trex. We have collected 156 lbs. so far this year!

NO SCHOOL

Thursday & Friday, April 21-22

MCA's Coming in April

By Gwen Krueger

All students in grades 3-4-5 will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in April. All three grades will take both a Math and a Reading assessment. These tests are spread out over four testing sessions. Fifth graders will also take a Science Assessment which has two sessions.

Please do your best to avoid doctor/dental or other appointments during these testing days and times. If your child is absent, he/she will complete the test during make-up sessions, however, he/she will be losing class instructional time.

The schedule is listed below and can also be found on the Westview home page under Families / Assessments (wv.district196.org/families/assessments). Scroll down to the blue box that says, WESTVIEW TESTING SCHEDULE 2021-2022. More information will be forth coming after Spring break.

Grade 3

- MCA Reading: April 11-14; 10-11 a.m.
- MCA Math: April 25-28; 10-11 a.m.

Grade 4

- MCA Reading: April 19-20; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 1:45-2:45 p.m.
- MCA Math: April 25-26; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 1:45-2:45 p.m.

Grade 5

- MCA Reading: April 12-13; 10:45-11:45 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.
- MCA Science: April 19; 10:45-11:45 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.
- MCA Math: April 26-27; 10:45-11:45 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.

CAHOOTS 2022 Summer Program

By Dawn Freese



CAHOOTS math and language arts in one book ... a great value!

Parents, Community Education is pleased to again be offering CAHOOTS, a K-5 summer math and language arts correspondence workbook program.

The program is portable, flexible and designed to closely match our district curriculum through an engaging and reflective approach to learning. After completing each lesson and checking answers online, students complete an assignment reflection and send to a CAHOOTS Buddy who will send a written response back.

You will receive a letter which includes enrollment instructions the week of February 28. Cost is \$43. Final registration is due April 1.

Sample workbook pages can be viewed at ce.district196.org/youth/youth-enrichment.

It is recommended students work on the grade level they will be entering in the fall (i.e. 1st grade is a review of kindergarten), to review and reinforce skills learned during the school year. Please discuss with your child's teacher, if you feel another level may be more suitable.

CAHOOTS should not be considered a replacement for participating in summer school, if your child qualifies. CAHOOTS is not intended to replace regular reading for enjoyment or math activities that strengthen your child's fluency and love for math.




WESTVIEW SPRING CARNIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING



**MONDAY, APRIL 4TH
@ 5PM
WESTVIEW LITERARY
COMMONS**

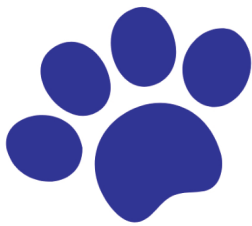


All are welcome, no matter how involved you are able to be or if you were able to attend the other meetings! Contact Sarah Najafalipour @ 952.258.3775 or sjdupre@gmail.com with any questions or just show up!



Takeout Tuesday

April 19, 2022 | 3pm - 8pm



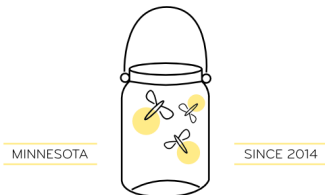
Westview
Elementary

Parent Teacher Organization

Mason Jar Kitchen is proud to support **Westview Elementary!**

On Tuesday, April 19, 2022 (3pm - 8pm), **20% of all* carryout sales will be donated to Westview Elementary PTO** on behalf of anyone who mentions the group when placing their order!

TIP: Minimize your wait time by placing carryout orders between 3pm-5pm or 7pm- 8pm!



MASON JAR
KITCHEN & BAR

www.MasonJar.Kitchen

(651) 340-7809

1565 Cliff Rd
Eagan, MN 55122

*The Fine Print: *Donation calculated on 20% of all orders, excluding alcohol, tax, and gratuity. Customers must mention the name of the benefiting group when ordering to have their order included in the promotion. Carryout only; excludes dine-in and delivery.*