



# *The Raider Monthly*

**TODAY: Monday, February 4, 2019**

## *There Are “Holes” in the Dress Code*

### Upcoming Events

#### WLMS Events

##### February

##### School Events

2/7: Parent-Teacher Conference  
2/7: Student Half Day  
2/14: Valentine's Day  
2/15: PBIS Sausage Biscuits  
2/18: President's Day  
2/21: PBIS Pizza

##### WLMS Basketball

2/4: vs. Bleckley (H) 4:00 PM  
2/7: vs. Vidalia (H) 4:00 PM  
2/13-16: Region Tournament

##### WLMS Baseball

2/8: @Toombs (A Team) 4:00  
2/11 William James (A Team) 4:30  
2/12 @East Laurens (B Team) 4:00  
2/14 @William James (A Team) 4:30  
2/15: @Bleckley (B Team) 4:00  
(See Schedule in Baseball Section)

##### Community Events

2/23: Miss Emerald City Beauty Pageant (2-4 PM) (Cost \$5)  
2/28- Baker Baptist Church Wild Game Supper (7:00 PM)



The dress code here at West Laurens Middle School is a concern. According to Mr. Waldrep, the purpose of the dress code is for students to dress professionally. He states, “If you dress for success, you’ll be successful.” However, many students question this purpose. Do colleges have a dress code? According to Middle Georgia College and The University of Georgia websites, there is no dress code. If colleges don’t have a dress code, why do middle schools need one? Mr. Waldrep’s answer included that you are an adult then, and you can do what you want when you’re grown. Even though our dress code seems unfair to us students, at least we don’t have to worry about school uniforms. We asked Mykhia Wiley, a new student who came from Dublin Middle School, some questions about her experience with school uniforms. She informed us that the dress code here was much better than having school uniforms, especially since you don’t have to wear collared shirts. She also said when you have school uniforms, you can’t express yourself, and people have to tell you exactly what to wear. As bad as we think the dress code is at West Laurens, it could be worse – UNIFORMS! Yes, that would be WORSE!



## WLMS Student Spotlight: Leigha Mickler



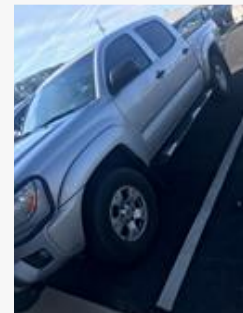
Leigha Mickler is a great student who loves animals, especially cats, reading, and drawing. Her favorite subject is Social Studies. Leigha is a symbol of success at WLMS. Leigha's Lexile band has improved over 200% since the beginning of the year. In addition, she doubled her Lexile in one month, earning a total of 20 points. Way to go, Leigha!!!!



## Behind the Wheel

Most teenagers are ready for the day when they are finally allowed to get behind the wheel. Although we all know that you have to get your learner's permit, there are several steps that must be followed beforehand. First, go to the DDS (Department of Driver Services) on 620 Country Farm Rd, Dublin, Ga 31021 and apply to take a test. Next, you will have to pass a vision test and a written exam. Drivers Education is also a requirement for all teenagers 16 and under. It will cost \$10 each time you take a written exam. To prove your knowledge of road signs and traffic laws, there are 20 traffic laws and signs you must learn. Be sure to pick up a copy of a driver's manual and begin studying these soon! Finally, you must have a School Enrollment (DS-1) from Mrs. Martin, our secretary, before taking the learner's test. After the testing is over, it's time to find a car or truck. There are many car dealerships around Dublin such as Dublin Ford Lincoln, Dublin Auto Sales, Dublin Nissan, and many used car lots. Getting a learner's permit is simple if you follow the checklist below:

- Current Certificate of Enrollment from school (if under 18 years of age)
- \$10.00 fee is paid prior to written test



## WIN = What I Need

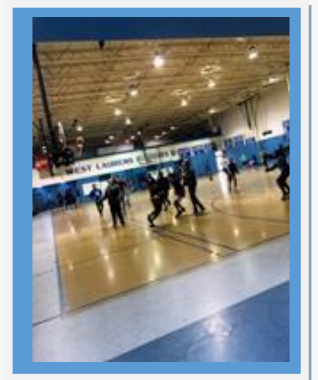
The *Raider Monthly* will begin a series of articles on the different WIN classes that are available for WLMS students. This month, we will spotlight the WLMS Mentoring Class for Girls, the Speed and Agility class, and the Athletic Skills class. Hopefully, this will help you to better understand the WIN choices that you have next year as when you return to WLMS.

Mentoring girls is a WIN class that teaches girls proper manners and how to act at certain events. Right now, it has only a few girls, but the class wishes to expand. Also, they like to invite important figures to their class. Another purpose of the class is to help girls avoid drama and practice appropriate social skills. They host a party every Friday to practice their social and etiquette skills.

Another WIN class is Speed and Agility. The class consists of exercises and no paperwork. Jackson, one of the students in this class, likes his teacher Mrs. Floyd. The routine for this class consists of running for 3 minutes, then stretching. Jackson's friends are in his WIN class, and he seems to enjoy it. I personally find the idea of exercise dreadful, but other people really seem to enjoy the idea of getting sweaty and running. In turn, this is a great WIN class for athletes.

Eighth grader, Zack Myers, enjoys his athletic skills WIN class. He stated that this is the perfect class for him since he is very energetic. This class is similar to a gym class. He likes his teacher and loves the things he learns in class. This class is perfect for those who enjoy athletics.

Mr. Waldrep explained that WIN has increased student performance. He believes that students will enjoy school more. It seems that students love WIN as much as I do.



## Spill the Tea

- A certain administrator is a bit too strict.
- Bring back second break!
- So over middle school drama -GROW UP!
- Stop punishing the entire grade for a few goofballs.
- Is the library ever open? UGH!
- So much negativity - we need to stop putting each other down. Start lifting people up! What would Jesus do?
- Can we not have so many tests and homework assignments every week? Most students are having at least one mental breakdown weekly.
- Teachers do not give out enough stamps.
- Starbucks needs to bring back Pumpkin Spice Latte all year round.
- A certain 8th grader is starting to come across as fake.
- We should have a winter dance.
- We need exemptions back.
- Fortnite is dying down.
- Campus beautification needs more *Umph!*
- The lunch food here is the BEST!

## Top 10 Hits

1. "Without Me" by Halsey
2. "Sunflower" by Post Malone and Swae Lee
3. "Sicko Mode" by Travis Scott
4. "High Hopes" by Panic! At The Disco
5. "Thank U, Next" by Ariana Grande
6. "Happier" by Marshmello and Bastille
7. "7 Rings" by Ariana Grande
8. "Drip Too Hard" by Lil Baby and Gunna
9. "Wow" by Post Malone
10. "ZEZE" by Kodak Black

*Halsey*



LET'S  
SPILL  
SOME  
TEA.

WEAK PEOPLE  
**REVENGE**  
STRONG PEOPLE  
**FORGIVE**  
INTELLIGENT PEOPLE  
**IGNORE**

## Top 5 Concerts Atlanta, GA

**\*Get Your Tickets Early!**

1. **Travis Scott – March 22nd at State Farm Arena**
2. **Ariana Grande- June 8th at State Farm Arena**
3. **Dan + Shay- March 1st at Coca Cola Roxy**
4. **Shawn Mendes- July 31st at Philips Arena**
5. **P!NK- March 12th at State Farm Arena**

### Raider Monthly Staff:

Lily Baird  
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Taylor Singletary  
Taylor Upshaw  
Lori Kemp - Advisor  
Lisa Weeks - Advisor



# Raider Sports News

## Basketball News



### Welcome Coach Lenny Perry to WLMS

Coach Perry, West Laurens Middle Schools new basketball coach, came from West Laurens High School. At the high school, he was a health and personal fitness teacher. He also coached boys' basketball and volleyball. Coach Perry has been coaching basketball for 26 years now and also worked with other coaches to gain extra information about coaching basketball.

By: Ryleigh Hartley

### WLMS Kicks Off 2019 Basketball Season

In regions this year, the boys basketball record is 5 and 2 by defeating Vidalia. DJ Taylor led the scoring with 13 points. Dawson Slade made 3-three pointers. The Raiders made a total of nine-3 point shots in the game period.

Taylor Upshaw and Ryleigh Hartley talked to a few of the basketball players from the team this year about Coach Perry, and this is what they had to say:

John Wesley Calvin – "Coach Perry is a very good coach I like a lot even though sometimes he can make me mad. Wouldn't nobody have play time if it wasn't for him. I love you, Coach Perry."

Tay Stanley – "He's laid back; he's a cool coach. I would not have got playing time if it wasn't for Coach Perry."

DJ Taylor – "He's a good caring coach. He's laid back, and he's cool. He plays everybody, and I wouldn't have as much points as I do if it wasn't for him."

#### Next Games in February:

Monday, February 4th @home against Bleckley

Tuesday February 7th @home against Vidalia

Region Tournament: February 13-16 at Vidalia.

Game Admission: \$5.00 for adults and students

### WLMS Boys Basketball

John Calvin  
Qay Brazil  
Kiandre Fortson  
William Kellam  
Watkinzi Norris  
DQ Jackson-Payne  
Gavin Slade  
Riley Sumner  
DJ Taylor  
Cam Clark  
Jamari Hill  
Tay Stanley  
Johnny Williams  
Landon Brigman  
Rashund Washington  
RJ Whipple  
Ashton Williams  
Mark Fordham



(left – right)  
Rashund Washington  
and DJ Taylor

### WLMS Girls Basketball

Journi Snell	Johniah Boston
Aujax Freshley	Brooke Harris
Sanaa Jones	Mirykah Walters
Gabby Carswell	
Arianna King	
Ty'Shiuna Hill	
Jarissa Robinson	
Kabria Coleman	
Ja'Nya Hankins	
McKenzie Maddox	
Caitlyn Nesbitt	
Takiyah Rozier	
Zion Covin	
Toriah Tobler	
Ella Miller	



## More Basketball News

### WLMS Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team beat Jeff Davis on Monday, December 16, 35 to 19. McKenzie Maddox led the team in scoring with 17 points, had 5 rebounds, 4 steals, and 1 assist. TyShiunna Hill added 10 points, 6 steals and 1 assist. Other scorers were Aujax Freshley, Sanaa Jones, Toriah Tobler, and Arianna King. Toriah led the team with 6 rebounds and 2 assists. Kabria Coleman led the team with two blocks.

The Lady Raiders beat the Lady Irish on Thursday, January 3, 32 to 18. McKenzie Maddox led all scorers with 12 points. Sanaa Jones added six points and Kabria Coleman chipped in with 5. Other scorers were Gabby Carswell, TyShiuna Hill and Caitlin Nesbitt. Kabria led the team with 4 rebounds while Tariah Tobler led the team with 7 steals, 2 assists, and 2 blocked shots.

The Lady Raiders lost a heart breaker to the Lady Falcons in the closing minutes of the game 31 - 28 on Monday January 7. McKenzie Maddox led all scorers with 12 points. Kabria Coleman added 5 points, and Ty'Shiuna Hill chipped in with 4. Other scorers were Toriah Tobler, Sanaa Jones, and Zion Covin. Kabria led the team with 7 rebounds, while Ty'Shiuna Hill led the team with 7 steals and 3 assists.

The Lady Raiders came from behind to beat Bleckley Cty on Thursday, January 10, 21 to 17. Tariah Tobler led the team with 8 points, 7 rebounds, 6 steals and 2 blocked shots. McKenzie Maddox added 6 points and 3 assists. Ty'Shiuna Hill chipped in with 4 points while Kabria Coleman scored 3 in the game.

The Lady Raiders beat Vidalia on Monday, January 14, 34 - 19. Tyshiuna Hill led the scoring attack with 10 points, Caitlyn Nesbitt scored 8, and McKenzie Maddox chipped in with 7. Other scorers were Toriah Tobler and Jarissa Robinson.

#### Next Games:

Monday, February 4: @ home against Bleckley

Thursday, February 7: @home against Vidalia



**GO**  
**Raiders!**

## More Raider Sports News

### 2019 WLMS Baseball Team

#### 6th Grade

Parker Bryant  
Kimbal Wright  
Jack Riner  
Rylan Harden  
Will Fountain  
Brent Durden  
Carter Mathews  
Hunter Graham  
Jordan Hall  
Jayden Spivey  
Jaylen Rozier

#### 7th Grade

Garrett Woods  
Walker Allen  
Kohan Karmazinas  
Braden Davis  
Steven Vertin  
Kaden Baggett  
Nelson Loyd

#### 8th Grade

William Kellam  
Matthew Thigpen  
Tucker Brown  
Camden Thomas  
Brock Morgan  
Eli Hartwell  
Luke Goodwin  
Sean Luke Green  
Riley Curtis  
Coleman Phillips  
Jansen Meeks  
Tucker Burney  
Ian Anderson

### Meet

### Coach Vaughn Murkerson



Coach Murkerson's baseball experience ranges from 4 years on the West Laurens High School Baseball team, 1 year as a community coach, and 3 years as an everyday coach. His coaching philosophy is to (1) have fun & (2) build relationships. Coach said, "I'm very much a micro manager; everything has to be organized, and everybody has a job." Murkerson says that his strength of being very vocal has helped him a lot. One of his weaknesses is that some players say that he is not very easy to understand. Coach Murkerson is the best for this job because he is very organized and detailed and has a lot of confidence in himself.

By: Taylor Upshaw

#### **Schedule-**

**2/16 two games against Toombs one @10 and @12**  
**2/18 @Jeff Davis A-Team @4**  
**2/19 @Vidalia B-Team @4**  
**2/21 Dodge @home A-Team @4**  
**2/25 @Swainsboro A-Team @4**  
**2/27 Elder Middle (WACO) @home A-Team @4:30**  
**2/28 Dublin @home A-Team @4**  
**3/4 Eastlaurens @home A-Team @4**  
**3/5 Dodge @home B-Team @4**





# Other Happenings Around WLMS

## Congratulations Spelling Bee Winners

Congratulations to Krisha Patel for winning the WLMS Spelling Bee. Antwan Foston was our runner-up.



## Creative Learning at WLMS



## Oconee EMC Students of the Quarter

Oconee EMC had the opportunity to present WLMS students (l-r Mr. Waldrep, principal, Anna Kate Martin, Olivia Craft and Ellie Ruth Mullis) with the Student of the Quarter recognition.

Oconee EMC recognizes a 6th, 7th and 8th-grade student that exemplifies one or more of our four core values of Accountability, Commitment to Community, Innovation and Integrity.

Congratulations!



## We Need You!

Contribute story ideas/pictures/church, club, & community events to *The Raider Monthly*. Email: [lisaweeks@lcboe.net](mailto:lisaweeks@lcboe.net) OR Submit your idea on paper to one of the following teachers:  
6th grade: Thompson, Hadden, or O'Neal  
7th grade: Oxford  
8th grade: Weeks

## LAST MINUTE RAIDER NEWS

### WLMS BETA Club Induction Ceremony

Congratulations to our WLMS Raiders who were inducted into Jr. Beta tonight. We are extremely proud of each of you. Thanks to Kim Mullis Howell for the photo.



# Congrats!

Congratulations to our Region Champion Wrestlers!!!  
Thanks to Kara Rawls for the picture.



### BETA Club Information

Jr. Beta is selling Valentine's gift bags for \$5. Each bag will have a soft drink, candy bar, and stick balloon. These will be delivered to students on Valentine's Day. Students may place orders in Library until Feb 7. Parents or grandparents may place orders by calling Mrs. Nichols at 272-8452 ext. 8300.



## Special Feature

Happy Valentine's Day!

### What Not to Buy for Your Valentine

During this time of year, many guys are searching for the perfect gift for their girlfriends. However, some guys really have no clue what to get and what not to get.

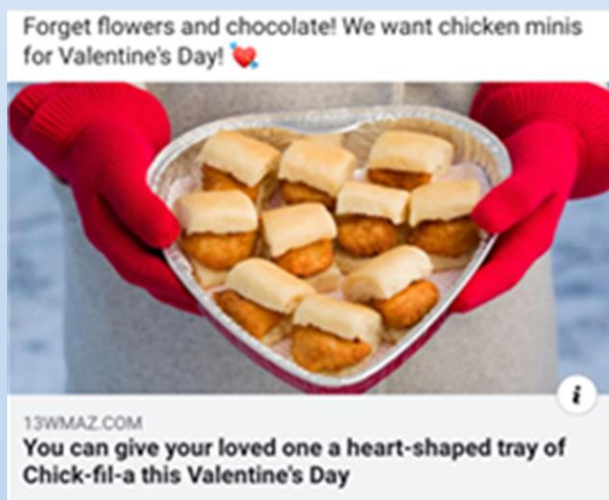
Although flowers may seem like a great option, they are a stereotypical gift, and many girls do not want flowers for Valentine's Day. First of all, some girls are allergic to flowers. Also, flowers are hard to take home, and kind of awkward especially if you give them to her at school. Finally, flowers will die within a week or two. Instead of flowers, girls would much rather have things like Teleties, scrunchies, or gift cards.

Another thing not to get her would be a promise ring. It can seem like you are moving too fast. Also, ring sizes are tricky to determine on the sly. Instead of giving her a ring, you could give her a bracelet or a necklace.

Buying the stereotypical box of chocolates for girls on Valentine's Day is actually not correct either. The heart-shaped boxes of chocolates don't taste great, and many don't like them. If your budget only allows you to afford chocolate, buy them more of the common type like Hershey's, Kit-Kats, or Lindor Truffles.

### \*\*\*VALENTINE'S DAY SCHOOL POLICY\*\*\*

**Balloons and flowers in glass containers will not be allowed on school buses anytime. All flowers and balloons must be delivered by 2:00 p.m.**



### Easy Valentine's Day Recipe

#### No-Bake Mint Oreo Truffles

Ingredients:

- 1 package of mint Oreos
- 1 bag of semisweet chocolate chips (12 ounces)
- 1 package of cream cheese, softened
- 1-2 teaspoons of canola oil
- Optional: heart sprinkles

How to make:

Step 1: Stick a sleeve of Oreos in a large resealable bag, and use a rolling pin to smash the Oreos into small pieces. Then, repeat for the next 2 sleeves of Oreos.

Step 2: Next, mix in the cream cheese. Then, roll the mixture into quarter-size balls.

Step 3: Stick the dough balls into the refrigerator to harden for at least 20 minutes.

Step 4: Once the 20 minutes is almost over, pour the chocolate chips into a microwave-safe bowl with the canola oil, and microwave in 25-second intervals (stirring in between) until the chocolate is fully melted. \*Tip: If the chocolate is thick and goopy, stir in a little more oil.

Step 5: Cover the truffles in a coat of chocolate, and stick it on a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Optional: Add some heart sprinkles to make the truffles more festive.

Step 6: Put the truffles in the fridge once again, and wait 20 minutes, or over night so the chocolate can harden.



## Valentine's Day Shout-Outs

- ♥ "I am in love with Chocolate Mocha Frappuccino's!!!!"  
- Christopher Morrison
- ♥ I shout out Coach Carter for being the best coach ever to be taught by. -  
Audrey Lord
- ♥ I shout out Mollie for being the best friend ever. - Audrey Lord
- ♥ Shout out to all of my friends: Laura, Kyndall, Kaitlyn, Gracie,  
Kimber, Allyson, Dani, and a whole bunch more! Y'all are so funny and  
are really great friends :) -Karah
- ♥ Thanks Will for being a good friend. - Zander Dumas
- ♥ I just want to shout out my boyfriend Wade Blount. I am so glad we  
met. I love you. I hope we stay together forever. Happy Valentine's Day!  
-Kaitlyn Davis
- ♥ I also want to shout out to Mrs. Hadden for being the best teacher ever. I  
love you! You're such a great teacher! - Kaitlyn Davis
- ♥ Pipsqueak is pretty cool if you ask me - anonymous
- ♥ Zoey, I think your eyes shimmer and shine like a Rolex; they're  
genuine. From your boyfriend 😊
- ♥ Anael Navarro loves Zach Dean.
- ♥ Friendship Shout-Out from Kimber Haddox to Miranda Mims.
- ♥ Mika Faircloth, thanks for always having my back. -Ellie
- ♥ Coach Carter, thanks for being a good coach. -Ellie
- ♥ I want to give a shout-out to Dr. Greeson for being an amazing teacher &  
giving us wonderful music! - Kiersten Rogers
- ♥ Keelee Seymour, Daynika Eastman, Karah Newton, Adison Holmes,  
Kaylee Ivey, Mrs. Hadden, Mrs. Soles, and Mrs. Morris - Thanks for  
being the best friends and best teachers I could ask for. -Alannah  
McClendon
- ♥ Shoutout to Harley Wilson for being the best friend ever. - Savannah  
Gilley

## Valentine's Day Shout-Outs

- ♥ Anslee Smith loves Tom Holland!
- ♥ Mrs. Soles you are the best teacher! – La'terrance Jacobs
- ♥ "Shout out to Cellie. I am glad to be with you; you are great."  
Ben Rogowski
- ♥ "My shout out is to my dad. I love you." Ben Rogowski
- ♥ Shoutout to my friends, for letting me in as a new kid. Thank you Maddox, Harris, Ashton Williams, and Chase Cody!" Ben Rogowski
- ♥ "Shoutout to Teasia Jones. You are the best girl I have ever met. "  
-Teasia Jones
- ♥ "Shout out to Gabby Carswell! Love you!" Teasia Jones
- ♥ "Thank you Coach Perry! You are the best coach I have ever had!"  
Ashton Williams
- ♥ "I would like to shout out to my boyfriend, Hayden, for being a very good & kind boyfriend." Darcey D.
- ♥ "Thank you Laura, Savannah, Scottie, Judson, and Younna for being good friends." Darcey D.
- ♥ "I just want to shout out to my friend, Fronetta. She is an amazing best friend!" Kaitlyn Davis
- ♥ "This is a shoutout to my friend, Kaitlyn Davis. She always makes me smile; She is one of my best friends!"  
Fronetta
- ♥ "This is for my best friend, Jaylan Ray. You are amazing!"  
Fronetta
- ♥ "This goes out Kamari. You are such a great friend!" Fronetta
- ♥ Shoutout to Coach Perry for being a good coach & to Tariah for being a good girlfriend, and to Mrs. Hadden, Manning, Morris, and Matthews. – Rashund Washington
- ♥ To Mrs. O'Neal for being a good teacher and Knaya Downing for being the "best" best friend.
- ♥ Dustyn, you are the love of my life and you will always be forever & ever. –Addison Taylor