



# Hive Jive

**Williamston Middle School**

**January 31, 2025**

## Upcoming Events

<b>February 12</b>	<b>Count Day</b>
<b>February 14</b>	<b>K-12 Half Day AM</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>No School K-12</b>
<b>March 7</b>	<b>K-12 Half Day A.M.</b>
<b>March 13</b>	<b>K-12 Half Day A.M., Conferences</b>
<b>March 21</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>March 31</b>	<b>Classes Resume</b>
<b>April 8</b>	<b>PSAT (8th grade only)</b>
<b>April 16</b>	<b>M-Step (all grades)</b>
<b>April 22</b>	<b>M-Step (6/7 grades only)</b>
<b>May 7-8</b>	<b>NWEA Math Testing</b>
<b>May 16-17</b>	<b>NWEA Reading Testing</b>
<b>May 26</b>	<b>K-12 No School, Memorial Day</b>
<b>June 6</b>	<b>K-12 Half Day AM, Last Day of School</b>



The 6th grade band performed at Explorer Elementary so 5th grade students could learn about the process to join the band.

## **ELECTRONIC REPORT CARDS**

Families can now view semester 1 electronic report cards in the PowerSchool parent portal. Parents must use a web browser to view them. They cannot be viewed in the PowerSchool mobile app. [The PowerSchool Parent - View Report Card Link](#) provides a step by step process to electronically view report cards. If you need assistance, please contact support@gowcs.net.

### **Resources Available**

- **Food assistance:**

Williamston Food Bank is available to help families with food needs anytime. [Click here for more information](#). Please email [williamstonmifoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:williamstonmifoodbank@gmail.com) or call 517-655-3813 to make arrangements.

- **Boots and Shoes:**

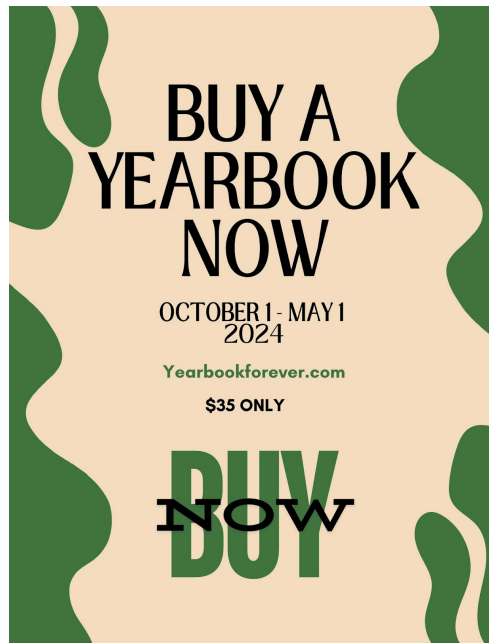
The Old Newsboys Association of Greater Lansing is now processing applications for footwear for school-age children. Children qualify for free footwear if they receive free or reduced lunch for the 2024-2025 school year. Upon receipt of a completed and approved application, each child in the family will receive a \$50 coupon for footwear at Meijer or Shoe Carnival and a \$10 coupon for socks. Please click the link for the [application form](#). Contact Sophia Mackoul at [mackous@gowcs.net](mailto:mackous@gowcs.net) or 655-4668 ext. 6520 with any questions.

## **IS YOUR CHILD FEELING ILL?**

As we enter cold and flu season, there are many things that can be done to keep our schools, homes, and communities healthy:

- As a general rule, students should stay home when they are feeling ill. It is recommended that sick individuals stay at home until their symptoms improve and they are fever-free for at least 24 hours **without the use of fever-reducing medications**.
- You can lower the risk of getting and spreading illnesses by:
  - Washing hands often with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds
  - Using hand sanitizer if hand washing is not available
  - Coughing and sneezing into the upper shirt sleeve or elbow
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
  - Avoid close contact with others, such as shaking hands and sharing drinks and eating utensils
  - Clean frequently touched surfaces such as door knobs, desks, countertops, and cell phones
  - Stay up to date on recommended vaccinations
  - Maintain a healthy diet, adequate rest, and proper hydration

Please feel free to contact us if we can provide any additional information. We thank you for working together to keep our school community healthy.



### **BELL SCHEDULE AND LUNCH**

See the [2024-2025 bell schedule](#) that includes daily schedules and assigned lunch times (based on 4th hour teachers).

### **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH AT WMS**

Michigan School Free Meals will begin at the start of the 2024-25 school year, providing state reimbursement to schools for every breakfast and lunch served to Michigan public school students who receive meals through their school's participation in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. Visit the [Food Service Link](#) to learn more about the program and services provided. [Lunch menus are linked](#) in the weekly WMS Hive Jive.

Ala carte items are also available for purchase. Student ala carte food accounts may be paid for by the week, month, or year. Online payments are made using the [family portal](#) or checks are written to Williamston Community Schools and delivered to the kitchen in the morning before school starts.

### **WEEKEND KIT PROGRAM - 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

WMS is participating in the weekend kit program, which is supplemental to the free breakfast and lunch programs offered at school every day and is intended to meet the nutritional needs of children during non-school hours, specifically over weekends or longer breaks.

Weekend Kits are designed to slip discreetly into your child's backpack and are distributed to participating children every other week on Thursdays and are available at no cost to your family. There are no eligibility requirements to participate in this program.

Each Weekend Kit includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack items and contains enough food to last each child two weekends. Foods included are kid-friendly items that are easy for your child to prepare or help prepare.

Participation forms are linked below if you wish to register your child for the Weekend Kit program. For more information, please reach out to Sophia Mackoul at [mackous@gowcs.net](mailto:mackous@gowcs.net) or email [glfb@glfoodbank.org](mailto:glfb@glfoodbank.org). If you would like more information about additional food assistance resources available to your family, please visit [glfoodbank.org](http://glfoodbank.org).

**[PARTICIPATION FORM](#)**

**[DELIVERY SCHEDULE](#)**

## **FOOD ALLERGIES**

Classrooms at Williamston Middle School are designated as peanut and tree-nut-free to ensure the safety of all students. Please be vigilant about checking food labels to ensure that snacks from home are free from these allergens. For additional information and guidance on how to read food labels, please refer to this resource: [Understanding Food Labels](#). Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school environment safe for all students.

## **ATTENDANCE**

If your student is absent, please call the Attendance Line at 517-655-4668 (press #1) within 24 hours of the absence. On the recording, state the student's name, grade, date of absence, and reason for absence OR electronically submit an absence online through your PowerSchool account. If your child has an unexcused absence, then an automated message will be sent to parents/guardians.

## **SCHOOL MESSENGER NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

Williamston Community Schools utilizes a rapid notification system called School Messenger. This automated system notifies parents/guardians of school closings and other important messages. Messages are sent out based on information in our PowerSchool student information system. Parents/guardians can add additional phone numbers and email addresses to this system by logging into their PowerSchool Parent Access account. Instructions are found on the WCS website ([www.gowcs.net](http://www.gowcs.net)) under the "Parents/Families" link.

## **AUTOMATED ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION ENHANCEMENTS**

In addition to our morning notification of unverified absences, we implemented an automated notification system to keep you updated on your child's attendance status for all of the class periods throughout the day. This system aims to foster better communication and support your child's educational experience.

### **What You Need to Know:**

- **Timely Notifications:** You will receive automated notifications in the evening if your child is marked with an **Unverified Absence** or **Tardy** during the day. Unverified absences or tardies are reported per class period. This will provide you with timely information to ensure you are aware of your child's attendance.
- **Encouraging Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for academic success. By keeping you informed, we hope to encourage open dialogue about the importance of being present in school and arriving for class on time with the necessary materials. For additional information regarding attendance, see the [linked Student Handbook](#) (pages 12-13)

We believe this system will strengthen our partnership in supporting your child's education. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enhancement to the notification system, please do not hesitate to contact the main office at 655-4668.

## **IN-PERSON DROP-OFF/PICK-UP DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

If your child needs to be dropped off or picked up during the school day, then please call the main office at 655-4668 upon arrival to verbally sign your child in or out of school.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN VOLUNTEERS**

The district [background check form](#) for volunteers can be found [on our website](#). Please fill out and bring in a printed copy, or scan & email it to the WMS office.

### **BUZZ TICKET REWARD SYSTEM**

Follow the [Buzz Ticket Link](#) to learn more about the positive incentives.

### **WMS STUDENT HANDBOOK & CODE OF CONDUCT**

WMS Student Handbook 2024-25, which includes the Code of Conduct, is available on the [WCS website](#).

## Extracurricular

### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Please see the girls' basketball calendar for practice and game info.

[Girls' Basketball Calendar](#)

### **WRESTLING**

6th, 7th, & 8th-grade boys and girls wrestling practice 3:30 - 5:30 pm in WMS Cafeteria.

2/4/25 @ Portland 4:30 pm

2/11/25 @ Grand Ledge 4:30 pm

2/14/25 @ Grand Ledge Invite 4:30 pm

2/18/25 @ Olivet 4:30 pm

2/25/25 @ St. Johns 4:30 pm

3/4/25 @ Home

3/8/25 @ Fowlerville CAAC Conference time TBD

### **COMPETITIVE CHEER CLUB**

6th, 7th, & 8th-grade girls competitive cheer practice Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00 pm in WMS Cafeteria.

### **CADL EVENTS**

#### **Decorating Valentine Cookies**

Tuesday, Feb. 4

3:30 - 4:30 pm

All ages

#### **Throwback Thursday: Wii Games!**

Stop in to play games like Wii Sports and Just Dance on our Nintendo Wii.

Thursday, Feb. 6

3:30 - 4:30 pm

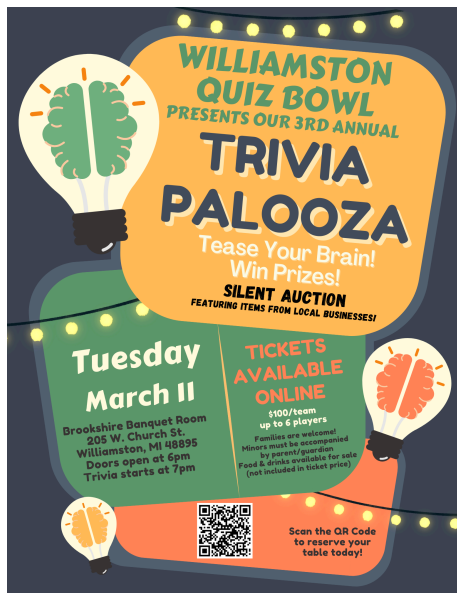
Ages 8 and up

#### **Homemade Valentines**

Come into the library anytime this week to make a Valentine.

Monday-Friday, Feb. 10-14 during open hours

All ages



Williamston Quiz Bowl is proud to announce our 3rd Annual [Triviapalooza Trivia Night](#)! This event will raise funds to support the HS and MS quiz bowl teams for their trips to the National Championships in Chicago, Illinois! The High School team placed first in their division in two separate tournaments, and the Middle School team was undefeated and won the league championship! You and your teammates (up to six people total) can play against other trivia teams at the Brookshire Inn & Golf Club on Tuesday, March 11, 2025! The doors open at 6:00, and the Trivia starts at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$100 for a team of up to six people. You can [order online at this link](#) - hope to see you there!

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

3845 Vanneter Rd. Williamston, MI 48895 (517) 655-4668