



TRAILBLAZER NEWS

APRIL 2025

MARCUS WHITMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Happy Spring Marcus Families!

Spring parent/student/teacher conferences are upon us and will take place
the week of **04/08/25 - 04/10/25.**

Half day early release (11:25 dismissal) Tuesday – Friday.

Monday is a regular FULL DAY.

Conferences will be held Tuesday - Thursday.

There are NO conferences on Monday or Friday.

Conferences are now open for scheduling! Detailed instructions on how to schedule conferences in Skyward were sent via Parent Square on Monday March, 24. If you do not have computer access or need assistance with scheduling, you may call or email our counseling office - Clare Honn:
honn@skschools.org (360) 874-6171.

School & Conference Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
April 7	April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11
8:10 – 2:45	8:10 – 11:25	8:10 – 11:25	8:10 – 11:25	8:10 – 11:25
FULL DAY	Half day	Half day	Half day	Half day
No Conferences	Conferences	Conferences	Conferences	No Conference
	12:15 - 4:45	12:15 - 3:15	12:15 - 3:15	
	&			
	5:45 - 7:15			

State Testing Dates & Information

Below you will find the testing schedule for our required state testing. All students will be participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessment for Math and ELA (see detailed schedule below). Our eighth graders will also be taking the Washington Comprehensive Assessment for Science (WCAS) during their 1st and 2nd period classes on May 6th.

Tuesday May 6	Wednes- day May 7	Thursday May 8
8th WCAS 8th Grade Only (1st/2nd Period)		ELA CAT (2 Hour) Overflow
Tuesday May 13	Wednes- day May 14	Thursday May 15
ELA PT (2 Hour) Overflow		Math PT (1 hour) Overflow
Tuesday May. 20	Wednes- day May. 21	Thursday May. 22
Math CAT (2 Hour) Overflow		

WCAS=Washington Comprehensive
Assessment of Science
CAT=Computer Adaptive Test

PT=Performance Task

If your student is absent on the day of testing, we will have them make up the test prior to the end of the testing window. If you know you will be gone multiple days, then please email Mrs. Chang the dates, so she can arrange an alternate testing time, if necessary.

To help your student perform their best, please make sure they are well rested and eat a healthy breakfast. They will need to come prepared with a charged Chromebook and wired headphones. A good pep talk never hurts!

If you have any questions regarding testing, you may reach out to Mrs. Chang at 360-874-6175 or via email at chang@skschools.org.

May 8th, 13th, and 20th

Special Bell Schedule

Testing Block: 8:10am to 10:10am

Periods 1 to 6: 10:15am to 2:45pm

May 15th

Special Bell Schedule

Testing Block: 8:10am to 9:10am

Periods 1 to 6: 9:15am to 2:45pm

BE SURE-State Testing

1. Be sure your student gets enough sleep.
2. Be sure they have a healthy breakfast. Remember, we serve breakfast every morning at Marcus Whitman in the Commons!
3. Be sure their Chromebooks are charged and ready.
4. Be sure their Chromebooks make it to school with them.
5. Be sure to send them with wired headphones on Monday, May 6th.
6. Be sure to encourage them to leave their Bluetooth headphones, smart watches, and other electronic devices at home on testing days. Why?

Electronics are not allowed in the testing area and can cause a test to be invalidated.

Electronics can be distracting, even when they are in the backpack.



April 28th is STEAM night for students and families from 5:30pm to 7:00 pm. There will community members who will talk about shorelines, wastewater, robotics, and planetary systems. The students of Marcus Whitman will be displaying engineering projects, classroom projects, and there will be hands on activities like “build a windmill” or “gravity mazes”. There will be art, woodshop, and music opportunities as well. We look forward to all families attending.



SPRING BREAK BEGINS

APRIL 14th THROUGH APRIL 18th

We hope everyone has a fun and restful break.

April 21st starts the last 9 weeks of school.

Let's get to school on time and be ready to work hard so everyone can finish the school year strong.



ATTENTION MARCUS!

YEARBOOK SALES!

ORDER YOURS NOW!

**\$35 WITHOUT ASB
\$30 WITH ASB**

**ON MAY 1ST, THE PRICE
GOES UP TO \$35/40!**

**ORDER ONLINE OR AT THE
STUDENT STORE**

2024-2025

MEMO

BREAKING NEWS

LEXICAL EXPANSION!!

A good vocabulary base supports literacy acquisition and comprehension! How do you expand your lexicon? READ! Studies have shown you get a lot of bang for your buck in vocabulary development from reading! Choosing diverse topics is a great way to introduce novel vocabulary words to your students or children. If possible, preview the literature before hand and pre-teach any new words. Maybe pick one or two of the unknown words and make a game out of how many times everyone can use the new word that day or that week! Then you can impress all your friends because they will need a dictionary to communicate with you!



www.reallygreatsite.com



April Spirit Days

4th- Shades of Blue

Wear a shade of blue to show our schools unity

9th- Purple Out

Wear purple to show your support to kids with parents
in the military

11th- Spring Day

Wear pastels

**25th- Students dress like staff and
staff dress like students**

McDonald's
Takeover

Mc Takeover

ASB FUNDRAISER



Come join us to support
MWMS ASB at McDonalds

Wednesday
May, 14th

At the Sedgwick
McDonald's 6pm-8pm



*40% of the proceeds
go to support ASB*

**We look forward to seeing
you there!**

OT 'BITES'

APRIL 2025

April is Occupational
Therapy month!



You deserve meaningful occupations and activities that fill your cup!

As part of OT month, here is a Self-Care Challenge-
Explore the self-care ideas:

- Play a boardgame
- Go for a walk
- Write in a journal
- Color a picture
- Hydrate throughout the day
- Cook or eat your favorite meal



- Make your exhale longer than your inhale
- Read a book
- Listen to your favorite song
- Spend time with a friend
- Sit outside for ten minutes



Tuesday, June 17, 2025

1:30pm

MWMS Gym

8TH GRADE PROMOTION

Attention 8th grade families!

We will be celebrating our 8th graders at a promotion ceremony on June 17 at 1:30pm in the Marcus Whitman gym. Families are encouraged to come and celebrate their student. We are excited for what the future holds for these Trailblazers.



Save the date and help us celebrate!

After School Clubs

The Allies GSA Club: The Allies GSA Club is a group where students can connect, share their experiences, support one another, and be great allies for members of the Marcus LGBTQ+ community. Whether you are an LGBTQ+ student, a friend, or member of a queer family, you will find a welcoming home here. GSA meets every Tuesday after school until. A permission slip signed by student and parent must be submitted before participation. You can get a permission slip from the Main Office.

Weight Lifting Club will be meeting Tuesday and Thursday in the Weight Room. Time is from 2:50 pm to 3:50. This club is for students interested in learning how to lift weights for personal fitness or maybe getting ready for a sport. Permission slips are at the main office. Advisors Mr. Zappey and Mr. Dan

Unified Club! Where Students Belong! This club is a space for students of all backgrounds to come together and feel like they have a voice and belong. Along with meeting new friends, games, snacks, and activities, that help students grow and build a sense of community with sports and activities. We meet every Wednesday from 2:50—3:50 pm.

STEM Club—TSA is the perfect club for middle school students who love to explore, build, and compete! In TSA, you learn hands-on skills in areas like robotics, engineering, and design, while also developing teamwork and leadership abilities. TSA meets Thursday in Room 112 (Woodshop) from 2:45—3:45. Permission slips are at the main office.

D & D Club - In this club, students will run and play weekly games of D&D. Experienced players and newbies are all welcome! Club will meet Mondays, 2:45—3:55.

POKEMON Club - If you love Pokemon, this is the club for you. We talk Pokemon, trade Pokemon and catch them all. Meet Wednesdays from 2:50—3:50. Be sure you have submitted your permission slip before you attend.

DRAMA TEAM - Be a part of the spring musical and other acting performances. We meet the 4th Tuesday of each month from 2:50—3:30 and more often during performance season.

Running Club: Running club will begin on November 4, 2:50 to 4:00 in room 108. This club will be meeting once a week to explore good running habits, learn to stretch and warm up correctly and to do onsite and off site running. All are welcome, even those who may not be able to run YET! Great way to stay in shape and learn good stretching and warm up practices.

Tuesday, April 22 is Earth Day!

Find some time with your student to get outside to enjoy our earth and celebrate all it provides for us by learning about some real-world data analysis. Data analysis is important because it empowers informed decision-making, identifies opportunities, optimizes processes, and helps individuals and companies by transforming raw data into actionable insights. What a great way to get started by learning how to analyze items in your own neighborhood!

An example could be to count how many trees, bushes, or plants are in your yard. You can create a data table to analyze your work. Another idea is that you can count how many flowers are bloomed each day and keep track of them, build a graph (bar graph, line graph, pie chart of the different kinds of flowers). Analyzing data is a wonderful skill to build. Once you collect your data, you can do a Notice and Wonder about what you see, you can make predictions for future days, or maybe it will influence you to go plant something!

Check out the MW Math Website for more resources! <https://sites.google.com/skschools.org/mw-math/home>



Volunteer Opportunities

Your student may become more independent at the Middle School level, however, there are still volunteer opportunities such as:

Tutoring students/Assisting the teacher

Band/Choir/Orchestra Assistant

Help with Student Events

Fieldtrip Chaperones

Teacher Appreciation events



Volunteer applications are available in the Main office and are required to be in place before volunteering. Applications will be sent to the District Office for processing.

District Contact: Amy Miller at Millera@skschools.org (360) 874-7005.

Intramural Volleyball - 3:30 start

round robin format

Date	Games	Place
Apr 4	Game 1 CH vs JS Game 2 MW vs CH Game 3 JS vs MW	Sedgwick
Apr 25	Game 1 MW vs JS Game 2 JS vs CH Game 3 CH vs MW	Marcus
May 2	Game 1 JS vs CH Game 2 MW vs JS Game 3 MW vs CH	Cedar

Cross Country Meet Schedule - 4:00 start

Date	Opponent	Place
Apr 3	Jamboree	Cedar
Apr 23	Fairview/Mt. View	Mt. View
Apr 30	CKMS/Poulsbo	Marcus
May 7	Sedgwick/Cedar	Sedgwick
May 14	Poulsbo/Ridgetop	Poulsbo
May 21	Klahowya	Klahowya
May 28	South Futurist	Mt. View
May 29	WSMS League Championships	TBD

Football Schedule -4:00 start

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Apr 5	Jamboree	SKHS
Apr 24	Klahowya	Klahowya
May 1	Fairview	Marcus
May 8	Kingston	Kingston
May 15	Hawkins	Marcus
May 22	Cedar	Marcus
May 29	Division Playoffs	TBD

Intramural Flag Football - 3:30 start round robin format

Date	Opponent	Place
Apr 4	Cedar/Sedgwick	Sedgwick
Apr 25	Cedar/Sedgwick	Marcus
May 2	Cedar/Sedgwick	Cedar

Volleyball Game Schedule - 3:30 start

Date	Opponent	Place
Apr 24	Curtis	Marcus
Apr 28	Cedar	Cedar
Apr 30	Sedgwick	Marcus
May 2	Hawkins	Marcus
May 6	Mt. View	Mt. View
May 13	Curtis	Curtis
May 15	Cedar	Marcus
May 20	Sedgwick	Sedgwick
May 22	Hawkins	Hawkins
May 27	Mt. View	Marcus

Non-Discrimination Statement

The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation – including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws. The Title IX Officer, Section 504 Coordinator, and Gender Inclusivity Officer with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing, and ensuring compliance with this policy are:

Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator:

Will Sarett,

Executive Director of Human Resources

2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

360-874-7071

sarett@skschools.org

Section 504 Coordinator:

Tiffany Buckley,

Assistant Director of Health Services

2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

360-443-3763,

buckley@skschools.org

Gender Inclusivity Compliance Officer:

Dr. Tom Edwards,

Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement

2689 Hoover Ave SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

360-874-7003

edwards@skschools.org

