



# Wyoming Primary Schools

Elm • Hilltop • Vermont

February 21, 2025

Dear WPS Families,

I hope you are all having a great week and staying warm! As we move into the third trimester of the school year, we continue to be amazed by the hard work and growth of our students. Every day, they show us what it means to be respectful, responsible, safe, and ready to learn, and we are so proud of their efforts.

Our classrooms are full of engaging learning experiences that challenge students to think critically, collaborate with peers, and persevere through challenges. Across all grade levels, we see students demonstrating responsibility for their learning, showing respect for their classmates, and making safe and thoughtful choices in their daily routines.

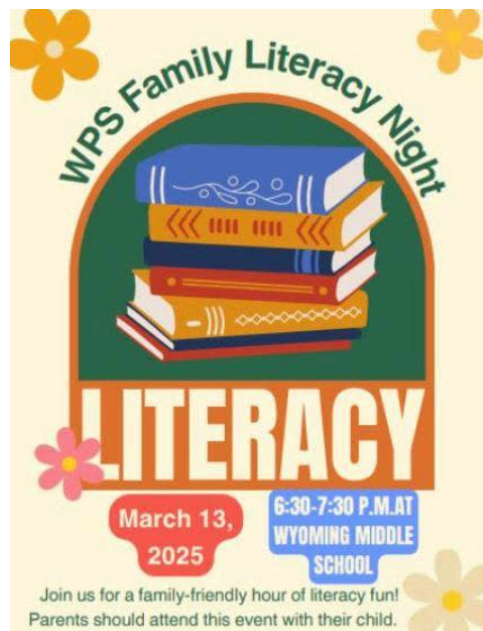
We also want to invite you to Family Literacy Night on Thursday, March 13th, at 6:30 PM. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to engage in fun, literacy-focused activities together and celebrate the joy of reading. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your continued support in making WPS a place where every child can learn, grow, and succeed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gina Kirchner

Principal, Wyoming Primary Schools



## Counselor Corner

During Cowboy Counselor Time, we've been working through the emotion management unit in the Second Step curriculum. The lessons teach students to use the following steps to calm down: 1) Stop, 2) Name Your Feeling, and 3) Calm Down. Students are taught to Stop when they feel a strong emotion by using a Stop Signal by thinking something such as, "Hold on," "Relax," or "Pause." Then, students should think about how they are feeling. The Second Step program teaches that doing these first two things starts the calming down process. Then, students are taught that they can choose a calm down tool, such as belly breathing, counting, or positive self-talk. We've taught them many other calm down tools as well; please ask your child to demonstrate some of his/her favorite tools! We teach students that when they're calm they can demonstrate that they are respectful, responsible, and ready to learn.

## Pupil Services News & Updates

As demonstrated in our core values and strategic plan, Wyoming is committed to educating the "whole child", that is, to teach academic and life skills that prepare students for college, career, and beyond. These life skills include *working through adversity, being a critical thinker, accepting responsibility for one's own actions, and getting along with others.*

In March and April, Wyoming City Schools will administer to students in kindergarten through grade 12 our developmentally-appropriate resiliency screener, called Terrace Metrics. Resiliency means that an individual has personal strengths that allow them to overcome or work through adversity. Resiliency is a key factor in positive school and learning experiences. Therefore, high resiliency contributes to better academic performance.

### What Should I Know as a Parent/Guardian about the Terrace Metrics Screener?

- Only students who have parent permission will participate. If you do not wish to have your student participate in the Terrace Metrics Screener, please complete this [form](#). The form must be completed by February 25, 2025. If you previously opted your child out, they will be opted out again this administration unless you notify the school you want your child to participate.
- Only designated members of our school team (e.g., counselors, administrators) will have access to your child's individual report.
- The assessment is not a diagnostic tool, and no information will be placed into your child's education file. The purpose of this system is to inform us of how each student is functioning within specific resiliency indicators.
- This screener is administered electronically to students and takes an average of 15 to 20 minutes to complete.
- You can view the screener items by contacting the director of pupil services, Dr. Tracy Wurtzler at [wurtzler@wyomingcityschools.org](mailto:wurtzler@wyomingcityschools.org) or 513.207.7022 by February 25, 2025.

Between March 3rd to April 11th, your child will have the opportunity to participate in the winter administration of the Terrace Metrics screener. The following indicators will be assessed at the primary level (for grades K-3, an animated video will read the items to the student, and students will respond by selecting the appropriate emoji):

- Global Life Satisfaction: Overall assessment of feelings and attitudes about one's life at a particular point in time, ranging from negative to positive.
- Positive School Experiences: Assessment of a student's experiences with their learning, as well as their overall interactions with school personnel.
- Grit: Assesses the level of commitment (and tenacity) to achieve a long-term goal.
- Hope (only grades 3 and 4): Assesses goal-directed thinking in which the student has the perceived capacity to find routes to goals (pathways thinking), and the motivation to use those routes (agency thinking).
- Social Ostracism: Items reflect being ignored by others.
- Generalized Anxiety: 7 item, self-reported questionnaire for screening and severity of general forms anxiety (not tied to any one source).

School counselors and administrators will analyze the results very carefully and will provide school-based interventions for students, as necessary. You may be contacted by the school's counselor or administrator if your child's overall scores are significantly below expected measures as compared to peers nationally.

## Upcoming Dates

- **Kindergarten Information Night** - Thursday, February 27th - 6:30 p.m. - Hilltop School Gym
- **Family Literacy Night** - Thursday, March 13th - 6:30-7:30 - Wyoming Middle School

[View the full WCS calendar here.](#)

## News from Around Wyoming

[Click here for more Events and Information from around WCS & the community](#), including:

- Finance Friday
- Kindergarten Registration Info
- Upcoming Events
- A Class for Young Dog Lovers
- Wyoming LAX Club looking for new players in Grades K-8