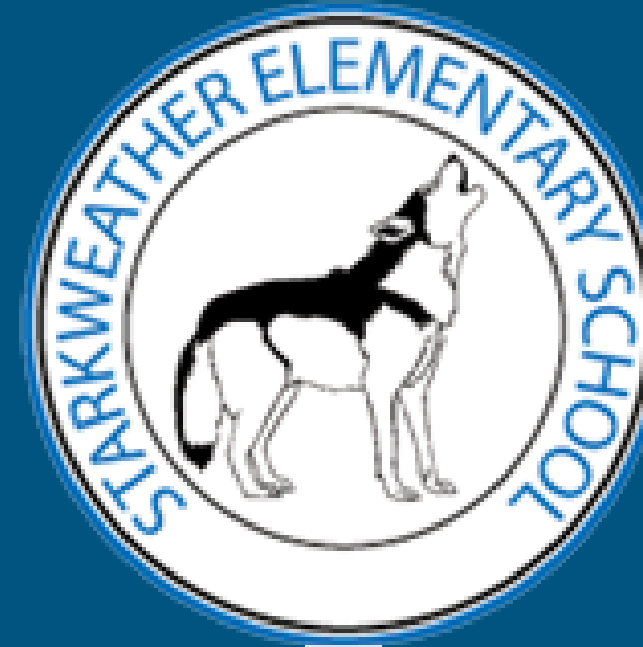


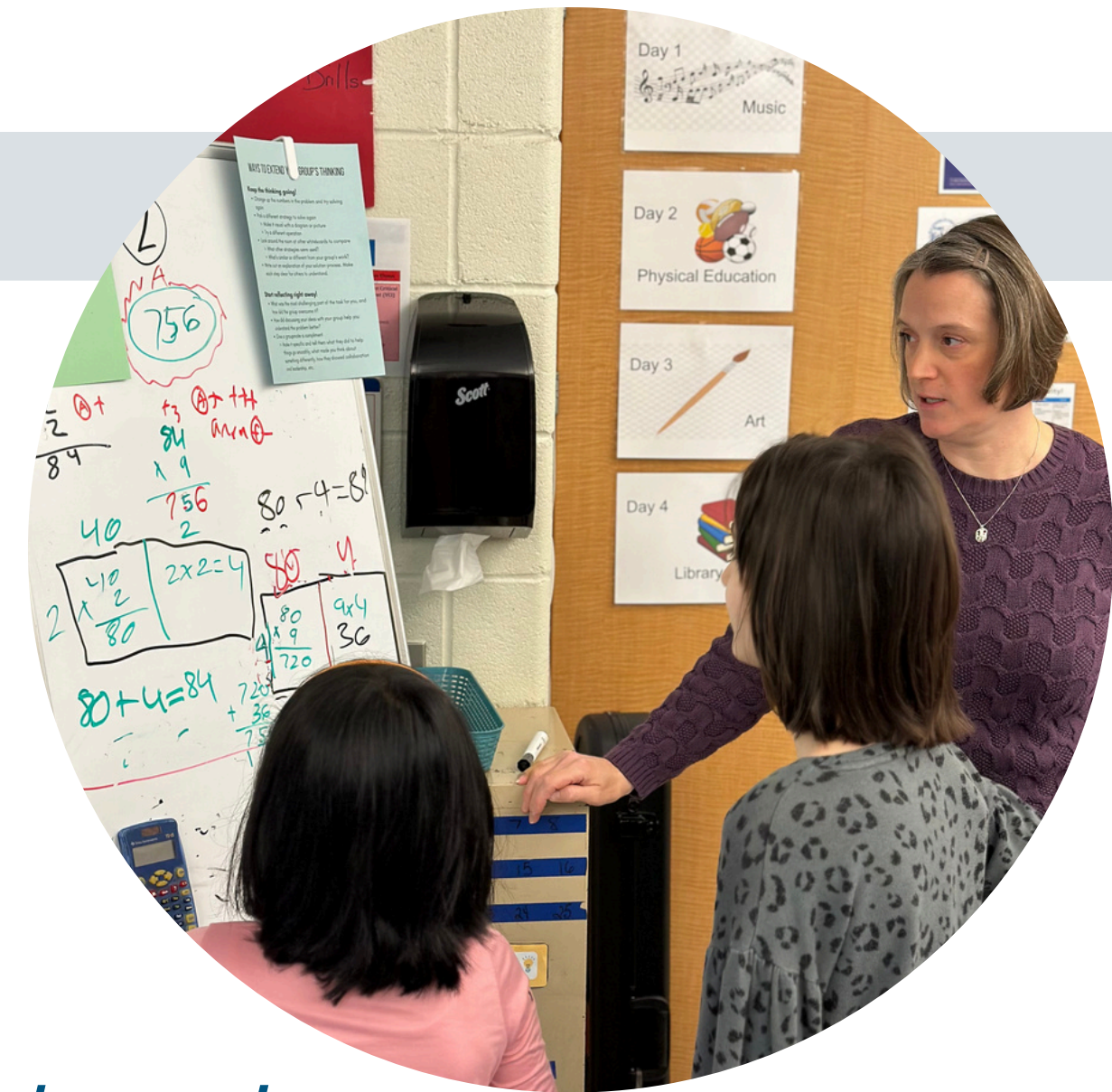
DEPARTMENTALIZATION IN GRADES 4-5



Family Informational Night
Tuesday, April 22, 2025



WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



WC Dr. Sara Missett - *Director of Elementary Education*



Dr. TJ Seidenberger - *Principal EGE*



Dr. Jennifer Southmayd - *Principal FHE*



Mr. John Meanix - *Principal SWS*





TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- What is departmentalization?
- What will a day in the life of a student look like?
- What does this mean for my child?
- What are the next steps?

DEPARTMENTALIZATION

noun | de▪part▪ment▪a▪li▪za▪tion | /dih-pahrt-men-tl-ih-ZAY-shuhn/

WC

Departmentalization is a teaching model in which educators specialize in specific subject areas (such as math, reading, science, or social studies) and work with different groups of students, rather than providing instruction in all subjects to a single class.

- Students rotate among teachers who focus on specific subjects
- Strong collaboration across teaching teams
- Model supports both learning and classroom community



THE RATIONALE

Why Departmentalization?

- Teachers specialize in fewer subjects to deepen instruction
- Students engage more fully in each subject
- Builds independence and confidence
 - Eases transition to middle school structure



WHY A PILOT?

WC

With 11 elementary schools, we want to start small and grow big. We're confident we have the right schools involved to create a model for all WCASD elementary schools to benefit from in 2026-2027.

- Pilot in select 4th & 5th grade classrooms at three schools
- Collect student, family, and teacher feedback
- Monitor engagement, transitions, and academic progress
- Inform broader implementation for 2026–2027



Daily Schedule & Rotations



- Example: One teacher for math and content areas, another for language arts
- Daily routines include homeroom, specials, lunch/recess
- Social-emotional learning integrated across all classes
- Students will transition between classes with support

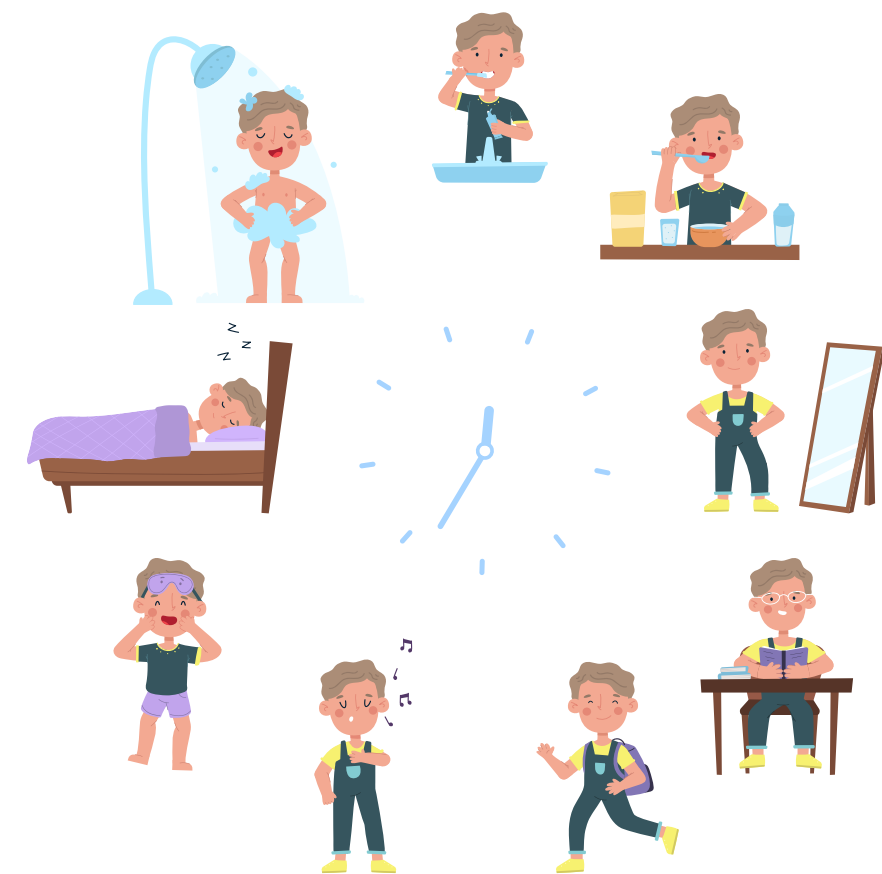
A tablet displaying a grid-based schedule. The grid has 8 rows and 4 columns. The first column contains small horizontal bars. The second column has a red block in the 4th row. The third column has a long orange block spanning the 2nd and 3rd rows. The fourth column has a pink block in the 7th row. A long orange block spans the bottom of the grid across the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th columns.

		Orange	
	Red		
			Pink
	Orange		

The Student Experience & Benefits



- Students will have an assigned homeroom teacher
- Rotate through subjects with clear routines and expectations
- Supported by multiple caring adults throughout the day
- Gain content mastery and essential life skills



What this Means for your Child

WC



- Academic growth through focused instruction
- Support systems that address both learning and emotional needs
- Collaboration among teachers to personalize learning
- Students empowered to take ownership of their success





NEXT STEPS

FOR OUR TEAM

April - June Priorities:

- Continue Community Communication
- Create a “Playbook” for Teaching Staff for future implementation
- Professional Development for Staff
- Finalize Master Schedules

Summer Priorities:

- Continued Professional Development





NEXT STEPS:

FOR FAMILIES BUILDING LEVEL FAMILY SESSIONS

East Goshen: May 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Fern Hill: May 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Starkweather: May 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.



THANK YOU!

Thank you for your time and attention. If you have a question we did not address, please submit the question on this from:



bit.ly/elemdept