

# W Middle School Newsletter

## May/June, 2024



### WEST DE PERE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### West De Pere Schools Mission Statement:

The mission of the School District of West De Pere is to create a comprehensive educational and social environment for students, and staff which will produce life-long learners with the capacity to succeed in a global community.

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Dear West De Pere Middle School Families,

I'd like to begin the final newsletter of the year by recognizing our 5-8 PTO. They help us in so many ways that often go unnoticed. Supportive parents + great teachers = A+ school. THANK YOU for everything you do each and every year to support our school. Other things to share...

#### UW-Oshkosh Math Competition

A group of 16 middle school students traveled to UW-Oshkosh on Tuesday, April 30 to participate in an annual mathematics problem-solving contest. 34 middle school teams were present from around the state and 699 middle school students participated. A rundown of our accomplishments in the competition includes:

1<sup>st</sup> place in 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Anthony Vissers

4<sup>th</sup> Place in 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Isaac Burns

2<sup>nd</sup> place team – Kloe Bartoszek, Samantha Conover, CJ Thompson, Anthony Vissers

2<sup>nd</sup> place overall middle school

Others students representing our middle school included – Liam Husmann, Beckett Johnson, Aden Neuville, Isaiah Reabe, Troy Rockman, Grady Schmidt, Kara Schmoll, David Uttam, Ethan VanLanen, Hank Vossberg, Tyler Wagner. WAY TO GO!

#### Students of the Month

*March*

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Trent Kelley

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Brooklyn Kelnhofer

Encore – Brendan Ostroski

*April*

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Hailey Bouchonville

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Emily Christensen

Encore – Payton Woldt

*May*

7<sup>th</sup> grade – Beckett Laabs

8<sup>th</sup> grade – Emerson Sawyer

Encore – Jackson Seroogy

#### Dress Code

The month of May brings warmer temperatures and changes of attire. The middle school does have a student dress code, which can be found on page 15 of the student handbook. A copy of the student handbook is preloaded on every student's school issued Chromebook and can also be found at the following web address:

[https://www.wdpsd.com/cms\\_files/resources/WDPMS%20Student%20Handbook%202023.pdf](https://www.wdpsd.com/cms_files/resources/WDPMS%20Student%20Handbook%202023.pdf)

We appreciate parent support and partnership by simply making sure their children are aware of and familiar with our dress code.

#### Parent requests for class placement

In past years, parent requests for class placement have been allowed at the middle school. This practice will continue for the 2024-2025 school year. Parent requests regarding class placement will be given full consideration if all of the following conditions have been met:

1. Requests must be communicated in writing to the principal no later than June 6, 2024.
2. Requests must be based on a specific educational need.
3. **Requests should not reference an individual teacher by name.** Rather, the request could reference a teaching style, a classroom environment, or some other special need.

Every class placement request that satisfies all of the conditions described above will be given full consideration. However, the always-present potential for a high number of parent requests prevents us from guaranteeing any request.

Sincerely,

James Finley, Ph.D.

## Phantom Phundamentals Update

Students at West De Pere Middle School continue to impress the teachers and staff with their acts of character at school, in extra-curricular programs, and at home. Here is an example of the way that our students are demonstrating strong character.

**Jose Lambrecht, Grade 7**, displays **Compassion**. Jose is always considerate of others, helps those outside at recess. Jose always makes great choices when the football game gets out of control.



### French Club News: Poisson d'avril!

French Club students gathered on Thursday, April 11 to celebrate the French holiday, Poisson d'avril. Poisson d'avril occurs every year on April 1 and is the French version of April Fool's Day. The April Fool's Day tradition stems from the 16th century when King Charles XIV switched France to the new Gregorian calendar. Prior to this, New Year's had been celebrated from March 25 to April 1, according to the Roman calendar. Those who hadn't heard about the move or who chose to continue to celebrate New Year's on April 1 were made fun of as 'fools'. In France, the common practical joke is to place a paper fish on the back of an unsuspecting 'fool' and yell "Poisson d'avril!" when the fish is discovered. At the French Club event, students decorated paper fish to display in the French classroom throughout the month of April, and they enjoyed goldfish crackers and Swedish fish as a treat. Several students also got "fished" and later discovered fish stickers on their backs!

Our final French Club event of the year will be an end-of-the-year ice cream social held on Thursday, May 9 after school until 3:30 p.m. Students who need a ride home after the event should plan to meet their ride at the Circle Drive in front of the Middle School. Students are asked to sign up in advance if they plan to attend!

### Spring Choir Concert

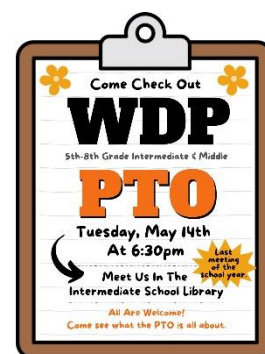
The spring choir concert for the 7th and 8th graders has been moved to Wednesday, May 29 starting at 7:00 p.m. at West De Pere High School. Students in choir and the A Cappella group will need to be at their warm-up rooms by 6:30 p.m. Students should wear black on the bottom and white on the top and can wear a blue or pink accent. No shorts, jeans or flip flops please. Everything should be within the school dress code. This is a required concert and part of the choir student's grade. Please contact Mrs. Ribbens if you have any questions.

### WDP 5-8 PTO

PTO is looking for volunteers to help with:

- Staff and Student appreciation events the week of May 6th
- 8th grade promotion festivities set up, supervision and clean up shifts on June 4th (shifts available from 3-10pm)

Please email [wdp5.8pto@gmail.com](mailto:wdp5.8pto@gmail.com) if interested.



### Art Corner

Recently, Mrs. Schlatter received an email from the Life Enrichment Director from Bellevue Senior Living, requesting some artwork to have on display for a gallery walk at their facility. Many student's artwork will be seen by the seniors that are living there as an activity for that day! The director and Mrs. Schlatter are excited to have this opportunity shared with her residents on May 21st.

Art Club has been working on a small spring project. We used paper mache', pipe cleaners and paper to complete the project. We hope you enjoy what we have created and look for them on May 13th or a little sooner! Art Club will be finishing up the year with a Pizza Party held on Monday, May 13th! Mrs. Schlatter is asking for each Art Club student to donate \$4 to cover the cost of Little Caesar's pizza, chips, kool-aid and cookies. Money should be turned in to Mrs. Schlatter by Friday, May 10th.

*"The greatness of art is not to find what is common but what is unique." - Isaac Bashevis Singer*

## Important Middle School Dates

May 2	Athletic Grade Check
May 3	Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.
May 6-10	Spring Spirit Week
May 10	Spring Pep Assembly
May 14	PTO Meeting @ IS 6:30 p.m.
May 16	Athletic Grade Check
May 20	Spring Band Concert 7th & 8th Gr. @ 6:30 p.m.

May 27	No School (Memorial Day)
May 27	Memorial Day Parade—7 <sup>th</sup> & 8th Gr. Band
May 29	Spring Choir Concert @ HS 7th & 8th Gr. @ 7 p.m.
June 3	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade WI Dells Trip
June 4	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion
June 5	Last Day of School/Early Release @ 11:10 a.m.

### Grades 7-8 Family and Consumer Sciences

Junior Achievement is incorporated in the 7th and 8th grade Family and Consumer Sciences classes. We appreciate the expertise volunteers are so willing to share with our students to help prepare them for life. Thank you!

### Grade 7: Junior Achievement- It's My Future

*JA It's My Future* offers practical information about preparing for the working world. Students explore potential careers, discover the factors to consider in choosing a career, and recognize basic job-hunting tools.

<b>Quarter 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stacey Sinkula: Navitas</li> <li>• Amber Gumm: Schneider</li> <li>• Paul Olmsted: Heartland Business Systems</li> </ul>	<b>Quarter 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Josh Gustafson: Prevea 360 Health</li> <li>• Paul Olmsted: Heartland Business Systems</li> <li>• Sarah Wilder: Schneider</li> </ul>
<b>Quarter 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracy Pristelski: Schneider</li> <li>• Amber Gumm: Schneider</li> <li>• Lyndsey Tilot: Alive &amp; Kicking Pizza Crust</li> </ul>	<b>Quarter 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derek C. Lindberg: Associated Bank</li> <li>• Sarah Wilder: Schneider</li> <li>• Amber Gumm: Schneider</li> </ul>

### Grade 8: JA Global

Students learn about the global marketplace and the ways in which different countries and businesses buy and sell from each other, including the effects of specialization, culture, trade barriers, and other factors.

<b>Quarter 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew Muenster: Breakthrough Fuel</li> <li>• Tom Tengowski: Rockwell Automation</li> <li>• Tracy Pristelski: Schneider</li> </ul>	<b>Quarter 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jilayne Robinson: Imperial</li> <li>• Tom Tengowski: Rockwell Automation</li> <li>• Ms.Jamie Rentmeester: Schneider</li> </ul>
<b>Quarter 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom Tengowski: Rockwell Automation</li> <li>• Ms.Jamie Rentmeester: Schneider</li> <li>• Patti Jo De Villers: West De Pere Middle School</li> </ul>	<b>Quarter 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hunter Wesoloski Imperial Supplies</li> <li>• Tom Tengowski: Rockwell Automation</li> <li>• Patti Jo De Villers: West De Pere Middle School</li> </ul>

## 7th and 8th JA Excellence through Ethics

Students learn the importance of ethics and ethical decision making and how ethical and unethical choices affect everyone in a community. The six pillars of character are key concepts of the program: trustworthiness, respect, caring, fairness, citizenship and responsibility. Thank you to the volunteers that facilitated this program!

Quarter 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Avram Berk Peterson, Berk &amp; Cross,S.C. Law</li></ul>	Quarter 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Avram Berk Peterson, Berk &amp; Cross,S.C. Law</li></ul>
Quarter 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Joel Steber: Peshtigo National Bank</li><li>Chris Thelen: Tax Management Services, Inc.</li><li>Mark Nicholas: Transform Retirement</li></ul>	Quarter 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Avram Berk Peterson, Berk &amp; Cross,S.C. Law</li></ul>

## Business Education Partnerships

Business/Education partnerships have provided our students with authentic learning opportunities. Thank you for bringing learning alive and preparing our students for future roles as consumers and employees. Students enjoy the hands-on opportunities to learn habits and attitudes for success and employability.

- Festival Foods: Grade 7 Family and Consumer Sciences
- Walgreens: Grade 8 Family and Consumer Sciences

Many businesses are hiring 14-year olds. Please see the following for work permit information:

<https://www.wdpsd.com/schools/middle/about/work-permits.cfm>

- As an enhancement to Junior Achievement and work site experiences, additional instruction is provided on “Financial Friday.” Current economic issues are discussed, with emphasis on how individuals, families, workplace environments, communities, etc. are impacted. We are thankful for quality resources for classroom instruction that Next Gen Personal Finance and Wisconsin Restaurant Association have provided. The ultimate goal is to prepare students to understand the importance of positive work habits and wise use of resources.
- Last December, Gov. Evers signed Wisconsin Assembly Bill AB109 that mandates high schools, starting in 2028, require students to take one semester of financial literacy to graduate. Chase Yells, a senior at West De Pere High School, was actively involved in this initiative. Wisconsin is the 24th state to mandate a half-credit financial literacy course for graduation. Finances are a daily part of living, requiring wise management to meet needs and wants and to save money for emergencies.

Eighth grade students are reading material on how to be successful and then constructing trucks that portray positive habits and attitudes. Third quarter 8th grade students displayed their projects in the cafeteria to encourage others to make wise life choices.



## 8th Grade French Trip to Bleu

The 8th grade French students took a trip to Bleu to enjoy some French food on April 23. The food was amazing and the students were so good!



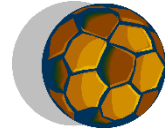
## Athletic Information for 2024-2025 School Year

In preparation for the 2024-2025 school year, please be advised of the following information regarding participation in athletic activities in grades 5 – 8.

### *Sport Offerings:*



- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Boys & Girls Cross Country (Fall)  
Boys & Girls Intramural Basketball & Wrestling (Winter)  
**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Soccer & Cross Country (Fall)  
Boys & Girls Intramural Basketball & Wrestling (Winter)  
Boys & Girls Track & Field (Spring)  
**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Football, Volleyball, Soccer, & Cross Country (Fall)  
Boys & Girls Basketball & Wrestling (Winter)  
Boys & Girls Track & Field (Spring)



To participate in sports for the 2024-2025 school year, all athletes (grades 5-8) must complete the following ***before*** they can practice:

- **CURRENT PHYSICAL** (No less than every other year with April 1<sup>st</sup> as the earliest date) on or after April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023. This is the only paper form that will be received.  
[https://www.wdpsd.com/cms\\_files/resources/Physical.pdf](https://www.wdpsd.com/cms_files/resources/Physical.pdf) Return this doc to the IS or MS office.

The remaining forms must be completed by the parent in your PowerSchool account, under the forms tab, enrollment category: **No paper copies will be accepted.**

- Indicate in Section 6, Co-curricular Activities, of your intent to participate in “sports” and check the box of each activity accordingly. This is how you “sign up” for a particular activity.
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION AGREEMENT** – Medical Insurance Required (must be updated yearly)
- **CONCUSSION FORM** (must be updated yearly)
- **CODE AND RULES VIDEO** (done individually by **each** athlete in the family AND a parent/legal guardian), ONE TIME while a student is enrolled at the Intermediate or Middle School. **Note: If you completed a Code & Rules video previously, you do not need to complete again!**

### **Important Dates for the 2024-2025 Athletic Year:**

August 19	2:00pm – Football Equipment Handout 8th Graders – MS Gym 3:00pm – Football Equipment Handout 7th Graders – MS Gym Weigh-ins done during equipment check out 4-5:30 – First Football Practice – Helmets, Shorts, Jerseys - At MS Football field
August 20-23,26	8:30-10:30 am – Football Practice - High School Stadium
August 26	Practice Begins – Cross Country 3:00-4:00pm, Football – 3:00-5:00pm, Soccer – 3:00-4:30 pm, Volleyball–3:00-4:30 pm
August 30 & Sept. 2	Labor Day Holiday - no practices
October 7	7/8 Girls Basketball Begins, 3-4:30, MS Gym
October 17	Parent Teacher Conference Night
November	11 7/8th Boys Basketball Begins, 3-4:30, 7th (IS Gym), 8th (MS Gym)
January 2	5-8th Wrestling Begins, 3:00-5:00, IS Gym
February 17	6th Boys & Girls Basketball Begins, 3-4:30, Boys (MS Gym), Girls (IS Gym)
February 18	5th Boys & Girls Basketball Begins, 3-4:30, Boys (MS Gym), Girls (WW Gym)
February 20	Parent Teacher Conference Night
April 7	7/8 (co-ed) Track Practice Begins – at MS gym 3:00-4:15 pm
April 9	6th (co-ed) Track Practice Begins – at IS gym 3:00-4:15 pm



**Parents of Athletes:** Contact information: Please make sure the school’s office has updated contact information on file. The information that is in PowerSchool will be used to contact you for events and notifications. Text Messages: Due to FCC regulation changes, in order to receive text messages on your mobile device each device will need to text "Y" or "Yes" to 68453. This will enable your device to receive important messages from your child's school. If you wish to stop receiving messages at any time simply text "Stop" to 68453. Go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), Parents, Parent Notification and follow instructions.

PLEASE GO TO [WWW.BAYCONFERENCE.ORG](http://WWW.BAYCONFERENCE.ORG) FOR PRACTICE/GAME SCHEDULES.  
SIGN UP ON “NOTIFY ME” TO RECEIVE ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE SCHEDULE

For a tutorial on bayconference.org, go to [www.wdpsd.com](http://www.wdpsd.com), click on Middle School then Athletics, then Bay Conference Tutorial Sheet.