West Middle School has had a fantastic start to our 2nd semester! We continue to offer programming and events to provide the best overall experiences to our WMS students. We have implemented a new RTI process this year; and this semester we’re really focusing on enrichment opportunities that build on the academic experiences in the classroom. Students who are earning at least a C average in all classes are invited to participate in weekly enrichment activities to earn rewards. We offer specific enrichment activities each day of the week, so please encourage your student to participate. This semester, we also look forward to our PBIS Viking Buck incentives, as well as our attendance incentive movie day and prize patrol for our monthly 90% attendance goal.

WMS has started the enrollment process for the 2020-2021 school year. Our rising 9th graders began enrollment on January 17th and their forms were due on January 25th. Our current 6th and 7th grade enrollment will begin the first two weeks of February and enrollment forms will be due late February along with AVID applications. We will follow up with that specific date.

In honor of Black History Month, we will have a month-long celebration throughout the month of February. To celebrate and honor the many contributions that African Americans have made to this great nation, we have planned several events throughout the month and we invite you to celebrate with us.

The start of a new semester offers our students a great opportunity to start fresh in their classes. Please encourage your student to do their very best academically, attend school daily and work hard in and out of the classroom to reach their full potential. School attendance is very important for the success of every student. Research supports that there is a direct correlation between school attendance and academic success and the bottom line is that you can’t learn if you are not in class. Our attendance goal for all students is that 90% of our students attend school 90% of the time. We understand that sickness and emergencies are always unplanned events and we appreciate you letting us know when your student is unable to attend school for an excused reason. Please help us by having your student at school every opportunity that is possible so that we can provide the best education available and strengthen the relationships that each teacher at West Middle School works hard to build with all students. Thank you for your support and assistance in helping us reach our attendance goal!

I always want to thank PTSA and Shelter Insurance for their continued support of our staff and students. Without their contributions, we would not be able to provide many of the opportunities that our WMS students are able to participate in that enrich their academic experiences.

We also want to thank our amazing PTSA for a great Winter Wonderland event! It is the only fundraising event we put on at WMS and all proceeds support our students and WMS community. We want to send a special thank you to Amy Larson, PTSA member and WMS parent, for organizing this great event. We appreciate the time and effort she put into making sure this event was a success for all our families and students. If you’d like to learn more about ways you can support or join our PTSA, please reach out to our PTSA president, Janet Davis at: kiarra@hotmail.com.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with you to support our students so that they can achieve academic and social success here at West Middle School. Daily, we strive to meet the needs of every student and provide an environment that promotes the success of every student. If there is ever a question or concern, please call us so that we can work together to make each day at West Middle School the best it can be. I look forward to continuing to connect with you to build a community of respect and trust.

Melita Walker
Principal
Shelter Insurance
Scholarship Information

This spring, two eighth grade students at West Middle School will each receive a $2,000 scholarship from the Shelter Insurance Foundation. The recipients of the $2,000 awards will be chosen by a committee of staff members from West Middle School and Shelter Insurance. The committee will consider each applicant’s scholastic achievements, educational goals, citizenship, moral character, participation and leadership in school and community activities. The scholarships will be given without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, sex or employment status of applicants or their relatives. The names of the scholarship winners will be announced at the close of the school year.

Applications and additional information about the Shelter Foundation Scholarship will be available from February 24th to March 21st in the West Middle School Main Office. Applications should be completed and returned to the Main Office by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2020.

Outstanding Contributor Award

In addition to the scholarships, Shelter Insurance also sponsors an Outstanding Contributor Award. Each year, Shelter presents a $2,000 honorarium to one member of the West Middle School staff. The winner of the Outstanding Contributor award may be nominated by students, parents, or colleagues, and is selected by the West Middle School students and staff.

Nomination forms for Outstanding Contributor will be available in the West Middle School Office beginning February 24th, and should be turned in to the Main Office by 3:00 p.m. Friday, March 20, 2020.
Save the Date!
PTSA will be selling donuts before school in the cafeteria on February 26th and 27th!
Donuts will be $1 each!

Dates to Remember
February 3—Summer School Enrollment Begins
February 13—PTSA Meeting 6:00 PM Room 201A
February 24—Shelter Scholarship and Outstanding Contributor Applications Available in Main Office
February 26 and 27—Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:00
February 27—Soul Food Day

School Not In Session
February 14—Teacher Work Day
February 17—President’s Day
February 28—Teacher Work Day
March 11—Teacher Work Day
March 23-27—Spring Break

We would like to thank everyone who donated items and volunteered for the West WinterFest this year!
8th to 9th grade enrollment: Counselors from Hickman were here to make enrollment presentations for 9th Grade on January 14th. Enrollment forms were due to Mrs. Jones or Ms. Johnson on Thursday, January 23rd. Hickman has the enrollment forms, so if you have questions about next year, you will need to contact the Hickman counselors:

Hickman Counseling Phone Number – 573-214-3008
Hannah Wren – Last Names A-E
Paige Reed – Last Names L-Rod
Liz Gragnani – Special Services Counselor
Maria McMahon – Last Names F-K
Robin Hogan – Last Names Roe-Z

Summer school packets will be available to families on February 3rd. Classes fill up very quickly. We have paper copies of enrollment forms in the Counseling office, but many families enroll online.

Counselors worked with students on four-year plans or ICAPs back in December. If you want to see any of this information, it is out on the West website under Guidance. We also have Career Center four-year plan ideas out on the website. Your student should be able to show you his/her plan.

Rising 7th and 8th grade enrollment: Counselors will be with 7th Grade Social Studies classes on February 11th and 6th Grade Social Studies classes on February 12th. Enrollment forms will be due to Social Studies Teachers on Friday, February 21st. If your student is moving to another middle school next year, we will send the enrollment form to that school.

Rising 6th grade enrollment: If you have a 5th grade student, the middle school counselors from around the district are planning to meet with students in their elementary schools before or immediately following Spring Break. There will be no forms for families to complete and turn in, however, students will be bringing home an information sheet about 6th grade. The information sheet will also be posted on the West Middle School website under “Guidance.” 5th grade teachers will communicate/conference with you about Math placement for next year. Interested Band and Orchestra students should have attended one “Try-Me-Out” night. The district will send counselors lists of students to enroll in Band or Orchestra in May or June.

Please note these enrollment procedures have a great deal of impact on your child’s school life for next year. Once all enrollment forms have been received, your child’s requests will be entered into the computer. We hire staff and create classes based on course requests and student interest.

This semester IPRs will be sent home with your student and posted on Home Access on: Thursday, February 6th, Thursday, March 12th, and Thursday, April 16th
*IPRs are not a final grade or a grade that will be retained in a student’s permanent record. It is a means of communication to let you know how your child is doing at a certain point in time.

Parent-Teacher conferences will be the week of February 24th.

6th Grade Families: The new electives rotation will begin on March 13th. New schedules will be given to 6th graders in their RTI classes on March 12th.

If you ever need enrollment assistance, please feel free to contact the Guidance Office. Our number is 214-3233.
Students Riding An Alternate Bus

If your student wishes to ride a bus home with a friend, the West Middle office will need a written permission note from the parent of the student riding the different bus. The note must be brought to the office before the 2:35 dismissal bell. A bus pass will be written and copies will be made of the pass and the note.

It is very important that the student gets this taken care of before the 2:35 dismissal bell. Buses cannot be delayed on their routes to wait for a pass to be written.

Moving?

If you know you will be moving, either within Columbia or out of Columbia, please notify the Guidance Office as soon as possible. Contact Kecia Reddick at 573-214-3233 with the information of where you are moving to and when.

After School Activity Bus

West Middle School provides an activity/tutoring bus Monday thru Thursday. The bus arrives at West Middle for pickup at approximately 3:50 p.m. Home arrival time will vary depending on the number of students being transported and the travel distance.

Please remind your student that they must sign the Activity Bus list located outside of the main office. Signing up must be done everyday needed by 1:00 p.m., or they risk not being allowed to ride the bus.
Congratulations to our Vikings of the Week!

6th Grade:
Cedrick Dutton    Jordan Martin
Carson Gamlin    Blaire Massey
Jacob Marshall   Nora Roesslet
Ollie Parsons    Unique Brown
Dewayne Isiah    Mari Smale-Murillo
Griffin Byrne    Lorelei Hardin

7th grade:
Lucas Crozier    Izzy Gomez-Palacio
Xavier Tripp    Kassie Jefferson
Nate Ross       Ruby Lopez
Gus Bousquet    Karimah Jabreel
Skylar Burns    Anna Marinello
Frankie Boland  Amelia Leon-Rudy

8th grade:
Aashish Gadicherla  Rianna Catlin
Tyrique Miller-Liddell  Quin Smith
Jack Scharf      Trinity Kimbrough

Upcoming Events (all during the school day):

January 90% Attendance:
Friday, February 7 @ lunch

Your West Middle School PBIS Tier 1 / Student Support Team:
Joseph Barnett          Chase Beamer
Sibley Butman            Kathleen Casper
Becky Coggeshall         Heather Darrah
Vanessa Kline            Courtney Lewis
Adam Matejek             Sierra Michaelis
Janet Moreland           Colleen O’Brien
Patrick Ordway           Aitriona Peterson-Ramey
Catherine Sadowski       Sondra Smith
Jessica Turner           Jill Wade

Let's look at some data!

So far this year, 77.7% of our students have NO referrals and NO Recovery Room visits!
*We have averaged 6.76 referrals per day this year with only 66 major referrals so far this year.
*Most of our referrals this year have been Recovery Room visits for disruption or defiance.
*A majority of our referrals happen for inappropriate behaviors that occur in the classroom.
*Most referrals this year have happened between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m.
*Seventh graders have generated the most referrals so far this school year.

Our second semester Viking Movie Day is scheduled for Friday, March 20. We will have a modified schedule for the day and the movies will be shown during school hours. A student is eligible for Viking Movie Day if they have 0-1 major referrals (second semester), 3 or fewer tardies (second semester), and 90% or higher attendance (second semester or the whole year, whichever is higher). All students will need to complete a movie preference survey at school so that movie tickets can be assigned. Students who are ineligible for a movie will be assigned to a work/enrichment room.
Does your student have potential to be one of our AVID Scholars in the 2020-2021 school year? AVID is a college readiness system that provides structure and support to students in the academic middle. The AVID Elective class is offered to 7th and 8th graders. As your student prepares to choose classes for their 7th and 8th grade school year, please consider applying to be in the AVID Elective class. Current 6th and 7th graders should be on the lookout for QR Codes posted throughout the building as well as an icon on their iPads to access the application online. Paper applications are also available from the Counseling Office or from Dr. Pine (rm 102). If you have any questions about the AVID Elective class, please contact Dr. Victoria Pine, vpine@cpsk12.org

This year’s Geography Bee winner was 6th grader, Cameron Bush!

Congratulations to West Quiz Bowl teams! The 6th grade team and the 7th/8th grade team both earned a bid to nationals this summer!

The West Science Olympiad team placed 1st (BLUE Team) and 5th (WHITE Team) among 8 teams at this past weekend’s Smithton Invitational. Both teams will continue preparing for their Regional competition in Rolla at Missouri S & T on Saturday, February 22nd. The team’s goal is to have both teams place in the top 4 in our region. Go VIKINGS!

Cheerleading intramurals for all grades begin February 4th after school. Sign up for the activity bus. See Coach Curtner in Room 208 for more information. Paperwork will be available after February 1st.
Your child spends a lot of time at school! Pre-order a yearbook today to help them remember all the memories!

**Cost:** $20.00 cash or check

**Deadline:** January 31, 2020

There are 2 ways to order!

**Online:** [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com). Select West Middle School (Columbia, MO). Pay with credit card *there is a fee for paying online.

**In Person:** Back to school night table or the main office. Cash or check only. Fill out the form below and have your payment ready please. Checks can be made out to West Middle School. *Please fill out 1 form per child.*

Child’s Name: ____________________________ Grade 6 7 8

Parent Name: ____________________________ Phone: _______________

Parent email: ______________________________

Method of payment: CASH CHECK #________

Contact information: Rebecca Coggeshall rcoggeshall@cpsk12.org
These physicals are good for two calendar years. If a current sixth grader gets a physical at this event and wants to participate in track and field as an 8th grader, they will need a new physical.
It’s COLD outside!

As we enter these winter months, we are seeing more colds and the flu. It is sometime difficult to tell them apart. Both are caused by a virus. However, only the flu has a vaccine to protect you! I hope the attached chart helps with deciding which one you have.

If your student does become ill - Please do NOT sent your child to school with a fever! They should be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.

**Immunizations** – INCOMING 8TH GRADE STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FOR THE MENINGOCOCCAL (Meningitis) AND TDAP (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) VACCINATIONS. Please provide proof of vaccinations to the health office as soon as possible! See included flier.

If you have any questions or concerns – please contact me in the Health Office!

Wishing you warm and healthy winter months!

*Lisa Griggs, RN, BSN*
School Nurse
West Middle School

### COLD VS FLU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Cold</th>
<th>Flu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Onset</strong></td>
<td>gradual – over a few days</td>
<td>Quick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fever</strong></td>
<td>rare</td>
<td>Characteristic, high (102-104°F); lasts 3-4 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Headache</strong></td>
<td>rare</td>
<td>prominent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General aches; pains</strong></td>
<td>slight</td>
<td>Usual; often severe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extreme exhaustion</strong></td>
<td>never</td>
<td>Early and prominent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stuffy nose</strong></td>
<td>common</td>
<td>sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sneezing</strong></td>
<td>usual</td>
<td>sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sore throat</strong></td>
<td>common</td>
<td>sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chest discomfort, cough</strong></td>
<td>Mild to moderate, hacking cough</td>
<td>Common, can become severe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTENTION 7th GRADE PARENTS

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

********************************************

INCOMING 8th GRADE STUDENTS
MUST PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION FOR THE
MENINGOCOCCAL
(Meningitis)
-Must be 10 years of age-
And
TDAP
(Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis)
VACCINATIONS

********************************************

Proof of immunization
Must be provided to the school nurse in the Health Office
Health care providers may fax the immunization record to the school nurse
Fax #: 214-3231

SUMMER SCHOOL
Proof of immunizations must be provided before your student can attend 2020 summer school

SCHEDULE PICK UP
Proof of immunizations must be provided before student can receive their schedule at Schedule Pick Up in August 2020

Immunizations are available from
- Local Health care providers
Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services
1005 W. Worley, no appointment necessary: M-F, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.