



Watertown Middle School

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October 22, 2018

Dear Watertown Families,

Hope this email finds you all well. Brrrr! The cold is upon us! But the Red Sox are in the World Series, so all is well. ☺

Some important upcoming dates/events:

Calendar

October 22-26	STEM Week in Massachusetts
October 22	School Committee Meeting, 7pm
October 23	Red Sox Spirit Day
October 24	Cluster 4 Project Adventure field trip
October 25	Cluster 3 Project Adventure field trip
October 26	Grade 7 STEM activity
October 31	Picture Make Up Day
November 6	No School – Election Day – PD for teachers
November 7	Last Day of First Quarter: Grades Close
November 7	School Site Council meeting
November 8	First Day of Second Quarter
November 8	Evening Parent Conferences
November 12	No School – Veteran's Day observed
November 14	PTO Meeting – 7pm
November 15	Early release day – Parent Conferences

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Oct. 22 B day	Oct. 23 A day	Oct. 24 B day	Oct. 25 A day	Oct. 26 B day
Oct. 29 A day	Oct. 30 B day	Oct. 31 A day	Nov. 1 B day	Nov. 2 A day
Nov. 5 B day	Nov. 6 No school – Election Day PD for teachers	Nov. 7 A day	Nov. 8 B day	Nov. 9 A day
Nov. 12 No school – Veteran’s Day observed	Nov. 13 B day	Nov. 14 A day	Nov. 15 B day	Nov. 16 A day
Nov. 19 B day	Nov. 20 A day	Nov. 21 B day Early Release	No School – Thanksgiving Recess	No School – Thanksgiving Recess

ALICE / EVACUATION DRILL: On Friday, October 19th, at Watertown Middle School, we **practiced** responding to several emergency scenarios involving the presence of intruders in the school. This was only a drill. Staff and students were safe at all times. Safety is our number one concern.

Safety officials posed as the intruders. Announcements were made as to where the intruder was located. The safety officials who posed as the intruders, clapped pieces of lumber together to make noise so that staff and students could use their senses of sight and hearing to help them to determine the safest course of action.

All of the drills were accomplished quickly and effectively. Classrooms were given a few minutes between scenarios to debrief with their teachers regarding the choices that they made.

Following the ALICE drills, we also practiced a full evacuation to a secondary site.

The Watertown Middle School Critical Incident Team met with safety officials following the three scenarios and the evacuation, to debrief and to make notes for future drills. It is very important that we practice our safety procedures with all staff and students so that in the case of an actual emergency, there are routines with which everyone is familiar. The safety officials were very complimentary at how seriously the students took the drills, and how well-behaved and efficient they were. It was a proud moment for WMS.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to ensure the safety of our Watertown Middle School community.

CROSSING GUARDS: Beginning Monday October 22, 2018 there will be no crossing guard assigned to the intersection of Main Street at Waverley Avenue. This will be in effect until further notice.

Please see the attached notice regarding crossing guards. [Advertisement - crossing guards 19-10-01.doc](#)

PARENT CONFERENCES: We will begin to schedule parent conferences soon. More information will follow shortly.

COATS FOR KIDS: Our annual Coats for Kids Drive has started! From 10/1/18 through 1/2/19, we will be collecting gently used coats for cleaning and distribution to needy families in the greater Boston area through Anton's Cleaners. We ask that you look in your closet and donate gently used winter coats of all sizes, from infant snowsuits to XXL adult coats, but please remember this is a coats-only drive. Please do not donate hats, mittens, scarves and other winter apparel. Our goal is to collect at least one coat for every student here at the school!

Best,

Donna Martin, Principal

Twitter: @PrincipalofWMS