



Watertown Middle School

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Ms. Donna K. Martin
Principal

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March 31, 2019

Dear Watertown Middle School Families,

Good evening. It is April 1st tomorrow – no joke! Only two and a half months left in the school year, but plenty of learning still needs to be accomplished! We will need to work together to keep the children motivated and focused as the warmer weather arrives on a more regular basis. 😊

For Additional Information:

Don't forget to check out the (fairly) new WMS website. It's updated regularly!

<https://wms.watertown.k12.ma.us/>

And like us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/watertownms/>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MiddleWatertown>

Some important upcoming dates/events:

Calendar

April 1	Annual K-12 Watertown Art Show Opening Reception Watertown Mall 5-7 pm
April 2	Cluster 4 field trip to the Kennedy Center
April 3	Program of Studies Night at WHS 6:30-8 pm
April 3	School Site Council meeting 7 pm
April 4	Quarter 3 ends
April 4	ANGST: Raising Awareness About Anxiety film 6:30-8 pm WMS Auditorium

April 5 Quarter 4 begins

April 5 WMS MCAS Infrastructure Trial

April 8-12 8th grade DC Trip/Watertown Week

April 12 Report cards distributed

April 15-19 NO SCHOOL - April vacation

April 24 ELPAC meetings – Watertown Public Library 9 am & 7 pm

April 25 SEPAC Awards Ceremony

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5
B day	A day	B day	A day	B day
April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11	April 12
A day	B day	A day	B day	A day
April 15	April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19
NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26
B day	A day	B day	A day	B day
April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2	May 3
A day	B day	A day	B day	A day

PARKING ISSUES: *IMPORTANT***** Please DO NOT park in the disabled parking spaces in any of the WMS parking lots unless you have a disabled parking permit. Several times those with the permits have been unable to access the parking spots as cars are parked illegally in them. Please be respectful, compassionate, and obey the law.

WHS PROGRAM OF STUDIES NIGHT: From Principal Lundberg: Hello families of current 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grade students. This coming Wednesday, April 3rd, Watertown High School will hold its Annual Program of Studies Night.

There will be an overview of WHS programming and elective offerings in the auditorium beginning at 6:30.

Families and students are also invited to visit the department stations that will be set up in the Library. Department Coordinators will be available to answer questions about their department curriculum as well as questions you may have about your student's course selections for the 2019-2020 school year. We hope to see you there!

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWSLETTER: Click the attachment below to read all about the happenings in the FAPA department. I hope you had a chance to see the musical "Once Upon This Island, Jr." – it was tremendous!!! The Art Show will be at the Watertown Mall from now through April 11th. And we have many upcoming spring concerts – looking forward to them! <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bThLbx2EoahHzd0f2RMGiD06RRQZow4e/view?ts=5c9ce12f>

SEPAC AWARD Nominations 2019:

Recognizing Great Community Members, Teachers and Staff!

Please click on the links and fill out the nominations by April 5, 2019. The award ceremony will be April 25, 2019 at the Watertown Library.

Award Nominations:

<https://sites.google.com/watertown.k12.ma.us/watertown-sepac/sepac-awards-ballot-2015>

<https://sites.google.com/watertown.k12.ma.us/watertown-sepac/marilyn-micco-award>

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS: It was another fabulous year! Thank you to all who contributed, attended events, supported students, etc.! We will let you know the final tally very soon!

The **Resilience Gives** website – get some cool student-designed socks!

<https://www.resilience.gives/products/watertown-middle-school?variant=22135690920017>

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS INFORMATION:

Here is the link to register for a spring sport:

<https://www.familyid.com/watertown-public-schools-athletics/high-school-middle-school-spring-athletics-registration-2018-2019>

REMINDER ABOUT DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY: We have received a number of complaints about dogs being on the WMS school property and I would like to remind all of you (dog owners) about the town ordinance regarding pets. I too love dogs, but please follow the regulations of the ordinance in order to keep both people and pets safe.

EL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL: The next ELPAC meetings will be Wed. 4/24 at 9-10am and 7-8pm at the Watertown Free Library.

ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK SELECTION COMMITTEE: The summer reading selection committee has begun to search for this summer's book! The committee will read six titles, and eventually narrow the list down to two finalists for the whole school to vote on. NEW THIS YEAR: parents are welcome to join the committee! To find the book list and meeting dates, visit www.wms1s1b.org.

8TH GRADE DC / WATERTOWN WEEK TRIPS: The trips are coming up from April 8th-12th! The information you need for the DC trip can be found in the Virtual Backpack. Please contact the organizers Abby Casey, Amy Magill and Phil Martin if you have any questions. We are thankful the government shutdown has ended! Here is the link to the Virtual Backpack: https://wms.watertown.k12.ma.us/student_resources/virtual_backpack

Raptor Visitor Management System: This was installed at WMS in October to build on the district's program of safety for students and faculty. Part of keeping students and faculty safe is knowing who is in our building at all times and the Raptor system allows us to do that. The Raptor system allows us to track visitors, contractors and volunteers in our schools and provides us with a safer environment for our students and staff.

Upon entering a district building, visitors will be asked to present a valid state-issued ID, which will be scanned into the system. The Raptor system will scan the visitor's name, date of birth and photo for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders, as well as locally established alerts (e.g. "no trespass" orders). Additional visitor data from the driver's license is not gathered nor is the system connected to any other system such as the Department of Motor Vehicles. Therefore any other information on the ID is not scanned by the system and is not accessible to any of the users. Once

entry is approved, Raptor will issue a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of his/her visit.

MINUTEMAN: A reminder that there is an **application deadline of April 1, 2019**, for any 8th grade student applying to Minuteman.

YEARBOOK: The 2018-2019 WMS yearbooks are now on sale for \$25! Please use the following information to place your orders:

ybpay.lifetouch.com Yearbook ID Code: 7822619

The deadline to purchase is May 1st.

MORNING DROP OFF: As stated at the beginning of the year and in the handbook:

*If you are driving your child to school, **Please consider the safety of our children who are walking nearby. DROP STUDENTS OFF ON BEMIS ST. ONLY. Please do not block traffic, and pull your car clear of others before pulling away.** To avoid traffic tie-ups, consider dropping your child off a block away and letting him/her walk the rest of the way.*

Please DO NOT drop off students before 8:30 at the Waverly Street door. Several buses drop off students there, and it is unsafe to have cars in between the buses and vans. Please drop off your students at the Bemis Street entrance before 8:30am. Our number one priority is keeping the students safe, and so we ask you to please follow the drop off procedures so no accidents occur.

FROM THE NURSE: Due to district wide policy change, cough drops and throat lozenges are no longer supplied by the health office. Students are more than welcome to keep a bag in their locker or backpack if needed.

Best,

Donna Martin, Principal

Twitter: @PrincipalofWMS