



Watertown Public Schools

68 Waverley Avenue
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472-3492
Phone: (617) 926-7783
Fax: (617) 926-5407

Ms. Donna K. Martin
Principal

Mr. Jason Del Porto
Assistant Principal

June 9, 2019

Dear Watertown Middle School Families,

Five and a half more school days in the 2018-2019 school year! I hope everyone was able to enjoy the gorgeous weather this weekend. The sun and the temperatures made it easy to believe that summer is just around the corner.

For Additional Information:

Don't forget to check out the 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

- | | |
|---------|--|
| June 10 | Grade 6 Wingmasters presentation |
| June 12 | Grade 6 to Canobie Lake Park |
| June 12 | Cluster 5 field trip |
| June 12 | Cluster 6 field day |
| June 12 | Grade 8 Graduation rehearsal periods 6&7 |
| June 13 | Grade 7 Awards Ceremony 9:00 am |
| June 13 | Grade 8 Graduation rehearsal periods 6&7 |
| June 14 | Grade 6 Awards Ceremony 8:45 am |
| June 14 | Cluster 4 field trip |
| June 14 | Grade 8 Graduation rehearsal periods 3-5 |

Grade 8 Graduation Dress rehearsal period 7

June 14

Grade 8 Dance – WMS Upper Gym 6-10 pm

Students must attend a full day of school to attend the dance that evening.

June 17

Grade 8 Awards Ceremony and Graduation 8:45 am

June 17

Last Day of School – Early Release Day 12:30 pm

*** No lunch served ***

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14
B day	A day	B day	A day	B day
June 17	HAVE A	HAPPY	SUMMER!!!	
A day				
Early release				
Last day of school!				
No lunch served				

GRADE 8 DANCE: The dance will be held in the WMS Upper Gym this year from 6-10 pm. We are all very excited for this event and to see the gym transformed for the Glow in the Dark theme! Dinner will be served as part of the evening’s events, and tickets are \$10 each. Reminder: Formal clothes, flowers and dates are not required!

AWARDS CEREMONIES: Each grade will have an awards ceremony during the final days of school. The ceremonies will take place in the auditorium, and parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

June 13 – Grade 7 – 9:00 am

June 14 – Grade 6 – 8:45 am

June 17 – Grade 8 (also graduation) – 8:45 am

At the awards ceremonies, a variety of awards will be given, including: Community Service Awards, School Leadership Awards, Sports Awards, Specials/Year-Long Enrichment Awards, Improvement/Citizenship, and SOARS Awards.

GRADE 5 TRANSITION: This past week Hosmer fifth graders visited us on Tuesday, and Cunniff and Lowell fifth graders visited on Wednesday. We discussed how middle school and elementary school are both same and different, and they took a tour of the school to see the various classrooms and areas in the school they will be in next year. Additionally, we had some excellent grade six “experts” who answered questions from the fifth graders. It was great fun seeing the rising sixth graders at WMS!

ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK SELECTION COMMITTEE: The One School One Book selection was revealed! It will be *I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives*, by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda. From Amazon, “The *New York Times* bestselling true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever”. Stay tuned for information about the summer reading and assignment.

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.

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.

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.

Best,

Donna Martin, Principal

Twitter: @PrincipalofWMS