

District Emails

Families: *Updates from Westside Community Schools are sent through our School Messenger system. We have noticed that some COX and AOL email addresses are being auto-blocked. We continue to work with these providers to troubleshoot the problem and find a solution. If you feel you are not receiving emails, newsletters and/or alerts from either the District or your school principal, please contact Kim Sedivy at sedivy.kimberly@westside66.net.*

Winter Break is Coming!

We will have a break for winter; there is no school from Monday, December 25, through Friday, January 5. We will return to school on Monday, January 8. We hope you have a lovely winter holiday with family and friends! We will see you back at Hillside after the break.

Student Teacher Farewell

We will be saying goodbye to our student teachers who have spent the past semester caring for and educating children in first, second, and third grades. Thanks and farewell to Ms. Mejstrik in Mrs. Mac's classroom, Ms. Nuemann in Mrs. Frederick's classroom, and Mr. Mueller in Mrs. Lee's classroom. Mr. Mueller will be taking a position on the faculty at Westgate Elementary here in Westside. We wish all our student teachers well and thank them for an amazing semester.

Children's Behavioral Health Presentations

We would like to continue to remind you of a valuable collaboration in place between Westside Community Schools and Children's Behavioral Health at Children's Hospital & Medical Center. This partnership allows us to address the mental health needs of our children and families districtwide. The services offered through the Student Assistance Program include free assessments and short-term counseling, where students and their parents are invited to complete two free face-to-face sessions. Children's Behavioral Health therapists are able

to help you address any cognitive, emotional, developmental or personal issues that your student or family might be facing. Students and families have two options:

1. Contact your Counselor, Social Worker or School Psychologist for information about Children's Behavioral Health, or
2. Call Children's Behavioral Health directly at 402-955-3900 to schedule an appointment. Children's Behavioral Health is located at 1000 North 90th Street (southwest corner of 90th & Western Streets.)

In addition, Westside Community Schools will host several **free parent seminars** offering valuable information from experts at Children's Hospital & Medical Center. All seminars run from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

December 12, 2017 @ Westside West Campus Topic: Trauma

January 23, 2018 @ Westbrook Elementary Topic: Coping Skills

February 20, 2018 @ Paddock Road Elementary Topic: Anxiety

March 7, 2018 @ Westside Middle School Topic: Test Anxiety

April 18, 2018 @ Oakdale Elementary Topic: Social Media

May 8, 2018 @ Sunset Hills Elementary Topic: Self-Harming Behaviors

We believe this partnership with Children's Behavioral Health will continue to enhance the existing mental health supports for students and families within the Westside Community Schools. Please feel free to contact your school for more information.

MAP Testing

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing has begun in many of our classrooms. Some teachers are ready to send home scores, so watch for communication from classroom teachers. MAP testing will conclude December 22, 2017. Scores may not reach you until after winter break. Thank you!

Hillside Water Bottles for Sale in the Office

Hillside water bottles are available in our main office. The cost of a water bottle is \$5.00. These are nifty, color-changing water bottles (they turn blue when there is cold water inside). Please take the extra step of identifying your child's water bottle with a name or initials printed on it in permanent marker! All water bottles look the same.