MESSENGER

## From The Principal's Desk

Feb. 2nd:<br>3:30-4:30 Orchestra Practice @ WMS Instrument Room<br>Feb. 6th:<br>6th Grade Band Full Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30<br>Feb. 9th:<br>7am-7pm Honors Choir to Brookings<br>Feb. 13th:<br>5th Grade Band Full Rehearsal<br>(a) WMS 3:40-4:30<br>5th \& 6th Grade Music Program.<br>Practice 1pm-3pm<br>Show at 7pm@DD Miller Auditorium<br>Feb. 16th:<br>3:30-4:30 Orchestra Practice @ WMS Instrument Room<br>Feb. 17th:<br>No School<br>Feb. 20th:<br>President's Day. No School<br>Feb. 21st:<br>3:30-4:30 Orchestra Practice @ DD Miller Auditorium

Feb. 23rd:
3:30-4:30 Orchestra Practice @ DD Miller Auditorium
7:00 pm Grades 5-12 String Festival Performance @ DD Miller Auditorium 6:30-8:30 Rope Olympics (Jump Rope for Heart) @ McKinley School

Feb. 27th:
5th Grade Band Full Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30

Feb. 29th:
Teacher Inservice. Early Dismissal 12:20
No PM Kdg. ~ Am Kdg attends 8:30-11:30
Mar. 1-2, \& 5-9:
5th Grade Swim Unit

## Dakota Step Testing

With many new changes coming on the horizon regarding accountability, merit pay and other pertinent issues related to test scores, your child's attendance is vital! The testing window for Dakota Step will be April 2-20. Scores play an important part in qualifying students for GATE, grade advancement in reading, and the Academic Excellence Award sponsored by President Obama. Thank you for supporting the school in our effort to strive for excellence!

## Willson and McKee - Artists in Residence

The week of February 21-24, two artists from Colorado will share their gift of music with our $\mathrm{k}-6$ students. The week will begin with an all school assembly. Throughout the week, the two artists will meet with individual classrooms and grade levels and share their blend of traditional Celtic music, teaching the cultural and historical context of each song. This Opportunity was provided by two grants, the South Dakota Arts council and the Arrow Education Foundation.

## Study Buddies

Throughout the year, mainly during early dismissals, various grade levels meet. Grade six is paired with grade three, grade five is paired with grade two, and grade four is paired with grade one. One of the cool projects I witnessed was sixth grade helping the third grade with a program called Iphoto. Students were taking pictures then creating a comic strip for a project. Fourth grade was using a program call Wordle in which students enter word answers to questions then the program creates a collage of the answers. Our study buddies create outstanding leadership and mentorship while helping to guide our younger students.

## Sixth Grade Registration

Our sixth graders will be provided registration information on Thursday, March 8th from 12:45-1:45 from Mr. Buechler, the Watertown Middle School counselor. On Wednesday, May 2, the sixth graders will tour Watertown Middle School from 12:45-2:00. Mr. Bruechler, and student government, will visit the classrooms to practice padlocks on Tuesday, May 15th. What an exciting time in your child's life!

## Lockdown Procedures

In the coming months our school will be practicing lockdown procedures. This is done in case of imminent danger or an intruder in the building. It is scary to think about, however there have been more deaths related to intruders in schools in the last decade than fire or tornados. Our staff have all been trained in how to respond and we meet after each drill to discuss concerns. Please do not hesitate to visit with me regarding our procedures.

## Pedestrian Safety

Recently the Watertown Police Department submitted a grant application to the South Dakota Office of Highway Safety. We were awarded some funding in September, which allowed the Police Department to create a program titled Quadruple S - Safety, Schools, Speed, \& Seatbelts. This was in response to a number of traffic crashes near schools and near misses between vehicles and pedestrians. On Wednesday, January 25th, Officer Ryan Remmers shared the following goals with our K-6 students.

Quadruple $S$ is aimed at improving roadway safety around each school in Watertown. Specifically, the program's goals are to:

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## American Heart Month

Cardiovascular diseases including stroke, are our nation's No. 1 killer. To urge Americans to join the battle against these diseases, since 1963 Congress has required the president to proclaim February "American Heart Month".

## February is Dental Health Month

Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums. The dentists will be visiting the 2nd graders in February for screenings. Information will be coming home.

## Physical Education

This month of Physical Education the student shave participated in fun forms of exercise, DDR (dance, dance, revolution), floor hockey and scooter hockey. Coming up next week we will begin our bowling unit which means moonlight bowling, a favorite of all students. We will also be participating in Jump Rope for Heart and helping the fight against heart disease and stroke. The students are being educated in prevention of our \#l killer, heart disease and stroke. Another fun class we'll have is the Daytona 500 (a scooter race). Educating in health and fitness and having fun is our goal in PE.

## Stars of the Week for January

Brenna Dahl, Allison Eickmeyer, Jordan Kranz, Tyler Dean, Tyson Petersen, Mason Heggelund, Bailey LaPier, Parker Sheehan, Haylee Browning, Kennedy Kucera, Rex Ritter, Derik Femrite, Zachary Stanton, Madison Pahl, Grace McGregor, Devon Bernard, Lyndon Allen, Mildred Perez, Jalyn Reihe, Jessica Doss, Shawnta Billings, Emilee Woelber, Halston WittMartin, Darin Waltz, Carter Zubke, Ross Ritter, Aiden Niles, Spencer Blotsky, Abby Schuldt, Maci Lundgaard, Lauren Fischbach, Rayce Bretsch, Trinity Zoss,

Kadin Gregerson, Jayce Hanson, Jaden Crocker, Ben Dalke, Cooper Engel, Emily Jensen, Jarika Fossum

## Important Dates for 6th Grade Students

Tuesday, March 8th 12:45-1:45 WMS Registration for 6th Graders @ Mellette

Wednesday, May 2nd 12:45-2:00 6 th Grade tour of WMS

Tuesday, May 15th 1:15-2:15
6th Graders Pad Lock Practice @
WMS

## "Are Parents smarter than a 5th grader?"

On Feb. 24th 2012 6:30
pm-7:30 pm, Detective Sgt. Tim Toomey and Detective Chad Stahl along with Watertown Healthy Youth Prevention Specialist Kelli Rumpza would like to invite all parents of Grade school kids to come to a short DASH presentation at the Watertown High School lunchroom while your kids are at the Elementary School Fun Night.

DASH stands for Drug Free, Alcohol Free, Safe and Healthy. Since 2008 Watertown youths’ drug and alcohol use has increased significantly. The WPD wants to stop this trend and change the social norms that "teenagers will be teenagers".

The presentation will last about 1 hour and there will be a question and answer session afterwards.


Watertown School District paraprofessional Sherri Sellers was named the 2012 South Dakota Education Support Professional (ESP) of the Year by the South Dakota Education Association. The announcement was made by WEA president Tricia Walker at a January 18th Mellette staff meeting. Sherri was nominated by Garfield secretary Joyce Paulsen with contributions from Tricia Walker and Mellette Principal John Decker. She was chosen by an SDEA committee of members based on the following criteria: professional practice, member advocacy and association involvement, community engagement, personal achievement, and enhancement of ESP image. The award is presented to a member of NEA who demonstrates outstanding accomplishments and reflects the contributions of ESP to public education. The official announcement and presentation of the award will be made at the SDEA Bargaining Conference on January $28^{\text {th }}$. Sherri will go on to compete as South Dakota's candidate for the National Education Association ESP of the year. Congratulations Sherri and good luck!

FRIDAY, FEB. $3^{\text {rd }}$ 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the WHS CAFETERIA

Before the Watertown-Aberdeen Boys' Basketball game GODFATHER'S PIZZA, Hy-Vee SALAD \& COKE Product

$\$ 6$ - Adults $\quad \$ 3$ - Children $10 \&$ under

\$20 per Family

All proceeds support the Arrow Education Foundation, a non-profit organization, in "enhancing educational opportunities for students" in the Watertown Schools.

February 2012

| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 <br> 3:30-4:30 Orchestra <br> Practice @ WMS <br> Instrument Room | 3 <br> AEF Pizza Bash @ WHS <br> Cafeteria 5pm-7pm <br> National "Wear RED Day" |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 <br> 6th Grade Band Full <br> Rehearsal @ WMS 3:40-4:30 | 7 | 8 | $\begin{aligned} & 9 \\ & \text { 7am-7pm Honors Choir } \\ & \text { to Brookings } \end{aligned}$ | 10 |
| 13 <br> 5th Grade Band Full <br> Rehearsal @ WMS <br> 3:40-4:30 <br> 5th \& 6th Grade <br> Music Program. <br> Practice 1pm-3pm <br> Show at 7 pm <br> @ DD Miller Auditorium | $14$ | 15 | 16 <br> 3:30-4:30 Orchestra <br> Practice @ WMS <br> Instrument Room | $17$ <br> No School |
| 20 <br> President's Day. <br> No School | 21 <br> 3:30-4:30 Orchestra <br> Practice @ DD Miller <br> Auditorium | 22 | 23 <br> 3:30-4:30 Orchestra <br> Practice @ DD Miller <br> Auditorium <br> 7:00 pm Grades 5-12 String <br> Festival Performance @ DD <br> Miller Auditorium <br> 6:30-8:30 Rope Olympics <br> @ McKinley School | 24 <br> Grades 4,5 \& 6 <br> Elementary School <br> Fun Night @ WHS <br> Civic Arena 6:30-9:00 |
| 27 <br> 5th Grade Band Full <br> Rehearsal @ WMS $3: 40-4: 30$ | 28 | 29 <br> Teacher Inservice. <br> Early Dismissal 12:20 <br> No PM Kdg. <br> Am Kdg attends $8: 30-11: 30$ | Mar. 1 <br> 5th Grade Swim Unit | Mar. 2 <br> 5th Grade Swim Unit |

# What: Elementary School Fun Night sponsored by the Watertown Police Department: Inflatable's, Games, Dancing and Food 

## When: February $24^{\text {th }} 2012,6: 30-9: 00 \mathrm{pm}$

## Where: Watertown Senior High Civic Arena

## Who: all $4^{\text {th }}, 5^{\text {th }}$ and $6^{\text {th }}$ grade students in the Watertown School District

Come and join your friends, and officers from the Watertown Police Department for a night of fun, food and games for a good cause, proceeds will go to the Watertown Police Department K-9 Unit and to help support the Watertown Police Department/Watertown School Districts Safety Patrol.

Music Provided by Greg Hanson Entertainment
Food by Dominos Pizza
Beverages provided by Coca Cola and Culligan Water of Watertown
Inflatable's provided by the South Dakota National Guard
Cost: $\$ 3$ per student
Food: $\$ 2$ for slice of pizza, $\$ 1$ for can of Coke or bottle of water


## Conversational Spanish for English Speakers

## Course Description

Spanish Conversational Courses to fit your needs:

* Introductory Spanish Conversation? S. Teresa Ann, Instructor
* Intermediate Spanish Conversation I: Yanira Novoa, Instructor

Benedictine Mulitcultural Center 2500 5th St. SE
Watertown, SD 57201
(Hwy. 81, 1.5 miles South of Hwy 212)
www.benedictinemulticulturalcenter.com
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Welcoming the Stranger

2012 Class Schedule:
Wednesday, February 8, 7:00-8:30 pm Wednesday, February 15, 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, February 22, 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, February 29, 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, March 7, 7:00-8:30 pm
Wednesday, March 14, 7:00-8:30 pm


## Watertown School District



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[^0]:    *reduce traffic crashes caused by aggressive driving near schools,
    *increase awareness and safety of pedestrians and bicyclists near schools, and
    *increase seatbelt and child restraint use

