



**Westview  
Elementary**

# The Bulldog Bulletin

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**OCTOBER 2020**

## Principal's Corner

Greetings Westview Families,  
It's Energy, not Time. Actually, lately I haven't had enough of either! I am making a huge assumption that as we are navigating school beginning again, back to work, evening activities and family events that are schedules are becoming busy. The pace has increased with trying to balance it all. Do we need more time, or do we need to use energy as a renewable source? Time is fixed but energy can be expanded. We have all experienced energy depletion as we try to do more, faster and sometimes multitasking thinking that will be more efficient. Actually, check yourself, are you doing it now? Are you focused on reading this and just this or monitoring your children, getting dinner ready, watching the news, checking Facebook?? Are you taking on too many things at one time and becoming overwhelmed? Where is your energy going? How much time is that taking and away from what? What is urgent and what is important? Now, if you think I have the answers to these questions, I don't. I am in the moment with you. I have heard many reflections about the time families had together at a slower more purposeful pace over the past months. The time families shared together playing board games, taking walks, riding bikes, eating meals and being creative. Most shared these as positives and enjoyable. As we are returning to our "normal", I encourage you to examine honestly where time and energy are being used and how you can find ways to renew the energy.

We appreciate all the time and energy you are giving to support your children as we working together in this educational journey.

With gratitude,  
Tami



## Revised 2020-21 School Year Calendar

### Start and End Dates

Sept. 8-11	Scheduled student-teacher connection and orientation
Sept. 14	First day of school
June 8	Last day of school (elementary)
June 11	Last day of school (middle and high)

**No-School Dates**   = No school for *all* students   = No school for *some* students

Oct. 7	Districtwide staff development for middle and elementary ( <i>no school grades K-8</i> )
Oct. 9	Conferences for high schools ( <i>no school grades 9-12</i> )
Oct. 15-16	State teachers' conference ( <i>no school</i> )
Nov. 4	Districtwide staff development for high school ( <i>no school 9-12</i> )
Nov. 6	Conferences for elementary and middle schools ( <i>no school grades K-8</i> )
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving break ( <i>no school</i> )
Dec. 2	Teachers workshop ( <i>no school</i> )
Dec. 4	End of Trimester 1
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	Winter break ( <i>no school</i> )
Jan. 13	Districtwide staff development for high school ( <i>no school grades 9-12</i> )
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Day ( <i>no school</i> )
Jan. 20	Districtwide staff development day ( <i>no school grades K-8</i> )
Jan. 22	Conferences for high schools ( <i>no school grades 9-12</i> )
Feb. 10	Teachers workshop for high school ( <i>no school grades 9-12</i> )
Feb. 12	Conferences for elementary and middle schools ( <i>no school grades K-8</i> )
Feb. 15	Presidents' Day ( <i>no school</i> )
Mar. 10	Teachers workshop ( <i>no school</i> )
Mar. 12	End of Trimester 2
Mar. 22-26	Spring break ( <i>no school grades K-12</i> )
April 21	Districtwide staff development
May 28	Conferences for middle schools ( <i>no school grades 6-8</i> )
May 31	Memorial Day ( <i>no school</i> )



## Welcome New Staff

To get to know the new Westview Elementary staff, the Bulldog Bulletin has asked them to respond to the following questions:

1. Three words to describe you:
2. What are some of your favorite things?
3. What would you like the Bulldog community to know about you?
4. What is one fun fact that people would be surprised to hear about you?

### Michael Ifill, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Aide

1. Introspective, analytical, competitive
2. Hockey, volleyball, concerts, movies
3. I have a passion for American Sign Language and for Deaf culture in general.
4. Born and raised in Canada (Winnipeg, Manitoba)



### Anne Wagner, PARA

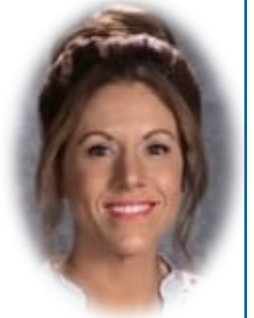
1. Loving, optimistic, caring
2. Spending time with family, friends and reading a good book.
3. I am excited to building relationships with weach student and make this year great!
4. I once zip-lined over alligators in Mexico!



## Specialists Space

### *Important Updates from Westview's Specialists*

#### *Library Media with Mrs. Theirl*



Congratulations to fourth-grade teacher, Mr. Hoepfner, for being a 2020 recipient of the Scholastic Book Clubs & James Patterson Classroom Library Grant Sweepstakes! For the sixth year, James Patterson has teamed up with Scholastic Books to help bring new and sought after books into classroom libraries. Mr. Hoepfner will receive \$500 to buy new books for his classroom library from Scholastic. Way to go!

## Information

### *Student Drop-Off Reminder*

The front doors will not open until 9:10 a.m. and we can not let children wait inside the front doors/ vestibule due to social distancing limitations. The kids will be outside in the weather unless parents keep children in their car until the bell rings.

### *Socktober*

We are having Crazy Sock Day October 29th and 30th.

Student Council will be collected new, unworn socks the week of October 26th-30th to be distributed to those in need.

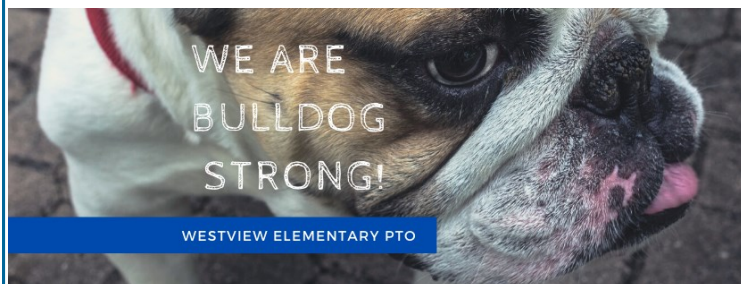


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## Crayon & Marker Recycling Program

### Our Recycling Program Marches On!

We are continuing our sustainability efforts with our crayon, marker and plastic bag recycling program in the new school year!

### What can be recycled?

Broken and unusable **crayons**, **markers** (art markers, dry erase markers, and highlighters), and **plastic bags** can be sent with your child to school to recycle.

### Can we participate if we opted into Digital Academy?

If you are a virtual learner, you can still contribute to our plastic bag recycling program by weighing your bags before you drop them off at Target, Cub Foods, or any other store accepting recyclable plastic. Just drop a message to [westviewmnpto@gmail.com](mailto:westviewmnpto@gmail.com) to let them know how much your plastic weighed so we can include it in our school count.

Thank you for supporting sustainability with our Bulldogs!

## Westview Spirit Wear

### The time is here to order your Westview gear!

Our PTO is selling spirit wear-take a look and place an order! All items will be delivered here to Westview, and all sales are final.

<https://westviewapparel2020.itemorder.com/sale>

All orders must be received by October 18th!

## Butter Braid Information



This year, the PTO is again supporting the Butter Braids fundraiser, as a way of supporting the needs of our children and Westview school community. Last year, we raised over \$5,000 and we hope to do the same or even better this year. Butter Braids are both sweet and savory treats that are reasonably priced, and they will be delivered just before Thanksgiving in time for holiday celebrations or to start a new tradition. They come frozen and then you thaw and bake at home. This year, our delivery will likely be curbside pickup, with volunteers bringing your order to your car on a designated evening. Watch your child's backpack and/or digital communications for fundraising materials and further explanation. If you have questions, or would be interested in helping be a Butter Braid delivery person, please contact Mary Rowan at [mary-rowan@hotmail.com](mailto:mary-rowan@hotmail.com). Thank you, and happy eating!

## Panera Volunteers Needed

Calling all carb lovers! Westview is fortunate to be able to receive bread and pastry donations from Panera in Apple Valley every week for WV families. Each year, we are given donations that if purchased would equal approximately \$25,000! The PTO supports this effort by providing the transportation for this bread, and we are looking for volunteers. It involves going to the Apple Valley Panera at closing time (currently 9:00 p.m.) on Monday evenings and loading the bread, and then delivering it to the night custodian at Westview immediately thereafter. It is really easy, takes about 30 minutes total (depending on your location). We would like to get volunteers who can commit to doing a month of transports, but it is imperative that you make each shift – or get backup help, which we have in abundance in case of emergencies – so that we can maintain this generous donation. If you are interested, please email Mary Rowan at [mary-rowan@hotmail.com](mailto:mary-rowan@hotmail.com), so she can explain further. Thanks in advance!





## PTO Pit Stop



### *Events, Reminders & Information about the Westview PTO*

#### PTO Meeting Updates

The Westview PTO met for it's first meeting of the school year on September 21st. Below are a few key items that were discussed.

- Last year's yearbooks are in. If you did not receive one in your child's backpack, contact the office to inquire.
- There will be no in-person large group events this year. No Bulldog breakfast, concerts, author's night, spring carnival, etc. That said, no calendar of events went out this year. Parents should keep up with our Bulldog Bulletin for details of upcoming events.
- We will be looking into virtual "field trips." Stay tuned for details.
- Conferences are scheduled for November 4th & 5th. It will be announced closer to the conferences, whether they will be in-person or virtual.
- Lifetouch is in the process of being scheduled. Stay tuned for details regarding school pictures AND for how we will schedule distance learners pictures
- In addition to the staff appreciation committee, we are looking for a parent

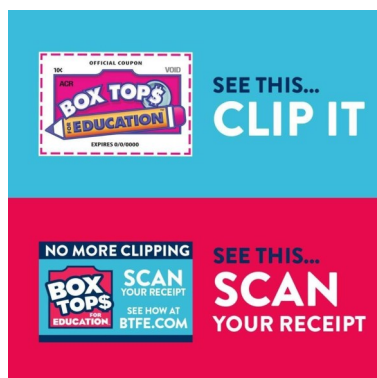
representative to keep us posted on district news. Meetings with the superintendent are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested can contact PTO president, Michelle Doecke.

#### PTO Meeting Dates

##### Save the dates:

Oct. 12; 6-7 p.m.  
Nov. 9; 6-7 p.m.

Meetings may be in-person or via Zoom. Make sure to check Facebook and email for updates.



#### Follow PTO on Social Media

**Check out the ways you can stay in the loop:**



Follow us on **Instagram**  
[@westviewmnpto](https://www.instagram.com/westviewmnpto)



"Like" our **Facebook** page  
[www.facebook.com/westviewmnpto](https://www.facebook.com/westviewmnpto)



Sign up for text alerts through Remind by texting  
**@377gcd to 81010**



Reach us by email at  
[westviewmnpto@gmail.com](mailto:westviewmnpto@gmail.com)

#### Help Wanted

The PTO is looking for 2-3 volunteers to plan fall appreciation activities for teachers.

Time commitment includes 2-3 hours for planning and execution of a creative idea that thanks our Westview staff for their hard work. If interested, contact PTO President, Michelle Doecke,  
[mruclmar@yahoo.com](mailto:mruclmar@yahoo.com).



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## Bulldog Paw Prints

*Helpful Tips, Reminders & Information about the Westview School Community*

### Contact Info Changes

Call the office or email [Sue.Bergemann@district196.org](mailto:Sue.Bergemann@district196.org) or [Lisa.Kissell@district196.org](mailto:Lisa.Kissell@district196.org) with updates to your phone numbers, emails or addresses throughout the year. It is very important we have the latest information for everyone.

### 2020-21 Staff Appreciation Weeks

- **Principal/Assistant Principal:**  
*October 5-9*
- **Food & Nutrition Services;**  
**National School Lunch Week:**  
*October 12-16*
- **National School Bus Safety Week:**  
*November 16-20*
- **American Education Week:**  
*November 16-20*
- **Education Support Professionals Day:**  
*Nov. 18*
- **Substitute Educators Day:**  
*November 20*
- **Volunteers:**  
*April 19-23*
- **Teacher Appreciation Week:**  
*May 3-7*
- **National Teacher Day:**  
*May 4*
- **National School Nurse Day:**  
*May 6*

### Follow WV on Facebook

Want to keep up to date on many things Westview? Be sure to like the Westview Elementary Bulldogs

Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wvbulldogs>.

Since there will not be a school calendar this year, you will want to check either our Facebook page, this bulletin and our website at [www.district196.org/wv](http://www.district196.org/wv) for all the upcoming important dates.



### Reporting Absences

Be sure to email [wv.attendance@district196.org](mailto:wv.attendance@district196.org) or call 952-431-8380 to report your child's absence. If an absence is not called in, it is considered unexcused. It is important to alert the school if your child is home with a communicable disease. This would include COVID-19, strep, pertussis, influenza, pink eye, chicken pox, lice, scabies or fifth's disease.

### 2020 Important Dates

- **Oct. 12**  
PTO Meeting
- **Oct. 15-16**  
No school
- **Oct. 28**  
Lifetouch Pictures for Digital Academy Students
- **Oct. 29 & 30**  
Lifetouch Pictures for Hybrid Students
- **Nov. 4**  
Conferences via Zoom, 12-8 p.m.
- **Nov. 5**  
Conferences via Zoom, 4-8 p.m.
- **Nov. 6**  
No school
- **Nov. 9**  
PTO Meeting
- **Nov. 26-27**  
Thanksgiving break, no school
- **Dec. 2**  
No school
- **Dec. 4**  
End of Trimester 1
- **December 23-Jan. 1**  
Winter break, no school

### Student Directory Info

New to this school year, the student directory will be specific to grade level. Each student will receive a free copy of their specific grade level student directory provided by the Westview PTO. If you do not want your student/s information included, please complete the 2020-21 Student Directory Opt-Out Form and turn into your teacher by October 13th.