

# Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 15

June 15, 2022



*"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed."*  
*-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-*

## Hello WCS Community!



It's the last day of the 2021-22 school year and what a year it's been! We have made it through and come out the other side, admittedly weary, but filled with strength and resolve to keep persevering. Thank-you amazing community for being right alongside us through the changes and challenges that this school year brought! This is the final newsletter for the 2021-22 school year. Throughout this newsletter you will find highlights from the many activities that have taken place over the past couple of weeks as the school year has come to a close.

### Final Tiger Moment 2021-2022 School Year



Pictured Above: Today we held our final school wide "Tiger Moment" with Mr. C and Ms. Carin with a surprise visit from the WCS Tiger! (Photo Courtesy of Ella Anderson)

## PreK Graduation



Students in Miss

Brook's PreK class "graduated" today and officially became kindergarten students! Students from this class will transition into one of the district's five elementary schools for the upcoming school year.

### **2022-2023 School Year**

The first day of school for Pre-K and students in grades one through five will be Monday, August 29th. Incoming kindergarten screening will take place on August 29th and August 30th. Parents/caregivers will be notified of their student's homeroom placement on August 30th. Incoming kindergarten students will be invited back to visit their classroom and officially meet their teacher on August 31st and/or September 1st. The first day of school for Kindergarten students will be Tuesday, September 6th.

### **2022-2023 Arrival/Dismissal Protocols**

Over the summer our school team will be reviewing our daily arrival and dismissal protocols. As

many of you will recall, our arrival and dismissal protocols and time frame changed drastically due to the pandemic. We have learned many things since implementing the current system, and will closely review the positives and negatives of our current protocols. We will revise where necessary, with safety being our utmost priority as well as efficiency and timeliness. More information will be shared in August.

### **2022-2023 School Lunch Protocols**

This year, all grade levels with the exception of grade five ate lunch in their classrooms due to Covid protocols. We anticipate that students in kindergarten through grade five will return to eating lunch in the cafeteria in the upcoming school year. PreK will continue to eat lunch in their classroom, a protocol that was in place prior to the pandemic.

### **2022-2023 Safety Protocols**



Pictured Above are WCS staff Annie Martin, Dana Greenleaf and Emily Marsters participating in CPR/First Aid Training. (Photo Courtesy of Dana Greenleaf)

Over the summer our school Safety Team will spend time reviewing our school's safety protocols and crisis emergency response plan to help ensure proactivity and responsiveness in keeping our school community safe. This comprehensive plan will be reviewed with the entire staff when we return to school in August and will be reviewed throughout the school year. This plan includes support from our community partners including the Topsham Police and Fire Departments. Additionally, several staff members received CPR/First Aid training and certification recently as part of our ongoing measures to provide a safe and responsive school community.

### **Summer Update**

Families can expect a Summer Update letter from me in early August via regular mail. This update will include staffing changes as well as information for the upcoming school year and a Principal's Summer Reading Challenge.

### **W.I.N.G. Food Pantry Summer Hours**

**\*Located at Mount Ararat Middle School**

#### **June**

**Friday, June 17: CLOSED**

**Wednesday, June 22: 10am to 1pm**

**Friday, June 24: 5:30pm to 7:30pm**

**Wednesday, June 29: 10am to 1pm**

#### **July & August**

**Wednesdays: 10am to 1pm**

W.I.N.G. is open weekly with fresh produce, dairy, frozen foods, and hygiene items available to any MSAD No. 75 family. If you have special requests or would like your order packed in advance, please call 729-2950 x7202 and leave a message with your name and phone number and

a volunteer will give you a call back. If accessing the pantry is a hardship, please let us know. We are happy to work with any family to make alternate arrangements.

### Final Dismissal 2021-2022



Pictured above and below are a couple of visitors who stopped by for the final end of day dismissal today!



The school year is coming to a close and while it is sad to say farewell, we know that the new school year will soon be upon us and a new chapter will begin! To conclude this final newsletter for the 2021-2022 school year, I would like to share a poem that was written by Mrs. Bretschneider's fifth grade class. I think it most aptly summarizes many of the feelings about our school community:

## **Williams-Cone School Poem**

Written By Mrs. Bretschneider's Fifth Grade Class 2021–2022

**I am from the place with the reddest bricks.**

**Old, but solid.**

**A wall full of hands reaching high, waiting for new possibilities.**

**The large gym with its worn lights, that no longer work because of love and overuse.**

**Not to mention, the numerous hits from stray dodgeballs.**

**I am from a place where the swings swing, and the kids laugh.**

**A playground with a huge field.**

**Kids run with joy, and smile at the sight of their friends.**

**A buddy bench.**

**I am from recess, the best part of the day.**

**Playing on structures.**

**And a tiger that roars loudly when children play.**

**I am from a huge stack of books as tall as a mountain.**

**Where you can write and read whatever you want.**

**A place that fosters independence, perseverance, and trust.**

**Where the books on each shelf have their own stories to tell.**

**And where teachers encourage you to tell your own stories.**

**A place that extends beyond the walls, and into new worlds as each page flips.**

**I am from teachers who have your back.**



From a caring and kind staff who greet you everyday.

From nurses who helped us through a pandemic.

And lunch ladies that nourish our bodies.

The custodians who keep us clean and neat.

The principal who will make you feel comfortable like you're home.

Staff members who watch over you and allow you to soar as eagles when it is time.

The staff and teachers love you whether you are here or out of the nest.

Where you can be accepted and loved.

A place to be yourself.

A place where your classmates have your back.

Where everyone plays an important role in moving forward.

Where you can be yourself and not worry about people judging you.

From laughs, giggles, tears, hugs, fights, and in the end, understanding.

A place to make friends.

A place where you are not alone.

A place that you can call home.

Where you can be protected and cherished.

I am from "I think you're wonderful"

And other cheesy songs that get stuck in your head.

A place that will always be a part of our memories.

I am from a school where the tiger stands tall.

I am from Williams-Cone.

If you have any needs throughout the summer, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at

[rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org). I wish all of you a safe and happy summer filled with great peace, unexpected blessings and joy.

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

[rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org)

(207)725-4391



gratitude

Lots of great things continue to happen throughout the WCS community. We are grateful for:

- \*FOWC & Officers: Andrea Imrie, Meredith Pinkham, Jenn Cass
- \*WCS Yearbook Coordinator/Creator: Megan Robertson
- \*Our parent playground committee led by Mac Hunter
- \*The new cupola playhouse
- \*Our Community Action Program Grandmothers: Grammy Sue & Grammy Jo
- \*The Fifth Grade Fundraising Team led by Kim Carleton
- \*Being able to host a Race for Education this school year
- \*Race for Education Volunteers
- \*Walking Field Trip Volunteers/Chaperones
- \*The MTA Senior Walk Through
- \*Topsham Police Department-supporting our safety needs throughout the year.
- \*Topsham Fire Department & Ambulance Crew-supporting the many fire drills throughout the year.
- \*Safety
- \*Topsham Public Library
- \*Having Dairy Queen close by!
- \*Scholastic Book Fair Volunteers
- \*Being able to host a "traditional" 5th Grade Farewell!
- \*Life

Wiffleball!

POPCORN  
HOT DOGS!



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT! AUGUST 2ND

— FORESIDE RECREATION —  
FACILITY  
5-8:00 PM

DUNK  
tank

FACE  
PAINTING

BASKETBALL!

BOUNCE HOUSE



## 5th Grade Farewell



Photos Courtesy of Laila Valade

The Fifth Grade Farewell was held on Monday, June 13th in the WCS gymnasium. The entire school attended along with fifth grade parents, caregivers and family members. Highlights of the ceremony included individual yearbook presentations, compliments of FOWC, the fifth grade video created by Ms. Carroll and the fifth grade team and a musical selection presented by the fifth grade band conducted by Mrs. Powers. The entire fifth grade class also performed the song, "The Best Day of My Life" conducted by Mrs. Appel with musical assistance from Mr. Myrick playing the drums, Mrs. Thatcher playing the keyboard, Mr. Cardoza playing percussion and Ms. Hyde playing ukulele.



## 2022 Race for Education



Photos Courtesy of Megan Robertson

WCS students and staff had a grand time participating in the FOWC sponsored Race for Education on Friday, June 10th! Each grade level "raced" for approximately 20 minutes on a dazzling Dr. Seuss themed race track located on the WCS playground field. FOWC provided a

water station for students and gifted each student with a special pencil and WCS journal surprise. There were some bubbles floating around too! Many thanks to FOWC for sponsoring this fabulous fundraiser which has raised \$5,000.00 to date for our school. Thank-you WCS community for your generous support of this fundraiser that will help provide future field trips, classroom and school wide activities, programs and projects!

## MTA Senior Walk-Through



Over 30 former WCS students marched through WCS as MTA graduating seniors on Thursday, June 9th. The seniors paraded through the Williams Wing where they found WCS students and staff clapping, cheering and sharing banners/posters in their honor. Following the march, a school wide assembly was held in the gym, giving the seniors an opportunity to introduce themselves and share their post high school plans as well as some of their favorite memories of WCS. WCS students sang "I Think You're Wonderful" to the graduates and the graduates concluded the assembly with a surprise acapella rendition of the "WCS Song".









## Playground Project-Phase 2



During the weekend of June 3rd, parents, caregivers, WCS staff and community members donated their time to the second phase of the WCS Playground Project. Under the direction and leadership of WCS parent, Mac Hunter, the crew refurbished the cupola portion of the wooden playground structure that was decommissioned last fall. The crew worked diligently to restore the cupola into a gorgeous "cupola playhouse" for students and staff to enjoy for years to come! Many thanks to the amazing crew and playground committee, including: Michael Wilbur, Mac Hunter, Megan & Jonathan Robertson, Collin Johnston, Kimberly & Adam Pride, Sarah Cunio, Sam Eaton, Danielle Prout, Aaron Lockwood, Rebecca Yauch, Andrea Imrie, Amber-Jean Nickels, Brian Banton, Katie Byrnes and Joe Adams.

Many thanks to the following funding sources for this project including FOWC Playground Fund, Hunter Excavating, the Topsham Home Depot and several members of the playground crew who donated a variety of materials throughout the project.



The playground committee has plans for additional projects to be completed prior to the start of the 2022-23 school year. The committee plans to meet on Tuesday, June 28th at 5:30 p.m. on the WCS playground. All are welcome to attend!

CUPOLA  
PLAYHOUSE  
DAY 2

# WILLIAMS-CONE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE



Photos Courtesy of Megan Robertson

**Friends of Williams-Cone**



FOWC is a vital part of the WCS community, supporting countless projects, programs, experiences and opportunities for students and staff that the district budget cannot provide. For the 2022-2023 school year FOWC is seeking someone to chair or co-chair FOWC. This leadership position involves working closely with the FOWC officers, school principal, Mrs. Rineer and school community to coordinate fundraisers and projects for the school. If you are interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Mrs. Rineer at: [rineerr@link75.org](mailto:rineerr@link75.org).

The WCS staff, leadership and community would like to thank Mrs. Andrea Imrie, outgoing FOWC Chairperson for the many years of leadership that she generously gave to the WCS community. From coordinating countless fundraisers to leading Staff Appreciation weeks, ensuring that classroom needs were met to being a strong supporter of the WCS community, her creativity, energy, and time were so appreciated. Thank-you Andrea!



## **Congratulations!**

Please join us in celebrating some very special life events that have recently occurred for WCS staff:

Three of our WCS staff members had students that graduated with the MTA Class of 2022. Each of these students also attended WCS. Congratulations to all!

Pictured above is Mrs. Kane with her son Patrick.

Pictured here is Mr. Myrick with his daughter Shelby.







Pictured above is Mrs. San Pedro with her son Nate.



## August/September

Monday, August 29th: First Day of School for PreK, Grades 1-5

8/29 & 8/30 Incoming Kindergarten Screening

9/2-9/5 Labor Day Weekend Holiday, No School for Staff & Students

9/6 First Day of School for Kindergarten, School in Session for all grades, PreK through grade 5