

Williams-Cone School Principal's Newsletter

Volume 14

March 10, 2023



"Williams-Cone School is a safe and kind community that inspires every student to succeed."

-Compassionate, Curious, Confident Learners-



Hello WCS Community!

(Photos compliments of Megan Robertson)

We had a spectacular Variety Show on March 2nd for the first time in three years! Students in grades two through five provided wonderful performances for a full audience of family and friends. Performances ranged from musical selections, gymnastics, cheer routines to comedy and dance routines. A daytime performance was also held on March 1st for the entire school including the "Staff Act" tradition! A special thank-you to our music teacher Mrs. Appel as well as second grade teachers Mrs. San Pedro and Mr. Wilbur for coordinating and organizing the show. Thank-yous also go to Mr. Cardoza, school counselor and Mr. Myrick paraprofessional for running the spotlight as well as to Mrs. Redd, art teacher and Mr. Reed, music student teacher for assisting with the ticket sales and bake sale. We are so grateful that this fabulous WCS tradition is back!!!



Snowshoeing!

Students in Ms. Schoenberg's third grade class recently had an opportunity to go snowshoeing with Mrs. Martin, WCS Physical Education teacher. Students took advantage of the fresh snowfall following the February 28th snow day and utilized the trails on the neighboring Highlands property.







We are quickly approaching Parent/Teacher Conferences. They are scheduled for March 13 through March 24th and will be held in person unless a parent/caregiver requests a zoom conference. The focus of the second trimester parent/teacher conferences will be on continuing to build parent/caregiver partnerships, student performance (strengths and growth opportunities) as well as goal setting for the third trimester. To help better prepare for your upcoming conference, consider the following:

- *Talk to your child-Ask if there is anything that he/she would like for you to discuss with the teacher.
- *Be prepared-Write down things that you would like to discuss/questions that you would like to ask at the conference.
- *Be specific. Describe your child's strengths and areas of need.
- *Arrive promptly or a few minutes early.
- *Exchange information. Feel free to share with the teacher situations in the home that may affect your child's school work (Ex. a new baby in the family, new babysitter, etc.).
- * Discuss the whole child. Your child's social and emotional development is as important as his/her academic success.
- * Leave with a plan. The conference should end with a clear statement of what you will do and what the teacher will do.

Thank-you in advance for your support and attendance. Strong, positive and supportive parent/caregiver partnerships are essential to a student's overall school success.



*Daylight Saving begins Sunday, March 12th. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead (spring forward!).

*A reminder that Thursday, March 16th will be a half day of school only for all students in PreK through grade five. Breakfast and lunch will be offered. The dismissal schedule will be as follows:

PreK Dismissal: 10:45 A.M.

K-5 Dismissal: 12:10 Walkers & Bus Riders

12:15 Car Riders

*Also, a reminder that there will be no school on Friday, March 17th as it is a teacher compensation day.

We have lots of things happening around here at WCS as we come to the end of the official winter season. From parent/teacher conferences to 5th grade fundraisers, continued playground plans, FOWC family opportunities, our school community is thriving! Thank-you everyone. The WCS community is simply the best!

I ask that parents and caregivers make every effort to attend your student's parent/teacher conferences over the next few weeks. It is important that we continue to work together to help ensure the best programming and achievement possible for your student(s). We need and value your input and support as you know your children best.

If you have any questions and/or needs please do not hesitate to reach out to me and our school team. We are here to help!

Your Principal,

Randa

Mrs. Randa C. Rineer, WCS Principal

rineerr@link75.org

(207)725-4391



gratitude

We have LOTS of things to be thankful for as a school community:



*Mr. Reed the student teacher who taught under Mrs. Appel, WCS music teacher. He brought great energy and enthusiasm to our school community!

*Pam Young & Randy Munsey-multiple snow clean ups and removal

*Annie Martin-Snowshoeing with third grade.

*Jamie Appel, Dawn San Pedro, & Michael Wilbur-creating, supporting, coordinating, supervising and implementing a WONDERFUL Variety Show!

*Jeff Cardoza & Chris Myrick-operating the spotlight for the Variety Show.

*Megan Redd & Mr. Reed-helping with the Variety Show admissions & bake sale.

*Pam Young, Randy Munsey, WCS Parents/Caregivers-Variety Show set up and tear down.

**Parent/Caregiver support, appreciation & enthusiasm for the Variety Show.*

**A fabulous Playground Committee Meeting on March 7th.*

**A wonderful FOWC Meeting on March 9th.*

From Friends of Williams-Cone:

**Thank you to the Gray Family for allowing us to borrow their popcorn machine and serving popcorn at tonight's Family Game Night!*

**Much gratitude to our parent volunteers helping us host tonight's event - Jenn C., Meredith P., Anna S., and Megan R, to Ms. Pam & Mr. Randy for helping with setup and clean-up, and to Mrs. Rineer for being our onsite building administrator, we couldn't host these events without her support.*

**We are so grateful for our partnership with Randy at Adept Screen Printing & Graphics to offer our school swag to the community.*

**Many thanks to all involved in this year's WCS Variety Show - our student performers, Mrs. Appel, Mrs. San Pedro, Mr. Wilbur, Mr. Myrick, Mr. Reed, Ms. Redd, 5th Grade Stage Helpers, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Anderson, Ms. Pam, Mr. Randy, and Mrs. Rineer.*

**Amazing work by Adam P, Kim P, Sam E., and Mrs. Brooke for the proposals brought in front of the Playground Committee this week. These plans are exciting for the renovations taking place on our school playground this year.*

**Sending our deep appreciation to the WCS Teachers & Staff who have spent these last couple of weeks prepping for Conferences and the several late nights they will work over the next 2 weeks to meet with all of our families.*



3/10 Trimester 2 Ends

3/10 FOWC Family Night, 5:00 P.M., Gymnasium

3/13-3/24 Parent/Teacher Conferences

3/16 Early Dismissal, 10:45 A.M. PreK, 12:10 P.M., K-5

3/17 No School, Compensation Day for Staff

3/24 Trimester 2 Report Cards Sent Home with Students

3/31 5th Grade Carnival Dance Fundraiser, 6:00-8:00 P.M., Gymnasium

4/4 Playground Committee Meeting, 5:30 P.M., LC

4/11 FOWC Meeting, 5:30 P.M., LC

<https://zoom.us/j/91404643665?pwd=ZVVIN0oxaitjRldwSUdZM0ZFUTZEQT09>

Meeting ID: 914 0464 3665 Passcode: 145800

4/14 No School for Students, Professional Development Day

4/17-4/21 Spring Break

4/28 FOWC Family Night, 5:00 P.M., Stay Tuned for Details!



WCS CARNIVAL DANCE

A FUNDRAISER FOR
THE 5TH GRADE



**\$5.00
PER PERSON**
\$20 per family



**WILLIAMS CONE
SCHOOL GYM**



6-8 PM

DJ • GAMES • FOOD • PRIZES



PLEASE SUPPORT THE
5TH GRADE CLASS
AS THEY PLAN
THEIR END OF YEAR
CELEBRATIONS.

**FRIDAY
MARCH 31, 2023**

**FACE-PAINTS
AND
MORE!**

Due to space limitations and our growing student population, we respectfully request that only WCS students in grades PreK thru 5th and their siblings under age 5 attend the event with their parents/caregivers. Middle and high school siblings and family members are not encouraged to attend. Children may NOT be dropped off, they must be accompanied by their parent/guardian. Thank you!

Kindergarten

If you have a child who will turn 5 no later than October 15, 2023, he/she is eligible to attend kindergarten beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Kindergarten registration will take place March 6th through March 31st.

Kindergarten students can be registered electronically at:

<https://ic.link75.org/campus/apps/olr/application/login/kiosk-app-type>



In an effort to increase access to high-quality early childhood learning opportunities for students prior to entering Kindergarten, M.S.A.D. No. 75 provides two PreK classes, for a total of 32 students. Students must be 4 years old by October 15, 2023. The program uses the same calendar as grades K-12, runs five days a week and approximately 6 hours per day. Transportation is not provided. One class is at the Williams-Cone School in Topsham, while the other is at Midcoast Maine Community Action's (MMCA) Head Start location at Cook's Corner in Brunswick.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2023-2024 school year. Additional information is available through the following link:

http://link75.org/parents/student_registration/prek_registration

Please be sure to turn in the one page paper application with your documents to the Williams-Cone School Office.

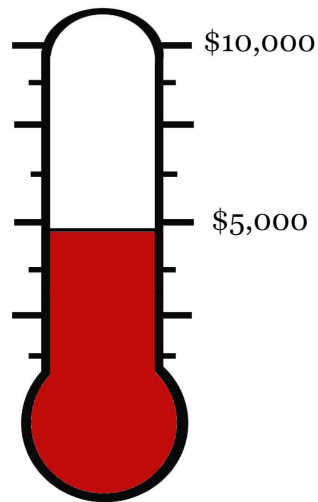
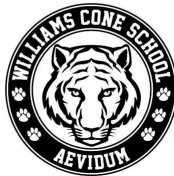
friends OF williams-cone

Get caught up on the latest news from Williams-Cone School's PTO group

friends OF williams-cone

SUPPORTING THE STAFF AND FAMILIES
OF THE WILLIAMS-CONE COMMUNITY

Annual Fundraising Goal



as of February 7, 2023

Can you believe we are in the home stretch of the 2022-2023 School Year? Neither can we! T2 Parent / Teacher Conference weeks have really snuck up on us. We have some amazing things planned to round out the academic year such as our Annual Race for Education Fundraising Event, a School Wear Sale, and Family Nights (formally listed as Movie Nights). Join one of our planning committees planning the Race for Ed or the May Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week by emailing us your interest at friendsofwilliamscone@gmail.com

Join us for the Upcoming FOWC Meetings & Events:

5th grade popcorn, treats and more fundraiser: March 5-25

Family Game Night - 3/10/23 from 5-7:00 PM in the gymnasium

WCS School Wear Sale - 3/20/23 until 4/5/23

Race for Education Planning Meeting 3/22/23 at 10 AM <email FOWC for location details>

5th Grade Fundraising/Planning Meeting: March 22, 5:30-7:00p in the Learning Commons at WCS

5th Grade T-shirt Sizes DUE: March 23

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week Planning Meeting 3/27/23 at 9 AM <email FOWC for location details>

5th Grade Carnival Dance - 3/31/23 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the gymnasium

Playground Committee Meeting - 4/4/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons

FOWC Meeting - 4/11/23 at 5:30 PM in the Learning Commons & via Zoom

Family Night #2 - 4/28/23, Details TBD

Playground Committee



We reviewed some amazing proposals this week from our committee members regarding upgrades to our school playground along with the possibility of a Pre-K Outdoor Classroom. Join us at our next meeting on April 4th at 5:30 pm in the Learning Commons for an update on the proposals and volunteer sign-up for our next build.



Join us TONIGHT for our Family Game Night (Friday, March 10th) at 5:00 PM in the WCS gymnasium!

BYOG - Bring your own game and join other WCS families in a fun night of board games! We will have some assorted board games available thanks to a team of parent volunteers along with Cornhole, Giant Jenga, and Ring Toss. Will have water & popcorn available, feel free to bring your own snacks or dinner.

Please note that this is NOT a drop-off event, adults must attend with their students.

Can't make this Family Night Event? We are planning another event on April 28th, 2023! Be on the lookout for another flyer in April with the event details.

5th GRADE

5th Grade Update:

Wow, so hard to believe we are in the final stretch of 5th grade! Things are moving right along and thanks to your support, the 5th Grade is close to reaching their fundraising goal of \$5,000 to cover expenses for all 5th grade students to attend their field trip to Chewonki and to support their end-of-year celebrations. We have just two more fundraisers to go!

Popcorn, treats and more!



Happening now until March 25th! 5th graders are selling delicious popcorn, cookies, chocolate, snacks, gardening supplies and more.

The link to the class page

is: https://supportmyfundraiser.org/store/store.php?sID=00696894&fbclid=IwAR2vZtFxUGu3AT29NVChKG0IfUId3onT5JBLbUzfWNj8Tv1fIhLG730_hNg#.ZAdujJokp1Q.facebook

Items can be shipped to the school for free or to homes for a delivery fee. For anyone who is

not interested in purchasing anything but still would like to donate, we are accepting donations through a CheddarUp link <https://2023wcs5thgradedonations.cheddarup.com> and via check payable to FOWC with "5th grade" in the memo.

Carnival DANCE

Our last fundraiser is our Carnival Dance which will be on Friday, March 31 from 6-8p in the WCS gym. We'll have carnival games, food, dancing, face painting and more. Everyone will receive a prize. Flyers will be going home soon. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Admission will be at the door only, no advance sales. Only WCS students in grades PreK-5th and their siblings under age 5 will be permitted to attend the event with their parent/caregivers. Middle and High School siblings and family members are discouraged from attending. Children may NOT be dropped off, they must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

5th grade families we are seeking volunteers for the night of the Carnival Dance and to donate snacks. Here's our sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080448a9ac2fa6f85-wcs5th#/>



WCS 5th Grade Carnival Dance

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you! For any questions, please contact Amber-Jean Nickel at 207-837-1250 ****REQUIRED**** Volunteer Background Check Form: Want to volunteer with our school? Review and sign the MSAD 75 Volunteer Handbook & Form and return it to the Main Office. This form is required for all volunteers, including for this event.

www.signupgenius.com

T-Shirts for 5th Grade End of Year Activities

Tie-dyeing class t-shirts is a beloved WCS 5th grade tradition. Students are able to wear them as a show of class spirit for a variety of activities as they finish out the year. 5th grade is partnering with FOWC on our purchase of t-shirts for our class which will be covered by our fundraising dollars. We will be purchasing t-shirts for all 5th graders and the staff that teach/support them. Students will be tie-dyeing them in school. Please keep a look out for information about collecting 5th grader t-shirt sizes. The deadline for submission of t-shirt size information will be March 23. Also, we are seeking volunteers to help with the laundering, please contact Mary Kate Appicelli 207-751-0133 or applecelery@hotmail.com if you are able to assist.

Important dates:

March 5-25: 5th grade popcorn, treats and more fundraiser

March 22, 5:30-7p: 5th Grade Fundraising/Planning Meeting from 5:30-7:00p in the Learning Commons at WCS.

March 23: 5th Grade T-shirt Sizes DUE

March 31, 6:00-8:00pm WCS Carnival Dance 5th Grade Fundraiser in the WCS gym.



In need of some new WCS School Wear to show off your Tiger Pride? You're in luck! We have partnered with Adept Screen Printing & Graphics this year to offer an assortment of school apparel. Order forms will be coming home in a backpack near you! The deadline to order is April 5th, 2023. All items should arrive in time for our annual Race for Education event where students can show off their new school swag.

Have apparel you've outgrown? Send it in and we would be happy to ensure it finds a home with one of our students.



COMMUNITY REMINDER - Box Tops has gone digital so instead of clipping them from products, you use the Box Tops app and scan your receipts to see if you purchased any qualified products and apply that to the school account.

Here is a short video on how to use the app: <https://youtu.be/v-bNcykyK5Y>

You can find the apps in the Apple Store or on Google Play.



We are also still Clykin! You can grab one of our bags in the bin near the WCS Main entrance. Every bottle returned helps our PTO.

It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Grab a bag
2. Fill it up with returnables
3. Drop it off at any Clynk location (buildings next to Hannaford stores)

Every penny counts!



Volunteer Background Check Form:

Want to volunteer with our school? Review and sign the MSAD 75 Volunteer Handbook & Form and return it to the Main Office. This form is required for all of our FOWC volunteers. Thank you for investing in our volunteer community!

You can find the latest version here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zy-XTY_equtyU2CXLCb4aw-Ln5jF-hEI/view?usp=sharing

Official Williams-Cone School
YEARBOOK
in partnership with
treering

**Get Your 2022-2023 Williams-Cone
School Yearbook Today!**

Soft Cover Price: \$20.00 (*with tax*)

Deadline to Order by **Cash or Check**: Thursday, April 13th

Need an order form?

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13cs4ebf9OniERC_UXkB5UjVFh8EKJRWV/view?usp=sharing

Deadline to Order **Online**: Monday, May 1st

It's easy! Order online at www.treering.com/validate

Enter WCS's passcode: 1015059372991326

Your yearbook purchase helps us continue the tradition to give every 5th Grade Student a free yearbook during the Farewell Ceremony. Thank you!

(you can order online after the deadline however shipping costs will apply)

W.I.N.G The Food Pantry at Mt. Ararat Middle School

New Hours for the 2022-2023 School Year

Wednesdays 3:15pm to 5:15pm

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.

W.I.N.G. is looking for new volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering in the food pantry, please reach out to Catie Meier at meierc@link75.org.



Sagadahoc County Emergency Management Agency


Did you know if you are a renter, and heat is included in your rent, you may be eligible for heating assistance this season? It can take a few weeks for the application to process, so now is the time to connect with your local Community Action Program (CAP) and find out if you qualify! For a complete list of all CAPs, as well as other heating and energy assistance resources, visit www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs.


**HEATING TIP
FROM YOUR
COMMUNITY
ACTION
PROGRAM**

If you are a renter and heat is included in your rent, you may still be eligible for heating assistance. Contact your local Community Action Program (CAP) today.

For a list of CAPs:
www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs

NEED HEATING ASSISTANCE?

 www.maine.gov/mpuc/consumer-assistance/programs

 2-1-1 (OR 207-874-2211)

The advertisement features a background image of a woman and a young girl dancing in a living room. The woman is wearing a grey sweater and blue jeans, and the girl is wearing a white patterned shirt and blue jeans. A small logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the image.