

October 1, 2022

Dear West Sylvan Families,

We held our first all-school assembly in over two years on Friday, to come together, share some school spirit, have fun competitions between grade levels, and to celebrate scholars who have been nominated for modeling the MYP Learner Trait by being "Open Minded." It was a short assembly lasting less than 30 minutes, and it afforded us some whole school time to gather together, have some fun, and celebrate successes. Below is a poster of all of the Scholar nominations given for this last month's MYP trait.



Also, on Thursday this week, our 6th Graders had an opportunity to hear directly from Outdoor School camp leaders. Pictures of the two camps (Camp Angelos and Camp Collins) were displayed, meals were discussed, showers were described, and adult support and camp leaders were shared with Scholars. Should there be Scholars whose families choose to have their 6th Grader opt out of the Outdoor School week-long experience, a packet of work will be left for Scholars and they will be with Substitute Teachers for the week on campus. Outdoor School packets have been sent home, and need to be returned to attend. Assignments for the camps [can be viewed here](#).

MAP testing has been underway still for some Math classes and for English classes. This is the Fall testing time when we get some baseline data on the skills of our Scholars so that Educators can plan instruction for the year to meet Scholars' needs. In the coming weeks, the District will be mailing home copies of test scores from last school year.

We greatly appreciate the family members who have been volunteering in our Main Office, our Library, and joining us for school lunches to help with supervision! The additional adults around campus really help with these busier spaces and the busiest times of the school day!

Student Supports

6th Grade:	Counselor:	Ricky Almeida [ralmeida@pps.net]
	Administrators:	Jill Hunt [jihunt@pps.net] Ben Keller [bkeller@pps.net]
7th Grade:	Counselor:	Kandice Abney [kaabney@pps.net]
	Administrator:	Ben Keller [bkeller@pps.net]
8th Grade:	Counselor:	Rebecca Cohen [rcohen@pps.net]
	Administrator:	Jill Hunt [jihunt@pps.net]

Safety Updates:

As we messaged on Friday, there were two safety issues that day, one involving a Scholar's family member and another with a few of our 8th Graders during their Lunch period. For the situation with the family member, we called a "Team Response" to address the concern. A "Team Response" is a signal we use with our Educator team to alert them of a safety concern in the building during which we ask all Scholars and Educators to go into a classroom, or to the closest room, and close the door. That way, we are able to clear the hallways and address the safety concern with the adults who are responding, without any Scholars moving through the building. Our Educator team quickly responded, the Beaverton Police also responded within three minutes of the phone call, and the family member left campus without incident. In this instance, there were some verbal statements (no physical threats) being made throughout the hallways that we didn't want our Scholars to be subjected to, and we wanted Scholars in other spaces while we worked with the family member to exit the building. We are thankful for our entire Educator community for their immediate response to the call. Our District team also responded to the incident to support. If you have additional questions, please message Principal Jill Hunt at jihunt@pps.net. Our Counselors are on standby throughout the coming week to work through any feelings related to Friday's incidents.

Reminder to Bring Charged Chromebooks and Chargers:

We have a very small supply of extra Chromebooks to loan out when our Scholars forget their devices at home. Please remind your scholar to bring their device so that they can use it to access MAP testing and to stay caught up.

- Visit our Counseling Corner [here](#)

Opportunities for Family Connection and Scholar Extended Activities:

- [Sign up to Volunteer! We want your help \(especially during lunches or in the front office in the afternoons\)!](#)
- **After School Speech and Debate Club:** the 2022-23 WSMS Speech and Debate Club (separate from the speech class at WSMS) is a club organized by the Lincoln Speech and Debate Team and is taught by its members. In this club, we teach different competitive events in speech and debate and attend tournaments to compete with other local Middle Schools. We hope that with the club, students will be more prepared for the Lincoln Speech and Debate Team as well as increase their public speaking, research, and other crucial skills. To view the form to sign up, copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://tinyurl.com/ycx2b6h9>.

General Questions:

Office Email: westsylvanoffice@pps.net

Jerda Solonche, Administrative Assistant: jsolonche@pps.net (staff, financial)

Kirsten Crombie, Administrative Assistant: kcrombie@pps.net (attendance, enrollment, withdrawals)

Here are some dates to save on your calendar now in preparation:

- ★ *Tualatin Parks and Recreation Community Parktober Harvest Festival Celebration: **October 13, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM*** in the field behind school. Any local businesses who want to set up a table or sell items are welcome to self-promote, as it is an open community event. This is a fun, free event with activities for all ages, free giveaways, and an opportunity to give input on the new park coming to SW Pointer Rd. Wear your favorite Fall costume and drop-in any time between **5:30-7:30 pm at West Sylvan Middle School**. Spanish interpretation services will be provided. Everyone is welcome!
- ★ No School for Students and optional PD for Educators: October 14th
- ★ Virtual Q & A meeting about ODS for 6th grade families: October 17th, 5 p.m. (link will be sent to families)
- ★ *Outdoor School for 6th Graders: **Sunday, October 23rd–28th*** ~ Overnight camp returns! More details to come through 6th grade Educators in the coming weeks.
- ★ End of 1st Quarter (quarter classes end and new quarter classes begin the following Monday):
Thursday, November 3rd
- ★ No school for Scholars, Educator planning and grading day: November 4th

Enjoy your weekend, and go Wolf Pack!

Jill and Ben