



# WMS WARRIOR NEWS

OCTOBER 2018

Willoughby Middle School – 36901 Ridge Road, Willoughby, OH 44094

Office: 440-975-3600

Fax: 440-975-3618

## A NOTE FROM MR. KELLER

The school year is officially underway and we have nearly reached the end of the first nine weeks. October is a busy month at Willoughby Middle as students and teachers have settled into their schedules and routines and are working hard to Improve Academic Achievement. The Fall Academic Award ceremonies for current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders provided us with an opportunity to recognize these students their achievements during the 2017-2018 school year.

The Warrior Fall Sports teams, supported by our Cheerleaders, have been busy competing against other area middle schools with excellent results. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Girls Volleyball teams, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Football teams and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls and Boys Cross Country teams have all performed well against excellent competition.

On a safety note, our students and staff have successfully completed several Fire Drills and a bus evacuation drill. In the event of an emergency, our students and staff are well-trained and confident in their responses and safety

protocols. Speaking of safety, Willoughby Middle School wishes our former School Safety Officer all the best as Officer Mellissa Kelly has accepted a full-time position with the Trumbull Co. Sheriff's Department. Replacing Officer Kelly will be Willoughby Police Officer and SRO, Chuck Popik.

Please don't forget, Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 PM. No appointments are necessary. Your participation in your child's education during the middle years is essential to their success. Current educational research shows that too few students graduating from high school are ready for collegiate level work in English, Math, or Science, or for the workplace, where the same skills are now being expected of those who did not attend college. Preparation for high school begins at the middle level, where the benefit of rigorous core academic classes for all students prepares them for grades 9-12.

As we prepare for the Spring 2019 AIR Assessments our staff is focusing on the careful examination of data from common benchmark assessments and MAP data as we work to implement student academic

interventions to better prepare them for the AIR state assessments.

I hope to see you at upcoming events during the month of October. Enjoy the beautiful fall colors and.....Go Warriors!!

### Homework Hotline:

[www.weschools.org/willoughby](http://www.weschools.org/willoughby)

**24 Hour  
Attendance  
Line:  
440-283-2182**

### PLEASE VOTE NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

Willoughby – Eastlake Schools are on the ballot November 6th. Issues 4 and 5 are renewal levies and their passage will not increase your taxes. Issues 4 and 5 support daily classroom programming and comprise 14.4% of the district's annual budget.

These funds are NOT used for building new schools and are critical to daily instruction.

Please remember to vote on November 6th. LEVIES ARE FOR LEARNING!

**OCTOBER  
IMPORTANT DATES**

**October 1**

PTO meeting – 7 PM  
Library/Media Center  
Meet & Greet the  
Superintendent

**October 2**

State of the Schools Address  
WMS Cafeteria – 7 PM

**October 12**

NO SCHOOL – NEOEA DAY

**October 15-30**

PTO Spirit Wear Sale

**October 18**

Parent/Teacher Conferences  
4-8 PM – No appointments

**October 24**

Picture Retake Day

**October 25**

Parent/Teacher Conferences  
4-8 PM – No appointments



*Menus are posted on the  
district website:  
weschools.org under the  
Parent listings.*

**SAFE SCHOOLS AND  
SCHOOL BUS  
BEHAVIOR**

Now that we have reached the end of the first academic quarter of the 2018-2019 school year, most students have settled into their daily school routine. As students become more comfortable with their academic schedule, teachers, classes

and fellow students, we also need to address the issue of student conduct on school buses. There is much that students can do to help create a safer, more desirable school environment and following the Student Code of Conduct while riding buses to and from Willoughby Middle School is a large part of that initiative.

During grade-level meetings in August, Mr. Wilson reminded students about the 3-R's, *Respect, Responsibility and Readiness to Learn and the importance of Above the Line Behavior*. Student conduct while riding the buses is an important part of the school day and bookends the academic activities that occur between 8:30 AM and 3:06 PM.

Above the Line behavior on school buses is an important component to the beginning and end of each school day. Students should refrain from behaviors that tease, bully and/or intimidate classmates and distract or disrupt the bus driver's concentration. Instead, focus on staying seated with legs and feet out of the aisle and inside the bus windows, listen to music on their headphones and/or

talk quietly with a seat partner. To keep our buses clean, please refrain from eating food and/or drinking beverages on the bus. Avoid horseplay and pushing and shoving as these actions can also lead to students being hurt while riding the bus. Students should support actions that promote a peaceful and harmonious atmosphere on the school bus.

Please do your part to make the school buses a safe environment for everyone.

**PTO NEEDS YOU!**

Volunteers are needed to hand out information on PTO membership during our conferences. Please use the link below to volunteer.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E48AEA828A3F49-wmsparent>