

# WAKANDA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2020



School District of the  
Menomonee Area



WAKANDA  
★ ★ ★

## RECESS/PE MODEL

Physical Education/Recess was developed as a COVID-19 mitigation providing for structured, supervised 30 minutes of recess time during which most of the traditional elementary Physical Education curriculum could be taught. The students thoroughly sanitize their hands prior to class and afterwards. In addition, students wear their masks during the daily instructions. The children divide into their consistent sub-cohorts where they have the opportunity to participate in a variety of energetic and engaging activities. Students may remove their masks once outdoors if physical distancing can be achieved. If we cannot ensure physical distancing, we ask students to put their masks back on while engaging in the activity, such as when climbing on the rope structure. However, students are always welcome to ask for a mask break when needed.

## CARPOOL INFORMATION

Thank you for your efforts as we transitioned to some new procedures and protocols with our carpool system this year. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding, especially during inclement weather. Please continue to be patient in your vehicle and allow for extra time at the start and end of your day as we navigate these new protocols and procedures with your students.

### CARPOOL STUDENT PICK-UP

Please continue to use your Family Card to display in your front window helping us to quickly identify those students who you are picking up. Family Cards will ask you to identify your family name, the names of your elementary-aged students and corresponding grade levels. Please let your child's teacher know if you are in need of a Dismissal Family Card and we can gladly send one home in your child's folder or you can pick one up in the main office as well.

We have found success filling the first 3 cars of the carpool line and then ask you to pull forward so that we can fill the next 3 cars in line. Students will be wearing masks in the carpool lines as we are planning to cohort the students by grade level and socially distance them as much as possible.

Please do not get out of your vehicle but rather remain in your vehicle at all times. If you would like to get out of your vehicle, we do have the option to park and wait on the physically distanced adult waiting areas available this year.

You are also welcome to utilize the sidewalk to accompany your child in the morning as well. Thank you for respecting our policy limiting visitors inside our school building this year.



Family Card-Dismissal.pdf

[Download](#)  
19.4 KB

## MINOR RETEACHINGS

At Wakanda, we believe in the importance of teaching our clear and explicit behavioral expectations to our students. We spent the month of September teaching our students the behavioral expectations in the common areas of our school as well as the expectations in our classrooms. At Wakanda, we also believe in the importance of reteaching behaviors with our students. We do not want students or parents to view re-teachings as a punishment but rather an opportunity to relearn the expectation and be provided with the opportunity to fix their behavior. You may receive information from your child's teacher that your student received a Minor Re-teaching Form that is printed on a green piece of paper. You are not required to send these back to school but rather can utilize them as an opportunity to talk with your student about their chance to relearn the expectations at school and correct their behavior for the future.

**Minor Re-teaching  
Communication Form**

Student\_\_\_\_\_Teacher\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_ Time\_\_\_\_\_

Location:\_\_\_\_\_

Referring Staff:\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Notification via \_\_\_email \_\_\_phone

Incident Type	Intervention
---- C (Cooperation)	---- Quick RETEACH of desired behavior
---- A (Assertion)	--- Take a Break
---- R (Responsibility)	--- Buddy Room
---- E (Empathy)	---- Loss of Privilege
---- S (Self-Control)	---- Other

(3 re-teachings of the same behavior in 30 days  
- a major OR 6 re-teachings of any behavior)

**Parents/Guardians:**

**The purpose of this communication is to inform you that your student had the opportunity to learn about/ correct this behavior at school. A re-teaching is a reminder to demonstrate our Wakanda C.A.R.E.S.**

## GRADE LEVEL NEWS

### Kindergarten

Kindergarten has had a great start to the school year! We have spent the first month of school getting to know each other and our school. We have been busy learning about school expectations and CARES, and helped to create our own classroom rules. In reader's workshop we have been reading and learning from nonfiction books and retelling old favorite storybooks. In math we began working on counting and finding hidden partners in numbers to five. We also spent time this month learning about and observing trees as we looked for signs of fall.

### First Grade

The 2020-2021 school year is off to a great start. The first graders have been busy learning, establishing, and practicing school routines as well as meeting many new friends. In writing, they have begun writing "small moment" stories, and boy are these fun to read and share with each other! We wrapped up the month of September with fun Fall Apple Day! The students learned about apples, apple trees and even Johnny Appleseed. The whole day was filled with everything apples!

### Second Grade

Second grade is off to a great start! We are so proud of all of the second graders for their positive attitudes even though things are so much different this year. We have been so impressed with the respect they have for each other and their understanding of the things we need to do to remain safe at school. It is truly impressive!

In math we have been focusing on place value (understanding numbers and their values) last week. This is so important because everything we will do in math this year builds on this understanding. We also have been working on building our fluency with math facts. This is an important skill we work on in second grade and will continue to work on all year.

In reading we have been working on learning how to make predictions when reading and how to retell a story using the most important details. We have also been working on increasing our stamina when reading. We continue to work on learning how to read and spell our snap words. Thank you for all the work at home to continue this learning!

### **Third Grade**

Third grade is off to a great start! The students are excited to be back at school with their friends. We have been busy learning about multiplication and division in math. Cursive writing has been a hit! In science we have been exploring and investigating the water cycle, weather and climate. We have been working on developing good reading habits.

### **Fourth Grade**

"Hooray, you're back!" This message appears on the bulletin board outside our fourth grade pod. We are so happy to have our fourth graders here at Wakanda. After spending time learning a lot of new protocols and reviewing some "old" ones, we have finally settled into a routine. We've created our hopes and dreams and reviewed the CARES we need to use if we hope to attain our goals.

Fourth graders have begun our first math module. We are reviewing place value and will soon be adding and subtracting into the millions.

Reading and Writing Workshops are up and running. The students are learning about ways to read intensely. As we continue with our fiction books, we will learn how to notice and grow ideas about the characters within those books. The stories we are writing are narratives. We will complete two final drafts in our first writing unit. The first is a personal narrative and the second is a fictional narrative. Fourth graders will learn about Wisconsin this year. We begin by studying the geographical features and regions found within our state in both social studies and science.

We are so glad that we are back and are looking forward to a great year!

### **Fifth Grade**

Life is good in Grade 5! We are SO very proud of our "Elementary Seniors" and the work they have done thus far in 5th Grade. We had a great time celebrating *International Talk Like a Pirate Day* with an All-5th Grade Google Meet. Our Reading & Writing Stamina is growing by leaps and bounds every day. We are learning new ways to make our Reading a "10 out of 10" by reflecting on our systems and our growing toolkit of strategies. Our 5th-grade authors are beginning to really think of themselves as authors as they reread, rethink, revise, and reflect on their small-moment stories. In Math Workshop, we have just completed work on our quick review of some important 4th-grade concepts. This "Go Slow, to Go Fast" approach will help our Wakanda Stars dive right into our first module this week. The 5th Grade Team would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs. Navarro & the SDMA Tech. Team for getting our brand-new Chromebooks into the hands of our 5th-grade students. We look forward to chatting with parents soon at Parent-Teacher Conferences to share all of the cool things happening in Wakanda 5th Grade!

## **COUNSELING NEWS**

Hello! My name is Nicole Fletcher and I am your school counselor here at Wakanda. This year will look a little different. Typically I am in the classroom every other week but this year your child will see me every week doing a variety of guidance lessons (K-5). Here is what we covered in September:

- 1st - Intro to school counselor, Kindness, Movement activities
- 2nd - Intro to school counselor, Kindness, Movement activities
- 3rd - Intro to school counselor, Kindness, Movement activities
- 4th - Intro to school counselor, Empathy, Movement activities
- 5th - Intro to school counselor, Kindness/Respect, Movement activities

### **Elementary Counselors...**

- ...see children individually and in small groups on a short term basis.
- ...facilitate classroom guidance activities for all students.
- ...work with teachers, administrators and community agencies.
- ...work with parents to help their children achieve their fullest academic, social, and emotional potential.

**The elementary counselor encourages parent involvement.** Parents are invited to contact their child's counselor with any concerns, input and/or requests for assistance regarding their children.

### **An elementary school counselor helps...**

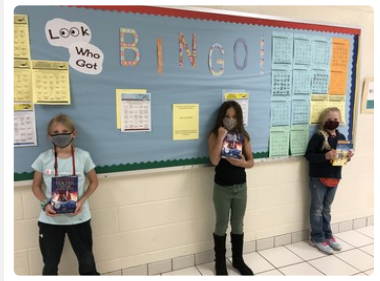
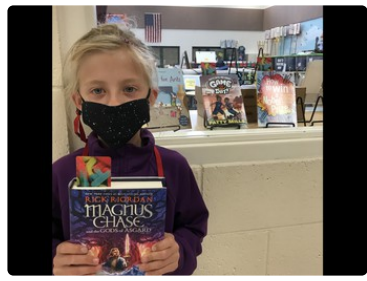
- ...children develop a better understanding and acceptance of themselves.
- ...children cope with family changes.
- ...children develop decision making and problem solving skills.
- ...students understand themselves in relation to their own career development.
- ...parents understand their child's emotions, behaviors and learning styles and assist them in meeting their child's needs.
- ...teachers and administrators in understanding and meeting the needs of all students in intellectual, personal, social and emotional areas.
- ...parents and teachers together develop services to make the school an optimal learning environment.

## **CONFERENCES**

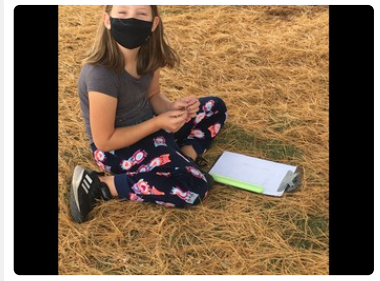
We will be having Conferences on Thursday, October 8th and Tuesday, October 13th 4:00-7:45pm. You will have the option of either selecting an in-person or virtual conference with your child's teacher to discuss your child's academic and social progress. You will be able to bring your Wakanda student to the conference but we will not be able to allow any additional siblings into the building this year. Masks will be required to be worn by students and adults during in-person conferences.

We recently sent out the google link via Skylert but please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher personally if you do not yet have access.

## **PHOTO GALLERY**



Just a few of our amazing winners receiving their books for the summer reading challenge!



Taking the learning outdoors to one of our outdoor classrooms this fall!

#### IMPORTANT DATES

10/7 - PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm

10/8 & 10/13 - Conferences


10/15 & 10/16 - No School


11/4 - Picture Retake Day




## Contact Information

 @SDMA\_Wakanda

 801 Pine Avenue E Menomonie,...

 715-232-3898

 [wk.sdmaonline.com](http://wk.sdmaonline.com)

