



OCTOBER 2009

Green & Gold Gazette

A Message from the Principal:

Proactice Training to Safeguard your Child

Your child's safety is one of our highest priorities on a daily basis. Because District 13 is proactice, Westfield spends time each year educating and practicing protocols that are efficient and effective. And as we found out recently, having these safety protocols is important because they were put to the test over the last couple weeks.

First, some background on our training in August and September at Westfield. As the school year started, the Bloomingdale Police Department conducted Crisis Training for our Westfield staff. Students have already practiced fire drills and passed our fire drill protocols with the stamp of approval from the Bloomingdale Fire Department. Further, just last week, all our students worked with the bus company, *First Student*, to practice bus evacuation drills. Later in the fall we will finish our safety practices with tornado drills.

In keeping your adolescents' safe in the cyberage, we have become proactive as we work to deepen students awareness of technology safety. With the Internet so readily accessible to students, and when education must prepare students for success in an increasingly technologically centered world, the dangers for our middle school students is always pending. Internet safety, appropriate online behavior, and proper cell phone use are some of the topics that were covered in our annual state mandated Internet safety training. 6th and 8th grades have completed this training and 7th grade is scheduled for the week of October 5.

On Friday, September 18 and again on Monday, September 21, we were faced with two unpredictable critical crisis events. In both situations, our school was in a "soft lock-down" or "perimeter lockdown" as a result of advisement from our local police department. When we go into any type of lock-down, we are in charge. We follow advice

from the police department. On Friday, September 18, the police department shared information with D13 that we were not at liberty to broadcast because the investigation was being conducted beyond their local domain. With noon dismissal looming, the police were aware of the fact that the investigation had moved beyond Bloomingdale all the way out to the west and Route 59. We were not at liberty to share that information and followed the police directive. Consequently, the noon dismissal occurred without eminent danger being presented to our student body due to that investigation.

On September 21, right before dismissal, we again were advised to go into a "soft lock-down". This time it was a local investigation. After asking teachers to hold students in the classrooms for an additional 10 minutes, I announced that there was a "dangerous law enforcement community situation" occurring in Bloomingdale. Responding to some feedback from Friday's situation, I did announce with more specifics, but in retrospect, the announcement caused more distress for some students than was needed. We held buses and walkers, parents patiently waited outside the building while we release students and by 5 p.m. all students had left to go home.

Crisis situations are never planned or predictable. We practice them and still it occurs when not expected. Everyday we have protocols to keep your children safe and take the necessary precautions to make it happen. On both that Friday and Monday, we did the best in stressful circumstances, following our local police directives.

You have remarkable influence on your young adolescent in how they view safety protocols. We know that parents who talk to their students and are involved and concerned do better academically and socially. Being a parent in this day and age can be frustrating and scary. Making kids *aware* is necessary everyday. Talk with them about your concerns for their safety; they will be interested and love you even if they don't appear to be actively engaged in listening.

With warm regards this fall, Dr. Debbie Kling

8th Grade Team News

I “Heart” Science!

All eighth grade science students have experienced two cross-curricular activities thus far in the school year. Their first experience was with Wellness as they studied the cardiovascular system and how the heart works. Each student performed jumping jacks, running, or marching in place as their activity. Half of the class wore heart monitors and the other half took their pulse the conventional way. The students then charted their at rest, after one minute of activity, and after three minutes of rest activities pulse rates. As the students viewed each other’s data they were able to determine the multiple variables that determined the numeric values they found.

Code Orange Connection

As the students were reading the novel “Code Orange”, they were also discovering more about their own body’s defense mechanisms that are in place to combat any type of disease. Terms such as white blood cells, lymphocytes, and lymph nodes were defined and discussed with everyday common infections or illnesses to which students are accustomed. After they had each become experts at their body’s coping methods, each student chose an infectious disease from an envelope and discovered its symptoms, preventions, treatments, and what its life long or short term affects can be on the human body.

Social Studies

After the completion of the decade’s timelines, the 8th grade teachers felt it was important for the students to have a complete understanding of the location of states, major landforms, and waterways. This information will be called upon throughout the entire school year in units of study. To begin the students completed a pre-test to have a base line of their current knowledge. Over the next several

days, the students had the opportunity to practice for the test using various states stations. These included floor puzzles, internet games and activities, wipe off maps, and silhouette worksheets. The students worked collaboratively to enhance their knowledge. They chose an activity that they felt would be most productive in their studying. The culmination of the unit was a final test. Overall, the students did very well on this test and are ready to travel the country.



Jessica T., Olivia F., Alex M. Bobby H.

Springfield Trip Coming on October 8th!

The eighth grade class will venture to Springfield on October 8th! *Students to the Theatre* tour company will again guide us on a very informative day focusing on Abraham Lincoln and Illinois Government. We will visit the New Capitol, New Salem, Lincoln’s Tomb, and the neighborhood of Lincoln’s home. The students will also visit the Korean, Vietnam, and WWII War Memorials. We will enjoy a picnic lunch and dinner buffet to start and end our trip. We would like to again thank all of the parents who volunteered to join us!

Map Testing and Goal-Setting for the 8th Grade


Eighth grade MAP testing for the fall has now been completed, and teachers are using this information to see if our students have maintained their vast wells of knowledge over the long summer. Many students, in fact, have (which is great news for teachers!!!). Using this data, teachers are able to create mixed ability groups in their classrooms, plan activities at each student’s level, or provide challenging work to students who have already mastered skills. Teachers are also using this data to assess student’s weaknesses in the specific areas of each subject to work towards improvement.

So what next?

Teachers are looking back into the spring of 2009 to use that MAP score to set goals for 2010. We have looked at (with students) their weaknesses and devised ways to bring those areas up. Goals have been set with specific objectives, and activities have been designed to accomplish this. Within each classroom, teachers will gather artifacts to prove the students are in fact progressing in their specific areas. The overall goal is to hit each student’s target growth for the spring, and by addressing each student weakness, we are confident to see solid results after a year’s worth of learning.

Parents, what can you do?

Please support our efforts to take the MAP test seriously. Speak with your child about taking their improvement seriously, the importance of the test, and being aware of their goal throughout the year for targeted improvement. Results of MAP scores will be mailed to you with the mid-term reports, and if you have any questions about what you see in them, don’t hesitate to e-mail core teachers for assistance (don’t feel intimidated, it took us a long time to figure out all the numbers too).



7th Grade Team News

Meet the 7th grade teachers...

Donna Marino

Social Studies and Language Arts

I am looking forward to this school year. The opportunity to teach both Language Arts and Social Studies to the seventh graders is energizing. I have previously taught LA for nine years and special education prior to that. The past twenty eight years teaching in District 13 has been a wonderful experience. When I am not teaching children, I am spending time with my own four grandchildren. They are the delight of my life. Quality time spent with them is truly a gift, one that I hope will continue for many years. My hope for this school year is to get to know and assist my students to become independent learners, and to give them at least one thing memorable to bring with them after the year is complete !

Al Sparks

Team Leader Social Studies and Language Arts

We're off and running! Hard to believe we've already been back for over a month. It is always exciting getting to know a new group of students. This is my fourteenth year in District 13 and ninth year at Westfield. I am enjoying teaching Language Arts/Literature and Social Studies. In my spare time I am kept busy with my wife and children, reading, golfing, and watching the Blackhawks capture their first Stanley Cup since 1961! I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you this year. It's going to be a great year!

Elaine Alex

Resource Teacher

Welcome to 7th grade! This is my eighth year at Westfield. I have started teaching my fifth year as a resource teacher. I also supervise quiet lunch for 7th graders. Quiet lunch is a place where students

come and work on homework and eat their lunch for a full period. This is a great place to get work done! When I am not teaching, I will be raising a newborn! I am expecting a baby at the end of October. I look forward to working with all of your students and to a successful school year!

Tiffany Denning

Language Arts and Social Studies

It is a pleasure to be back in 7th grade again after teaching 8th grade for many years. I look forward to getting to know the students and teaching Language Arts and Social Studies this year. I am also involved in a new club called Club Hype. I would like to encourage the students to look into this new venture. I'm looking forward to a wonderful year.

Georgia Karonis

Assistant Team Leader Math

Welcome back 7th graders! This is my 8th year at Westfield and I have been teaching math for all 7 years and a para-pro for my first year. I coach cheerleading, poms, and track at Westfield. I look forward to meeting all of you and getting to know you this year! Let's have a great year!

Tina Kolzow

Language Arts and Social Studies

Welcome back to another school year! I have been teaching 7th grade language arts at Westfield for 12 years and am excited to be teaching my second year of social studies this year. My life outside of school includes raising my two adorable daughters, Juliana and Sophia. I look forward to getting to know all my students as we embark on another wonderful year of learning!

Carri Mueller

Math and Science

Welcome back to school! This is my seventh year of teaching math and science at Westfield and my third year on the seventh grade team. In addition, I sponsor Homework Lab after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. When I am not teaching, I am spending time with my family and my dogs. I look forward to getting to know my students and assist them in becoming independent, life-long learners.


Amanda Vreeland

Science and Social Studies

Welcome back to school! This is my sixth year teaching science at Westfield. I am looking forward to teaching both social studies and science again this year. I am also enjoying coaching cross country. I am excited to get to know and work with my students during their 7th grade school year.

Lincoln Marsh

At the end of September and early October, the 7th grade class will learn a lot about team work and respect as they participate in a variety of team building exercises at Lincoln Marsh in Wheaton. The field trip is part of District 13's CHARACTER COUNTS!SM program. The outdoor education program nurtures the CHARACTER COUNTS!SM pillars of trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. A couple of the activities include the Hoop Pass and canoeing. Aside from all the fun activities that help the children grow in character and as a TEAM, the students will be encouraged to use these skills in their daily lives.



6th Grade Team News



‘Twas the night before middle school, all were asleep. Nothing was said, not even a peep. Summer was over, that was for sure. The school bus would come-a mom’s great pleasure. The backpacks were filled with books, pens, and paper galore. They’d have enough homework to last ever more!

Soon it was morn... the school they approached with bricks of bright red, soon made some students feel that loss of summer dread. They gathered round friends old and new, and were anxiously awaiting for the knowledge to construe. They met cool teachers of the subjects ahead, they knew it would be a year of learning instead!

This is how sixth grader Claire W. remembers how her first day in sixth grade felt.

During the first weeks at Westfield, many sixth grade students felt a broad range of emotions from excitement to anxiety. Hopefully, now that the school year is off to a great start, more students are feeling comfortable in their classes and are enjoying the wonderful experience of Westfield Middle School.

During the first week of sixth grade, students took time to organize themselves. In each of their core classes, they learned a survival skill to help them make appropriate organizational decisions.

In science, students took a detailed tour of the building so they knew exactly where some classrooms were located and where they could locate some extra help if necessary. We visited the IMC, the computer lab, the technology office, as well as the mysterious seventh and eighth grade classrooms. This was also when students took their first jog around the “New” gym’s jogging track!

During math class, we took time to discuss appropriate locker organization. We brainstormed the different ways to utilize the shelving units as well as the hooks in the locker. Good locker organization

seems to be the key to getting to class prepared and on time.

Social studies was a review of some common school rules, and rules that may be new to students at Westfield. We discussed what happens if students are assigned an office referral and the different types of detentions that are assigned. We also discussed the many positives that are offered in sixth grade such as the Worm Awards and the sixth grade raffle!

Language Arts and Literature class reviewed with students how to use their plan books and how to appropriately budget their time to study. Plan books are to be used as daily reminders regarding the homework students have in each subject. This is where tests and quizzes should be recorded as well. Late work and unprepared stamps are stamped in the plan book, so parents can easily view the days students come to class unprepared. The good news is there is a ‘Great Day’ stamp as well.

Overall, sixth grade can seem a little overwhelming, but it has started off VERY well for most of us!

Extra Extra Read All About It!

Club Hype



Westfield's Club Hype is a new club created for students who want to get a scoop of the action by being active and engaged in various things that interest middle school students. Becoming a member lets you join other students in playing popular board games, watching movies, cooking, playing group sports, creating crafts, homework help, etc. Below you will even find a recipe for the delicious homemade salsa Club Hype cooked up in the Wellness room mid September. We thank Mrs. Bringer for supplying us with tasty tomatoes from her own garden.

Club Hype Salsa

- 30 mini tomatoes
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and minced
- 1 red onion, peeled and diced
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and diced
- 1 1/2 cups chopped cilantro
- 3/4 teaspoon dried red chili flakes
- 3/4 cup red wine vinegar, 5% acidity

Combine all ingredients in a large saucepot. Bring mixture to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes or until mixture has thickened. Carefully ladle hot salsa into a serving dish and enjoy!

As you can imagine, Club Hype is a club designed for students to have fun and express their unique middle school personalities in a safe and open environment. Club Hype meets once a week after school in either the Art room or Wellness room with Ms. Matt and Mrs. Denning. Students can join at anytime so stop by the art room if you are interested in becoming a part of the Hype!

Student Council

This year Westfield's Student Council is seeing quite a transformation; everything from class T-shirts, to student supplied breakfast, to the supplement of Ms. Giffin as one of our Teacher Sponsors. Student Council also has new addition of promoting the District 13 Character Counts framework. This includes tallying Character Counts homeroom points which is similar to years before where we tallied Spirit Day points, but this year homerooms will have a plethora of different opportunities to earn points. Student Council will be giving a pizza/ice cream party per grade level to the homerooms which collect the most Character Counts points throughout the year. Homerooms will be able to see their point totals by viewing their homeroom's Character Counts Pillars which are all on display on new Character Counts bulletin board in Westfield's main hall. Ways in which your homeroom will have the chance to earn Character Counts points will be through Spirit Days, the various fundraising events like the Sharing Tree and Food Drives, as well as other activities we have planned throughout the year.

As always, Student Council thanks everyone for all their support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Student Council Officers: Present Lauren Kiel, Vice President Jordan Gillespie, Secretary Gina Vitulli, or the Publicists Clair Dwyer and Ani Debenny, or any Teacher Sponsor: Mr. Justin Kastory, Ms. Deyana Matt or Ms. Kelly Giffin.

Cultural Arts Club

Westfield's Cultural Art Club is an after school club where students are encouraged to express their creative sides through engaging in critical thinking activities that help instill qualities of creativity, self-expression, and communication. This club also facilitates for new and unique friendships to develop among grade levels while the students are discovering and promoting cultural awareness through the arts. Members of this club participate in movie nights, art activities, holiday feasts, and even after school field trips. Cultural Arts Club meets once a week after school in the art room with Ms. Matt; meeting days rotate in the order to meet as many students' needs as possible. Students can join at anytime so stop by the art room if you are interested in sharing and supporting our culture.



Whirled Peace

For a third year in a row, Westfield students participated in International Peace Day with "Pinwheels for Peace" by creating pinwheels that represented their beliefs about Peace and the Pillars of Character. On Monday, September 21st, Ms. Matt's 6th grade Art class "planted" all of the pinwheels outside Westfield in the shape of a Peace sign. This beautiful display of pinwheels made a public visual statement about the desire for a freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people.



For more information and pictures, please visit <http://www.pinwheelsforpeace.com>.

Exploratory News

Writer's Workshop

In writing workshop, students have been writing short stories. Some have already completed a story and have begun second stories, while others have abandoned stories, as writers often do, to move in new directions. Students have been learning to begin stories "In the middle of the action." When students realize they need to go back to revise and re-write they begin to produce well crafted writing.

Artistically Speaking

Various sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students have been busy exploring and creating in the Art Room. Sixth grade students generate modern day replicas of Edvard Munch's *The Scream* as well as Personal Construction Paper Portraits. Seventh grade students construct Three-Dimensional Recycled Chihuli sculptures and draw new artistically themed logo's for Google's homepage. And last, but certainly not least, eighth grade students have been becoming Living Sculptures by dressing completely in white clothing, wearing white wigs, as well as painting their faces white, and then traveling outside to photograph themselves in various 'Statue' poses. This eighth grade statuette conversion is not only a spectacle to witness in person, but also quite an interesting observation through the statue photographs.

Remember to view Westfield's student artwork, check out our Artsonia website at www.artsonia.com/westfield5.



Year Long Spanish

Students in Spanish have had fun learning to greet each other, identify the date, time, and weather. Many students chose "el verano" (summer) as their favorite season. As we move forward we will learn how say what we like, dislike, as well as ask others those questions.

Musically Speaking

The Westfield Concert Choir and Concert Band members are once again planning a trip to St. Louis. This will be the fourth trip that Mrs. Krzysiak and Ms. Metzger have planned. The students will be traveling the weekend of April 30-May 2, 2010. They will have the opportunity to perform at a music festival which will be adjudicated by prominent judges. They will also be given the opportunity to work directly with one of the judges in a clinic following their performance. Students will spend time in St. Louis visiting the Gateway Arch and the Westward Ho Museum. They will also spend a day having fun with their friends at the Six Flags. In order to help fund this exciting trip, students will be participating in fundraising throughout the year. Our first fundraiser will begin on September 23 and will be the sale of **Great American Value Cards**. Each card will sell for **\$10.00** and will offer the card holder discounts and various locations. These cards are valid for one year. If you are interested in purchasing one of these Value Cards, please contact a band or choir member or Mrs. Krzysiak and Ms. Metzger.

Do you shop at on-line stores such as Amazon.com, Overstock.com, Barnes & Noble, Cheaptickets.com or Shutterfly? Please visit www.2clickfundraising.com prior to shopping. We will earn a commission for each purchase that you make. You would need to go to [2clickfundraising.com](http://www.2clickfundraising.com), select Westfield Middle School Music Department, select the on-line store you wish to shop at (there are over 100 to choose from), and then proceed to place your order as you normally would.

Thank you for supporting the Music Department



Communications

Communications Class is a seven-week exploratory program for sixth and seventh graders and a nine week class for eighth graders designed to help students become more independent and efficient using various software programs. Sixth graders work on desktop publishing skills using Microsoft Draw to create an original design and create a brochure in Word. They use Excel to create a data table and basic charts (graphs). They finish the rotation using Photo Story as a means to create a presentation using pictures, music and voiceovers. Seventh graders develop their skills by creating a variety of products for a fictional stock brokerage firm. The projects include formal business letters, an original graphic design, a personal resume, and business stationary. The rotation ends with a movie maker presentation based on a favorite activity. Eighth grades spend the first several weeks working with Microsoft Excel to develop and use several spreadsheets. Students not only create tables and charts (graphs) using Excel, they solve mathematical problems using formulas. The current project is an independently developed presentation, in which the student chooses to use Audacity, Photo Story, or Movie Maker. Additional design projects may be added as time permits. Check out the Communications web page for contact information and a schedule for students to use computers to get extra work time when needed.

Dramatically Speaking

Auditions were held on September 15 for the November 13th production of One Acts. Seventy students tried out for 30 roles. We have a lot of very talented students here at Westfield, but Mrs. Bringer couldn't cast them all. We still need as many people to work on the various crews. Sign ups will be outside the drama room as the need for the particular crew arises. There are still two opportunities to share your talents on the Westfield stage: tryouts for the **Westfield's Got Talent 2010** are the week before winter break and auditions for the spring production of 'Peter Pan' are in early February. Come out and share your talents both on the stage and off!

2009 Fall One Act Plays

Funeral Tea

Mrs. Ellis
Mrs. Murgatroyd
Miss Starkie
Miss Parker
Mrs. Booth

Cast Members

Catalina Pokorny
Kaley Noonan
Robyn DelCampo
Katie Mahoney
Shikha Gupta

Hide and Seek

Mr. Hiram Collingsworth
Miss Regina Hartman
Miss Melissa Collingsworth
Miss Katherine Collingsworth
Miss Ellen Collingsworth
Mr. Michael Woolsey
Detective Harold Smyth
Detective's Assistant
Mrs. Crawford
Mrs. Gullickson
Belinda
Mrs. Falconey
Butler

Cast Members

Zac Berrabah
Aashna Patel
Ashlyn Worcester
Kendall Pallissard
Anielle DeBenny
Michael Pierri
John Kernes
Vinit Vaghani
Lauren Kiel
Amy Szabo
Jazmine Davis
Cara Wilson
Shane Hunt

Extravaganza!

Derrick
Teddy
Principal
Alex, a girl
Trent
Mandy
Student 1 (Girl)
Jake
Mom
Joey
Guy (Voice over)
Andy
Cam
Various Student
Various Student
Various Student
Various Student
Various Student
Various Student

Cast Members

Joey Malinowski
Stephen Margelos
Annie Dickerson
Cassidy Greskoviak
Chris Filip
Gina Gagliano
Jenna Palmisano
Katsushi Minami
Maria Penaherrera
Keith Haffron
Andy Greskoviak
Jay Lindbert
Sneh Shah
Emma Graetz
Patti Klco
Tricia Barto
Jimmy Romano
Sarah Slavick
Tori Kerfman



Social Work & Guidance

Contact Miss Hubbard or Mrs. Zagotta with questions at 630-529-6211

Welcome to the new school year! Read on to learn about the different programs and services offered by the Social Work & Guidance Department.

Counseling: Individual counseling and social work services are available for all students. Students can be referred by parents, teachers, and administrators. Students receive individual counseling for a number of reasons including coping with divorce, help with social skills, anxiety, coping with life stressors, and assistance with study skills.

Peer Mediation: Westfield's Peer Mediation program consists of kids helping kids resolve conflict. Peer mediators are students specially trained to help their peers problem-solve when conflicts arise. Peer mediation usually takes place during students' social time. Students are most often referred for peer mediation by teachers or administrators.

Social Skills Groups: The social skills groups meet once a week during the students' lunch periods. It is a time for students to meet with their peers to learn and practice appropriate socialization skills. The groups consist of students who may have a difficult time with social skills, making friends or peer issues. All are welcome to join.

Mentor Program: The Mentor Program at Westfield Middle School is provided by AIMS

(Adults Involved in Mentoring Students). AIMS is an established local organization that connects mentors with students to help children to become mature and responsible citizens. The mentor visits with one child each week at school during their lunch period or school. They will talk, play and listen to the child. Mentors are made up of staff, teachers, administrators and adults from the community.

Grief Group: The Grief group will be offered later in the school year to students who have experienced some type of significant loss in their life, such as the death of a loved one or someone they were close to. It will be a time/place where students can talk about the feelings they struggle with. It will also give them the opportunity to talk with others who may be struggling with similar feelings or experiences. It will also be an opportunity for students to learn different strategies and skills to cope with their grief or loss.

Study Skills: Study Skills is a class for students who are receiving an F or have two D's in any of their classes. The Study Skills class teaches students the skills they need to be more successful with their academics. Some of the topics covered are organization, prioritizing, time management, note taking, listening, memorization strategies and motivation. Study Skills takes place during the student's lunch period and is offered to all students.

Progress Reports, ISAT, M.A.P. scores and Building Goals

With our school year underway, you have now received your first progress report along with ISAT scores and results of your student's M.A.P. tests. The M.A.P. tests continue to be unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning. Look at the results and compare these scores with last fall's (rather than spring) scores. You should see overall growth in your child's levels of learning in Reading, Mathematics and Science.

Looking forward as the school year unfolds, we have much to celebrate. For the second time in the history of D13, our school surpassed the 90% in ISAT test scores for reading, math and science in all grade levels!

We will continue with our building goals for the 2009-10 school year (1) maintain ISAT test scores over 90% for reading, math and science; (2) continue to improve our writing curriculum and instruction; and (3) increase the positive culture and climate by decreasing bullying, harassment and disrespect. Further, we will continue to improve and increase communication networks, improve literacy, and examine data to review our student achievement rates. Your feedback is important to us. If you have concerns, please let us know. We are here for you and your children.



Hello again...

I am so excited this school year with the newly decorated IMC. We have great areas for your children to sit, work, and read comfortably. I am thrilled at the new books that are coming out so far this year, and what I will have available for your kids to check out. If you ever have any questions regarding reading, books to purchase for your child, or anything involving literature for enjoyment, drop me an email at msiegert@sd13.org.

Hello to a new face...

The library takes a ton of time and energy to run, and I could not do that alone. I would like to introduce you to Ms. Jennifer Keicher, the IMC Aide. Jennifer has just completed her degree at NIU in secondary education with a concentration in English and language arts. Ms. Keicher is extremely excited to have access to so many YA books, and plans on reading all year long!

Library Helpers...

Make the library run smoother! Does your child like to be surrounded by books? Would your child like to help out in the li-

brary? Mrs. Siegert is always thankful for the library helpers that assist her during their social time. They can join with a friend, see the new books before anyone else, and learn how a library runs. Lots of fun and maybe even a pizza party or two! Have your child talk to Mrs. Siegert right away if they are interested!

LTC!

If your child enjoys being creative in a variety of ways, LTC club is for them! LTC stands for Library Tech Club. This is for readers and non-readers alike because there is so much to do. They can make short films about the library, create movie-style book trailers, decorate bulletin boards, set up book displays, help choose books to purchase for the IMC, and much more. If this sounds like something your child would enjoy, have them see Mrs. Siegert asap for an application to LTC!

Roselle Public Library...

Has wonderful teen programs that engage readers as well as non-readers. Have your child participate in one of the following activities, such as the teen gaming tournament, where kids battle the

newest games against others.

Teen knits, where you can learn to knit and meet with other knitters. Create real purses you can use with magazines! Join the anime-manga club and learn to draw manga while talking about the newest anime and manga with others who enjoy it. All of these activities are available to all students in 6th-12th grade, even if you live in Bloomingdale! Just call the library at 630-529-1641 to register.

Bloomington Public Library...

Has Twilight Night!! On Wednesday, October 21 from 6-8:30 they will have a free showing of the movie and a chance to show that you're the ultimate Twilighter during the film trivia contest. There will even be some free Twilight Saga giveaways. Register at the library or by phone at 630-924-2730. Open to 7th-12th grade.

Don't forget...

If you ever have any questions regarding reading, books to purchase for your child, volunteering at the IMC, or anything involving literature for enjoyment, drop me an email at msiegert@sd13.org.

Disaster Moulage



The Emergency Medical Services at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital had student volunteers take part in their Emergency Preparedness Disaster Drill, which took place Thursday September 17th after school in the Art room. The Emergency Preparedness team, which consisted of Nurses and firefighters, practiced their Moulage skills. Moulage is applying make up to a person so that they appear to look like an injured victim. Below is a photograph of our student volunteers.

Special Requests

Westfield's art room is looking for any empty Jones Soda bottles you may have, in addition to any old chairs. If you have any of these items that you wish to donate to the art room, please bring them to the main office. Ms. Matt and the art students thank you in advance!

Fertile Ground

Sometime on October 9th, 10th, or 11th the grounds around District 13 schools will be fertilized. After the application of the fertilizer these areas will be marked with a small sign. If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Dist. 13 Building and Grounds Director, Greg Leyden at 630-582-5188.

Note from the School Nurse

Please ensure that you have provided the school office with at least three accurate daytime phone numbers. If your child becomes ill during the day, the school needs to contact you for consultation or pick up. If one of the numbers changes, please call the school with the new one.

As concerns continue regarding **H1N1** (swine flu), please review the "3 Cs" with your student: cleanse, cover and contain. Wash hands frequently as the first line of defense. If you are coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with inside elbow or tissue, not hands. If your child experiences fever (100+), sore throat or coughing, keep them at home until they are fever free.

Influenza is a respiratory illness (not a stomach or bowel illness) and symptoms should not be confused. Once vaccines become available for both seasonal flu and H1N1, please have your child vaccinated to ensure a healthy school year.

Cell Phone Public Act
With Illinois Governor Quinn's signature, House Bill 72 became Public Act 96-131. Effective January 1st, 2010, the Public Act prohibits the driver of any motor vehicle in a school speed zone or any Illinois road construction zone from using a wireless/mobile phone while driving that that zone.

Wellness Department

The Wellness Department is excited to announce that the climbing wall has been put up and will be ready at the end of the 1st Quarter. The climbing wall offers a variety of activities for the students for the students, such as climbing different routes, and climbing through various obstacles. Most importantly, the climbing wall is magnetic so we will be able to do cross-curricular activities with other classes. For example, if the students are working on their vocabulary, we can take those words and definitions and place them on the wall. As the students are climbing, they have to read the word and say the definition or vice versa. The money raised for the wall came from dances, the Basketball Brawl, and grants. The Wellness Department would like to continue to expand and add on to this wall in the near future.

From the Police Department Halloween Safety Recommendations

The Village of Bloomingdale is allowing Trick-or-Treating on **Saturday, October 31st, 2009** between the hours of **3:00 pm and 7:00 pm**. Here are some suggestions from the Bloomingdale Police Department and the National Child Safety Council:

- **A responsible teen/adult should accompany each group**
- **Only go to houses with lights on**
- **Parents should know their child's route**
- **NEVER enter a stranger's house**
- **Carry flashlights**
- **NEVER eat anything until treats are examined by a parent**
- **Throw away anything unwrapped**
- **Notify the police if harmful items are found**
- **Keep pets inside the house**

There will be extra police officers in marked and unmarked cars patrolling the Village to ensure the safety of children and minimize vandalism. Please report suspicious persons immediately.



STP News

The **S**tudent **T**eacher **P**arent Organization is looking forward to a successful 2009-2010 school year. STP is a parent run, volunteer group which meets on the third Tuesday of the month. It funds extra activities and programs for students and staff at Westfield Middle.

MEMBERSHIP INFO

As we prepare for another exciting and successful school year, it is time to ask for your support by joining the STP organization. The STP is comprised of our students, teachers, and parents who are interested in enhancing each student's experience at Westfield. Every student at Westfield Middle School will benefit from the funds raised by STP. Plus, you will receive the telephone directory with your paid \$10.00 membership. Your support is very much appreciated. Thank you!

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

Westfield's hot lunch program is serviced by Home Run Inn and takes place on **most** Wednesdays. If you choose not to order hot lunch, please send a lunch with your child to school that day.

Sometimes there is food leftover to purchase, but many times there are **no** lunches left. Also, we are now only offering water as a drink, as we are not allowed to serve pop in public schools.

BOARD MEMBERS

President:: Lori Deichstetter
Vice Pres: Kerri Trebonsky
Secretary: Katie Pall
Treasurer: Maureen Lucenti

2009-2010 STP Meetings:

- **October 13 7:00pm**
- **November 17 7:00pm**
- **No Meeting in December**
- **January 19 1:30pm**
- **February 16 7:00pm**
- **March 16 7:00pm**
- **April 20 7:00pm**
- **May 18 1:30pm**

You can view the monthly STP minutes and other Westfield information on the District 13 website at:

www.sd13.org

VOLUNTEERS ~ ~

We are still in need of volunteers to help out on Hot Lunch Wednesdays. If you did not get a chance to sign up and would like to help, please call: **Donna Carusiello at 630-980-8744**

USE GoodSearch.com TO RAISE MONEY

GoodSearch.com is a search engine which donates half its revenue to Westfield when you designate it. There is also GoodShop.com which has 100 shops from which to order. Just go to the websites and enter WESTFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL as your charity. Thanks...and spread the "good" word!

REQUEST FOR EMAILS :)

In order to improve communication among STP families, we are requesting parents' email addresses. If you are interested in staying connected and informed of STP and Westfield Middle School activities, **please e-mail your name, e-mail address, child's name and grade to: Amy Dahly, Communications Chair, at amydahly@aol.com**

PLEASE NOTE:

Each day/square on the hot lunch form must be filled out entirely, including name, grade, teacher and phone number. Siblings must have separate forms with separate payment. Checks are to be made out to **Westfield STP**.

We cannot accept cash, because we cannot track it if it gets lost in the bottom of a backpack or locker. Please return the WHITE and the YELLOW copies. Keep the PINK for your records.
Thank you~

PLEASE, CHECK THE SD13.ORG WEBSITE FOR ANY DATE CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS TO ALL WESTFIELD SCHEDULES.

