



RAMS Review

MR. JASON TOOTH, PRINCIPAL | MRS. MELISSA WILLS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Important Dates April	April Newsletter
<p>April</p> <p>1 – Teacher Institute Day, No Student Attendance</p> <p>2 – Classes Resume</p> <p>3 – IAR Testing, ELA Unit 1</p> <p>4 – IAR Testing, ELA Unit 2</p> <p>Trimester 2 Honor Roll Breakfast @ 7am, Student Commons</p> <p>7 – IAR Testing, Math Unit 1</p> <p>WJH Soccer against Arbor Park @ 4:30pm, Arbor Park</p> <p>8 – IAR Testing, Math Unit 2</p> <p>9 – IAR Testing, Math Unit 3</p> <p>WJH Band Eisenhower Cooperative Concert @ 6:30pm, Shepard High School</p> <p>Worth BOE Meeting @ 6pm, Administrative Center</p>	<p>IAR Testing Reminders</p> <p>As a school district, we will be starting our annual state-wide testing, the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), beginning on Thursday, April 3rd. These assessments are an important piece of our educational process and we thank you for your partnership in helping us get your child ready to take the IAR. Here is an outline of the assessments the students will be taking each day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thursday, April 3rd - ELA Unit 1 ● Friday, April 4th - ELA Unit 2 ● Monday, April 7th - Math Unit 1 ● Tuesday, April 8th - Math Unit 2 ● Wednesday, April 9th - Math Unit 3 <p>Staff have been preparing our students throughout the school year but we can use your help as well. Here are ways that you can help your child be successful with IAR testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage them to do their best on each of the assessments. ● Be sure that they are on time to school (just like every day) so they can take their assessments on time. Students that arrive after testing has begun, will need to test during the makeup days scheduled for the following week. ● Encourage your child to have a restful night sleep each night. ● Help your child to be sure they have the necessary supplies each day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Charged Chromebook ○ Wired earbuds (<i>not wireless</i>) - students can purchase wired earbuds if needed in the main office for \$1 ○ Something to write with for testing <p>WJH Declamation First Place Winners!</p> <p>Congratulations to the Worth Junior High Declamation team for earning 2nd place at the SSJHS Declamation Competition on Saturday, March 8th! We had nine of the eleven competitors make it to the finals in the competition. Great job to all of our students on their performances and to Mrs. DeGonia for her coaching efforts with our students!</p> <p>Moraine Valley STEM Expo</p> <p>We are excited to announce a Moraine Valley Community College opportunity for our 7th grade students to attend their STEM Expo on Friday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This event is designed for 7th grade students in our south suburban region, therefore Moraine Valley has provided our school with only 80 tickets to attend the STEM Expo at no cost to families or schools. Students will be receiving permission slips to bring home</p>

**May Breakfast /Lunch
online ordering opens**

10 – WJH Soccer
against Kolmar @
4:30pm, Prairie Jr High

14 – Registration Help
Night @ 4:00-6:00pm,
Worth Junior High
School

15 – SSJHS Math
Contest @ 4:30pm,
Independence Jr. High

16 – WJH Track Meet
@4:30pm, Oak Forest
High School

17 –
Early Dismissal Day,
WJH student dismissal
@1:15pm

WJH Track Meet
@4:30pm, Shepard
High School

18 –
NO School Attendance

**May Breakfast /Lunch
online orders are due**

19 – WJH Fishing Club
@ 8-10am, Lake
Katherine

23 – WJH Track Meet
@4:30pm, Oak Forest
High School

25 –
7th Grade Field Trip to
Moraine Valley STEM
Expo @ 9am-12pm

SSJHSC Track Open
Invite @ 4:30pm, Oak
Forest High School

26 –

and bring back to school signed in order to attend. Due to the limited amount of tickets we were able to receive, we will be taking the **first 80 students** that have a **completed permission slip** for the trip. More information can be found in the permission slip that 7th grade students will be bringing home.

8th Grade Events

As we are entering the final months of the school year, just an update on a few end of the year events for our 8th grade students. Families will be receiving more details about the below events soon:

- May 22nd - 8th grade Graduation Party
- May 27th - 8th grade class trip to The Forge
- May 28th - 8th grade Honors Assembly
- May 29th - 8th grade Graduation Night (***last day of school for 8th grade students***)

“Don’t Be Fooled, School is Cool” - April Attendance Campaign

As we enter the month of April, we are going to re-introduce our attendance challenge campaign for the month, “Don’t Be Fooled, School is Cool” April Attendance Challenge. Starting April 7th, each week we will be determining which advisory class in each grade level has the best attendance rate at the end of the week. Those classes will be awarded the traveling Golden Ram trophy to display for the following week. Students in that advisory class will receive a RAMS Way card that will be entered into our weekly raffle. In addition, throughout the week we will have random raffle opportunities for students that are present each day on time. We look forward to building on the positive momentum from our previous attendance campaign this April with students!

WJH RAMS Athletics

We are excited about the SSJHSC’s pilot of a short trial soccer season for our students! We will follow the same format as our Volleyball teams, a Girls and Boys team. Coaches Moronry and Carmody have been practicing with the students prior to our Spring Break and we look forward to the two games being played the week of April 7th. If the pilot is successful, the conference will look into how a soccer season can be expanded into a larger format for our students next school year. We look forward to this being the start of hopefully a great opportunity for our students in the years to come!

The WJH Track and Field team tryouts have taken place the week before Spring Break with Coaches Alvarado and Koncius. With our weather being so unpredictable, we greatly appreciate everyone’s flexibility as our teams try to get in as many practices and meets during this upcoming season. We hope all of our student-athletes have a fantastic season!

School Attendance Matters Updates

Thank you families for your partnership in getting your child to school each day! Having their arrival at school when doors open at 8:00 a.m. will set a positive tone for a great start to the school day. Our school goal is to decrease our chronic absenteeism of 36% during the 2023-2024 school year to 26% for the 2024-2025 school year. Chronic absenteeism is the combination of the percentages that can be found in Tier 2 and Tier 3 in the table found below (see orange values).

WJH Fishing Club @
8-10am, Lake
Katherine

SSJHS Jim Wilms
Scholastic Bowl @
10am, Central Park
School

WJH Attendance Tiers After 120 Days of School	Percentage of WJH Students
Tier 1a: Satisfactory attendance, Miss less than 5% of our school days	36.9%
Tier 1b: At risk attendance, Miss between 5 - 9.9% of our school days	29.7%
Tier 2: Moderate chronic absence, Miss between 10 - 19.9% of our school days	23.4%
Tier 3: Severe chronic absence, Miss more than 20% of our school days	9.9%

****Just a reminder that the State Board of Education defines “chronic absenteeism” as students missing ten percent of the school year, which is 18 school days.***

Study Habit Tips

As we continue to help our students finish the school year strong, here are some study habit tips that can help students with their school work:

- Designate a study space
- Manage distractions
- Make a study plan
- Take breaks
- Personalize study habits

Remaining Early Dismissal

Our last two early dismissal days will be April 17 and May 24. These days provide our staff the opportunity for Professional Development and School Improvement. Worth Junior High students are dismissed at 1:15 p.m. and will have an earlier lunch each of those days.

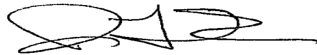
Advisory Update

This month our students will be concluding Unit 4 of the Second Step program, our final unit, which focuses on managing relationships and social conflict. Students learn strategies for developing and maintaining healthy relationships, perspective-taking, and dealing with conflict. This unit’s content helps students learn to honor and understand differences based on varied personal, familial, and cultural backgrounds. Please be sure to ask your child about and discuss the topics they learn during Second Step.

Our staff continues to educate our students in advisory about Digital Citizenship to grow their mindset as they each become safer and more responsible digital citizens in our world. This includes how students interact with one another online and how those choices can have a serious impact on our whole-school community. We will be continuing to explore the digital platform Xello during both advisory and the STEM class. Just a reminder, Xello is a digital career exploration program in which students learn about potential careers based on their interests and understand different pathways related to various careers.

Our all-school book read for the spring with the book titled, *And Then, Boom!* authored by Lisa Fipps will be starting on April 14th. We are looking forward to this opportunity for our school community to engage in reading together! Feel free to contact Mrs. Wills or Mr. Tooth if you have any questions about our Advisory programming.

Sincerely,



Mr. Jason Tooth
Principal, Worth Junior High



Mrs. Melissa Wills
Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High

Daily Student Schedule

Breakfast

8:05 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Grades 6-8 Classes

8:15 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.

A Note About Absences...

If your child will not be at school for any reason, please call school to let us know. You can call the absentee hotline at **708-671-3999**, 24 hours a day and leave a message. You can also contact our main office at **708-448-2803**.

We appreciate your partnership in educating students and keeping them safe!