



RAMS Review

MR. JASON TOOTH, PRINCIPAL | MRS. BRITTAN RUSSELL, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Important Dates April	April Newsletter "Your ATTENDANCE shapes your academic JOURNEY."									
<p>April</p> <p>6 – Classes Resume</p> <p>7 – IAR Testing Begins: Math 1</p> <p>Worth Soccer vs Arbor Park @ 4:30pm</p> <p>8 – IAR Testing: ELA 1</p> <p>Worth Soccer vs Kolmar @ 4:30pm</p> <p>Board of Education Meeting @ 6pm, Administrative Center</p> <p>9 – IAR Testing: Math 2</p> <p>13 – IAR Testing: ELA 2</p> <p>14 – IAR Testing: Math 3</p> <p>SSJHSC Math Competition @ 4:30pm, Central Park School</p> <p>17 – District 218 8th grade Step Up Day</p>	<p>School Attendance - April Attendance Campaign and Updates</p> <p>Our April Attendance Campaign is underway with the theme, "Spring Into Action, Don't Miss Out!" We emphasize the importance of daily attendance and greatly appreciate your dedication and partnership in ensuring your child is in school every day. To encourage consistent attendance, advisory classes will compete weekly for the Golden Ram trophy, awarded to the grade level with the best attendance. Additionally, students can earn raffle tickets each week for various prizes based on their attendance. This cannot happen without your partnership and dedication to ensure your child attends school each day!</p> <p>In addition to our April Attendance Campaign, letters have gone home to students that have missed 12 or more days at the 120th day of school. The average number of days students have been absent as of Day 120 is 7.9 days. Your partnership is crucial in helping encourage a positive attendance culture for your child at Worth Junior High School. We are here to support you with that effort so your child does not experience gaps in their academic journey. Please reach out to either Mr. Tooth or Mrs. Russell if your child is experiencing challenges with attendance. Below is the Day 120 attendance update:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="375 1163 1544 1650"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description of Absences</th> <th>Percentage of WJH Students</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Satisfactory Attendance - missed less than 5% of our current school days (Less than 5 days)</td> <td>47.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>At-Risk Attendance - missed between 5-9.9% of our current school days (6-11 days)</td> <td>32.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chronically Absent Attendance - missed between 10-19.9% of our current school days (12 days or more)</td> <td>20.1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>IAR Information</p> <p>Each spring, students in grades 3 through 8 across Illinois schools take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness in the areas of Reading (two sections) and Mathematics (three sections). This assessment is a valuable part of the learning process as it is one of many factors that we use to help guide our instruction with students, as well as a component of high school course placement. We will start our IAR testing on Tuesday, April 6th with all of our students taking the same assessment at the same time during the testing window.</p>		Description of Absences	Percentage of WJH Students	Satisfactory Attendance - missed less than 5% of our current school days (Less than 5 days)	47.1%	At-Risk Attendance - missed between 5-9.9% of our current school days (6-11 days)	32.8%	Chronically Absent Attendance - missed between 10-19.9% of our current school days (12 days or more)	20.1%
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18 – Fishing Club @
8-10am, Lake
Katherine

20 – Parent
Registration Night @
4pm, Worth Jr. High

21 – Illinois Science
Assessment (ISA) -
8th Grade Only -
Test 1

22 – Illinois Science
Assessment (ISA) -
8th Grade Only -
Test 2

23 – Illinois Science
Assessment (ISA) -
8th Grade Only -
Test 3

24 – 7th Grade
Moraine Valley
STEM Expo @ 9am
to 12:30pm, Moraine
Valley Community
College

25 – Fishing Club @
8-10am, Lake
Katherine

In order for our students to have the best testing environment possible, it is important for them to be **present at school each day for testing**. This will also ensure that students will not need to miss any class time to make-up any IAR assessment they missed due to absences. We need your partnership in order for this to happen and that means to please be sure that your child is present during the first two weeks of April. Here are some other tips to that can help your child be ready during testing (and any other school day):

- Encourage your child to do their best on each of the assessments they take.
- Students should go to bed so they get enough sleep and get up in time for the start of school at 8:15 a.m.
- Encourage your child to fuel their body in the morning by eating before coming to school.
- Have their Chromebooks charged for the morning and brought to school, the assessment is taken digitally.
- Make sure students bring their **wired earbuds** for testing, *wireless is not compatible* for the assessment.

Parking Around the Building

As a neighborhood school, we want to remind all families to be mindful of our neighbors. Please **avoid blocking driveways** and **parking in spaces belonging to residents** in the surrounding community, especially the apartment buildings north of Worth Junior High School. We appreciate your cooperation and respect for our neighbors.

Extracurricular Celebrations

We have some celebrations that we would like to recognize that happened throughout the month of March. Our Declamation Team competed on Saturday, March 7th at the SSJHSC Declamation Competition at Shepard High School. The students performed for a variety of different events that included speeches, poems, duets, skits, etc. throughout the day. Worth Junior High earned 1st Place as a team with many of the students being recognized for their own individual performances. Congratulations to all of our students for their preparation and to coach Mrs. Colleen DeGonia for all of her preparation for our students!

The Worth Junior High Band also competed at the SSJHSC Bandfest on Wednesday, March 4th at Arbor Park Middle School. Students have been preparing for weeks during their morning practices and individual lessons. The band earned an overall rating of Division 2, which is the second highest rating they can earn. Congratulations to all of our band students for their dedication to their performance and to director Mrs. Kelly Gansauer for her guidance with our band program!

Student Chromebooks

Worth School District 127 is fortunate to provide our students with a one-to-one school-issued device to enhance their educational experiences. This year, we are excited to introduce new devices that were purchased this past summer and issued to students at the start of the school year.

Please remember that these district-issued devices are the property of the school district, and students are responsible for their care. This responsibility includes any damages or vandalism that may occur, such as cracked screens, damaged keyboards, or inappropriate writing on the devices.

Students should only use their devices for the specific classroom purposes outlined in the student device agreements completed during school registration. If any issues arise, please

note that we will contact you, and damages may result in a fine or the need to replace the device.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Tooth or Mrs. Russell.

Student ID's

This is a reminder that students at WJH are expected to wear their student IDs throughout the school day. If a student does not have their ID with them, they should report to the main office to obtain a replacement for the day.

If a student has lost their ID, they can purchase a new one for \$1 for the first replacement, and then \$5 for each subsequent loss.

We appreciate your support in reminding your child to bring their student ID to school each day. Thank you!

Reporting Absences-Required

If your child(ren) is/are sick, please **contact the SafeArrival hotline at 855-660-0124** before the start of school (or the School Messenger Home "app" that can be found at home.schoolmessenger.com). Using the methods above allows for a quicker and more efficient process for reporting student absences for all stakeholders. Families should be calling the hotline above and ***should not be calling the main school phone number*** because it delays accounting for student attendance. Please do not hesitate to contact either Mr. Tooth or Mrs. Russell with any questions.

Early Dismissal Times

Our next early dismissal day will be May on 22nd. Worth Junior High students will be dismissed at 11:15 a.m. on our early dismissal dates. Students will still attend all of their classes for a shorter time period, excluding their lunch period.

WJH RAMS Athletics

Our Soccer Team will be entering its second week of games when we return from spring break in April. We are thankful to have the opportunity to have a second year of a pilot soccer program with the hopes of having a full season next school year. We thank Coaches Moroney and Carmody for their work with our students throughout the soccer season.

WJH has finalized its Track and Field team and will be preparing for the upcoming season when we return from spring break.

Advisory Update

Our students will be completing the final unit of the Second Step SEL program during advisory that revolves around managing social relationships and managing conflict. These skills are important for our students to continue developing and we encourage you to have conversations with them about these experiences.

We are shifting our focus to the all school book read during advisory. This year's book is [A Work In Progress](#) is a powerful novel written and illustrated by Jarrett Lerner. It is written like a journal in free verse format by a boy named William Chambers. William shares his inner thoughts in his journal with drawings reflecting how he perceives himself and his journey as a middle school student. [A Work In Progress](#) was nominated for the 24-25 Illinois State Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award as well as the 2023 Global Read Aloud book choice.

In addition to the Second Step program in Advisory, our staff also teaches students lessons on Digital Citizenship to help them be safer and more responsible digital citizens in our world. The advisory time also includes reinforcing our RAMS Way values through various activities students engage in throughout the school year.

Please let us know if you have any questions and we are so blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child at Worth Junior High School!

Sincerely,



Mr. Jason Tooth
Principal
Worth Junior High School



Mrs. Brittan Russell
Assistant Principal
Worth Junior High School

**Daily Student
Schedule**

Breakfast

8:00 a.m. - 8:10 a.m.

Grades 6-8 Classes

8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

A Note About Absences...

If your child will not be at school for any reason, please use the SafeArrival information to let us know. You can call the **absentee hotline at 855-660-0124**, 24 hours a day. You can also use the School Messenger Home App to report absences that can be found at www.home.schoolmessenger.com

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