



RAMS Review

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

Important Dates December

December

3 – 8th grade Boys Basketball tryouts @ 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Away Girls Basketball Playoff game @ 4:00 p.m. vs. Independence

4 – 6th/7th grade Boys Basketball tryouts @ 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

January Breakfast/
Lunch menus released

5 – Winter WJH Band Concert for families @ 6:00 p.m.

6 – Early Dismissal Day, WJH student dismissal @ 1:15 p.m.

11 – Board of Education Meeting @ 6:00 p.m., Administrative Center

12 – SSJHSC Girls All-Star Basketball game @ 5:30 p.m. at Finley Jr. High

December Newsletter

“Be here TODAY so you can be where you want to be TOMORROW”

School Attendance Matters Updates

Thank you families for your partnership in helping your child get to school each day! Ensuring their arrival when doors open at 8:00 a.m. will set a positive tone for a great start to the school day. **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.**

WJH Attendance Tiers After 60 Days of School	Percentage of WJH Students
Tier 1a: Satisfactory attendance Miss less than 5% of our school days	41.7 %
Tier 1b: At risk attendance Miss between 5 - 9.9% of our school days	31.3%
Tier 2: Moderate chronic absence Miss between 10 - 19.9% of our school days	18.7%
Tier 3: Severe chronic absence Miss more than 20% of our school days	8.3%

The last two above categories (moderate and severely chronic absences) can have an adverse impact on student growth/achievement in school, including high school graduation. We have been working with students that have been identified in the chronically absent category and will be working with families in the coming weeks to discuss ways in which we can work together to support their attendance at school.

With the winter months here, just a few reminders about how sick is too sick:

Send me to school if...	Keep me home if...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms. I haven't taken any fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours and I haven't had a fever during that time. I haven't vomited or had any 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees even after taking medicine. I vomited in a 24 hour period. I have diarrhea. My eyes are crusty, bright red

13 – January
Breakfast/Lunch online
orders are due

15 – January
Breakfast/Lunch online
orders are due

20 – Early Dismissal
Day, WJH student
dismissal @ 1:15 p.m.

diarrhea for 24 hours.

and/or discharging yellow or green
fluid.

We know that circumstances arise and illness occurs, so we ask for your assistance in helping your child(ren) to be present for school each and every day. See the chart above so they can:

“Be here TODAY so you can be where you want to be TOMORROW”

No Miss November

We just concluded our “No Miss November” campaign here at Worth Junior High School and the students did a great job! A big thank you to our Art Club members for creating posters throughout the building encouraging students to come to school each day. Each week, the advisory with the best overall attendance was awarded the 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.

As a school, our daily attendance was over 92% in each grade level. Congratulations to the advisory classes listed below for the best overall attendance throughout the entire month of November, they will be receiving a special homework pass good for one assignment (not project or test - with teacher approval).

- 6th grade: Mrs. Gawel and Mr. Hankin with 94% attendance
- 7th grade: Mrs. Kozik/Mr. Arvia with 96% attendance
- 8th grade: Mrs. Stewart with 95% attendance

Advisory Update

Worth Junior High School students continue to engage in the Second Step Social-Emotional Learning program as part of our advisory program. This month our students will be finishing Unit 2 that focuses on developing a positive sense of self and moving into Unit 3 with a focus on students' thoughts, emotions and decisions. The students will learn how to recognize strong emotions and unhelpful thoughts, and they learn to apply strategies for managing their emotions and reducing stress. This unit's content helps students understand that all emotions are valuable because they provide us with information about our environment. 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 help them be more safe and responsible digital citizens in our world. The students are continuing to explore the digital platform Xello during both advisory and their STEM class. Just a reminder that Xello is a digital career exploration program where students will learn about potential careers based on their interests and understand the different pathways that are related to that career. Feel free to contact Mrs. Wills and/or Mr. Tooth if you have any questions about our Advisory programming.

WJH RAMS Athletics

Congratulations to our Girls Basketball teams on the completion of their seasons! Our 7th grade team played hard and grew as a team throughout the season. The 8th grade team is currently playing in the SSJHSC tournament. We are so proud of our Girls Basketball Rams this fall! We are also excited as our Cheerleaders have been preparing for their upcoming season starting in January.

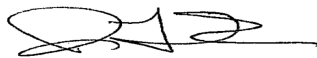
The Boys' Basketball season will be starting tryouts the first week of December with games beginning in January. Here are a couple of reminders about our home basketball games. WJH students are dismissed at our normal dismissal time and may return for home games at 4:00 p.m.; doors open at 3:55 p.m. The Worth Junior High home basketball games are for **current** Worth Junior High students. *For safety purposes, younger siblings are only allowed at games if they are accompanied by a parent for the entire game.* The Worth Junior High Student Council sells concessions during half-time of the first game and in between basketball games.

Early Dismissal Days

This is just a reminder that additional early dismissal dates include December 6, December 20, February 14, April 17 and May 23; WJH students dismiss at 1:15 p.m. These days provide ongoing school improvement opportunities for staff professional development.

We continue to strive towards having your child have a positive experience here at Worth Junior High School. As a school, we value your feedback and opportunities to partner together to help your child grow as individuals. When we work together, great things can happen for our school community! Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns you may have regarding your child. We are honored to have the opportunity to serve as your child(ren)'s principals and look forward to continuing to grow Worth Junior High School!

Sincerely,



Mr. Jason Tooth
Principal, Worth Junior High



Mrs. Melissa Wills
Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High

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 call school to let us know by calling the absentee hotline at **708-671-3999**, 24 hours a day and leave a message. You may also contact our main office at **708-448-2803**.

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