



News From the 'Woods

Worthwoods Elementary | 11000 S. Oketo, Worth, IL 60482 | www.worthschools.org

Important Dates

Feb 2 - 13 - ACCESS
Testing for ML Students

Feb 4 - Board of
Education Meeting @
6pm

Feb 10 - Cookies and
Canvas Parent Night /
100th Day of School

Feb 13 - KIDS Heart
Challenge

Feb 14 - Happy
Valentine's Day

Feb 16 - No School -
President's Day

Feb 17 - SAEBRS
Assessments

A Letter From Your Principals February 2026



Dear Worthwoods Families,

It feels like January flew by and we can't believe it's already February! 2026 has already been a whirlwind of events and this month is no different. We are excited about all there is to come and hopefully Spring is on the horizon!

February Events

There is a lot to celebrate this month. We began this month with ACCESS testing for our ML students who have been working VERY hard to finish. We also were able to honor all of our students who received a Kindness PAW during the last week of January when we celebrated Kindness week at WW.

In honor of the Winter Olympics, students have been participating in activities and a spirit week this week. We even had our own opening ceremony during our Monday Morning Meeting where each class was able to display their class poster. Each student was also assigned a different country so they can track their medals! As a school, we also just celebrated our 100th day! Students were able to dress like they were 100 years old. It was fun seeing them age...overnight!

On February 13, students will have the chance to participate in our KIDS Heart Challenge where they will learn about keeping our hearts healthy through exercise. Students will also be celebrating Valentine's Day! There is no school on Monday, February 16th in observance of President's day. This month we also celebrate Black History Month!

Weather Reminders

Until the weather begins to warm up, please remember that students will remain outside for recess as much as permitting. Please make sure students have warm outerwear every day.

School Meals

Parents and guardians need to pre-order breakfasts and lunches for students grades K-5. Information on ordering can be found on our district website: <https://worthschools.org/parents/meal-program/>

How to Report an Absence

Choose 1 of 3 Options:

- Using your mobile device, download and install the **School Messenger Home app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at home.schoolmessenger.com. The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to **create your account**. Select **Attendance**, then **Report an Absence**.
- Use the SafeArrival website, home.schoolmessenger.com. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to **create your account**. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
- **Call** the toll-free number **(855) 660-0124** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

Note: (Through the app or website, you must sign up with the email address that is on file with the school. The only contacts that can make attendance changes are those listed as having custody of the student.)

In addition, we will use the SchoolMessenger Communicate to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance.

If you have trouble with SafeArrival, you can send an email to help@worthschools.org describing your issue.

Parent Communication

We ask that all parents enroll in our district communication platform, School Messenger, as we utilize this regularly to communicate important information with parents. Most contact information should have been updated during the registration process. If you have recently changed your contact information, or you would like to check, you may follow the instructions listed on the district website:

<https://worthschools.org/parents/communication/>

Absences / Sick Protocol

Please note that all students must be symptom free for 24 hours prior to returning to school. This includes being fever and vomit free. Report absences using Safe Arrival.

Sincerely,

Ashley Toms Bonnstetter
Principal

Alyse Koehler
Assistant Principal

Daily Student Schedule

Grades K-5

8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

EC / PreK

AM: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.

PM: 12:45 - 3:15 p.m.

Late Arrivals

Our tardy bell is at 8:35. Students arriving after this time will be marked as such.

Any student arriving late **MUST** be **signed in** through the office by an adult.

School Messenger

Worth School District uses an automated telephone system to email and call parents with important information, updates, and information regarding emergency school closings.

Calls are made to the phone number designated by the parent/legal guardian.

Please make sure the school always has your most up-to-date phone number and email.

District Website

www.worthschools.org

Worthwoods Main Office Phone

708-448-2802

Early Dismissals

Students leaving early from their regularly scheduled school day will need to be signed out in the office.

The designated pick-up person will need to provide a government issued ID to be scanned and returned before the school will release the student for dismissal.

Please call the office to let us know you will be picking up early.

