



RAMS Review

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

| <p>Important Dates March</p> | <p>March Newsletter <i>“Be here TODAY so you can be where you want to be TOMORROW”</i></p> |
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| <p>March</p> <p>5 – SSJHSC Band Festival @ 5:30 p.m., Arbor Park Middle School</p> <p>End of Trimester 2</p> <p>APRIL Breakfast/Lunch online ordering OPENS</p> <p>8 – SSJHSC Declamation Event @ 9:00 a.m., at Richards High School</p> <p>9 – Daylight Savings Time - Spring ahead</p> <p>11 – SSJHSC Boys Basketball All-Star Game @5:30 p.m., at Arbor Park Middle School</p> <p>12 – Board of Education Meeting @ 6:00 p.m., Administrative Center</p> <p>13 – Trimester 2 grades final on PowerSchool</p> <p>Day 120 of the school year</p> <p>14 – MARCH Breakfast/Lunch online orders DUE</p> | <p>School Attendance Matters Updates</p> <p>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. We do ask that students arrive on campus no earlier than 7:55 a.m. in the morning, unless specifically meeting for a club or with a teacher. This is a reminder that our school day and instruction begins at 8:15 a.m., so students need to be present in our building prior to that start time.</p> <p>We will be starting the month of April with our attendance campaign of “Don’t be fooled, coming to school is cool” throughout the month. Students will be competing by advisory in each grade level for the best attendance rate each week and earning the traveling “Golden Ram” trophy. There will also be other raffles throughout the attendance campaign all geared toward encouraging our students to present each day here at school, as long as they are not sick.</p> <p>We cannot emphasize enough the importance for students to be present at school each day to engage with their teachers and classmates in the learning process. If there are barriers impacting your child’s ability to attend school, please know we are here to support you. We encourage you to contact Mrs. Wills or Mr. Tooth about those issues.</p> <p>School Lunches During Ramadan</p> <p>For students participating in Ramadan, if parents have ordered school lunches for the month of March, student lunch pick up will occur at the end of the school day after 8th period. At dismissal, on their way out of the building, fasting students will report to the Student Commons to pick up their lunch and milk (two milks if they ordered breakfast). *Breakfast pick up will still occur each morning - students will place their cold breakfast into their backpack to take home. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the main office.</p> <p>5Essentials Survey</p> <p>The 5Essentials Survey is administered every year to students (Grades 4 and up), staff, and families to assist schools and districts with the necessary feedback to support all stakeholders of the school community. This survey provides our school with valuable information to help support our students and families with the best learning experiences possible. All of our students will take the survey at school during their Encore class on Wednesday, March 5th. All parents and guardians are encouraged to take a moment to</p> |

24 to 28 – Spring Break, **No Student Attendance**

31 – Teacher Institute Day - **No School for Students**

April 1 – Teacher Institute Day - **No School for Students**

complete the 5Essentials Survey using this [link](#). The survey for parents and guardians will be available until March 28th.

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)

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. We will start our IAR testing on Thursday, April 3rd with all of our students taking the same assessment at the same time during the testing window.

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):

- 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.
- Encourage your child to do their best on each of the assessments they take.

Spring Fishing Club Dates

With the return of spring-like weather comes the return of Fishing Club! We are so grateful to Sergeant Cozzi and the Worth Police Department for sponsoring Fishing Club on Saturday mornings at Lake Katherine from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Students have already started handing in their permission slips to the main office but it is not too late to have those completed. The following dates are scheduled for Fishing Club this spring: March 29th, April 19th, April 26th, May 10th, May 31st and June 14th.

WJH Band Competition at Band Festival

Our Worth Junior High Band musicians have been hard at work each morning and during their lessons under the direction of Mrs. Gansauer in preparation for their performance at the SSJHSC Band Festival at Arbor Park on March 5th. Our 6th grade band students will soon be “graduating” to participate in morning band practices at the start of the 3rd trimester, way to go 6th graders! As they represent WJH at the Band Festival, we want to wish all of our musicians the best!

Another congratulations goes out to our 7th and 8th grade musicians who made the SSJHSC All-Star Band and practiced at Arbor Park on February 25th. This group of musicians will play alongside other All-Star Band students across the SSJHSC conference during the Band Festival on March 5th.

North Side of the Building - Afterschool Student Pickup

For families that choose to pick up their child from the **North** side of the Worth Junior High School building, please see the traffic pattern picture below for how you should enter and exit the loop to ensure students have a safe dismissal. ***Just a reminder that we ask our families to be courteous to our neighbors and not park in the apartment parking spaces during dismissal.***

Also, we have students crossing at the corner of New England Avenue and 111th Place, so please come to a complete STOP and be aware of students crossing in front of the STOP sign, since there are no sidewalks.



5Essentials Survey

The 5Essentials Survey is administered every year to students (Grades 4 and up), staff, and families to assist schools and districts with the necessary feedback to support all stakeholders of the school community. This survey provides our school with valuable information to help support our students and families with the best learning experiences possible. All of our students will take the survey at school during their Encore class on Wednesday, March 5th. **All parents and guardians are encouraged to take a moment to complete the 5Essentials Survey using this [link](#).**

Advisory Update

This month our students will be starting Unit 4 of Second Step 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. The students continue 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.

WJH RAMS Athletics

We have just ended our Boys' Basketball and Cheerleading seasons. Both groups have been great representatives of our Worth Junior High community. We would like to congratulate our Cheerleading team for earning a Division II rating at the SSJHSC Cheer Fest on February 11th, they did great! Thank you to Coaches DeHaan and Sisk for their work with our young ladies this season. Our Boys' Basketball teams played hard all season and our 8th Grade team made a competitive run in tournament play. We would also like to thank Coaches Koncius and Weidner for their work with our young men this season. Thank you to our families for supporting our teams throughout their seasons!

We are excited to announce that our conference will be piloting a short trial soccer season for our students! We will follow the same format as our Volleyball teams, a Girls and Boys team. There will be two games played the week of April 7th. The tryouts have been held and our teams have been formed this past week by Coaches Carmody and Moroney. 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 a great opportunity for our students in the years to come!!!

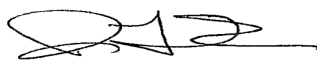
Early Dismissal Days

Upcoming early dismissal dates include 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 your child having a positive experience here at Worth Junior High School. Each day we focus on how students can make it a great day for themselves and our school community by living out our RAMS Way. The most important aspect of this is *Respecting all people*. This trait is needed in order for our school community to thrive for all learners. This goal cannot be accomplished alone as it requires us to partner together to help your child grow as individuals. We ask for your help in conversations with your child to ask them about how they are making the Worth Junior High School community a better place by *Respecting all people*.

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 continue to be 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**

A Note About Absences...

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| <p>Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:10 a.m. Grades 6-8 Classes 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p> | <p>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!</p> |
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