



RAMS Review

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

<p>Important Dates September</p>	<p>September Newsletter <i>“Be here TODAY so you can be where you want to be TOMORROW”</i></p>
<p>September</p> <p>2 – Labor Day - NO SCHOOL</p> <p>3 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Kolmar</p> <p>5 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Wilkins</p> <p>9 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Prairie</p> <p>10 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Independence</p> <p>11 – Patriot Day Assembly @ 8:30am</p> <p>October Breakfast/ Lunch menus released</p> <p>12 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Hille</p> <p>14 – Fishing Club, Lake Katherine @8am-10am</p> <p>17 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Central Park</p>	<p>Early Dismissal</p> <p>We have our first early dismissal school day of the year this Friday, September 27th. The purpose of these days are for Staff Professional Development and School Improvement. Worth Junior High students will be dismissed at 1:15 p.m. on our early dismissal dates. Students will still attend all of their classes for a shorter time period including their lunch period, just slightly earlier.</p> <p>*Additional early dismissal dates include November 1, December 6, December 20, February 14, April 17 and May 23.</p> <p>School Attendance</p> <p>The greatest impact we can have on student learning is having the opportunity to work with our students each day. It is crucial for students to attend school daily in order to build on prior and new academic skills. Ensuring students arrive when doors open at 8:00 a.m. will set a positive tone for a great start to the school day, which begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Did you know that the Illinois State Board of Education defines “chronic absenteeism” as students that miss ten percent of the school year, which is equivalent to 18 days? This impacts not only individual student learning but also the overall performance of the school community because of the time it can take away from classroom instruction. We are asking our families to work with us on limiting the amount of time their child(ren) are taken out of school (dental appointments, extended vacations, early dismissals, etc.).</p> <p>We know that circumstances arise and illness occurs, so we ask for your assistance in helping your student(s) to be present for school each day. If your child(ren) is sick, please contact the main office at 708-448-2803 before 9:00 a.m. or call our 24-hour attendance line at 708-671-3999. Please do not hesitate to contact either Mr. Tooth or Mrs. Wills with any questions.</p> <p>Caring for Student Chromebooks</p> <p>Our district is very fortunate to have the ability to provide our students with a Chromebook device they are able to bring between home and school. This is a reminder that these are district owned devices and an appropriate use policy agreement was completed during the registration process. In order to sustain the lifespan of our Chromebooks, we need your partnership with ensuring our students do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep their Chromebooks in the provided case when it is not in use during the day. ● Ensure that their Chromebook is fully charged each day and brought to school.

18 – Board of Education Meeting @ 6pm, Administrative Center

19 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Arbor Park

20 – School Pictures Taken in the AM during Encore classes

October
Breakfast/Lunch online orders are due

27 – Early Dismissal @ 1:15pm (Worth Junior High)

- Avoid putting additional supplies in the pockets of the Chromebook case.
- Keep stickers and writing off of the Chromebooks and Chromebook bags.

Parent/Student Handbook

This is just a reminder that at registration families were provided information about the [Worth 127 Parent/Student Handbook](#) that can be accessed on the district's website under the "Parents" tab at the top page. You will find information related to all of the schools in our district. We would like to remind our families of appropriate dress for students during the school day that includes students wearing clothing that does not reveal students' undergarments. You can find more specifics in the handbook on page 33. We appreciate your partnership with this matter.

WJH RAMS Athletics

We are excited to have started our athletic season at WJH! Our volleyball teams are currently in season throughout the months of August and September. WJH students that choose to stay for the home games at 4:00 p.m. are dismissed at our normal dismissal time and able to come back when the doors open at 3:55 p.m. The Worth Junior High home 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 duration of the game.

Safety Drills

It is a priority for us to keep our school community safe at Worth Junior High School. Throughout the month of September, our students will be reviewing and practicing our yearly drills with the assistance of our staff, local fire and police departments. We emphasize with our students the importance of being attentive and quiet during our drills in order to hear important instructions. These include practices of our fire, lockdown and severe weather drills. Our first fire drill will take place the morning of Tuesday, September 3rd. This is a great opportunity to discuss these procedures with your child and the importance of practicing them for our school community.

The RAMS Way

The Worth Junior High community continues to look for opportunities to recognize our students that are exhibiting our **RAMS Way** traits. We recently held our **RAMS Way Kickoff** on August 23rd where the students learned what the **RAMS Way** looks like throughout the school building. These traits focused around respect, academic effort, being safe and showing ownership continue to help make a positive impact on our school community. Students that show our **RAMS Way** traits will be recognized by earning **RAMS Way** cards from staff members throughout the building. Those cards will be turned into the office where students will be entered into various raffles throughout the school year. We feel that the **RAMS Way** traits will help all of our students be successful both at Worth Junior High and in life.

Advisory Update

Worth Junior High School uses the Second Step Social-Emotional Learning program as part of our advisory program throughout the school year. Second Step is a digital platform that teaches powerful skills and competencies, such as handling strong emotions, setting and meeting goals, making good decisions, and forging positive relationships—while building the safe, supported learning environment middle schoolers need to succeed. We will

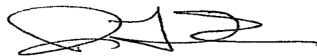
share monthly updates regarding the Second Step Social-Emotional learning program throughout the year.

In order to help support our students' social-emotional growth, please be sure to ask your child about and discuss the topics they learn during Second Step. Unit 1 for our 6th graders focuses on starting middle school, 7th graders engage in discussions & ways to help new students in our Worth Junior High School community, and 8th graders learn about discovering their identities.

In addition to the Second Step program in Advisory, our staff also teaches students lessons on Digital Citizenship to help them be more safe and responsible digital citizens in our world. We will also be implementing a digital platform called Xello with all students that is a career exploration program. Students will learn about potential careers based on their interests and understand the different pathways that are related to that career. This exploration will continue when the students take their STEM class during their Encore rotation. Feel free to contact Mrs. Wills and/or Mr. Tooth if you have any questions about our Advisory programming.

Our goal is that your child has experienced a positive start to the school year, and we thank you for your partnership as we support your child to grow into a young adult. The life of middle school students is full of exploration, challenges and celebrations. We look forward to continuing to get to know them at Worth Junior High School and help them pursue their interests, talents and dreams. When we work together, we have an opportunity to achieve great things 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!