



RAMS Review

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

<p>Important Dates September</p>	<p align="center">September Newsletter <i>“Your ATTENDANCE shapes your academic JOURNEY.”</i></p>
<p>September 1 – Labor Day - NO SCHOOL</p> <p>2 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Hamlin</p> <p>3 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Wilkins</p> <p>WJH Open House @ 6-7:30pm, Worth Junior High School - Attendance presentation in gym 6:15-6:25pm last names A-L and 7:00-7:10pm last names M-Z</p> <p>4 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Prairie</p> <p>8 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Independence</p> <p>9 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Hille</p> <p>10 – Cyber Safety student presentation with Detective Wistocki @</p>	<p>New Early Dismissal Times The purpose of our early dismissal days are for Staff Professional Development and School Improvement. Worth Junior High students will be dismissed this school year starting 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.</p> <p>*Additional early dismissal dates include September 19, October 31, December 19, January 30, March 27, and May 22.</p> <p>School Attendance Matters - “Your ATTENDANCE shapes your academic JOURNEY” 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>More information about attendance will be shared at the Worth Junior High School Open House on Wednesday, September 3rd. There will be a short presentation for families with the last name of A to L from 6:15-6:25 p.m. and families with the last name of M to Z from 7:00-7:10 p.m. The presentation will take place in the gym and we welcome families to go meet their child’s teachers before or after the presentation.</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 SafeArrival hotline at 855-660-0124 prior to the start of school or the School Messenger Home application that can be found at home.schoolmessenger.com. Please do not hesitate to contact either Mr. Tooth or Mrs. Russell with any questions.</p> <p>FastBridge Testing An important part of your child’s academic journey is understanding where they are at each school year so our staff can help support their growth. Each school year the students</p>

8:30-9:45am, Worth Junior High School

11 – Patriot Day Assembly for students @ 8:20am

Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Central Park

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

16 – Home Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:00pm against Arbor Park

17 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Kolmar

New Construction Open House @ 5pm, Worth Junior High & Worthwoods Elementary

Board of Education Meeting @ 6pm, Worth Junior High/Worthwoods Elementary

18 – Away Boys/Girls Volleyball game @ 4:30pm against Finley

19 – Early Dismissal @ 11:20am (Worth Junior High)

complete the FastBridge screening assessment three times a school year in the areas of mathematics and reading. Students will take the FastBridge assessment during their mathematics and reading classes starting the week of September 2nd. We ask for your help to ensure that your child is present on the following days when these assessments will take place in their classrooms:

- September 3rd - Mathematics
- September 4th - Reading

Caring for Student Chromebooks

Our district is very fortunate to have the ability to provide our students with a new student Chromebook device this year that will be brought 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:

- 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.
- 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.

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 first few weeks 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 bus evacuation, fire, lockdown and severe weather drills on the following days:

- September 2nd - Bus Evacuation Drill
- September 8th - Fire Drill
- September 10 - Lockdown Drill
- September 12 - Severe Weather Drill

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 29th 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 of actions and 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. These are all valuable concepts for all of our students and we appreciate your support in helping your child understand the importance of each of the above messages.

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. The advisory time also includes reinforcing our RAMS Way values through various activities students engage in throughout the school year. We will continue implementing the 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. Russell 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!

	<p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Mr. Jason Tooth Principal, Worth Junior High</p> <p>Mrs. Brittan Russell Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High</p>

<p>Daily Student Schedule</p> <p>Breakfast 8:00 a.m. - 8:10 a.m.</p> <p>Grades 6-8 Classes 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A Note About Absences...</p> <p>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 with a reason. You can also use the School Messenger Home App to report absences that can be found at www.home.schoolmessenger.com</p> <p>We appreciate your partnership in educating students and keeping them safe!</p>
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