



It's Worth Reading

Worth Elementary | 11158 S. Oak Park Ave. Worth, IL 60482 | www.worthschools.org

Dear Families,

December 2021

As we return to school with full bellies and warm hearts after having spent some much needed family time, we come back to a time when some of our families celebrate holidays and some do not. As we continue to honor each other's traditions, it is important to remember that all holidays, religious or not, are meant to spread joy and love throughout the community.

An Hour of Code: In Mrs. Gehrke's Tech class, students will participate in The Hour of Code, during Computer Science Education Week (December 6-12). Our Hour of Code is making a statement that Worth Elementary is ready to teach these foundational 21st-century skills.

Dec 17th EARLY DISMISSAL: Students will dismiss early on December 17th for Winter Break. Worth Junior High will dismiss at 1:40pm and both Worthwoods and Worth Elementary will dismiss at 1:50pm, including the half day programs such as K, PreK, and EC. All bus services (Alpha, RAS, Penny Lane, and High Hopes) have been alerted to the time change.

Construction Updates: Construction at Worth Elementary continues on schedule. The asphalt for the dropoff lanes behind the school has been laid and striped. You can access additional information at [WE Construction Updates](#), including viewing the exterior progress on camera. The addition and drop off lanes are scheduled to be available upon return from Winter Break. A detailed parent notification with the new procedures will be posted and links will be sent via School Messenger. Please be patient as we adjust to our new routines.

School Board Meetings: As discussed in the November Worth School Board Meeting, the start time for the monthly meetings will change starting in December. Worth School District Board Meetings will now begin at 6:00pm.

Snow Days: In preparation for Winter, we want to use Remote Learning days in lieu of snow days. Teachers for the half day programs will have packets prepared for students to take home instead of devices. Students in Grades 1-5 will bring home Chromebooks on December 17, and each weekend in January and possibly February, depending on the forecast.

EC/PreK Schedule: After Winter Break, on January 4th, the daily schedule for our Early Childhood and Pre-K programs will adjust slightly for both

December Calendar

Dec 6: Winter Band Concert @ WJH @ 6pm

Dec 8: Worth Board of Education Mtg @ WJH @ 6PM

Dec 8: January meal menu release

Dec 16: **JANUARY MEAL ORDERS DUE**

Dec 17: Last day before Winter Break. Student Dismissal @

Dec 18-Jan 3 : **NO SCHOOL** Winter Break

Looking Ahead:

Jan 3: **NO SCHOOL**- Last Day of Winter Break

Jan 4: Classes Resume

Jan 12: January Worth Board of Education Meeting @ 6pm

Jan 12: February meal menu release

Jan 17: Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day - **NO SCHOOL**

Jan 19: **FEBRUARY MEAL ORDERS DUE**

programs. This change allows us to implement a research-based formal curriculum specifically tailored to a 2.5 hour program. Morning EC and PreK students will attend from 8:30am-11:00am each day. Afternoon EC and PreK students will attend from 12:45pm-3:15pm each day. The transportation companies have been notified and are able to accommodate this change, including RAS and Alpha. This may affect the time your child is picked up from home.

Drama Club: After Winter Break, the Worth Elementary Drama club plans to host their first performance sometime towards the end of month. Please watch for more information from our Drama club sponsors or on our website/social media.

As we close the calendar year, as some of us prepare to celebrate, and as we look forward to a New Year, we bring with us all of the hope and optimism of new beginnings. We both wish you the merriest of holiday seasons and the happiest of New Years! We look forward to beginning the new year with new spaces and new opportunities for our students!

Happy Holidays!



Maureen Eichstaedt
Worth Elementary Principal



Melissa Wills
Worth Elementary Assistant Principal

Daily Student Schedule

Grades 1-5

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

EC / PreK /Kindergarten

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

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

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at **8:30 a.m.** for ALL students.

A Note About Absences

If your son or daughter will not be at school for any reason, please call school to let us know. You can call the absentee hotline at **708-671-5859**, 24 hours a day and leave a message. You can also contact our main office at **708-448-2801**.

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