Weston Middle School

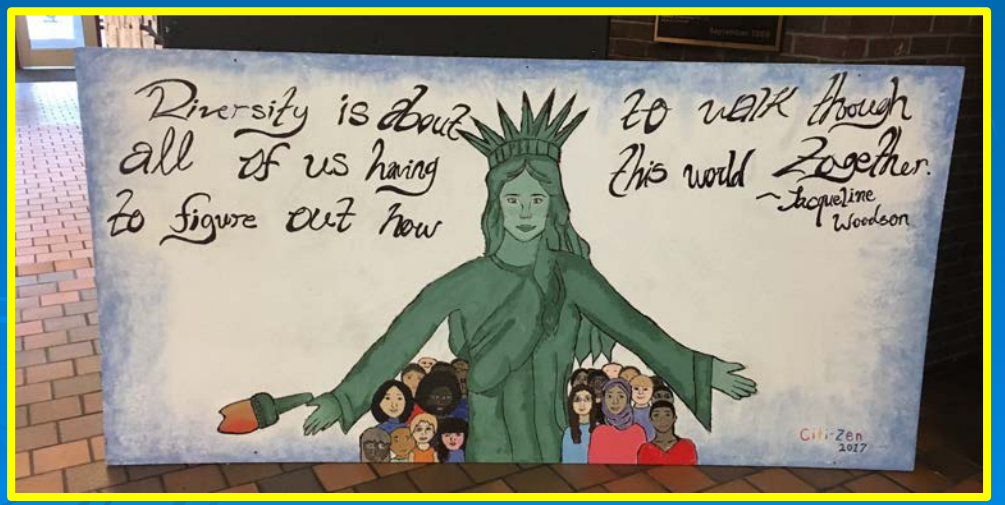
Grade 5 to 6 Transition Meeting

May 4, 2023

Phil Oates, Principal (next year)
Georgeann Bossers, Grade Director
Kari Anne Wye, School Counselor
Cyril Kakulu, METCO Academic Liaison

WMS Mission

The Weston Middle School strives for excellence and fosters a community of learners, guiding students toward their optimal intellectual, social, emotional and physical development.



Weston Middle School Overview

- House System
- Small Communities
- TEAM Collaboration
- Outstanding Teachers
- Whole Child

2021 National Blue Ribbon School Award

Weston Middle School received a National Blue-Ribbon Award for its work in closing the achievement gap. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors and highlights schools that model the excellence and sound practice that all American schools should strive for and reach. Weston Middle School was the only secondary school in Massachusetts to receive this award.

Spring Transition Work

- Information Sharing
- 5th Grade Visit: 5/26
  - 5th grade comes to MS
  - Counselor and Grade leader visit classrooms
- 5-6 Collaboration
- Summer Communication
- Infinite Campus (IC) Portal

Grade 6 Courses

Course	Times	# Meetings
Math 1, 2, Topics		5x, 2x
English		5x
Social Studies		5x
Science		5x
RWC		3x
World Languages:		
French		2x
Latin		2x
Mandarin		2x
Spanish		2x
PE		2x
Health		1x

Course	Times	# Meetings
Arts:		
Art		3x Q
Drama		3x Q
Music		3x Q
Guidance Seminar		1x Q
Media Literacy		2x Q
Band		3X
Chorus		2X
Orchestra		3X
Directed Studies		0-4x
Student Support Services		TBD
FLEX		2X
Advisory		1X
J-TERM!!!		5-6 days

Performing Ensembles at WMS!

1. 6th graders have the option to take **BAND** (wind/percussion), **CHORUS** (voice) and **ORCHESTRA** (strings).

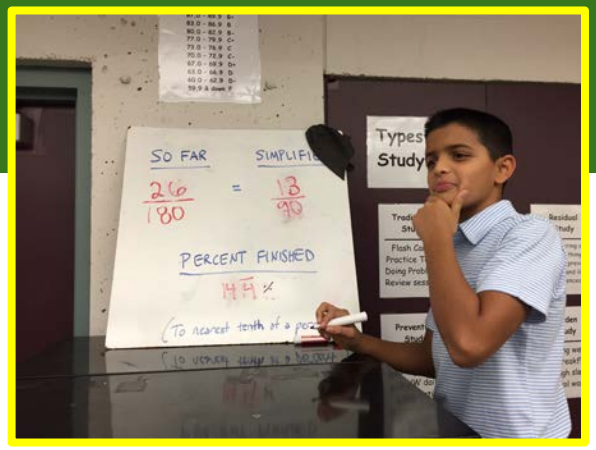
2. **Performing Ensembles meet DURING THE SCHOOL DAY and have 4 evening concerts per year.** Students can be in BOTH Band/Chorus or Orchestra/Chorus within the school day! These are separate from our general music classes which all 6th graders will take during their arts rotation.

3. **Over 70%** of WMS students grades 6-8 are in a performing ensemble!

Performing Ensembles at WMS!

1. **All 5th graders** will receive an email from their teacher (Mrs. Nardone, Ms. Tight, Ms. MacDonald) to sign up for next year!
2. Students who are new/have never been in an ensemble may join band or chorus.
   a. For **CHORUS,** just sign up. It's very typical for students to be new to chorus in 6th grade! Hannah Tight- tighth@weston.org
   b. For **BAND, contact Ms. Nalven** for an instrument trial:
      i. **nalvenc@weston.org**
      ii. We have openings in trumpet, trombone and horn!

Math Courses



Grade 6 Math level 1

Grade 6 math level 2

6th Grade math Topics

Grade 7 Honors Math

Grade 7 Math

Grade 7 Topics in mathematics

Grade 8 Honors Alg. I

Grade 8 Alg. I

Grade 8 Topics in mathematics

Geometry, Honors

Geometry

Intermediate Algebra

Algebra II, Honors

Algebra II

Algebra II Topics

Precalculus, Honors

Precalculus Part I

Applied Discrete Math Concepts

AP Statistics

AP Calculus AB or BC

Precalculus Part II and Statistics

Applied Discrete Math Concepts

Applied Discrete Math Concepts Cont'd and Statistics

Potential 2023-2024 WMS Schedule

8:45 - 8:50 - HOMEROOM	8:45 - 8:50 - HOMEROOM	8:45 - 8:50 - HOMEROOM	8:45 - 8:50 - HOMEROOM	8:45 - 8:50 - HOMEROOM
8:53-9:41	8:53 - 9:36	8:53 - 9:36	8:53 - 9:36	8:53-9:41
A1 Band 7	D1 Orch 6	A1	D1 Orch 6	A1 Orch 7
9:44 - 10:32	9:39 - 10:22	9:39 - 10:22	9:39 - 10:22	9:44 - 10:32
B2 Band 6 / Ch 6	B2 Band 6	D2	A2 Band 7	D2 Orch 6
10:35 - 11:23	10:25 - 11:08	10:25 - 11:08	10:25 - 11:08	10:35 - 11:23
D3	A3 Orch 7/Ch 7	B3	B3	B3 Band 6 /Ch 6
6 - 11:26-11:51 E Voices	7- 11:11-11:36 F Orch 8	6 - 11:11-11:36 C Band 8	7- 11:11-11:36 F Orch 8	6 - 11:26-11:51 C Band 8
8 - 11:51-12:16 E Jazz	6- 11:36-12:01 F Ch 8	7- 11:36-12:01 C Band 8	6- 11:36-12:01 F	7 - 11:51-12:16 C Chorus
7 - 12:16-12:41 E Lunch/Lockers	8- 12:01-12:26 F Lunch/Lockers	8- 12:01-12:26 C Lunch/Lockers	8- 12:01-12:26 F Lunch/Lockers	8 - 12:16-12:41 C Lunch/Lockers
12:45 - 1:33	12:30 - 1:13	12:30 - 1:13	12:30 - 1:13	12:45 - 1:33
C5	G5	G5	E5 Ch 7	E5
1:36-2:24	1:16-1:59	1:16-1:59	1:16-1:59	1:36-2:24
F6	C6	E6	C6	F6
2:27-3:15	2:02-2:45	2:02-2:45	2:02-2:45	2:27-3:15
G7	E7	F7	G7	G7
	2:48-3:15 Lockers	2:48-3:15 Lockers	2:48-3:15 Lockers	
	FLEX	ADVISORY OR Community	FLEX	

WESTON MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018-19

MONDAY M	TUESDAY T	WEDNESDAY W	THURSDAY H	FRIDAY F
Sundstrom Homeroom	Grade 6 APC	Sundstrom Homeroom	Sundstrom Homeroom	Sundstrom Homeroom
8:55 - 9:41 Rm. 216 Martin, S. A1 RW CONNECT	8:55 - 9:41 Rm. 241 MacDonald, C. D1 STR. ORCH.	8:55 - 9:41 Rm. 216 Martin, S. A1 RW CONNECT	8:55 - 9:41 Rm. 241 MacDonald, C D1 STR. ORCH.	8:55 - 9:41 Rm. 241 MacDonald, C D1 STR. ORCH
9:44 - 10:30 Rm. 231 Rainville-Collins, CL D2 HEALTH	9:44 - 10:30 Rm. 234 Grozalsky, CL A2 SPANISH	9:44 - 10:30 Rm. 216 Martin, S. D2 STUDY	9:44 - 10:30 Rm. 234 Grozalsky, CL A2 SPANISH	9:44 - 10:30 Rm. 216 Martin, S A2 RW CONNECT
10:33 - 11:19 Rm. 135 Higgins, C. B3 DRAMA	10:33 - 11:19 Rm. 135 Higgins, C. B3 DRAMA	10:33 - 11:19 Rm. GYM Welby, J B3 P.E.	10:33 - 11:19 Rm. 135 Higgins, C. B3 DRAMA	10:33 - 11:19 Rm. GYM Welby, J B3 P.E.
Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break
11:23 - 12:09 Rm. 224 Keller, D. E4 ENGLISH	11:23 - 12:09 Rm. 223 Mills, A F4 SOC. STUD	11:23 - 12:09 Rm. 223 Mills, A F4 SOC. STUD.	11:23 - 12:09 Rm. 227 Beverly, J C4 MATH	11:23 - 12:09 Rm. 224 Keller, D E4 ENGLISH
Rm. 227 12:12-12:40(7) MATH Beverly J	Rm. 105 12:12-12:40(7) SCIENCE Sundstrom, J	Rm. 105 12:12-12:40(8) SCIENCE Sundstrom J	12:12-12:40(6) LUNCH	12:12-12:40(6) LUNCH
12:40-1:08(6) LUNCH C5	Rm. 105 SCIENCE G5 12:40-1:08(8) Sundstrom J	12:40-1:08(6) LUNCH G5	Rm. 224 12:40-1:08(8) ENGLISH E5 Keller, D	Rm. 223 SOC. STUD F5 12:40-1:08(7) Mills, A
Rm. 227 1:08-1:36(8) MATH Beverly J	1:08-1:36(6) LUNCH	Rm. 105 1:08-1:36(7) SCIENCE Sundstrom J	Rm. 224 1:08-1:36(7) ENGLISH Keller, D	Rm. 223 1:08-1:36(8) SOC. STUD. Mills, A
Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break	Locker Break
1:40 - 2:26 Rm. 105 Sundstrom J G6 SCIENCE	1:40 - 2:26 Rm. 224 Keller, D E6 ENGLISH	1:40 - 2:26 Rm. 227 Beverly, J C6 MATH	1:40 - 2:26 Rm. 105 Sundstrom, J G6 SCIENCE	1:40 - 2:26 Rm. 105 Sundstrom, J G6 SCIENCE
2:29 - 3:15 Rm. 223 Mills, A. F7 SOC. STUD.	2:29 - 3:15 Rm. 227 Beverly, J. C7 MATH	2:29 - 3:15 Rm. 224 Keller, D E7 ENGLISH	2:29 - 3:15 Rm. 223 Mills, A F7 SOC. STUD.	2:29 - 3:15 Rm. 227 Beverly, J C7 MATH

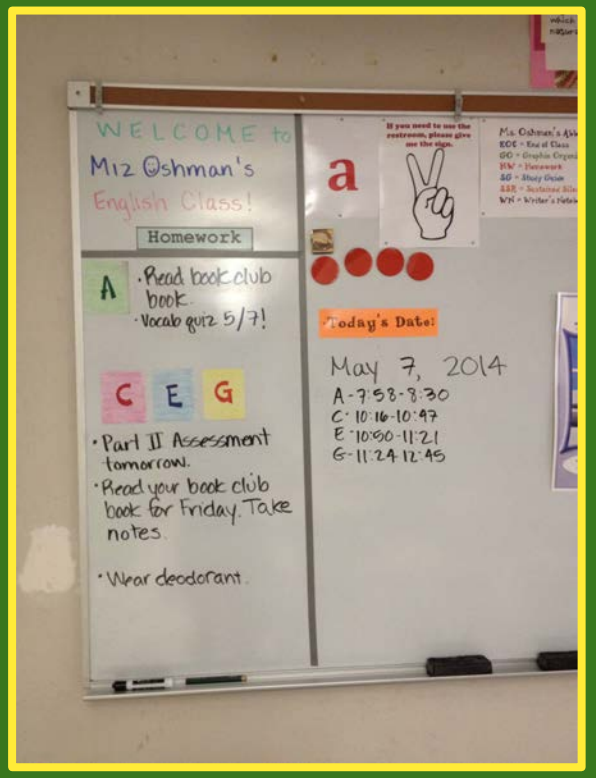
Expectations for 6th Graders

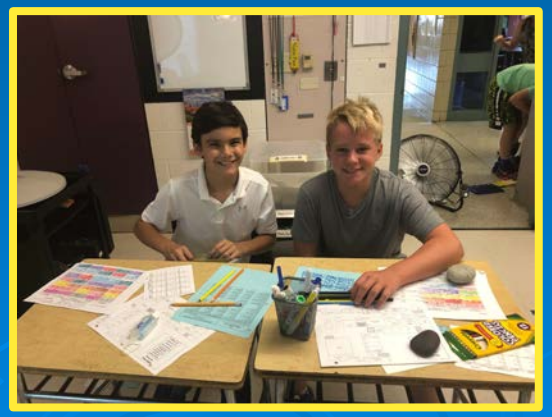
- Stay organized and plan their time
- Enjoy their learning
- Advocate for themselves
- Be respectful and behave appropriately

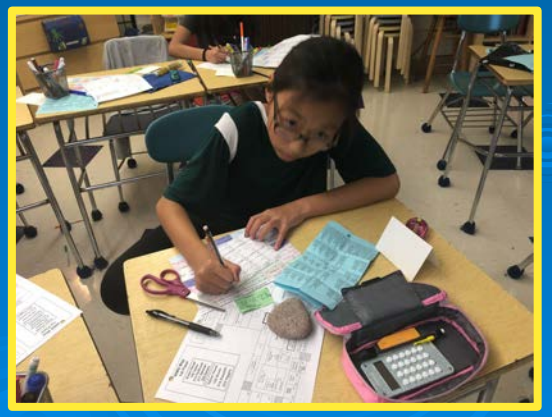
The expectation that we have for our students is that they treat all people in our building with respect. We discuss this from day one in our morning meeting and reinforce it in our classrooms throughout the year. Strong bonds between home and school help students stay accountable and learn from their mistakes.

Helping Students with Organization

- Organization is a skill emphasized in each class
- Agendas are key
  - Online or paper
- Home-School Link
- Goal: creation of independent organizers







Remember that this is a process that takes time.

School Counselor - Kari Anne Wye

- Looping Model
  - With students for 3 years
  - Benefits to looping
- Currently connecting with Field School
  - Meeting with FS faculty - classroom teachers, special educators, counselor & METCO liaison
  - Planning to visit students in FS classrooms
- Guidance Seminar
  - 1 of 4 Art's Rotation
  - Topics include...
- Team Approach - work closely with grade leadership, teachers, METCO liaison, special educators, asst. Principal, and school nurse
- Nothing is ever too small to be in touch about

METCO Liaison
Cyril Kakulu

Celebrating 50 years of Weston METCO!
Est. 1967

- Work closely with teacher teams, guidance, and administration to best support the whole child; academically, socially, and emotionally
- Role is fully integrated into school culture
- In process of working with F.S. staff to prep for Transition

School Nurse- Kate Pollender

- Will be Connecting with Field School Nurses & Guardians
  - Review accommodations, medications, & forms
- Available for any Parent & Student questions

- Works as team member: School Counselors, Teachers, Administrators & METCO liaison
- Support your student(s)
  - Forms & medication: physicals, concussion plans, doctor's notes
  - Communication- please reach out

Assistant Principal: Phil Oates

- Most important job
  - Keep kids safe!
  - Happy kids learn
  - Working closely with guidance counselors
- Actively involved in the cafeteria, gym, hallways, classrooms, athletic fields.
  - Learn from mistakes - Make it right!
- AP replacement interviews in process

Communication: Whom to Contact

- Classroom teachers for subject questions
- School Counselors for scheduling and social matters
- School Nurse for medical questions, changes, support
- Adjustment Counselor additional support
- Grade Director for global concerns
- Aide for day-to-day administrivia

Communication: How to Contact

- Phone and Email
- Back to School Night
- First Wednesday Conferences
  - Sign-Up Genius
  - Virtual opportunities

Communication: How We Do This

With Students

- Individually:
  - In person, Google Classroom, email, IC
- Larger groups- grade and school-wide
  - In person or virtual meetings
  - We will follow guidelines to determine how larger meetings will be done

With Families

- Emails from teachers, grade leaders, and administration
- Infinite Campus (IC)
- Announcements from school
- Posting information on the website
- Back to School Night
- Conferences

Google Classroom

Our Transition Process

- Coffee-Thursday,
- 5th Grade “visits” with WMS transition team to make connections
- School will be open in late summer for student visits.
- First days of school focus on transition to school and learning how to be a 6th grader

1-1 Program at WMS

- All 6th graders will be receiving a Chromebook to be used as an educational tool.
- Students will be taught how to use the device responsibly and ethically.
- Chromebooks will be distributed at some point during the start of the year.
- We encourage charging devices in backpacks in common areas at night.

Lunch

- Lunch is designed to be by grade and for approximately 25 mins.
- Students have food choices and draw off of online accounts
- Recess time is built into the lunch block and students play outdoors
- Students may opt to eat indoors or outdoors
- Seating at lunch is structured in September then free seating is allowed after lunch norms are practiced

Water Bottles and Bathrooms

- All students should bring in a reusable water bottle each day.
- We will have 4 filling stations available

General Supplies

Lockers will be issued and general supplies may available at our school store

Lists will be made available on the Weston Middle School Website

More information will be sent out about this. Please look for an email from the 6th grade leader with more details.

General Skill Sets

What students can work on in the Spring to help them get ready.

- Advocating for help
- Navigating tech
- Trusting their instincts
- Problem solving
- Time management
- Prioritizing
- Critical thinking
- Reading, Math, Writing or journaling

Thoughtful Start to 23-24

We recognize that students will be starting our Middle School with different needs, questions, and skill sets that in previous years. We will be working to make sure that we address and support students as best as we can with all this in mind.

This team will all have your student's best interests at the forefront of our work.

Here's to the 23-24 School Year!

We look forward to working with you to make next year a wonderful one for your children!