

Weare Middle & Center Woods Upper Elementary

# NEWSLETTER

Issue #1 / September 4, 2021

Welcome back Wolves & Wildcats! We had a great first week of school and hope everyone enjoyed getting to know their teachers and classmates. Please note, the cafeteria will begin serving breakfast this coming week. Middle school students will be able to get breakfast upon arrival and take it to homeroom, and upper elementary students will have breakfast delivered to their classrooms.

Regarding staffing, we are currently interviewing for our open Middle School math position and hope to also be able to fill our Social Worker opening and the last couple paraeducator needs. While these openings exist we are lucky to have wonderful substitutes and interventionists who are stepping in to meet these needs on a temporary basis.

Your administration team,  
Mrs. Hilliard, Mr. Matzke & Mr. Morrill

## PUP Default Plans

Thank you to all families that registered and set up new default dismissal plans for their students. These default plans allow teachers and the office staff to help students remember where they are supposed to be going each day. We would like to share a few tips:

- Every student should have a 5-day default dismissal plan in place. Even if the default plan hasn't changed from last year, please delete and re-enter the plan so it will update with a current date. We would like all default plans updated by September 15th.
- When a dismissal plan changes, parents should only be submitting a change for that day, not a default plan change.
- If a plan change requires a student to go home with another student, please specify the student's name.

## Parent Pick-up and Drop-off

The first few days of student arrival and dismissal have been relatively smooth. As a reminder, students may not be dropped off in the morning before 7:10, and all students should be in school by 7:25 to be ready to start instructional time at 7:30. At 7:30,

students are considered tardy and will need to sign in at the office before heading to their class.

Students may only exit vehicles once the cars are fully in the drop-off lane in front of the building. As cars enter the drop-off lane, pull as far forward as directed by staff.

#### iReady testing

We will begin our fall iReady testing session on Wednesday September 8th. Testing will be done in the morning and last no more than an hour and fifteen minutes. The data we derive from this testing will help ensure that we are maximizing instructional support for all students. We encourage families to help their students be successful by getting a good night's sleep, and having a nutritious breakfast.

#### From Your School Counseling Team



Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We are so excited to be starting this school year with all of our students back in the building. We hope you and your family had a wonderful summer.

Our school counseling team includes Mrs. Oliveira (Mrs. O), Mr. Beede, and Moose. We'd like to tell you a little bit about us. Paula Oliveira is in her second year at Weare Middle School, but has been a school counselor for nearly 20 years. She lives in Bedford with her husband and pitbull named Scout. She has four adult children and four grandchildren who she loves to spend

time with. When she has free time, Mrs. Oliveira likes to cook and work in her gardens. Chris Beede is beginning his third year at WMS. He lives in Goffstown with his wife and Moose. In his down time, Mr. Beede loves to go hunting and fishing. Moose is a four and a half year old German Indian Dog (half German Shepherd and half Native American Indian Dog). Moose is a therapy dog who comes to school as part of the counseling team a couple of days a week.

As school counselors, we support staff, students, and families in a variety of ways. We provide classroom teachers with support in implementing social-emotional learning, meet with students individually and in small groups, teach social-emotional lessons in classrooms, and collaborate with parents and families to meet student needs.

Please reach out to us if you have concerns about your child. We welcome phone calls and emails and will respond as quickly as possible. We are looking forward to a great school year!

Respectfully,  
Paula Oliveira, Chris Beede, and Moose

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### From the Special Education Department

Welcome back to a new school year! Hopefully everyone was able to find some opportunities for rest and relaxation over the past few weeks and is ready and excited for the year ahead. In an effort to bring greater understanding and knowledge about the world of special education to our community, you will start to see notes 'From the Special Education Department' in your weekly newsletter. Whether it is sharing accomplishments, highlighting certain topics, or providing educational resources, our hope is that families feel more informed on this subject, feel supported by the school, and have a stronger connection to an important piece of student services.

So what is special education anyways? The goal of special education is to ensure that students are provided a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) that is designed to meet their individual needs. This is not a "one size fits all" approach but instead is tailored to meet the needs of each individual student. Special education encompasses a range of services that can be provided in different ways and in different settings. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that defines and regulates special education. To qualify, a student must: 1 - have a documented disability in one of the 13 documented categories covered by IDEA and 2 - need special education in order to access the general education curriculum. Making learning accessible to students with disabilities means finding ways to remove the barriers to their learning.

Have a great weekend and a happy Labor Day.

Ms. Gamache (Director of Special Education for CWUES/WMS)

## Athletics

Weare Middle School offers 9 sports over three seasons to students in 6-8th grade. Our focus is sportsmanship at a higher level of athletic competition. We participate in the TriCounty League and compete in Division 3 level based on the size of our school population. Our program has won several championships but the greatest honor was being awarded the 2019-2020 TriCounty League Sportsmanship Award. Student athletes are asked to balance their academics and their athletics both on and off the field. We are looking forward to another fall season of exciting competition. Our [school calendar](#) has several opportunities to see our teams in action.

Any questions related to athletics can be sent to our athletic director, Kristen Lundeen, [kristen.lundeen@sau24.org](mailto:kristen.lundeen@sau24.org)

### WMS Volleyball Club

Ms. French is starting a Girl's Volleyball Club for grades 6-8.

The club will meet on Wednesdays & Thursdays, from 2:45-4:00, starting September 15th. If your student is interested, [sign up here](#)

If you have questions, please contact Ms. French @ [robyn.french@sau24.org](mailto:robyn.french@sau24.org)

### Other Co-curricular Opportunities

You will see more information regarding groups such as Student Council (WMS), the Anime Club (CWUES) and other groups that meet after school. We are excited to have so many ways to engage our students in enriching activities.

Upcoming Dates - [full calendar can be found here](#)

September 6 - No School, Labor Day

September 21 - Weare School Board meeting

September 23 - Picture Day