



# The Westgate Window



**Westgate Elementary School Newsletter**

March 2, 2018

7802 Hascall Street Omaha, NE 68124 (402) 390-6495 Info Line: (402) 390-3311 www.westside66.org

## A Few Notes From the Principal...

Dear Westgate families,

### Mission

The mission of Westgate Elementary School is to educate each child to achieve (his/her) full potential in collaboration with school, family and community.

It is March, and we are getting ready for a busy month. We will be celebrating our Westgate staff the week of March 5-9. Please feel free to send a note to your child's teacher during that week.

Our K and 1st grade students will be giving a Vocal Music Concert on March 8 at 7:00 PM at Westside Middle School. Our annual Pancake Feast and Art Fair will be on March 9 from 6:00-8:00 PM.

**Westgate School**  
**Our goal for this year is:**  
Westgate Elementary will ensure maximum student engagement and achievement.

We have Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14. If you haven't scheduled a time with you child's teacher, please reach out to his/her teacher to schedule a time for your conference. Don't forget to stop by the library to visit the Westgate Book Fair when you come for conferences! There will be no school on Fri., March 16 for Intersession.

### News Briefs

#### Wednesday Dismissal

Don't forget...Students will be dismissed every Wednesday at 3:00. Please be prompt as teachers are scheduled to leave the building each week to participate in professional learning communities.

Sixth grade parents and students are invited to attend the Westside Middle School Orientation Night on Thursday, March 22. This will be an evening of introductions, food, and community building to welcome the 6th grade class to Westside Middle School. The goal is to create a comfortable environment for your student's first experience at WMS. Here is the schedule for the event:

- 4:50-5:50 PM- Pizza truck will be serving food for purchase; you may eat inside
- 6:00 PM- Welcome address in the WMS PAC for parents and 6th grade students
- 6:30 PM- Breakout Session #1
- 6:50 PM- Breakout session #2
- 7:10 PM- Breakout Session #3
- 7:30 PM- Event concludes

Breakout session topics include: Athletics/Activities/Involvement, Advisory/SPARK, Building Strengths in Your Student, Grading, Registration 101, Assisted Learning Special Education, and Functional/Life Skills Special Education. If you cannot attend on Mar. 22 (the assigned night for Westgate), please feel free to attend on March 26 or 29, with parents/students from other Westside elementary schools.

Students in grades 3-6 will be taking state assessments in Language Arts, Math, and Science from March 19-April 27.

Our next Community Club and Parent Advisory Team meeting is Tuesday, March 20 starting at 6:00 PM in the Westgate library. We hope that you will be able to attend.

Sincerely,

Ruby Larson  
Substitute Principal  
Westgate Elementary



<b>Numbers You Need</b>
Office/Attendance 402-390-6495
Pre-School/Club 66 402-390-8202

**Westgate's Expectations**  
Be Safe  
Be Respectful  
Be Responsible

## Calendar Reminders

Mar. 1 Spring Pictures 9am  
Mar. 2 Dr. Seuss Breakfast 8-9am  
Mar. 5 Board of ED Mtg. 6:30pm  
Mar. 8 Kdg. 1st gr. Vocal Music Concert  
@WMS 7pm  
Mar. 9 Pancake Feast/Art Fair 6-8pm  
Mar. 9-14 Scholastic Book Fair  
Mar. 13-14 Parent Teacher Conferences  
Tues. & Wed. 4-8pm  
Mar. 16 Intersession -**NO SCHOOL** (Fri.)  
Mar. 16 Godfather's Slice of the Pie 5-9pm  
Mar. 19 Board of ED Mtg. 6:30pm  
Mar. 20 Band-o-rama WHS Main Gym 7pm  
Mar. 20 CC Mtg. & Parent Advisory 6pm  
Mar. 27 Planet Sub Night 4-8pm

Apr. 2 Spring Break thru April 6  
**NO SCHOOL**  
Apr. 10 Kdg. Parent Mtg. 6pm @ Westgate  
in the Library  
Apr. 10 CC Mtg/Board of Elections & Parent  
Advisory 6pm  
Apr. 16 Board of ED Mtg. 6:30pm  
Apr. 20 Godfather's Slice of the Pie 5-9pm  
Apr. 24 Planet Sub Night 4-8pm  
Apr. 27 Kdg. Roundup 9:30-11:30am  
Apr. 27 Westgate Carnival 6-8pm  
Apr. 30 Board of ED Mtg. 6:30pm

## Battle of the Books

The Westside Community Council is proud to announce that the 2018 Battle of the Books will take place Saturday, March 24, at the Westside Middle School. This event celebrates reading and promotes team spirit among 4th through 6th graders. All elementary schools will have teams competing and battling their knowledge of the 12 selected books. Good luck to all participating students!

## Art Fair

We need volunteers to assist with the Art Fair.. Please type this in your web browser to sign up:  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b45ada72aa0f49-artfair>

Thanks!

Patty Wrighton, Art Teacher



# April 2nd - April 6th

# NO SCHOOL



## When Entering the Building

Just a reminder: please understand that in an effort to safeguard our children, we ask that you do not hold open the front door of our building for others. Each person should ring the bell to be admitted to the office. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but the students' safety is our greatest priority. Thanks!

## STRIKE UP THE BAND BECAUSE BAND-O-RAMA IS COMING!!!!!!

Fifth and Sixth Grade Band students will present a district wide musical extravaganza on Tuesday, March 20 at 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendars and help reward your child for their hard work by making this event a priority for your entire family. Students will attend a rehearsal during the school day and will need to report to Westside High School at 6:30. A detailed letter about the days events will be e-mailed to band parents, and sent home with band students prior to the event. Questions about this event or anything else band related, please e-mail [carpenter.gail@westside66.net](mailto:carpenter.gail@westside66.net) or [freeman.michael@westside66.net](mailto:freeman.michael@westside66.net) .

Mr. Mike Freeman, (402) 408-8548

Westside Community Schools District 66

909 South 76th Street

Omaha, NE 68114

5th/6th Grade Bands(Hillside/Loveland/Paddock Road/Prairie Lane/Rockbrook/Westgate)

Hillside Elementary School

7500 Western Ave. Omaha, NE 68114-1894

Phone: (402) 390-6450 | Fax: (402) 390-2165

Email: [freeman.michael@westside66.net](mailto:freeman.michael@westside66.net)



## Westside Early Childhood Centers

ADVENTURE IS OUT THERE: Where will your summer adventure be? Find yours with Camp Westside Early Childhood Centers. Mark your calendars now to sign your School-Age child up for an explorative and adventurous summer! Our Summer program runs May 30- August 9, 2018. Registration begins March 5, 2018. No minimum weeks required and flexible scheduling. Email [weccsummer@westsideecc.org](mailto:weccsummer@westsideecc.org) for more information and questions!

## Safety Patrol

March 5 - March 30



**Morning: 8:20 - 8:40**

**79th and Hascall:**

Jordan C.  
Ella T.

**East Drive #1:**

Makayla H.  
Hanan L.

**Main Entrance:**

Mary M.  
Kaylee S.

**Afternoon: 3:25 - 3:40**

**79th and Hascall:**

Briana H.  
Delaney D.

**East Drive #1:**

Kobe W.  
Landon H.

**East Drive #2**

Tyler D.

**Main Entrance:**

Jackson B.  
Gabi C.  
Carsyn C.

### Lunch Money

Tired of writing a check or sending cash for school meals?

Go to [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com) to pay for meals online. Your child's ID number is required.

### Easy Ways to Help Your Community Club

\*Box Tops for Education

\*Campbell's Labels for Education

\*Hy-Vee Receipts dated from 9/1 - 12/31

### Newsletter on the Web

The Westgate Window is available online. Go to the district website [www.westside66.org](http://www.westside66.org). Click on School Websites, choose Westgate Elementary click on Newsletter and then choose the date.

## Monthly Reminders



2nd Tuesday of every month - Community Club Mtg. 6:00 p.m.

3rd Friday of every month - Godfather's Slice of the Pie Night 5-9pm

4th Tuesday of every month - Planet Sub Night 3-8pm



**Tuesday, March 13th - Parent Teacher Conference**  
**4-8pm**

**Wednesday, March 14th - Parent Teacher Conference**  
**4-8pm**

**Friday, March 16th - Intersession - NO SCHOOL**

### EY Excellence In Youth



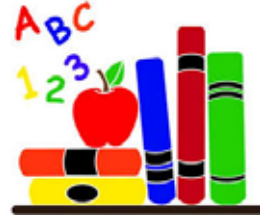
### ELL Website

The ELL Website is a new resource for families to use. It includes staff information, picture lunch menus, and helpful websites. The google site is listed below:

<https://sites.google.com/westside66.net/ell/about>

# Kindergarten Parent Meeting

2018-2019



What: Informational Meeting

Who: Any parent/guardian of 2018/2019 Kindergartner

When: Tuesday, April 10th, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

Where: Westgate Elementary Library

Why: To become acquainted with Westgate staff and curriculum

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Westgate Kindergarten Round - Up

Friday, April 27th, 2018

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m



Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to check in, get materials and name tags. We would like to start promptly at 9:30. Your child needs to be present. We will have 6th grade students escort your child to the kindergarten rooms.

**\*\*Please note: Current kindergartners will not have class this day. Please make arrangements for your child's care. If you have any questions, please call the Westgate office 402-390-6495.**

# Vocal Music Concert

Kindergarten & 1st grade

Thursday, March 8, 2018

@

Westside Middle School

7:00 - 8:00pm



# Robotics Expo

On Saturday, February 17, the 2018 Robotics Expo was held at Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum. Many students representing several Westside elementary schools participated in the day's events.

Leading up to the event, Loveland parent, Harold Cruz-Sanchez, arranged 5 Saturday sessions at the W. Clarke Swanson library so students could practice driving and programming the CEENBoTs (robots). During these 3 hour sessions, students worked together through a variety of challenges.

Five teams competed on Saturday's Expo and each team was composed of students from different schools and grade levels. All students had amazing team spirit and encouraged each other during their events.

The team of Samara Sánchez-Soto (Loveland), Alex Schrom (Hillside), and Trea Spady (Sunset) placed first in the Driving Competition and the team of Simón Sánchez-Soto (Loveland), Owen Schafer (Sunset), and Peter Wanjohi (Westbrook) came in second. Other competitors included Dhruv Kapur (Sunset), Nate Leeper (Sunset), Lucy Lowe (Westgate), Elliot Mason (Sunset), Bert Rasgorshek (Westgate), and Sam Schafer (Sunset).

The awards were accepted by Simón, Samara, and Lucy and it truly was a collective triumph of all students involved.





## Westside Middle School Orientation Nights

Parents and students are invited to join us for an evening of introductions, food, and community building to welcome the next 6th grade class to Westside Middle School. We are asking specific schools to attend on their assigned night. Our goal is to create an intimate and comfortable environment for your student's first experience as a middle school student. If you cannot make your assigned night, please feel free to attend one of the other nights.

March 22  
Swanson  
Sunset  
Westgate  
Paddock

March 26  
Prairie  
Rockbrook  
Hillside

March 29  
Westbrook  
Loveland  
Oakdale

### Schedule

4:50-5:50 Pizza Truck will be serving food for purchase. Parents and students can sit inside to eat.  
6:00 Welcome address in the WMS PAC for students and parents  
6:30 Breakout Session #1  
6:50 Breakout Session #2  
7:10 Breakout Session #3  
7:30 Conclude

### Breakouts Session Descriptions

We are providing multiple, 15-minute, breakout sessions so parents can personalize their learning about WMS. Parents and students are asked to select 3 sessions to attend.

**Athletics/Clubs/Activities/Involvement:** During this session, staff will discuss the different opportunities in which students can be involved at WMS.

**Advisory/SPARK:** During this session, staff will discuss the structure, philosophy, and best practices of a quality advisory program.

**Building Strengths in Your Student** - If you were unable attend the Gallup Strengths parent night, this is another opportunity to learn more about how to help your child name, claim, and aim their talents as identified by the Gallup Strengths Explorer Inventory.

**Grading** - Learn from teachers about grading at Westside Middle School and how to begin to prepare your student for the shift from Standards Based Reporting to grading at the secondary level.

**Registration 101** - School counselors will demonstrate how to register your student and be available to answer questions regarding the online registration process. Additional information on how co-teaching works into the schedule.

**Assisted Learning Special Education** - If your student is in Assisted Learning Special Education, you can meet with staff to discuss Co-teaching, talk about electives and see potential schedules

**Functional/Life Skills Special Education** - If your students is in Life Skills Special Education, you can meet with staff to understand how your student's day will look at Westside Middle School.

### Booths:

**Community Club** - Order WMS Gear and find out how to become involved as a parent of a WMS student

**Powerschool** - Find out information about Powerschool Access, Registration trouble-shooting, and update your information at this booth

**Student and Family Services** - Learn more about our partnership with Children's Hospital, free and reduced lunches, and more.

**Technology Information** - Parents can stop at the technology booth learn more about laptops, insurance, and procedures for distribution.



# Requirements for Early Admission to Kindergarten

In accordance with Nebraska Statute 79-214, the Westside Community Schools allows for admission of children residing in the District as early entrance kindergarteners through a locally designed testing program. Children of District residents who wish to be tested for early entrance must turn five between August 1 and October 15, 2018. For further information regarding early entrance to kindergarten, please call 402-390-3303.

## Kindergarten Enrollment for Non-District Residents

If you live outside the District and have a child eligible for kindergarten who has a sibling currently attending a Westside elementary school through the Option Enrollment program, you must submit an Option Enrollment Application. **Option Enrollment Applications must be received by Westside's Office of Student Services no later than 4:00 p.m. on March 15, 2018.** The application form is available at the ABC Building (909 S. 76th Street) and at [westside66.org](http://westside66.org).

Under Option Enrollment statutes, first priority for admission is given to siblings who seek to attend in the District where an older sibling is already enrolled, provided an Option Enrollment form is submitted by March 15 *and* provided that there is

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

### DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND RETALIATION ARE PROHIBITED

Westside Community Schools prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, marital, parental or pregnancy status, military status and any other basis protected by law in its programs and activities or in admission or access to, or treatment in, hiring and employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Retaliation for reporting discrimination or harassment or for participating in an investigation is also prohibited and will not be tolerated.

If you have concerns SHARE them with the building principal, a dean, counselor or any other building administrator or teacher or the Title IX Coordinator listed below. You may, but are not required to, fill out a Report of Concern Form, which is available on our website: [www.westside66.org](http://www.westside66.org), in the main office or from the Title IX Coordinator.

The Title IX coordinator can also answer questions about our nondiscrimination policies and procedures. The designated Title Coordinator for students, parents, and others is

Director of Student Services  
Westside Community Schools  
909 S 76th ST  
Omaha, NE 68114  
402-390-2100

Board Policy 5330 "Equal Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination" has information for students and parents about harassment and discrimination. For further information about anti-discrimination laws or to file a complaint of discrimination you may also contact

Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Dept. of Education  
One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320  
Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 268-0550, Fax (816) 268-0599, (TDD) (800) 877- 8339, or  
[ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).