



Respect...
Integrity...
Empathy...






"The J.E.S. Prowler"

August/September 2017

<http://www.wjhsd.net/TheJESProowler.aspx>

Learning Centric Focus...
Personalization/Customization System...
Fostering Positive Relationships...

Students Are the Primary Focus of the West Jefferson Hills School District...

Message from the Principal...

On behalf of the entire staff and faculty of Jefferson Elementary School, I would like to welcome everyone back for what is sure to be another exciting and rewarding school year. We have all been working diligently throughout the past several months to welcome back our students and prepare our school to accommodate the approximately 570 students that will grace our classrooms this school year. Please join me in welcoming the newest additions to our educational family, Ms. Megan McKinley (Elementary School Counselor), Ms. Meredith Hazen (2nd Grade Long Term Substitute for Mrs. Gigliotti), and Ms. Jessica Downey (5th Grade Long Term Substitute for Mrs. Yocco). Additionally, Mrs. Rondinelli will be transferring to the PHMS in the coming weeks and will be replaced by Ms. Christie Kazimer. We are all very excited about the additions of our newest team members and the collective contributions that they will afford our students, staff, school, and community.



Given the many great things that are regularly occurring throughout our school and district, Jefferson Elementary School has created a **Twitter** account to increase effectiveness and efficiency with our ongoing communications with all stakeholders. Please follow us at **@JES_wjhsd** to "experience" what makes J.E.S. such a magical place. Additionally, monthly versions of this newsletter will continue to be emailed out.

Finally, for the continued safety of our students, **please note students will not be permitted into the building until 8:10!!!**

Upcoming Events

- 8/30-9/1: N.W.E.A. (Grades 1-5)
- 4: Labor Day—No School
- 7: Open House Night (6-9 p.m.)
PTA Meeting (9 a.m.)
Scholastic Book Fair (6-9 p.m.)
- 11: Instrumental Demo Night
- 15: Bus Evacuation Drill
- 13,15: Instrument Exploration

Accelerated Reader®

J.E.S. will once again be utilizing the "Accelerated Reader" (A.R.) program, however the "First in Math" will no longer implemented. Instead, we have embraced **Study Island** to help promote a personalized learning experience for our students. Please be on the look out for student specific



usernames/
passwords
for both
programs in
the coming
days/weeks.



The West Jefferson Hills School District has developed and adopted both personal and organizational (district) Core Values to assist in guiding our vision/mission. They have been embraced throughout all buildings and will continuously be relied upon to foster our collective vision. They have been included for your review and reflection. I encourage all of you to share and discuss with your children.

Personal Core Values

- ◆ **Respect** (Our commitment is to earn the respect of others by building trust, honoring differences, and celebrating diversity. We are in this together.) *We will expect the best of others by treating them the way we would want to be treated...*
- ◆ **Empathy** (Our commitment is to listen deeply before jumping to conclusion. We will work to understand first.) *We will seek first to understand before being understood...*
- ◆ **Integrity** (Our commitment is to model high moral behavior by being honest, fair, and forthcoming with ALL our interactions.) *We will do the right thing AND we will do things right...*

District Core Values

- ◆ **Learner Centric Focus** (Decisions about people, policies, practices, and structures are decided by focusing on what is best for the learners.) *Keeping Learners First...*
- ◆ **Personalization/Customization System** (We believe that the future of education will be characterized by a customized and highly personalized system where the instructional methodologies are optimized for the needs of each learner.) *Every Learner, Every Day...*
- ◆ **Fostering Positive Relationships** (We know positive relationships have the power to unleash untapped potential in people.) *Honoring and Affirming Others...*



In an ongoing effort to accurately measure student performance and growth, as well as appropriately plan an individualized learning experience for all students, the West Jefferson Hills School District has adopted a new student benchmark assessment system (NWEA MAP) for all students throughout the district. Therefore, the previously implemented DIBELS and 4Sight Assessments will not be utilized in the capacity they were instituted in during previous school years.

NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) is a global non-profit organization that has assessed over 4.5 million students. MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) is an adaptive online assessment which measures what students know and what they're ready to learn next in the areas of Reading, Language Usage by dynamically adjusting to each student's performance, MAP creates a personalized assessment experience that accurately measures performance. The data obtained from this assessment will reveal how much growth has occurred between testing event and, when combined with national norms, will show projected proficiency. Additionally, the data obtained will be utilized to create individualized learning pathways for every student. Due to the complexity of understanding and effectively utilizing the reports, we will initially refrain from sending the reports to families; however, the reports will be thoroughly explained to families during Parent Teacher Conferences.



Student Drop-Off

We kindly request that you adhere to the drop-off/pick-up procedures in order to maintain the safety of our students during these times. Parents dropping off or picking up children are to do so in the designated area next to the paper recycler near the gym. **We request that parents Do Not drive through the bus lane or park in front of the building.** Signs are posted near the entrance to assist with these safety procedures.

Which "Day" Is It?



The entire WJHSD will implement a "Day A-E" schedule cycle as opposed to the traditional Mon.-Fri. schedule. This primarily will effect the day your son/daughter will have their designated "specials." Please refer to the district website (www.wjhsd.net) for additional information and the complete 5-Day Schedule Cycle.