



Washington Elementary School

May/June, 2016



NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL—Dr. Bill Tithof

Inside this issue:

There are only 26 days of school left! WOW! Your students have been amazing! One of the greatest rewards of being an educator is seeing the growth of the children academically, socially, and physically. It is truly an honor to be part of this growth. It is amazing to witness students gaining confidence. As a student learns, their self-confidence rises and encourages them to take risks to attempt new learning. That is what learning is really about—using what you know to learn something you don't know. Thank you, again, for allowing all of us at Washington to assist you, the parents, in educating your child. As I mentioned above, it is an honor. Have a safe summer.

Volunteer, Teacher Appreciation	2
Title 1, Summer Health, Student Council	3
List of Upcoming Events, Attendance Policy, Etc.	4

TRANSITION NIGHT

May 10 at 6 PM is our first Transition Night. There are many summer activities and summer school available for students. Representatives from various organizations will be here to give more info and opportunity to sign students up for the programs. Also, goodie bags with educational materials will be free for the first 20 students at each grade level. Please plan to attend and sign your students up for a variety of summer programs.

END OF SCHOOL YEAR

Although we had many snow days this year, we do not need to make any up. Therefore, our last day of school is a half day on Thursday, June 9. School will be dismissed at 12:07 PM.

YOUNG FIVES

We are still in the discussion stages for implementing a Young Fives program for next school year and hope to have a decision by next week. If you have interest in the Young Fives Program, or if you have a friend or a neighbor who has indicated an interest, we would like to hear from you! Please provide your feedback at: earlychildhood@bcschools.net or [989.671-8193](tel:989.671-8193)

Important Dates to Remember

May 4—Teacher Appreciation Day
May 5—V & O Assembly @ 1:45 PM
June 9—Half Day—Last Day of School.

SEE PAGE 4 FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF END OF YEAR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES!

BUSSING NOTE

Please remember that students may only ride the bus home that they are assigned. Students may not “ride home” with another student. This is a security and safety issue.



VOLUNTEER NEWS

Wow, can't believe the year is coming to a close!! We have one day left that we will need volunteers and that is our Field Day. Parents and students both enjoy field day. This year our field day is Tuesday, June 7, and it's an all day event. We will be sending out forms soon with information and a chance to sign up. Thanks to all the wonderful parents that have volunteered for us this year or who have sent money/candy for our different events. We couldn't do it without you!!

Joanie—Volunteer Coordinator

April was National Volunteer Appreciation Month. I would like to thank all the many volunteers at Washington Elementary. In particular, I would like to thank Mrs. Joanie Laures, our Volunteer Coordinator. We would not be able to do all the special things for the students without your leadership and commitment. On behalf of the staff at Washington Elementary School—thank you!

TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION DAY

Staff Appreciation Week is May 2-6. On May 4, we celebrate National Teacher Day. Teachers are true heroes, who through their dedication to children work millions of small miracles every day. The vast majority of teachers in the United States are proud to help children be successful, are proud to be in public education, and are proud to be a teacher. At Washington Elementary School, we have a wonderful and caring staff working to help your child be successful in life. Please take the time to say “thank you” to your child's teacher for their efforts over the year.



STUDENT COUNCIL

On Friday, May 20, Student Council will be heading to Floral Gardens Cemetery to spread the Washington love by bringing bouquets of flowers to put on gravesites that don't already have flowers. We will also spruce up their grounds; it's going to be a fun day.

—Joanie Laures is our Student Council Advisor.

TITLE I

If you are interested in becoming part of our School Improvement Team, please call the office. Your responsibility would be to attend a few meetings a year and help us determine programs that will help our students become more successful.

THANK YOU STOCK POT OF BAY CITY

Students who ride the busses in the proper way receive tickets and are entered into the Righteous Riders drawing. Likewise, our students who get picked up each day, may receive Perfect Pick Uppers tickets. Each month two tickets from each are drawn, and those four students get a limo ride to and from school and even receive McDonald's for breakfast. Recently, the Stock Pot sold their limo. We are still having this drawing, but it will be a little different. However, I wanted to thank Vince, owner of the Stock Pot, for all he has done Over the years for our students at Washington!



SUMMER HEALTH

Why wear a bicycle helmet?

It's simple. If you fall from your bike, the bicycle helmet takes the force of the blow — instead of your head. Although collisions with cars or other vehicles are likely to be the most serious, even a low-speed fall on a bicycle path can be dangerous. For kids and adults, wearing a bicycle helmet is the best way to prevent a life-threatening head injury. Just remember the ground rules:

- *Make sure it fits snugly
- *Wear the helmet flat on the top of your head. If the bicycle helmet is tilted forward, the back of your head is going to be injured by the force of a crash.
- *Make sure the helmet covers the top of your forehead without tilting forward or backward, and the straps form a V shape under each ear.
- *Fasten the chin strap below your chin — not to the side or along your jaw.
- *If you're in a biking accident, throw out the bicycle helmet and replace it with a new one.
- *Wear your bicycle helmet every time you ride your bike.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Mr. Kelly

Now that Spring is here our PE classes will be going outside whenever possible! With occasional cool temperatures, dew covered grass, etc. it's not always easy to do. On days that your son/daughter has PE please have them wear clothes they can go outside in. Older tennis shoes and clothing, a sweatshirt or light jacket. Spring also means our Field Day is right around the corner. The date for Field Day is June 7. We will have lots of fun games and activities planned for the day! If you have any questions feel free to contact me. kellys@bcschools.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4--ACES Day (All Children Exercise Simultaneously Day) in playground area by 8:45. Walk to CHS snack and drink at return @ 10.
May 5--V & O Assembly at 1:45 PM
May 9--School Board Mtg. at Washington 7:15 PM; M-STEP for 4th Grade Begins today
May 10--Transition Night @ 6-7 PM
May 11--Last day for Financial Edge Credit Union; School Improvement Team at 4-6 PM at Admin.
May 12--2nd Grades to Chippewa Nature Center leaves @ 8:45 and returns at 1:45 PM
May 18--Credit Union Workers to Financial Edge Credit Union
May 19--5th Grades to Loon's Game
May 20--Student Council to Floral Gardens @ 9 am
May 26--5th Grade Track Meet @ CHS; Backup day for Student Council to Floral Gardens; Preschool Graduation in Cafe @ 2 pm
May 27-30--No School--Memorial Day
May 31--Back up day for 5th Grade Track Meet
June 1--Honor roll students and parents to Frankenmuth
June 2--5th Grade Send Off @ 1 PM in the gym
June 3--3rd Grades to Mackinac
June 6--Staff Mtg @ 3:30
June 7--Field Day
June 7--Preschool Graduation @ 6 PM
June 8--5th grades to Carroll Park all day;
June 9--Last day of school. Dismissal at 12:07 pm



ATTENDANCE POLICY

Our goal is to have all of our students in class, learning every day for the entire learning day, 8:14 am-3:17 pm. When it is necessary for a child to miss school for any reason, it is the parent's responsibility to call the school office at 894-2744 to excuse your child. If at all possible it is best for your child's education to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school or during scheduled vacations.

The Learning Day

8:04—Universal Breakfast

8:14— Student's must be in classrooms ready to learn.

3:17—The end of the learning day.

Last Day of School

Thursday, June 9

Dismissal at 12:07 P.M.

Have a Great Summer!

Please complete the bottom portion and have your child return it to their teacher.

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_____ Yes, I received and have read the May Newsletter.

Student _____ Parent (optional) _____

Parent Signature _____ Phone #: _____

Any comments, concerns, suggestions, or congratulations are appreciated!

Thank you for your thoughts!