

WHITESIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT #115

Smoke Signals – December 2019

Mr. Mark Heuring, Superintendent

Whiteside Elementary School

Mr. Nathan Rakers, Principal

Mr. Kevin Johnson, Assistant Principal

Whiteside Middle School

Mrs. Monica Laurent, Principal

Mr. Jaime Cotto, Assistant Principal

Calendar of Events – December

- 2 5/6 Girls' BB at Grant 4 p.m.
5/6 Boys' BB vs. Grant at Home 4 p.m.
- 3 5th Grade Girls' BB at Wolf Branch 4 p.m.
5/6 Boys' BB vs. Wolf Branch at Home 4 p.m.
7/8 Boys' BB vs. Wolf Branch at Home 6 p.m.
Math Team Meeting 3 p.m.
- 4 5/6 Girls' BB at St. James 5 p.m.
Yoga Club 3 p.m.
Photo Club 3 p.m.
- 5 5/6 Boys' BB at EMGE 4 p.m.
7/8 Girls' BB vs. EMGE at Home 5 p.m.
7/8 Boys' BB at EMGE 6 p.m.
Chess Club 3 p.m.
Art Club 3 p.m.
Rubik's Cube Club 3 p.m.
Dare Graduation 9 a.m. (Middle School)
- 6 7th Grade Girls' BB Tourney at Pontiac (Dec. 6-7)
8th Grade Boys' BB at Grant (Dec. 6-7) – Time TBD
7th Grade Boys' BB at Belle Valley (Dec. 6-7) – Time TBD
- 7 Robotics Tournament 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Middle School Gym
- 9 6th Grade Girls' BB Tourney at Central of O'Fallon (Dec. 9-11)
6th Grade Boys' BB at EMGE (Dec. 9-11) – Time TBD
8th Grade Girls' BB Tourney at West Jr. High (Dec. 9-11)
8th Grade Boys' BB at Central Jr. High (Dec. 9-11)-Time TBD
- 10 5/6 Girls' BB vs. St. Teresa at Home 5:30 p.m.
5th Grade Boys' BB at St. Teresa 5 p.m.
Hour of Code 3 – 6 p.m. at Middle School
Go Team Meeting 3 p.m.
Math Team Meeting 3 p.m.
- 11 Student Council Meeting 3 p.m.
Photo Club Party 3 p.m.
5th & 6th Grade Book Club 3 p.m.
- 12 5/6 Boys' BB at Wesclin 4 p.m.
Art Club Meeting 3 p.m.
- 16 5/6 Girls' BB at St. James 4 p.m.
5th Grade Boys' BB vs. St. James at Home 6 p.m.
8th Grade Girls BB Tournament at Smithton (Dec. 16-19)
Science Club Meeting 3 p.m.
- 17 Band Concert at Middle School
Math Team Meeting 3 p.m.
- 18 Yoga Club 3 p.m.

- 19 Rubik's Cube Club 3 p.m.
- 20 End of 2nd Quarter
- 23 **First Day of Winter Break – NO SCHOOL**
Classes Resume Monday, January 6th



DECEMBER 23rd – JANUARY 3rd
HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY!



Miles of Smiles Dental Team will be returning to Whiteside School to perform dental exams, cleaning and fluoride treatments in early 2020. Permission slips have been sent home and **must be returned to the school**

BEFORE the winter break so that the dental visits can be scheduled. All children will be seen if they return the completed form (late forms will be accepted). The exams, cleaning and fluoride treatments are at no cost and are a way to get another dental check-up in. These exams can be used to meet the state dental requirements for those students in Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th grades.



It's that time of year- cold and flu season! Please keep your students home if they have a fever, are coughing continuously or are too ill to participate in their usual school program. Remember, hand washing is your best defense against illness! **All students must be fever free for 24 hours, without medication, before returning to school.**



Our after-school ESP program is currently at capacity. We are not accepting any additional students at this time. If you would like to be put on a waiting list for participation in after-school ESP, please contact the elementary school office.

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS

All students interested in trying out MUST have a 2019-2020 sports packet and a current physical (less than 1 yr. old) turned in to the middle school office no later than **Wednesday, December 11th**. Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and have no outstanding fees in order to try out. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** If you have questions, contact Ms. Lodes, Athletic Director, at ext. 3605.

Girls' & Boys' Volleyball tryouts will be as follows:

7th & 8th Grade Girls – (Tryouts at Middle School)

1st week of January (dates and times TBD)

5th & 6th Grade Girls - (Tryouts at Elementary School)

3rd week of January (dates and times TBD)

Boys' Volleyball (5-8) (Tryouts at Middle School)

1st week of January (dates and times TBD)



The Jingle Bell Dance is Friday, December 20th from 6-8 p.m. All 7th & 8th graders are invited to attend.

**Must meet GPA & behavior requirements.

We are looking for volunteers to help decorate and work the concessions! Please contact Mrs. Laurent if you can help out! monica.laurent@wssd115.org



Where: Whiteside Middle School

When: Friday, December 20, 2019

Time & Location: 7:45 a.m., Room 612

All student athletes are welcome to attend.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes is not affiliated with Whiteside Middle School.

Contact Mrs. Crask with any questions at:

julie.crask@wssd115.org or 239-0000 ext. 3612



Hat Day is Friday, December 6th at the Middle School. Please bring \$1 to wear a hat and help support Eden's Army! Bracelets and cookies will also be sold for \$1 each. Eden's Army provides assistance to families with children in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at St. Louis Children's Hospital.



Whiteside Elementary Family Science Night will be held on Thursday, January 23rd from 6-8 p.m. Online registration will begin January 6, 2020.



The Whiteside Band will present its annual Winter Concert on December 17th at 7 p.m. at the middle school. This concert will feature the 5th Grade Beginning Band, the 6th Grade Band and the Concert Band. The Band Parents Association will host a reception following the concert. Specific details on what time to arrive and what to wear will be sent home with students.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Butter Braid fundraiser. **Please pick up your orders Saturday, December 7th, from 9-11 a.m. in the middle school lobby.**



Middle School Parents: Be on the lookout for a permission slip for you and your child to participate in the **Hour of Code** event the middle school is hosting on December 10th

from 3-6 p.m.! Students are invited to stay after school to spend time on computers, Chromebooks and even personal devices while participating in code.org's national Computer Science Education Week event. Our world is consumed by technology and Whiteside's mission to create tomorrow's leaders drives us to make sure our students don't just know how to use technology, but how to create and program it! Parents will be invited to come starting at 4 p.m. until the close at 6 p.m. Make sure you put this on your calendar and fill out the permission slip.

ELEMENTARY SERVICE PROJECT

Thank you to all of the elementary students, families, and staff who helped raise money for UNICEF during the month of October. Our goal this year was to raise \$750 and we collected \$831.25! Thank you for your kindness, generosity and compassion. We should all be proud of ourselves! The money we raised for UNICEF will help children in over 150 countries around the world. Teachers, thank you for your efforts in collecting the money in your classroom. Also, thank you to Ms. Bridget in the office for her help in counting the money.

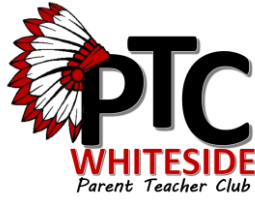


"Unleash Your Good Character" Award By WV/T-Mobile

21 students from the Elementary School were nominated for the "Unleash Your Good Character" Award By WV/T-Mobile this Fall. The nominees include Brooke Harmon, Naomi Edewor, Owen Hotze-Wilton, Jasmine Hemphill, Jeremiah Cook, Jamie Cervantes, Elijah Leonard, Natalie Rachels, Brody Fudge, Eva Christie, Hailey Perosa, Maya Dunn, Camdyn Sunkett, Taliyah Ratliff, Cadyn Caldwell, Zamaria Jackson, Ava Gendron, Ben Bauman, Anna Byrne, Kaleigh White, and Emma Sterns. All the nominees were treated to lunch with the Principals and honored at the Veteran Peace assembly when Anna Byrne was announced as the winner of the award.



PTC Corner



Upcoming Events

December 3 - PTC Meeting at 7 p.m. at the Middle School

December 6 – Gingerbread House Night from 6-8 p.m. with a Glee Club performance at 6 p.m.

This event is for both Elementary & Middle School families.

Bring your favorite decorations and your best building abilities.

We will provide the cardboard base, two packages of graham crackers, and the icing. Each house costs \$5 (cash only).

Additional bags of icing will be available to purchase. Santa will also make an appearance. Thank you to Girl Scout Troops #141, #92, #510 and #430! Interested in volunteering?

Contact Amy Jung at amy.jung@wssd115.org.

December 14-Wreaths Across America Service Project

Join the Middle School and PTC parent volunteers to remember, honor and teach on Saturday, December 14th at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact whitesideptc@wssd115.org.

Save the date

January 11 – Pajamas and Pancakes at Elementary School

February 9 - Family Puzzle Event

March 7 - GLO Bingo and Auction

April 18 - WS Warrior Wellness Day and 5K

BOX TOPS for Education

Don't forget to scan your receipts through the Box Tops for Education Application to get the new digital Box Tops. Our next contest will be February 15th.

Smile.Amazon

Doing holiday shopping through Amazon? Order through smile.amazon.com and set your charity to Whiteside District 115 Parent and Teacher Club and Amazon will give back to Whiteside with every purchase!

For more information on WS PTC events, please contact whitesideptc@wssd115.org or follow us on

Facebook: **Whiteside PTC**



5 Essentials Parent Survey

Whiteside School District's 5 Essentials Parent Survey is now open. Parents can find the link on our website under the information tab. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. It is an Illinois State Board of Education survey handled by the University of Chicago and is completely anonymous. An emailed note explaining the survey was sent home to all parents prior to Thanksgiving Break. Thank you in advance for your time. Mark Heuring - Superintendent

NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST?

Breakfast is served at both schools from 8-8:15 a.m., with extended time for later arriving bus students. Fuel up to start the day! *This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



If school is cancelled due to weather, the closing will be announced on TV channels 2, 4, 5 and 11. You will also receive a call via Skyward. Please check Skyward to ensure your phone number is current. Whiteside will never dismiss early, but you may pick up your child at your discretion.

