

WHITESIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT #115

618-239-0000

Smoke Signals - December 2020

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

****Whiteside School District is conducting in-person classes at this time. We encourage all families to be prepared for a possible adaptive pause due to future COVID concerns. Whiteside School District may change to remote learning in the event of additional COVID cases, transmission evidence, and/or the availability of staff. ****
Important Note: If you are not receiving phone calls and/or emails, log into your Skyward account and update your contact information.

Calendar of Events - December

- 3 Elementary School Picture Re-Take Day
- 4 Gingerbread House Kit Pick up at ES
Hat Day at MS for Eden's Army
- 5 Butter Braid Delivery at MS
- 12 Holiday Food Drive-Thru at MS
- 16-19 Virtual Holiday Market
- 18 End of 2nd Quarter
- 21 First Day of Winter Break - NO SCHOOL



**December 21 - January 3
is WINTER BREAK!
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
STAY SAFE AND
HEALTHY!**



**If school is
cancelled due to
inclement
weather, the
closing will be
announced on TV**

channels 2, 3, 5 and 11. You will also receive a call via Skyward. Whiteside will NEVER dismiss early, but you may pick up your child at your discretion.

**HOLIDAY
FOOD DRIVE**

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2020 | 11:00AM-1:00PM**

**Whiteside Middle School
111 Warrior Way Belleville, IL 62221**

Please help by bringing your non-perishable food donation to Whiteside Middle School parking lot. This is a drive-thru event, please stay in your car for drop-off. Student volunteers will be masked and ready to retrieve donations from your vehicle.

Most Needed Items: Stuffing, canned/boxed potatoes, canned fruit, & breakfast items

EXTRACURRICULAR ATHLETICS UPDATE



Whiteside Middle School will continue to wait for official guidance from the IDPH, IHSA, SIJHSAA, and partnering Belle-Fair Conference schools regarding a final decision whether volleyball, basketball, and cheer will take place this season.

Belle-Fair conference has made the decision to **delay the start of basketball season. There is a tentative start date of March 1st for all basketball and cheer related activities**; however, this is tentative and based on the IDPH's final decision.



Volleyball will continue to aim for a tentative start date of January 4th.

IF volleyball activities are allowed to take place, we will hold tryouts for our boys' and girls' volleyball teams on January 4th and 5th; games are set to begin on January 21st.

IF basketball and cheer activities are allowed to take place, we will hold tryouts for our 7th and 8th-grade boys' and girls' basketball teams and cheer teams on March 1st and 2nd; games are set to begin on March 11th.

Student-athletes must have a current physical on file with their school; without a current physical, your student will not be permitted to take part in the tryout process. **Students can pick up a sports packet in the school**

office. Students also need to be in good academic standing for the tryout process. It is very important that your student stays on top of their school work.

If you have any questions at all, please email our middle school Athletic Director, Shea Lodes at shea.lodes@wssd115.org.

We hope to see you very soon!

Extended School Program "ESP"

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 at 618-239-0000 or email Kristy Frazer, kristy.frazer@wssd115.org

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH:

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Megan Walter - 7th
Kelvin Long - 6th
Jackson Schadegg - 6th
Maha Zahran - 6th
Lena Lockridge - 6th

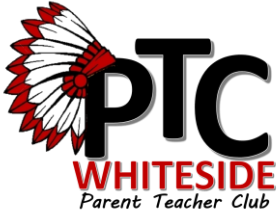


ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Quincey Perry - K
Zion Williams - K
Isabelle Corrigan - 1st
Landry Wilken - 1st
Julian Gamboa - 2nd
Evan Brewer - 2nd
Juliette O'Dell - 2nd
Brooke Harmon - 3rd
Marshawn Taylor - 3rd
Ayva Guthrie - 4th
Jasmine Lopina - 4th
Jeremiah Gray - 4th



Our first hat day of the year will be held on Friday, December 4th at the Middle School. Please bring \$1 to wear a hat and help support Eden's Army! Mrs. Pruet's famous 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.



Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, December 1st: PTC meeting at 7pm via Zoom

Friday, December 4th: Gingerbread Kit pick up from 6-7pm at Elementary School circle

drive. **Pre-register to reserve your kit(s) by Monday, November 30th.** Kits are \$5 each (cash only) to be paid at pick up. Santa will also be there to take selfies or drop off your letters to him. **Submit pictures of your completed gingerbread houses by Dec. 10th for students to vote.** Top 3 winners will get a prize.

Tuesday, December 15th: Dine to Donate with Marco's Pizza. Order Marco's pizza at Marcos.com or 618-235-5522 anytime between 11a-11p. Be sure to mention Whiteside.

Wednesday, December 16th - Saturday, December 19th - Join us on Facebook for our Virtual Holiday Market and shop local artists, crafters, vendors, boutiques, and more. Visit our Whiteside School PTC on Facebook for event details.

For more information email WhitesidePTC@wssd115.org or follow us on Facebook at Whiteside School PTC.



BAND NEWS

Thank you to everyone who sold Butter Braids to support the band. **The delivery date**

will be December 5th at the middle school from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.



NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST?

Breakfast is served at both schools from 8-8:30 a.m. Fuel up to start the day! *This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

A NOTE FROM OUR NURSES:



Happy Thanksgiving Whiteside students and families! We are so *grateful* that we have been able to have in-person learning in our buildings the past couple of months. In order to keep our students safe and in-person learning possible, please remember to keep your student(s) home when ill.

If your children have any of the following symptoms, please call 618-239-0000 and speak to the nurse so that we can advise you on when to send the students back to in-person learning.

Temperature of 100.4 or greater

Cough

Shortness of breath

Fatigue

Chills

Muscle or body aches

Sore throat

Headache (moderate to severe)

New loss of taste or smell

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea and/or vomiting

Diarrhea

In addition, if anyone in your home is symptomatic or has a COVID test pending, please keep all students home as well.

We hope you enjoy your time off. Thank you for all you do to support Whiteside students!

-Nurse Heather and Nurse Kayce



Picture Re-Take Day

ES - December 3rd

MS - January 27th



COVID-19 Dashboard

Our COVID-19 Dashboard will be emailed to all parents on Friday's through our Skyward student management system. The COVID-19 information will provide parents the current, as well as a historical perspective, into the District's COVID-19 cases.

Many parents have been in contact with the school's nurses due to many COVID-19 situations. We want to thank and continue to encourage all parents to make these contacts and share COVID-19 information with the district.

Your willingness to share this information helps provide a safe environment for students and allows the district to continue to provide in-person learning.