Calendar of Events – JANUARY

4  Class Resumes; ALL students virtual
4-8  Adaptive Pause; All students virtual
11  In-Person Students Return to School
18  NO SCHOOL – Dr. MLK Day
27  Middle School Picture Retake Day

WELCOME BACK
WHITESIDE WARRIORS!

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.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UPDATE:
Whiteides Middle School will continue to wait for official guidance from the IDPH, IHSA, SIHJHSAA, 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 aim for a tentative start date of January 11th. IF volleyball activities are allowed to take place, we will hold tryouts for our boys’ and girls’ volleyball teams on January 11th and 12th (tentative); 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.
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:
Kenny McClain
Kenyon Logan
Kayden Criss
Kaleb Walker
Austin Dunn

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:
Aliyah Hunt
Jermia Taylor
Julian Prater
Savannah Dycus
Camden McEr lain
Anna Byrne
Jacob Ballard
Haleigh Amos
Kyleigh Artimisci
Cody Wiley

Upcoming Events:
Tuesday, January 5th - PTC meeting at 7pm via Zoom
Tuesday, January 19th - Dine to Donate at Silver Creek Saloon

COMING SOON:
Whiteside Spirit Wear e-store the week of January 25th.

We are looking for a co-chair for Family Reading Night, please email WhitesidePTC@wssd115.org if you are interested.

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

Whiteside Cares and Shares
We are appreciative and proud to share that, during the course of this holiday season, our school community was able to collect over 2,000 food items for over 60 holiday food baskets and provide gifts for over 50 students in need. We want to express our sincere gratitude to the people and organizations who helped to make this possible by providing gifts, turkeys, coats, gift cards, and contributing to the food drives in both buildings: Towerview Baptist Church, Shiloh Police Department, Cornerstone Church, Belleville, First Church of the Nazarene, First Christ Church in Fairview Heights, and Whiteside staff (current and retired), students and families. We are grateful to be a part of such a caring community.

Registration dates for all incoming KINDERGARTNERS for the 2021-2022 school year will be announced soon!

Picture Re-Take Day
MS – January 27th
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.

MEAL PACKS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DAILY FROM 10:30-12:30
Please remember to complete the online form that is emailed out every day to reserve your meal packs (especially on virtual days)! We want to make sure we always have enough for everyone.

Thank you!

A NOTE FROM OUR NURSES:
Welcome back! We are so excited for what the new year holds. As we continue to wait for the COVID-19 vaccination, the Whiteside nursing team would like to remind our students and families that we must remain diligent with our COVID precautions. Upon return to in-person learning following winter break, we need to remember the basic rules for safety. Please review the following guidelines with your student(s).

1. **Wear your mask!** Each school has a limited supply of disposable masks in case students need a clean one in the middle of the day due to a spill or mess. However, the expectation is that all students arrive to school with a mask. Children riding the school bus must wear their mask while on the bus.

2. **Keep practicing social distancing.** Remember to remain 6 feet apart when possible and give our friends and teachers space.

3. **Wash hands!** Scrub hands for at least 20 seconds. Wash often. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.

4. **Stay home when sick.** COVID-19 has many symptoms. If you are unsure whether or not to send your student to school, call the nurse at your child’s building. They will walk you through the process.

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

-Nurse Heather and Nurse Kayce

COVID-19 Dashboard

Our COVID-19 Dashboard will be emailed to all parents on Fridays 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.