

The Patriot Promoter

Distributed by the Win-E-Mac School District

www.wemschools.org

April 2025



General Information

- Please take a moment to read through our spring newsletter. Superintendent Cook, Principal Reiersen, and Dean of Students/Activities Director Langemo have provided information for the newsletter.
- Make sure to follow all the most up to date information with the school by viewing the school website and following social media accounts.



[Click here for the full school Calendar -](#)

[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)

April

16th – Summer Rec Registration Night

17th – Early Out at 12:30

18th-21st – No School: Spring Break

28th - 7-12 Grade Band Concert

May

7th – Activities, Athletics & Fine Arts Banquet

9th - Elementary Music Program

13th - 7-12 Grade Choir Concert

23rd – End of 4th Quarter

24th – Graduation - 2:00

[2025 Spring Activities Calendar](#)

Keep up to date with all the spring activities schedules and changes due to weather

SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES

Aaron Cook



2025-2026 School Calendar

The 2025-2026 school calendar has been approved by the school board. A copy of the calendar can be found here - [2025-2026 School Year Calendar](#)

Lil Patriots Summer Program -

We will be providing a summer enrichment program again this summer. The program will operate Monday-Thursday in two six week sessions throughout the summer. The program will offer a morning and afternoon option, and there will continue to be a free lunch and breakfast. There will be more information available at summer rec registration night.

Operating Referendum

We will continue to update you on a potential need for an additional operating referendum. The school board will continue to have discussions, but it is more likely than not we will need to pursue an additional operating referendum this fall. Incoming revenues have not kept up with increased costs, and state funding has not kept pace with inflation for more than two decades. Many schools in the area are, or have recently been, in statutory operating debt. An additional operating referendum will allow the school to maintain current ratios, staffing, and other items.

Legislative Update

In early March Minnesota Management & Budget (MMB) released its revised budget forecast. The forecast shows a challenging outlook for the state's finances. The projected balance for FY 26-27 is \$456 million, which is \$160 million lower than estimates in November. The projected deficit for FY 28-29 has risen from \$5.15 billion in November to almost \$6 billion.

The state legislature uses this forecast to set its budget targets. The target for the Senate Education Finance Committee is zero in FY 26-27 and a reduction of \$687 million in FY 28-29. The target for the House Education Finance Committee is \$40 million in FY 26-27 and zero in FY 28-29.

What this tells us is, other than inflationary increases passed in law in 2023, there will be very little funding allocated to education for this budget cycle, putting further pressure on school districts budgets.

Proper Traffic Flow

I want to remind everyone of the proper traffic flow at the school. The school parking lot is a one way parking lot. Please refer to the yellow arrows on the graphic below for the correct flow.

As a reminder, the lane closest to the school is for school vehicles only. There should not be any vehicles, at any time of the day or year, that are not school vehicles in this area. Please refer to the lane with the red arrow on the diagram below.



Erskind: 218-687-2236
McIntosh: 218-563-2900
Fax Line: 218-563-2902

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Casey Reiersen



Spring is in full swing, and we're moving into a busy time of year! Here are a few important happenings:

MCA Testing

State testing is happening, so please help your child be at their best by ensuring they get plenty of sleep and eat a healthy breakfast. Encouragement and a positive mindset go a long way!

Summer Rec Sign-Up Night

Mark your calendars! Summer Rec sign-up night is scheduled for April 16th at 6:00 PM. This is a great opportunity for students to get involved in our WEM summer activities.

Outdoor Recess Reminder

As the weather changes, recess is now outdoors (unless it is raining). Please make sure your child dresses appropriately to stay warm and dry. Warm and dry conditions are on the way.. hopefully.

Northland Expo

Our 9th and 10th graders will be attending the Northland Expo this month, exploring career and educational opportunities.

Elementary Classroom Assignments

Classroom assignments for next year will be completed by the end of the school year.

Thank you to those who submitted requests!

High School Schedule Changes

We are making small adjustments to the high school schedule for next year to provide students with more elective opportunities.

Elementary Music Program

Our elementary school music program will take place on May 9th. The K-3 program will be held at 12:45 and our 4-6 program will follow at 2:00 pm. Please attend if you are able.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Our teachers go above and beyond every day to support our students, and we want to take time to recognize their hard work! Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5-9, so if you have a chance, please take a moment to thank our amazing educators. A kind word or note of appreciation means so much!

Substitutes & Paraprofessionals Needed

We are always looking for additional substitute teachers and paraprofessionals to support our students. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the school office!

Finish the Year Strong!

As we enter the final stretch of the school year, let's keep up the momentum. Encourage your children, support them in their learning, and let's make these last months count!

Thank you for your continued support. Go Patriots!

Casey Reiersen
Win-E-Mac Principal

DEAN OF STUDENT/AD NOTES



Brady Langemo

Spring Sports

The weather has not been the greatest to work with, which is true most springs, but all of our spring sports teams are practicing and most have already had a meet/game/competition or will be next week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the spring coaches for their flexibility in making sure everyone has a practice space, which is not always easy with golf, track, baseball, & softball indoors at times.

All School Play

Andrew Hanson will once again be directing an all school play this spring and this year he has an assistant director, Shannon Svalen. Unlike our One Act Play which has to follow strict MSHSL guidelines, this play allows for more parts, more elaborate scene changes, and no time limit! The all school play provides a real opportunity to develop and grow our theater department. We have students ranging from 6th grade - 12th grade performing in this play this year. Please come out and support them in their production of Frozen Jr. in the Win-E-Mac Arts & Event Center on April 25 at 7:00pm, April 26 at 3:00pm, and April 27 at 3:00pm.

Student Leadership Collaborative

On Thursday, April 17 ten Win-E-Mac students in grades 8-11 will be heading to Bemidji to take part in the Student Leadership Collaborative presented by Jostens Renaissance. Here they will learn about making a positive impact on school climate and culture. The hope is that by attending these events students can help promote a more positive change in the building, but also give them strategies to use as they get older and move on

from us at Win-E-Mac. This year's speaker at the event will be Dr. Phil "PC" Campbell.

Regional Drone Competition

From Monday, May 19 through Tuesday, May 20 Carter Fortman, Hayden Johnson, Austin Langseth, and Nathaniel Spry will be competing at the North Central Aerial Drone Competition Championships in Flint, MI. Students involved in the robotics program at Win-E-Mac also have been provided with opportunities to take part in the REC Foundations drone competitions at local levels. This team of sophomores scored high enough to move on to this culminating event at the regional level. Congrats and good luck to them on this exciting opportunity.

Spring Activities Pictures with Caulfield

Caulfield Studio will be here on the morning of April 17 to finish up pictures for all of our spring sports and activities. Forms should have gone home last week, but reach out to the main office if your child still needs one.

MSHSL Student Advisory & Leadership Team

Congratulations to Hayden Johnson for being chosen as a member of the MSHSL S.A.L.T advocacy group. Some of the intent of this program is to:

- provide student input to League staff and MSHSL Board of Directors
- Communicate needs and challenges facing today's student participants
- Collaborate with League staff to develop student leadership development opportunities

This is a big honor as only a certain number of students across the state are chosen to be members of this team.

Registration for 2025-2026 Activities

It seems too early to be talking about this, but registration for all sports & activities for next school year has already been scheduled. There will be some big changes to this event too, as author and coach Greg Berge will be coming to Win-E-Mac that evening as well to meet and talk with all of our coaching staff, and also meet with all 9th-12th grade student participants on Culture & Leadership. More info to come but please mark your calendars for July 28th. Starting at 5:00pm.