



Parent News from Woodbury Elementary

Main: 651-425-4600

Attendance: 651-425-4606

Website: wes.sowashco.org

School hours: 8:40 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

August 1, 2019

Dear Woodbury Elementary Families:

We hope you are having a wonderful summer and enjoying time with family and friends! Our staff is looking forward to seeing you at school this fall! This year, our doors will open to start the new school year to approximately 600 students in grades Pre-School through 5th grade. We are excited to have so many students returning and are eager to meet new students and their families who will be attending Woodbury Elementary for the first time!

This year we are excited to unveil our new theme: **Kindness Starts With Me!** Our anchor text, "Agate: What Good is a Moose?" will help us build our Hopes & Dreams this year, and it ties into our theme as we recognize the true beauty that lies within each of us. As we build relationships and promote kindness in our classrooms, we will continue to emphasize **The Wolverine Way**, pledging to have a **Positive Attitude, Act Responsibly, Work Hard, and Show Respect**. We will hold true to who we are to make WES a great place for staff, students and families!

**To help you prepare for the 2019-2020 school year,
we've outlined some of our most important information for you:**

Class Lists – Kindergarten through 5th grade class placements will be emailed by the end of the day on Monday, August 12th. If you do not receive an email, please call the main office at 651-425-4600. When creating class lists, the Woodbury Elementary staff carefully considered the variety of learning needs of children and worked hard to achieve balanced classes. In the spring, families were invited to provide input on a specific educational need for their child/ren. **Changes to class lists will not be made once they are established.** Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Kindergarten Luau: Wednesday, August 21st from 5:00-6:00 pm – Kindergarten classes will start on Tuesday, September 3rd. To help students transition from summer to school, we invite Kindergarten families to join us on the WES playground on Wednesday, August 21st from 5:00-6:00 pm. Students will get a chance to meet their teacher and other students in their class, and parents will receive important information for the coming year. We hope you can join us!

Assessment Days: August 26th and 27th – This August, K-5 teachers will be assessing students prior to the start of school. Assessments for students in all grades K-5 will be held on August 26th and 27th. When you receive your class placement email, you will also receive a link to sign up online for these assessments. All school supplies should be brought in on the assessment day/time you choose. You may also purchase lunches, buy assignment notebooks (grades 3-5), check the bus schedule, sign-up to be a Watch D.O.G. (Dad's on Guard), and learn about PTO and other opportunities. We will also have our 2019-2020 t-shirts available to order! If you have any difficulty signing up for a time, please contact the main office at 651-425-4600.

PTO Friends & Family Night at Woodbury Elementary: Wednesday, August 28 from 4:30-6:30 pm – This is an opportunity for all families to gather outside, reconnect with each other, and have some ice cream! PLEASE NOTE: All school supplies should be brought during the scheduled assessment time on August 26th or 27th. Classrooms will NOT be open during the PTO Friends & Family Night.

Curriculum Night: Thursday, September 19th from 4:30-6:30 pm – In lieu of our traditional Back to School Night, we will be hosting a curriculum night for families on September 19th. Grade levels will schedule time for you to come in and meet the team, learn about your child's day, and ask questions in a group format. Watch for more details to come soon!

Upcoming Dates:

- **August 21** – Kindergarten Luau, 5:00-6:00 pm
- **August 26 & 27** – K-5 Assessment Days, 7:30 am-3:30 pm *(Please bring school supplies to your scheduled assessment)*
- **August 28** – PTO Friends & Family Night, 4:30-6:30 pm
- **September 3** – First day of school for Grades K-5, 8:40 am-3:10 pm
- **September 9** – First day of school for Pre-K classes
- **September 19** – Curriculum Night, 4:30-6:30 pm

Daily School Schedule:

7:30 am - School office opens
8:25 am - School opens to students
8:40 am - School day begins
3:10 pm - School day ends
3:30 pm - School office closes
Pre-K – AM: 8:40-11:10 / PM 12:40-3:10

NOTE: The earliest students can arrive at school in the morning is **8:25 am**. All students must be picked up at **3:10pm** if not riding the bus home.

Woodbury Elementary Information:

School Website: <http://wes.sowashco.org>
District Website: www.sowashco.org
Woodbury Elementary: 651-425-4600
Woodbury Attendance Line: 651-425-4606
Woodbury Health Office: 651-425-4602
Woodbury Fax Number: 651-425-4615
Woodbury School Social Worker: 651-425-4624
Woodbury School Psychologist: 651-425-4604
District 833 Student Information: 651-425-6218
District 833 Student Transportation: 651-425-5303

School Supply List – The 2019-2020 School Supply List is posted on the [Woodbury Elementary website](#). Assignment Notebooks for grades 3-5 will be sold during the Assessment Days for \$5.00 (Cash or checks made out to “Woodbury Elementary PTO”).

New Items in the Building! – The district is in the process of installing a swipe card entrance at the kindergarten doors, new mats are being installed in the gyms this week, and lockers in the 1st/2nd grade hallway are coming in early August! Plus we have 385 new chairs! Thanks to PTO and our APEX Fundraiser, swings (including an accessible swing!) and a dome climber will be installed within the next six weeks.

Volunteers Needed During Kindergarten-2nd Grade Lunches (September 3-13) – We need adult volunteers to assist during Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade lunches in order to help our younger students successfully navigate the cafeteria during the first two weeks of school. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our Office Assistant, Mrs. Anne Howe at 651-425-4607 with the dates/times you are available between September 3-13 in addition to the grade level(s) you are interested in assisting. She will notify you of the specific lunch times at each grade level when you call. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Transportation Information for 2019-20 available on Infinite Campus' Parent Portal in August – Student bus route information will be accessible in Infinite Campus' Parent Portal around the third week of August, and families will be notified via email when it is available. Special Education students will continue to receive busing information via a phone call or email.

Parent Portal is a multi-use, secured system that improves communications between South Washington County Schools and parents. Parent Portal is an important resource for student contact information, report card grades, class schedules (when they are available), unofficial transcripts, lunch balances, student username and passwords, locker numbers and combinations, and access codes to sign up for School Café, FeePay and Schoology.

District 833 encourages families to be proactive and create a Parent Portal account before August to avoid any delay in receiving important information this fall. To create an account, please email your student's name, school grade and home address to ICSupport@sowashco.org. Once the information is verified, you will be sent login information. Please note, requests for new accounts may take up to 48 hours to process. Processing time could take as long as one week if the request is received in August. Requests will be processed Monday – Friday, during regular business hours. Please make sure to check your spam or junk folder if you do not see anything within 48 hours of registering – some email providers won't accept the ICSupport@sowashco.org as a trusted site.

For more information on Parent Portal [click here](#). To log in to Parent Portal [click here](#). **NOTE: We ask that you assist the Woodbury Elementary staff in making sure your child knows their bus assignment.** If you have any other questions regarding transportation, please call 651-425-5303. If you are dropping off or picking up your child, please follow Woodbury Elementary's “Airport Style” curbside pickup procedures. Thanks to everyone for helping keep our students safe!

Communication - Thursday Folders are sent home weekly with students to communicate school information. Additionally, we use Blackboard Connect to send weekly email updates. Please make sure that your email address(es) in Infinite Campus (Parent Portal) are up-to-date so you receive these emails. The *Woodbury Elementary Parent/Student Handbook* and the *ISD 833 Summary of Student Discipline Rights and Responsibilities Handbook* are available online. Please review and keep these items accessible throughout the school year. They contain a great deal of information that will assist your family.

Conferences – Families will be able to sign up for Parent-Teacher Conferences electronically early this fall. Families that choose not to sign up for electronic conferences will be assigned a conference date and time. The 2019-20 School Conferences will be held from 3:15-8:00 pm on the following dates:

Fall Conferences: Monday, November 4th **OR** Thursday, November 7th

Winter Conferences: Monday, March 2nd **OR** Thursday, March 5th

Meals – We will have PIN Number information available for families during our Assessment Days. Account balances from last year do carry over to this year. Elementary breakfast is available for \$1.30, lunch for \$2.65, and milk for \$.50. Breakfast for Kindergarten students continues to be free! If you are in need of assistance for meals, you can complete a free and reduced lunch application online: [click here](#). Menus can be accessed at: <https://www.schoolcafe.com/sowashco>

Visitors - All visitors, during school hours, must check in at our office prior to entering the instructional areas. This will help assist us in providing a safe environment for our school community.

Birthday Treats – It is a common practice to provide treats for the class in honor of a child's birthday, **however it is not expected**. Please note that the district follows a wellness policy. This policy encourages healthy snacks to follow the USDA's guidelines for Smart Snacks in Schools standards. ***PLEASE NOTE: cakes, cookie cakes and/or cupcakes are discouraged.*** If you choose to send in something in honor of your child's birthday, please consider an alternative birthday treat such as pencils or a book/game donated to the classroom. If you prefer to bring an edible treat, we suggest a healthy alternative and want you to be aware of the possibility of peanut-allergies and other food restrictions for classmates. Homemade items are **not allowed** to be dispersed. All treats should be store packaged items. Birthday "parties" are not given in the classroom and dispersing treats is expected to take minimal time away from classroom instruction. **In addition, teachers are not responsible for handing out birthday party invitations or sending email invites/RSVP reminders to the entire class.** Thank you for respecting these guidelines.

Staff Updates – We are welcoming over 575 students this year to Woodbury Elementary in grades PreK-5! We are also excited to announce a few changes within our building, as well as welcome new/returning staff members to Woodbury Elementary!

New staff 2019-20

Sam Johnson - 3's PreK
Aimee Mediger - 3's PreK
Lauren Bleyl - PreK
Jill Bradford - K
Kurt Alpers - 3
Mike Snyder - 3
Steve Mann – PE
Dawn Schuett – 0.2 Speech Pathologist
Carlos Myles - Cultural Liaison
Yasmin Garcia - AM Crossing Guard
Karla Edwards - PM Crossing Guard
Burt Hurst - Custodian

Returning Staff 2019-20

Laura Kjersgaard - Reading Corps
Ferd Schlapper - Math Corps
Hasan Yusuf - Cultural Liaison
Nicole Liffrig - PreK
Penny Doty – Resource
Nellie Morley - Music
Kristin Morgan - Interventionist
Stacey Burwick - Orchestra - Monday/Tuesday
Kim Bjerke - AM Crossing Guard
Kim Bjerke – EL and Lunch/Recess Para

We look forward to working with your family to provide an educational program that is exciting and rewarding. We hope that you and your children are looking forward to the 2019-2020 school year as much as we are! If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to call us at 651-425-4600.