



LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Elementary:

There are no words to accurately describe the last trimester of the 2019-2020 school year; however, we have many words to describe how our staff has stepped up and managed this new way of teaching with grace and by that I mean elegance!

Monday, May 4th marked 50 days of virtual learning! 50 days of completely changing the way we teach and do school! Our staff has cared for and advocated for our students! We have loved each of them from afar and have worked incredibly hard to make sure they found joy in learning over a screen! We have learned new technology platforms! We have remained close to our teams and leaned on each other to ensure every child has what he/she needs! We have reinvented how to celebrate each other and how to celebrate our students. We have had to figure out how to teach, parent, be a spouse and find a new rhythm in the middle of chaos! And we have done all of this and more with grace, creativity, a “Yes” attitude, and positivity!

These 50 days brought emotions of sadness through losses and joy in celebration of babies being born! We learned the importance of family and the meaning of time! We truly understood the words "finding peace in nature"! And we reinvented how to celebrate, mourn, care and love each other from afar! Through it all we learned what it means to be human - caring for each other and being connected to each other! At the elementary level, we say thank you!

As we close the school year, we have created fun and meaningful ways to connect with our students to celebrate their hard work, flexibility, patience, can do attitude, ability to adapt to change in this hard to understand pandemic world.

- Teachers have scheduled personalized conferences with each family to provide each student with feedback with participating in a virtual classroom and completing Distance Learning assignments at the level expected by their teachers.
- Grade 5 Recognition & Farewell will be done in great style! Decorated cars will arrive at each school's parking lot for a Drive In Program.
- Grades K-4 will also participate in an End of Year Celebration per their grade level or a school wide activities.

We send a heartfelt thank you to our ISD110 School Board members for your strong leadership, guidance, and care during these unprecedented times. We appreciate and acknowledge the long hours you are putting in to make wise decisions for our school community! Thank you!

Activities: www.waconiaathletics.com

Visit our activities website today to see the special announcements regarding our MSHSL and Athena award winners! The WHS 2020 ExCEL Awards winners are Juniors **Carrigan Dock and Bram Fitzsimonds**. The 2020 Triple "A" Award winners are Seniors **Payton Baumann and Brady Compaan** and the 2020 WHS Athena Award winner is **Sydney Shea**!! Congratulations to these incredible student participants! Well Done Wildcats!

Community Ed:

Community Education is still in a holding pattern with a lot of our activities. We are winding down with Distance Learning for our Preschool and ECFE programs. Kids' Company continues to care for children for Tier 1 and Tier 2 essential workers. We have been coming up with plans and ideas on how we can still hold some of our activities for this summer. Hoping to get more guidance soon on what will and won't be allowed for this summer.

Human Resources: Individual teaching contracts have been extended to five new teachers and applicant reviews and interviews are currently taking place for our available teaching positions. Our new teachers will begin their time with our school district during our New Faculty Orientation, which is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. Assuming that we're able to conduct our orientation in-person this year, it's tradition for our School Board members to join us for the 11:15 AM luncheon that day in the Waconia High School's New Commons. Please let Jessica Kilian know if you are available to attend.

Exit interviews are being scheduled with our School District's retiring employees and a summary of their responses will be reported to the School Board this summer. Our retirees consistently talk about how proud they are of our School District and its commitment to educating students. When asked how they're going to remember our School District, the most common answer is always "fondly!" They express thanks for the opportunities they have been provided over their many years of employment and for the wonderful friendships they have made within our ISD One10 team.

Student Services:

Special education staff and ESPs continue to successfully implement the Individual Distance Learning Plans (IDLPs), and modify them as necessary. The end of the year finish line is in sight however this can also be a stressful time, especially at the high school level as students attempt to earn credits. Though the credit component weighs on case managers at the high school, all special education staff have a lot to do with the remaining weeks. They will continue to provide great service to our students and support families in distance learning. They will also conduct IEP meetings, complete grading requirements, complete progress reports based on the IDLPs, and tie up any loose ends in paperwork. All the while doing these tasks juggling their own unique home situations. They have bravely walked into a new way of doing business, just like so many of community members. ESPs continue to do great work on a daily basis. They

go above and beyond in their support of students. At the end of May the ESPs will receive their letter of assignment for the 20-21 school year. I know they are all hoping we return in person school.

Finally, at this time of year special education staff are finalizing the details for Extended School Year (ESY). ESY are services during the summer typically for students on IEPs that meet certain criteria. These services are almost always provided in an in person format. I am pleased to get some direction from the Department of Education. Per the guidance from MDE “[UPDATED 5/5/20] **“Pending further MDE guidance, the ESY services will be delivered through a distance learning delivery model.”**” Therefore, District 110 ESY services will be implemented in a distance learning model. Case managers will now be communicating with families about the move to distance learning for ESY. This impacts between 100 and 150 students.

Superintendent:

Happy staff appreciation week!

It’s been a great week to recognize the BEST....our ONE10 Staff!! It has been a year to remember with some incredible challenges and yet, through it all, our ONE10 staff stood tall and has continued to deliver a wonderful education for all our students. I want to say Thank You for all that you do of our students, parents, community and each other. The ONE10 staff is amazing. I am so proud of all the excellent work that happens every day at Waconia Public Schools. Thank YOU!!

This week is also National Nurse Week and we want to recognize our amazing employees who work with our health services at ONE10. This group is among the most caring that you will meet. They do so much to keep all of us at ONE10 healthy. With the current pandemic happening, the following have continued to be there for all of us.

Thanks for all you do and are doing. You are the BEST!

Please find a way to say thanks to the following:

Sara Eischens, RN, PHN, LSN

Whitney Thulin-Esler, LPN

Cindy Van Kirk, RN, LSN

Vicki Sorensen, LPN

Kathleen Schultz, RN, LSN

Marissa Clark, LPN

Jodi Anderson, RN

Rachel Muchow, LPN

Angela Klym, RN

At Monday night's school board meeting we will be recognizing the following retirees:

Janet Malotky, 9 years

Karen Cardinal, 17 years

Angel Perez Chihuahua, 13 years

Cheri Parkinson, 17 years

Becky Musich, 14 years

Joanne Bongard, 26 years

Cindy Solheim, 15 years

Beth Gerritsen, 29 years

Lisa Sauer, 32 years
Cyndi Mayer, 31 years
Lisa Goede, 34 years

Brenda Grams, 35 years
Mavis Mathistad, 35 years

Together this group has over 300 years of service, dedication and commitment to ISD ONE10. Their compassion and care for students and all those at ONE10 has been amazing and they will be dearly missed. They have made such an impact on so many people and will always be remembered. A Big Thanks for all that they have done at Waconia Public Schools. We wish you the best in retirement.

Our ONE10 Student Representatives to the School Board Quinn Wambeke and Chasey Wedge have had quite the school year. We are so appreciative for the commitment they have given as a student rep to the school board. We wish them well as they finish the school year and pursue their next step in life. They have done a wonderful job representing ISD ONE10!

MDE provided Graduation Guidelines on Friday, 5/8/20. With this information each building will be working out a plan to stay in compliance with the guidelines, yet find a way to celebrate our student's achievements the best we can. More information to follow.

Our ONE10 Distance Learning Grading Protocols are set. On Monday night the school board will be asked to approve our new grading protocols during distance learning. There has been a lot of conversation from staff, admin, parents and school board to come up with these protocols for grading. The MDE guidelines have influenced our outcome in a positive way. The purpose of the new grading protocols are described in the document that will be presented at the school board meeting and then posted on our website. Thanks to all those that have given input in creating this new protocol.

A Big Thanks to All for your continued great work with Distance Learning and all the care and support you are providing to students and families!!

**ISD110: WEEKLY CAMPAIGNS
WE are ONE10 STRONG!**

Connecting From Afar and In It Together!

You can upload your photos and/or brief videos to: [Submit your photo/video Form](#)

MAY 11 - 15, 2020

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK

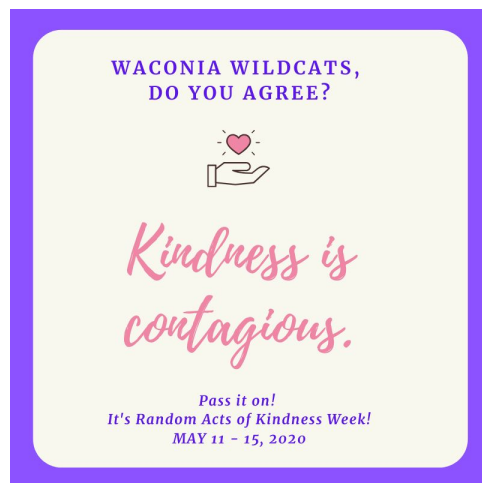
As Sarah Urtel of Ridgeview and a volunteer for All's Well, said, "I would encourage all of us to try something. It doesn't have to be a grandiose gesture, sometimes the simplest thing can make a meaningful impact."

Link: [May 13 - ISD 110 Annual Random Act of Kindness Day](#)

This is a great time to brighten someone's day. As my Best Special Sister Ann Devine would say...."I like it".

Enjoy bringing joy to someone in a random way next week.

Pat Devine



Have a Wonderful Weekend!
Happy Mother's Day!
WE Are ONE10!!