

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



SUPERINTENDENT FAMILY BULLETIN JANUARY 22, 2023

GREETING

Hey, Bobcats! We are officially mid-way through the 2022-2023 school year! I am proud of the efforts and achievements of our students, staff, families, and community. Our students and staff continue to put forth great effort in maintaining not only a safe and respectful learning environment that focuses on academic rigor, but also an awareness of student and adult social-emotional wellbeing. Our families and community continue to support this environment by closely monitoring their child's mental health and providing much needed support and guidance in their daily life. The pandemic brought about a great deal of stress for students, adults, and communities, but we continue to remember that we are all on the same team. We want what is best for all our children. We are better together - We are Whiteford!

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION MONTH

January is School Board Member Recognition Month across the state of Michigan! At Whiteford Agricultural Schools, we are grateful for our seven Trustees who dedicate their time and energy to serve students, staff, and families. School board members are Trustees, responsible for a trust established by the community. The most important beneficiaries of this trust are the public school students within our learning community. Thank you to our school board members: Christine Bischoff (President), Dave Dixon (Vice President), Mike Iott (Secretary), Shane Hillard (Treasurer), Kristi Mock, Janelle Young, and Jeff Bunge. We are thankful for their ongoing commitment to the Whiteford Agricultural School District. Information regarding our Board of Education: <https://www.whiteford.k12.mi.us/board-of-education/>

JANUARY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Organizational and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 12. Here are a few highlights of that meeting:

1. Mr. Ken Groch was recognized as the December Staff Member of the Month. Leski Wittman Insurance sponsors the Staff Member of the Month by presenting the staff member with a gift card.
2. The Board Members were recognized for their service to the students, staff, and families of the district. The Board Members were given a certificate of appreciation, a jar of local honey donated by the Drescher Family, and our FFA donated a gift certificate to be used in the school greenhouse this spring!
3. The Nutrition Group, our food service provider, provided a monthly presentation highlighting some of the exciting and interesting things happening in the world of food service. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).
4. In new business, Monica Adams was approved to serve on the Monroe County ISD Parent Advisory Committee for a two-year term.

STUDENT ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL SAFETY

As you may be aware, part of our Bond Series work addresses student and staff arrival and dismissal as we create a new bus loop for dropping off and picking up students. This loop will help alleviate some of our current arrival and dismissal safety concerns with congestion and traffic patterns. Until that work is completed, we are asking families for some help in providing a safer arrival/dismissal process. First, we ask all adults and student drivers to please show kindness, patience, and to be conscious of students or staff walking in the parking lots or crosswalks. Yielding to another vehicle or person is always appreciated in an effort to maintain the safety of all. For arrival, please plan on leaving the house a bit earlier to drop off your child at the school between 7:45-7:55am. At dismissal, our middle/high school students dismiss at 2:55pm, and our student drivers and adults picking up a child are typically leaving the parking lot by 3:00pm. **For elementary student pick up, we are asking parents/guardians to please arrive after 3:00pm and closer to 3:10pm to pick up your child.** Elementary dismissal is 3:10pm, and having those parents/guardians arrive after 3:00pm will alleviate congestion in an already limited parking lot. Thank you for helping to be the change and provide a safe environment for our learning community!

COMMUNICATION OF CONCERNS

If a concern or problem arises, it is important that the proper lines of communication are followed. Concerns regarding your child and their educational or athletic experience should be expressed directly with the staff member or coach that it most closely involves and should occur at an appropriate time, place, and with a professional tone. For our older students and athletes, we encourage them to self-advocate with the appropriate staff member or coach. Self-advocacy allows our students and athletes to speak up for themselves, make their own decisions, problem-solve, and develop self-determination. If the student or athlete needs support from a parent/guardian after speaking with a staff member or coach, then the parent should contact the staff member or coach to set up a date, time, and location for a meeting with the student or athlete as appropriate. This provides a process whereby staff members and coaches closest to the situation have an opportunity to understand the student/parent concern, share information that might be helpful to the student/parent understanding, and collaboratively determine next steps towards a solution. In all situations, it is important to presume positive intentions and have an attitude of seeking to understand the situation from both sides. If this meeting does not produce a satisfactory resolution, then the principal or athletic director should be contacted to discuss the situation. If not resolved, then the superintendent can be contacted for further discussion and support. For student-athletes, the following brochure is helpful in understanding [How to Support Your Student-Athlete](#).

FEBRUARY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is February 13, 2023. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the Bobcat Den located in the MS/HS. The Board of Education Agendas & Minutes can be found here: [BOE Agenda & Minutes](#).

SCHOOL DELAYS / CLOSINGS

School closing or delay announcements will be sent via the Infinite Campus Messenger systems and announced on the following television stations: Channel 11 (CBS) and Channel 13 (ABC). Announcements should occur no later than 7am. Parents and students are asked NOT to call the school or school officials. When school is delayed due to fog/snow/ice or other emergency conditions, it will be delayed for a minimum of two (2) hours.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS

<https://whiteford.nutrislice.com/menu>

SCHOOL CALENDARS

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

THIS WEEK

January 22	MS Girls Basketball at Sand Creek 5pm
January 23	Varsity/JV Girls Basketball vs Summerfield 5:30pm
January 23	Varsity/JV Boys Basketball at Summerfield 5:30pm
January 26	Varsity/JV Girls Basketball at Adrian Madison 5:30pm
January 26	Varsity/JV Boys Basketball at Erie Mason 5:30pm
January 28	Competitive Cheer at Clinton Invitational 10am
January 28	Varsity/JV Girls Basketball at Cardinal Stritch 12pm
January 28	Varsity/JV Boys Basketball vs Clinton at Lourdes 3pm

NEXT WEEK

January 30	MS Girls Basketball at Erie Mason 5pm
January 31	Varsity/JV Boys Basketball vs Adrian Madison 5:30pm
January 31	2022/2023 District/State Honors Choir Participants Recognition (Half-Time) approx. 7:30pm
January 31	Varsity/JV Girls Basketball at Dundee 5:30pm
January 31	Girl Scouts Informational Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
February 1	MS Girls Basketball at Summerfield 5pm
February 2	Varsity/JV Girls Basketball vs Morenci 5:30pm
February 3	Varsity/JV Boys Basketball vs Britton Deerfield 5:30pm
February 4	Competitive Cheer at Grosse Ile 1pm
February 4	Ensemble Festival Performance 8pm

UPCOMING

February 8	Count Day
February 13	Board of Education Meeting 6pm Bobcat Den
February 13-17	Winterfest Week
February 17	Half-Day Early Release MS/HS 11am, Elementary 11:10am
February 17	Teacher Professional Development 12-3pm
February 17	Hall of Fame Honorees/Winter Homecoming (Half-Time) approx. 7:30pm
February 18	Miss Whiteford Winter Homecoming Dance 7pm High School Gymnasium
February 20	No School-Presidents Day
February 21	Half-Day Early Release MS/HS 11am, Elementary 11:10am
February 21	Teacher Professional Development 12-3pm
February 21	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7pm
February 21	Whiteford Parent Association (WPA) Mtg 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
February 24	2022 FFA Nationals/2023 FFA State Participants Recognition (Half-Time) approx. 7:30pm
March 2	District Band Festival TBD
March 2-4	Robotics Competition TBD
March 9	District Band Festival TBD
March 9-11	Robotics Competition TBD
March 12	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 13	Board of Education Meeting 6pm Bobcat Den

We are better together - We are Whiteford!



Scott L. Huard, ED.S.
Superintendent

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