

Superintendent Family Bulletin January 23, 2022

GREETING

As I reflect on the first half of the 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(ren)'s health and providing much needed support and guidance in their daily lives.

For many communities, the pandemic has brought about divisiveness that has pitted neighbors and friends against each other. At Whiteford, I am most proud of how everyone approaches various differences of opinions or beliefs by respectfully sharing in an open-minded conversation. The pandemic has brought about a great deal of stress to students, adults, and communities, but we continue to remember that we are all on the same team. We want what is best for our children. We are better together - We are Whiteford!

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Our last Strategic Plan was developed in 2017, so it is time again to consider the future focus of the Whiteford Agricultural School District. School districts today are challenged to do more than ever before with scarce resources, so planning for the future is more important than ever. We have partnered with the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) to help facilitate the development of our new Strategic Plan. MASB's Data-Based Strategic Planning Process will address three key questions for our district:

- 1. Where is the District now?
- 2. Where is the District going?
- 3. How will the District get there?

Data-Based Strategic Planning establishes priorities, focuses energy and resources, strengthens operations, and ensures all stakeholders are working toward the achievement of common goals for the District. There will be more information shared in the coming weeks about how you can be involved in the process. Here is our Strategic Planning Timeline:

- 1. Stakeholder Surveys Mid-January through Early-February
- 2. Stakeholder In-Person Listening Sessions Thursday, February 24, 2022
- 3. Retreat Saturday, March 5, 2022
- 4. Implementation Workshop Tuesday, March 15, 2022

STRATEGIC PLANNING STAKEHOLDER SURVEY

On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you for sharing your perspective on several topics critical to the development of the District's next strategic plan. The survey is being administered by the MASB Leadership Development team on behalf of the District and takes about ten minutes to complete.

Anonymous individual responses like yours will be combined with those from other stakeholders to provide important community input to the Board of Education and the strategic planning team as it seeks to identify the vision and the means by which to accomplish that vision. Consolidated results will be reported publicly. Please note responses that contain the names of individuals and/or foul language will be deleted. ALL responses are sent directly to our MASB Facilitator, Scott Morrell, and not the district Board of Education, Superintendent, or any school employee. Please share your honest feedback: Whiteford Agricultural Schools 2022 Strategic Plan

COVID CDC/MDHHS NEW GUIDANCE

As COVID positive or close contacts are reported, we continue to communicate with each family or staff member about the details of a safe return to school timeline. We continue to follow the CDC and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) guidance with COVID-19 positive and close contacts. You can access this information: <u>COVID</u> <u>CDC/MDHHS New Guidance 1/13/22</u>

SENIOR FAMILIES

Please order your child's cap and gown online by March 1st. Please have your child check the Class of 2022 Schoology page for the ordering link. Please contact Mr. or Mrs. DeSilvis with questions you may have.

THE NUTRITION GROUP (from Jessica Anzelone-TNG Managing Director, Nancy Kohl-TNG President)

We know it's been challenging recently. As the pandemic continues to evolve, we're doing everything we can to keep our students, staff, teachers, and administrators safe and healthy while providing the same delicious foods your child/children love.

Since the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year, we've served over 43 million meals. Whether it was cafeteria breakfast and lunches or take-home meals, we're incredibly proud of our team members and their steadfast dedication to making sure every child has access to healthy and delicious meals.

Now more than ever, we appreciate your understanding in light of the food supply chain challenges we continue to face. Staffing and labor shortages, rising costs of material and transportation, and distribution hiccups are just a few of the ongoing disruptions that continue to affect the foodservice industry. As a result, menu options often change on short notice. But let's be clear - there is no shortage of food.

We're committed to working tirelessly to provide high-quality, nutritious, healthy, and well-balanced meals to all students. Your and your child/children's well-being has always been our highest priority. Our simple mission continues to shine through every aspect of our business: Caring for People. Serving Great Food.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Education meeting is February 7, 2022. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:15pm in the MS/HS Media Center.

COVID-19 DASHBOARD AND GRAPHS

We are working on updating our website with the most relevant and accurate information regarding COVID. From the main page, you can access the COVID tab, and you will be able to find information related to COVID. We provide the <u>COVID-19 DASHBOARD</u> and <u>COVID-19 DATA GRAPHS</u> to show school data.

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 CALENDAR 2021-2022 School Calendar 2022-2023 School Calendar

THIS WEEK

January 25	JV/Varsity Boys' Basketball vs Summerfield 5:30pm
January 25	JV/Varsity Girls' Basketball at Summerfield 5:30pm
January 26	Report Cards Sent Home (Elementary)

January 27	JV/Varsity Girls' Basketball vs Adrian Madison 5:30pm
January 28	JV/Varsity Boys' Basketball vs Erie Mason 5:30pm
January 29	JV/Varsity Girls' Basketball vs Cardinal Stritch 11am

UPCOMING

February 1	Whiteford Recreation Club Meeting 7pm HS Media Center
February 4	Winter Homecoming (Boys' Basketball Games) 5:30pm
February 5	Miss Whiteford Homecoming Dance 7-9:30pm HS Gymnasium
February 15	Whiteford Parent Association (WPA) Meeting 8am Elementary Cafeteria
February 21	President's Day - No School
February 22	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4-7pm
February 22	American Red Cross Blood Drive 2-7pm Elementary Cafeteria

We are better together - We are Whiteford!

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Scott L. Huard, Superintendent scott.huard@whiteford.k12.mi.us 734-856-1443 Ext. 101