

WEST DE PERE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024



MR. MARSDEN'S MESSAGE

Mr. Scott Marsden, Principal

Happy New Year Intermediate School families!

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and that you had a very Happy New Year!

The new year always feels like a fresh start whether it be for a new goal, a new experience, or a reinvigorated goal. So, do we have any big goals for the new year? No, but we are continuing to work on the goals we do have. Our goals are these:

- To make the Intermediate School a safe place for students to come and learn
- To give each student an opportunity for academic success
- To prepare each student with the tools needed to be ready for the Middle School and beyond
- To teach the students at the Intermediate School how to be productive citizens using the Phantom Phundamentals
- To make the Intermediate School a fun place to learn and work

The great thing about this time of year at school is that the biggest learning gains take place. We've gotten through the beginning of the year when we are just learning and finding our way. We've gotten through the difficulty of trying to learn during the holiday season. Now is the time when we settle in and put all that we have learned in the past to help us understand the new content presented to us. Be prepared for your child to come home with their brains oozing with new information and unlocked potential!

We are very excited to get back to work!
- Mr. Scott Marsden

IMPORTANT DATES

NO SCHOOL

January 1st

WDP 5-8 PTO Meeting

Jan. 9th, 6:30 PM @ WDPIS

DISTRICT SPELLING BEE

Jan. 12th, 9:00 AM @ WDP Middle

NO SCHOOL

Jan. 15th

END OF SEMESTER 1

Jan. 22nd

START OF SEMESTER 2

Jan. 23rd

SPELLING BEE

Classroom spelling bees were held in November to elect two students from each homeroom to compete in the grade level bees on December 11. From the grade levels bees, the following students earned the chance to move on to the District Bee on January 12 at the Middle School:

- Sixth graders Ava W., Saransh G., Sanjith D., and Jack P.
- Fifth graders: Ryan R., Ryan S., Nessa M., Avnitha G., and Brady N.

Congratulations to our winners, as well as all spellers who competed in all of the bees schoolwide!



CULTURAL DANCE PERFORMANCES

Students learned about the influence of dance in different cultures during Physical Education class in December. We had several of our own students present and perform dances including Bollywood, Native American Traditional Dance, and Hmong cultural dance. We are always looking to add to our cultural presentation and performances. If your student or someone you know participates in cultural dance please reach out to Mrs. Lozar or Mr. Zornow so we can keep increasing the variety of cultures being taught.



PHANTOM PHUNDAMENTALS

COMPASSION

Phantom Phundamentals are character traits we work to instill and celebrate in our Intermediate School students. Each month, we spend time focusing on a different Phundamental, with the hope of helping our students to develop and recognize that trait in both themselves and others.

COMPASSION was our Phantom Phundamental for the month of December. Compassion as we discussed it means showing kindness and consideration to others. Some ways we learned that we can show compassion at home centered around doing something considerate for another member of the family. For example, offering to do chores, spending time reading books with a sibling, cleaning part of the house without being asked, and leaving kindness notes around the home for family members were all great ways to show compassion at home. At school we learned we can show compassion by focusing on and including others by inviting classmates to play a game at recess, asking someone new to eat lunch with us, holding the door for someone, and looking out for general opportunities to help someone.

Our student council this past month held a pajama drive and collected 108 pairs of pajamas to be donated to Golden House. Furthermore, our Compliment Club was recognized at the December School Board meeting for their contributions in spreading kindness at the Intermediate School. These students and their actions personify what compassion is and should be!

Our Phundamental for the month of January will be UNITY.

- Mr. Chuck Brehm, Associate Principal

SEMESTER RELATED ARTS CHANGES



While the majority of our classes run on a trimester schedule, a few of our related arts classes run on a semester schedule. Students currently taking S.T.E.M. class will be wrapping up this class on Monday, January 22nd, and will begin taking art class on January 23rd for the remainder of the school year. If a student is currently in art, they will begin S.T.E.M. this month. Sixth-grade students will also begin a new foreign language in the second semester. Students currently taking Spanish will switch to French class and vice versa. We are excited for our students to experience these new areas of study. Families can find first semester grades for these related arts classes reported out in the trimester 2 report cards. Grades for the second semester will be reported in the trimester 3 report cards.

VISITOR AND VOLUNTEER INFO

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer support is appreciated and encouraged. School-wide opportunities are distributed through the office and classroom support is solicited through the individual teachers. For safety reasons, anyone requesting to volunteer within the school must complete a Background Check Application, two weeks prior to the event and be approved prior to volunteering, unless previously approved. Requirements of volunteers vary based on the duties and interactions with students. [Click here](#) to visit the school website for more information about volunteering



VISITORS

All visitors and volunteers are required to check in with the school office. Visitors will be asked to identify themselves and state the purpose of their visit before they will be permitted to enter the building. Upon entry, visitors must sign the Visitor/Volunteer book and receive an orange visitor badge to wear during their stay. If you come in during the day to drop off a project or a treat, we will be happy to have your child come to the office to pick it up. We keep disruptions to a minimum to ensure that students are able to focus on academic learning time.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Are you on Facebook? If so, be sure to follow the West De Pere Intermediate School account! Our video announcements are posted daily, so you'll always be kept up to date on school events and other important reminders. We also regularly post pictures and videos of the great things happening with our students and teachers. Our account profile is pictured to the right to help you find it. [Come connect with us today!](#)



West De Pere Intermediate School

5th and 6th Grade Intermediate School located in De Pere, WI.

LIBRARY NEWS



BEANSTACK READING APP

At the end of December, students were introduced to the Beanstack reading app. This app has a variety of features that encourage and support reading in our school. Students can use the app to track their reading, connect with other readers in our school, as well as participate in reading challenges. Fifth graders are invited to participate in the Genre Bingo Challenge and sixth graders are encouraged to try the Ravenous Reader Challenge. At the conclusion of each challenge, three grand prizes will be awarded per grade level. Prizes include a brand-new book, a personalized water bottle, and a restaurant lunch delivered to school! Happy reading, students!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/ PHONE NUMBER

Please make sure your address and telephone numbers are up to date in the school office. If your phone number or address has changed, please call the school office at (920) 425-1901 to update this information. If you are moving out of the West De Pere school district but wish to have your child remain at the Intermediate School for the school year, please call the office.

STUDENT FEES FOR 2023-2024

School fees are as follows:

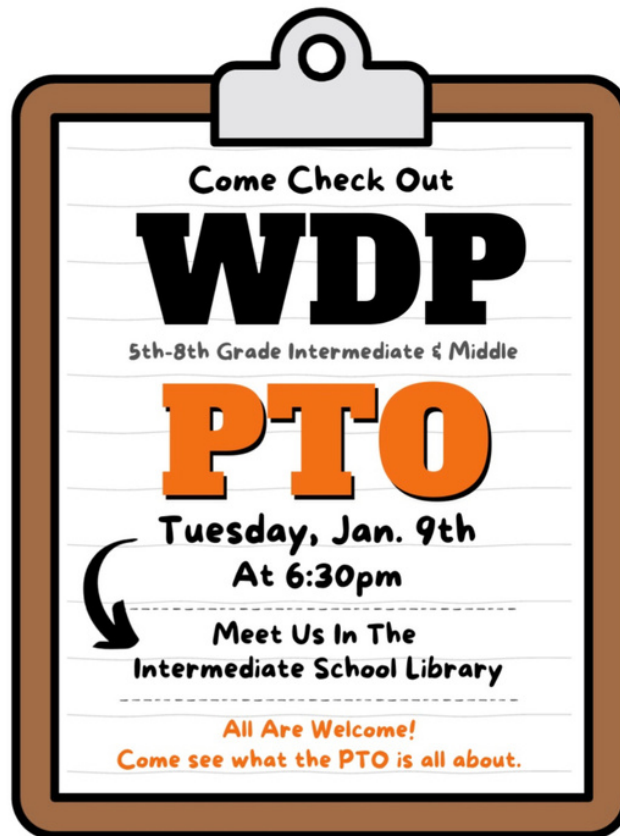
Identification Card - \$3.00

5th & 6th Grade School Fee - \$30.00

Technology Fee - \$20.00

You may now pay school fees online! Simply click on the \$ at the top of the district website. [Click here](#) for the 23-24 school fee waiver form.

WDP 5-9 PTO



2023-2024 MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

2/13, 6:30 PM @ MS
3/12, 6:30 PM @ IS

4/9, 6:30 PM @ MS
5/14, 6:30 PM @ IS

President - Wendy Schaub, **Vice President** - Nicole Hewitt, **Secretary** - Liz Charles, **Treasurer** - Evelyn Ceesay

[CLICK HERE](#) to find the PTO page on our district website!

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:25 AM - Breakfast & morning supervision begins

7:40 AM - First bell rings and students enter the building

7:45 AM - Instruction begins

2:50 PM - Final dismissal bell rings

**On early dismissal days, the bell rings at 11:10 AM.*

SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



Battle of the Books kicked off in December for 5th grade readers. After spending the last few months reading the 20 books on this year's elementary list, it is great to see the students showing off their book knowledge! Teams go head-to-head answering questions about which book an event happened in. They get an additional point if they can name the book's author, as well. Our 6th grade teams will begin their battles in January. We'll narrow it down to a winning team from each grade and then those top teams will battle to determine our school champion. The top team from each grade will also get to battle our teacher teams!

FORENSICS

Forensics has started up again for this school year. Students involved have chosen their events which include Readers Theater, Play Acting, News Reporting, and Non-original Oratory. They will practice throughout the month of January to prepare for the first meet on February 8th in Pulaski. We are excited to see how these students grow and hone their communication skills through their involvement in this club!



STUDENT COUNCIL

Student council was able to give 108 pairs of pajamas to Golden House in Green Bay, WI. It was amazing to meet with the representative from Golden House and hear about the impact of this donation.



FRENCH CLUB



The French Club met after school on Thursday, December 14 for the French Club holiday party! Students enjoyed bûche de Noël (traditional French Christmas cake), sang and listened to French carols, learned about French holiday traditions, played a Kahoot, and made ornaments. January's event will be French movie night; students will watch the French movie A Monster in Paris. This event will be held on Thursday, January 18 from 2:55-4:30 p.m. at the Middle School. Students who need a ride home should plan to have their ride pick them up from the Circle Drive in front of the Middle School at 4:30 p.m.