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## A Note from Our Principal

Dear Van Hise Families:

Our staff and students sure had fun starting off our new year and we are in the groove of school once again! We have had our Open House and Pizza Party in September to ring in our new year, which was a great time for our learning community to come together and understand our children's school experience.

As you may have noticed if you have been to our school lately, we have 2 new doorways on Segoe and Waukesha entry ways. These new doors will accommodate the security system that our school district is installing in September for Van Hise Elementary and Hamilton Middle Schools. Please read the information about the security system that is included in this newsletter.

Speaking about safety, we do take time to practice a number of drills to ensure that if an emergency arises, we are all prepared to stay safe. In September, we practiced an evacuation drill to the neighborhood church on the corner. Once a year we practice how to walk quietly and safely to our evacuation place in case we would need to leave the building. We will also be practicing a "Code Red Lock Down" later as well. Although these are seldom needed, it is important for students to have practiced how to be safe in case of an emergency.

In addition, you know by now that on Mondays, our students will be released from school at 1:50 to accommodate Hamilton's early release. This small step has made the dismissal time much safer. If you have any questions about this change in release time, don't hesitate to email me.

During the first few weeks of school, I visit every classroom and talk to our students about our Above the Line system for behaving in a way that promotes learning, belonging, responsibility and safety at Van Hise. We have 4 key rules for being above the line:

- Be a Learner
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe.

(Continued)

Essentially, our system engages children to use their power of choice making for the good of our community, as well as for their own well-being. When a student makes a poor choice, we talk about it being “below the line”, and have the student work with an adult to “fix it up”. Sometimes your child might bring home a “fix-it plan” that you sign and return to school. Other times we use dialogue with the child to take them through the process of fixing it up. Either way, the process is restorative, with the goal being that students learn from their mistake and are once again available for learning. There are also behaviors that are “bottom line” and will result in a more serious consequence that usually includes suspension from school. These behaviors include bringing weapons (real or fake), drugs/alcohol to school. Our school community also expects that fighting, bullying or bomb threats not occur at all. We also discussed the concept of “reporting” when you witness or experience below or bottom line behavior. Please take some time to talk with your child about their understanding about being Above the Line.

I want to remind families about our city ordinance that restricts dogs/pets from school grounds. Please do not bring your dogs onto the playground and school areas. Some families walk with their dogs and children to and from school, which is great (I’m a dog owner myself). However, you must stay on city property (the sidewalks on Segoe and Waukesha).

I would like to share my appreciation for parents who are following the drop off and pick up policy while driving to and from school. **Please remember that our children should not be on the playground before 8:15 a.m.**, as we do not have supervision before that time. As our children transition into the swing of school, I want to also thank you for helping our children by making bedtime and morning routines a priority, and assuring that kids have breakfast before leaving home or that they get breakfast at school. These things are just a few of the things you do to set up your child(ren) for success at Van Hise Elementary.

The end of October also marks the time we start preparing for the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE). You will be receiving more information about this assessment period as the time approaches. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade participate in this testing process. If you have questions about this exam, please feel free to send me an email.

The children are settled in and working hard at their studies each day, and we are seeing a great deal of engagement and possibility. Please know that if you have concerns regarding your child’s learning in the classroom, it is appropriate to first talk with their teacher(s). Together you can learn more about what is happening and problem solve how to ensure that your child is engaged and learning successfully. If you still have concerns, the second step is to request a meeting with the teacher and me. Our goal is for all of us to work together to help each child succeed. It is important to establish solid communication with the classroom teacher in order for this to happen.

It sure has been a warm start of the school year – but as we begin to get more fall type weather, please make sure students have appropriate outer wear. It’s not too soon to check the closet to be sure kids have gloves, hats, boots, and warm clothing. Let’s enjoy the fall season together with our children!

Sincerely,

Peg Keeler, Principal  
[mkeeler@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:mkeeler@madison.k12.wi.us)

Estimadas familias de Van Hise:

¡Nos hemos divertido mucho junto con nuestros estudiantes el comienzo de nuestro nuevo año! Hemos tenido nuestro 'Open House' y Pizza Party en septiembre para comenzar el nuevo año escolar. Fue un gran momento para nuestra comunidad reunirnos y compartir la experiencia de nuestros hijos en la escuela.

Como se habrán dado cuenta si han estado en nuestra escuela, últimamente, tenemos dos nuevas puertas en Segoe y la entrada de Waukesha. Estas nuevas puertas acomodara el sistema de seguridad nuevo que nuestro distrito escolar esta instalando en Van Hise y Hamilton. Por favor, lea la información sobre el sistema de seguridad que se incluye en este boletín.

Hablando de seguridad, nos aseguramos que nosotros practiquemos métodos de estar seguros en caso de que surga alguna emergencia ya estamos preparados. En septiembre, practicamos una evacuación y caminamos a la iglesia en de la esquina. Una vez al año practicamos caminar callados y seguros a nuestro lugar de evacuación en caso de que tengamos que salir de la escuela. También practicaremos "Código Rojo" mas adelante. Aunque es raro que estuviéramos en una situación como esta, es importante que los niños practiquen y se sientan seguros en casos de emergencias.

Como ya saben, lunes es el día en que salen temprano los niños. La hora de salida es la 1:50 para acomodar de que los jóvenes de Hamilton salgan sin tener problemas. Este cambio ha hecho que la hora de salida sea mas seguro. Si tiene alguna pregunta por favor contácteme.

Durante las primeras semanas de clases, visite cada una de los salones y hable con nuestros estudiantes acerca de nuestro sistema de estar por encima de la línea y de como comportarse de una manera que promueve el aprendizaje, responsabilidad y seguridad en Van Hise. Contamos con 4 normas clave para estar por encima de la línea:

- Ser un estudiante
- Ser respetuoso
- Ser responsable
- Estar seguros

Básicamente, nuestro sistema integra a los niños a usar su poder de decisiones para el bien de nuestra comunidad, así como para su propio bienestar. Cuando un estudiante hace una mala decisión, hablamos de estar "por debajo de la línea", y con un adulto "arreglarlo". A veces, su hijo podría traer a casa un "plan de arreglo" que usted firme y regrese a la escuela. Otras veces utilizamos el diálogo con los niños y llevarlos a través del proceso de arreglo. De cualquier manera, el proceso es de restauración, con el objetivo de que los estudiantes aprendan de sus errores y vuelva a estar disponible para el aprendizaje. También hay conductas que son "resultado final" y significara en una consecuencia más grave que generalmente incluye la suspensión de la escuela. Estos comportamientos incluyen traer armas (verdaderos o falsos), drogas/alcohol a la escuela. Nuestra comunidad escolar también espera que las peleas, la intimidación o amenazas de bomba que simplemente no ocurran.

También hablamos sobre el concepto de "información" cuando es testigo de una experiencia 'debajo de la línea'. Por favor tome el tiempo para hablar con su hijo/a acerca de su comprensión acerca de estar 'encima de la línea'.

Quiero recordar a las familias acerca de las reglas de la ciudad que restringe perros y mascotas en propiedad de la escuela. Por favor no traer perros a los patios de recreo y las zonas escolares. Algunas familias caminan con sus perros y niños a la escuela, lo cual es estupendo (también tengo perros). Sin embargo, usted debe permanecer en propiedad municipal (las aceras de Segoe y Waukesha).

Me gustaría compartir mi agradecimiento a los padres que están siguiendo la póliza de dejar y recoger los niños en la escuela. **Por favor recuerde que los niños no deben estar en el patio de recreo antes de las 8:15 AM**, ya que no tenemos supervisión antes de esa hora. A medida que nuestra transición de los niños a la escuela, quiero también darles las gracias por ayudar a nuestros hijos haciendo las rutinas antes de dormir y de mañana una prioridad, y asegurar que los niños desayunen antes de salir de casa o que coman el desayuno en la escuela. Estas cosas son sólo algunas de las cosas que hacen para confirmar su éxito de su hijo/a en Van Hise.

A finales de octubre también marca el momento en que empezamos a prepararnos para el examen de conocimientos y conceptos de Wisconsin (WKCE). Usted va a recibir más información sobre este período de evaluación, más cercano a la fecha. Los alumnos de 3<sup>o</sup> a 5<sup>o</sup> grado participan en este proceso de prueba. Si usted tiene preguntas acerca de este examen, por favor no dude en enviar un correo electrónico.

Los niños se instalaron y están trabajando duro en sus estudios. Por favor, sepan que si tiene dudas sobre el aprendizaje de su hijo en el salón, es adecuado primero hablar con sus maestro/a(s). Juntos pueden aprender más acerca de lo que está sucediendo y resolver problemas de cómo asegurarse de que su hijo está involucrado y aprenda con éxito. Si aún tiene dudas, el segundo paso es solicitar una reunión con el/la maestro/a y yo. Nuestro objetivo es que todos debemos trabajar juntos para ayudar a cada niño tener éxito. Es importante establecer una comunicación sólida con el maestro/a para que esto suceda.

Ha sido un comienzo calido del año escolar, pero a medida que comenzamos el otoño, por favor asegúrese de que los estudiantes se preparen con las prendas apropiadas. Asegúrense de que tengan gorros, guantes, botas y ropa apropiada al clima. ¡Disfrutemos de la temporada de otoño junto con nuestros hijos!

Sinceramente,

Peg Keeler, Directora  
[mkeeler@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:mkeeler@madison.k12.wi.us)

# SCHOOL Calendar

[www.madison.k12.wi.us](http://www.madison.k12.wi.us)

School Telephone: 204-4800  
Voice Mail: 204-4801

School Fax Number: 204-0419  
To report absences: 204-4807

## October

Tu es	11	PTO Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Art Room
Mon	17	Noodles Restaurant Benefit Night, 5:00. - 9:00 p.m.
Mon	17	November Newsletter Articles Due
Thur, Fri	27,28	<b>NO SCHOOL, Professional Development</b>

## November

Tues	1	Picture Retake Day – AM
Mon	7	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
Tues	8	PTO Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Art Room
Thur	10	<b>NO SCHOOL – Parent/Teacher Conferences</b>
Thur	10	Book Fair, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Fri	11	Book Fair, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Mon	14	December Newsletter Articles Due
Thur, Fri	24, 25	<b>NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving</b>

## Support VAN HISE ELEMENTARY PTO

JOIN US

**MONDAY | OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**5PM – 9 PM**

25% of sales will benefit the  
Van Hise Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

University Ave & Midvale Blvd | 608.268.2900

*Dine in or Take Away – please bring in flyer or mention  
Van Hise Elementary School PTO*

*We proudly support local organizations*



***Don't forget...***

***Hedgehog Herald  
Newsletter Articles Due***



**November Newsletter  
articles due  
Monday, October 17**

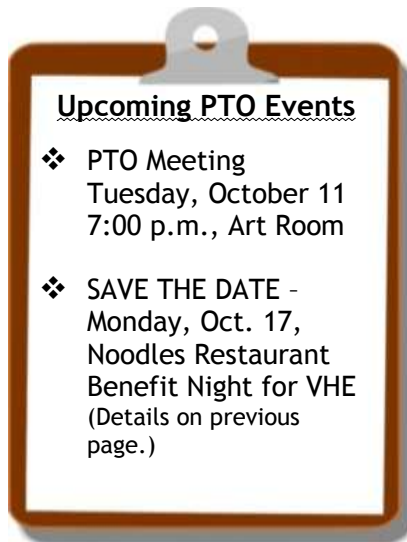
**Email to Kim Mohoney at  
[garykimmohoney@att.net](mailto:garykimmohoney@att.net)**



## NOTES FROM THE PTO

*Come and join the fun!  
Support your kids and Van Hise Elementary!  
Our **next PTO Meeting is Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**  
at 7:00 p.m. in the Art Room.*

*Child care will be provided for school-aged children in the gymnasium.*



### Free Money (FUNDRAISERS) For Van Hise:

Did you know that Van Hise Elementary can make money when you order on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), get/use a Target REDCard, shop online via Box Tops Marketplace, shop for office supplies at Office Depot, or recycle Elmer's glue sticks, Scotch Tape Dispensers, or Solo Plastic Cups with TerraCycle? Continue reading for very easy ways to earn money for Van Hise... essentially FREE money all year around!

Check out all the great ways you can help Van Hise!

◆ **Amazon.com:** You can shop for books, music, movies, computers, electronics, furniture, pet supplies, toys, clothing, sporting equipment, car parts, and even the kitchen sink on Amazon! Amazon is the perfect location to shop if you are looking for school supplies, birthday gifts, getting an early start on holiday shopping, or just want to avoid lines at the store? Most items over \$25 ship for free. Next time you place an order on Amazon, first go to [vanhisepto.org](https://vanhisepto.org) and click on the Amazon School Rewards link, then do your shopping. Note that only new items added to your cart AFTER clicking on the link will apply. Up to 15% of your purchase at Amazon.com will go to Van Hise Elementary. Share the link with friends and family!

◆ **Target REDCard:** Shop at Target? The Take Care of Education program is a credit card program through Target where 1% of every purchase on your Target REDCard is donated to the school you select. If you don't already have a REDCard, please take the time to sign up the next time you visit the store. If you already have a REDCard, please make sure that you have designated Van Hise (code is 108762) as your school of choice. And, if you have already designated Van Hise, thank you and keep shopping.

◆ **Box Tops for Education:** Hope the kids are having fun clipping and collecting Box Tops for the contest! Have you heard about eBoxTops from Box Tops Marketplace? Go to [www.boxtops4education.com](https://www.boxtops4education.com) and register (enter VHE's zip code – 53705, select Van Hise from the list, and complete the registration). Once you have an account, you can earn eBoxTops ([www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace](https://www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace)) whenever you shop online at Barnes and Noble, Crate and Barrel, Dell, Disney Store, Eddie Bauer, Hanna Andersson, [hotels.com](https://hotels.com),

iTunes, Lands End, Old Navy, Oriental Trading Company, Snapfish, Children's Place, and many more. Select your store of interest from the Box Tops Marketplace list and you will automatically be taken to your shopping destination once you click on that store's icon. All Box Tops earn money for Van Hise "special" programs (Art, Music, PE).

◆ **TerraCycle** is a company that makes affordable, eco-friendly products from non-recycleable waste materials. TerraCycle prevents 1000s of tons of waste from going to the landfill. To do so, they run a free national collection program that pays non-profits and schools to collect various materials, which are then upcycled into products such as totes and shower curtains. Van Hise Elementary can earn 2 cents for every ELMER's glue bottle, ELMER's glue stick, SCOTCH tape dispenser, and plastic (#6) cup. Please save these items and drop them in the collection bin located just inside the doorway leading to the classrooms (or give them to your child's teacher).

◆ **Swiss Valley: Caps for Cash and Kemps: Nickels for Schools:** Mrs. Cantwell collects milk caps for the art program. Each cap collected is worth 5 cents. The caps have a sticker on the top indicating that they are part of the school donation program. Caps can be turned into the art room. Thanks for drinking milk and helping art!

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Don't forget to mention Van Hise Elementary when making purchases from Office Depot who will donate a percentage of your sales to our local stores.  
Earn easy money for Van Hise when you shop...

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**Please join us and get involved! Together, we can and will do great things!**

Thank you VHE Families, Friends and Supporters!

Thank you for making last year's PTO fundraisers such a HUGE success!

It is because of your donations, time, and energy that the PTO raised enough funds to buy the school amazing new supplies to enhance our children's education. YOU bought graphic novel materials for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders; 2 data projectors, 2 document cameras, and 2 projector carts; periodicals; a Sony IPOD dock for Mrs. Koval; and a button maker for Mrs. Cantwell that will also be used for Birthday Celebrations.



## VHE PTO LAUNCHES FIRST-EVER FALL FUND DRIVE

This month, in response to parent requests for less sales-based fundraising, the PTO launched its first-ever Fall Fund Drive, a five-week fundraising campaign to raise \$10,000 for Van Hise.

Like many schools, our PTO used to ask parents to sell wrapping paper, chocolate, and other items to raise funds for Van Hise. Many parents told us during the survey last year that they'd rather spend more time with their families and contribute money instead of selling these items. So this year, **we're replacing our traditional fall sales-based fundraiser** with a simple direct appeal for tax-deductible donations.

A letter and contribution form went home in children's backpack mail on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and contributions of all amounts will be accepted through Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 during this campaign. This will be the only effort of its kind this school year, which is why we have set such an ambitious goal. Although a large sum, our \$10,000 goal works out to be a donation of just \$33 per family. If families are in a position to offer more, we hope they will be extra generous. And, of course, no donation is too small.

**Most immediately, the PTO aims to deliver funds to each classroom teacher for materials.** Other funding priorities are to help to improve the technology infrastructure at Van Hise; to provide continued support for the outdoor classroom, which has quickly become a favorite spot for learning for children at all grade levels; and to encourage student leadership with funds for the safety patrol program and leadership teams.

If parents respond generously and we surpass our \$10,000 goal, additional funds will be directed toward classroom technology. We have a school-wide goal of obtaining a minimum of four laptops for each classroom. We also plan to secure additional "presentation carts" that will provide teachers with amazing new ways to present information to students. If we can, we'll also bring technology into our art and gym classrooms.

While our Fall Fund Drive is intended to be the largest income-generator of the year, please know that many other favorite PTO events will continue. Expect to hear more about the annual Carnival and raffle and the REAP Taste of Wisconsin Holiday Fundraiser that provides an opportunity to purchase quality products from local vendors and farmers. And mark your calendars for "Noodles Night" on October 17 - Noodles & Company on University Avenue will donate 25% of sales to the PTO if you mention Van Hise Elementary.

But right now our focus is on making our Fall Fund Drive a success. If we can secure \$10,000 in funding in the coming weeks, we can make a big difference at Van Hise this year.

Parents may mail gifts to the school address, drop a check in the Fall Fund Drive box in the office, or return donations in child(ren)'s take home folders. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



## Van Hise Elementary 2011-2012 PTO Committee Chairpersons

Secretary	Deanna Stadler	236-0592	<a href="mailto:deanna.stadler@gmail.com">deanna.stadler@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Weijun Shang	233-1091	shangweijun@hotmail.com
After School Classes	OPEN		
Book Fair	Kris Romain	277-5889	<a href="mailto:kris.romain@gmail.com">kris.romain@gmail.com</a>
Carnival	OPEN		
Community Building Club	OPEN		
Cultural Arts Committee	OPEN		
Endowment Fund	Anjali Sridharan	442-0457	
Fifth Grade Graduation	OPEN		
Garden/Outdoor Learning	Mary Michaud	661-0645	<a href="mailto:marymichaud@tds.net">marymichaud@tds.net</a>
General Mill Box Tops	Stacey Chandler	270-9645	<a href="mailto:staciapc@gmail.com">staciapc@gmail.com</a>
Grant Writing Committee	OPEN		
Hedgie Gear	Deanna Stadler	236-0592	<a href="mailto:deanna.stadler@gmail.com">deanna.stadler@gmail.com</a>
Ice Cream Social	Shelby Connell	310-9082	<a href="mailto:sconnell@tds.net">sconnell@tds.net</a>
		(617)997-	
	Julia Stein-Barnes	1865	<a href="mailto:juliasbarnes@gmail.com">juliasbarnes@gmail.com</a>
International Night	Daniella Sponseller	233-1941	daniela.sponseller@charter.net
	Rosemary Barrientos-		
	Irigoyen	231-6988	<a href="mailto:ersofia@charter.net">ersofia@charter.net</a>
Newsletter	Kim Mohoney	232-1833	<a href="mailto:garykimmohoney@att.net">garykimmohoney@att.net</a>
		(214)497-	
		2554	<a href="mailto:lindapfaff6of9@msn.com">lindapfaff6of9@msn.com</a> ]
Noodle Restaurant Night	Linda Pfaff	2554	
Pizza Party	Deanna Stadler	236-0592	<a href="mailto:deanna.stadler@gmail.com">deanna.stadler@gmail.com</a>
REAP	Shelby Connell	310-9082	<a href="mailto:sconnell@tds.net">sconnell@tds.net</a>
Rummage Sale	Alexandra Corten	332-1690	<a href="mailto:acorten@sbcglobal.net">acorten@sbcglobal.net</a>
Staff Appreciation	Donna Stark	238-9415	<a href="mailto:starkdm@dhfs.state.wi.us">starkdm@dhfs.state.wi.us</a>
	Deanna Stadler	236-0592	<a href="mailto:deanna.stadler@gmail.com">deanna.stadler@gmail.com</a>
		(617)997-	
		1865	<a href="mailto:juliasbarnes@gmail.com">juliasbarnes@gmail.com</a>
Student Directory	Julia Weist		<a href="mailto:julie9902@att.net">julie9902@att.net</a>
Talent Show	Todd Forsythe	516-4802	forsythe18@gmail.com
VHE Yearbook	Dolores Sirek	231-0154	<a href="mailto:dmsirek@hotmail.com">dmsirek@hotmail.com</a>
Walking School bus	Daniella Sponseller	233-1941	<a href="mailto:daniela.sponseller@charter.net">daniela.sponseller@charter.net</a>
Website Administrator	Tim Connell	310-9082	<a href="mailto:tconnell@tds.net">tconnell@tds.net</a>
Winter Dance	Danielle Thai	233-2253	ddthai5121@gmail.com

# 2011-2012 VHE School Schedule

Van Hise PTO web site: [vanhisepto.org](http://vanhisepto.org)

Van Hise Outdoor Classroom site: [vhgarden.wordpress.com](http://vhgarden.wordpress.com)

School Safe Arrival Line: 204-4807

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**PTO Business Meetings:** Second Tuesday of each Month, 7pm

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## September

- Thursday, September 1: **EARLY RELEASE**, 1:45pm
- Friday, September 2: **EARLY RELEASE**, 1:45pm
- Monday, September 5: **NO SCHOOL** —Labor Day
- *Tuesday, September 6: PTO General Meeting, 7pm*
- Tuesday, September 13: Open House and Garden Party, 5pm
- Tuesday, September 27: Picture Day (Retake Day Nov 1)

## October

- *Tuesday, October 11: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm*
- Monday, October 17: Noodles Restaurant Night, 5:00-9:00
- Tuesday, October 18: Principal for a Day
- Thursday – Friday, October 27-28: **NO SCHOOL** —Convention

## November

- Tuesday, November 1: Picture Retake Day
- *Tuesday, November 8: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm*
- Thursday, November 10: **NO SCHOOL**—Parent / Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, November 10: Book Fair, 8:00am – 7:00pm
- Friday, November 11: Book Fair, 3:00 – 7pm
- Thursday – Friday, November 24-25: **NO SCHOOL**—Thanksgiving

## December

- Monday, December 5: **EARLY RELEASE**, 1:45pm— Staff Development
- *Tuesday, December 13: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm*
- Monday, December 26 – Friday, January 6: **NO SCHOOL**—Winter break

## January

- Monday, January 9: School resumes
- *Tuesday, January 10: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm*
- Monday, January 16: **NO SCHOOL**, MLK Day
- Friday, January 20: Winter Dance, 6:00 pm
- Friday, January 27: **EARLY RELEASE**, 11:30 am— Grade Reporting

## February

- Tuesday, February 7: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm
- Friday, February 17: School Carnival, 5:00-8pm
- Friday, February 24: **NO SCHOOL**, Convention

## March

- Monday, March 5: Kindergarten Registration Day
- Tuesday, March 13: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm
- Friday, March 16: International Night, 5:30pm
- Thursday, March 22: **EARLY RELEASE**, 11:30am—Staff Development Day
- Thursday, March 29: Spring Book Fair, 3:15-7:00 pm
- Friday, March 30: **EARLY RELEASE**, 11:30am—Grade Reporting Day

## April

- April 2-9: **NO SCHOOL**—SPRING BREAK
- Tuesday, April 17: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm
- Friday, April 27: Rummage Sale Drop Off, 3:30-7:00 pm
- Saturday, April 28: Rummage Sale, 8:00 am-12:00 pm

## May

- Tuesday, May 8: PTO General Meeting, 7pm
- Friday, May 11: Talent Show, 6-8pm
- Monday, May 28: **NO SCHOOL**—Memorial Day
- Staff appreciation day, Date TBD

## June

- Monday, June 4: Ice Cream Social, 5:30pm
- Tuesday, June 5: PTO Business Meeting, 7pm
- Tuesday, June 12: Last day of school: **EARLY RELEASE**, 10am



As usual, we have a few kids who sometimes have accidents, don't wear warm enough clothes for the temperature, and other things that pop up where you need another set of clothes. If you have or can \*purchase any of the following: coats, \*underwear, sweat pants, or socks, please drop them off in the office. Thanks!

### NECESITAMOS – Ropa:

Como siempre, a veces tenemos algunos niños que tienen accidentes, o no usan ropa ideal para el clima y otras cosas que suele suceder que requieren un cambio de ropa. Si usted tiene o quizás puede \*comprar algunas de las siguientes: abrigos, \*interiores/pantaletas, pants o pantalones de ejercicio, medias o calcetines por favor traigan los a la oficina. ¡Gracias!

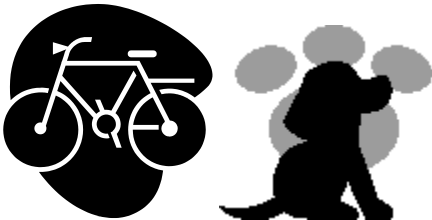


## Please Model Safe Pedestrian and Safe Driving Behavior

Everything we do as parents serves as a role model for our children. That is why I would like to implore you to **model safe driving and pedestrian behaviors** around our school area.

- Student drop off is OK on Waukesha Street by the steps in front of the breeze way. You cannot park there, but can stay for a minute to drop off your child. Please do not sit there. Other cars have a need to use the space you are taking.
- If you park across the street, please use the crosswalk to cross over. It models unsafe behavior if you walk across the middle of a street. While you might know how to do that safely, your child may not always remember the important street crossing rules you practice.
- When driving, **please do not stop in the intersection, turn a U-turn, or turn around using a neighbor's driveway.** It may be harder for you to drive around an extra block or two but it is much safer for our students.
- Please do not use the Segoe drive way or parking lot to drop off your child. All drop off needs to occur on Waukesha Street.

Thank you in advance for being a safe pedestrian and safe driver!



## Reminders!

MMSD Board Policy states that only students age 10 and older can ride bikes to school. The school must have a signed permission slip on each student riding a bike to school. Permission slips can be obtained from the school office. Bike helmets are required. Bikes must be walked once on school property for the safety of all students. Exceptions to the above policy can be granted by the Principal. Parents need to request an exception in writing.

Dogs are not allowed on school property. If your family walks with your dog to school, please remain off school grounds with your pet.

Many students are riding scooters to school. Scooters must also be walked on school property. Scooters and bikes cannot be ridden on the playground between 8:15 and 3:47 on school days.

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen bikes, scooters, or helmets.

Thank you for respecting MMSD Board Policies.

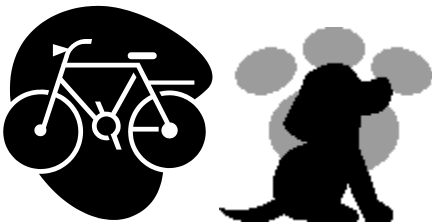


## Comportamiento de conducción

Todo lo que hacemos como padres sirve como un modelo a seguir para nuestros hijos. Eso es por qué me gustaría implorar a modelar una conducción segura y comportamientos peatonales alrededor de nuestra área de escuela.

- Puede dejar su hijo/a en la calle Waukesha en frente de la entrada que queda en el medio de la escuela. Usted no puede estacionarse allí, pero puede permanecer durante el desembarque de su hijo. Por favor no permanezca allí. Otros automóviles tienen la necesidad de utilizar el espacio que está tomando.
- Si se estaciona al otro lado de la calle, por favor use la vía peatonal. Modela conductas de riesgo si usted camina por la mitad de la calle. Si bien puede hacerlo con seguridad, puede ser que su hijo no siempre recordará las normas correctas para cruzar la calle.
- Al conducir, **por favor, no se detenga en la intersección, a su vez haga una vuelta por la mitad de la calle, o de la vuelta en la entrada de un vecino.** Puede ser más difícil para usted dar la vuelta alrededor de un bloque o dos, pero es mucho más seguro para nuestros estudiantes.
- Por favor no use la entrada de vehículos en la calle Segoe o ese estacionamiento para dejar a su hijo/a. Todos los desembarques tienen que ocurrir en la calle Waukesha.

¡Gracias de antemano por ser un peatón y conductor seguro!



## ¡Recordatorios!

La Junta Directiva del MMSD establece que sólo los estudiantes mayores de 10 años pueden montar bicicletas a la escuela. La escuela debe tener un permiso firmado por cada estudiante que ande en bicicleta a la escuela. Pueden obtener los permisos en la oficina de la escuela. Cascos son necesarios. Deben caminar las bicicletas cuando estén en la propiedad de la escuela para la seguridad de todos los estudiantes. Excepciones a la póliza anterior pueden concederse por la Directora. Los padres deben solicitar una excepción por escrito.

No se permiten perros en propiedad escolar. Si su familia camina con su perro a la escuela, por favor, mantengan sus mascotas fuera de propiedad escolar.

Muchos estudiantes llegan a la escuela con sus patinetas. Estas también no se deben usar al estar en la propiedad de la escuela. Patinetas y bicicletas no pueden ser usadas en el área de recreo durante las horas de 8:15 a.m. y 3:47 p.m. durante días escolares.

La escuela no se hace responsable por bicicletas, patinetas o cascos perdidos o robados.

Gracias por respetar las pólizas de la Junta Directiva del Distrito Escolar Metropolitano de Madison.



## Door Security System Coming to Van Hise

As part of the Madison Metropolitan School District's continual assessment and updating of school safety, the district applied for and received a federal grant that – along with matching funds from the district - has allowed for the purchase of additional school security equipment. Some of the new equipment includes remote controlled locking devices with cameras and intercom sound systems that will be installed this summer on the main entrance doors of 17 schools.

The door security systems will be installed in these MMSD schools:

- all 11 middle schools;
- schools adjacent to middle schools: Gompers, Marquette, Orchard Ridge, Schenk, Shabazz and **Van Hise**.

Starting in mid September, the entrances to these schools after the morning student arrival period will be limited to the main entrances only and will require students and visitors to be “buzzed in” to the buildings and to register at the main office. Staff members will have electronic access.

The installation of these door security systems is consistent with the school safety plan to improve physical security of buildings, in particular, to restrict building access. These systems will allow school staff to monitor and control who enters the building during the school day.

Recommendations for installation at the remaining elementary schools with the next round of funding will be forthcoming. High schools are in the process of having welcome centers installed so as to better control access there during the school day.

The Madison School District takes very seriously its responsibility to provide a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff. While these entrance changes might cause inconveniences, they are being made in the spirit of enhancing overall school security.



## Sistema de seguridad de Entrada en a Van Hise

Como parte de la evaluación continua del distrito escolar Metropolitano de Madison y la actualización de seguridad en las escuelas, el distrito solicitó y recibió una subvención federal que – junto con los fondos necesarios del distrito - ha permitido la compra de equipos de seguridad escolar adicional. Algunos de los nuevos equipos incluye puertas controlados con controles remotos con cámaras y sistemas de sonido de intercomunicación que se instalará este verano en las puertas de las entradas principales de 17 escuelas.

Los sistemas de seguridad se instalará en estas escuelas MMSD:

- todas las 11 escuelas intermedias;
- Las escuelas adyacentes a las escuelas intermedias: Gompers, Marquette, Orchard Ridge, Schenk, Shabazz y **Van Hise**.

A partir de mediados de septiembre, despues del comienzo de las clases, las entradas a estas escuelas se limitará a las entradas principales y sólo se requiere que estudiantes y visitantes "toquen el timbre" para entrar a los edificios y registrarse en la oficina principal. Los miembros del personal tienen acceso electrónico.

La instalación de estos sistemas de seguridad es coherente con el plan de seguridad escolar para mejorar la seguridad física de los edificios, en particular, para restringir acceso a los edificios. Estos sistemas permiten que el personal de la escuela vigile y controlen quién entra el edificio durante el día escolar.

Recomendaciones para la instalación en las escuelas primarias restantes será próximamente. Las escuelas secundarias se encuentran en el proceso de contar con centros de bienvenida para tener mejor control de acceso durante el día escolar.

El Distrito Escolar Metropolitano de Madison toma muy en serio su responsabilidad de proporcionar un ambiente seguro de aprendizaje para los estudiantes y su personal. Estos cambios pueden causar inconvenientes, se están realizando en el espíritu de mejorar la seguridad general de la escuela.

## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM HUMMING WITH ACTIVITY



This summer, cool weather early, followed by severe heat and drought, was tough, and some things suffered. But families came through and watered. We saw hummingbirds, good caterpillars, butterflies, and goldfinches this summer. The Giant Bottle Gourds planted by Ms. Cahill's class are impressive! Many community members now walk through the garden on a regular basis. Some bring their grandchildren and others bring visitors. Families new to VHE also spent time in the garden this summer.

\* Many thanks to Sarah Van Riet for coordinating volunteers and to the families who volunteered.

- Heglund Armstrong Family
- Gustafson Family
- Barrientos-Irigoyen Family
- Yin Family
- Gunshor Family
- Streicher Family
- Conklin Family
- Borbas Family
- Yanny/Runzheimer Family
- Bradley/Finnegan Family
- Skemp/Pitsch Family
- Van Riet Family
- The Ouelettes for mowing
- The Brozynas for the Japanese beetle traps
- The Deck Family for the wheelbarrow wheel and a major weed-a-thon
- Joe Keyes (of the Hill Farms neighborhood association) for volunteering to put together picnic tables
- Rain garden crew: Bernie Michaud, Ross Pinski, Bob Armstrong, The Messimers, Brett Behling, and several other families who stopped in and planted some plants.

Special thanks to Kurt Runzheimer, who donned his beekeeping suit and took care of the yellow jacket hive that had sprung up under the compost bin.

\* 2011 Grants/Awards: \$3,400

- \$1,000 from National Gardening Association's Midwest Adopt-a-Garden Grant Competition. One of 11 gardens chosen in the Midwest.

- \$250 from the American Community Gardening Association's essay contest on how our garden helps prevent childhood obesity (one of four national winners). Sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Obesity Prevention initiative.
- \$1,150 from the Willy Street Cooperative's Community Reinvestment Fund (for "interpretive shed")
- \$900 from the Madison Area Master Gardener's Association (for the Rain Garden)
- Other funds: [\$150 from the sale of photo cards at the Willy Street Coop West. About \$300 came from photo card sales at VHE.]

\* What the grants pay for:

- Shed (built by students at the MATC construction/remodeling program), constructed using green materials
- Rain garden plants, seeds and materials
- Two new picnic tables (one wheelchair accessible)
- Gardening equipment and curriculum materials
- Tuition for Mary Powell to attend a week-long workshop called "Growing Minds" at Community Groundworks/Troy Gardens. (Mary Michaud attended, too.)

\* Possibilities for this year:

- Festive garden activities during the VHE open house
- Talk with teachers about their plans; get a sense of how to better plan for spring 2012
- Contact MSCR and MMSD to arrange more formal summer 2012 garden use-- perhaps raise \$\$ for a bit of staff support?
- Install additional trenches to draw runoff into the rain garden
- Meeting for interested parents late September date TBD
- Find funds for a larger, better functioning rain barrel
- Raise funds for additional professional development for interested teachers and/or staff
- Continue work on the GROW Coalition (Grass Roots Outdoor Wonder Coalition) so that MMSD provides supports/"blessings" for sustainability education
- Parent/child "garden camp" in the spring, focusing on beginner gardening in a small plot at home
- A Wisconsin State Journal article focusing on school gardens is slated for September (In Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> issue)

Web site: [vhgarden.wordpress.com](http://vhgarden.wordpress.com)





the difference  
1 can make.

## Box Tops for Education

Hard to believe that summer is nearing its end. Hard to believe that we will soon be scurrying around school, meeting teachers and getting our children settled in for the start of another school year. Hard to believe, but true. In order to get you geared up and off to a great start, I wanted to let you in on a secret. Sshh! Lean in and listen closely...

***We are planning another Box Tops 4 Education contest!*** The contest will start the week of September 12 and run for approximately 3-4 weeks. There will be a winning classroom **AND** a winning teacher. Information will come home with your child the end of the first full week of school.

What this means is that your diligence in collecting box tops over the summer will pay off quickly. (Good for you. Good for your kiddo. Good for your kiddo's teacher!) If you are one of the unfortunate few who have not been collecting those little pieces of cardboard, have no fear; it's never too late to start. However, it's now time to *"get your rear in gear!"*

Several companies are offering double box tops on their products right now (Cheerios, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury) and often our neighborhood stores are offering bonus box tops for qualifying purchases. Please keep your eyes open as you do your shopping this time of year. And don't forget Avery office and school supplies offer box tops on many of their products. Additionally, if you check out the [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com) website you will find a couple of contests that you can enter to potentially win oodles of box tops for our school.

So, what are you waiting for? Get your box tops fingers a clippin' and a snippin'!!

Snip, snip.

Stacey Chandler  
Box Tops Coordinator



## **Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

WHO: All 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents who are interested in Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search

WHAT: Informational Meeting

WHERE: Doyle Administration Building, 545 West Dayton St., McDaniel's Auditorium

WHEN: October 13, 2011 6:00-7:00

### **WHAT IS NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY'S MIDWEST ACADEMIC TALENT SEARCH? (NUMATS)**

Each year The Center for Talent Development (CTD) at Northwestern University, in Evanston, IL, conducts the Midwest Academic Talent Search. Participation in this assessment is voluntary and at parent/guardian discretion. Students in grades 3-6 may take the EXPLORE test, a test designed for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students who are in grades 6-9 may choose between the ACT and SAT tests, which are designed for high school juniors or seniors.

### **WHY MIGHT A STUDENT PARTICIPATE IN THIS TESTING OPPORTUNITY?**

Reasons include:

- The testing process offers parents a way to learn more about their child's academic ability. This may be the first testing experience a student has in which s/he does not know all of the answers, or is even able to complete the entire test. Therefore, information is gained regarding a student's relative strengths. This information may be used to help inform instruction in the student's school.
- Students will gain information about other academic opportunities around the state and nation through the Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth (WCATY), Northwestern University, and other national organizations.

Students who typically score at the top ("ceiling") of standardized testing may need this out of grade level assessment to measure their growth. It is recommended that students score at least in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in some area of their state tests or other standardized tests.

### **HOW CAN STUDENTS REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN NUMATS?**

It is easiest to register on-line at <http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/mats/index.html>

You may also register by mail. Registration materials will soon be available and paper registration continues through October. Please contact Kerry Berns, by phone, 663-5230 or by email, [kberns@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:kberns@madison.k12.wi.us). if you prefer to register by mail.

### **IS THERE ANY FINANCIAL HELP AVAILABLE?**

There is a registration fee in addition to a testing fee to participate in NUMATS. Some fee waivers are available from Northwestern and WCATY for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Please contact Kerry Berns (see above) if you qualify for financial aid.

## **Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)**

### **¡MARQUEN SUS CALENDARIOS!**

**QUIÉNES:** Todos los estudiantes de 3.º a 8.º grados que estén interesados en "La búsqueda de talento académico en el medio-oeste de la Universidad Northwestern" [*Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)*] y sus padres.

**QUÉ:** Reunión informativa

**DÓNDE:** Auditorio McDaniel del edificio administrativo Doyle, 545 West Dayton St.

**CUÁNDO:** 13 de octubre, 2011 6:00-7:00

### **¿QUÉ ES "LA BÚSQUEDA DE TALENTO ACADÉMICO EN EL MEDIO-OESTE DE LA UNIVERSIDAD NORTHWESTERN"?**

El Centro para el desarrollo de talento [*The Center for Talent Development (CTD)*] de la Universidad Northwestern en Evanston, Illinois conduce anualmente la búsqueda de talento académico en el medio-oeste. La participación en esta evaluación es voluntaria y a discreción de los padres/tutores legales. Los estudiantes de 3.º a 6.º pueden tomar el examen EXPLORE, el cual es diseñado para estudiantes de 8.º grado. Los estudiantes que cursan del 6.º al 9.º grados pueden elegir entre los exámenes ACT y SAT, los cuales están diseñados para estudiantes de 11.º y 12.º grados de la preparatoria.

### **¿A QUIÉN LE RECOMENDAMOS QUE PARTICIPE EN NUMATS?**

Los estudiantes quienes típicamente obtienen puntajes muy elevados en las pruebas estandarizadas pueden necesitar de estos exámenes para grados más elevados para medir su crecimiento. Se recomienda que los estudiantes obtengan un puntaje por lo menos del 90% en algunas de las áreas de las pruebas estatales u otras pruebas estandarizadas.

### **¿POR QUÉ DEBE PARTICIPAR UN ESTUDIANTE EN ESTA OPORTUNIDAD DE EVALUACIÓN?**

Algunas de las razones son:

- El proceso de evaluación le ofrece a los padres una forma de saber más sobre las habilidades académicas de sus hijos. Esta puede ser la primera experiencia de evaluación en la cual el estudiante no sabe todas las respuestas o no alcanza a completar todo el examen. Por lo tanto, se obtiene información acerca de las fortalezas relativas del estudiante. Puede que el maestro utilice esta información para planear la instrucción del estudiante en su escuela.
- Los estudiantes obtendrán información acerca de otras oportunidades académicas alrededor del estado y la nación a través del Centro para jóvenes académicamente talentosos de Wisconsin [*Wisconsin Center for academically Talented Youth (WCATY)*], la Universidad Northwestern, y otras organizaciones nacionales.

Los estudiantes quienes típicamente obtienen puntajes muy elevados en las pruebas estandarizadas pueden necesitar de estos exámenes para grados más elevados para medir su crecimiento. Se recomienda que los estudiantes obtengan un puntaje por lo menos del 90% en algunas de las áreas de las pruebas estatales u otras pruebas estandarizadas.

### **¿CÓMO SE PUEDEN INSCRIBIR LOS ESTUDIANTES PARA PARTICIPAR EN NUMATS?**

La forma más fácil es hacerlo en línea <http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/mats/index.html>

También lo puede hacer por correo; pronto estarán disponibles los materiales de inscripción y tendrá hasta fines de octubre para inscribirse. Si prefiere hacerlo por correo, por favor llame a Kerry Berns, al 663-5230 o escríbale a su correo electrónico, [kberns@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:kberns@madison.k12.wi.us).

### **¿HAY AYUDA FINANCIERA DISPONIBLE PARA PODER PARTICIPAR?**

Existe una cuota de inscripción lo mismo que una tarifa para participar en los exámenes en NUMATS. Es posible que Northwestern y WCATY no apliquen las tarifas para los estudiantes que califican para el programa de alimentación gratuita o a precio reducido. Por favor, contacte a Kerry Berns (vea la información provista en el párrafo anterior) si califica para ayuda financiera.

