

April 29, 2022

Happy Friday West Sylvan Middle School Families,

For 8th Grade Families:

8th Grade Oaks Park Trip (rides) on Wednesday, June 8th, chaperoned by educators and administrators. Scholars who choose to attend will bus to Oaks Park from campus and return by dismissal. Scholars will need to be in good standing (no suspensions, referrals to administrators,

your MAP math assessment data **falls in the range for eligibility**. If SSA *is* recommended, families will meet **virtually** to fill out the SSA application **with** the student's current math teacher. For more information, see the [PPS TAG SSA](#) page or the [West Sylvan TAG page](#).

[SSA Parent Guide](#)

[WGA Parent Guide](#)

Whole Grade Acceleration (WGA) - Applications open April 15-May 15. [See information about WGA from PPS TAG here](#). Please contact the West Sylvan TAG Coordinator, Laurel Richards, at

takers, balanced and reflective learners. Our families can also learn more about our work toward MYP

Help with Cell Phones:

Our catch phrase that we use at WSMS regarding cell phones during the school day is,

social media activity is also greatly appreciated! There are times when scholars may need to access their devices for family reasons or even in instructional settings, and we encourage speaking with an adult if such out the day for non-instructional reasons. We will continue to remind scholars of this expectation throughout their school day. If scholars post inappropriate content on social media, please report the account for review.

Some families have inquired about apps that can restrict various features on cell phones for scholars throughout the day so that they are not on social media and are not tempted to engage with others through social media platforms. Here are some tips we have given families: **NY Times Article:** [The Best Apps for Managing Your Kids Phone](#); [Support for Apple](#); [Support Google](#); [Family Time Article & Tips](#); [Verizon Support](#).

Picking Up Scholars:

Per Oregon law, *an approved adult is required to sign out any scholar* who leaves campus before the end of the school day. Our office has been experiencing heavy family traffic prior to our 3:45pm dismissal, due to daily early pick-ups. If possible, we ask that you avoid picking up your scholar between 3:15pm-3:45pm as you will not find parking, and our office staff is limited in the afternoons. Any planning around that time frame is appreciated.

COVID-19 Updates:

There was one COVID-19 case reported this week who had been *on campus*.

Resources for Family Extended Learning and Activities:

Cognizant 360 Arts Summer Camp

OSU STEM Academy [AWSEM Club](#) Spring Dates ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))

Multnomah Youth Commission accepting applications ([flier](#)) ([FAQ](#))

VIBE of Portland [Art Camps, Classes, No-School Workshops](#)

VIBE of Portland [East Winds Summer Camp](#)

OSU [Summer Reading Program](#)

Multnomah Early Childhood Program: ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)) ([Vietnamese](#))

Portland Parks & Recreation Preschool [2022-2023 Registration](#)

Scholar Counseling Supports (Counselors will move with grades for 22-23):

6th Grade: Counselor: Kandice Abney: kaabney@pps.net &
Administrator: Ben Keller, bkeller@pps.net

7th Grade: Counselor: Rebecca Cohen: rcohen@pps.net &
Administrator: Evening Krauel, ekrauel@pps.net

8th Grade: Counselor, Ricky Almeida: ralmeida@pps.net &
Administrator: Jill Hunt, jihunt@pps.net

General Questions:

Kirsten Crombie, Administrative Assistant: kcrombie@pps.net (scholar/parent concerns, attendance, enrollment, help with scholar laptops, withdrawals)

Notes of Appreciation?

The notes left for our educators really do brighten a lot of days for many of our team members! If you have a [here](#) to celebrate the ways in which WSMS adults support your

Enjoy the weekend! Go Wolfpack!

Jill, Ben and Evening