

Wolf

FEBRUARY 2020
Volume 22 Issue 4

For the Parents, Staff,
& Community of Windy
Hill Middle School



Tracks

WINDY HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

From Your Principal

Happy New Year Wolves!

The month of January came and went, and we are into the second semester; it is hard to believe the school year is over halfway over! I want to thank all of our parents and guardians for making the first half of the year such a success, supporting your child to put forth their maximum effort and do their best, every day.

With the start of the second semester, it is time to start preparing for state assessments. During the first week of April, all students will be taking the Florida Standards Assessment in writing. 7th & 8th graders will take the writing assessment on the computer, while 6th grade students take a paper-based version. Our language arts teachers have been working hard to prepare our students through standards-based instruction, with a focus on writing using evidence. Furthermore, teachers in all subjects have supported writing by writing across the curriculum. This includes students taking Cornell notes in chorus, real-life research projects in math, writing tasks in physical education, and lab reports in science. It is One Pack preparing our Wolves to become exceptional writers!

Following the writing assessment, the reading and math assessments will occur during the month of May, along with the Civics and Algebra end of course assessments. Our students are working hard and our teachers are making sure they are well-prepared for the assessments. Please note that we keep a current copy of our testing calendar on our school website, which can be found at www.lake.k12.fl.us/whm.

To support both parents and students, we will have several Parent's as Partners Saturday sessions in April and May. These sessions allow parents to learn alongside their child on a Saturday morning with our awesome teachers leading the learning. Please follow our social media outlets and listen to future callouts for dates and times.

In addition, we are very excited about Windy Hill Middle School being certified as an AVID Demonstration School! There are only 18 AVID Demonstration Schools in Florida as this is a prestigious honor that recognizes the hard work of our students and staff! We are proud to prepare your child for "life after the Hill".

Finally, please be sure to stay current with our multiple communication modalities! You can follow us on Twitter, @WindyHillWolves, like us on Facebook, or visit our website at www.lake.k12.fl.us/whm. That's all for now Wolves, remember, we are ONE PACK!

Sincerely,
William P. Roberts

Email: As a tool for communicating with your child's teacher, we invite you to use our email system. Email addresses of all administrators, teachers and staff members of Windy Hill Middle School can be found on the Windy Hill Website at www.lake.k12.fl.us, click on Schools, select Windy Hill Middle, select Teachers.

Mission Statement: To promote the love of learning through a partnership with the students, parents, teachers, and the community, for success in the 21st century.

Administration

William Roberts
Principal

Tara Hatch
8th Grade Assistant Principal

Kim Walker-Lawrence
7th Grade Assistant Principal

Reshonda Scott
6th Grade Assistant Principal

Rhonda Wolf
Assistant Principal

Samantha Moberg
6th Grade Guidance Counselor

Kristina Garcia
7th Grade Guidance Counselor

Daylin Saavedra
8th Grade Guidance Counselor

Connan Rutledge
ESE School Specialist

Maribel Nieves
ESE School Specialist

Jacqueline Arthurs
Media Specialist

Rebekah Barnes
Social Worker

Telephone Numbers

Windy Hill Middle School 352-394-2123
School Fax 352-394-7901
Lake County School Board 352-253-6500
Transportation/Bus Lot 352-536-8091

Website

www.lake.k12.fl.us

Click on Schools
Select Windy Hill Middle



De tu Principal

¡Feliz Año Nuevo Lobos!

El mes de enero vino y se fue, y estamos en el segundo semestre; ¡Es difícil creer que la mitad del año escolar haya transcurrido! Quiero agradecer a todos nuestros padres y tutores por haber hecho que la primera mitad del año fuera tan exitosa, apoyando a su hijo a esforzarse al máximo y hacer su mejor esfuerzo todos los días.

Con el inicio del segundo semestre, es hora de comenzar a prepararse para las evaluaciones estatales. Durante la primera semana de abril, todos los estudiantes tomarán la Evaluación de Estándares de la Florida por escrito. Los estudiantes de 7mo y 8vo grado tomarán la evaluación de escritura en la computadora, mientras que los estudiantes de 6to grado la tomarán por escrito. Nuestros maestros de artes del lenguaje han estado trabajando duro para preparar a nuestros estudiantes a través de la instrucción basada en estándares, con un enfoque en la escritura mediante el uso de evidencia. Además, los maestros en todas las materias han apoyado la escritura a través del currículo. Esto incluye a los estudiantes que toman notas de Cornell en la asignatura de coros, proyectos de investigación de la vida real en matemáticas, tareas de escritura en educación física e informes de laboratorio en ciencias. ¡Es Una Manada preparando a nuestros Lobos para convertirse en escritores excepcionales!

Después de la evaluación escrita, las evaluaciones de lectura y matemáticas se realizarán durante el mes de mayo, junto con las evaluaciones de fin de curso de ciencia del derecho cívico y álgebra. Nuestros estudiantes están trabajando duro y nuestros maestros se aseguran de que estén bien preparados para las evaluaciones. Tenga en cuenta que guardamos una copia actualizada de nuestro calendario de exámenes en el sitio web de nuestra escuela, que se puede encontrar en whm.lake.k12.fl.us.

Para apoyar tanto a los padres como a los estudiantes, tendremos varias sesiones los sábados de Padres como Socios en abril y mayo. Estas sesiones les permiten a los padres aprender junto a sus hijos un sábado por la mañana con nuestros increíbles maestros que lideran el aprendizaje. Siga nuestros medios de comunicación social y escuche las llamadas futuras para fechas y horarios.

¡Además, estamos muy entusiasmados con la certificación de la escuela secundaria Windy Hill como escuela de demostración AVID! ¡Solo hay 18 escuelas de demostración de AVID en Florida, ya que este es un prestigioso honor que reconoce el arduo trabajo de nuestros estudiantes y personal! Estamos orgullosos de preparar a su hijo para “la vida después de la colina”.

Finalmente, asegúrese de mantenerse actualizado con nuestras múltiples modalidades de comunicación. Puede seguirnos en Twitter, @WindyHillWolves, darnos me gusta en Facebook o visitar nuestro sitio web en whm.lake.k12.fl.us. Eso es todo por ahora Lobos, recuerda, ¡somos UNA MANADA!

Sinceramente,
William P. Roberts

Superintendent's Reading Challenge

WHMS invites students to participate in the 2019-2020 Superintendent's Reading Challenge. Please encourage your student to read and participate in this important opportunity by reading 12 books on the student's reading level. Students should record the books they read between October 1, 2019 and March 6, 2020 on the reading log provided by their ELA teacher. The reading logs will be collected in March and students who meet the goal of reading 12 or more books will receive recognition for their accomplishment.



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John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program

Required notification to parents/guardians of students with disabilities:

Your child may be eligible to participate in the John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program for the 2020-21 school year.

To be eligible for the McKay Scholarship Program, a student must apply for the program prior to withdrawing from public school. The student must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), or 504 Accommodation Plan issued under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (with duration of more than six months), and:

- Have been enrolled and reported for funding in a public school for the school year prior to applying for a scholarship (Grades K-12) (foster student may be exempt from the requirement); or
- Have been a prekindergarten student who was enrolled and reported for funding in a Florida public school during the school year prior to applying for a scholarship; or
- Have received specialized instructional services under the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program from an approved provider pursuant to section 1002.66, Florida Statutes, during the previous school year; or
- Have attended the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind during the preceding school year's student membership surveys (Grades K-12).

To find out if your student is eligible, you may apply for the McKay Scholarship Program on the School Choice website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org. Select the McKay Scholarships link, then Parents, and then the link titled Apply for a McKay Scholarship.

To learn more about your child's educational options, please contact the District McKay contact at (352)253-6600. You may also contact the Florida Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice Information Hotline at 1-800-447-1636, or visit the School Choice website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org and click the McKay Scholarships link.

In order for a student to be eligible for the program, intent to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program must be filed on the School Choice website prior to withdrawing from public school. The deadline to apply for the first payment period of the 2020-2021 school year is July 3, 2020.

This is notification to you that your child may be eligible to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program. **This notice does not guarantee your student's eligibility.**

6th Grade TDAP Immunization Clinic at WHMS!!!!

April 21, 2020 during school. All students must have their Tdap vaccination before entering 7th grade and will not be allowed to start school in the fall without it!

The immunization Permission Consent forms will be mailed to the parents of students needing their Tdap in February, 2020.

- ❖ There are several benefits to the school-based immunization clinics:
- ❖ Vaccines are provided at no cost to parents
- ❖ Parents don't have to take time off from work and lose a day's pay
- ❖ You don't have to wait in long lines this summer
- ❖ Students will meeting the immunization requirements and avoid vaccine preventable diseases
- ❖ Great benefits for the school
 - More robust and healthier school community
 - This could lead to fewer sick days
 - And equals more time for learning

Let's give our students a "SHOT" at good health & success!!

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Tips and Strategies for Testing

As testing season will soon be approaching for our students, it is helpful for them to become acclimated with the expectations of testing. Sixth graders will be taking the paper-based assessment and, seventh and eighth graders will be taking the computer-based assessment. The following website can be used to practice for the FSAs. It also provides a test guide so students can become acquainted with the use of the computer-based assessment, especially for those taking it for the first time in seventh grade. The website below will allow students to practice for the FSA.

- <https://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>

In addition, it is important for students will prepare in other ways besides practicing online.

1. Be sure to get a good night's sleep the night before your assessment.
2. Eat a balanced breakfast the day of your assessment.
3. Establish comfort with technology. This includes learning how to highlight, underline and navigate through the assessment.

Windy Hill Middle 2020 Testing Dates

**Subject to Change*

FSA Writes 6th (paperbased)	April 1
FSA Writes 7th (computerbased)	April 1
FSA Writes 8th (computerbased)	April 2
FSA Writes Make Ups	April 2-14
*CIVICS EOC	May 1
FSA ELA 6th Grade (paperbased)	May 4-5
FSA ELA 8th Grade	May 4-5
FSA Math 6th Grade (paperbased)	May 7-8
FSA ELA 7th Grade	May 7-8
FSA Math 8th/ALG EOC	May 11-12
FSA Math 7th Grade	May 13-14
FCAT Science 8th Grade Only	May 14
Make-ups	May 15-29



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Testing Information

Please review the following policies with your student/child before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students **are not** permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom), even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them. If your student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators**—Calculators **are not** permitted during Grades 6 Mathematics tests.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FSA tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment printed in the student's test and answer book that reads: "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing below the statement in their test and answer book.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: "Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or Instagram." Please make sure your student understands that "discussing" test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment, illness), he or she will not be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL), please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

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Windy Hill Work Study Program

During these tough economic times many students have missed out on the opportunity to attend fieldtrips. The College and Career Prep Team at WHMS has worked to raise funds to help deserving students have the opportunity to participate in academic and end of school year field trips. In order to help students receive positive merits of working towards a goal, and to most fairly distribute field trip funds, C2 Prep Team has established a work-study program. Students will need to meet eligibility requirements in order to apply for the program. These requirements are based on teacher and administrator references, attendance record, discipline record, and financial need. Students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch will have priority in earning a work study position; however, applying to the program does not guarantee that your child will be accepted into the program. Applications can be obtained in Portable L. **Completed work study applications must be turned in to Mrs. Woods or her mailbox in the front office.**

Work-study participants will be notified within a week of application and will be matched with a participating teacher if accepted into the program. A timesheet of hours worked must be kept by the student and signed by the participating teacher. There will be a spot on the work-study application for your child to indicate their preferred volunteer position (in a classroom, the guidance department, or with a custodian) as well as preferred volunteer time (before school or after school). Classroom and guidance positions may entail students performing administrative tasks, helping to clean, etc. A custodial position may entail helping wipe down tables/desks, sweep, empty classroom trashcans, etc. In order to increase your child's chance of getting selected for this program, it is recommended that he/she be willing to work in all three categories. All work must be done outside school hours, meaning before 9am or after 4:30pm. **Parents are responsible for dropping their child off or picking their child up on time.**

Students will receive \$8 of field trip assistance for every hour volunteered. Students may volunteer in half hour increments. A \$60 trip will necessitate seven and a half hours of volunteer work. Students may only earn the cost of the field trip's ticket, transportation, or other costs that would be paid to the school such as t-shirts. Once students have completed the necessary number of hours, the teacher in charge of the field trip they are seeking to participate in will be notified that the C2 Prep Team will be covering the cost of the field trip. Students will also receive an award certificate documenting the hours completed and field trip earned. Funds will be directly managed at the school, any unused funds will be returned to the field trip fund. If a child becomes ineligible for a field trip because of academic or disciplinary reasons, any funds already earned will be returned to the field trip fund.



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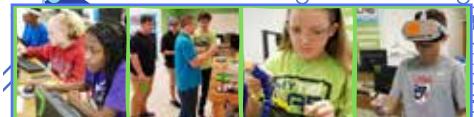


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8th Grade Bon Voyage and Gradventure

Attention 8th Grade Parents:

The second semester of school is very exciting for our 8th grade students. There are two events that they look forward to as they set their sights towards high school – Gradventure and Bon Voyage.

Eighth grade students will have an opportunity to attend the annual Gradventure trip to Universal Studios on May 15th. Character Counts Contracts have been turned in and we will be collecting field trip forms and payment starting March 2nd thru March 6th from 8:50 to 9:15 a.m. in the media center. All forms and payment must be turned in by 9:15 a.m. on March 6th – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

The other event is our annual Bon Voyage party set for May 22nd. In order for Windy Hill Middle School to provide our 8th grade students with a fun and exciting send off to high school we need your help. Parent volunteers are needed to help organize and make preparations for our 8th grade class of 2020.

We will be holding several parent planning meetings for Bon Voyage over the next several months. Make sure to listen to Mr. Roberts' weekly call outs and our web site for dates and times.

This event has always been Windy Hill's grand finale for our 8th graders. With your help we can make this year's event one that will make our students proud of their accomplishments as they move on to high school.

If you have any questions, or would like to get involved, please call the school at 352-394-2123 and talk with our School Secretary, Debbie Prasse. We look forward to meeting and working with our parent volunteers.

2019-2020 Student Calendar(180 Days)

Board Approved June 11, 2018

School Month			Student Days
FEBRUARY	Feb 17	Presidents' Day/Student Holiday (Monday)	19
MARCH	Mar 12	End of Third Grading Period (Thursday)	9 Total Days
	Mar 13	Non-Student Day/Teacher Work Day (Friday)	46
	Mar 16-20	Spring Break/Student Holiday (Monday-Friday)	
	Mar 23	Classes Resume/Fourth Grading Period Begins (Monday)	7
APRIL	Apr 10	Non-Student Day (Friday)	21
MAY	May 25	Memorial Day/Paid Holiday (Monday)	20 Total Days
	May 29	Last Day of Classes/End of Fourth Grading Period (Friday)	48
<i>Storm Make-up Days will be determined as needed</i>			180

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AVID

Windy Hill Middle School just became recognized as an AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) demonstration school on Tuesday February 4th. What does this mean? This means Windy Hill is one of eighteen schools in the state of Florida to receive the recognition of helping students achieve college and career readiness for their future. AVID is a class offered at Windy Hill that provides students with necessary organizational skills, reinforcement of academic behavior, and study habits to be successful in school. These skills and techniques are used to help students even after leaving Windy Hill. This recognition could not happen without the dedication of our teachers, students and faculty members. Congratulations!

