

Principal's Report
January School Board Meeting
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown
Grades K-12



All District

On January 20, 2022 we finalized Semester 1/Quarter 2 for the year officially putting us halfway through the school calendar. Teachers had a curriculum/work day on January 21 where we hosted several speakers during the morning. Speakers included Heather Harms and Linda Hullopetter, special education directors and Ashley Killday, SHIP Coordinator for Le Sueur/Waseca County. Mrs. Harms and Mrs. Hullopetter discussed behavior interventions and provided a tutorial on SPED 101 information. Ms. Killday presented on vaping, drug and tobacco use.

Semester 2/Quarter 3 kicked off on Monday, January 24.

PreK-6 Report

K-6th grade students did a revisit on Bucs Pride expectations upon return from our winter break.

The Great Kindness Challenge takes place this week. Students in grades Prek-4 are challenged to show kindness in a variety of ways this week!

In Grade 5 the DARE program has once again returned for in-person instruction. Classroom lessons began the week of Jan. 10 and will continue through April with a graduation date to be determined.

Grade 5 teachers are finalizing the details for the Eagle Bluff Field trip which will take place Feb. 14-16.

5th & 6th Grade has begun preparations for the Math Masters Competition. Thank you to Brian Svendsen and Laura Sammon for coaching this team.

7-12 Report

School Resource Officer, Officer Petrasek and I are working with Le Sueur County's Towards Zero Deaths Coordinator on hosting a presentation at WEM HS. The program is geared towards education on safe driving, drinking and driving and promoting positive choices particularly around prom and graduation. We are planning to host the program later in the spring, but before Prom. Tentative dates are 4/11 and 4/19 as a back-up.

We will be hosting a presentation for all students and staff at the high school on March 2, 2022. The speaker, Cory Greenwood, will focus on kindness and resilience. More to come on this in February.

I met with two alliance agents from healthy communities on January 21 to discuss funding and promotional materials for the MOST campaign. We will be working closely to promote statistics on our student body, parent information literature and pushing out positive messages on what is actually happening statistically based on the MN Student Survey.

Our students will take the Minnesota Student Survey in the next few weeks (February 16-17). Survey results help navigate the language and articulate our goals when we write our Achievement and Integration Grant. Counselors Michelle Roethler and Bridgette Reuvers are heading up the orchestration of administering the survey. Students in 8th, 9th and 11th grade take the survey. From MDE's website, some background on MSS: *The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is one of the longest-running youth surveys in the nation. It is a triennial survey that began in 1989. The survey is an anonymous statewide school-based survey conducted to gain insights into the world of students and their experiences.*

Seven WEM High School students were selected to showcase artwork at the MN State Capitol for the Senate art program: My District, My State. The art projects ranged from photography to watercolor entries. Selected from WEM are:
Senator Chamberlain, District 28 selected Michael James' artwork
Senator Wiklund, District 50 selected Christian Johnson's artwork
Senator Bigham, District 54 selected Emma McGraw's artwork

Senator Rest, District 45 selected Kelsey Surrett's artwork
Senator Limmer, District 34 selected Tanna VanRyn's artwork
Senator Howe, District 13 selected Madison Maglothin's artwork
Senator Nelson, District 26 selected Kiersten Holicky's artwork

WEM HS will host Snow Week/FFA Week February 21-25. There is no school on February 21 so activities will take place February 22-25. Like last year, a coronation will be held to include a court from each grade level based on BUCS Pride traits.