



1000 Evans Road
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Robert M. "Mike" James - Principal

4-13-2020

DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE – MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Follow us on Twitter - @westcaryimps

Hello West Cary Families, this is Mike James, principal with your weekly news and updates

A Message From The West Cary Family

<https://youtu.be/Kwy3aRInc9E>

Remote Online Learning

West Cary Families – the remote online learning school schedule for all students is now available on our school website. The link to our website and the remote learning schedule is provided below. All families should have been contacted by our teachers checking in on students. A few things to understand about remote online learning. First, this learning format is different for all of us – students and teachers. While West Cary teachers have been developing Google Classroom sites or Canvas sites and using them weekly – moving to a complete online format of learning and engagement is different from traditional brick and mortar forums. We will make mistakes in this new process – and that will be okay! Secondly, the remote online schedule is provided to students (and families) to help provide structure and management of a typical day. Teacher lessons and presentations will vary in length. But the purpose of the remote online learning schedule is to provide students and teachers the time to check-in, gather learning materials and objectives, and establish the next set of learning outcomes and expectations. You can expect teachers to continue to have virtual office hours to help with students. You can also expect routine communications checking in with families to keep you informed of what is happening in the virtual classroom.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/146CyQG-oqzABYHQc_f2cAz7ccRW479C6BM8Lhx7c_ug/edit

WCPSS Online Remote Learning Resources

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Families – you should have received an email from WCPSS about accessing the online remote learning resources available to all students and families. Our West Cary Teachers are working hard to utilize these resources and plan for delivering instruction for our students during these upcoming weeks through May 15th.

Here's a link to the online remote learning website from WCPSS.

<https://sites.google.com/wcpss.net/instructional-continuity-wcpss>

Many Thanks & Device Rollouts

I'd like to thank our West Cary Teachers for helping out with our initial device rollout last week. Those Rock Stars are: Sheila Pattee, Norris Collins, Leonard Fecher, Blake Gentry, Shawn Patil, and Patrick Winters. And a big thank you to the teachers making the telephone calls to parents scheduling pick up times. They did an awesome job in getting devices out to our parents. We are still waiting for additional Chromebooks and wifi hotspots. Once those products come into the school we will call the families who needed both the Chromebooks and the wifi hotspots.

Field Trip Refunds

We are in the process of getting refunds for the 7th and 8th Grade field trips and the Student Government Association and National Junior Honor Society field trip. These refunds will take a little time to process since it can only be done from on campus. Unfortunately our campus can only be opened on a limited basis. Many thanks go out to our office staff who have been making telephone calls to verify mailing addresses. Ms. Stephanie Harris, Ms. Margaret Powell, and Ms. Deborah Holland have made numerous telephone calls helping us in the process.

Student Course Registration 2020-21

Course Registration Update

For Rising 9th Grade Families: Most of your students have completed their course registration process in PowerSchools. Students selected courses based on teacher recommendations and also picked some elective options that they would be interested in pursuing next year. If your student did not complete

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this process, PowerSchools should be open for them for a few more days. Please contact your student's guidance counselor (Ms. Diaz -- adiaz@wcpss.net) if you have questions.

For Rising 7th and 8th Grade Families: Some of your students have completed their course registration process in PowerSchools. Students need to select the math course that was recommended for them by their math teacher as well as select their elective choices. In this message, additional information is provided about some of our year-long electives. Please refer to our West Cary website (<https://www.wcpss.net/WestCaryMS>) for additional information including our Elective Options packet and directions for completing registration in PowerSchools. If possible, would like all students to have completed this process no later than Friday, April 3. Please contact your student's guidance counselor (Mr. Lewis -- wflewis@wcpss.net for current 6th graders and Ms. Walden -- rwalden@wcpss.net for current 7th graders) if you have questions.

We want to make sure you know about the band and strings (orchestra) program that West Cary Middle School offers. Students who have never played a string or band instrument before can participate in the beginning level classes while those who already play one of the band or orchestra instruments, can sign up for the intermediate or advanced level classes depending on your students' experience. These are year-long elective classes, so your student would sign up for one as their elective for the year. For more information and to view instrument demonstrations, please visit these sites: band: <https://www.bepartofthemusic.org/group/index.php?id=1761> and strings: <https://www.bepartofthemusic.org/group/index.php?id=1758>

Please feel free to contact Ms. Betts (jbetts@wcpss.net) for band and Mr. Slechta (wslechta@wcpss.net) for strings at West Cary.

Show Choir is a year long elective that is offered to rising 7th and 8th grade students. Prior to signing up for Show Choir (listed as Concert Chorus in PowerSchools), you and your families need to know the following: Show Choir is singing and dancing at the same time not traditional choir, and it requires outside school time for performances. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Betts (jbetts@wcpss.net).

The yearbook elective application for 2020-2021 is now live. Any interested rising 7th and 8th graders will need to put in an application for this course, and those chosen will have their schedule adjusted.

[CLICK HERE FOR APPLICATION](#)

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Any questions can be directed to jrevill2@wcpss.net.

Yearbooks for this year are also in production and for sale (though there are not many left)! These can be purchased here: [Jostens](#). Those who have already ordered books will receive an update about distribution depending on how the rest of the school year goes according to quarantine orders.

Reminders

We all have the urge to want to get out and about in our communities. Please do your best to stay put as much as you can.

I encourage everyone to sit down with their children and look at the online remote learning resources WCPSS has put together. Sit with them and connect with teachers during their virtual office hours. This is a great opportunity to be part of your child's learning – especially in our unique time period.

West Cary Families – our school motto is ***"Dream, believe, achieve – make it happen!"*** We are committed to excellence and helping our students dream, believe, and achieve in their academic and athletic successes.

Thank you,

Mike James - Principal

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