



Westdale News

Westdale Elementary, 705 S Center Road
797-1827

Volume I, Issue I

Upcoming Dates:

- Sept. 29th: Popcorn Sale
- Oct. 6th: Picture Day
- Oct. 6th: Homecoming Parade
- Oct. 12th: Kindergarten Field Trip
- Oct. 13th: Popcorn
- Oct. 20th: School Store
- Oct. 25th & 26th: Parent Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 27th: Popcorn
- Oct 30th: Halloween Walk Thru
- Oct 31st: Early dismissal 10:55 a.m.

From the Principal...

It has been a great start to the school year! The teachers have been focusing on teaching procedures & routines and building relationships since the first day of school. This work is paying off and has allowed us to have a smooth start.

My name is Karen Volk. I have been the principal at Westdale for eleven years now. I have one canine kid, named Schembechler. She is a yellow lab. Outside of work I enjoy running, working out, yard work, reading, and long walks with Schembechler. Fall is one of my favorite times of the year because I love to watch University of Michigan Football!

The purpose of this first newsletter is to help you get to know the Westdale staff better. Inside you will find information and pictures about us! We are looking forward to a great school year!

Karen Volk, Westdale Elementary Principal

Morning Drop Off

If you are dropping off before 7:30, all students need to go to the gym for the Before the Bell Program. Enter through the doors near the kitchen/parking lot. Students are not allowed in the hallways before 7:30 because there is no supervision in the hallway until 7:30 a.m. The main entrance door will open at 7:30 which is when supervision for 7:30 drop off will begin. The office will open at 7:15 a.m.

Box Tops

We are collecting Box Tops for Education again this. Collection sheets will be sent home each month. Last year we earned \$3000 from this.

PTO

Our October PTO Meeting is Wednesday, October 18th in Music Room. Free child care is provided.

Picture Day

Picture Day is Friday, October 6th. Packets will be sent home on Monday, September 25th.

Mark Your Calendars

Field Day and the Annual Westdale Picnic will be Tuesday, June 12th. We will need lots of parent volunteers for Field Day.

Westdale News

Our Secretary, Mrs. Walsh

Hello Westdale Families and Students! My name is Tina Walsh and this is my sixth year as Westdale's secretary. I love seeing your smiling faces in the morning and look forward to a great year!

I am originally from Germany but now live in Saginaw Township with my family. In my spare time I enjoy playing the hammered dulcimer, reading, writing, sewing and knitting. I love my job at Westdale because I get to meet so many awesome kids and get to work with fantastic people!



Young Fives and Kindergarten Staff



Mrs. Watz

My name is Mrs. Jeanne Watz. I am married to Eric Watz. We have three children, Kayleen, Brendon, and Matthew, along with a son-in-law, Luke. I also have two grandchildren, Elizabeth 3 and Henry 1. Another grandson is due in December. This is my twentieth year of teaching. I am beginning my eighth year at Westdale. I am very excited to teach Young Fives for my fourth year. In the past I have taught kindergarten, first, and second grade at Westdale, Plainfield and Weiss. In 2006 I received my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from SVSU. Some of my favorite things to do are spend time with my family, travel, read, and play with my dog, Daisy.

Mrs. Torres

Hi! My name is Andrea Torres. I am a kindergarten teacher and this is my 8th year at Westdale Elementary. I absolutely love it! I graduated from SVSU and am almost finished with my Masters in Early Childhood. My husband Jesse and I have a little girl named Layla who is 10 months old. We love to take walks, play peek-a-boo, and read stories together. In my free time, I enjoy spending quality time with my family going swimming, traveling, and visiting the park. This past summer, we had the opportunity to visit the Kalahari waterpark in Wisconsin and explore the Chicago Zoo. I am thrilled to be back to school. Our kindergarten classroom is going to be filled with some fun learning, exciting discoveries, and new adventures. I can't wait to spend this year learning and growing with all of my kindergarten students! It's going to be a fantastic year!



Mrs. Stec

Hi, I am Kim Stec. I am very excited to be teaching Kindergarten at Westdale. This is my 12th year teaching and my third year in Kindergarten. I graduated with my Bachelors degree from Saginaw Valley State University and I am currently working on my Masters in Reading. I am originally from the Ludington Area but have lived in Saginaw for the last 16 years. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my husband and two daughters. I am a huge Disney fan. I am looking forward to a fantastic year!



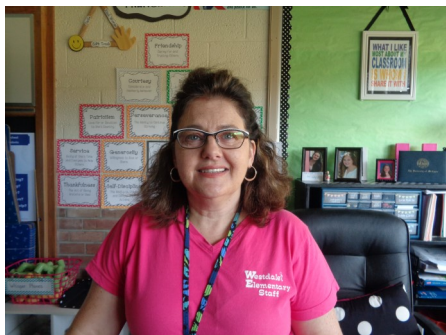
Mrs. Romain

Hello, my name is Autumn Romain. This year is my eighteenth year of teaching Kindergarten for Saginaw Township Schools. My career began at Hemmeter, where I taught for ten years. This is the start of my eighth year at Westdale. I have three kids: My oldest son Avery is in 8th grade at White Pine Middle School and my twins Sophia and Jack are in 3rd grade at Hemmeter. When I'm not at work you will most likely find me at an ice rink. I thoroughly enjoy watching my boys play hockey and watch my daughter Sophia dance or play soccer.

Mrs. Wolpert Hi! My name is Kellie Wolpert and this is my 2nd year of teaching Kindergarten at Westdale. I have been teaching for six years all together and absolutely love seeing the academic, behavioral and social growth my kiddos make each year. I recently completed my Master's Degree in Technology Education and attended CMU for my Bachelor's Degree- Fire Up Chips! In my free time, I love spending time with my husband, Kyle and daughter, Kennedy. I am truly looking forward to another great year as a Westdale Wolf!



First Grade



Mrs. Hartwick

My name is Nicole Hartwick. Hard to believe but this is my 21st year of teaching. I received my teaching degree from The University of Michigan-Flint and a Master's Degree from SVSU. Teaching first graders at Westdale is the absolute best. I also love spending time with my husband and 2 daughters.

Mrs. Kowalski

Hi! I'm Anne Kowalski, a first grade teacher here at Westdale. This is my nineteenth year in the classroom. My husband Tom and I live in Saginaw Township. We have three little boys, Carson (9), Porter (7) and Hudson (4). With all of our boys in sports, we are a pretty busy family. We love watching our little guys play soccer and baseball, as well as watching them ride their snowmobiles, four-wheelers and dirt bikes! In our spare time, we enjoy spending time together, up north at Higgins Lake. It is so relaxing up there, especially sitting on the dock or boat and reading! I am so excited to begin a new school year! We are off to a great start and are going to have a fantastic year in first grade!!





Miss Watt

Hi, my name is Miss Watt. I teach First Grade. My favorite things to do are read, sew, swim and work in my yard. This is my eleventh teaching at Westdale.

Mrs. Saenz

Hi my name is Dana Saenz. I received my teaching degree from Saginaw Valley State University. Though this is my first year here at Westdale teaching first grade, I have actually been teaching Head-Start preschool for the last nine years. I am truly looking forward to meeting the children and parents at Westdale as I expand my career in this new adventure. I am married and have two sons, a 6 and 2-year-old that keep me busy. We enjoy being outdoors playing sports, going up north, and spending time with our families. I am looking forward to getting to know each child in the classroom.



Second Grade

Mrs. Goidosik

Mrs. Goidosik ~ 2nd Grade

We are well on our way to a great year. I would like to thank everyone for their support while I was out with my appendix. I am back and ready to soar with my superheroes this year. This is my 13th year of teaching. I am an alumna of CMU and SVSU. I live in Saginaw with my husband, Erik, and our two boys Hunter (6) and Austin (3). In our free time, we like to go camping up north, play at the beach, and swim in the lake. I am very excited to see the gains we make this year. Let's make it a great one!!





Mrs. Mikoleizik

Welcome back to school! My name is Kris Mikoleizik and I'm excited to begin another year teaching second grade here at Westdale! I live in Saginaw with my husband, two children, and our 11 year-old Shih Tzu named Pudge. My son, Andrew, is attending Delta college. My daughter, Sarah, is dual enrolled at Delta college and Heritage high school. We also welcomed a new member to our family this summer when Sarah bought a Shorkie puppy and named her Coco!

Mrs. Garant

My name is Mrs. Garant and I'm excited to be starting my second year at Westdale. Before teaching here, I taught in Northwest Indiana for 9 years. I'm married and have three crazy kids, including our most recent little one born at the end of the last school year. I love reading, knitting, and playing outside with my family. I can't wait to get into the school year and am looking forward to all of the fun things that are constantly going on here at school!



Mrs. Miller

Hello, hello, hello! Welcome back to a new school year. My name is Mrs. Sara Miller and I am beginning my 12th year of teaching. Saginaw Township is home for myself, my husband Tyler, and our boys, Grayson-8 and Bennett-4. When I'm not at school you can find me attending my son's sporting events, reading a good book, cooking, or at the gym. I am looking forward to a great year of new friendships, lots of learning, and FUN! 2017-18 is going to be fantastic. GO WESTDALE WOLVES!!

Special Services



Mrs. Smith

My name is Amanda Smith. I am the Resource Room teacher here at Westdale. This is my 15th year of teaching and I am glad to be back at Westdale for this school year! I have two children who are 9 and 7. Outside of school you can find me cheering on my kids at sporting events, cheering at a Saginaw Spirit game or at home reading.



My name is Mrs. Loeffler. This is the start of my 18th year of teaching at Westdale Elementary School in Special Services! When I am not at school, I am busy with my family. Mr. Loeffler and I have two sons and a dog. I enjoy camping, watching my boys play soccer, and spending time with my friends.

Reading is something I love to do, too! My favorite series for kids are the Buddy Files (a mystery solving golden retriever) and the Humphrey series (a classroom hamster who loves to learn and solve problems).



Mrs. Bremer, Para Pro



Mrs. Woodbridge, Learning Assistant



Mrs. Myczkowiak, Speech and Language



Mrs. Kreger, Social Work

Special Areas



Miss Mulford, Art

I have been teaching art at Westdale for the last 14 years. My favorite artist is Claude Monet, who the 1st graders will learn about later this year. In my spare time I love to garden and walk my dog, Iris.





All About Mrs. Bordeaux: Physical Education

Hi! My name is Mrs. Bordeaux. I Teach Physical Education at Westdale Elementary. I love teaching my students all about the importance of living a healthy life style. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family. We love boating, fishing, traveling, and hockey. I also enjoy running, biking, and reading. My family consists of my husband, my ten year old son, Cooper, and our spoiled dog, Wrangler. I look forward to a fun and healthy school year with your child.

My name is Tom Thompson and I will be teaching Physical Education at Westdale for Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Mikoleizik, and Mrs. Watz's classes this year. I am new to this school but not to our school district. I have been teaching and coaching at White Pine Middle School for the past 18 years. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work at Westdale. The staff here is extremely friendly and knowledgeable. The facility is wonderful and the students have been wonderful to work with. I am looking forward to a fun and productive year in the gym.

I am a life-long resident of Saginaw Township and I live here with my wife and three children. In my spare time I enjoy spending time outdoors hunting and fishing, coaching, watching my children participate in their various activities, and teaching swimming lessons.

As you plan for this school year please remember:: Wear appropriate tennis shoes to school on P.E. days..Come to Phys. Ed. with an open mind, ready and excited to try new things, and always give your best effort!

Lets'shave a great school year!



Mrs. Rupp

My name is Emily Rupp and I am entering into my 4th year of teaching music at Arrowwood and Westdale. I am married and have a mini Golden Doodle named Millie. When I'm not teaching I enjoy worship at my church, golfing, and decorating my home. During the fall we also enjoy spending our Saturdays watching football and cheering on MSU!



Mrs. Ellis

Hello! My name is Diane Ellis and I have been the Media Specialist at Westdale for 11 years. I've loved books my whole life and I read a variety of authors and subjects. Rarely will you find me sitting down without a book in my hand! One of the things that I most enjoy about my job here at Westdale is introducing your students to all the wonderful stories we have in our library.

Support Staff

Mrs. Sprague



I am so excited to be entering my fifteenth school year with Saginaw Township Schools. I currently work as one of the Literacy/Numeracy Specialist at Westdale. I am able to work with all students in Kindergarten, First and Second grade. This job lets me get to know the names and beautiful faces of all the students in our building. You can also find me in the mornings helping out with traffic in the parking lot. Outside of school my family keeps me very busy. I have two amazing children who are involved in many sporting activities that keeps us on the go all the time. In our free time we love to spend time boating, swimming and fishing on Lake Michigan. We also enjoy taking lots of vacations together as a family. Looking forward to another great year at Westdale!

My name is Sandy Vauhkonen and I am a Literacy & Numeracy Specialist. My job is awesome because I get to work with almost every student at Westdale in classrooms, small groups, or individually. Reading and math are my favorite subjects and I get to teach both. My family and I live in Midland. My twins, Alex and Katie, are 5th graders. My baby, Megan, is in 3rd grade. I love the Green Bay Packers, to read, to watch my kids play sports, to go to the beach, and to tell jokes.



Hello Westdale Parents! My name is Sandra Byas. I'm happily married. Also mother of five grown children and I have seven grandchildren. I have served at Westdale for seven years as an Instructional Assistant. One of my joys in life is volunteering at Heartland (Avista) Nursing Home for fourteen years. I believe every child should have the opportunity to receive a quality education. I'm so excited that you have chosen Westdale to begin the process of your child's education.

Support Staff



Hi! I'm Tami Edgin. Your child will see me in the kitchen for breakfast and lunch. This is my first full year here at Westdale. I enjoy seeing the kids smiling faces every day. Go Wolves!

I'm Tricia Leddy. Your child will see me mainly in the lunchroom. I enjoy seeing the kids on a daily basis. Looking forward to a great year.



Hello Westdale families! My name is Ms. Jane Drago. I am your friendly and helpful counselor at Westdale. I'm at Westdale Monday, Wednesday afternoons, and Fridays. This my 15th year as a counselor at STCS! I am here to help your child have a successful and positive school experience.



Mr Matt, Custodian



Mrs. Green, Breakfast and Before the Bell



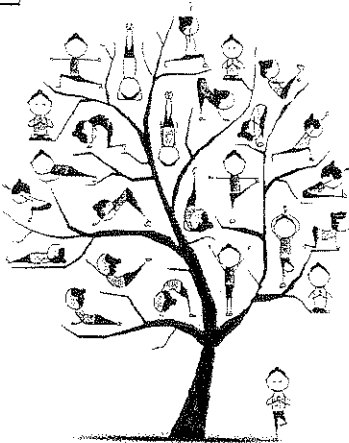
Noon Hour Supervisors: Ms. Laura, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Lucy, and Mr. Jeremiah.

YOGA for KIDS!
Wednesday 2:50pm-3:35pm
4 week session, \$40
cash only please

October 4, 11, 18 &
November 1

YOGA is FUN and ...

- Maintains flexibility and strengthens growing bodies
- Enhances concentration and focus
- Increases self esteem
- Teaches present moment awareness
- Gives tools for stress management
- Cultivates a peaceful, relaxed state of mind and body
- Sparks creativity in ripe imaginations
- *Space is limited, so sign up soon!*



Class is held in
the music room.
Please pick up child
promptly at front door!

Questions? Please call!

Instructor Jennifer Clor, CYKT

989.295.7034

Yes! Sign me up!

Student Name: _____

Parent/Contact Name: _____

Parent/Contact Phone Number: _____

Teacher Name & Grade: _____

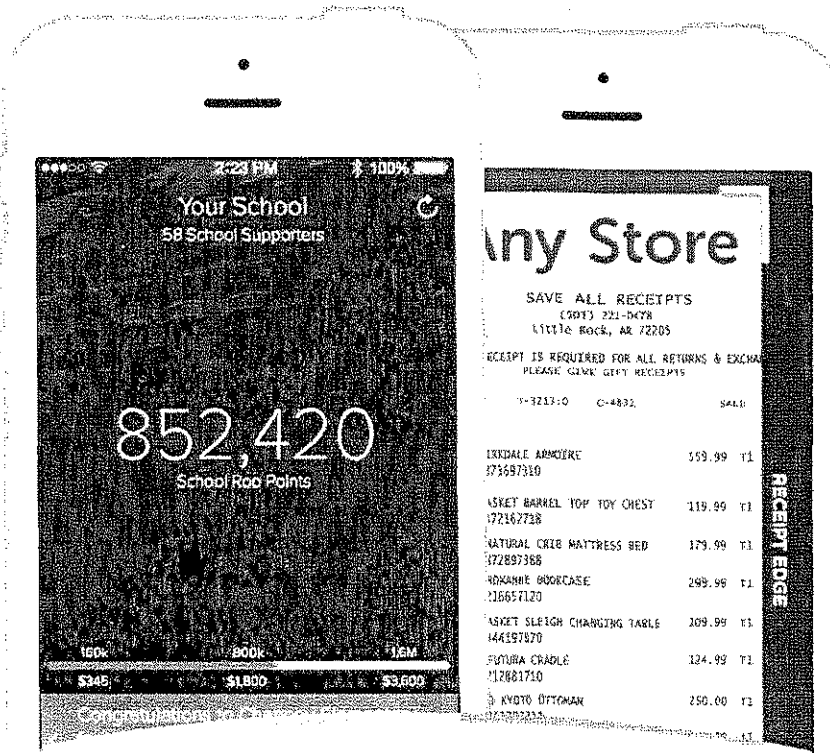
Find me on Facebook at
Jennifer Clor Yoga & Wellbeing
and please 'Like'



Have you donated your receipts today?

Shop Anywhere. Buy Anything.

Then just snap a picture of your receipt to earn money for our school!



What are you waiting for?

Download the free app & start fundraising in minutes.



 Shoparoo

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Westdale Elementary participates in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. It is easy to support our school by just doing your normal grocery shopping – no extra work required! **Last year our school received over \$500 through this fantastic program!**

Signing up is easy - here is how:

- Obtain a Kroger Plus card at the customer service desk at any Kroger store.
- Once you have a Kroger Plus card, you must register your card online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com.
- Click on Sign In/Register.
- Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the “New Customer?” box.
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, and agreeing to the terms and conditions.
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox.
- Click on the link within the email you just received.
- Click on “My Account” and use your email address and password to proceed.
- Click on “Edit Kroger Community Rewards Information” and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter Westdale’s Non-Profit Organization Number (90793) or select organization from list, and click confirm.
- To verify that you are enrolled correctly, check on the right side of your information page. You should see Westdale’s name.

If you use your telephone number to check out at the register, call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card number!

**IMPORTANT: You have to sign up
each school year!**