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www.wrps.org/schools/lincoln



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November 10, 2023

Happy Veteran's Day tomorrow. We would like to thank our former and current military members for their dedicated service to your country. Our LHS band is currently in Washington D.C. participating in events at memorials throughout the DC area honoring our veterans.

There are now only 11 days left in Term 1 as the last day of the term is Thursday, November 30th. There is no school for Thanksgiving break on November 22, 23, and 24. There is also no school on December 1st for staff record keeping and professional development. Term 2 begins on Monday, December 4th.

Yesterday we conducted a canine drug search with assistance from the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department and Wood County Sheriff's Department. I am happy to report that we only had one positive hit during the search.

Senior Graduation Cap/Gown/Tassel and announcement orders must be placed online at jostens.com by **November 13th** to avoid a late fee. Unopened Cap and gown units may be returned if you do not participate in the 2024 Ceremony. Questions?-Please call 1-800-854-7464 OR EMAIL: Dale.Komro@Jostens.com.

The LHS Choir will have a concert on Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the PAC.

A reminder that as the weather has cooled, students are not allowed to bring blankets or wear coats to classrooms. Students should maintain a sweatshirt or long-sleeve t-shirt in their locker.

Today we welcomed [Wade Fernandez](#) to Lincoln High School. With Menominee Nation roots extending back to the Ice Age in the land that is now called Wisconsin/Upper Michigan, Wade Fernandez, Wiciwen Apis-Mahwaew (Walks With The Black Wolf), has been sharing his musical art and Menominee culture on stages and classrooms worldwide for over 30 years. When not on tour, Wade lives among the pristine ancient forestland on the Menominee Reservation with his family where he strives to live in a respectful, honorable, and sustainable way. Wade is an international award-winning musician/recording artist/songwriter/producer who tours with voice, guitar, Native American flute, and hand drum. As a certified teacher with extensive educational experience in the classroom, onstage, and in parenting (proud father of 5), Wade combines a wealth of experience, a warm personality, and a sense of humor that has kept students and audiences repeatedly inviting him back year after year.

If you still need to order a yearbook for your student, there is still time. Place your order at jostens.com. Contact Jostens at 1-877-767-5217 for more information.

There is a program on our student Chromebooks called TestNav. TestNav is the ACT testing portal. As students begin to take the ACT and PreACT Secure this Spring, it has a full online practice ACT Test that is appropriate to use for students to get a feel for PreACT Secure. Launch the TestNav app and choose "Practice Tests" "PreACT Secure/ACT". The test is the same for both, but there's an "Untimed" option so students can slow down and examine the items.

Mid-State has an e-newsletter that would be a great resource for all students. To sign up directly visit <https://midstatetech.tfaforms.net/217905> This will be a great resource with our direct admission of Seniors beginning with the Class of 2024.

Senior Pictures for the yearbook are an important part of Lincoln's history. It is important to include every senior's picture. If you wish to include a different picture than the one taken for the school ID, please submit it by November 30th. There will be NO exceptions to this deadline. Portraits can be submitted by the photographer or parent/guardian. Submit portraits to <https://images.jostens.com/>. Enter Login ID: [Ok1xatuuYJ5e6tQs2tKPXpw](https://images.jostens.com/). Label the file with the student's name. Head and shoulder front view only. No props, paraphernalia, hats, or hands in the photo. JPG or TIF image preferred. We will use color portraits. They must meet these specifications:

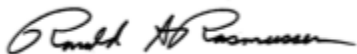
- Head and shoulder shot only; no extreme close-ups or full body shots
- No hands in the portrait
- No props such as hats, hobby paraphernalia, sports uniforms, or pets
- Plain or subdued background – outdoor sittings, while popular, often create glare that is distracting
- Appropriate clothing (no deeply-cut necklines, off-shoulder shirts, or inappropriate messages)
- No text or special effects
- No black and white photos—only color photos should be submitted

Should the student select a portrait that does not meet these specifications, we reserve the right to reject it, and the student will be asked to have another portrait taken

School staff is working to teach students about mental health and how to seek help if they are worried about themselves or a friend. We are using a program called "Signs of Suicide" (SOS). The program teaches students about this difficult topic and encourages them to seek help. SOS has been used by thousands of schools over the past few decades. Studies have shown that it effectively teaches students about depression and suicide while reducing the number of students' self-reported suicide attempts. Lincoln will participate in SOS at Lincoln on Tuesday, December 12th. This will be a mandatory RPT day for all students. More information is attached to today's email.

Our current open employment positions include full-time special education aide and special education teacher. These employment opportunities at Lincoln are posted at <https://wecan.waspa.org>. In addition, we have openings in January for student teaching interns in the areas of Math and Special Education. Individuals interested in internship opportunities should contact me directly.

Proud To Be The Red & White of Rapids!



Ronald A. Rasmussen
Principal



510 Peach Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

November, 2023

Dear WRPS Families,

Supporting students, their families, and our staff members' mental health continues to be a priority for Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools. WRPS has several available resources to meet these needs.

The District has continued our partnership which we began last year with Care Solace to provide students, their families, and staff access to mental health care coordination services at no cost. WRPS and Care Solace continue to focus on removing barriers in accessing mental health care. Care Solace streamlines communication and coordination to connect individuals with the right resources and appropriate level of care. Individuals seeking mental health care now have a trusted companion to rely on. With a team of more than 500 dedicated Care Companions, Care Solace connects stakeholders within WRPS to licensed mental health and substance use treatment providers. Through a human-centered and technology supported approach, these Care Companions navigate the mental health care system on behalf of individuals, helping them find the perfect fit for their unique needs and insurance requirements. These multilingual Care Companions are available 24/7/365 ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for the entire school community. It is important to note that this service is an optional resource, available at your discretion, and is not mandatory. Care Solace is not an emergency response service or a direct mental health service provider. In the case of a life-threatening emergency, please call 9-1-1 or the National Suicide Hotline at 9-8-8. To learn more about Care Solace and its services, visit caresolace.org.



Students, staff, and families may access Care Solace services in two ways:

- 1) **Call (888) 515-0595** at any time. Support is available in 200+ languages. A dedicated Care Companion™ will help you every step of the way to research options, secure appointments, and follow up to make sure it is a good fit.
- 2) For an anonymous search, answer a few questions to get matched with an extensive list of care providers at caresolace.org.

Another resource available is Gaggle Therapy. Since the start of the 2021-2022 school year, WRPS has contracted with Gaggle Therapy to provide therapy services to students as a way to address the local counselor shortage. Gaggle Therapy provides secure video platform-based mental health and support services to students, facilitated by licensed therapists and counselors who are experienced in working with children and teenagers. With parental consent, students participate in 45-minute weekly video therapy sessions. All FERPA and HIPAA guidelines are adhered to, and there are no costs for families or parents. For more information, please reach out to your child's school counselor.

Additionally, WRPS has partnered with several local agencies to provide in person individual and/or small group support. These supports are available in many of our schools. Please reach out to your child's school counselor to learn more about what is offered at school.

If you or a family member is seeking counseling-related services, please consider reaching out to Care Solace assistance or to your child's school counselor. These resources are provided to you by the District, and I am available to answer any questions you may have. You can contact me via email at steven.hepp@wrps.net or by phone at 715-424-6724.

Sincerely,

Steven Hepp
Director of Pupil Services