




GRANT ELEMENTARY

GRIZZLY NEWS February 2023

CONTACT US

8511 County Rd WW
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

Phone: 715-424-6766

 Grant Elementary-WRPS

From the Desk of Mrs. Calteux....

Greetings Grant Family:

I say it every month but I truly can not believe we are in the month of February already. Time flies when you are having fun - and that is exactly what we've been doing at Grant - making learning fun!

As we look ahead to February, we have many exciting events in the works:

- 100th Day of School - **February 9th**
- School Wide Puzzle Day - **February 10th**
- Valentine's Day - **February 14th**
- Candlelight Walk - **February 16th**

Please join us on the evening of February 16th for our first "Candlelight Walk" through our school forest. Bring your snowshoes, sleds, or warm boots for an evening stroll and enjoy the story that will be displayed along the path. Once you've completed the loop, warm up inside with a cup of hot chocolate and take a peek at our new school office. Inside you will also find our Kindness Club as they are looking to raise funds to support a project for our local United Way. We are looking forward to seeing you on the 16th from 5:00-6:30!

- Read Across America Week - **February 27th thru March 2nd**
 - Monday - Slumber Party - Wear PJs and bring a stuffed animal
 - Tuesday - Night - Wear black and bring a flashlight
 - Wednesday - Favorite - Dress like your favorite book character
 - Thursday - Grant School Pride - Wear your Grizzly apparel or wear Grant School colors

February may be a short month, but it is jam packed with fun learning activities!

A few parent reminders:

- If you are picking up your child at the end of the day, please come through the pick-up line. The pick-up line is to ensure the safety of all Grant students. Thank you!
- Social media for your child needs to be closely monitored. Please know what your child is doing online and who they are talking to.
- Cell phones are not allowed to be used during the school day and need to be stored in your child's backpack if it is brought to school.

Have a wonderful February! I hope to see you all on the 16th!

Mrs. Calteux

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE 11 AM
WITH AFTER SCHOOL CHANGES**



CALENDAR

- Feb. 09** 100th Day of School
- Feb. 10** Puzzle Day
- Feb. 14** Valentine's Day
- Feb. 16** Candlelight Walk
(5 pm - 6:30 pm)

MEALTIME PRICES

Check your account via
[Skyward Family Access](#)

Breakfast

Paid	\$1.50
Free/Reduced	\$0.00

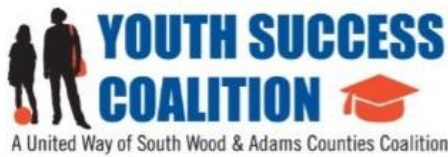
Lunch

Paid	\$2.15
Reduced	\$0.40
Free	\$0.00

Milk

\$0.45

Students who take milk for their cold lunch, or an extra milk with hot lunch, will be **charged \$0.45**, regardless of pay status (i.e., Free, Reduced).



The Cabin Fever Challenge is Back!

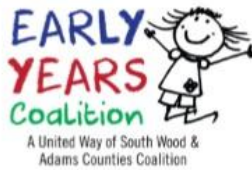
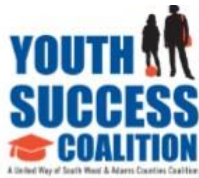
With short daylight hours and cold temperatures, winter adds extra challenges to the already difficult tasks of connecting with each other, maintaining healthy activity, and engaging in the community. That's why United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties developed the Cabin Fever Challenge to help families thrive through the final stretch of winter.

With the game board available at www.uwswac.org, complete family activities during February to fill spaces in this version of BINGO. Each row of five family activities earns BINGO, and a chance to win a gift basket! Families can get BINGO up to five times, meaning up to five chances to win.

We've included several ideas for fun & enriching activities that align with the goals of the Youth Success & Early Years Coalitions who collaborated to develop this event (Community, Activity, Building Skills, Interest & Hobbies, and New experiences). Links to more ideas can also be found on the United Way website.

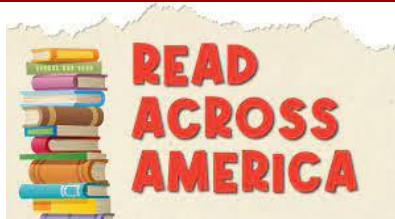
Completed game boards must be received by United Way or your child's school by March 1st to be entered to win.

Reach out to Ben at United Way with any questions by emailing ben@uwswac.org or by calling 715-421-0390.



Spelling Bee WINNER!!

Congratulations to Gio B. in Mrs. Scheunemann's 5th grade class for winning the 2023 Spelling Bee. Gio will go on to represent Grant at the district level Spelling Bee! Way to go Gio!!



WEEK February 27th - March 2nd

Monday, February 27

- **Slumber Party**
wear PJ's to school and bring a stuffed animal

Tuesday, February 28

- **Dark as Night**
wear the color black to school and bring a flashlight

Wednesday, March 1

- **Favorite Character**
Dress as a character from your favorite book

Thursday, March 2

- **School Pride**
wear Grant Grizzly apparel or school colors





February 2023

News From Nurse Tasha

♥ Heart Health Month

February is heart health month. Keeping your heart healthy is an everyday job. Having a healthy heart means that blood is moving to all our organs and that we are doing our best to prevent heart disease and strokes. The important task of heart health helps us ensure that both our own bodies and those of our children are able to enjoy life to the fullest at every age. Below is a brief explanation of the simple seven.

Life's Simple 7 for Kids



Remember, you can stop heart disease before it starts. Start small and keep it simple. Make one change today and then you're ready to make another!

Life's Simple 7

1. Avoid smoking and using tobacco products
2. Be physically active every day
3. Eat a heart-healthy diet
4. Keep a healthy weight
5. Keep your blood pressure healthy
6. Keep your total cholesterol healthy
7. Keep your blood sugar healthy

Visit www.heart.org/LS7forKids for more information and to download the complete booklet.

Life's Simple 7 for Kids

🦷 Children's Dental Health Month 🪄

Dental health month is held every year throughout the entire month of February and is dedicated to children learning about good oral health. Teaching children about dental health at a young age is vital for their health later in life. The CDC estimates that at least 20% of children age 5 through 11 have at least one decaying tooth that has been left untreated. You can encourage your children to do the following:

- ★ Brush their teeth twice a day
- ★ Floss between their teeth daily
- ★ Demonstrate healthy eating habits and how sugary foods can damage teeth
- ★ Encourage water over sugary drinks such as juice or soda
- ★ Schedule cleanings at least twice a year

If you would like additional resources or are in need of financial assistance with your student's dental needs, please contact your school's social worker or nurse

Childhood Communicable Diseases (mainly seen at schools)

- ★ Hand, Foot, Mouth (Symptoms usually include fever, mouth sores, rash)

Please keep your student home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and until mouth sores have healed

- ★ Ringworm (Symptoms usually include a ring-shaped rash, itchy skin or red, scaly, cracked skin)

Please keep your student home until treatment is initiated or lesions are covered

- ★ Pink eye (Symptoms usually include red/pink itchy eye(s), green/yellow eye discharge)

Please keep your student home if unable to avoid touching eyes or until treated with antibiotics for 24 hours.

- ★ Influenza (Symptoms can include cough, fever or chills, congestion/runny nose, sore throat, headaches, muscle/body aches, fatigue)

Please keep your student home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and until feeling well enough to attend school

- ★ RSV (Symptoms can include runny nose, cough, fever, decrease in appetite, wheezing)

Please keep your student home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and until feeling well enough to attend school

- ★ COVID (Symptoms can include cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste/smell, fever or chills, congestion, sore throat, body aches, nausea/vomiting)

Please keep your student home for 5 days from symptom start (if testing positive), until fever free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications and until feeling well enough to attend school. Students who test positive will need to mask through day 10 while at school. *Close contacts may be at school with minimal symptoms but will need to mask for 10 days past the last date of contact with the positive individual (Please contact your school's nurse with any questions)

- ★ **As a general rule of thumb, please keep your student home if they are not feeling well enough to attend or until fever-free (less than 100.4 degrees) for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. Please keep your student home until diarrhea/vomit free for 24 hours past the last episode.**

- ★ Anytime your student is seen by a healthcare provider for any illness or medical appt, please ask for a doctor's note to excuse them (they are allowed 10 days per year before a doctor's note is required)



2023-2024 4-AND 5-YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

WHAT TO BRING

- Child's certified birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or passport for verification
- Immunization record

MARCH 1
12:00 -
6:00

MARCH 2
8:00 -
4:00

MARCH 7
12:00 -
6:00

Registration will be held at the WRPS Enrollment Center, 311 Lincoln Street (enter through the front door)



QUESTIONS ABOUT 4-YEAR-OLD-KINDERGARTEN?

Attend an Information Session
Thursday, February 23 5:00-6:00 pm
Pitsch Early Learning Center
501 17th Street S
715.424.6779

4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

- Child must be 4 years old by September 1, 2023.
- At the time of registration you will be able to indicate your site preference.

5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

- Child must be 5 years old by September 1, 2023. If you have a question about early admission, call our Pupil Services Office at 715.424.6724.
- If your child is currently enrolled in district 4K program you DO NOT need to register for 5K.

4K COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
REGISTRATION SERVICES
WISCONSIN EARLY LEARNING CENTER



ST. LAWRENCE
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



Building Blocks
Learning
Center



WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Questions about 4-Year-Old-Kindergarten?

Attend an
Informational Session

Thursday, February 23
5:00 - 6:00
Pitsch Early Learning Center

501 17th Street S
715.424.6779

**REGISTRATION
STARTS
MARCH 1**



4K COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Building Blocks
Learning
Center





**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

FREE

Developmental Screening

Developmental Screening is a quick check of your child's development and can identify your child's strengths, uncover new milestones to celebrate, and reveal areas where your child may need support.

Who: *For ALL children 0-5 years* of age living in the Wisconsin Rapids School District Area*

When: Wednesday, March 1st
Children ages 3-5

Where: Pitsch Early Learning Center
501 17th St S, Wisconsin Rapids

*Children ages 0-2 will be screened by Wood or Portage County Birth to Three Program by a separately scheduled appointment

For more information, call WRPS at 715-424-6700

Screenings are provided by Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, Wood County Head Start and Wood and Portage County Birth to Three Programs

GRANT SCHOOL KINDNESS NINJAS
IMPACT PROJECT

UNITED WAY
GIFT OF WARMTH



**DONATIONS WILL BE COLLECTED FROM
FEBRUARY 1ST THROUGH FEBRUARY 16TH**

**ALL DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO
GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN WISCONSIN
RAPIDS**

Grant School has created a kindness group that is spreading kindness throughout our school and community. The Kindness Ninjas are raising money to purchase fleece to make blankets. They will cut and tie together two layers of soft fleece fabric to create a cozy blanket. Community members in-need will have access to these gifts of warmth at local agencies providing homelessness services.

2023-2024 Full-Time Open Enrollment Regular Application Period for Wisconsin Public Schools

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

YOU MAY APPLY FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT FROM FEBRUARY 6 – APRIL 28, 2023.

What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend a school district other than the one in which they live. Applications may be submitted to up to three nonresident school districts if the pupil wishes to attend a brick and mortar school. There are no limitations to the number of open enrollment applications that can be submitted to a virtual charter school.

How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment regular application period for the 2023-24 school year is from February 6-April 28, 2023. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 28, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

Parents may apply online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

Can I apply to a virtual charter school under open enrollment?

A pupil may only open enroll to an online/virtual school if: (1) the school has been created as a virtual charter school that meets the requirements of the charter school law [Wis. Stats. 118.40 (8)] or (2) the pupil is required to physically attend school on a regular basis in a school located in the nonresident school district on the days that school is in session. Other important things to know about applying to virtual charter schools:

- A virtual charter school is not homeschooling. Pupils attending virtual charter schools are public school pupils.
- You must know the nonresident school district in which the virtual charter school is located.
- You must know your resident school district to apply.
- A list of virtual charter schools may be found at <https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/charter-schools/virtual-charter-schools>.

Can parents appeal if an application is denied?

Parents whose applications are denied may appeal to the DPI within 30 days of the denial. State law requires the DPI to uphold the school district's decision unless DPI finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable. The DPI's decision may be appealed to circuit court.

Who may participate in open enrollment?

Pupils in kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

Open enrollment for prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

Can an application be rejected?

Nonresident school districts may deny an application if regular or special education space is not available for the pupil; special education or related services are not available; or if the pupil has been referred for a special education evaluation but has not yet been evaluated. Nonresident school districts may also deny an application if the pupil has been expelled during the current or preceding two years for certain violent conduct or if the pupil was habitually truant from the nonresident school district during any semester in the current or previous school year.

If there are more applications than spaces, pupils must be selected randomly, after giving preference to pupils already attending school in the nonresident school district and siblings of currently-attending pupils.

Some school districts establish waiting lists to fill unused spaces, but others do not.

Can a resident district prevent a pupil from leaving?

A resident district can deny a pupil's application for an invalid application (early or late application or missing information), ineligibility due to age (too young or too old), or if the resident district does not offer the same type of prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten, or early childhood program as the nonresident district or the pupil is not eligible for the program in the resident district. These are also reasons that a nonresident district can deny an application.

Must pupils reapply every year?

Once a pupil is accepted into a nonresident school district, the pupil may continue to attend that district without reapplication except that:

- The nonresident district may require a pupil to reapply one time— at the beginning of middle school, junior high or high school.
- A pupil may be returned to the resident school district if the special education required in a new or revised IEP is not available in the nonresident district or there is no space.
- A pupil who has become habitually truant in the nonresident district may be returned to the resident district.

(continued on next page)

Is there a cost for parents to participate in the open enrollment program?

There is no tuition cost to parents for participation in open enrollment. Parents of open enrolled pupils may be charged the same fees as resident pupils.

Who is responsible for transportation?

Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from school.

If transportation is required in the IEP for a child with a disability, it must be provided by the nonresident district.

School districts may provide transportation to open enrollment pupils if they wish. Usually, if transportation is provided, parents must transport the pupil to a location in the nonresident district.

Low-income parents may apply to the DPI at the end of the school year for partial reimbursement of their transportation costs.



Can a parent select a specific school in the pupil's nonresident school district?

Yes. A parent may request a specific school or program in the nonresident district. However, assignment to the requested school or program is not guaranteed and your pupil may be assigned to a different school other than the one requested. It is up to each nonresident district to determine a pupil's school assignment.

Can an open enrolled pupil participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the nonresident school district?

Open enrolled pupils have the same rights and responsibilities as resident pupils.

Inter-scholastic athletics are governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), which has rules concerning transfer pupils. Parents should check with the school district's athletic director about eligibility.

IMPORTANT OPEN ENROLLMENT DATES

February 6 – April 28, 2023

Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

June 9, 2023

Nonresident school districts must send notices of approval or denial via US mail or email. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the pupil is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 16, 2023

Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

June 30, 2023

Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the pupil will attend the nonresident district in the 2023-24 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the pupil to attend the district.




For more information contact:
Public School Open Enrollment Program
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841
Toll-free: 888-245-2732, option 2
openrollment@dpi.wi.gov
<https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>

2023-24

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

88.5FM Wausau & Central Wisconsin present


Help for the Homeless
HYGIENE DRIVE

Feb. 13 - March 3

**Donate NEW Hygiene & Cleaning Supplies
for Our Own
Wisconsin Rapid's Public Schools
Caring Closet**

Help ease the financial strain on your local crisis programs and those they serve!



Most Needed Items:

- Cleaning Supplies
- Feminine Needs
- Bathroom Tissue
- Diapers/Baby Care
- Hair Care
- Deodorant
- Dental Care
- Body Lotion
- Laundry Soap
- Kitchen Trash Bags
- Paper Towels
- Face/Bath Soap

Donations Remain in the Communities Where They are Collected!



Thanks to our Sponsors and Event Partners! More information at thefamily.net or 800-236-9364



Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive

Feb. 13 - March 3

The Family Radio Network joins area homeless and housing coalitions, inviting you to support your local crisis programs by providing practical help to those in need. Hygiene and cleaning items are not covered by FoodShare benefits.

Donate at any WRPS School by March 3

School donations will stock Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Caring Closet to be distributed to students and families in need throughout the school year.

"At the beginning of the school year, I always have students come into our Caring Closet looking for help with school supplies, backpacks, new clothing, hygiene supplies, or shoes. **They are especially drawn to the hygiene products because they don't always have enough at home.** That is why every year we participate in this drive. It is an important source of hygiene products for our students and their families." - School Social Worker

"Finding safe and stable housing after a family has experienced homelessness can bring such joy and relief to the family. Often though, the experience of homelessness forces families to give up many of their possessions. Through our Caring Closet, we are able to help families start over by providing basic needs, cleaning supplies, and hygiene items in a "welcome home basket." **Being able to provide families with the supplies they need to maintain their new home without the burden of additional moving costs has been so helpful to our families.**" -School Social Worker

Needs List (*indicates most needed)

Cleaning Supplies	Paper Products	Hair Care (All Hair Types)	Personal Care	Dental Care	Baby Care
Laundry Soap* Dish Soap* Trash Bags* Cleaners* -Floor -All Purpose -Glass -Toilet Bowl Sponges* Laundry Detergent*	Toilet Paper* Facial Tissue Paper Towels* Feminine Care: -Tampons* -Pads	Shampoo* Conditioner* Hair Brushes* Combs Hair Elastics* Styling Products Head Lice Treatment*	Hand Soap* Body Wash* Deodorant* Razors* Shaving Cream* Q-tips Lotion Lip Balm* First Aid Kits*	Toothbrushes Toothpaste Dental Floss	Diapers Pull-ups Wipes Rash Ointment

Participating Wisconsin Rapids Crisis Programs:

The Family Center and FOCUS Food Pantry

The Family Radio's annual Hygiene Drive helps 100 local crisis programs in 19 communities. \$4.2M dollars worth of products have been donated to date. Details at TheFamily.net or call 800.236.9364. Thanks for helping!