



GRANT ELEMENTARY

GRIZZLY NEWS December 2023

CONTACT US

8511 County Rd WW
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

Phone: 715-424-6766

Grant Elementary-WRPS

From the Desk of Mrs. Calteux....

Dear Grant Families,

As we find ourselves in the heart of December, the air is filled with the magical spirit of the holiday season. It's a time of joy, gratitude, and connection—a season that brings warmth to our hearts and smiles to the faces of our little learners. In the spirit of togetherness, we have some exciting updates and events to share in this month's newsletter.

****Wisconsin Winter Weather****

As we approach the winter season, we want to ensure that everyone is prepared for the chilly weather during recess. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately with warm coats, hats, gloves, snow pants and boots. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our students comfortable and safe during outdoor play.

****Door Decorating Contest - Spread the Holiday Cheer!****

Get ready for some festive fun! Our Door Decorating Contest kicks off on December 11th and runs through December 15th. Visit the Grant Elementary - WRPS Facebook page to check out the creative decorations. Invite friends and family from the greater Grant community to join in the fun! The classroom with the most "likes" will receive a special treat! Let's showcase our holiday spirit and creativity as a school community.

****Important Pick-Up Information****

Popcorn Sales, Art to Remember, and Grizzly Wear orders will be ready for pick up during the week of December 18th. Keep an eye out for future communication detailing the specific date and time for pick up. Thank you for supporting our school fundraisers and showing your Grizzly pride!

As we approach the end of the year, on behalf of the entire Grant Elementary staff, I want to wish each of you a wonderful holiday season filled with joy, laughter, and precious moments with your loved ones. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Calteux
Principal, Grant Elementary School

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



Calendar

- Dec 01** NO SCHOOL
PD day for Staff
- Dec 08** Progress Reports
posted to [Family Access](#)
- Dec 11** Paper copy of Progress
Reports go home
- Dec 18** Spirit Week
Dress-Up Days
- Dec 25-
Jan 1** NO SCHOOL
Winter Break

MEALTIME PRICES

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

Breakfast

Paid	\$1.50
Free/Reduced	\$0.00

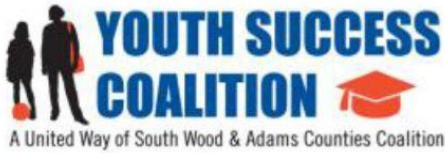
Lunch

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).



Find Fun at McMillan Library: Events & Activities For All Ages!

Did you know McMillan Library has year-round programming for children and teens?! Here are some highlights happening at the library!

Teen Game Day

2-4 pm, December 1st & 28th
Enjoy Snacks, PS5, Nintendo Switch,
& tabletop games with others!

Teen Anime Matinee

2-4:30 pm, December 9th
Watch anime with friends!

Teen Lego Build Day

2-4 pm, December 27th
Have snacks, build cool stuff.

Family Take Home Kits

Learn to knit at your own pace-yarn & instructions included! Sign up ahead and pickup on December 29th.

Family Movie Night

6 pm, December 12th
Enjoy a showing of the new Super Mario NBros. Movie!

Taylor's Version Celebration

4:30 - 6 pm, December 21st
All ages of Swifties are invited to dress as their favorite era & party like it's 1989! Enjoy snacks, trivia, a photo booth, and supplies for friendship bracelets and paper rings!



Holiday Spirit Week

Monday, 12/18:

Silly Socks...

Show off your best holiday or silly socks!

Tuesday, 12/19:

Dress Your Best...

Get decked out in your finest attire.

Wednesday, 12/20:

Candy Cane Day...

Wear red and white.

Thursday, 12/21:

Pajama Day...

Pull out your warmest/cozy PJ's

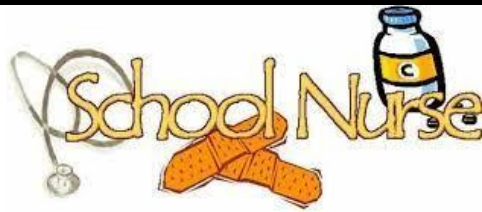
Friday, 12/22:

Festive Holiday Attire...

Wear all your holiday attire

(sweaters, earrings, hats, etc.)

We can't wait to see the school filled with joy & festivity!



December 2023

News From Nurse Zwetz

There are a lot of different viruses circulating this time of year. Please be cognizant when determining whether or not to send your student to school. As a reminder, they are allowed 10 sick days throughout the year. Anything covered by a doctor's excuse does not count towards the sick days. Please request a doctor's excuse anytime your student has an appointment or is seen for illness. If your child is having a fever (>100.4), vomiting, or diarrhea, please keep them home until 24 hours symptom-free with no medication use.

It is recommended to follow up with a healthcare provider if your student has been ill for 3 or more days.

Now that we are in full swing this school year, we would like to provide some information on common concerns we may see students presenting with.

CONJUNCTIVITIS ("PINK EYE")

With bacterial conjunctivitis:

- The eye will have yellow-green (thin or thick) mucus discharge
- Eyelids may be stuck together upon awakening.
- There may be itching or burning, red or swollen eyelids.
- The viral type of conjunctivitis is 24-48 hours.

With viral conjunctivitis:

- The eye may have a thinner watery or mucus discharge.
- There also may be some burning or itching, and red or swollen eyelids.
- The viral type may resolve on its own.
- This condition is readily communicable in the classroom. It is spread by coming into contact with eye discharge, droplets in the air from coughing or sneezing, from a person with a respiratory infection or touching one's eyes with contaminated hands/fingers.
- Pink eye can only be diagnosed and treated by a physician.

HEAD LICE

- Nits (lice eggs) are tiny, white, pearly eggs that attach themselves to the hair shaft close to the scalp. The nit can be removed manually by pinching between two fingernails and pulling it off the hair shaft, or by using a "nit comb".
- Even though they do not jump or fly, they can spread from one student to another by sharing combs, brushes, clothing, hats and bedding. Head lice can happen to anyone. It is not a sign of poor health or habits or being dirty.
- There are many lice treatment shampoos on the market as well as other mechanical and manual methods of controlling the lice. If you are unable to purchase treatment, notify the school nurse for resources.
- Bedding, clothing, and hats should be laundered in very hot water (120 degrees) on the same day or evening your child is treated. Stuffed animals should be bagged in an airtight bag for several days.
- All members of the household need to be checked when there is one case of head lice in your immediate family.
- When the child that has been treated for head lice returns to school, his or her head should be checked by the school nurse or health representative to ensure that it is free of lice and nits. Students will not be sent home or excluded from school if they have lice. We just ask that you instruct your child to not itch their head, wear their hair up if possible and not to share hats/hoodies.

*The Wisconsin Rapids Public School Nurses
would like to wish you and yours a
Merry Christmas and wonderful New Year!*



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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



November, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is required by state statute ([Wis. Stat. 115.385](#)) to generate a school report card and district report card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. The report cards are intended to help schools and districts use performance data to celebrate successes and improve their efforts to prepare students for their futures. These public report cards can be found online at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>.

The current school report card is based on last year's performance during the 2022-23 school year. DPI encourages caution when interpreting scores and ratings. Multiple years of data impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic are used throughout the report card.

At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas. Schools and districts receive a score for each priority area:

- **Achievement** - proficiency in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments
- **Growth** - year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement
- **Target Group Outcomes** - outcomes for students with the lowest test scores
- **On-Track to Graduation** - reliable predictors of how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education

The priority area scores are aggregated into an overall accountability score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed on the front page of the school or district report cards. It is important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability score is not a "percent correct" measurement and is not aligned with traditional 0-100 grading scales. Based on its score, a school or district receives one of five rating categories, from *Fails to Meet Expectations* to *Significantly Exceeds Expectations*, as well as corresponding one to five stars.

All individual school report cards are posted on the www.wrps.org website. This is a link directly to the [Grant Elementary](#) school report card. You can also access statewide school and district report cards and find additional resources online by going to the [DPI Report Cards Home](#) landing page. Please reach out to your building principal or contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Roxanne Filtz

Roxanne Filtz
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

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