



### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear THINK Academy Families,

It is hard to believe it is already February! While it feels more like spring, students did have the opportunity to enjoy some snow activities at recess in January. It was wonderful to see so many families at the Skate City for our January Family event! Thank you to the PTS for organizing this fun event for families.

On Wednesday, February 14, classes will have their annual Valentine's Day Party. Thank you to our PTS for contributing funds for each classroom to support this fun party for students. Students are welcome to bring valentines for their classmates. We do ask if students choose to bring in valentines to ensure they bring one for each student in their class.

This year students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be taking the Wisconsin State FORWARD exam beginning in late March through April. Classroom teachers will be working with students to prepare them for these computer-based assessments. A testing schedule will be coming home soon.

We have a committee who has been planning Read Across America week. This is a fun week to celebrate the joy of reading! These events will take place Monday, March 4 through Friday, March 8. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities throughout the week.

Students will be going outside for recess unless it is too cold or the weather is too wet. If the air temperatures are below zero or the wind chill is too low, then students will remain inside for recess. If students do not have boots and snow pants, they will not be allowed to play in the snow.

Respectfully,

Christine Slattery  
Principal



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FEB 5  
GLOBAL PLAY DAY

FEB 7  
EYE SCREENING 9:30  
CUP STACKING 3:45-4:30

FEB 9  
100TH DAY OF SCHOOL  
SPIRIT DAY - DRESS TO UNIMPRESS

FEB 14  
1ST GR READING CELEBRATION 10:00  
VALENTINE PARTIES 2:30-3:30  
CUP STACKING 3:45-4:30

FEB 16  
KG/1ST FIELD TRIP 12-3:00  
SPIRIT DAY - RED/PINK DAY

FEB 20  
PTS SLEDDING NIGHT 6:00-8:00

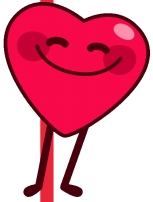
FEB 21  
CUP STACKING 3:45-4:30

FEB 23  
SPIRIT DAY - CRAZY HAIR/HAT DAY

FEB 29  
SOCK HOP 3:45-4:45  
PTS MEETING 5:00-6:00

MARCH 1  
NO SCHOOL - PD DAY

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY...



Sawyer Reblin  
Ms. Casey Mitchell  
Mrs. Schmidt  
Regina Hucke  
Jackson Stanton  
Beckham Huser  
Rowyn Fischer  
Annabella Webb  
Maddox Reblin  
Greyson Yetter  
Brooks Hartjes  
Mrs. Frank  
Gavin Long  
Luke Slinkman  
Raelynn Peplinski  
Logan Rich



## ART NEEDS...

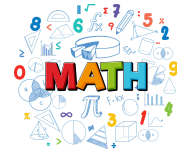
One of our Art Teachers, Ms. Grossbier, is looking for the following items for upcoming art projects:

- Empty 7-10 oz. bottles (bottles made of thicker plastic, such as Chobani Yogurt Drink containers). No water bottles, please.
- Empty 16 oz. Gatorade/Sports Drink bottles
- T-shirts (white or colored). Shirts can be gently used and don't have to be plain (they can have screen printing on them).

## MATH 24 CONTEST

The math "24 Game" is a card based game with 4 numbers on each card. Students add, subtract, multiply or divide the numbers on each card to get an answer of 24. Each number must be used and must only be used once. Not all math operations need to be used in order to get the answer of 24.

In January, fourth and fifth grade students had the opportunity to participate in the math "24 Game" school competition. This competition determined which three students in each grade level (along with an alternate) will go on to compete in the district-wide competition in March. The competition was intense, fun, and thrilling! The students representing fourth grade in the district-wide competition are: Marley Dycus, Olivia Ashbeck, and Ren Kramer (alternate player: Charlie Maciejewski). The students representing fifth grade in the district-wide competition are: Cole Adamski, Levi Jaminski, and Jackson Stanton (alternate player: Addy Adamski). We wish our math "24 Game" participants well as they prepare and compete in the district competition in March!





# FROM THE THINK NURSE

~JENNA WHITROCK

From the CDC:

Influenza (flu), COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are highly prevalent during the fall and winter virus season.

Tools that will help people protect themselves, their families, and their communities, include:

- Safe, updated immunizations are available for all three major fall and winter respiratory diseases - flu, COVID-19, and RSV.
- Widely available, effective treatments - Treatments are available for flu and COVID-19. Consult with your doctor for treatments.
- Testing - Tests, some of which can be done at home, can quickly detect these respiratory viruses to prevent delayed treatment and other actions that can protect their family, friends, and coworkers.
- Everyday actions - Other tools like masking, physical distancing, washing hands, and improving airflow.

Immunization against flu, COVID-19, and RSV remains the best safeguard against hospitalizations, long-term health impacts, and death.

Recommendations:

- Everyone 6 months and older should receive the seasonal influenza vaccine and the updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine.
- All infants should be protected against severe RSV through vaccination.
- Some children aged 8 through 19 months are at increased risk for severe RSV and may need a second RSV vaccine-consult with your physician.
- Adults 60 and older may receive the RSV vaccine if the provider thinks it's right for them.
- Click the following link for full information on [Respiratory Illnesses](#)

**\*\*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 using 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).**



## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

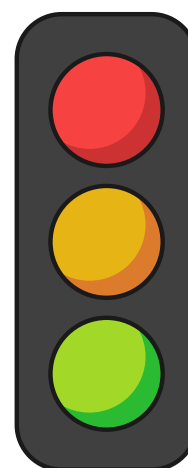
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised October 2021

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Chronic Absence  
10 or more days

Warning Signs  
5-8 days

Satisfactory  
5 or fewer absences

**WRPS**  
2024-2025  
**4- AND 5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

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

**WHAT TO BRING**

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

**REGISTRATION STARTS:**

DATE	TIME
FEBRUARY 28	12:00 - 6:00
FEBRUARY 29	12:00 - 6:00

After the initial registration dates, registration will be available at the Enrollment Center. Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm

**QUESTIONS ABOUT 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN?**

Attend an Information Session  
Tuesday, February 20  
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, 2024.
- 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, 2024. If you have a question about early admission, call our Pupil Services Office at 715.424.6724.
- If your child is currently enrolled in a WRPS 4K program you DO NOT need to register for 5K.

**4K Community Partners**

Community Partners: Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc., WOOD COUNTY HEAD START, Inc., the Y

**WRPS**  
**Questions about 4-Year-Old Kindergarten?**

Attend an Informational Session  
**Tuesday, February 20**  
**5:00 - 6:00**  
**Pitsch Early Learning Center**

501 17th Street S  
715.424.6779

**REGISTRATION STARTS FEBRUARY 28**

Community Partners: Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc., WOOD COUNTY HEAD START, Inc., the Y

# UPCOMING INFORMATION FOR 4K!

**WRPS**  
**WISCONSIN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING**

For ALL children 0-5 years of age living in the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools district attendance area. Screenings provided by WRPS, Wood County Head Start, and Wood County Birth to Three program.

**Thursday, February 29, 2024**  
Pitsch Early Learning Center  
501 17th St. So.  
**Must register by Friday, February 23**

**TO REGISTER:**  
Call Paula Tesch at 715-424-6700 or email paula.tesch@wrps.net

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**4K Graduation**

We will be celebrating all of our hard work and learning this year with a short graduation with snacks on the playground to follow.

**24 MAY 2024**  
**2:40-3:30 PM**

**THINK Academy Gym and Playground**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
**SCHOOL NUTRITION**  
Real food for Rapids kids

# FEBRUARY

## BREAKFAST MENU

GRANT, THINK ACADEMY & WOODSIDE

Starting the day with a healthy school breakfast is a simple way to help kids get the nutrition they need to learn, grow, and be healthy.

To learn more about the benefits of breakfast, check out this video from USDA's Team Nutrition: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/kids-are-stronger-school-breakfast>.



**Questions about school breakfast or lunch?**  
Contact us at [schoolnutrition@wrps.net](mailto:schoolnutrition@wrps.net)

<b>Questions about school breakfast or lunch?</b> Contact us at <a href="mailto:schoolnutrition@wrps.net">schoolnutrition@wrps.net</a>			<b>TH 1</b> WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT	<b>F 2</b> CHEESE OMELET WHOLE GRAIN TOAST
<b>M 5</b> COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK	<b>T 6</b> EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST SANDWICH	<b>W 7</b> BAGEL W/ CREAM CHEESE HARD BOILED EGG	<b>TH 8</b> HOMEMADE GRANOLA YOGURT	<b>F 9</b> EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST BURRITO
<b>M 12</b> COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK	<b>T 13</b> BLUEBERRY OATMEAL BAKE YOGURT	<b>W 14</b> BREAKFAST PIZZA	<b>TH 15</b> WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT	<b>F 16</b> CHEESE OMELET WHOLE GRAIN TOAST
<b>M 19</b> COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK	<b>T 20</b> EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST SANDWICH	<b>W 21</b> BAGEL W/ CREAM CHEESE CHEESE STICK	<b>TH 22</b> HOMEMADE GRANOLA YOGURT	<b>F 23</b> EGG + CHEESE BREAKFAST BURRITO
<b>M 26</b> COLD CEREAL CHEESE STICK	<b>T 27</b> EGG, CHEESE & POTATO BREAKFAST BOWL W/ WG BISCUIT	<b>W 28</b> BREAKFAST PIZZA	<b>TH 29</b> WHOLE GRAIN MUFFIN YOGURT	

### SELECTION OF MILK & FRUIT OFFERED DAILY

**BREAKFAST PRICES**

**PAID:** \$1.50

**FREE & REDUCED:** NO CHARGE

**ADULT:** \$2.60 **CHILD VISITOR:** \$2.00

MENU ITEMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



FOLLOW US @WRSCHOOLNUTRITION

[WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE](http://WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE)

**REAL FOOD FOR RAPIDS KIDS**



# WISCONSIN RAPIDS SCHOOL NUTRITION

Real food for Rapids kids

# FEBRUARY

## LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY

\*DAILY ENTREE INCLUDES A CHOICE OF OPTION 1 OR OPTION 2

\*ALL BREAD/GRAINS OFFERED ARE WHOLE GRAIN RICH

On Thursday, February 22nd, we'll be participating in the annual [Wisconsin Chili Lunch!](#) We'll be serving a tasty chili made with some locally grown veggies! The goal of the Wisconsin Chili Lunch is to create strong connections between Wisconsin farmers and eaters and demonstrates how cafeterias can serve Wisconsin grown - even in winter. This statewide chili lunch event inspires nutritious school meals and supports farm to institution initiatives throughout the state, and encourages year-round purchases of local foods. [#WichiliLunch](#) [#WISchoolMealsRock](#)



Questions about school breakfast or lunch?

Contact us at [schoolnutrition@wrps.net](mailto:schoolnutrition@wrps.net)

<p><b>M</b> <b>5</b></p> <p>WHOLE GRAIN PIZZA OR SUNBUTTER &amp; JELLY SANDWICH STRING CHEESE</p>					<p><b>T</b> <b>6</b></p> <p>HAMBURGER OR VEGGIE BURGER</p> <p>Taco Chips / Salsa</p>					<p><b>W</b> <b>7</b></p> <p>CHEESE QUESADILLA OR CHICKEN FAJITA</p> <p>Shredded Lettuce Salsa</p>					<p><b>TH</b> <b>8</b></p> <p>MACARONI &amp; CHEESE WHOLE GRAIN ROLL OR TURKEY BURGER</p>					<p><b>F</b> <b>9</b></p> <p>HOMEMADE LASAGNA OR YOGURT STRING CHEESE</p> <p>Whole Grain Roll</p>				
<p><b>M</b> <b>12</b></p> <p>CHICKEN STRIP WRAP OR HAM SANDWICH</p> <p>Steamed Corn</p>					<p><b>T</b> <b>13</b></p> <p>CARNITAS PORK NACHOS OR HOMEMADE BEAN &amp; CHEESE BURRITO</p> <p>Lettuce / Tomatoes Spanish Rice / Salsa</p>					<p><b>W</b> <b>14</b></p> <p>CHEESE RAVIOLI BREADSTICK OR GRILLED CHICKEN SANDWICH</p> <p>Whole Grain Choc. Chip Cookie</p>					<p><b>TH</b> <b>15</b></p> <p>CHEESE OMELET OR YOGURT STRING CHEESE</p> <p>French Toast Bake Deli Roaster Potatoes</p>					<p><b>F</b> <b>16</b></p> <p>WENZEL'S FARM BEEF &amp; PORK HOT DOG OR HAM &amp; CHEESE CHEF SALAD WHOLE GRAIN BUN</p>				
<p><b>M</b> <b>19</b></p> <p>BREADED CHICKEN SANDWICH OR BEEF TACO QUESADILLAS</p> <p>Sweet Potato Fries</p>					<p><b>T</b> <b>20</b></p> <p>WHOLE GRAIN TOASTED CHEESE SANDWICH OR TURKEY SANDWICH</p> <p>Tomato Soup Saltine Crackers</p>					<p><b>W</b> <b>21</b></p> <p>TURKEY IN GRAVY OR CRUNCHY FISH STICKS</p> <p>Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Whole Grain Roll</p>					<p><b>TH</b> <b>CHILI DAY!</b> <b>22</b></p> <p>CHEESE FILLED BREADSTICKS OR CHICKEN DRUMSTICK WHOLE GRAIN ROLL</p> <p>Wisconsin Chili</p>					<p><b>F</b> <b>23</b></p> <p>HOT HAM &amp; CHEESE ON PRETZEL BUN OR FALAFEL PITA</p>				
<p><b>M</b> <b>26</b></p> <p>TURKEY HOT DOG OR BBQ PORK SANDWICH</p> <p>Seasoned Potato Wedges</p>					<p><b>T</b> <b>27</b></p> <p>PORTESI CHEESE FRIES OR BREAKFAST POWER PACK</p>					<p><b>W</b> <b>28</b></p> <p>CHEESEBURGER OR BREADED FISH SANDWICH</p>					<p><b>TH</b> <b>29</b></p> <p>POPCORN CHICKEN BREADSTICK OR HAM SANDWICH</p>					<p><b>F</b> <b>March 1st</b></p> <p>NO SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY</p>				

**MILK, FRESH FRUIT + VEGETABLES OFFERED DAILY**

### KNOW YOUR FOOD

- VEGETARIAN
- FARM TO SCHOOL
- HARVEST OF THE MONTH

### LUNCH PRICES

- PAID: \$2.15    REDUCED: \$0.40
- FREE: NO CHARGE
- ADULT: \$4.65    CHILD VISITOR: \$3.00



FOLLOW US @WRSCHOOLNUTRITION

[WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE](http://WRPS.ORG/FOODSERVICE)

**REAL FOOD FOR RAPIDS KIDS**

MENU ITEMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**2023-2024 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY STATEMENT  
INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY PROCEDURES**

**CANCELLATION**

If bad weather during the night makes it impossible for buses to run in the morning, the following procedure will be used:

Announcements will be made using our Skylert system for parents, posts on the WRPS District webpage ([www.wrps.org](http://www.wrps.org)), the Nixle alert system, and also reported to these media outlets **as early as possible**, but in no case later than 6:30 a.m.:

- |                              |                        |                         |                        |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>WGLX (103.3 FM)</b>       | <b>WFHR (AM 1320)</b>  | <b>WSPT (97.9 FM)</b>   | <b>WAXX (104.5 FM)</b> | <b>WIFC (95.5 FM)</b>              |
| <b>BIG CHEESE (107.9 FM)</b> | <b>WDLB (AM 1450)</b>  | <b>WKQH (B 104.9FM)</b> | <b>WAYY (AM 790)</b>   | <b>WDEZ (101.9 FM)</b>             |
| <b>WYTE (106.5 FM)</b>       | <b>WLJY (105.5 FM)</b> | <b>WPCN (AM 1010)</b>   | <b>I-94 (94.1 FM)</b>  | <b>WRIG (AM 1390)</b>              |
| <b>HOT (96.7 FM)</b>         | <b>WOSQ (92.3 FM)</b>  | <b>WAOW-TV 9</b>        | <b>WSAW-TV 7</b>       | <b>WOZZ (94.7 FM)</b>              |
|                              |                        |                         |                        | <b>WSAU (AM 550<br/>or 99.9FM)</b> |

**EARLY DISMISSAL**

If bad weather develops during the morning while school is in session, the following procedure will be used:

- ◆ Lunches will be served before the students are dismissed. (There is no lunch for 4K students.)
- ◆ Buses will run according to the following schedule:

Middle School	12:00 p.m.	
Assumption High School	12:10 p.m.	
Lincoln High School	12:20 p.m.	
River Cities High School (a.m. session)	11:00 a.m. (as usual)	<i>** Afternoon RCHS sessions will be canceled.</i>
Elementary Schools (Public & Parochial)	1:00 p.m.	<i>** Afternoon early education unit sessions will be canceled.</i>
Morning 4-Year Old Kindergarten Session	10:45 a.m.	<i>** Afternoon 4K sessions will be canceled.</i>

Announcements of the early dismissal will be made on the above listed stations by 10:00 a.m., advising parents that their children will be sent home early.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

If an event or trip is canceled, it is the responsibility of the coach/advisor to inform the participants (the news stations listed above may be used for this communication). The safety of our students and staff is the primary consideration when making these decisions. While the "importance" of an event, the difficulties of rescheduling, and other inconveniences are recognized; safety is the only issue that is a factor in these decisions. Your cooperation, understanding, and assistance in these matters will be appreciated.

Questions regarding this Administrative Policy Statement should be referred to Superintendent Craig Broeren at 715-424-6701.

Craig Broeren  
Superintendent



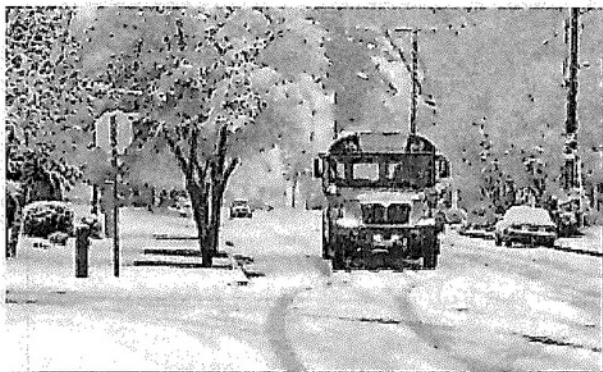
*LIKE our WRPS  
Facebook account, or  
follow us on Twitter to  
get up-to-date weather  
closure information!*



## How does school get canceled due to weather?



WISCONSIN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Parents may be interested to know how school closure decisions get made when inclement weather sweeps across our area. The number one priority in every closure decision is the safety of our students, and what is in the best interest of all students. When schools close, we lose valuable learning time with your child(ren), and many families have concerns or complications surrounding childcare. Furthermore, there may be times when parents feel differently about whether school should be open or closed based upon the weather. Should this happen, the District encourages parents to make a decision that they believe is best for their child's health and safety.

Decisions to close school are not taken lightly; and a great deal of thought and communication is involved in the process. Following are some details about what is involved in the weather-related school closure process, and how a final decision gets made:

As the Superintendent of Schools, I monitor weather conditions relative to snow/ice precipitation and gather input and feedback from all appropriate sources including meteorologists, transportation providers, and area highway personnel and/or law enforcement agencies that have personnel out driving on our roadways. Additionally, in cases of extremely cold temperatures and/or wind chills, a decision to close generally comes into play when temperatures will continue to remain around 35 degrees below zero or lower.

I will make every attempt to make a school closure decision as early as possible, and in no case later than 6:30 a.m. of the morning when school is to be in session. When feasible, decisions are made on the evening prior to the school day so that parents can make the appropriate arrangements necessary for childcare, if needed. Unfortunately, this early decision is not always possible given the unique weather patterns of Wisconsin.

You can find out about school closure decisions in a variety of ways:

- ⇒ Through email, text, and phone alerts generated by our Skylert notification system - you can sign up for these alerts through your "Family Access" account
- ⇒ By liking the District Facebook page, you will see inclement weather-related posts

from WRPS come up in your newsfeed (facebook.com/wrpsdistrict)

- ⇒ By going to our [www.wrps.org](http://www.wrps.org) webpage - weather closure alerts get posted at the top of the main District page, once a decision has been made
- ⇒ You can sign up for community related alerts through Nixle and receive a variety of school district, law enforcement, and other notifications for our area which you may find of interest
- ⇒ By listening to local radio and television news stations

Note that when school gets canceled, all other activities scheduled in school buildings for that day are also canceled. As outlined in Board Policy 723.1, **it is possible that certain dates will be designated as Remote Learning Days** - your school will individually communicate more about expectations for students on these dates when they occur.

Once school begins for the day, schools generally will not dismiss early unless absolutely necessary in order to avoid complications with transportation and childcare arrangements. Again, the safety of our students is always at the forefront of the decision-making process.

A decision to close during the school day will occur by 10:00 a.m., and lunches will be served to students in grades KG-12 before they are dismissed. **Middle school students will be dismissed first at 12:00 p.m., followed by Lincoln High students at 12:20 p.m.; and the elementary students will dismiss last at 1:00 p.m.** Afternoon sessions for our 4K and River Cities High School programs are automatically canceled if we close early. Communication to parents about an early release is similar - via Skylert, our District webpage and social media pages, Nixle, and various local media outlets.

School closure decisions are not always popular, and I can appreciate that parents may have different opinions about whether or not school should be canceled. Again, we always leave the final decision up to parents about whether to keep their child(ren) home if they feel this is best for their circumstance.

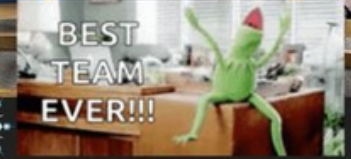
We sincerely appreciate your understanding and support when school closure decisions become necessary on inclement weather days. The decisions are not always easy, but they are definitely made with the best interest of all students in mind.

If you have questions concerning this information, feel free to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Broeren'.

Craig Broeren  
Superintendent  
[craig.broeren@wrps.net](mailto:craig.broeren@wrps.net)  
715-424-6701

# Random THINK Pics



STUDENTS SHOWING CARES & DOING GOOD DEEDS!



## 5TH GRADE WAX MUSEUM

