

MEAD MUSTANG MONTHLY UPDATES

SNOW DAY UPDATES

VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

- On the morning of our fourth inclement weather day, you will get a message from your child's teacher in Parent Square with instructions for the day.
- Students will complete the work in their "Snow Day Packets", as directed by their teachers.
- All teaching staff will have at least one hour of "office time", which you can sign on to ask questions or receive guidance on the tasks assigned for the day.
- Completed work should be returned to school. If students do not complete the required work at home on their Virtual Learning Day, they may be required to complete it during a free time when back at school.

The district builds in three inclement weather days per year for elementary students. After that, all other canceled days become virtual learning days.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- February 1- 4K & Kindergarten Registration Opens (until 2/28)
- February 14- Popcorn Sale (pre-order starting on February 10th)
- February 17- Mead PTC Meeting @ 4pm in Mead Cafeteria
- February 28th- Free Developmental Screener (pg. 2)
- March 7th- No School (PD Day)

**CHECK OUT WHAT ELSE IS
HAPPENING THIS MONTH
ON OUR COMMUNITY
EVENTS PAGE**



MATH 24 & SPELLING BEE **CHAMPIONS!**

We are proud to announce that we have several students competing in Regionals for Math 24 and the Spelling Bee later this month. They have all worked so hard to get to this level and they are going to do a great job representing Mead!



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.

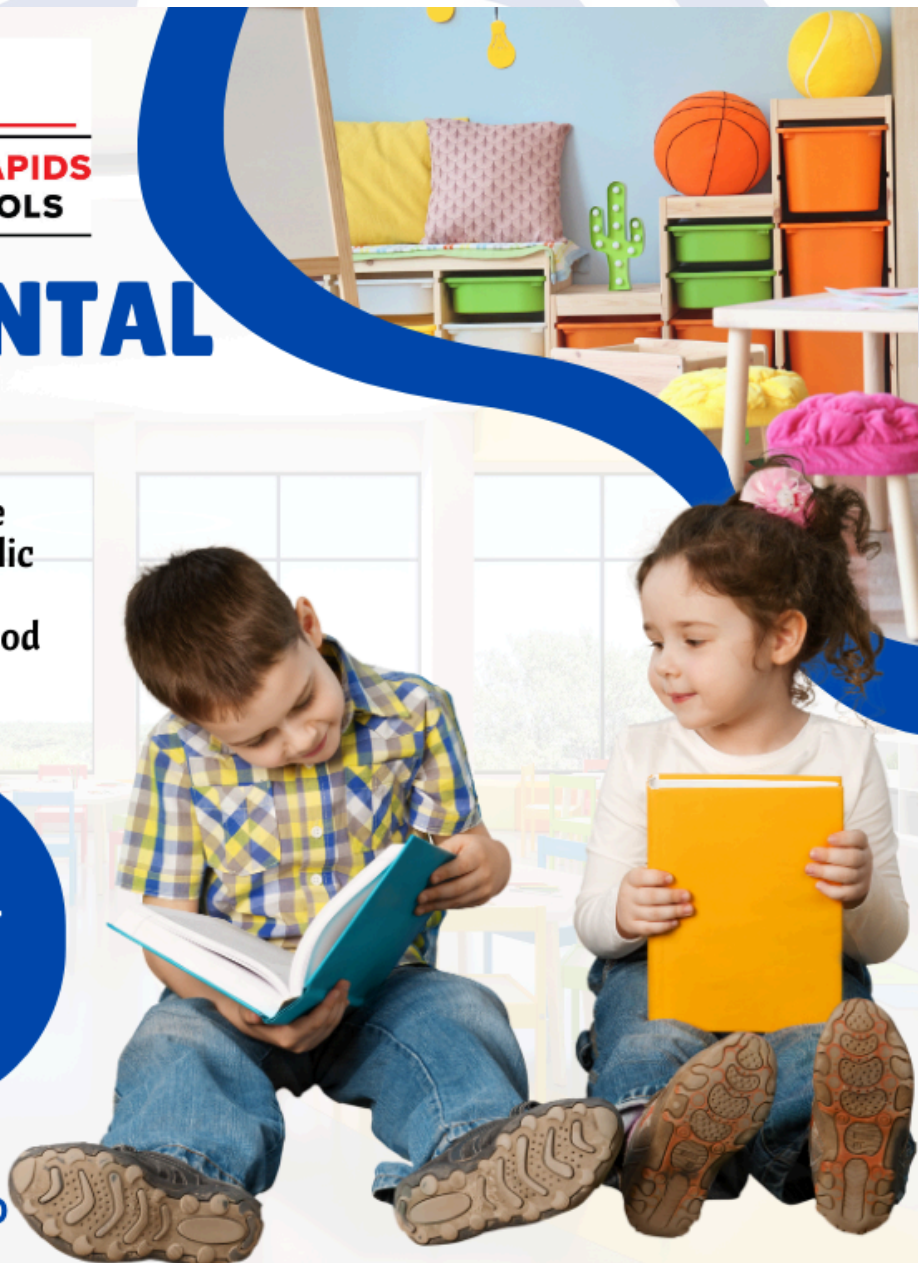
**Friday,
February 28, 2025**

**Pitsch Early Learning Center
501 17th St. So.**

**Must register by
Wednesday, February 26**

TO REGISTER:

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



The Importance of Reading at Home

Information for Parents



Reading improves student concentration.



Reading helps students develop language skills.



Reading fosters curiosity about the world we live in.



Reading helps students do better in all school subjects.



Children who are read to at least three times a week are twice as likely to score in the top 25% of reading scores.



The number of books in the home correlates significantly with higher reading scores for children.



65% of American fourth graders do not read at grade level.



Children's books contain 50% more rare words than primetime TV.

Source: literacyprojectfoundation.org

READING FLUENCY

Letters are being sent home throughout January and early February in backpacks sharing where students are placing on their mid-year assessments. While we are so proud of how hard our students are working, some students are showing that they still need to work on their reading fluency. Fluency is how smooth a reader sounds when they read aloud. The best way to work on fluency is to read daily. The more you can encourage your child to read at home, the more fluent they will become. Let us know if you need books!

MEAD SCHOOL TITLE I SERVICES

Mead Elementary School offers school-wide Title I services to all students. Title I is a federal program providing funding to support intervention to students who are struggling to reach grade level standards. At Mead, intervention teachers work with small groups of students in need of additional support in reading and math. Our intervention teachers also work in classrooms with the classroom teachers. If you do not want your child to receive these services, please contact the office for a form to fill out to opt your child out of these learning opportunities.

NEWSLETTER FROM NURSE ZWETZ

Winter 2025

I hope everyone was able to spend time with their families and enjoy the Christmas break. We are excited to have everyone back and hopefully healthy!!

Illness Guidelines

- 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.
- As a reminder, we are not excluding students that tested positive for COVID. There are no masking requirements or tracking in the district.
- 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)

Head Lice Protocol

- As winter months approach, so do cases of head lice. We have seen a slight increase in head lice cases throughout the district. As a district policy, we do not send out notification letters unless we see a high percentage of children in a classroom.
- Please refer to the following [link](#) for recommended lice treatment options and cleaning checklist.

RSV (*Respiratory Syncytial Virus*)

A common respiratory virus that usually causes mild cold-like symptoms. Most people recover in a week or two, but RSV can be serious, especially in infants and older adults.

Symptoms usually include:

- Runny nose
- Decrease in appetite
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Fever
- Wheezing

Influenza (Flu)

Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness.

A nasal swab can be taken to confirm influenza at any clinic.

Symptoms usually include:

- Fever/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny/stuffy nose
- Muscle/body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue
- Vomiting/diarrhea (this is more common in children than adults)

-If you need additional support or have any questions, please feel free to reach out for additional resources.

Why Read at home?

STUDENT A READS

- 20 minutes per day
- 3,600 minutes per school year
- 1,800,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 90TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT B READS

- 5 minutes per day
- 900 minutes per school year
- 282,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 50TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT C READS

- 1 minute per day
- 180 minutes per school year
- 8,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 10TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

www.bettefetter.com



2025-2026

**4 AND 5-YEAR OLD
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

**ONLINE
REGISTRATION
OPENS:**

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

INITIAL REGISTRATION WILL
CLOSE FEBRUARY 28, 2025

If you are unable to register online, please visit the
WRPS Enrollment Center at 311 Lincoln Street
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**WHAT YOU NEED
TO REGISTER**

- Child's certified birth certificate
- Proof of residency
- Immunization record

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

Visit our Early Learning webpage at:
wrps.org

or

Call Tracy Weiss

Early Learning Administrative Assistant
715.424.6779

**SCAN
ME! >>>**
TO REGISTER NOW!



**4-YEAR-OLD
KINDERGARTEN**

- Child must be 4 years old by September 1, 2025.
- 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, 2025. 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**



Building Blocks Learning Center, Inc.

