



Inside the Pack

From the Desk of Principal Lockenvitz

Greetings and welcome back to school!

It is hard to believe that this is the beginning of my eighteenth year at Washington. While there are really no slow times of the year, the beginning of each year seems to be the most hectic. We always seem to be rushing to get things ready and then moving with an intense pace to ensure that we meet the needs of all of the students and families. There certainly is a lot happening at Washington this year and we want you to feel comfortable being a part of it. It has always been important for me to let parents know that they are free to contact me to discuss issues, concerns or need answers to questions. Washington is a great school because we have excellent parents, students and staff that work together to ensure we meet the highest standards.

Back to School Picnic

Back to School Picnic and Book Fair on Thursday, September 22

This is becoming a favorite event for parents and students and hope to see you there. It will be my honor to work with all of you again this year as we make it one of the best in our history.

A new school year = exciting changes

We have an additional 68 students this year.

Our total enrollment is up to 510 students.

We have several new teachers, as well as a new office member.

Mrs. Beecher (Office Assistant)

Mrs. Fehr (1st Grade)

Ms. Weddington (3rd Grade)

Mr. Jones (5th Grade)

Miss Sands (2nd Grade)

Inside the Pack is published monthly by the Washington School PTO to promote communication between the PTO, school, and parents. The newsletter includes PTO updates, committee news, notes from the school office and general school information. Submissions are welcome and should be sent to Rajiv Shah via email: rajiv.shah@alumni.illinois.edu or using the submission form available in the school office. The deadline is the first FRIDAY of each month.

PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD 2011-2012

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Home of the Wolves
WORKING TOGETHER...LEARNING FOR LIFE



PTO Calendar

September 12th: First PTO Meeting of the School Year. childcare provided for school age children.

September 21 & 22 –Fall Book Fair.

September 22nd Back to School Picnic. Come enjoy free food and music!

Book Fair

Washington School Book Fair is on Thursday Sept. 22.



Books will be available to purchase all day during school hours. You may come in anytime during the day to buy some books for your child, gifts for other children, gifts for your teachers, or even some books for yourself. You may also come when your child's class is scheduled to visit the fair to help them make a selection. Each class will have the opportunity to visit the book fair and buy their own books. You can send money in an envelope for them on Thursday Sept. 22 and the volunteers will help them make the purchase if you cannot.

The book fair will also be up and running that night while the Back to School Picnic is going on. That way if you want to shop with your child but can't make it to school you still have an opportunity. A large portion of the sales will go directly back to our school. This is a wonderful way to foster reading and support Washington School!

Volunteers

We are still looking for people to help out with the upcoming book fair. The book fair is on Thursday, Sept. 22. We will need parents during the school day to help the children select and purchase their books. We will also be open during the back to school picnic so we'll need volunteers for that time as well. We are asking for a 2 hour shift either during the day or the evening. Please consider this one time event.

Contact:

Lori Runyan, 829-5728
mlrunyan@yahoo.com

New Families

Potluck

On August 25 we held our second New Families Potluck for Kindergarten and other families new to Washington. Dozens of parents and students enjoyed getting to know each other.

WASHINGTON WAY

Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Ready
Be Safe

**Is your child sick today?
Are you taking a trip?
Doctor Appointments??**

Please notify the school office if your child will be out of school for any reason. State law requires schools and parents to attempt to contact each other when a child is absent. Please be proactive and contact us first. If your child is going to be absent and you want to pick up their homework, please request it at the time you notify the office of the absence.

Washington School's phone number is 829-7034 or contact Susan: beechers@district87.org, Sharon: zwanzigs@district87.org to report absences.

You may also email the office through our school webpage: www.district87.org/Washington - Click on the news and info page to find the attendance link.

Library Help Wanted

We are looking for a few more parents to work in our library. The commitment for this would be 1 to 1 1/2 hours EVERY OTHER week. Duties include shelving books, stamping date due slips and general straightening of books.

Contact:
Lori Runyan, 829-5728
mlrunyan@yahoo.com

A NOTE FROM THE CAFETERIA

Many parents are using www.mylunchmoney.com to pay for student meals online with a credit card or debit card. If you have questions about your student's lunch account, please call your cafeteria manager or call the Food & Nutrition Office at 827.6031, X-227.

Volunteers

We value the close partnership established between the school and home and recognize the importance of the numerous volunteers who help at school. To help us ensure that our students are safe we require volunteers who often are at school to sign up and provide consent for a brief inquiry. A volunteer must complete either one of two forms and return them to the office. The whole process takes about 48 hours and needs to be completed prior to working in the school.



Questions about the bus?

Feel free to contact Illinois Central School Bus at 828-4373.



NURSE NOTES

Any medications (even Tylenol, Tums, cough drops & throat lozenges) a child takes during the day at school must be ordered by a physician. Forms are available at the school or on the nurse page of our website. Parents may come to school at any time to administer medication without a doctors order.

If your child has a fever, they MUST be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If you take your child to the doctor and they are given an antibiotic for an infection, the child MUST be on the antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school.

Teacher Profile:

Susan Beecher

Office Assistant

Number of Years at

Washington – This is Ms. Beecher’s 1st year as an office assistant, and her first year at Washington!

What Susan likes best about

her job: The warm and welcoming staff!

What she likes best about

Washington School: Seeing the student’s smiling faces everyday!

Her family: Susan grew up in Bloomington, Illinois. She has been married to her husband Greg for almost 10 years and she has a 7 year old son named Jack, who attends Pepper Ridge Elementary (where Susan regularly volunteers). She also has a pet fish name Zoro!

In her free time: Susan likes to spend time with her family: cooking, riding bikes, and taking walks.

Her hope for the new school year: To learn everyone’s name!



Cub Scout Roundup

Boys in first grade and beyond are eligible to join Cub Scouts. Cub Scouts is all about new experiences, character development and having fun. You and your son will make some life long memories along the journey. If your son would like to sign up, our first pack meeting is Tuesday Sept 20 in the school cafeteria. The actual meeting starts at 7 pm but if your son is interested in joining for the first time, please come between 6 and 6:30 so that a leader can answer any questions you may have. Annual dues are \$20. For information call Bob Dawson 829-5122 or Carl Sellmyer 838-7405.

Nutrition Matters

Have you heard the phrase, “Breakfast is the most important meal of the day?” Well, it is true! A fed mind is a healthy mind. Healthy minds are better able to concentrate, learn, and focus on lessons in class. District 87 offers breakfast every morning! If your child eats lunch for free or reduced price they will also receive breakfast at free or reduced price (\$0.30). Paid students are \$1.50 (elementary); \$1.75 (BJHS/BHS). Let us help you have a smoother morning getting out the door by eating breakfast provided by our food service staff!

If you have any ideas for our breakfast menu, we would love to hear them!

Questions: Call Julie Fehrenbacher, School Nutrition Director 309-827-6031 ext 229

Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation Committee continued to provide wonderful breakfasts and lunches, for which staff is very grateful. Thanks to Courtney Turnbull and Maryann Mellor and their committee.

Each month the PTO provides a lunch for the staff to show our appreciation.

Lunches are on the 3rd Thursday of the month. You can participate by providing a side dish, a dessert, condiments, or chips. E-mail maryannmellor@yahoo.com for more information.



Washington School is in a Great Neighborhood!

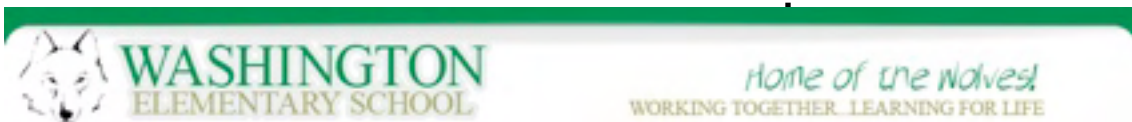
This summer the Founders' Grove Neighborhood Association made a \$600 donation to the Washington PTO! The FGNA also made a similar donation to the Oakland PTO. We will discuss at our September PTO meeting ways to use the money.

FGNA (Founders' Grove Neighborhood Association) is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Bloomington, IL established for the maintenance and enrichment of the 'Founders' Grove neighborhood and greater Bloomington. We are dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the historic character (and neighborly fun) that living in Bloomington has to offer. It is bound by Washington St. on the North, State St on the West, Mercer on the East and Oakland on the South.



Facebook

Washington Wolves is on Facebook. Become a fan of our page then share it with your friends. We will post updates and pictures. It's another way for Washington parents to stay connected and share information.



Washington PTO needs your help!

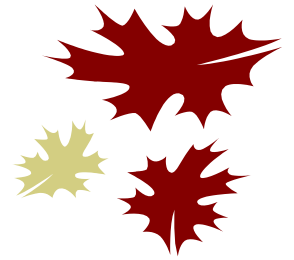
Discovery Days Chair – This person will schedule and organize Discovery Days. This program offers a chance for students to research and display a project. The projects can be from a large range of subjects such as technology, history, biology, chemistry, and biography. There is no judging and participation is voluntary. Classes tour the displays during school time and the display remains open after school for families to enjoy. This year's program will be held in April in conjunction with the spring book fair.

Spring Book Fair Coordinator – This person will schedule volunteers to work the day before the fair to set up the book display. Other volunteers are needed during selling hours, which are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Students shop with their class during the school day, and parents are welcome to come and help their child shop. Parents also can attend the book fair during a family event in the evening.

PEX Coordinator – NEW POSITION! This person will be responsible for updating and maintaining the PTO's email database. This position can be worked from home!

If you are interested in these positions, or helping with anything else, please call or email Courtney Turnbull, trnblfamily@msn.com or 309-661-2020 or Amie Keeton, akeeton@scbloomington.com or 309-827-8871

September 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6p Girl Scouts	2	3
4	5 No School— Labor Day	6 3:15p Science club	7	8	9	10
11	12 3:15p Brownie 6p Daisy Scouts 6:30p PTO	13 3:15p Science club 5:30p Volleyball	14	15 5:30p Volley- ball 6p Girl Scouts	16	17
18	19	20 3:15p Science club 5:30p Volleyball	21 Pizza with Grand- parents (5th/3rd) 3:30p Book Fair Preview	22 Book Fair Pizza with Grand- parents (1st/4th) 5p Back to school picnic	23 Pizza with Grandparents (K/2)	24
25	26 3:15p Brownies 3:45p Market Day Pickup 6p Daisy Scouts	27 3:15p Science club 3:15p Volleyball 5:30p Volleyball	28	29 3:15p Volley- ball 5:30p Volley- ball 6p Girl Scouts	30	

October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 3:15p Brownies 6p Daisy Scouts 6:30p PTO meeting	4 3:15 p Volleyball 3:15p Science Club 5:30p Volleyball	5	6 3:15p Volleyball 5:30p Volleyball	7	8
9	10 NO SCHOOL— Columbus Day	11 3:15 p Volleyball 3:15p Science Club 5:30p Volleyball	12	13 3:15p Volleyball 5:30p Volleyball 6p Girl Scouts	14	15
16	17 6p Daisy Scouts	18 3:15 p Volleyball 3:15p Science Club 5:30p Volleyball	19	20 3:15p Volleyball 5:30p Volleyball	21 End of Grading Period NO SCHOOL— Institute Day	22
23	24 Parent Teacher Conferences 3:15p Brownies 3:45p Market Day Pickup	25 Parent Teacher Conferences 3:15p Science Club	26 Parent Teacher Conferences	27 Parent Teacher Conferences 6p Girl Scouts	28 NO SCHOOL - Parent Teacher Conferences	29
30	31 1:30p Halloween Parties 2:30p Halloween Parade					