Dear WOCSD Parents/Guardians, Faculty & Staff, and Community Members:

After an unusually warm January, the month of February has certainly brought us back to reality! Thus proving Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction – like it or not - winter is still here! In our District, the winter months are always busy regardless of the snow and cold. The multitude of sports and events keep our students active and focused.

Our winter sports provide activity during these chilly days. I would like to congratulate the WHS Varsity Cheerleaders, and their coaches, Sara Littlefield and Bridgit Boston, on placing 2nd at the Class B Western Maine Conference Championships and also 2nd in the Regional competition. They will now go on to compete at the State Championships on February 11th.

I would also like to congratulate the WHS Wrestling team on their 1st place win at the Mid-State’s held last week at Dirigo High School in Dixfield. They will compete in the next phase of competition as Wells High School hosts the Regional’s tomorrow, Feb. 11th.

Competition gives students focus in athletics and especially in the classroom. I recently had the privilege of attending the Super Bowl – no, not in Houston - at Wells Elementary School. Ms. Stapleton’s and Mr. Hopwood’s classes held a “Multiplication Super Bowl” with their students. The competitive spirit between classmates promoted a fun and exciting way of learning math!

You will have the chance to watch a group of our WHS students on television as they compete on “The High School Quiz Show: Maine” produced by Maine Public. Representing WHS in the 8-team competition are students Matt Chase, Channing Wang, Brendan Dean, Katelyn Hurlburt, Danielle Jarosz, and Marisa Mizzoni, and their coach, Ms. Bechan. The group will tackle opponent Oak Hill High School in the first round. Be sure to check the WHS’s website for show dates/times.

Competition stimulates creativity in many ways. I would like to congratulate WJHS 8th grader, Zoe Clark, who received a Silver Key, and WHS Senior, Marisa Mizzoni, who received an Honorable Mention in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards – a national competition presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

Finally, please remember during the week of February 20th-24th there will be no school as we combine our observance of President’s Day and our annual Winter Break.

Sincerely,

James P. Daly
Superintendent of Schools
Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Education revised the Maine School Immunization Requirements rule on December 20, 2016. The changes further align Maine’s immunization rules with current national recommendations to better protect the health of all Maine people. The following two changes were made:

1. If you have a student enrolled at WES, WJHS, WHS without documented chicken pox vaccination or history of disease.

   Effective immediately, the exclusion period for varicella disease (chicken pox) has increased from 16 days to 21 days. This means that any child who has not provided proof of immunization or history of disease will be unable to attend school or any school related activity in the event of an active varicella breakout for 21 days. This time period will be extended if any further chicken pox cases occur after the first. The law requires a 21 day exclusion period after the LAST case.

2. If you have a student entering 7th grade September 2017 at WJHS..............................

   Effective for the 2017-2018 school year, all students entering, advancing, or transferring into seventh (7th) grade will need to receive one dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine before attendance is allowed. This requirement is for 7th grade students only; grades 8-12 are not included in this rule change.

   Pertussis (whooping cough) is a very contagious respiratory disease that can be severe and last for months. The immunity received from either early childhood immunization or pertussis disease wears off over time, leaving older students and adults susceptible to pertussis. Immunization with Tdap can protect students, schools and communities against whooping cough.

   You can find a link to the rule (Chapter 126 / 261) here: http://www.maine.gov/doe/rule/changes/index.html

   We are providing you with this information now so that you have ample time to schedule an appointment prior to the first day of the 2017-2018 school year.

   Please find the Frequently Asked Questions for more information on this new school immunization requirement.

   If you have any questions, pertaining to your student please contact:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nurse</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WES Nurse</td>
<td>Adrienne Zwetsloot RN</td>
<td>646-5953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WJHS Nurse</td>
<td>Charlotte Collins RN</td>
<td>646-5142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHS Nurse</td>
<td>Pat Endsley RN</td>
<td>641-6967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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   For further questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program at (207) 287-3746 or (800) 867-4775 or by email at ImmunizeME.DHHS@maine.gov.
ON-THE-SPOT RECOGNITIONS

Students, teachers, staff, and community members exhibiting “Warrior Pride”

Thank you for making our schools shine!

Faculty/Staff—

- **Noël Curcio** – WHS Guidance Counselor – for going “above and beyond” in assisting a student by enabling him to Skype his classes so he wouldn’t fall behind in his work.

- **Missy Lathrop** and **Kim Bohn** – WES parents - a special thanks for creating a subcommittee called Helping Hands. This group is anonymously supporting students in need of hats, jackets, and gloves for the winter. *Thanks for your altruism and dedication to the students of WES!*

- **Melissa Stapleton** and **Trevor Hopwood** – WES teachers - a special thanks for holding a Multiplication Super Bowl in their classes! *Great job!*

Students —

**Wells Elementary School**

- **Sam Heigelmann** – Kindergarten - has made great strides this year at WES in Mrs. Abbott’s class and we are all proud of him! *Nice job, Sam!*

- **Graeme Mertens** – Grade 1- has done a tremendous job all year in Mrs. Johnson’s classroom. We are all proud of him! *Way to go, Graeme!*

**Wells Junior High School**

- **Natalie Hanagan** and **Jaiden Greaves** - Grade 8 – winners of the 2017 WJHS Geography Bee. *Congratulations!*

- **Kelci Nguyen**- Grade 6 – for being very kind and helpful in supporting a new student from another country.

- **Ariana Leighton**- Grade 7- she sets a great example for peers by frequently leading Art class clean up.

- **Belle Norton** - Grade 6- Belle organizes and comes up with creative ideas for theater, and is very supportive of Technology Crew members.

- **Alyssa Wheeler** and **Kenna Olsen**- Grade 6- both have been great at mentoring and supporting a new student to our school.

- **Owen Bourque** – Grade 5 - for his enthusiasm and motivation in class.

- **Sean Swanick** –Grade 8- is always offering to help teachers.

- **Xander Trofatter** and **Michael Gregory** –Grade 8- for volunteering to help set up and take down equipment at our recent school dance.
ON-THE-SPOT RECOGNITIONS (cont’d)

Wells High School –

• Jessica Bacon, Cody Brassard, Matt Chase, Emma Clarrage, Nick Hansen, Felicia Karner, Jessica Licardo, Bailey Marsh, Noah McAvoy, David Ouellette, Lucas Reese, Kate Reidy, Phil Richmond, Matt Rogers, and Victoria Thiffault – for being members of the newly formed Unified Basketball Team.

• Nick Maynard – Grade 11 – whose artwork was chosen as 2nd Runner-Up in the 2017 Congressional Art Competition for Maine’s 1st Congressional District. Nick’s photo, “Moo You”, will be on display at the State House in Augusta this spring. Congratulations!

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Currently posted positions:

➢ Substitutes – grades K-12
➢ 2nd Shift Custodian - WHS
➢ Custodian subs – District wide

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION UPDATE

• The READ to ME Challenge takes place during the month of February (http://www.maine.gov/doe/readtome/)

• Wells Elementary School will hold its “Celebration of Reading” Day on March 3rd.

• ELA, Math, Science, and Writing Maine Educational Assessment, along with the SAT testing windows, have been released from the Maine Department of Education. More detailed information to follow.

• Curriculum Coordinating Council will meet on February 28th (rescheduled from Feb. 7th)

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

Wells Elementary School

• The Kinder Concert, scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 9th, was postponed due to the Snow Day. The new concert date TBA.

Wells Junior High School

• During the month of February, the Wells-Ogunquit Music Boosters (along with the Epilepsy Foundation of New England) are conducting a “Winter Weed-Out”. Donations of clothing, shoes, curtains, tablecloths, dish towels, blankets, etc., will help the group in fundraising for the Band and Color Guard. Collection barrels are available at each school. FMI-contact Ashley Breton at abreton@maine.rr.com.
HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT (cont’d)

Wells High School

Team sports bring people together! And that’s exactly what the new WHS Unified Basketball program is doing!

Dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared experiences, Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team.

The result?
Training and playing together leads to building skills and new friendships!

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

- Mon., Feb. 13th – vs. Thornton Academy @ 3:45pm
- Tues., Feb. 28th – vs. Cape Elizabeth @ 3:30pm
- Wed., March 6th – vs. Deering @ 3:30pm

We are offering a variety of new programs, as well as many of the regular favorites, for your learning and enjoyment.

Adult Education

Hot Off the Press!
Announcing the Spring 2017 Course Catalog!

View it on our website at adulted.wocsd.org under “Current Catalog”

or pick up a hardcopy in any of the WOCSD buildings.

Maybe now is the time to start your next “Ed-Venture”