

# WEST WORLD MONTHLY

December 2018

## *West Campus Vision*

*Building on the unique Westside tradition to foster creators of the future.*

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...**

Dear Parents/Guardians, and Members of the West Community,

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday spending quality time with their families.

December is a short month but it is packed full of events here at West Elementary: Choir, band and orchestra concerts, visits from the News 13 Storm team, PTA's Kids Night Out, and our annual Toys for Tots gift distribution. This is a wonderful time of year, but also very busy and so it can be stressful. As the adults scurry around preparing for the excitement, children can also feel the stress and exhaustion brought on by this busyness.

Please continue to support your child in his/her school success by ensuring a bed time is maintained at a reasonable hour. Adequate sleep supports learning, brain development, concentration, and mood and so directly affects children's success at school. Early this month all students will be taking Interim Benchmark assessments. Please encourage your child to do their best as their performance informs our instruction.

I would like to ask again for you to please remind students to dress for the changing season by layering and bringing jackets for outside. Our policy is to go outside for recess unless the temperature is below 16 degrees. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately.

There will be no school from December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>. Classes resume and students return on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education. I wish you a safe holiday and happy New Year.

Karen Newton

Principal, West Elementary



*Home of the  
Wolves & the  
Warriors*

*"Two Schools, One  
Family – Linked  
together by our  
heart for kids"*

**Elementary  
Office  
719-328-4900**

**Middle School  
Office  
719-328-3900**

**Elementary School  
Principal  
Karen Newton**

**Middle School  
Principal  
Shalah Sims**

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...**

Dear West Families,

All parents have hopes and dreams for their children. Have you shared these dreams with your child? Being in school every day will enable your child to live up to this potential, do well in school, graduate ready for the work force, or go on to college.



Did you know that students who miss as little as two days a month are at increased risk of not graduating from high school? Even strong students with good grades in elementary school can quickly fall off course in middle and high school if they miss a few classes. Lessons build on one another and move more quickly in the upper grades. While it may not seem like it, students can't make up for too many absences with take-home assignments.

Please talk with your teen about the importance of being in school every day. If you need support with identifying or overcoming barriers to attending school, please call our office. Chances are we have the resources to be part of a solution. We understand that families sometimes face challenges that require additional support. Here are some of the people at West who are ready to help.

<b>Administration</b>	<b>328-3900</b>	<b>Ms. Sims &amp; Ms. Stewart</b>
<b>Attendance Office</b>	<b>328-3911</b>	<b>Ms. Anderson</b>
<b>Counseling</b>	<b>328-3812</b>	<b>Ms. Seaney &amp; Ms. Clapham</b>
<b>Social Worker</b>	<b>328-3812</b>	<b>Mr. Liles</b>
<b>Community Liaison</b>	<b>328-4947</b>	<b>Ms. Collins-Bass</b>

We truly love watching how your child thrives when we partner together as a strong Westside community! We love seeing your child's face at school every day. Please call if we can be of service.

Respectfully,

Shalah P. Sims, Principal

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

# GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS...

Being in school at least **98%** of the time or 186 to 190 days

That's no more than 4 days off a year

175 non-school days a year

All this time for holidays and appointments

365 days in the calendar year

What's your attendance?



Expected attendance

Risk of underachievement

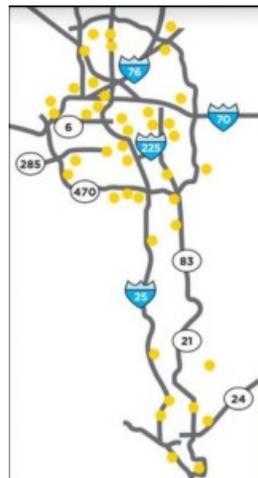
Severe risk of underachievement

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Discovering the potential in all



Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable! Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!



## the smile generation®

We have Smile Generation®-trusted offices in **Westminster, Arvada, Lakewood, Littleton, Highlands Ranch, Colorado Springs** and many other cities.

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## COUNSELING CORNER

Colorado Springs School District 11 is pleased to introduce **Naviance Student** – a mobile-friendly, comprehensive website that you and your student can use to explore and make plans about careers and colleges. Naviance Student keeps your student's ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan) accessible to you, your student, and your student's counselor at any time.

### These are things you can look for in Naviance Student and discuss with your child:

**6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grade:** Check out the Careers link for careers your student is thinking about. Review your student's career assessment results. View your student's Postsecondary Goals and talk with him/her about how you can support and encourage him/her.

**11<sup>th</sup> grade:** Check out the Colleges link and view the colleges your student is thinking about. You can also do a college search and add to your student's list of colleges to consider.

**12<sup>th</sup> grade:** See which colleges your student is applying to and compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from our school for students who have applied and been admitted in the past (this will be available once your child's high school has the supporting data).

Your student will build a resume, complete online surveys, and manage timelines and deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers.

### Naviance Student helps you be involved in the planning and advising process

Naviance Student also lets us share information with you and your student about upcoming meetings and events, local scholarship opportunities, and other resources for college and career information.

To visit our school's Naviance Student site, use an Internet browser to connect to:

<http://student.naviance.com/schoolname/>

When you visit the site for the first time, select "I need to register" under the "Are you new here?" heading. Enter your QConnect PIN in the **Registration Code** box and follow the on-screen instructions to create your own account. Once you have your own account, you will sign in using the user name and password you chose during the registration process. Note that you and your student have separate logins.

We hope that you will find this resource helpful. If you have questions about Naviance Student, please contact us in the Counseling Department!

### COUNSELING CONTACTS

**Steve Webb- Elementary Counselor**

[Steven.webb@d11.org](mailto:Steven.webb@d11.org)

**Julie Walker- Elementary Social Worker**

[Juliann.walker@d11.org](mailto:Juliann.walker@d11.org)

**Sarah Clapham- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor**

[Sarah.clapham@d11.org](mailto:Sarah.clapham@d11.org)

**Sandra Seaney-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor**

[Sandra.seaney@d11.org](mailto:Sandra.seaney@d11.org)

**Nick Liles- Social Worker**

[Nicholas.liles@d11.org](mailto:Nicholas.liles@d11.org)

**ATHLETICS**

**Girls' Basketball**

Both teams are competing very well this season. Good luck to a strong finish!

B Squad Tournament @ Wasson Campus: December 7<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm and  
December 8<sup>th</sup> Time TBD

A Squad Tournament @ School Sites (TBD) – listen to announcements



**Boys' Basketball**

**Tryouts will begin on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

In order to be able to step onto the court for tryouts, athletes need

A) A completed blue card

B) A D11 Participation Form

C) A current physical

If you have any questions, contact our Athletic Director, Anna Stewart,

at [anna.stewart@d11.org](mailto:anna.stewart@d11.org) or 328-3918.

**IMPORTANT DATES**



12/6	MS Choir/Orchestra Concert 7:00-8:00
12/14	PTA Kids' Night Out 5:30
12/17	MS Band Concert 7:00-8:00
12/20-1/6	Winter Break



**PreK - 12 Colorado Teachers!**

Apply for a Teachers and Technology Grant for the 2018 - 19 school year for your school

**West Campus**

Grants range from \$500 to \$5000 and are available to full-time classroom teachers in public or private school. The CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation's Teachers and Technology grants are designed to help fund projects that advance student success through the innovative use of technology in the classroom.

Click [centurylink.com/teachersandtechnology](http://centurylink.com/teachersandtechnology)

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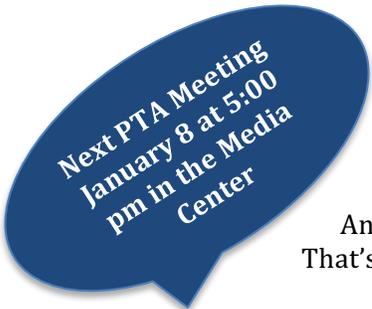
**From Your West Campus Parent-Teacher Association**  
**PTA News and Notes for**  
**December 2018**



Dear West Campus Parent,

We're closing in on the end of the year! Three important items to share...

- **Kids' Night Out is December 14**—Check for posters on the walls and for a flyer to come home in your child's backpack. For a small fee, you can drop off your elementary-school kid(s) to be entertained for the evening (dinner included) while you get a few hours off. The middle schoolers in National Junior Honor Society will provide games and activities. **But SPACE IS LIMITED so make sure you send your form in to reserve a spot as soon as you see it come home!**
- **Help Our School Families with Food Aid Over the Holidays.** Many West Campus families have requested help over the holidays to provide food at home in the weeks we're out of school for the winter break. The West Campus PTA is helping to raise funds that we'll pass along to our community liaison, Melody Collins-Bass, so she can use them for grocery cards and food items to fill in what's needed. Watch your child's backpack for a letter about donating.
- **Spring Carnival for Elementary School—We Need Your Help!** If you're willing to help out with this one-day, after-school extravaganza, let us know! We just need some bodies to help man the games, cake walk, obstacle course, and more. It's going to be GREAT FUN for the kids. To help plan and get it organized, please come to the January 8, 2019 PTA meeting at 5:00 in the Media Center. Or, if you're willing to help but can't make the meeting, email [westcampuspta@gmail.com](mailto:westcampuspta@gmail.com) and we'll get your name on the list.



Inquiring minds: **PTA meeting minutes** are archived on the West Campus website under the "Parents" tab.

And, if you've yet to "like" and "follow" the **West Campus PTA on Facebook**, please do. That's a great way to stay tuned in to what's coming up.

Have a great December!

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**The West Campus PTA (Fall 2018 Membership Drive—Dec. Newsletter)**

**YES!** I'd like to join and donate to the West Campus PTA today. It's just \$10 to join—any additional donation beyond that goes toward our PTA-sponsored projects. **Cash accepted or make checks out to West Campus PTA.**



Please circle one: \$10 \$ 20 \$ 50 \$ 100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (other)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) and Grade/Class \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Yes! Please let me know if you need help with any projects, and I'll let you know if I'm available.