

West Side Christian School  
**PARENT BULLETIN**  
February 18, 2020



“Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”

**Psalms 46:10**

**WSCS COMING EVENTS:**

February	18/19	Parent Teacher Conferences 6-8 pm
	19	7th/8th Choral Showcase at GRCHS
	21/24	<b>No School - Winter Break!</b>
	25	Subs and Sweets Fundraiser Orders Due
	25	Middle School Highlight Night
	29	Annual WSCS Auction at City Flats Ballroom
March	5	7th/8th Orchestra “Giving Bach” Concert at Community Transition Campus
	6	Recess Bake Sale
	7	Annual WSCS Sportscard Show in the gym 9am-3pm
	8	Daylight Savings Time begins
	14	Odyssey of the Mind State Competition
	16	Subs and Sweets Order Pick-up
	17	Middle School Skating Party 7-9pm
	18	BUDS: Blandford Animals
	20	Rock Your Socks: Down Syndrome Day
	20	5th Grade Wax Museum
	20	End of 3rd quarter
	23	Society Meeting at 7:00pm in the Band Room
	28	Science Olympiad Regional Competition

**MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT NIGHT** will be on February 25 in the evening. If you're a current fifth grade family, come learn more about the WSCS middle school experience. If you know of another family that may be interested in exploring WSCS's middle school, bring them along!

**THE AUCTION HAS STARTED!** Visit [the auction site](#) to bid on all the silent auction items. Don't forget to sign your children up for the amazing events each teacher is offering as well as buy tickets for amazing classroom baskets! Flyers will be at parent teacher conferences outlining the classroom baskets. Grab a flyer and post at work or give to a neighbor. Anyone can bid and win! All items will be available for pick up March 3-6. And thank you to all the parents that donated money and items to make these classroom baskets so wonderful this year!

- Live Auction is coming up on Saturday, February 29!
- There is still time to get your \$15/person 'Park, Dessert & Bid' ticket at City Flats Hotel Ballroom. It includes: free parking, a cupcake dessert, entry into the Live Auction, and complimentary soft drinks. [BUY A TICKET](#) And check out some of the items that will be up for bid during the live auction on the website.

**WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SPORTS CARD & COLLECTIBLES SHOW:** Our 29th annual show will be held on Saturday, March 7, from 9:00am - 3:00pm. Over 35 vendors will be present with a variety of sports cards and other memorabilia. Meet former Detroit Tiger great Ron LeFlore who will be signing autographs from 12:00pm - 2:00pm. Admission is free!

### **HOT LUNCH:**

Hot Lunch ordering for the final quarter of school will be opening Monday, March 2 and will remain open until Wednesday, March 11. This will cover lunches served from March 23, through May 27.

**Wednesday, February 19, is Chicken Strips Day.**

Elementary helpers: L. Verbeek, J. Graybill, J. Helms, E. Simpson

Middle School: L. Verbeek, E. Simpson

**Friday, February 21 - No School**

**Monday, February 24 - No School**

### **PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS:**

**Wed., 2/19** - K. Lucas

**Thur., 2/20** - R. Taylor

**Fri., 2/21** - No School

**Mon., 2/24** - No School

**Tues., 2/25** - K. VanderMolen

### **T.R.I.P.**

Tuesday TRIP orders for this week are due today by 4 pm. Emails will be sent out when the orders are ready for pickup. If you would like to get started in this tuition-saving program, stop in the office for information. Remember, there are several vendors available for purchase from the office at any time.

### **TECH BYTE**

**DELAY THE SMART PHONE:** There is a long list of reasons why top Silicon Valley executives are saying no to the smartphone until at least 14 for their children. Join more than 22,000 families in delaying the smartphone for children until at least 8th grade at [www.waituntil8th.org](http://www.waituntil8th.org). Right now, the average age a child gets a smartphone is only 10.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Girls with a Goal is still looking for a few more people to be willing to help lead practices/run with the girls. If you would like to help please let Rachel Becher know. [rachelbecher@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbecher@gmail.com)

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES ARE THIS WEEK:**

#### **Preschool and Elementary schedules are all set!**

**Middle School** -- teachers and special subjects teachers will be available in the gym in an open format to meet with parents between 6 and 8 p.m. this evening and tomorrow evening.

Mrs. Louwerse will be available by appointment only at [jlouwerse@wschristian.org](mailto:jlouwerse@wschristian.org).

Mrs. Meekhof will be available this evening from 6:00 - 8:00pm in the gym.

Mrs. VanDyke will be available on Wednesday evening from 6:00-8:00pm in the gym.

Mrs. Bultsma will be available on Wednesday evening from 7:15-8:00pm in the gym.

**LOST AND FOUND:** We encourage you and your child(ren) to claim your lost coat, glove, sweatshirt, and other items from our lost and found tables. There are two tables located in our school filled with clothing and home items. Please claim these by next week (if you're coming to conferences today or tomorrow, this would be a good time to check it out). All unclaimed items will be donated to a local nonprofit.

**HANDWRITING COMPETITION:** Our annual Zaner-Bloser handwriting competition is underway. The following students were outstanding in their grades and their work will be submitted to Zaner-Bloser for evaluation for the state competition along with thousands of other students in Michigan:

2<sup>nd</sup> – Scarlett Boersma; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Nahla Simpson; 4<sup>th</sup> – Trina Zwagerman; 5<sup>th</sup> – Liza Kauffman; 6<sup>th</sup> – Faith Adema; 7<sup>th</sup> – Molly Wielhouwer; 8<sup>th</sup> – Lynnae Hop; Special needs - Caden Kortman

Congratulations to all of you!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ODYSSEY OF THE MIND TEAMS AND COACHES!** The middle school team placed 2nd in their division and the elementary team placed 1st this past Saturday! The elementary team was also awarded the Ranatra Fusca Award. It's awarded to teams that exhibit exceptional creativity during competition. Both teams will be advancing to the State Competition next month. Let's give the teams and coaches a round of applause! We are proud of them!!

**THIS IS THE FINAL WEEK FOR OUR SUBS & SWEETS FUNDRAISER!** We're hoping to beat our sales from last year (946 subs and 228 tubs of cookie dough)! Remember, orders are due in the office by the end of the day on Tuesday, February 25. Also, plan to pick up your Subs & Sweets on Monday, March 16, 2:30pm-5:30pm. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer VanStrien ([jennifer.vanstrien@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.vanstrien@gmail.com), 269-760-4450).

**SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER!!** We're collaborating with Blandford Farm to offer you some unique tomato plants (\$3 each) for your home gardens or containers. Check [out the link](#) and place your order by April 1 and we'll have the plants here during the week of May 18. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Janet Staal, [jstaal@wschristian.org](mailto:jstaal@wschristian.org). More details and order link: [Tomato Plant Order Form](#)

Don't have space to grow your own food, no worries! Visit our school garden weekly sales this summer or sign up for a Blandford Farm CSA share. CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture and it's a system that connects consumers (you) to their farmers. You, the CSA member, get a share in the harvest. It ensures that you will have access to amazing food during the length of the growing season! For details and to sign-up: <https://bit.ly/2GM0jNf> Note: Spots are limited and the shares sold out last year.

**2019-20 WSCS PROFILES ADS:** The yearbook committee is pleased to offer businesses the opportunity to place an advertisement in the West Side Christian School *Profiles* yearbook. Ads will cost from \$25 to \$125 depending on the size of the ad. The deadline to submit ads is February 28, 2020. You may also call the school office at 453-3925 if you would like to request a template and information flyer.

**BOX TOPS:** Please bring in those Box Tops! Remember to scan your receipts or ask someone to do it for you!!

**PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF OUR NEIGHBORS** as you come and go from school. The speed limit is 25 mph. Also, please note the stop sign on Westmoor and Haines. Thank you!

### **ELEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**3RD GRADE, 4TH GRADE AND 5TH GRADE GIRLS** we are very excited to have Girls with a Goal again this year. Please look for a paper coming home from your daughters to sign up for Girls with a Goal. The cost will be \$40 which will cover the race fee and a T-shirt for your daughter. Look for the note which will include practice days and times. Practices will start the week of February 24. All money will need to be collected by March 3.

### **MUSIC NOTES**

**7TH / 8TH GRADE CHOIRS** will be having a morning choral workshop at GRCHS on Wednesday, February 19 at 9:00am, with an informal concert at 1:00pm. Lunch will be provided. Parents are invited to hear this afternoon performance in the beautiful CAW. Choir students should plan on wearing their black WSCS theme shirts for this event.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**ORCHESTRA TEACHER:** WSCS is seeking a talented individual who loves music and children to fill this part-time position. Applicants should be certified in music education and able to plan and implement lessons, assess students and organize learning material, resources and music opportunities. For more information and to apply today, please visit <https://wscsgr.org/employment-opportunities/>. The application deadline is February 28.

**KITCHEN SUPERVISOR:** Part-time position (average 4-6 hours weekly). This is an important role for WSCS to make sure we are compliant with the Kent County Health Department standards and continue with our current certification. Please see more details on our website and apply today:

<https://wscsgr.org/employment-opportunities/> Application deadline has been extended through Friday, February 28.

**BUS DRIVER:** Bus drivers are the first and last WSCS staff members to greet children with a smile. This is a special and important job! WSCS is looking for a caring individual to join our amazing bus team. All interested individuals should visit <https://wscsgr.org/employment-opportunities/> for more information. The application deadline is August 14.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**CALVIN CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL SHADOW DAYS:** Calvin Christian HS would love to have your 8th grade student come for a shadow day! Your student can choose to either attend a half day or a full day of school. Typically Tuesdays and Fridays are great days to shadow, but we can absolutely work with your schedule. Your student will be paired with a 9th grader of the same gender and will spend the day with them attending their classes, chapel, electives, and having lunch. Email the CCHS school counselor, Rebekah Karel, to set up a shadow day: [rkarel@gccsmi.org](mailto:rkarel@gccsmi.org)

**THE SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND EDUCATIONAL IMPACT OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN 2020.** Students today are digital natives. The ubiquitous presence of technology - the internet, tablets, laptops, smart products, and cell phones - defines their generation. And despite the wishes of some, the high-tech culture is here to stay. What are school, parents, and a community to do? Join Unity Christian High School on Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00pm in the multipurpose Gym for a presentation and conversation about digital technology. Please call Unity Principal, Jerry DeGroot (616)669.1820, with any questions.

**ALLENDALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** will be holding its 13th annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Pi Day - Saturday, March 14 - at Allendale High School! There will be divisions for boys and girls for each grade level in 3rd through 8th grade. Please visit [www.facebook.com/ACS3on3/](https://www.facebook.com/ACS3on3/) for more details and to access the online registration form. Registration deadline is March 4. We hope to see you there!

**GRANDVILLE CALVIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS FOUNDATION GOLF CLASSIC:** Start recruiting your foursome for the upcoming GCCSEF Golf Classic on Saturday, May 16, 2020 at Thornapple Pointe Golf Club. The cost is \$125 per golfer. Call Joan at 532-2373 or email [jstaal@gccsmi.org](mailto:jstaal@gccsmi.org) to reserve your spot today or sign up on line through this link. <https://www.classy.org/event/gccsf-golf-classic-may-16-2020/e268989> We have limited spots left so don't delay. Your fee includes cart, continental breakfast and lunch, snacks out on the course, and prizes.

**UNITY SUMMER SPORTS CAMP SCHEDULE:** Unity Christian will again be sponsoring many sports camps this summer for students age 3 to 12th grade. The camp schedule has been finalized (with the exception of golf camp and swim camp), and is available at this [link](#) or at [unitychristianathletics.org](http://unitychristianathletics.org) under the "Camps and Clinics" tab. Online registration for Unity summer sports camps will begin on Monday, April 13. We look forward to having your students join us this summer!

**GRANDVILLE CALVIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 2020 SUMMER CAMP INFO IS HERE!** Sign-up Online at <https://www.gccssportscamps.com/index.cfm> . Click on the links to view dates and times this summer!