



# Wildcat Reader



Westbrook Elementary School Newsletter

February 3, 2017

1312 Robertson Drive Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 390-6490 Info Line: (402) 390-2244 www.westside66.org

## Mission

The mission of Westbrook Elementary School, together with family and community involvement, is to ensure our students a successful academic and social education that provides the foundation for life-long learning.

## News Briefs

### Please Note

### Strike Up The Band Because Band-O-Rama Is Coming!

Fifth and Sixth Grade Band students will present a district wide musical extravaganza on Tuesday, March 14 at 7:00 pm. Please mark your calendars and help reward your child for their hard work by making this event a priority for your entire family. Students will attend a rehearsal during the school day and will need to report to Westside High School 6:30 A detailed letter about the days events will be e-mailed to band parents, and sent home with band students the last week of February. Questions about this event or anything else band related, please e-mail [carpenter.gail@westside66.net](mailto:carpenter.gail@westside66.net) or [freeman](mailto:freeman).

## Wildcats for January

This week, select students were recognized as a “Wildcat of the Month”. Each grade level and specials teacher chose students who were respectful, responsible, and safe throughout the entire month. These students received a certificate and will enjoy ice cream sundaes next week.

Kdg	DJ K.	Art	Victor F. (2)
Kdg	Samantha B.	Art	CoCo R. (2)
1st	Stella L.	Art	Marina K. (6)
1st	Caleb S.	Art	Devan C. (6)
2nd	Austyn B.	Library	Stella L. (1)
2nd	Norah K.	Library	Caleb S. (1)
3rd	Cadence B.	Library	Mason A. (4)
3rd	Caleb W.	Library	Hallee Mc. (5)
4th	Matthew F.	Music	Cain Di. (3)
4th	Amaya L.	Music	Juliana G. (K)
5th	Chloe M.	Music	Bailey E. (4)
5th	Sam M.	Music	Linnea H. (6)
6th	Erin M.	P.E.	Owen S-C. (K)
6th	Brett P.	P.E.	Avrie K. (2)
		P.E.	Kyle S. (4)
		P.E.	Kinsley Mc. (5)



## Strings Concert

6th Grade Strings Solo/Group Night on February 28 at 6:30 PM in the Westside Middle School Auditorium.

## Calendar Reminders

- Feb. 9 CC Meeting - 6 pm
- Feb. 10 Valentine’s Day Party 2:45 pm
- Feb. 9-14 Scholastic Book Fair
- Feb. 13-14 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 16-20 No School



- Feb. 23 Strings Group Night WMS @ 6:30
- Feb. 24 B & G Club Closed
- Feb. 28 NEHS Mtg. 3:30 - 4:00 pm
- March 2 3rd & 4th Gr Music Program 6:30 pm
- March 9 Community Club Mtg 6 pm

*The Nebraska Association For Gifted Presents...  
A Parent/Community Presentation*



**Thursday, February 23, 2017**

**6:30 - 7:45 PM**

**Embassy Suites Hotel**

**555 S.10th Street, Old Market, Omaha NE**

**“All Things Gifted: Q & A For Parents And The Community**

**Best Practices, Meeting Social/Emotional Needs,  
STEM Initiatives, Reading Rigor, Math/Science Rigor,  
Summer Programs, Talent Search, College Planning,  
More...FREE to the public**

This evening program will explore key themes in contemporary parenting practices and family engagement that demonstrate the importance of families enabling all high ability students to realize their potential as gifted learners. Participants select the table topic of choice every 15 minutes. Presenters by local and regional providers. \*\*No child care provided. \*\*No registration needed.



**Round Table Discussion Groups Include:**



1. What should differentiated instruction look like. - NAG Board Member, <http://www.negifted.org/NAG/Board.html>
2. What can parents & teachers do to provide rigor in science and math? - NAG Board Member
3. What can parents & teachers do to provide rigor in reading? - NAG Board Member
4. Where are the summer programs for high ability? - NAG Board Member
5. Testing and mental health services - Kyle Kinney, Nebr. Family Helpline , <http://tinyurl.com/NAGHelpLine>
6. Enroll in college while in K-12-Lindsay Kretchman, UNL NEBRASKA Now <http://preview.tinyurl.com/NE-NOW>
7. Toys that make you think-Connie Hoelt, CR Toys, <http://www.shopcrtoys.com>
8. Duke Tip/Jack Kent Cooke Scholarships- Devin Patterson, Duke University, <https://tip.duke.edu>
9. Robotics and student interest in tech - Kathy Grotta Lego Education, <https://education.lego.com>
10. Professional development for teachers and community,- Tommy Tinajero, GT Ignite, <http://gtignite.com>
11. Global outreach for shared education-BeckyWalters,Opportunity Education, <http://www.opportunityeducation.org>
12. Creativity and problem solving with Carol Hess, Destination Imagination, <http://nebraskadi.org>
13. Tech advice for the connected parent Aaron Maurer, Coffee For The Brain, <http://coffeeforthbrain.com>
14. Film as a teaching tool., Dene Olgesby, Film Streams Inc., <http://www.filmstreams.org>
15. Online high school courses, Barbara Shousha,University of NE High School, <http://highschool.nebraska.edu>

•This program is part of the Nebraska Association For Gifted Conference ([negifted.org](http://negifted.org))  
February 23-24, 2017 @ Omaha Embassy Suites Old Market, 555 S. 10th Str.

•Parents, Educators, Counselors, Community Are Invited....Free to the public  
•Public is welcome. A \$25 NAG membership is offered, but not required — Questions to [negifted@gmail.com](mailto:negifted@gmail.com)

•This Community Session is Free

**NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED**

# Join the Team!



## What is a TeamMates Mentor?

A TeamMates Mentor is someone who provides a young person with support, friendship, and a positive example. TeamMates Mentors want to help young people reach their full potential.

# Positive Impact



- ✔ Students report greater engagement with their school when mentors focus on strengths in their mentoring relationship.
- ✔ Peer and parent relationships improve as well as resiliency to the pressures of drug and alcohol use.
- ✔ Not only does TeamMates increase students grades, attendance, and behavior, but most importantly their sense of hope.



## What do I do during mentor time?

Matches meet at school once a week so you have a safe place to meet and are surrounded by resources.

- Take time to talk
- Play a game
- Share a hobby
- Work on a puzzle
- Surf the net

To learn more, go to [teammates.org!](http://teammates.org!)

## Board Members

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Dani Bradford   | Jacque Estee   |
| Li Quaites      | Patty Landen   |
| Irv Dana        | Ruby Larsen    |
| Bob Danenhauer  | Sue Seline     |
| Sherrri Hoffman | Denny Walker   |
| Dan Egermayer   | Jackie Kroeger |
| Chris Harry     |                |

## What are the benefits?

Both youth and mentors benefit from the mentoring relationship. Youth benefit by receiving encouragement and guidance from a caring adult. Mentors report building a sense of morale, teamwork and productivity.

## Coordinators

- Jessica Lowe**  
lowe.jessica@westside66.net
- Quinn McGuire**  
mcguire.quinn@westside66.net  
402-408-8670



## How Can I Help make a difference?

- Please contact me about becoming a TeamMates Mentor.
- Please accept my donation to TeamMates at the level indicated below.
- My Business/Organization/Faith Group would like a presentation about TeamMates.

Please accept my gift at the indicated level below.

- |  |  |                               |                                 |                             |
|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> \$450 - Support a Match for 1 Year   | <input type="radio"/> \$100  | <input type="radio"/> \$50    | <input type="radio"/> \$25      | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| I would like to give this amount:  | <input type="radio"/> One-Time   | <input type="radio"/> Monthly | <input type="radio"/> Quarterly | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| <input type="radio"/> I will make my donation online at <a href="http://teammates.org">teammates.org</a> . | <input type="radio"/> Check or cash enclosed - checks payable to TeamMates Mentoring Program |                               |                                 |                             |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to:  
TeamMates of Westside Community Schools, 8601 Arbor Street, Omaha, NE 68124

**Please run in January and February newsletters.**

### **Student In-District Transfer Requests for the 2017-18 School Year**

If you are a District resident who would like your K-5 child(ren) to attend an elementary school other than the school that serves your attendance area for next school year, you must submit a completed In-District Transfer (IDT) Request form to the Office of Student Services for review.

State law allows school districts to give transfer priority to families living within the District *prior to* placing Open Enrollment students who reside outside the District. We must receive a Student In-District Transfer Request form no later than **4:00 p.m. on March 15, 2017**, for your request to be considered prior to our placement of Open Enrollment students.

IDT forms are available at the ABC Building and on the District website. An IDT request form must be completed for any child starting kindergarten next year who has one or more siblings currently attending a school outside their home attendance area. Transfers are approved or denied based on available space and other resources. If you have questions about the in-district transfer process, please call 402-343-2603.

### **Kindergarten Enrollment for District Residents: January 5-February 15**

Do you live in the District and have a child who will be ready for Kindergarten this fall? Do you know of other Westside residents with children who will be ready to start school in August?

Kindergarten enrollment for 2017-18 begins January 10. Parents of eligible students should **go to [westside66.org](http://westside66.org)** to begin the enrollment process as early as possible.

Students entering kindergarten for 2017-18 must be five years old by July 31, 2017. Parents may opt to hold their children out of kindergarten for an additional year. However, Nebraska state law mandates that a child who reaches six years of age prior to January 1 of the then-current school year must be enrolled in school.

Those with questions can call the Westside Welcome Center at 402-343-2603.

**Please run in January, February, and March newsletters.**

### **Requirements for Early Admission to Kindergarten**

In accordance with Nebraska Statute 79-214, the Westside Community Schools allows for admission of children as early entrance kindergarteners through a locally designed testing program. Children of District residents who wish to be tested for early entrance must turn five between August 1 and October 15, 2017. For further information regarding early entrance to kindergarten, please call 402-390-2108.

### **Kindergarten Enrollment for Non-District Residents**

If you live outside the District and have a child eligible for kindergarten who has a sibling currently attending a Westside elementary school through the Open or Option Enrollment program, you must submit an Option Enrollment Application. **Option Enrollment Applications must be received by Westside's Office of Student Services no later than 4:00 p.m. on March 15, 2017.** The application form is available at the ABC Building (909 S. 76th Street) and at [westside66.org](http://westside66.org). Under Option Enrollment statutes, first priority for admission is given to siblings who seek to attend in the District where an older sibling is already enrolled, provided an Option Enrollment form is submitted by March 15 *and* provided that there is space available in a requested building and grade level.

**Westside Boys & Girls Club**  
**2016-2017 School Year Schedule**  
**Special Opening/Closing Dates**

**Club Open 8am-6pm on District 66 Snow Days, no additional fee**

**Club Open 1pm-6pm on District 66 wide Early Dismissal Days**

**\*On 7am-6pm days there is a \$15.00 drop in fee per child  
for all members who attend before 12:00pm**

Regular Club Hours:

6-18 yrs: Monday-Friday 3:00-6:00 pm

Wednesday, August 10, 2016	First Day of School Year Program
Friday, Sept. 2, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Monday, Sept. 5, 2016	Club Closed for Labor Day
Friday, Sept. 16, 2016	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Oct. 7, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Monday, Oct. 10, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Oct. 21, 2016	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Friday, Nov. 18, 2016	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Thursday, Nov. 24, 2016	Club Closed for Holiday
Friday, Nov. 25, 2016	Club Closed
Friday, Dec. 23, 2016	Club Closed
Monday, Dec. 26, 2016	Club Closed
Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Thursday, Dec. 29, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Dec. 30, 2016	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Monday, Jan. 2, 2017	Club Closed
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Jan. 6, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Monday, Jan. 16, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Jan. 27, 2017	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Feb. 17, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Monday, Feb. 20, 2017	Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, Feb. 24, 2017	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Friday, March 31, 2017	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
April 10-14, 2017	Spring Break – Club Open 7am-6pm*
Friday, April 28, 2017	Club Closed for Staff Development Day
Friday, May 5, 2017	Last Day of School Year Programming
Thursday, May 25, 2017	First Day of Summer Programming