

AUGUST 2019 / SEPTEMBER 2019

# WEST CENTRAL WIRE



West Central Public Schools  
Humboldt/Hartford  
SD District 49-7

*"To prepare all students for learning and living in a changing world."*

~West Central Schools Mission Statement

[www.westcentral.k12.sd.us](http://www.westcentral.k12.sd.us)



Dear Students, Parents, Staff, and Friends of West Central,

Yes, the 2019-2020 school year is almost here! Are you ready, are you excited? I am! Each of us begins the new school year with anticipation and expectations. It is my sincere belief that our collective efforts will ensure a school year of healthy anticipation and exceeded expectations.

Preparation for the coming school year began of course last school year. Thanks to the collective efforts of students, parents, staff, and community members the West Central School District has a newly written Strategic Plan. The work took months of collaboration, input, and evaluation the result being a customized Strategic Plan that will guide the work of the district for the next 4-5 years. The five goals in the Strategic Plan are designed to ultimately fulfill the schools' mission, "To prepare all students for learning and living in a changing world". The Strategic Plan will be shared with stakeholders early in the school year. Watch for the plan to be posted on the school website.

Just as student learning builds from one year to the next, so does the work of our teaching staff. Under the guidance of our curriculum director Sarah Weber, teachers have collaborated with each other to ensure vertical alignment of the K-12 curriculum. Alignment of the curriculum is a critical component for teachers and students alike, the outcome being a more effective learning experience for our students.

If you are new to the West Central School District I would like to welcome you on behalf of our teachers and support staff. We strive to provide an environment that challenges students to improve academically as they mature in their personal lives. We are excited to partner with you to provide an environment for each student that develops their self-worth and self-confidence. Working together we can make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

I invite you to browse the West Central School website ([westcentral49-7.com](http://westcentral49-7.com)) throughout the school year to learn more about the opportunities provided to, and achievements of our student body.

Excellent learning opportunities await the students of the West Central School District in the upcoming school year. We look forward to partnering with you to provide our students learning opportunities in which they grow personally and academically. Please know that every effort is being made to provide an excellent learning environment for every student.

Finally, on behalf of all West Central staff thank you for the opportunity to share in the personal and academic growth of your child(ren). We value the time we have with each student and look forward to celebrating their success with you.

Brad Berens  
Superintendent of Schools  
West Central School District 49-7

## DISTRICT-WIDE NEWS

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

##### District-Wide News

Superintendent.....	Front Cover
WC School Board.....	2
WC School Directory.....	2
Early Dismissals.....	2
School Calendar.....	3
School Closing Information.....	3
New Student Registration.....	4
Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act.....	4
Gate Receipts and Admissions.....	4
Equal Opportunity Employment.....	4
K.A.R.E. News.....	5
Equal Educational Opportunities.....	5
Nondiscrimination Statement.....	5
Bullying; Prevention and Education.....	6
Educational Rights for Children.....	6
Student Records Notification of Rights.....	7
Public Notice of Intent to Release Information.....	7
Public Complaints about School Personnel or Procedures.....	8
Parents' Rights to Know/Notice to All Parents or Guardians.....	9
Wellness Committee .....	9
Nurse's Corner.....	10
District Student Registration Day.....	11
Online Payments .....	12-13
Transportation.....	14

##### Food Services

Information / Payment Options.....	15
------------------------------------	----

##### Elementary News

From the Principal.....	16
Open House.....	16

##### Middle School News

From the Principal.....	17
-------------------------	----

##### High School News

From the Principal.....	18-19
2019-2020 Computer Fees.....	19

##### Special Services

Welcome.....	20
Early Childhood Screening.....	21

##### Co-Curricular Activities

High School Theater .....	21
Sports Information.....	22
Band News.....	23

##### Organizations

FCCLA.....	24
------------	----

##### Prevention Corner

The E-cigarette Epidemic Among Youth.....	25
---	----

##### West Central Booster Club

WC Booster Club.....	26
----------------------	----

##### West Central Libraries

Library News.....	27
-------------------	----

### West Central School Board

**Craig Habben, President.....528-3169**

46355 257th St, Hartford, SD 57033

[Craig.Habben@k12.sd.us](mailto:Craig.Habben@k12.sd.us)

**Paula Hawks, Vice President.....254-2440**

405 S Tessa Ave, Hartford, SD 57033

[Paula.Hawks@k12.sd.us](mailto:Paula.Hawks@k12.sd.us)

**Amy Larson.....751-9068**

112 W Opal Ln, Hartford, SD. 57033

[Amy.Larson@k12.sd.us](mailto:Amy.Larson@k12.sd.us)

**Alison McGillivray.....701-650-1397**

508 Mulligan Circle, Hartford, SD 57033

[Alison.McGillivray@k12.sd.us](mailto:Alison.McGillivray@k12.sd.us)

**Alexia Klinkhammer.....201-3495**

509 N Sagehorn Dr, Hartford, SD 57033

[Alexia.Klinkhammer@k12.sd.us](mailto:Alexia.Klinkhammer@k12.sd.us)

**Please note:** Regular school board meetings are held the second Monday of each month in the Board Room at the Administration Office, unless otherwise indicated by published agenda. Meetings begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise posted. All meetings are open to the public. If a person desires to have an item placed on the agenda, please contact the Administration Office one week prior to the scheduled meeting. All meeting agendas can be located on the West Central webpage under District Board of Education. All school board proceedings are published in the Minnehaha Messenger.

### West Central School Directory

**Brad Berens, Superintendent.....528-3217**

**Melinda Jensen, High School Principal.....528-6236**

**Mark Rockafellow, Middle School Principal.....528-3799**

**Matt Alley, K-5 Elementary Principal.....363-3131**

or 528-3325

**Ashley Bahrenfuss, K-5 Assistant Elementary Principal...528-3215**

**Krista Stuessi, Business Manager.....528-3217**

**Michelle Becker, Director of Special Services.....528-3210**

**Phil Barrios, Activities Director.....528-6397**

**Chris Waltner, Director of Technology.....528-3217**

**Tori Wittrock, Food Service Director.....528-6238**

**Rick Coker, Transportation Supervisor**

**(Bus Garage Office).....528-6235**

### Early Dismissals For 2019-2020

School will dismiss early for parent/teacher conferences, Thanksgiving break, Winter break, end of semester, and the last day of school. School will dismiss at 1:30 pm on the following days:

**October 7**

**November 27**

**December 20**

**January 10**

**February 10**

**May 19**

# 2019-2020 School Calendar

**August 6**.....New Student Registration 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
**August 12**.....District Student Registration Day  
 All Students any time from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm  
**August 13-15**.....New Teacher In-Service  
**August 19-20**.....Teacher In-Service  
**August 19**.....Humboldt Elem. Open House 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
 MS Open House 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
 HS Open House (Freshman and New Students)  
 5:00 - 8:00 pm  
**August 20**.....Hartford Elem. Open House 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
**August 21**.....All Staff In-Service  
**August 22**.....1st Day of School  
**August 30**.....NO SCHOOL  
**September 2**.....NO SCHOOL - Labor Day  
**September 27**.....NO SCHOOL - Staff Development  
**October 7**.....School Dismissal at 1:30 pm  
 Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00-9:00 pm  
**October 11**.....NO SCHOOL  
**October 14**.....NO SCHOOL - Native American Day  
**October 25**.....End of 1st Quarter (44 days)  
**November 27**.....Thanksgiving Break Begins  
 1:30 pm dismissal  
**November 28-29**.....NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving  
**December 20**.....1:30 pm Dismissal - Winter Break Begins  
**December 23-31**.....NO SCHOOL - Winter Break  
**January 1**.....NO SCHOOL - Winter Break  
**January 2**.....Return from Winter Break  
**January 10**.....End of 2nd Quarter (45 days)  
 1:30 pm Dismissal-Teacher Work Time  
**January 20**.....NO SCHOOL -Teacher In-Service  
**February 10**.....School Dismissal at 1:30 pm  
 Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00 - 9:00 pm  
**February 14**.....NO SCHOOL  
**February 17**.....NO SCHOOL - President's Day

**March 13**.....End of 3rd Quarter (43 Days)  
**March 19-20**.....NO SCHOOL  
**April 10**.....NO SCHOOL  
**April 13**.....NO SCHOOL  
**May 11**.....NO SCHOOL - Staff Development  
**May 16**.....Graduation  
**May 19**.....Last Day for Students  
 School Dismissal 1:30 pm  
 End of 4th Quarter (43 Days)  
**May 20**.....Last Day for Teachers

**Inclement Weather or Make-Up Days:** The first five make-up days are built into the school calendar, and if there are five or fewer days where school is cancelled, we will not need to lengthen the school calendar. If we exceed five days of absence, one day will be scheduled onto to the end of the school year for each day missed. The days that will be utilized if necessary are: May 20, 21, 22, 26, and 27.

## School Closings

The Campus Messenger System is our primary notification system for parents/guardians and staff. It will be utilized for school closings, delays, or early dismissals. Please call Caryl Nolz at 528-3217 for changes in phone numbers.

In addition, the following TV stations will be notified in the event that school should be cancelled or dismissed early due to inclement weather conditions:

**Television Stations: KELO, KDLT, KSFY**

We make every effort to provide this information to families prior to 6:30 a.m. However, the changing weather in South Dakota may make this a challenge on some days. In any case, we will notify these stations as soon as possible.

We care very much about your children and do our best to make appropriate decisions based on student safety and student achievement. Please remember that as a parent or guardian, you have the right to keep your child home on any day that you feel it is unsafe for your student to travel to school due to weather conditions.



## New Student Registration

**Registration for new students in the West Central School District is set for Tuesday, August 6, 2019, from 9:00am-3:00pm.**

Administrators will be available to answer any questions families may have about the school during these hours. Parents/Guardians are asked to bring with them their child's certified birth certificate and immunization records to complete the registration process. A copy of the certified birth certificate will be made in the office.

Families not able to attend the registration should contact the school to request that materials be sent to them or to set up another appointment to register their child(ren). West Central Administration requests that families make contact with the school by August 6th if unable to come to register so that planning for the upcoming school year will include accurate student numbers.

**Following are the school phone numbers to call if you have any questions:**

### Elementary

Building in Humboldt (K-5).....363-3131  
Or 528-3325

Building in Hartford (PreK-2).....528-3215

**Middle School** (6th, 7th, & 8th).....528-3799

**High School**.....528-6236

If you are unable to reach anyone at the above school numbers, please call the Administration Office at 528-3217.

## Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

In October 1987, the U.S. Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. Asbestos is a fiber, which in the past had been used in building construction materials, and has been identified as being a disease-causing agent, including a cause of cancer. The purpose of the legislation was to insure that school students are provided with a safe environment in which to learn. Asbestos abatement (removal) has been completed throughout the district. The only asbestos-containing material that remains in the district is floor tiles at the Maintenance Shop. Should any parent/patron have questions regarding the Federal law or its application to our district, those persons are invited to direct any inquiries to Krista Stuessi, Business Manager at 605-528-3217.

## Gate Receipts And Admissions

The following is a list of admission prices to varsity activities, excluding chorus and band concerts. At all high school concerts, we ask for donations to help benefit the West Central music program.

### Adult Patrons of West Central Schools:

\$5 per event or \$50 for a season pass

### Family Patrons of West Central Schools:

\$120 for a family season pass

### Students Attending West Central Schools:

\$3 per event or \$1 per event if student shows ID or \$15 for a season pass

### Visiting Coaches and Administration:

Admitted Free

### West Central Employees and Their Spouses:

Admitted free by displaying complimentary pass (Passes available from Administration Office)

### Senior Citizens Residing Within the West Central School District:

All senior citizens (65 years and older) may request a complimentary pass from the Administration Office.

### Non-Resident Senior Citizens:

\$3 per event or \$40 for a season pass

### Play and Musicals:

\$5 adults - \$4 students

## Equal Opportunity Employment

The Board subscribes to the fullest extent to the principle of the dignity of all people and of their labors and will take action to ensure that applicants are employed, assigned, and promoted without regard to their age, race, creed, color, sex, marital status, political affiliation, or national origin. Every available opportunity will be taken in order to assure that each applicant for a position is selected on the basis of qualifications, merit and ability.





## K.A.R.E. News

West Central KARE program will begin August 22nd. This program is designed for children ages 5 to 12 and is available both before and after school. The before school program is available starting at 7:00 am and the after school program begins when school is dismissed until 6:00 pm. The KARE program is not open on days when there is no school or if school dismisses early due to weather. Transportation will be provided between Humboldt and Hartford Elementary Schools.

Anyone interested in attending this program must complete registration through the Infinite Campus Online Registration prior to attending. The online registration is the same registration for school and can be completed at that time. There is a question under "Student Services" asking if this student requires KARE services. Simply answer "Yes" and the registration for KARE will appear. Rates for this program may be found on the district website at: <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/wckare>. Payments may be sent to West Central KARE, PO Box 730, Hartford, SD 57033 or you may make payments at the District Wide Registration Day on August 12, 2019 from 7am to 7pm. Please do NOT send payments until you have registered your child for the program.

The KARE program provides many fun and enriching activities such as reading, math games, crafts, outdoor play, board games, puzzles, and computers. If you have any questions regarding the West Central KARE program, please contact Ashley Bahrenfuss at 528-3215 or email [Ashley.Bahrenfuss@k12.sd.us](mailto:Ashley.Bahrenfuss@k12.sd.us).

## Equal Educational Opportunities

All students of the district will have equal educational opportunities (including career and technical education programs). The Board will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, economic status, national origin, ancestry, or other human differences in its policies or programs.

To accomplish this policy of nondiscrimination, the Board will make every effort to provide all students equal access with respect to admission or membership in school-sponsored organizations, clubs, or activities; access to facilities; distribution of funds; academic evaluations; or any other aspect of school-sponsored programs or activities.

The Board recognizes that children vary widely in capabilities, interests, and social and economic background, and that no two children can be treated exactly alike if the fullest development of each is to be achieved.

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The West Central School District #49-7 does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational programs (including career and technical education programs) on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or other human differences and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Requirement for admission to the Career and Technical Education courses is completion of prerequisite coursework of each area.

### Career and Technical Education offered at the West Central School District

**Agriculture** – Floriculture, Horticulture, Animal Science, Natural Resources, Bio-Technology, and Agriculture Leadership

**Architecture and Construction** – Introduction to Technology, Production Technology, Computer-Aided Drafting, Carpentry, and Building Trades

**Food and Tourism Classes** – Independent Living, Food Management, and Family Relations

**Technology** – Multi-media, Web Design, Animation, Computer I, and 3-D Programming

*Inquiries specifically concerning the application of Title VI, Title IX, or section 504 may be referred to:*

**Title VI (discrimination based on national origin/race).....Special Services Director**

**Title IX (discrimination based on gender).....Activities Director**

**Section 504 (discrimination based on disability).....Special Services Director**

### **Both Special Services and Activities Director can be reached at:**

West Central School District  
705 E. 2nd St.  
Hartford, SD 57033  
605-528-3217

### Or

Kansas City Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
Office for Civil Rights  
8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037  
Kansas City, MO 64114-3302  
Phone: 816-268-0550  
Fax: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172  
E-mail: [OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov)

## Bullying; Prevention And Education

The West Central School Board supports a secure school climate conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment, and any type of bullying behavior. The purpose of this policy is to promote consistency of approach and to help create a climate in which all types of bullying are regarded as unacceptable.

Bullying is defined as any written, verbal, or electronic expression, physical act or gesture or a pattern thereof, which is intended to cause distress upon any person in the school environment. For purposes of this policy the school environment includes school buildings, grounds, vehicles, busses, bus stops and all school-sponsored activities and events.

A person who engages in any act of bullying is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. The severity and pattern, if any, of the bullying behavior shall be taken into consideration when disciplinary decisions are made.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall develop a comprehensive program to address bullying at all school levels. The program shall be aimed toward accomplishing the following objectives:

1. To foster a community of mutual respect.
2. To recognize and praise positive behaviors on a regular basis.
3. To foster a productive partnership with parents and community members in order to help maintain a bully-free environment.
4. To support victims of bullying by counseling.
5. To help develop peer support networks, social skills, and confidence for all.
6. To send a clear message to students, staff, parents, and community members that bullying will not be tolerated.
7. To train staff and students in taking pro-active steps to prevent bullying from occurring.
8. To implement procedures for immediate intervention, investigation, and confrontation of people engaged in bullying behavior.
9. To initiate efforts to change the behavior of people engaged in bullying behaviors through re-education on acceptable behavior, discussions, counseling, and appropriate negative consequences.

## Educational Rights for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Your child has the same rights to school programs and services as all children, including:

- Go to school, no matter where you live or how long you have lived there. You must be given access to the same public education provided to other students.
- Enroll in school without giving a permanent address. Schools cannot require proof of residency that might prevent or delay school enrollment.
- Continue in the school attended before you became homeless, if that is your choice, it is feasible, and in the best interest of the child. The school district's education liaison must assist you, if needed, and offer you the right to appeal a decision regarding the choice of school should it go against your wishes.
- Enroll and attend classes while the school arranges for the transfer of school and immunization records or other documents required for enrollment.
- Enroll and attend classes in the school of your choice even while the school and you try to resolve a dispute over enrollment. The district must provide you with a written explanation if a placement dispute occurs and inform you that you have the right to appeal.
- Receive the same special programs and services, if needed, as provided to all other students. These programs could be before and after school programs, pre-school programs, special education, gifted and talented programs, career and technology education, etc.
- Automatically participate in free breakfast and lunch programs.
- Receive transportation to the school and school programs you attended before you became homeless (or the school you last attended).
- Attend a school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless. Students cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless.
- \* Unaccompanied youth lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing have these same rights.

For further information or questions regarding this act, please contact the district homeless liaison coordinator.

## Student Records Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Institutions

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask West Central School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll

[NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student of the records request

unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

**Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-4605**

**Public Notice of the Intent  
of West Central School District  
#49-7 to Release Personally  
Identifiable Information Regarding Stu-  
dents or Former Students**

**Directory Information:** West Central School District designates the following personally identifiable information regarding its students as **Directory Information**:

1. Name
2. Address and phone number
3. Date of birth
4. School attending
5. Dates of attendance
6. Parents or guardian of student
7. Participation in school-recognized activities
8. Weight, height, age and grade of members of athletic team
9. Awards received
10. Individual and group photographs pertaining to school activities
11. Similar information which denotes accomplishment or achievement

**Right of Parent, Guardian or Student to Prohibit Release of Information:**

A parent, guardian, or student over 18 years of age may refuse to permit the release of any of the Directory Information by notifying the Principal of the student's school in writing which of the above Directory Information may not be released in respect to the particular student. Such notification may be made at any time.

**Student Records Policy:**

The Board of Education has adopted an educational records policy and, in implementing the release of information, that policy shall be considered.

## Public Complaints about School Personnel or Procedures

This policy provides direction for the District to process complaints about school personnel or procedures. For the process of hearing complaints about federally funded programs (including parents of students experiencing homelessness), see District Policy KLDF. Complaints involving identification of or provision of services to students receiving special education and related services are addressed pursuant to the special education rules of the South Dakota Department of Education. The School Board places trust in its employees and desires to support their actions in such a manner that employees are freed from unnecessary, spiteful or negative criticism and complaints.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the School Board as a body, or to a Board member as an individual, it will be referred to the school administration.

### Procedures

Constructive criticism of the schools will be welcomed by the Board when it is motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program or to equip the schools to do their tasks more effectively.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the School Board as a whole or to an individual Board Member, the individual or group involved will be advised to obtain a complaint form from the District office and to follow the provisions of Board Policy.

The Board believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible, and that the staff should be given every opportunity to consider the issues and attempt to resolve the problem prior to the involvement by the School Board or administration. Therefore, the proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, will be as follows:

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Teacher/classified employee           | 4. Superintendent of Schools |
| 2. Director of Activities (as may apply) | 5. School Board              |
| 3. Principal                             |                              |

The School Board expects the professional staff and all employees to receive complaints courteously and to make a proper reply to the complaint.

Matters referred to the superintendent and/or School Board must be in writing and should be specific in terms of the action desired.

Complaints involving the Board, its members or policies may be pursued through the state court system.

### Complaint Resolution

Whenever a complaint about a school employee or program is received by the administration from a patron of the district, a copy of the policy and procedure for the filing and resolution of the complaint shall be given to the patron.

**Step 1:** The Patron will meet informally with the school employee in an effort to resolve the matter quickly at the lowest level possible. If the informal process is not satisfactory to the complainant, the matter will be reduced to writing on the District's complaint form (See File KLD-E) and submitted to the program supervisor to resolve the issue. If the issue is not resolved, the patron may submit it to the Principal. A copy of the complaint will be given to the employee by the Principal. The employee may respond in writing.

**Step 2:** The Principal will meet with the patron and employee individually or jointly in an attempt to resolve the problem and conduct such other investigation as the Principal deems necessary. The Principal shall render his or her decision to both parties in writing within ten (10) working school days or less. If resolution is agreeable to the patron and the employee, the Principal's decision shall be delivered to the Superintendent. If no agreement is reached, either the Patron or the Employee may go to Step 3 provided notice is given to the Superintendent within five (5) working school days of receipt of the Principal's decision.

**Step 3:** The complaint with the Principal's action and any information developed by the Principal's investigation will be given to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will meet with the patron, employee and Principal together or individually. The Superintendent shall conduct such further investigation as the Superintendent deems necessary. The Superintendent writes a decision within five (5) days of completing his or her investigation and notifies the patron, employee, and Principal. The Superintendent's decision may affirm, reverse or modify the Principal's decision. The patron or employee may within five (5) working school days go to Step 4 by notifying the Superintendent in writing of the desire to go to Step 4.

**Step 4:** The School Board will consider the complaint while meeting in executive session. The Superintendent will provide the Board with the file packet, which contains the complaint, employee's response, Principal's decision and Superintendent's decision. The Board may affirm the Superintendent's decision upon the written record as it then exists. The Board may determine to conduct a formal hearing on the matter. At this hearing, the patron will explain the complaint, the Superintendent will explain the Administration's response. Any party to the hearing may call such witnesses as they deem necessary. The Board may summon such additional witnesses or documents as it deems necessary. All testimony or statements at this hearing shall be under oath and the parties shall be reminded that penalties for perjury can be imposed regarding testimony given under oath. The School Board will render its decision within thirty (30) days of the hearing, which will be implemented by the Superintendent. The Patron or the Employee may appeal this decision within 90 days to the Circuit Court as per SDCL 13-46. All federal program complaints, shall be addressed under the Federal Program Complaint Procedure KLDF.



## Notice to All Parents or Guardians

On Dec. 10, 2015, President Obama signed into law the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This reauthorization, known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), replaces the previous version of the law enacted in 2002, the No Child Left Behind Act. States will be in a period of transition until all provisions of the ESSA take effect.

### State Plan

ESSA requires all states to develop a plan for education that addresses major federal requirements. South Dakota's state plan was developed over the course of a year, with input from stakeholders across the state, including educators, parents, students, legislators, tribal representatives, representatives from higher education, and others. The public comment period regarding this plan ran from May 31 to June 30, 2017.

The core academic subjects are English; Reading or Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; Foreign Language; Social Studies (Civics, Government, Economics, History, Geography); and The Arts (Visual Arts & Music).

if you have any questions regarding your child's teacher's qualifications, please feel free to contact the district office. For additional information about teacher state certifications, please visit Teacher 411 at the South Dakota Department of Education website: <https://apps.sd.gov/de04public/TeacherLookup/TeacherSearch.aspx>.

## Parents' Right to Know Notice

West Central School District accepts Title I, Part A funding and must notify parents that parents can request information regarding their child's teacher, including:

1. whether the teacher has met the State requirements for licensure and certification for the grade levels and subject-matters in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. that each Title I school will provide notice if a parent's child has been assigned or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified;
3. whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
4. the college major and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and
5. whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Currently, all of our staff at West Central, both certified and paraprofessionals meet the highly qualified status under No Child Left Behind and the State of South Dakota. If you have a question about any of the qualifications concerning your child's teacher, please contact the Administration Office at 528-3217.

## WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Wellness Committee members are needed for the 2019-20 School year. If you are interested, please contact either Superintendent Brad Berens, [Brad.Berens@k12.sd.us](mailto:Brad.Berens@k12.sd.us) or Food Service Supervisor, Victoria Wittrock, [Victoria.Wittrock@k12.sd.us](mailto:Victoria.Wittrock@k12.sd.us). We love to have you as part of the committee.

Visit our website at: <https://www.westcentral49-7.com/wellness-committee> for the most recent Wellness Committee meeting notes.



## Nurse's Corner

I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer. The start of school is just around the corner and that means time to check to see if your student(s) have met all their immunization requirements to start school. Currently, South Dakota requires incoming kindergarten students to have DTaP, IPV, MMR, and Varicella to start school. Below is a copy from the Department of Health of the requirements. According to the SD State Law (13-28-7.1), a student will be excluded from school for failure to present required immunizations. Please make sure that your student(s) are updated on their immunizations before the start of school.

### Immunizations Required For Kindergarten Entry In South Dakota

**South Dakota Codified Law 13-28-7.1** requires students entering school or early childhood programs to present certification that they have been adequately immunized, according to the recommendations of the Department of Health. The law applies to all children entering school for the first time, including transfer students. Minimum immunization requirements are defined as:

1. Four or more doses of diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus containing vaccine, with at least one dose administered on or after age 4. Children 7 years and older needing the primary series only need three doses. The first dose of the primary series should be Tdap and the second and third doses should be Td, with at least 6 months between dose two and three. Children receiving six doses before age 4 do not require any additional doses for school requirements. The maximum a child should receive is six doses. If a child 7 years and older has an incomplete DTaP primary series, please contact the Department of Health Immunization Program (1-800-592-1861) for assistance.
2. Four or more doses of poliovirus vaccine, at least one dose on or after age 4. (Although not the recommended schedule - If a child has three doses of polio with the third dose administered on or after the age of 4 and at least 6 months after the second dose, no other doses are required.)
3. Two doses of a measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine (MMR) or submit serological evidence of immunity. Minimum age for the first dose is 12 months. Administer the second dose routinely at age 4 through 6 years. The second dose may be administered prior to age 4 provided at least 28 days have elapsed since the first dose.
4. Two doses of varicella vaccine. The minimum age for the first dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is 12 months. History of disease is acceptable with parent/guardian signature. Administer the second dose routinely at age 4 through 6 years. The second dose may be administered prior to age 4 provided the minimum interval between the two doses is 3 months.

**It's the Rule... Shots before School!**

**New 6<sup>th</sup> Grade VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS**

South Dakota requires all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to get:

- One dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (**Tdap**) vaccine on or after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday
- One dose of Meningococcal (**MCV4**) vaccine on or after the 11<sup>th</sup> birthday

For more information, talk with your family physician or your local community health nurse about these and other vaccinations your preteen should receive.

**VACCINATE YOUR 11-12 YEAR OLDS**

**SD HEALTH**

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DOH.SD.GOV  
1-800-592-1861

### Parents/Guardians of Incoming 6th Graders

New immunization requirements were signed into law in the Spring 2016. South Dakota Department of Health is now requiring all 6th Graders to have **Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) and Meningococcal (MCV4)** vaccine before they start 6th grade. As the school nurse, I will be required by law to report the immunizations to the Department of Health at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.

Please get your student(s) immunized prior to school starting. The school nurse must review all immunization records **BEFORE** the school year starts. **According to the SD State Law (13-28-7.1), a student will be excluded from school for failure to present required immunizations.**

Please make an appointment **NOW** with your Primary Care Physician to take your child in for a well check and immunizations.

Any questions can be directed to: Middle School at 528-3799 or you may email me at [corey.digiovanni@k12.sd.us](mailto:corey.digiovanni@k12.sd.us).

Corey DiGiovanni, RN

## District Student Registration Day—August 12th

ALL Students K-12: Parents and students should plan to attend between the hours of 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM Monday, August 12th at West Central High School. Students and parents should enter through the main/front entrance of the High School.

School pictures will be taken of all students for the yearbook by Scherling Photography. If a photo package is desired, payments will be taken that day by Scherling Photography or you can go to [www.scherling.preorderphotos.com](http://www.scherling.preorderphotos.com) to preorder. More info provided below.

The following are required for registration of new and returning students and may be completed online prior to August 12th. Please watch for an email with specific login details regarding the online registration process.

- Student and Household Information
- Busing (Rural, In-Town, and Shuttle)
- Medical History and Over the Counter Medicines
- Activity Registration
  - For students grades 7-12 participating in Athletics and/or Fine Arts
- KARE (before/after school KARE Program)
  - For students ages 5-12

### At Registration Day:

- Infinite Campus Online Registration
- Computer Security Deposit (for MS/HS Students)
  - MS-\$30 per student
  - HS-\$40 per student
  - Max \$100 per family
- HS Student Computer Pick up
- MS will receive devices when school begins
- Nurse — Prescription medication information
- Food Service
  - You may make a payment to your child's food service account
- Complete and return Special Diet Requests
- Complete and return Free & Reduced Applications



[www.scherling.preorderphotos.com](http://www.scherling.preorderphotos.com)

Access Code: **B24EG7**

Code Expires at 11:59 pm on August 12, 2019

### Optional Booths Available:

- Activity Pass Purchases
- Booster Club (Spirit Wear purchases)
- Yearbook Orders / Payments
- PTA
- After Prom

### Available ONLINE prior to District Registration Day:

- Infinite Campus Online Registration
- Payments
- Computer Security Deposit
- KARE
- Activity Passes
- Transportation
- Back-to-School Forms
- Scherling Photography Packages

The one-day district registration process will allow parents to complete registration for all students (no matter which building they attend) at one time without completing duplicate paperwork. Parents will need to plan accordingly for associated fees on the above items to be collected the day of registration. Payment and registration is required before transportation and KARE services can be provided.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL FORMS

Back-to-School Forms  
Available on the  
District Website at  
**[www.westcentral.k12.sd.us](http://www.westcentral.k12.sd.us)**  
under the  
"Back-to-School" Tab

School Supply Lists  
Medication Authorization  
Physical and History Forms  
Special Diet Request Forms  
Free & Reduced Meal Packets



# Attention Families!

## **West Central School District is now taking payments online!**

Pay when it's most convenient for you with a computer or mobile device at <https://westcentral.revtrak.net>.

Save time and be confident that your payment makes it where it needs to go. You can pay online with eCheck, debit, or credit cards.

West Central School District is currently accepting online payment for fees like these:

### **Computer Fees**



### **Activity Passes**



### **Transportation**



Visit <https://westcentral.revtrak.net> to pay fees online.



## Payment Instructions for the West Central Public Schools Web Store

- Visit school district website at <http://westcentral.k12.sd.us>
- Click on the **Online Payments** button
- You will be redirected to the West Central Web Store
- Select **fee type** and choose the **item/fee** you would like to pay for
- Enter **required information**
- Click **"Add to Cart"**
- To make a payment for another fee or student, click **"Continue Shopping"** and select **additional fee type** under **Browse**
- When all fees are in shopping cart, click **"Go to Cart"** and then click **"Checkout."** If a **new customer**, select **"Create a New Account."** If a **returning customer**, enter your email address and password. Select **"Sign In"**
- Enter your **billing** and **payment information**. Create a **password** if required.
- Verify information for accuracy and select **"Complete Order"**
- **Payment will be processed** and **receipt** can be viewed and printed. A receipt will be sent to the email address provided during account set up.
- **Logout**

Log in to the Web Store

Email @

Password

[Forgot password?](#)

[LOG IN](#)

[CREATE NEW ACCOUNT](#)

ACTIVITY PASS ADULT - SEASON

2018-2019 (sku:Adult Season Pass)

**\$50**

Enter Last Name, First Name, & Phone:

A service fee will be applied at checkout.

[ADD TO CART](#)

## Web Store Links for Additional Information:

### Services

Home  
Contact Us  
Frequently Asked Questions  
My Account  
Policies  
Privacy Policy  
Products

- **Contact Us:** Request additional information or ask questions about a payment
- **My Account:** To look up previous transactions and change address or password information

## West Central Transportation

### Drop off locations:

**Register to ride for rural and in-town busing!** In-town busing is available for students K-8 and rural busing for K-12. Registration this year will be part of the school registration process. If you plan to ride in-town or rural busing, you must indicate "yes" within the on-line registration within the student services questions and complete the required pickup and delivery information. Payment for in-town busing will also need to be submitted either with an on-line payment or at the District Wide Registration Day. Bus drivers will call families on their routes sometime the week before school begins to give you the pick-up and drop-off locations and times.

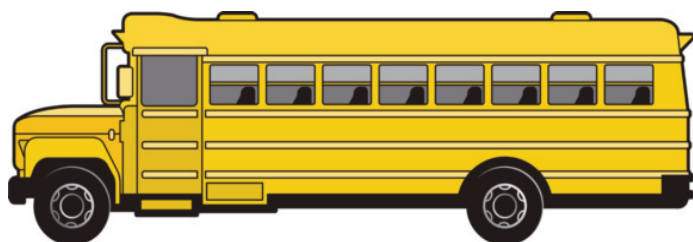
**Shuttles between Hartford and Humboldt.** Shuttles will leave at **8:10 every morning from both Hartford and Humboldt.** Please have your student at the school early so they won't miss the bus! The drop-off location for students riding the shuttle from Hartford to Humboldt will be the circular drive for passenger vehicles on the corner of Feyder and 2nd Street. Students are to use the crosswalk to the sidewalk and into the cafeteria where all students wait for the buses. "Hanging out" at the bike racks or on the sidewalks is not allowed. Use Crosswalks! **NEVER cross between buses!** Those shuttling from Humboldt to Hartford will be picked at the bus drive in Humboldt. This shuttle also leaves at 8:10 am. There is no charge for riding the shuttle.

**Expectations for shuttle travel on first morning.** Please have your student arrive at **7:50 a.m. on the first day of school and assemble in the lunchroom of the Hartford Elementary School.** In order to communicate with the students about the loading and seating process, we will meet with them prior to their departure on the first day of school. During the second week of school, students will receive a seat assignment.

**Riding the bus is a privilege that can be lost for not behaving properly.** The bus is an extension of the classroom. Students should behave as they would in the classroom. Respect for other students and their property, the bus, and the driver are required. Proper behavior is necessary to maintain a safe environment and a safe ride to school.

**Food and drink are NOT ALLOWED on the bus.** Please feed your students before they get on the bus. Breakfast is also available at the school. Additionally, buses do not stop for restroom breaks. Once a student gets on the bus they must stay on until they reach their school or arrive at their afternoon stop.

**Be ready and at your bus stop early.** While we strive for consistency, please remember that bus stop times can vary by about 10 minutes. Things beyond our control such as, weather, students not riding, mechanical problems, road conditions, etc., all factor into this.



#### **High School and Middle School Students:**

-Drop off for all high school and middle school students not riding the bus will be in the west parking lot in front of the middle school entrance or at the west high school doors at the ramp. Please enter this parking lot from 2nd Street, drive south, go around the parked cars, and then head north to the doors in front of the school.

-The horse-shoe driveway area next to 2nd Street will remain a pick-up and drop-off area for **buses only**. Please do **not** enter this area in personal vehicles.

#### **Humboldt Elementary:**

-Drop off and pick up of students must be done using the circular drive on the north side of the building.

-The bus drive is on the east side of the building and is for **buses only**. Buses will come in from Ford Street on the east, and exit out the same gravel road. Please keep all personal vehicles out of this area.

### **DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS TO ENTER THE BACK OF THE BUILDING!**

#### **Hartford Elementary:**

-Students who ride the bus to the elementary school in Hartford will be dropped off by the bus on the east side of the school. Students going to Humboldt will load on the west side of the school.

-Students will wait for the bus in the elementary school cafeteria.

-Use Crosswalks! **Do not cross the drive in between buses!**

-Students who arrive or are picked up in personal vehicles will use the loop drive on the corner of Feyder and 2nd Street or in the alley on the East side of the playground. Please do not block traffic waiting for the bus in your vehicle.

-Students should not be dropped off on the south side of the building off of 1st Street. This is for school van drop off and pickup. **Personal vehicles may not use this drive!!**

-Students should also not be dropped off on 2nd street in front of the school.

-We appreciate your cooperation when dropping off and picking up students at each location. Please always pull up to the sidewalk, allow your children to safely exit your vehicle, and then pull your car away **promptly** so others can safely unload their students in a timely manner. Please do **not** use bus lanes.

**Transportation Contact Number.** If your student is not riding the bus, you must notify us **before 6:30 a.m.** the day they are supposed to ride. Call the **transportation office at 528-6235** and leave a message identifying which bus or driver, your address and the student's name. Messages may be left at this number 24 hours a day. You may also communicate this information ahead of time by email. Please send email to [Rick.Coker@k12.sd.us](mailto:Rick.Coker@k12.sd.us). If you have any questions regarding transportation or the bus routes, please contact the transportation office by phone or email.

## West Central Food Services

**Victoria Wittrock, Food Service Supervisor**

Victoria.Wittrock@k12.sd.us

**Daily Meals Include Breakfast from 7:45-8:25 am and Lunch 11-12:45 pm.**

Parents or Guests can dine with their child at school. Please contact the building Administration Secretary to let them know by 9:00 am to add to our meal count.

What is in a meal? All 5 components (protein, grain, fruit, vegetables and milk) are offered. We are required to meet a weekly caloric range based upon grade levels. We do our best to maximize the caloric to meet our student's needs. All meals have access to fruit and veggie bar. All grain items listed on the menu is whole grain. Milk offered is 1%, Skim or Skim Chocolate that is part of a meal.

**Meal Requirements:** Students are required to take a fruit or a veggie in order to make a reimbursable meal. If the student chooses not to take a fruit or veggie, the items are charged as ala carte. Ala Carte pricing is higher than the meal. We try to encourage your child to have a balanced meal.

What is offered in the salad bar for my child? Every day a variety of fruits and vegetables are prepared at each site. Items such as romaine lettuce, baby carrots, broccoli, tomatoes etc. We offer a variety of fresh and canned fruit. The fruits and veggies are unlimited to the students in the secondary level. In addition, HS has a juice option of not more than 4 oz. of 100% fruit juice every day. MS students have an option of not more than 4 oz. of 100% juice on Fridays only. Hot Veggies are available daily at the secondary and often at the Elementary.

Snacks also known as ala carte offered in addition to the breakfast and lunch meals. These are offered at an additional cost and meet the USDA Smart Snack requirements. The purchase is between a parent and child. Please let your child know if this is allowable purchase.

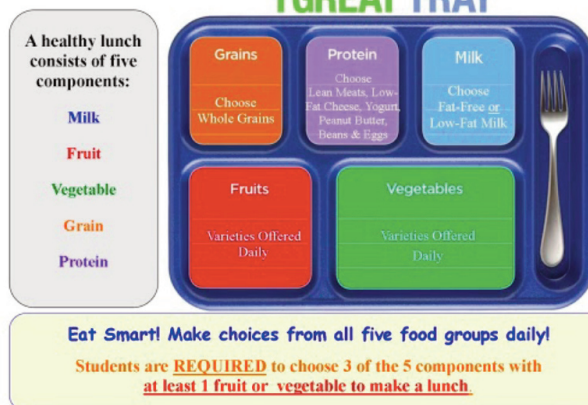
I do not wish for my child to purchase ala carte. Please let the Food Service Office know to put a block on your child's account. In addition, you may have a limited amount of money spent on ala carte by either per day or week as an option too.

Who do I contact if my child needs a special diet? Please check out the Food Service page on the WC website. We will work with the school nurse and parent/child if a necessary meal change is needed.

Peanut and tree nut allergens are those products avoided at the WC menus? At both Elementary sites all products served in the cafeteria, we do our best to avoid anything that was manufactured or is in contact with peanut and tree allergens. MS and HS students do have access to items that contain peanuts and tree nut allergies.

K-2 snacks, why are the snacks offered with the Food Service? Little ones need more nourishment in smaller amounts more often as they are growing. All of the snacks are low in fat, sugar and calories. All of our snacks qualify as a smart snack as required by USDA. By WC food service offering the snacks, this avoids any allergens coming to school during snack time that could harm other children with hidden ingredients from peanuts, tree nuts, celiac, dairy etc. The cost of the snack is 50 cents for a milk and 1 item (grain, fruit or veggie).

### What makes a "Meal Deal"?



Why are menus different from Elementary from Secondary? At the Elementary, we serve on most days 2 meal choices. Most days MS students have at least 5 choices and at the HS, 6 meal choices. We do our best to have many options and to allow students to try scratch cooking items with the common items they are familiar with as many families are on the go.

What are the meal options for Secondary? Middle and High School students have access to a variety of boxed chef salads, sub sandwiches, Yogurt Parfait (1 cup of yogurt with ½ cup of fruit with 1/3 cup of granola). Middle school has 2 options on most days listed on the menu. HS has 3 options and 2 are on the menu and with 1 hot option listed on school menu website. WC Food Service utilize a 5-week menu cycle to offering a variety to meet our student's needs.

Find the WC Menus under the Calendars tab on the WC Website.

### 2019 - 20 Meal Pricing

	Breakfast	Lunch
Elementary	\$1.65	\$2.80
Middle School	\$1.65	\$3.00
High School	\$1.65	\$3.15
Adults	\$2.20	\$3.85
Reduced Breakfast	.30	
Reduced Lunch	.40	
Extra Milk	.40	
K-2 Snack Break	.50	
MS/HS Ala Carte Items Extras	.40 to \$3.85	

Payments can be made for any dollar amount by check, money order, or cash sent to the school with the child. Please add child's first and last name on either the check or envelope. If you wish to send one check for the whole family that is an option for all families. We ask that there is enough money put into your child's account for future purchases. If you are not able to fund the account, we do allow meal charges up to \$20. If you need further assistance, call or email the Food Service Office for further payment options. West Central does have an online payment through [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) to help parents navigate through their child's account. Please request your child's student ID number that is nine digits long.

[www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com)

Create a free account and easily make payments online and on the go!



## ELEMENTARY NEWS

### Welcome Back Elementary Parents and Students for the 2019-20 School Year

**From the Desk of Matt Alley, Principal**  
**605-363-3131 ~ 605-528-3325**  
**Matt.Alley@K12.SD.US**

This summer I again had the privilege to represent the South Dakota Association of Elementary Principals (SDAESP) in Spokane, Washington at our National Elementary Principals' Conference. This was a fantastic learning opportunity with other principals from around the nation. I was able to take in some valuable information that I can bring back to share with fellow principals in the state of South Dakota, our district and at both elementary schools in the West Central School District. I am also privileged to continue my role with SDAESP as the State Representative for the state of South Dakota for the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). This role is an honor and I am grateful to represent South Dakota's Elementary Principals in the national organization.

As I begin my 10th year as Elementary Principal, I am excited to get back to school and see all the students again. We will have a few new faces in our building, but most of our wonderful staff will be back for another great year in both buildings.

We continue to work on ensuring we are providing the best practices for your students and this was reinforced during my time in Spokane talking to principals from around the nation. Over this past year, I have really focused on this expression: "I don't want to give your children as good of an education as we received growing up...I'm in pursuit of giving them a better one!"

Please do not hesitate to contact me I look forward to the 2019-2020 school year and all the joy and excitement that comes along with the year. See you at our Open Houses and All School Registration Day!

Matt Alley, Ed. S. , WC Elementary Principal

**From the Desk of Ashley Bahrenfuss, Asst Principal**  
**605-528-3215**  
**Ashley.Bahrenfuss@K12.SD.US**

Impact: to have a strong effect on someone or something  
 What a word. What a meaning. How do we, as individuals, make an impact? Is it by being kind? Being helpful? Doing our best?

I was fortunate enough to attend a conference with a few West Central staff centering around learning and the impact of education. Not only the impact on a personal level, but on a deeper level focusing on student learning. It gave us an opportunity, as district staff, to reflect on all that we've done and continue to do to strive to make an impact on each and every student. From our learning to our grading, our teachers have worked hard to cater every day instruction to make those individual impacts on a daily level. It also gave us the opportunity to identify ways that we could impact our students and staff at a higher level. Last year, we identified the need for us to foster a bigger impact for students with our math curriculum. Throughout the school year, staff dug into standards and practices to hone instruction for each and every student in their classroom. They spent time throughout the summer working with their teams to bring the material to a student level. At the Elementary level specifically, working on bringing engaging, hands on material for students to continually work with. One of the things that we know about education is that bigger impact on student learning happens when students are actively engaging in the material; when they can explore, when they can question, when they can do the material themselves.

Our goal as West Central Elementary Schools is to continue to strive to make the greatest impact on students, both academically and emotionally. We will continue to research, learn, and collaborate to ensure that both of those goals are met each and every day. I hope that you enjoy the remaining days of summer sun and fun! We are anxiously awaiting the new school year and are excited about all that's to come! We'll see you back in August!

Ashley Bahrenfuss, Assistant Elementary Principal



## OPEN HOUSE

**Humboldt Elementary - Monday, August 19th - 5:30 - 7:00 pm**  
**Hartford Elementary - Tuesday, August 20th - 5:30 - 7:00 pm**  
 The above dates are for early childhood thru 5th grade.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



### OPEN HOUSE

Middle School - Monday, August 19th - 5:30 - 7:00 pm

The above date is for 6th - 8th Grade

**From the Desk of Mark Rockafellow, Principal**  
605-528-3799

This message is written with the hope that your summer has been enjoyable and families have had an opportunity to spend time together and enjoy the warm weather. Staff has been working on many projects as we enjoy our summer and prepare for the upcoming school year. I am excited to share a few updates.

First of all, our custodial staff has been working hard to shine up the building. We are blessed with a custodial staff that takes great pride in their work, as well as, our buildings and grounds. Please take care to respect their efforts by helping keep our facilities clean.

Secondly, last year the most noteworthy change to the educational setting in the middle school was the implementation of standards-based grading. The middle school staff worked hard to communicate the value of students working to achieve proficiency rather than just getting work completed. Students are given multiple opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and in a variety of ways. Our focus is on the learning, not on a specific learning event. Therefore, students need to make effective use of the opportunity to reassess and re-work assignments until they have demonstrated mastery. We continue to strive toward our goal of understanding and communicating what students know and are able to do.

We recognize the shift from Infinite Campus to Empower as our reporting tool was a struggle at times. The elementary and middle school staff will once again use the Trojan Reading Bowl as an opportunity to help parents understand the importance of standards-based grading and how to better use Empower. The middle school will also use the first parent-teacher conference as an opportunity for each grade level to provide insight into the effective use of Empower. Please look for information at the beginning of the year from grade-level teams on standards-based grading and Empower and don't be afraid to contact staff if you have questions.

Lastly, there are a few important dates coming up in early August. New-to-the-district student registration day is August 6. Parents are asked to stop by and register their new students. District-wide registration day this year will be August 12 and run from 7:00a.m. until 7:00p.m. The district initiated a district-wide registration day last year and the feedback from parents was positive. Look for more information on how you will be able to electronically register your children prior to registration day. Finally, the middle school open house will be on August 19 from 5:30 to 7:00. Students and parents will be free to visit with teachers, open lockers, pick up supplies if ordered and view the school.

The middle school years are filled with a multitude of changes for students. We are excited for the opportunity to work with the middle school students and their families as students progress through those changes. Please call or stop in if you have any questions or concerns.

Mark Rockafellow, Principal

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

From the Desk of Melinda Jensen, Principal  
605-528-6236

HELLO from WCHS! We've spent the summer months arranging student and teacher schedules, preparing classes, determining procedures and policies, updating records, and completing important maintenance projects. Our school looks great! Please acknowledge our custodians, landscapers, and maintenance staff who keep our facility looking great. Here are the High School highlights.

### Back to School

1. WC ALL-STUDENT REGISTRATION - AUGUST 12th. After the DISTRICT portion of registration, HS students and parents may come to the HS and pick up the student computer and schedule (along with a few other HS expectations).

2. OPEN HOUSE - Monday, August 19th, 5:00-8:00 pm  
Freshmen, New Students & Their Parents

Great opportunity for freshmen and new students (and parents) to get acquainted with HS staff and some students in an "open house" setting. Tour, lockers, lunch procedure, walk through schedule, Q & A. Informal and Informational! Anyone is welcome to attend.

ALL STUDENTS WHO MISS THE "DISTRICT WIDE REGISTRATION" SHOULD ATTEND THE AUG. 19TH EVENT TO PICK UP SCHEDULE AND COMPUTER.

### Student Computers

1. The WC District has invested in BRAND NEW MacBook computers for HS students. Student computers are always intended to be used for school-approved activities only. Relaxing the guideline in the past has caused problems for students and teachers with unnecessary and inappropriate distractions. Laptops are school property and students are instructed to limit their own distractions.

2. There will be restrictions on social media, games, YouTube, video streaming, music, sports, and other sites. Offenses will be met with disciplinary consequences and restrictions on computer access.

### Student Cell Phone Usage

1. Students are allowed to use their cell phone between classes and during the lunch break. Parents, please support this limit. Teachers will limit or restrict student access to phones during class.

2. Let's focus on...

LIMITING DISTRACTIONS and OPTIMIZING LEARNING!

### After school Study Sessions and Detention

1. Teachers are available after school! EVERY DAY from 3:30-3:50 students may meet with teachers.

2. MON-WED 3:35-4:30 detention time or work with a WCHS teacher on missing assignments or make up quizzes/tests.

### Before School Assistance

Teachers are available every day by 8:00 to assist students!

### Student Planners

A PLANNER (assignment notebook) will be given to each student again this year. Students should record assignments, upcoming projects, and important events in the assignment notebook. Students must carry planners with them to every class - as they do their computer. Planners fit in the pocket of the computer bag!

### Reading & SRB Block

1. SRB & designated reading time will take place after lunch.

2. READING: 12:28-12:36 Mon-Thurs. 12:22-12:34 Friday. ALL staff and students read silently. Periodical (magazine, newspaper) or novel during this time. (print material only) Mrs. Kistler, WCHS librarian, is a great resource for fiction and non-fiction reading materials. This commitment gives every reader a chance to read 1-5 books per month (depending on reading rate). Reading MORE helps students and staff develop new ideas and knowledge; improve vocabulary; become more aware of writing style and correctness; and develop an interest and commitment to reading



# OPEN HOUSE

High School - Monday, August 19th - 5:00 - 8:00 pm

The above date is for Freshmen and New Students.

as a meaningful pastime.

### 3. SRB - STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY BLOCK

12:38-12:57 Mon-Thurs. 3:00-3:30 Friday.

SRB must be used for studying, making up missing assignments, and silent reading. "Good Grades and No Missing Assignments" will earn students "release from SRB" on Fridays - as SRB will run from 3:00-3:30 on Friday (as it has in the past). "Not-attending SRB on Friday" is a privilege that will only be available for students with all passing grades, no missing assignments, good attendance, and limited/no behavior issues. Parents, please do not call to excuse your child from required SRB on Friday if he/she is expected to stay.

### Small Offenses Overlooked

Some students and parents ask me, "Why do we have to be strict with the rules?" My response: WCHS teachers and admin try to enforce the rules fairly and equitably. We don't want misbehaviors interfering with teachers teaching and students learning!

I do not believe in overlooking most small offenses because that gives the impression that: (1) some rules aren't important; (2) we aren't serious about providing a safe, calm, uninterrupted learning environment; and (3) some students' rights are more important than others. I disagree with 1, 2, and 3! We can all agree - everyone deserves a safe, productive school for ALL students to learn and ALL teachers to teach. Please encourage your son/daughter to follow the rules and get along at school. Thank you.

### Make it a GREAT day!

At WCHS, we say the Pledge of Allegiance, listen to daily announcements and hear "Words of Wisdom." I then encourage students to "Make it a great day ... or not ... the choice is YOURS."

PARENTS, you have an important influence on your child's attitude toward the school day and school work. Please use a positive approach when discussing your child's expectations and opportunities at West Central High School. Sometimes it's difficult to see that individual limitations are needed to accommodate the good of the group. With your help, all students will see that more clearly.

Encourage your son/daughter to MAKE IT A GREAT DAY!

Thank you for your support. Let's make this a great school year!

Melinda Jensen, Principal

## 2019-20 Computer Fees

### How much will it cost for an iPad and / or MacBook for my child?

Students in grades 6 - 8 will pay \$30 each and students in grades 9 - 12 will pay \$40 each. The maximum a family will pay is \$100 in device maintenance fees.

Also, all unpaid repairs from the previous year must be paid in full before a device will be handed out for the new year. Please be prepared to pay all fees and repairs at the District Student Registration Day on August 12th.

### When can I pickup my iPad or MacBook?

MS students will receive their iPad devices once school is in session and after we have instructed them in the proper care and maintenance of their device.

HS Students Grades 9-12:

August 12th - All Student Registration Day - 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

If you miss the previously listed dates, then the next available date to pickup a Macbook is: August 19th at the High School Help Desk from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm.





## SPECIAL SERVICES

**Michelle Becker, Director of Special Services**

Michelle.Becker@k12.sd.us 605-528-3210

## Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year!

The West Central Special Services Department is dedicated to provide a full range of educational programs for our students in compliance with state and federal laws. These services are provided to qualified individuals residing within our school district. Programs through special services vary for each child and are customized to the student's individual needs. **Special education, Section 504, English Language Learners, and Title** programs and services are available for assisting our students with varying educational needs and are provided by our highly qualified staff.

**Special education** services are provided for eligible children from birth through twenty one years of age in accordance with the child's individual education plan (IEP). The Special Education department is responsible for the identification, evaluation, and programming; as well as the transitional needs, related programs and educational records for children who are identified with a disability. Students are educated in the general education curriculum and classrooms to the maximum extent possible. There are certified special education teachers and educational assistants in each school building at West Central. Support personnel may include a school psychologist, speech and language pathologists, and an occupational and physical therapist. Consult services for vision or hearing needs are also available, if necessary.

If a student is not eligible for special education services through an individual education plan (IEP), but needs special accommodations in the general educational environment, the student may be eligible for a **Section 504** accommodation plan. The student's team determines if there is a qualifying impairment that limits major life activities for the student. If a qualifying impairment is determined, the team then creates a plan to help the student be successful in the educational environment.

**English Language Learner** (EL) students are provided support through differentiated instructional strategies and our EL teacher. The EL teacher, general education teachers and administration work together to help English Language students (ELs) succeed. West Central is also a member of a South Dakota EL consortium, where additional resources can be accessed.

**Title 1** Services are provided to elementary students who may need additional reading and/or math support. These students are identified through assessment methods conducted during the school year. Certified teachers work in small group settings, and may provide assistance to the classroom teachers as well.

The West Central School District is dedicated to creating inclusive schools with programs and services that promote the success of all our students. We support collaboration between students, families and the school staff. Please contact your child's teacher, principal or the special services department if you have any questions, concerns or would like more information.

If you have children that are between the ages of birth to 5, please consider attending our FREE early childhood screening on Thursday, September 12th at the St. George Catholic Church Hall. Please see the boxed advertisement for this important event within the newsletter.

As always, feel free to contact me directly with any questions. I look forward to working with your families again this year. I can be reached at 528-3210 or through my email at Michelle.Becker@k12.sd.us.

## Have a great year!



## Early Childhood Screening

For children ages birth through 5  
residing in West Central School District

**Thursday, September 12, 2019**  
**9:00 am – 7:00 pm**

**At St. George Parish Center**  
**408 S Western Ave, Hartford, SD**

*Call the West Central Administration Office at (605) 528-3217  
to schedule a screening appointment for your child.*

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### West Central High School Theater

#### FALL PLAY AUDITIONS



Auditions for the fall drama production of James & the Giant Peach will be held from 3:45-5:45 on Wednesday, September 4th and Thursday, September 5th in the WCHS Auditorium.

Students should be prepared to have fun and be creative at auditions, showing off their timing and character acting in a series of onstage exercises. In addition, students will also read 2-3 different character parts from the script, along with 2-5 other actors. Students are only required to attend a single session of auditions to be eligible for a role, but are encouraged to attend both audition times if they are able!

Josh Freier, Drama Advisor

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**Phil Barrios, Activities Director**  
Activities Office - 605-528-6397

# GO TROJANS

As we get ready for a new school year, just some friendly reminders.

Start Dates for Fall Sports;

Band - Band Camp, Week of Aug 5th, 8am-12pm;

Marching Band Clinic, Aug 17th, 1-7pm

Girls Soccer - Practice starts on Monday, Aug 5th

Football, Volleyball, Cross Country - Practice starts on Thursday, Aug 15th

MS Football - Practice starts on Monday, Aug 19th

Physicals can be taken now for 19-20 school year. You can bring your physical by the Admin Office or HS Office and drop off to be scanned and uploaded into Infinite Campus. We are continuing our online registration that we started last year. The only difference is that it will all be completed through Infinite Campus within the school registration process. It will be more user friendly and we will use one system to compile all info needed for the school year. Simply answer "yes" for athletics and/or fine arts participation and the required information will be gathered.

We had many successes this past school year. But as we all know, each year presents its own challenges and new teams need to come together to continue to build on the success our programs have had in previous school years. Our tradition of having success in ALL of our activities/programs at West Central will continue but it will take hard work and commitment from each and every student, coach, family and fan of our programs.

As we wind down the Summer, I encourage students to commit themselves to something greater than themselves. Don't have any regrets to being a great teammate as that is what ultimately leads to success on and off the field. We have a great support system at West Central that will be there every step of the way this coming school year to let you know we are there for you!



## BAND NEWS



The Marching Trojans completed their successful tour of the East Coast in early July. Students visited Niagara Falls, Boston, and New York. They performed in Randolph, MA on July 3rd and Bristol, RI on July 4th in front of thousands of spectators. While on the East Coast, the students did a lot of different activities: New England Aquarium, JFK Library, Fenway Park, Prudential Center Observatory, Boston Commons, Freedom Trail, Old North Church, Harvard, USS Constitution, Bunker Hill, NBC Today Show, Central Park, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall, Times Square, Broadway Show Aladdin, Grand Central Station, Chinatown/Little Italy, One World Trade Center, and a dinner cruise on the Hudson and East Rivers. Our students represented the communities that make up West Central and the state of South Dakota with precision, pride, and class!

Next year's Marching Trojans will be finishing up band camp in early August. They will participate in an all day clinic on August 17th with local marching experts working with the students. Everyone is invited to Jim Uttecht Stadium for the annual parent preview show at 7:30 pm on

August 17th.

In September, the band will put their hard work to the test at area competitions. On September 14th, the band will be in Worthington, MN for the King Turkey Days parade competition. After numerous performances during homecoming week (September 16th - 20th), the band will

travel to the Pursuit of Excellence competition in Marshall, MN for their first field competition on September 21st. The following week, the band will perform in the Watchdog Marching Festival held in Beresford on Friday before a lengthy competition day on Saturday the 28th. The students will compete that Saturday in both parade and field at Luverne's annual Tri-State Band Festival.

That evening the band will travel to Brandon for their Big Sioux Review Field Competition.

Come see our award-winning Marching Trojans perform their American Spirit show on the street and Delhi show on the field!

**Daniel Eye**, Director of Bands  
 Daniel.Eye@k12.sd.us  
<http://danieleye.wix.com/westcentralband>





# ORGANIZATIONS

## FCCLA

### West Central Student Leaders Attend National Conference

Over 8,600 Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members, advisers, alumni, and guests from across the nation traveled to Anaheim, CA for the 2019 National Leadership Conference (NLC) June 30 - July 4. The conference was an incredible opportunity for West Central members to develop leadership skills by attending a multitude of workshops and training programs. Students listened to well-known motivational speakers and were able to confer with the FCCLA National Executive Council. Members explored career paths, attended leadership trainings, including Disney options, Red Talks, and tours while attending the conference in YOURself networking country.

The South Dakota State state officer training. They and networked with state officers from across the nation while attending the conference. members include: Emma Kop-Madison Zwinger, Parkston, Dickau, Alcester-Hudson, Vice Alaina Murphy, West Central, Carissa Schwingler, Vice President of Programs; Jace Her-Tanner Eide, Gettysburg, Junior

West Central FCCLA is pleased to announce 3 members attended the 2019 National Leadership Conference. Members took part in a variety of activities, attended workshops to learn real-life skills, explored career pathways, attended a college and career fair, and connected with other students from across the country. Members participating have grown their leadership skills and have created memories that will last a lifetime.



Executive Council attended and presided over state meetings. The State Executive Council members from across the nation included: Redfield, State President; First Vice President; Janelle President of Public Relations; Vice President of Recognition; Jace Her-President of Membership; and High Representative.

pleased to announce 3 members attended the 2019 National Leadership Conference. Members took part in a variety of activities, attended workshops to learn real-life skills, explored career pathways, attended a college and career fair, and connected with other students from across the country. Members participating have grown their leadership skills and have created memories that will last a lifetime.

During the opening general session, members listened to inspiring keynote speaker Kyle Scheele. His words inspired members to live a better story. The energy packed session featured award presentations and national program updates along with the keynote presentation. During the closing general session, scholarship and STAR Events award and scholarship recipients were recognized before the 2018-2019 NEC said their farewell and welcomed the new 2019-2020 NEC.

All attendees present at the National Leadership Conference were given multiple opportunities to develop their leadership skills, grow as individuals, and learn about FCCLA, career pathways, and more. The South Dakota state officers are excited for the upcoming year and look forward to working with members across the state. The state officers encourage all members to "Believe in YOURself" as they create new chapter projects, serve their community, and prepare for their future.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective national student organization with the goal to help men and women grow as youth leaders in their communities and remain strong leaders into the future. FCCLA pursues to address personal, family, work, and societal issues and find solutions through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA reaches these goals thanks to the 200,000 members that are active within the organization. Over 5,500 chapters are spread among forty-nine state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Since 1945, more than ten million youth have been involved and have grown within FCCLA.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience stands apart from other youth organizations because the programs and events are planned, led, and carried out by members. FCCLA is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. When members participate in national programs and local chapter activities, they grow and develop into strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. The members lead in the present, and they will continue to lead into the future with help from the skills learned from FCCLA's programs, workshops, and overall curriculum.

Jennifer Poulos, FCCLA Advisor



# The E-cigarette Epidemic Among Youth

## New Information on Vaping and JUULING:

## Signs of Drug Abuse in Teens:

1. Sudden increase/decrease in appetite or new cravings.
2. Change in friend group, not hanging with former friends.
3. Complaints from teachers about misbehavior.
4. Poor grades.
5. Lying

### Common Hiding Places:



### Resource:

<https://www.additudemag.com/webinar/vaping-teens-with-adhd/>  
[https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/surgeon-general-advisory/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/surgeon-general-advisory/index.html)  
<https://www.sdquiltline.com/>  
<https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/e-cigarettes.html>

Please feel free to email [bdevos@carrollinstitute.org](mailto:bdevos@carrollinstitute.org) if you are concerned for vaping usage or other substance use. West Central has Prevention Counseling services 2x weekly. I am frequently a resource to parents. My office is located in the middle school building.

Barbra L. DeVos, MS, NCC, LPC, LAC  
SD Certified School Counselor  
Prevention Counselor, Carroll Institute

# West Central Booster Club

## Mission Statement:

*Support the athletes and athletic programs at West Central School through volunteer projects, fundraising, business and personal donations.*

### Who is a part of the Booster Club?

Any parent or guardian of a 7th-12th grade student participating in an athletic program at West Central.

### What does the Booster Club do?

Provides every sport \$10 per athlete in funding to support their program, approves fund requests from coaches for items that would enhance their program, seeks donations from businesses in order to financially support the athletic programs at West Central, sells West Central apparel and other merchandise, and runs the concession stand for football games and track meets.

### What can I do to be involved?

Each sport is assigned to run concessions for an event. When the sport your son or daughter participates in is asked to work, please sign up to help out by working concessions. Sign up to sell merchandise at sporting events, Open Houses, conferences, etc.

### How can I shop for West Central apparel?

There are 3 ways to get West Central apparel through the Booster Club

1. Shop at the Booster Club table at the District Registration Day.
2. Shop at the Booster Club store during games this fall and winter.
3. Watch for all fall sport specific links to be sent out end of July or early August

Note: Throughout the year we offer some special merchandise sales of sport specific items, state tournament shirts and Nike apparel. If you would like to be notified of these special orders, please email us and we will add you to our email list.

### How can I contact the Booster Club?

There is a direct link to our wiki page through the West Central home page – parents – Athletic Boosters.

Email: [westcentralboosterclub@gmail.com](mailto:westcentralboosterclub@gmail.com)

Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/westcentralboosterclub/>

Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/groups/256863289236>

## Show Your Trojan Pride with a Yard Sign

Visit our website at

<https://sites.google.com/site/westcentralboosterclub/>

to order your Trojan yard sign.

Sports specific signs are also available.



## LIBRARY NEWS

**Welcome back to school!**  
**Please make the library one of your first stops!**

**Q: Where are the libraries located?**

A: West Central hosts a school library at Hartford Elementary, Humboldt Elementary, and the High School / Middle School. There is an exciting collection of age-appropriate reading materials at each location, along with activities to get students excited about reading!

The public library moved to the Senior Center in downtown Hartford on August 1, 2018. As residents of Minnehaha County, students are able to get a public library card if they choose.

**Q: How can I monitor my school library account?**

A: Check out the West Central Libraries website at <https://westcentrallibraries.weebly.com/>, which has a link to your school library account. You will be able to see which items are checked out, the requests you have made, due dates, and any fees that have accrued.

**Q: How do I get in touch with one of the West Central librarians?**

A: Here's their contact information:

**WC High School/Middle School Librarians:**

DaNann Kistler.....danann.kistler@k12.sd.us  
Kim Puthoff.....kim.puthoff@k12.sd.us  
Phone Number (all).....528-3223

**WC Elementary – Humboldt Librarian:**

Meredith DeCou.....meredith.decou@k12.sd.us  
Phone Number.....528-3321 or 363-3131

**WC Elementary – Hartford Librarian:**

Laura Johnson.....laura.johnson@k12.sd.us  
Phone Number.....528-3215







**West Central School District**  
**Administration Office**  
P.O. Box 730  
Hartford, SD 57033

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**

PERMIT NO. 3  
HARTFORD, SD 57033





ECRWSS

## BOX HOLDER

West Central District Wide Student Registration Day

**August 12, 2019**

**7:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

-  The one-day district registration process will allow parents to complete registration for all students (no matter which building they attend) at one time without completing duplicate paperwork. Parents will need to plan accordingly for associated fees to be collected the day of registration.
-  School pictures will be taken of **all** students for the yearbook by Scherling Photography.
-  District Registration day will include Household Updates, Computer Security Deposit, HS Student Computer Pick up, Transportation requests for rural and in-town busing, Medication information/forms, Food Service Payment, and Activity Registration.
-  In addition, there will be representatives for the After School KARE Program, Activity Pass Purchases, the Booster Club, Yearbook Orders / Payments, PTA and After Prom

**For All Students K-12**