



Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which is sent out weekly when school is in session. It serves as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

Your Partner in Education,
Michele R. Pillari, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Changing It Up



Memorial Middle School had a smooth opening of school, although it looked and felt different. It was great to see everyone back in the classrooms, whether in-person or virtual. Principal Mr. Scholtz sends his thanks to everyone for following the new procedures to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all. Students are off to an excellent start; they are excited, engaged and eager to learn. The staff is well prepared and ready to teach - whether they are in-person or virtual - and they are doing a great job. At top, Mr. Pollicino, an 8th grade ELA teacher, has class outside at the tables. This is Mr. Pollicino's first year in Woodland Park. Above, Mr. Segarra, an 8th grade ELA teacher, reads with his class outside on the blacktop. Mr Segarra came to our district with many years of experience and is now in his second year in Woodland Park

Important dates to note

Monday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m. - Board of Education regular meeting at Borough Hall. Attendance is limited to 25, inclusive of the board. Social distancing and face masks are mandatory. The meeting will be televised on local public access channels and will be streamed live on the District's Facebook page

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m. - Charles Olbon School virtual back to school night

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m. - Memorial School virtual back to school night

Thursday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m. - Beatrice Gilmore School virtual back to school night

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m. - School 1/Charles Olbon HSA meeting - to be held virtually; click [here](#)

Thursday, Oct. 15 - Beatrice Gilmore School picture day; details to follow for both in person and remote students

School 1 staff holds virtual Back To School night for parents

School 1 held a virtual Back To School night on Thursday evening for parents led by Director of Early Childhood Education/Principal Dr. Irizarry. School 1 currently has two in-person and two virtual 3-year-old classes and two in-person and two virtual 4-year-old classes.

Level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Birth to 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 to 2 years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2 to 3 years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Preschool 3 class	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
PreK 4 class	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Kindergarten	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
First Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Second Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Third Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Objective 2 Establishes and sustains positive relationships
d. Makes friends

Level	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Dr. Irizarry's slide show introduced staff members and teachers, detailed the school's schedule, policies and procedures, and safety precautions. The school's assessment system, Teaching Strategies Gold (slide shown above), assesses students on a color-coded progression of learning and development areas.

Numerous safeguards are in place to keep everyone safe including plexi-glass partitions on all desks, individual bins for each student, social distancing markers on the floors, frequent hand-washing procedures and more. Toys used by the students are also washed after each use. Students have outside play daily when weather permits and have access to easily cleaned items such as balls and hula hoops. They also talk walks and do yoga.

The school's curriculum, Creative Curriculum, is a play-based learning one that focuses on interest areas and fosters creativity. It is based on 38 objectives for development and learning that focus on all the areas that are most important for school success: social-emotional, cognitive, math, literacy, physical, language, social studies, science and technology, and the arts. Whether at home or at school, students have different activities embedded in their schedule such as question of the day, large and small group time, exercise, read-alouds and centers.

The school's master teacher, Kim Leary, is an instructional coach and resource to all the teachers. She is always available at drop off and pick up. Ms. Leary will be launching a monthly parent "lunch and learn" workshop series, with the first to be held on Oct. 7 at 12 noon. She will also be creating a parents only classroom, aimed to be a place parents can ask questions, and find resources and information.

Dr. Irizarry's presentation, as well as one from each teacher, can be found on the district website [here](#).



Aiming To Inspire

National Junior Honor Society President Julius Monochello designed and installed a rock garden at Memorial Middle School for his community service project. Julius painted rocks with inspirational words to welcome back his classmates for this school year.

Home & School Associations work to enrich student experience

Each of our four district schools has its own Home & School Association, which work to provide students and staff with activities and enrichment throughout the school year. The HSAs are all-volunteer and rely solely on fundraising to provide educational programs and fun events.

All families are encouraged to join their HSA and actively participate their efforts. This is new territory for the HSAs with the pandemic hampering fundraising capabilities and limiting ability to plan in-person events as they have in the past, however, the board members of the four groups look forward to supporting the students and staff in every way possible.

School #1's HSA Executive Board consists of President Tami Hajbi, Co-Vice Presidents Dana Camacho and Maisoun Muhammed, Secretary Gina McQuinn, and Treasurer Amy Dean. They have been working to raise funds and get memberships at the WP Farmers Market on Saturday mornings at 1225 McBride Ave. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They have also launched a spirit wear sale.

Charles Olbon School's HSA Executive Board consists of Co-Presidents Heydi Obregon and Tina Masefield, Co-Vice Presidents Dana Camacho and Maisoun Muhammed, co-secretaries Michelle Parkerton and Christine Tarbox-Murphy, and co-treasurers Anna Ramos, Eileen Munoz. Join the group's Facebook page "COHSA" to stay up to date on all the activities planned.

Beatrice Gilmore School's HSA Executive Board consists of President Deya Pena, Vice President Tamika Blucher, Secretary Denise Selman, and Treasurer Michelle Rodriguez. The BGHSA is planning a tricky tray on Oct. 15 that was rescheduled from the spring. Join the group's Facebook page "BG HSA" to stay up to date on all the activities planned.

Memorial Middle School's HSA Executive Board consists of President Barbara Kruszewski, Vice President Danielle Nautsch, Secretary Maria Billson and Treasurer Lucia Baccaro. This fall, the HSA will kick off fundraising efforts with a David's Cookie sale. Join the group's Facebook page "Woodland Park Memorial Middle School HSA" to stay up to date on all the activities that are being planned.



Never Forget

The Borough held its annual 9/11 Remembrance Wednesday evening. Woodland Park Cub Scouts and Daisy Scouts took part again this year, by singing "God Bless the USA" and "God Bless America."