October 2026 / November 2026

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

WEST CENTRAL WIRE

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

www.westcentral49-7.com.

-West Central Schools Mission Statement

GREETINGS from the Superintendent's Office



The 2026–27 school year is off to an outstanding start! Our hallways and classrooms are once again filled with the energy, curiosity, and excitement that make our schools such special places. From the first day of school, our teachers and staff have welcomed students with enthusiasm and a renewed commitment to helping every student learn, grow, and succeed.

As superintendent, one of the things I value most is the opportunity to see our students grow—not only academically, but also as confident, compassionate, and capable young people. I look forward to watching the many successes, challenges, lessons, and memorable moments that this school year will bring. Thank you to our staff, families, and community for the many ways you support our students and make our schools a place where they can learn, belong, and thrive**.**

Scholarship Granting Organizations & Federal Tax Credits

The Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC) was created through recent federal legislation and provides individuals with an opportunity to contribute to approved Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs). Beginning in 2027, eligible taxpayers may receive a 100% dollar-for-dollar nonrefundable federal tax credit on qualifying cash contributions of up to $1,700 to an approved SGO. South Dakota has elected to participate in the program for 2027. The West Central School District is working through undefined regulations to establish an SGO for parents, grandparents, community members, and others to be able to obtain this write-off.

An individual who contributes $1,700 to a qualifying SGO could potentially receive a $1,700 federal tax credit, subject to the requirements of the program. This is a tax credit, not simply a tax deduction. The purpose of the program is to provide additional resources for educational scholarships. Scholarship Granting Organizations are nonprofit organizations that distribute scholarship funds to eligible students according to the requirements of the federal program. For public schools that do not charge tuition, without defined rules, we understand that the SGO contributions may be used to replace fees (in-town busing, technology fees, class fees, field trips, tutoring, and other fees).

The new federal program creates another avenue for individuals to support educational opportunities through charitable contributions. The federal government is continuing to establish the specific rules and procedures that SGOs, donors, states, and families will follow when the program begins in 2027.

South Dakota has already opted into the federal program, so approved SGOs operating in South Dakota will be able to participate once the federal requirements are in place. As a school district, our role is to keep our families and community informed about changes that may affect education. There are still details to be finalized regarding eligibility, participating organizations, scholarship distribution, documentation, and other program requirements. Once these federal rules have been finalized and we have secured an SGO that aligns with our mission, we will continue to provide information to families.

Education is strengthened when families, schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community members work together to create opportunities for students. I encourage our community to learn more about this new program and understand how it may affect educational opportunities and charitable giving beginning in 2027.

Yours in Education,
Dr. Knight, Superintendent of Schools
West Central School District

DISTRICT-WIDE NEWS

TABLE OF CONTENTS
October / November

Superintendent Article ..... Front Cover
WC School Board / WC School Directory 2
Early Dismissals 2
School Calendar 3
Now Hiring 3
Nondiscrimination Statement 3
School Closing Information 4
Nurse's Corner 4
Giving Tree 5
West Central BackPack Program 6
Assessment Guide 6-7
Elementary News
Message from the Principals 8
Veterans Day Program 9
Middle School News
Message from the Principal 10
High School News
Message from the Principal 11
Transportation 12
Co-Curricular Activities
Message from the Activities Director 12-13
West Central School Events Calendar 13
Band News 14
WCHS Theater Presents 15
Nutrition Services
Message from the Child Nutrition Director 16-17
Library News
Book Fair 18
Organizations
Alumni Directory 17
West Central Booster Club 17

EARLY DISMISSAL FOR 2026-2027

School will dismiss early for homecoming, teacher work time days, parent/teacher conference, winter break, and the last day of school. **School will dismiss at 1:30 pm** on the following days:

October 16 **February 11** **May 20**
December 18 **March 12**

West Central on the WEB
www.westcentral49-7.com

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

Alison McGillivray, President 701-650-1397
508 Mulligan Cir, Hartford, SD 57033
Alison.McGillivray@k12.sd.us

Alexia Klinkhammer, Vice President 201-3495
509 N Sagehorn Dr, Hartford, SD 57033
Alexia.Klinkhammer@k12.sd.us

Justin Eich 359-9710
26208 462nd Ave, Hartford, SD 57033
Justin.Eich@k12.sd.us

Kim Lanham 310-4803
605 N Sagehorn Dr, Hartford 57033
Kim.Lanham@k12.sd.us

Adam DeJong 360-8107
200 N Sagehorn Dr, Hartford, SD 57033
Adam.W.DeJong@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

Eric Knight, Superintendent	528-3217
Dr. Andrew Barron, High School Principal	528-6236
Mark Rockafellow, Middle School Principal	528-3799
Amy Larson, Humboldt Elementary Principal	363-3131
Ashley Bahrenfuss, Hartford Elementary Principal	528-3215
Krista Stuessi, Business Manager	528-3217
Andray Knutson, Director of Special Services	528-3210
Carrie Schaefers, Curriculum Coordinator	528-3217
Darren Sindelar, Activities Director	528-6236
Emily Bunkers, MS/HS Student Success Coordinator	528-6236
Makenna Macdonald, Elementary Success Coordinator	528-3215
	or 363-3131
Chris Waltner, Director of Technology	528-3217
Tanya Thomas-Parsons, Food Nutrition Director	528-6238
Chris Krogmann, Transportation Supervisor **(Bus Garage Office)**	528-6235

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

October 12 ……. NO SCHOOL – Native American Day
October 16…School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Teacher Work Time
End of 1st Quarter
October 19 …… NO SCHOOL, Parent-Teacher Conferences
11:00 am-7:00 pm

November 25-27 ……. NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

December 18 …….. School Dismissal at 1:30 pm
Winter Break Begins, End of 2nd Quarter
December 21-31 …..... NO SCHOOL -- Winter Break

January 1 …….. NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
January 4 …….. NO SCHOOL - Staff Development
January 5 …….. Return from Winter Break
January 18 …..... NO SCHOOL --Teacher In-Service

February 11 …… School Dismissal at 1:30 pm
Parent-Teacher Conferences 2:00-9:00 pm
February 12 …… NO SCHOOL - Comp Day for Teachers
February 15 ……. NO SCHOOL - President's Day

March 12 .. School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, Teacher Work Time
End of 3rd Quarter
March 19 …….. NO SCHOOL - Comp Day for Teachers
March 26 …….. NO SCHOOL
March 29 ……. NO SCHOOL

May 15 …….. Graduation
May 20 …… School Dismissal at 1:30 pm, End of 4th Quarter
Last Day for Students
May 21 …… Last Day for Teachers

Inclement Weather or Make-Up Days: The first five make-up days are built into the school calendar. After five days, each additional day will be made up at the end of the school year.



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, Food, & Natural Resources
Architecture and Construction
Arts & Audio Visual
Business
Finance
Hospitality & Tourism
Human Services
Information Technology
Manufacturing
STEM

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
One Petticoat Lane
1010 Walnut St, 3rd Fl. Ste.320
Kansas City, MO 64114-3302
Phone: 816-268-0550
Fax: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172
E-mail: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov

SCHOOL CLOSING

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.

NURSE'S NOTES

It's hard to believe we are already approaching the cooler months! I hope the school year is off to a great start and that your students are learning, growing, and finding success.

As we move into the colder months, I'd like to take a moment to review when illness may require a student to stay home from school. Our goal is for all students to attend school consistently, but we also want to ensure that students and staff have a healthy environment in which to learn.

Students who have a **fever of 100.4°F or higher** will be sent home and must remain home for at least 24 hours. Students may return to school once their temperature has remained below 100.4°F **without the use of fever-reducing medication**.

Students may also be sent home if they have an **uncontrolled cough, significant nasal drainage, or fatigue** that prevents them from fully participating in the school day. When a student is sent home due to illness, parents/guardians are expected to arrange for pickup as soon as possible after being notified.

Thank you for helping us maintain a healthy school environment and for keeping students home when they are unable to fully participate in the school day. With everyone's partnership, we can help make this a healthy and successful school year for all.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Terri Knight BSN, RN
School Nurse
West Central School District
Phone: 605-528-3215

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

GIVING TREE

WHAT IS IT?

A giving tree will be located near the office area in each building. If your family is under financial hardship this year and you are looking for some support to help provide for your school aged children, please consider this wonderful opportunity.

All recipients and donors names are kept confidential.

TO BE A RECIPIENT:

Please fill out this form if you'd like to receive from the Giving Tree.

https://forms.gle/nPAocyojBnamKzfx7

If you need a paper copy, please contact your school's admin assistant.



West Central School District BackPack Program

If your family has found themselves in need of extra food assistance, please fill out a form for your student(s) at: https://forms.gle/rNq6wGz9eiqbLVuC6. This program is confidential and free. You can add your student(s) at any point and be removed at your discretion. Reach out to your student's school counselor if you have any questions.

West Central School District Assessment Guide

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that all school districts provide transparency in regards to how its learners are assessed. In compliance with ESSA, as well as State and Federal Department of Education mandates, the West Central School District has made public the following list of assessments, their purpose, and approximate time frame. The results of any and all assessments administered by the West Central School District and its staff can be made available to parents/guardians upon request and, when applicable, will be sent home in the form of a score report in a timely manner. **Please note that not every learner takes every assessment listed below**. Any questions regarding assessments can be directed to Carrie Schaefers, K-12 Curriculum and District Assessment Coordinator, at 605-528-3217.

Assessment	Subject Matter Assessed	Assessment Schedule	Grades Assessed	Purpose	Source of Requirement	Approximate Time to Take	Reporting Results
ACCESS 2.0 & ACCESS Alternative	English Language Proficiency in Math, ELA, & Science	January 25 - February 26, 2027	EL Students in Grades K-12	Given annually to assess and monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English in the content areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
ACT (American College Test)	Math, English, Reading, Writing, Science	March 23, 2027	Grade 11 (Students can retake to improve their score)	The ACT test measures what students learn in high school to determine academic readiness for college and is used for college admission. It is offered on the same dates across the United States	SD DOE	Estimated testing time is 3-4 hours	Scores are provided online by ACT Inc and shared with Parents when they become available
ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)	Military Aptitude/ Entrance Requirement	December 2026	Grade 11 (Seniors can retake to improve their score)	Determines qualifications for enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces	Optional	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents and discussed with students once results have been received

NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress)	Math, Reading	Every two years if selected - Off Year	Grades 4 & 8	Anonymous assessment of progress by the US Department of Education that measures student achievement and reports change in student performance over time	SD DOE & Federal DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	N/A
NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Growth Assessment	Math, Reading, Language	August 24 - September 11, 2026 December 7 - 18, 2026 May 3 - May 14, 2027	K-9	A district assessment that monitors student proficiency and growth for data-driven instructional practices	District	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
South Dakota ELA & Math Summative Assessments	Math, ELA	March 29 - May 7, 2027	3-8	State required summative assessment measuring English Language Arts and Math proficiency	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
South Dakota ELA & Math Alternative Assessments	Math, ELA	March 8 - April 23, 2027	3-8, 11	State required summative assessment measuring English Language Arts and Math proficiency for students who have met the significant cognitive disability criteria	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
South Dakota Science Assessment	Science	March 29 - May 7, 2027	5, 8	State required summative assessment measuring Science achievement	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
South Dakota Alternative Science Assessment	Science	March 29 - May 7, 2027	5, 8, 11	State required summative assessment measuring Science achievement for students who have met the significant cognitive disability criteria	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available
WIDA Screener	Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening	Upon entry to the West Central School District	K-12	Used to measure the English language proficiency of learners who have indicated a primary language other than English on a home language survey, and determining whether or not English language instructional services are needed	SD DOE	Testing times can vary between testing participants	Shared with Parents when they become available

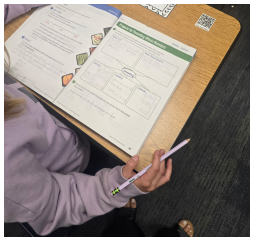
ELEMENTARY NEWS

Ashley Bahrenfuss, Hartford Elementary Principal
605-528-3215

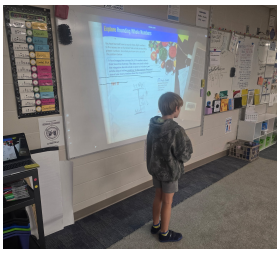
Amy Larson, Humboldt Elementary Principal
605-363-3131 or 605-528-3321

Growing & Learning Together

There is lots of new learning happening in our elementary classrooms this year. Along with a new math curriculum, our students and teachers are using i-Ready as another tool to support learning and growth.



Our new math curriculum includes teacher-led instruction, discussion, and problem-solving, as well as plenty of paper-and-pencil work. i-Ready is a tool that complements classroom learning by helping teachers see what students already know, identify skills they are ready to work on next, and provide practice that meets students where they are. Teachers use this information alongside classroom work, observations, and other assessments to help guide instruction.



There is one thing that never changes, and that is that adults always make a difference in a child's life. One of the most important ways you can support your child's learning is through regular school attendance. Each day builds on the learning from the day before, and being at school consistently helps students stay connected to their classroom, their teachers, and their learning.

Learning continues at home, and it doesn't have to look like homework! Read together. Have your student read to you, read to your student, or listen to books together. Have a game night. Break out a favorite board game, play cards, or get out some dice. Cook a meal together or bake cookies. Ask your child about their day and what they are learning. Their first answer may be "nothing," but keep asking questions. Have them explain something they know how to do. Wonder about things together. And most importantly, talk to one another. Conversations build vocabulary, thinking, problem-solving, and connections. The time talking gives kids the opportunity to share what they know, what they're wondering, and what's happening in their world.

The new curriculum means new learning for everyone, students and teachers alike! We are excited to see our students building skills, developing confidence, tackling challenges, and growing throughout the year.

We want to keep you informed of some upcoming events. Please take a look below and make sure to add them to your calendar!

- **October 12th** - No School
- **October 16th** - Early Dismissal; End of First Quarter
- **October 19th** - Parent-Teacher Conferences (11:00-7:00)
- **October 30th** - Fall Parties
- **November 2nd** - Hartford Elementary 3rd Grade Fall Concert
- **November 20** - Donuts with Dear Ones
- **November 25th** - 27th - No School; Thanksgiving Break
- **December 1st** - Hartford Elementary K-2 Winter Concerts
- **December 7th** - Humboldt Elementary Concerts

HUMBOLDT ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL
PRESENTS:

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

NOVEMBER 11, 2026
HUMBOLDT ELEMENTARY
9:00AM

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS - Mark Rockafellow, Principal

The school year is off to a great start. Students and staff are settling in. Our activities are in full swing. I'm hoping middle school families are settling into the routines and adjusting to all that comes with the start of a new school year.

There are two important ways to keep up-to-date with student school work and information. Check Infinite Campus for information regarding your child's grades, attendance, and behavior. Please contact Caryl Nolz, caryl.nolz@k12.sd.us, if you are having difficulty signing into your account. Teachers use the Middle School Website to post assignments/homework for the week. Grade-level teams also post their newsletter on the website. Please visit those links to find information regarding your child's learning experiences.

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sixth-grade will communicate the process for scheduling conferences. Seventh and eighth grade are open-house style. The grade-level teams will provide more information in the week prior to conferences.

Our staff set academic and other goals for the year. Those goals have been communicated on our website. The PBIS, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, team has been focusing on communicating expectations and recognizing students when they meet those expectations. Our parent surveys last year showed improvement in our communication with parents, students, and staff when students receive a Trojan Tribute for positive behavior. Parents should receive an email when a student receives a Trojan Tribute showing which teacher/staff member recognizes positive behavior. Respect/disrespect is another area of focus for our PBIS team. Grade-level teams frequently run missing assignment reports for students. Students with multiple missing assignments may be required to attend ELT, *lunch bunch* on Thursdays, and/or Saturday School.

Students have completed fall benchmarking in NWEA MAP to assess the current level of academic achievement. These assessments will provide valuable information to teachers so they can provide targeted interventions for students to address specific learning gaps. You will receive those results at conferences in October.

With activities in full swing, it is important to remember the responsibilities participants have for maintaining academic and behavioral expectations for participation. Students must have all work completed and turned in. The work must show an acceptable level of mastery. Students who miss class for activities or for other reasons need to communicate with teachers regarding the work they miss. Students can not have more than two behavior referrals for the week. Students being tardy to class or school is a behavior referral.

As always, please call if you have questions or concerns.

Mark Rockafellow, Principal
605-528-3799, mark.rockafellow@k12.sd.us

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS - Dr. Andrew Barron, Principal

New This Year at the High School: Math Curricula and Internships

This school year has brought about two new changes. Our math department has adopted a new curriculum and we have expanded our internship opportunities.

The math curriculum, *Reveal Math* from McGraw-Hill, is a rigorous curriculum that blends online practice with a traditional textbook. Every student has been issued a math textbook that they carry with them to class. Parents can look at this textbook and know exactly what is happening in that math class. The textbook is also a workbook, so parents can see the notes and worked examples their children are completing. The tests and quizzes are taken directly from the textbook materials.

Accompanying this math curriculum is an online math practice program called ALEKS. It guides students through practice problems that are tailored to students' current knowledge. There is strong evidence that consistent practice with this program boosts students' math ability significantly.

I predict that students will need to work harder than they have before to get the grades they want, but I know that they will be learning more as well.

We have had internships available to students for years, but this year we have expanded that program in a few important ways. We have more placements available to students across a larger range of industries. We have also converted the teaching assistant class periods into an internship experience so students can get a better sense of what a career in education might be like. More students are having experiences in real workplaces and learning about what they might want to do as a career.

TRANSPORTATION

WALKING BETWEEN BUSES AND CROSSWALK USE.
Please **do not** walk between buses at the schools where they are parked to load and unload students. This is the most dangerous place to be around buses! Students and parents should use crosswalks and be vigilant around buses. Children chasing blowing papers or rolling balls are dangerous around buses!

RIDING A DIFFERENT BUS?
If your student is riding a bus other than their regularly assigned bus, you must first contact the school and have them send a note to the driver. Seating is assigned and room is not always available. Please communicate with the school **a day or two before** you want your child to ride home with someone else. They will approve the change and send a note to the driver with your child.

BE WAITING FOR THE BUS AT LEAST 5 MINUTES EARLY.
Although you were given an approximate time for the bus to arrive, it may arrive earlier than you expect, or it may arrive a little later. You should be standing at your stop prior to the bus arriving. In addition, being ready for the bus allows us to get students to school on time. Please keep in mind that weather, mechanical problems, some students not riding on a particular day and other factors beyond our control affect when the bus will arrive.

IN-TOWN BUSING.
If you didn't sign up for in-town busing at the beginning of the school year but now have busing needs, you may sign up by completing a transportation request and submitting payment. Applications will be considered on an available space basis. To complete a transportation request form, go to the transportation tab on our website at www.westcentral49-7.com. Payments may be made online at the "Revtrak" link (also on the website) or by sending your payment to West Central School District, PO Box 730, Hartford, SD 57033.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - Darren Sindelar, Activities Director

Greetings Trojan Nation! The fall season has been FAST & FURIOUS!! While some activities are moving closer to the end of their seasons, others are still in the "meat" of their schedules.

Football - Currently 4-1. October is the heart of their season. How well they do will determine the post season. First round of the Class A State Football Play-offs start on Thursday, October 29th, with the Class A State Finals on Saturday, November 13th.
Volleyball - Currently 15-5. There are plenty of games to be played before the post season. Dak XII Tournament will be played at the Pentagon in Sioux Falls this year on Saturday, October 17th. Post Season play will start with Region play on Tuesday, November 3rd, concluding with the Class A State Tournament in Sioux Falls, Thursday, November 19th - Saturday, November 21st.
Girls' Soccer - Currently 9-3. The girls have consistently been staying in the top half of Class A. The first round of the Class A State Tournament will be on Tuesday, October 6th, and conclude with the finals in Watertown on Saturday, October 17th.
Boys' Soccer - Currently 2-8-1 are still in the hunt for a Class A state tournament birth. As with the girls, the Class A State Tournament starts on Tuesday, October 6th, with the finals on Saturday, November 21st.
Boys' Golf - The boys finished tied for 2nd in the DAK XII Golf Meet. They shot the best team round, 292, in school history! The team will head to Regions on Monday, September 28th at Two River Golf Course in North Sioux City. The Class A Boys' State Golf Meet will be held in Mitchell on Monday, October 5th, and Tuesday, October 6th.
Cross Country - Cross Country has been improving throughout the season. The Dak XII Conference meet will be held on Thursday, October 8th followed by Regions at Madison on Thursday, October 15th. State Cross Country will be held in Rapid City on Saturday, October 24th.

Band - “All Mine” is the title of this year’s show. The band has competed in Harrisburg and Marshall, MN., Beresford, and Brandon Valley. The band will also be competing in Sioux Falls, Menno, and Orange City this season. If you haven’t seen them, they will be performing at halftime of the West Central vs. Madison football game on Friday, October 9th.

As we are finishing up the fall regular season and moving into the post season, it is good for all stakeholders in the West Central family (coaches, parents, athletes, fans) to take a moment and review the fundamentals of sportsmanship. It is easy to point fingers at other teams, student sections, and fan bases about their sportsmanship. It is harder to take the time and reflect on our own actions. How do other fan bases perceive West Central? We can’t control others, but we can control West Central. Below are some questions we need to ask ourselves. If we cannot answer “YES” to these questions, then there is work to be done.

1. **Are we showing respect for the opponent at all times?** Opponents should be treated as guests, greeted cordially on arriving; given the best accommodations and accord the tolerance, honesty, and generosity that all human beings deserve. Good sportsmanship is the golden rule in action.
2. **Are we showing respect to the officials?** The officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.
3. **Do we know, understand, and appreciate the rules of the contest?** A familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of their necessity for a fair contest are essential. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
4. **Do we maintain self-control at all times?** A prerequisite to good sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own bias or prejudice and to have the ability to recognize that rational behavior is more important than the desire to win. A proper perspective must be maintained if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of all involved in the game.
5. **Do we recognize and appreciate skill in performance regardless of affiliation?** Applause for an opponent’s good performance is a demonstration of generosity and goodwill that should not be looked upon as treason. The ability to recognize quality in performance and the willingness to acknowledge it without regard to team membership is one of the most highly commendable gestures of good sportsmanship. With the fundamentals of sportsmanship as the points of departure, specific responsibilities and expected modes of behavior can be defined.

As we move forward in the year, particularly the winter sports season, here are a few important reminders:

1. Physicals are required annually. No student can practice or compete without this. If a winter sport is the first activity your child is involved in, please ensure these are completed prior to the start of the season. They also must be registered for that activity on Bound. All pages of the physical must be uploaded to the Bound website by parents/guardians, as well. The school will not take physical copies of the physical form.

   The website is: https:// www.gobound.com/sd/schools/westcentral

2. The first grade check was Monday, September 21st. Please remember, eligibility will be checked every three weeks. Specific dates are outlined in the West Central Activities Handbook. Any student with an F at these grade checks will be ineligible until the following grade check (three weeks).

Great things are happening at West Central! I am looking forward to the end of the fall season and to the start of the winter season. Thank you, Trojan Nation, for your continued support of West Central.

GO TROJANS!!

West Central School events and activities can be located on the website calendar at:

http://westcentral.mhsoftware.com/ViewNonBannerMonth.html

BAND NEWS:



It's been a busy Fall for the bands at West Central! There are 110 high school students involved in the Award-Winning Marching Trojans. They will be performing at the Festival of Bands in Sioux Falls on October 3rd. The parade will start at 8:30 am downtown and they will perform their field show at Howard Field at 12 pm!

The following weekend, they will travel to Orange City, IA for the Dutchmen Field Championships and will perform at 4:35 pm at Korver Field.



Come celebrate the successful season at the Indoor Marching Band Concert on November 7th! "Marching Tacos" will be served in the HS Commons from 5 pm - 6:45 pm. There will be a silent auction as well! The concert will feature the HS Marching Band, MS Marching Band, and all the sections!

The 7th & 8th grade Marching Band competed in Arlington on September 24. They performed 'Smoke on the Water'.



Mark your calendars for November 17th to the attend the Middle School Band & Chorus concert from 7 pm - 8 pm in the Colosseum.

Daniel.Eye@k12.sd.us
https://danieleye.wixsite.com/westcentralband
Director of Bands



West Central High School Theater Presents

Written by Don Zolidis



Don Zolidis' **The Monologue Show (From Hell)** is a comedic play about a high-school drama class who spent three long months preparing for a monologue show for their family and friends, only for it to begin to unravel the second they actually start to perform. From the couple staging their real-life break-up to the garden-gnome thief confessing his crimes, everything that can go wrong will in this flexible collection of hilarious tall tales.

Performances: **November 5th @ 7 p.m.**
November 6th @ 7 p.m
November 7th @ 2 pm
In the WCHS Auditorium.

General Admission Tickets : $6 Adults, $5 Students
Tickets will be available at the school. Theater doors open half an hour before showtime.

ONE-ACT PLAY AUDITIONS

3:45-5:45——Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday, November 19th

Soundscapes - A Drama

Stop by Mr. Freier's room to pick up audition cuttings.

If the date Nov. 19th is going to be a problem for you, but you are still interested, contact Mr. Freier. We can work something out.

CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES - Tanya Thomas-Parsons, Director

School Nutrition: Fueling a Great Start to the School Year

The new school year is in full swing! The first-day jitters have settled, routines are becoming familiar, and students are finding their rhythm with classes, homework, activities, and busy family schedules. As the days get shorter and the school year continues to pick up speed, it is a great time to stay focused on the importance of good nutrition.

Keeping students well nourished throughout the school day helps support their energy, focus, and ability to learn. Whether it's starting the morning with breakfast, enjoying a balanced school lunch, or making healthy choices for snacks at home, small habits can make a big difference.

As we move into the fall season, we encourage families to continue making nutrition a priority and to take advantage of the healthy meals and resources available through West Central Child Nutrition Services.

A Quick Update on the School Meal Guidelines

School nutrition programs follow nutrition standards established by the U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA). These standards help ensure that meals include a variety of food groups and provide appropriate portions and nutrients for growing children. USDA has continued to update and clarify school meal standards based on current nutrition science and feedback from schools and families.

You may notice changes or additions to our menus throughout the school year as we work to meet these requirements while also offering foods students enjoy. Our goal is to provide meals that are both nutritious and appealing---because the healthy meal only helps a student if they are willing to eat it.

Have You Completed Your Free & Reduced-Price Meal Application?

If you have not completed a Free & Reduced-Price Meal Application for this school year, please take a few minutes to do so.

Even if you are unsure whether your family qualifies, we encourage you to apply. Completing the application helps determine whether your child qualifies free or reduced-price meals, and the information collected through the application process can help our school district qualify for important funding and programs.

Please do not assume you will not qualify. Circumstances change, and every application is worth submitting.

Applications can be completed through School Café, https://www.schoolcafe.com/WESTCENTRAL or a paper copy can be requested. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Child Nutrition Services—we are happy to help.

Farm to School: Connecting Students to Local Food

We are excited to look for opportunities to bring Farm to School into our school meal program. Farm to School helps connect students with local agriculture by incorporating locally grown foods, supporting local producers, and helping students understand where their food comes from.

We are looking for local farmers, gardeners, growers, and other producers who may have products available for our school nutrition program. If you grow or produce food locally and would like to donate products or explore the possibility of selling products to West Central Child Nutrition Services, we would love to hear from you.

Local producers can also contact Child Nutrition Services to be added to our local producer contact list. This allows us to reach out when we are looking for specific products or when seasonal purchasing opportunities become available.

Parents, Grandparents, Guardians---Come Eat with your Student!

One of the best ways to support school meals is simple: **come have lunch with your student!**

We encourage parents and family members to join their students for a meal when your schedule allows. Eating together gives you a chance to see what is being served, experience the cafeteria, and ---most importantly---spend a little time with your child during their school day.

It is a great opportunity to talk with your child about trying new foods, making balanced choices, and enjoying meals together. Family meals can support communication and positive connections between parents and children.

Planning to eat lunch with your student: Please call your child's building secretary by 9:00 am so we can include you in our meal count. The cost for an adult meal is $5.50, and payment should be brought with you when you come for lunch.

Thank You for Supporting School Nutrition?

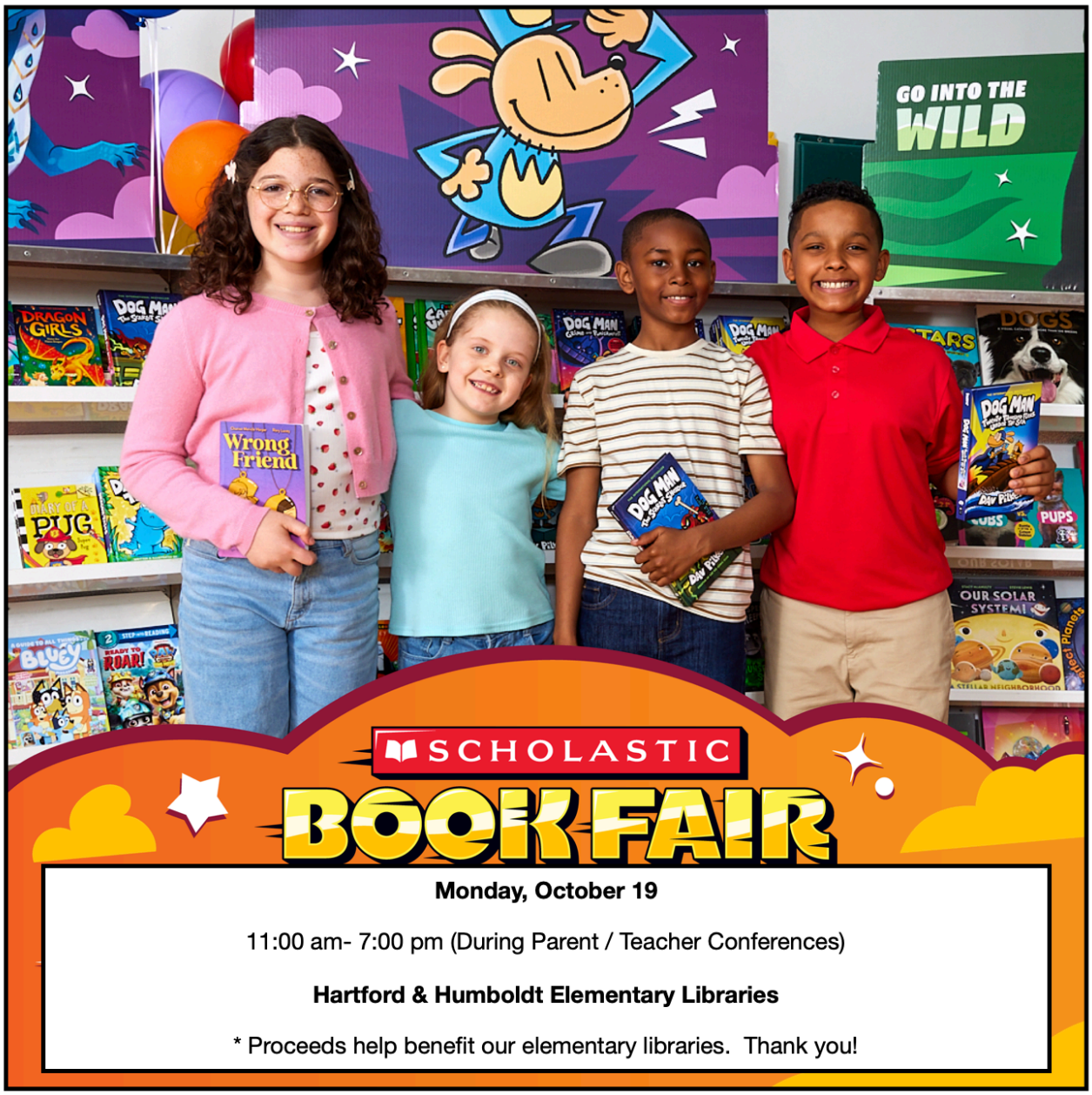
School Nutrition is about much more than serving breakfast and lunch. It is about fueling students to learn, grow and succeed.

Thank you to our families for supporting our program, encouraging your children to eat school meals, completing Free & Reduced-Priced Meal Applications, trying new foods, and partnering with us to make nutrition a priority.

Tanya Thomas-Parsons,
West Central Nutrition
Director



LIBRARY NEWS



ORGANIZATION



Stay connected with the West Central community. Scan the QR code or click the link below to sign up for the alumni directory.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWl-AhBOCH8IHc02kqg4ajivOcMbzmG9E8cLdYydJFvs2pEQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor

West Central Booster Club

Our Mission Statement: *To provide support to athletes & athletic programs at West Central School through volunteer projects, fundraising, business & personal donations.*

WHO The WCBC is a team of elected officers, parent representatives who collaborate with coaches & teams, as well as any parent or guardian of a 7th-12th grade student athlete at West Central.

WHAT The WCBC provides funding for each athlete on a team, approves fund requests from coaches to enhance programs, seeks donations from businesses for funding, coordinates West Central Trojan merchandise sales & manages concession stand at Football Games & Track Meets.

HOW You can get involved by volunteering to help with concessions when your athlete's team is assigned for an event! The reps send out sign-up sheets to register for the event. You can also assist with our Trojan merchandise store at events, Open Houses, Parent/Teacher conferences, etc. We are a volunteer-run organization & every helping hand matters!



Go to the West Central School District 49-7 home page; Click on *Community*, find *WC Booster Club*

Email: westcentralboosterclub@gmail.com

Find us on **WEST CENTRAL BOOSTER CLUB**

Come on out to join us at the next event and cheer on your Trojan Athletes!
While you're there, check out our store for all your Trojan Wear needs! New items added every year.

And remember, our online stores are always open! Each sport season will have their own specialized order for athletes & their families, so keep an eye out for the notification! Let's Go Trojans!