

# Panther Weekly News

**November 12, 2021**



## **Cold Weather Is Here!**

The temperatures will fluctuate for the next few weeks. Winter is just around the corner! Please make sure your child brings appropriate clothing every day. Students must have coats, sweatshirts or long sleeves on if the temperature is below 50 degrees.

Recess will be outside if the “feels like” temperature is 10 or above. Doctor’s notes are required for students to stay inside due to illness.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **November**

- 22 5/6 Elementary Band Concert, WMS 7:00 pm
- 24-26 No School
- 29 Classes Resume
- 30 PL Community Club Meeting 6:30 pm

## **LOST AND FOUND - HELP!**

Our Lost and Found is overflowing!! Please have your students check for items that belong to them. Purple boxes are located by Kindergarten and 6th grade.



**PAWSitive Rules:  
Be Responsible, Respectful  
and Safe**





# PRAIRIE LANE SPELLING BEE 2021

Spelling Bee season is here! Each classroom in grades 4-6 did a written test to determine the Prairie Lane Spelling Bee contestants. Congratulations to Sawyer W., our school winner, and Ava Mc., who placed second in the competition! Aubrey P. and Jackson R. took third place. Details about the District Spelling Bee will be sent to parents of 1st and 2nd place contestants soon. This group of spellers did an outstanding job!

Sawyer W. 1st place  
Ava Mc. 2nd place  
Aubrey P. 3rd place  
Jackson R. 3rd place  
Ayman O.  
Maggie Mc.  
Dennis L.  
Chloe S.  
Liam M.  
Grace S.  
Aviana V.  
Anna W.  
Giacomo D.  
Ainsley W.



Westside families and staff,

We have two important items we hope you consider as we approach the holidays, both supporting the well-being of our Westside students and families.

## **FREE & REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS**

Our records of students who are registered for free & reduced meals has plummeted for the 2021/22 school year. We fear this is not because of a lack of need, but because meals are free for all students, funded by the US Department of Agriculture. **If you would traditionally qualify for free or reduced-price meals, it is important you file an application.** Through that application, your student becomes eligible for additional benefits including fee waivers for scholarships, ACT/SAT testing, computers, transportation, summer school, activity cards, prom band instruments, etc. In addition, our district receives state and local funding based on the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. That funding is vital for Westside Community Schools.

**CLICK HERE to complete the Free & Reduced Meal application online:**

<https://www.myschoolapps.com/>. If you would like to complete a traditional paper application, please send an email to Michele Divoky, [divoky.michele@westside66.net](mailto:divoky.michele@westside66.net) or call 402.390.3382.

## **HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE**

Once again this year, Westside Community Schools will be working together with our high school homerooms and a network of amazing community volunteers to support our district families in need this upcoming holiday season. Through the confidential and compassionate work of our district Social Workers, Counselors and Psychologists, we are able to assist those in our school community who may need extra help.

**There are a number of ways you can help:**

- By “adopting” a Westside student in need and purchasing items from his or her wants & needs list;
- by making a monetary contribution to the “Family Resource Fund” in care of the Westside Foundation ([click here to donate](#));
- or by donating to the Family Resource Center’s Food Pantry and Clothing Closet ([click here to learn more about the Westside Family Resource Center!](#))

If your classroom, your department, your family or your place of business is interested in supporting a Westside student or family this holiday season, please email Molly Hurley at [hurley.molly@westside66.net](mailto:hurley.molly@westside66.net) by November 19, 2021.

Thank you for your generosity and support, and for affirming the “WE” in Westside.

*Westside Community Schools*

# WESTSIDE *Dance Team*

Thursday, Dec. 16  
4pm-7pm  
Westside Atrium  
(main doors)

## MINI WARRIOR DANCE TEAM CAMP

*Taught by the Westside High  
School Dance Team who  
qualified for Nationals!*



### **\$45 Registration fee includes:**

- 3-hour clinic
- Tee-shirt
- Pizza dinner
- 3 hours of free time for you!

**After the clinic our dancers will perform at half time during the boy's varsity basketball game that starts at 7:15pm!**

**Extras: \$5 each for bows \$15 pom sets!**

**QUESTIONS: Email [whsdt2021@gmail.com](mailto:whsdt2021@gmail.com) or  
call Beth at (402) 203-2580**

### **Two steps to register:**

1. Register at [bit.ly/WSHDT2021](https://bit.ly/WSHDT2021) (case sensitive)
2. To pay, either Venmo @westsidedanceteam or by check to Beth Smith, 1326 S 80th St, Omaha, NE 68124 (note WSHDT in memo) **Please register and pay by Dec. 11, 2021!**

# Sensational Sensory Stations

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH  
10:00-11:00 AM  
OAKDALE ELEMENTARY  
9801 W CENTER RD

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FUN AND  
FRIENDSHIP AIMED AT PARTNERING  
PEERS WITH AND WITHOUT  
DISABILITIES WHILE ENGAGING IN  
SENSORY ACTIVITIES



\*Masks required for indoor events\*

Scan to Register or  
visit [https://  
tinyurl.com/WU2122](https://tinyurl.com/WU2122)

Welcoming Equity Support Inclusion Dignity Everyone

**"belonging builds community"**

Contests - Fall 2021

Create your own poem, drawing, photograph,  
sculpture, digital/electronic art, or  
painting using the theme of  
**"belonging builds community"**

Divisions for K-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade,  
5th-6th Grade, WMS, WHS, and Staff with  
multiple prizes to be awarded!



All entries are due by 4:00 PM on  
November 16th...drop them off in  
your school office or email them  
to [lucas.mike@westside66.net](mailto:lucas.mike@westside66.net)

# **WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

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# **CRAFT FAIR**

**NOVEMBER** **13TH** **9AM**  
**TO 3PM**

**100+ VENDORS**

**8701 PACIFIC ST, OMAHA**

**\$2 ADMISSION**

**GIRLS BASKETBALL PROGRAM FUNDRAISER**

# Westside Community Schools

## Family Resource Center

### Food Pantry and Clothing Closet

Any family with a student attending a Westside school can receive items from the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet as needed.



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Contact a District social worker for additional information and/or appointment:

#### APRIL ANDERSON

Hillside, Loveland, Prairie Lane, Rockbrook, Swanson, Westbrook, Westgate and ECC

Office: (402) 408-8914

[anderson.april@westside66.net](mailto:anderson.april@westside66.net)

#### KIM SCHENKELBERG

Oakdale, Paddock Road, Sunset Hills and WMS

Office: (402) 452-3147

[schenkelberg.kim@westside66.net](mailto:schenkelberg.kim@westside66.net)

#### SARAH FEHRINGER

Westside High School and West Campus

Office: (402) 343-2613

[fehringer.sarah@westside66.net](mailto:fehringer.sarah@westside66.net)

#### \*New location: 7770 Hascall Street

Entrance at the north door of the  
Pipal Park Community Center next to  
Westgate Elementary School

#### Donation Information:

We accept donations Monday-Friday from  
9 am - noon.

Monetary donations can also be made via the  
Community Council's Venmo account:  
[@WestsideCC-Omaha](https://www.venmo.com/WestsideCC-Omaha)

#### Need Additional Support?

Westside's team of school social workers function as a link between the home, school and community. They can connect families with community resources for financial hardships, mental health supports or any other barriers that may affect student success.

