



Hive Jive

Williamston Middle School

March 12, 2021

UpComing Events

March 17	Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00 PM
March 18	NO SCHOOL, Parent Teacher Conferences 12:30-2:30 PM
March 21	8th Grade Students - Yearbook Toddler/Baby Pictures Deadline
March 23	Be nice. Parent Information Night
March 26	Picture Retakes (by appointment)
April 2	NO SCHOOL, Begin Spring Break
April 12	Classes Resume
April 13	PSAT Testing - 8th grade students
April 15-16	M-Step Testing - 8th grade social studies
April 20-23	M-Step Testing - 8th grade science
April 27-30	M-Step Testing - 6 & 7 grade testing ELA/math

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19
<u>Class Hours</u> 4th - 6th	<u>Class Hours</u> 1st - 3rd	<u>Class Hours</u> 4th - 6th Parent/Teacher Conferences (4-7 PM)	NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:30 - 2:30 PM	<u>Class Hours</u> 1st - 3rd

[WMS daily schedule and class calendar for semester 2 - phase 2](#)

[WMS COVID Safety Protocols](#)

Virtual/Phone Parent-Teacher Conferences

All conferences will be held virtually (Google Meet or phone call) on **Wednesday, March 17 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM and Thursday, March 18 from 12:30 - 2:30 PM.**

All conferences are scheduled online to allow teachers to prepare for each meeting and honor parent/guardian's time. The online conference scheduler was activated on **Friday, February 19 at 8:00 AM.** Schedule conferences by using: <https://myconferencetime.com/williamstonms>. One time slot per student/household, per teacher/class. Families will receive more details with how to access teachers during scheduled times.

Student of the Month - February 2021

In an effort to recognize and honor the great things that Williamston Middle School students are doing on a regular basis, WMS has a Hornet of the Month program. Adults at the Middle School are asked to nominate students each month, and by doing so, they are identifying those who are either consistently meeting or exceeding our school-wide expectations of being respectful, responsible, safe, and engaged. Many of these students display leadership qualities and serve as role models for their peers. All of these students contribute to a positive culture at Williamston Middle School, and we recognize and celebrate them for that. [View February Recipients HERE](#)

Career Exploration and More - Attention 7th-8th Grade Students

Williamston Middle School would like to introduce you to a new online platform that helps our students develop future plans and explore career options. Xello is an engaging online experience that helps our students better understand themselves, their career goals, and the skills needed to succeed. All 7th and 8th grade students were introduced to this program this week during science class. Students were asked to become familiar with the program and complete a few tasks. Please [click here to learn more about Xello](#).

2021 WMS Community Giving Project:

PALs and Student Council are sponsoring a snack drive to support the Williamston Food Bank. This year, we are collecting individually wrapped snack items. All items will be delivered to the Williamston Food Bank to be distributed to local families with children. Items can be dropped off at the middle school between March 10th and 24th. Students should drop off the items in the cafeteria between 11:35 am and 11:55 am upon their arrival to school. Online students may drop off their donations to the office anytime between 7:30 am and 11:00 am during the dates listed. Thank you for supporting this community project! Click the [Community Giving Project link](#) for details.

Be nice.

WMS uses the **be nice.** action plan for mental health and suicide prevention education. Join the parent information night on **March 23rd from 6:30-7:30 PM** to learn the tools to notice changes in young people, practice inviting conversations about mental health, challenge past stigmas and empower with resources and protective factors. [FREE REGISTRATION HERE](#).

Promote the Be nice program by wearing Be nice attire and jeans on Thursdays. To learn more about the program and additional mental health resources, visit the [Be nice website](#) and the [WMS Mental Health Page](#).

PSAT/M-Step Testing

Williamston Middle School is preparing to administer standardized tests during the month of April. This information may change if the state makes adjustments to the testing guidelines, and families and students will be informed if changes arise.

Picture Retakes - March 26

Retakes are scheduled for **Friday, March 26 from 9:00-11:00 AM by appointment**. Schedule by using: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44ACA823A1FFC25-picture>. Picture Day ID for Online Ordering: **EVT4CRDD4**

Online students who are opting out of school pictures, can submit a picture for the yearbook. Please see the [WMS Snap Flier](#) for more details and directions. We ask that you submit a self portrait photo no later than April 1.

Girls' Math and Science Day at MSU

The Mid-Michigan chapter of Graduate Women in Science would like to invite students at Williamston Middle School to the Girls' Math and Science Day at Michigan State University on Saturday, March 20th, 2021 from 1:00-4:15 pm EST. This is a fantastic opportunity for middle school-aged girls to participate in STEM demonstrations led by some of MSU's enthusiastic and knowledgeable graduate students and researchers. The day for each participant will consist of a keynote speaker talk and four individual STEM-themed activities. Register for the event using the following link: [Girls' Math & Science Day](#) (registration is **FREE** of cost).

Yearbook Ordering and More

- **Yearbook ordering** - Please see [yearbook flier](#) and [online yearbook ordering form](#).
- **Attention all students** - We would love additional photos for the yearbook. We cannot guarantee that all submitted photos will be included in the yearbook, but encourage you to send them for consideration to Mr. Leslie at wmsyearbook@gowcs.net.
- **Attention 8th Grade Students - Yearbook Toddler/Baby Pictures**
Each year there is a special 8th grade student toddler/baby picture section in the yearbook. Please see the [8th grade toddler/baby link](#) for details and March 21 deadline.

Counseling Office News from Mrs. McKinney and Mrs. Michalski

We are here to support your student's academic and mental health needs. During remote learning, we have created a google classroom called "WMS Counseling Office with Mrs. McKinney & Mrs. Michalski" to provide students and families with resources in a variety of topics. New material will be uploaded weekly. Also, visit the [WMS Mental Health Resources](#) and [WMS Counseling office](#) for support.

Check out what's new in the WMS Counseling Office Google Classroom:

- **Workout Videos - HIIT videos for middle schoolers**

We will be adding more great resources each week. [Click here to access the classroom or use code:6jlxidg](#)

Mental Health Webinar for Parents Through Community Mental Health

Ingham Community Mental Health and the Capital Area Libraries are hosting a virtual event on **April 15 from 6-7 pm** called Depression, Anxiety, and Other Common Mental Health Challenges in Youth for Adults. The event will provide information about these conditions and ways to help manage them. [Registration link HERE](#)

Old Newsboys Association footwear resource:

Applications are now available to receive a voucher to purchase footwear. Children are eligible for this program if they qualify for free or reduced lunch. Contact Anne McKinney (655-4668 ext. 6520 or mckinna@gowcs.net) for more information.

Williamston Food Bank - assists families this season and every month throughout the year. Please email williamstonmifoodbank@gmail.com or call 517-655-3813 to make arrangements for food assistance.

WCS Food Distribution - distribution will be on Tuesday and Thursday. Meals will be available at the high school on the front drive from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Please visit the [meal service link](#) for details.

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Attendance

Attendance during synchronous class periods is required and will be taken daily during each synchronous class session. Call the Attendance Line at 517-655-4668 (press #1) or electronically submit an absence online at <https://www.gowcs.net/domain/164>

In-Person Drop Off/Pick UP During the School Day

If your child is in-person and needs to be dropped off or picked up during the school day, then please call the main office at 655-4668 upon arrival to verbally sign your child in or out of school.

Technology/Academic Help

- **Internet Access or Academic Support** - call Rachel Foster at the main office (517) 655-4668 to schedule a time and day to attend WMS' computer and academic lab.
 - **Password Resets or Technical Support** - email: support@gowcs.net
 - **Help with Google's Tools and Features** - visit the [Student/Parent Tech Tutorial Link HERE](#) (use student gowcs email account to access).
 - **Help with Google Classroom or Coursework** - email the teacher.
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Extracurriculars

WMS Girls' Basketball Season Schedule

Attention ALL Athletes

Please do not arrive at the middle school any earlier than 5 minutes before your practice time. Please drop your child off at the back entrance and please wait for them in your cars to pick them up. The coach will dismiss your child and they will exit the building. No locker rooms will be available, so please come dressed with a change of tennis shoes.

Please bring enough water for the duration of the practice. A personal water bottle or jug is recommended and sharing is not permitted.

Masks will be required to be worn at all times. The mask must cover nose to chin.

Please answer the COVID health questions prior to your arrival and verify your temperature is 100.3 F or under.

In the past 24 hours have you experienced any of the following?

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of Breath
- Close Contact or Cared for someone with COVID-19
- Temperature above 100.3 F

- * Please do not send children if the answer is yes to any of these questions. Consult with your health care provider.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

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