

WESTFIELD NEWSLETTER

~DATES TO REMEMBER~

DATE	EVENT
10/7/2016	Volunteer Workshop, 9-10:45am, Multi-Purpose Room
10/11/2016	Book Fair, 8:30am - 7:30pm, Media Center
10/11/2016	Parent Teacher Conference
10/12/2016	Book Fair, 8:30am - 4:30pm, Media Center
10/13/2016	Book Fair, 8:30am - 7:30pm, Media Center
10/13/2016	Parent Teacher Conference
10/14/2016	Book Fair, 8:30 - 9:30 AM
10/18/2016	PTO Meeting, 7:00pm, Media Center, Childcare Available
10/20/2016	AMERICA READS DAY!
10/20/2016	3rd Grade Pumpkin Day, 9-10:30AM
10/21/2016	NO SCHOOL, Teacher Comp Day
10/24/2016	NO SCHOOL, Professional Learning Day
10/27/2016	5th Grade Orchestra, Fall Festival, 6:00pm, HS
10/27/2016	4th Grade Music Program, 6:30pm, Gym
10/28/2016	PRIDE DAY! Wear Westfield clothing or Linn-Mar colors.
10/31/2016	Fall Parties & Parade- 2:30 Parade in Multi-Purpose Room
11/1/2016	Make-up, 4th Gr. Musical, 6:30 pm, GYM
11/3/2016	PTO LEARNING NIGHT, 6-8:00 PM, MP Room & Gym
11/4/2016	Volunteer Workshop, 9-10:45am, Multi-Purpose Room
11/8/2016	PTO Meeting, 7:00pm, Media Center, Childcare Available
11/10/2016	3rd Grade Music Program, 6:30 PM, Gym
11/11/2016	NO SCHOOL, Teacher Work Day, grade reporting
11/15/2016	5th Grade Band Concert, 6:00 PM, HS Auditorium
11/17/2016	Make-up, 3rd Gr. Musical, If needed, 6:30 PM, Gym
11/18/2016	PRIDE DAY! Wear Westfield clothing or Linn-Mar colors.
11/23/2016	NO SCHOOL, Teacher Comp Day
11/24/2016	NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Vacation
11/25/2016	



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Mr. Ed Rogers, Principal

901 East Main St. Robins, IA 52328

ATTENDANCE LINE: 447-3352

Office: 447-3350

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

October 11th and 13th are Westfield's first common night Parent/Teacher Conferences of this new school year. If you were not able to complete your online conference schedule, please contact your child's teacher immediately.

Studies have shown that children whose parents are involved in their education do better in school. Parent-teacher conferences are one way to get involved. Every time you attend a parent-teacher conference, you learn more about your child and strengthen the bond with your child's school. Getting to know the teacher and hearing his or her views of your child's progress actually helps your child succeed. So, make parent-teacher conferences a priority and take the following steps to ensure you and your child get the most out of them.

Before the conference:

- *Talk with your child:* Find out his or her favorite subjects and activities, and ask if there are any concerns he or she would like you to discuss with the teacher.
- *Review assignments:* Are there some areas where your child really shines and others that might need a little extra work? Discuss both strengths and weaknesses with the teacher.
- *Check whether your child should attend:* In most cases, the conferences are strictly between the parents and the teachers, so you'll probably need to make child-care arrangements.

The day of the conference:

- *Be on time:* The conference schedule is tight and teachers need all parents to be on time. If something comes up, notify the teacher as soon as possible. Try to reschedule, even if it has to be a telephone conference.
- *Remember that conferences are brief:* A typical parent-teacher conference lasts 20 minutes. If you need additional time, ask for a follow-up session.
- *Keep an open mind:* Some parents get angry when teachers discuss trouble spots. Remember that these conferences are meant to help you understand your child's school performance. Working together with the teacher will help your child succeed.
- *Make plans:* Find out what you can do to follow through at home. Decide together what you, your child, and the teacher need to do to help your child succeed.

Afterward:

- *Tell your child:* After the conference, meet with your child and discuss the teacher's comments. Remember to praise all the things your child is doing well and pass along the teacher's compliments. If you need to, talk about areas that you and the teacher will be working on to help your child improve.
- *Follow up:* In the days and weeks that follow, let your child's teacher know that you are following through on what was discussed, and that you'd like to hear how things are progressing in the classroom.

Remember that schools and teachers welcome parent involvement year-round. Feel free to call and schedule a phone or in-person conference any time you think there's a need. Westfield's Parent-Teacher conference nights are Tuesday, October 11, and Thursday, October 13. Please check with your child's teacher if you have not been notified.

FROM THE OFFICE

BLOOD DRIVE

Westfield Elementary

Thursday, October 6 - 4:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Gym 901 E Main St.

To schedule an appointment email Susie Scott at scott.susan@mchsi.com or online at www.bloodcenterimpact.org.

Please eat before donation. Must have photo ID to donate
Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 8/11/2016 Group Sponsor Code: 3112

www.bloodcenter.org



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
REGIONAL BLOOD CENT

Dear Westfield Community,

Heavy flooding in Cedar Rapids and the surrounding region is having an impact on blood donations in eastern Iowa. In the last few days, Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center has had area blood drives cancel due to host sites being located in evacuation zones, as well as many donors cancel appointments due to relief efforts. This impact will be felt over the coming weeks, and we could really use your help at the upcoming Westfield Elementary blood drive next week.

Please volunteer to donate and keep our local blood supply strong!

Westfield Elementary Blood Drive

Thursday, October 6th, 4:00-7:30pm

Make an appointment: <https://www.bloodcenterimpact.org/index.cfm?group=op&hlc=3112&hostlookupcode=3112>

or contact Susie Scott at scott.susan@mchsi.com or scott.susan@mchsi.com for questions. Each donation will also help Westfield earn a grant.

ORCHESTRA NEWS

The 5th Grade Orchestra will be giving their first concert on Thursday, October 27th at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The concert will include performances by the combined Linn-Mar 5th Grade Orchestras, and the LMHS Concert Orchestra. Admission is \$2.00. In preparation for the concert, there will be a mandatory dress rehearsal with all 5th grade orchestra members in the auditorium. More information will be emailed home soon.

All orchestra students who signed up for this year's Adopt-a-Beginner Program will be finding out who their High School mentor will be very soon! Students accepted into the program will have the chance to meet their mentor at our annual Adopt-a-Beginner Pizza Party, which will take place before our concert on October 27th. More details to come.

Kristi Schamberger
Director of Orchestras
Oak Ridge, Echo Hill, Westfield



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

If your child is going to be absent or late to school:

- Call MICAH KREMER, our Attendance Secretary, at 447-3352, by 8:30 am.
- Please state your student's
 - name
 - teacher
 - reason of absence or late arrival
 - lunch choice
- If your student will be arriving late, parents need to come in to the office and sign them in.

If your child needs to leave school during school hours:

- Send a note to your child's teacher. Please include the name of the individual(s) who will be responsible for picking up your child.
- We will not release your child to an individual who has not been listed as an emergency contact unless we have heard from you.
- You must come to the office and sign your child in or out if your child arrives after 8:45 a.m. or returns after leaving during school hours.

Dismissal of Students During School Hours

If your child needs to leave school during school hours:

- Send a note to your child's teacher. Please include the name of the individual(s) who will be responsible for picking up your child.
- We will not release your child to an individual who has not been listed as an emergency contact unless we have heard from you.
- You must come to the office and sign your child in or out if your child arrives after 8:45 a.m. or returns after leaving during school hours.
- If you pick up your child before 3:30 p.m., the office will NOT call them to the office until parent(s)/guardian(s) arrive in the office to pick them up so please allow a few extra minutes.

DAILY LUNCH AND SPECIALS SCHEDULES

<u>Lunch/Recess Schedule</u>		
	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Recess</u>
K/2	11:15-11:45	11:45 - 12:15
4/5	11:55-12:20	12:20 - 12:50
1/3	12:30 - 12:55	1:00 -- 1:30

Specials Schedule	
4 th :	9:20 - 10:05
5 th :	10:10 - 10:55
3 rd :	11:00 - 11:45
2 nd :	12:30 - 1:15
1 st :	1:20 - 2:05
K:	2:10 - 2:55

Contact Information for Westfield

Principal: Mr. Ed Rogers....447-3351 (erogers@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Facilitator: Mrs. Stickney....447-3360 (lstickney@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Office/Admin. Secretary: Mrs. Jill Pistulka....447-3350 (jpistulka@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Guidance Counselor: Mrs. Kasi Shanahan....447-3353 (kshanahan@linnmar.k12..ia.us)

Attendance/Guidance Secretary: Micah Kremer....447-3352 (mkremer@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Health Assistant: Mrs. Cami Martin....447-3356 (camartin@linnmar.k12.ia.us)

Important Links

Westfield Website: <http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/schools/Westfield/default2.asp>

Westfield Addition FAQ: http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/schools/westfield/Westweb/Addition_FAQ.html

PTO Website: <http://www.westfieldpto.com/index.html>

Student Handbook: <http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/schools/westfield/Westweb/Handbook.html>

Lunch Menus: <http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/pages.asp?uid=D5B4B62D4B9E45ACBC766A9F26BABB98&pid=1026>

Virtual Backpack: [Virtual Backpack](#)

Linn-Mar 2016-17 School Calendar: <http://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/calendar16-17.pdf>

LINN-MAR COMMUNICATION NOTIFICATION OPTIONS

Communication notifications for the District can be signed up for in the following ways:

- [Txtwire](#): Click on **LM Emergency Notifications** at the bottom of the LM webpage to register
- [Facebook](#): visit FB and like **Linn-Mar Community Schools**

Reminder: To receive district notifications, you must sign up for them! Just click on the appropriate icon at the bottom of the Linn-Mar webpage to register!

Weather-related information will be sent out as a District notification. In the event of an emergency, the text notification may be sent to the entire District (if appropriate) or it may only be sent to an individual building. **It is recommended that you sign up for District and building notifications.**

Delays and cancellations are also shared via:

- Linn-Mar website and red "alert" scrolling banner on website: www.linnmar.k12.ia.us
- TV Stations: KCRG, KFXA, KGAN, KWVL
- Radio Stations: KCKK, KHAK, KKRQ, KMRY, KZIA, WMT



Mr. Rogers will be using 'Remind' to notify parents of early dismissals, late arrivals, cancellations, and other important information. Remind is a safe text messaging tool used to share important information. Subscribe by text or email:

- Text to 81010 with a message of @westfield2
- Send an email to westfield2@mail.remind.com

All personal information is kept private, and no one will ever see your phone number.

Be sure to sign up so you will receive these important messages!

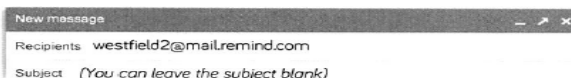
To receive messages via text, text @westfield2 to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @westfield2'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting @westfield2 to (319) 820-0330 instead.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to westfield2@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



*Standard text message rates apply.



Back 2 School Bash

The Back 2 School Bash was a BIG HIT! Thank you to our wonderful PTO and all of the volunteers who helped make this event such a success.



Linn-Mar Superintendent – Quintin Shepherd



Westfield Principal – Ed Rogers

THANK YOU TO THESE DUNK TANK VOLUNTEERS FOR BEING SUCH GOOD SPORST!



STRIDE FOR PRIDE 2016



COUNSELOR'S CONNECTION

We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week at Westfield the week of October 24th. The focus of guidance lessons during the month of October is making healthy choices and that includes saying "NO" to alcohol, drugs and smoking. We want to say "YES" to making healthy choices including eating healthy, getting lots of exercise, getting enough rest, coping positively with stress and keeping our bodies clean and healthy! Please spend the time to talk to your children about making healthy choices for themselves at home as well as model making healthy choices yourself. You are a strong influence on your children! We will also have "theme spirit days" the week of Red Ribbon Week so be on the lookout for information coming home about these days.

We have started our *Second Step* Guidance Curriculum for our guidance lessons this year. This month, Kindergarten-2nd grade will be focusing on skills for learning with focusing our attention and following directions. 3rd-5th grade will be focusing on skills for learning and empathy, along with healthy choices.

If you need assistance accessing any resources in the community, or if you need assistance with food, clothing, winter coats, hats, etc. for your children **or need resources for the upcoming holidays**, please contact me and I will assist you. **If you would like holiday assistance, please contact me at #447-3353 or email me at kshanahan@linnmar.k12.ia.us so I can get you a form to complete.**

I am here to work with you and your children to help make your child's school experience a successful one. Please utilize me as a resource and don't hesitate to call or stop by the school. You can reach me by phone Monday-Friday (8a.m-4 p.m.) by calling #447-3353.

I continue to look forward to helping you meet the academic, social and emotional needs of your children. It is such a pleasure to come to work every day to so many smiles and hugs!

Sincerely,
Kasi Shanahan
Westfield Elementary School Counselor

If you would like your child/children to participate in a group at Westfield that deals with living in a divorced/separated family situation, please continue to read and complete the permission slip below.

The group will meet 1/week for approximately 6 weeks. This meeting time will take place during the school day. The facilitator of the group will be Kasi Shanahan, Westfield School Counselor. The group members are asked to keep what is said in the group confidential in regards to the names of other students. They are, however, encouraged to talk to both of their parents regarding the content of the group and their own thoughts and feelings. The students will be bringing home a paper each session (one copy for mom and one for dad) to facilitate discussion with you as parents.

The goals of the group are:

- Children will understand factual information about divorce.
- Children will understand that divorce is not a result of their actions.
- Children will recognize and understand how divorce is common among families.
- Children will understand and accept their parents love for them as permanent.
- Children will learn to identify, understand and express their feeling.
- Children will learn to trust a support person with their feelings.
- Children will learn appropriate coping skills.

If both parents are involved in the child/children's life, I like both parents to give permission for this group. If you have more than one child attending Westfield, you may put them all on the same permission slip.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by phone at #447-3353 or you can email me at kshanahan@linnmar.k12.ia.us.

Please return the bottom portion of this permission slip to me as soon as possible

Sincerely,

Kasi Shanahan

Westfield School Counselor

I give permission for my child to participate in a Changing Families group at Westfield.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Child's Name (may list more than one child):

Parent 1 email: _____

Parent 2 email: _____



October PTO Top News Stories:

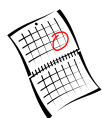
Next PTO Meeting October 18th

Blood Drive October 6th

Box Tops Collection

Parent Teacher Conference October 11th and 13th

America Reads October 20th



PTO Meetings

Thank you to all the parents and staff that came to the September PTO meeting! What a joy to have so many in attendance! Not able to make it? Go to our website <http://www.westfieldpto.com> to read the minutes. Next meeting is October 18th in the media center from 7-8. We hope you can attend. We will provide updates on school events and the Write One for Westfield Campaign. As a reminder, childcare is provided. We'd love to have even more parents at the next meeting!

Help
save
lives



Blood Drive October 6th from 4-7:30

This event is great way to give back. As a bonus, if we get 20 donors our school will be awarded a \$250 grant for hosting the event. Thank you Susie

Scott for organizing this Blood Drive. If you have any questions, please feel free contact Susie at scott.susan@mchsi.com or 319-560-8836.

Stride for Pride and Back to School to School Bash!



Thank you to all the parents that volunteered to make these events possible.

A special thanks to Kristi Bell and Stephanie Humphries for organizing the Back to School Bash!!

We also want to thank Michelle Langston, Doris Agyman and Jackie Thierer for organizing the Stride for Pride Day!

University of Iowa Mobile Museum



What a fun educational experience for Westfield Students. Thank you Nicole White for organizing.

Box Tops Collection Coming Soon



There will be a box top collection in October! More details to follow! Please remember to trim your box tops as you save them (it saves us postage!) Also, in order to help process the box tops faster, if families could send them in bags labeled with the number of box tops in them, preferably in groups of 50, it would be greatly appreciated! You can go to www.boxtops4education.com to find a complete listing of all the products that have box tops.

Continue Saving Hy-Vee Receipts!

Please keep saving your Hy-Vee and Hy-Vee Drug Store receipts! Westfield receives \$1 for every \$200 collected. We will send out information later on official collection dates. Thank you to Nicole Glau for chairing this fundraiser.



PTO Emails

Have you signed up to receive the PTO emails? Email is used to send reminders about upcoming events, deadlines, and volunteer opportunities. Join today by emailing WestfieldPTO@gmail.com.

Check out our website: www.WestfieldPTO.com and “like” us on Facebook!

Westfield PTO Executive Committee

Ed Rogers, Principal

Sara Mishler and Kari Whitlow, Presidents

Sylvia Shannon, Vice-President

Angie Ternary and Tabitha Lightfoot, Co-Treasurer

Colleen Bakker and Kim Bauer, Co-Secretaries