

# Pioneer Press

February 2024

Craig Bodensteiner, Principal

Jennifer Allen, Assistant Principal



Pioneer Families,

## Report Cards

First semester report cards will be distributed through Parent Square on Friday, Feb. 9, 2024, at 12:00 pm for students in grades PreK-5. You can also view your child's report card on the portal by following these steps:

- Log into the Parent Portal using your credentials
- On the left side select "More" and then "Backpack"
- Select the appropriate report card

## Contents

Principal's News	1
Principal's News Cont'd	2
Principal's News Cont'd	3
Redemption Programs	4
Redemption Programs Cont'd	5
Redemption Programs Cont'd	6
From the Board of Education	7
Music News	8
Physical Education News	9
PTSA News	10
PTSA News Cont'd	11
PTSA Chairs	12

## Protocol in the Event of School Closings; Early Dismissal Due to Inclement Weather

Webster CSD families are reminded that if weather prohibits students from attending school or necessitates closing school early, this information will be communicated as soon as it is available using the district's ParentSquare system. Information will also be provided on the district website ([websterschools.org](http://websterschools.org)), on district social media, and to local television and radio stations. When school is closed due to weather, all aquatics, community education, and evening classes and activities are canceled as well. WonderCare may be an exception; please consult their website, [websterschools.org/wondercare](http://websterschools.org/wondercare)

Should the district need to dismiss early, bus riders will return home in the same order as a regular school day. Parents are asked to be prepared with a plan in the event of an early dismissal and discuss it with their children.

Weather conditions vary widely across the district. Parents/guardians are the final authority in deciding whether or not to send a child to school. Weather related absences are legal absences; however, parents are required to notify schools if their children will not be attending.

## American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge

Last month Plank North successfully participated in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge! This wonderful community service event raises money to help fund education to fight against heart disease and stroke as well as other lifesaving research. During PE classes, Mrs. Craig and Mr. Sayers educated students on the importance of heart health and staying active while also learning about the importance of giving back to the community.

**Warrior Reading Day**

Recently, students in grades 2 - 5 enjoyed a special visit from the Webster Schroeder HS Boys Basketball Team. Under the direction of coach, Rashaad Stokelin, the high school athletes visited classrooms to read children's books aloud to PN students. They took the time to talk about why learning to be a good reader is important, what it has afforded them and where they hope it will take them in the future.

**Global School Play Day and National Read Aloud Day – Wednesday, February 7**

Plank North will celebrate two special events on February 7 - Global School Play Day and National Read Aloud Day. On this special day, we will celebrate Global School Play Day by reflecting on the benefits and necessity of unstructured play. Global School Play Day is always a fun day to get away from staring at screens and instead interacting with peers through unstructured play. In addition, National Read Aloud Day will be dedicated not just to reading, but to the art and practice of reading aloud. One of the most universal ways of bonding with children involves some form of storytelling. This day is a great time to establish connections if you haven't already, not only by reading aloud to your children but to those in the community!

We look forward to celebrating these two special events on February 7!

**A Special Message from Mr. Gorski, Plank North's Elementary Encore Computer Science Teacher**

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the families who joined us for another fantastic Family Fun Night. It was truly wonderful to witness your active involvement and exploration with the Dash robots alongside your children. Looking ahead, Encore is excited to share that our curriculum will continue to build on the foundations developed earlier in the year, delving deeper into concepts such as algorithms, loops, and conditionals. These essential skills have been an integral part of our computer science journey, and we are enthusiastic about the continued development of our students' computational thinking abilities. Encore's goal will continue to be to nurture a love for problem-solving and innovation and computer science in Plank North students.



**Kindergarten Registration**

Do you have a child who will turn 5 before December 1, 2024? If so, they are eligible for the kindergarten program offered in our schools. We invite you to enroll now via our online process at

[websterschools.org/registration](http://websterschools.org/registration)

- If you do not have access to a computer, you may make an appointment to use the Student Registration kiosk located at the district offices (Door 2), 119 South Avenue, Webster. Please call (585) 216-0027 to book a time.
- Current WCSD PreK students do not need to re-register for kindergarten as they will be rolled up and enrolled for the 24-25 school year.
- If you have any questions, please contact Webster CSD Student Registration at [wcsdschoolregistration@webstercsd.org](mailto:wcsdschoolregistration@webstercsd.org) or (585) 216-0029.

**Winter Recess**

School will be closed and classes cancelled for all Webster students in grades PreK-12 during President's Week, February 19-23. Classes will resume on Monday, February 26.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Mark your calendars! Parent-Teacher Conferences for students in grades PreK-5 will be held on March 14, 15, 21 and 22. Each of these days will be a half day of instruction for students. Buses will leave the Plank North parking lot at 10:00 am with Parent Pick Up from 10:00-10:10 am.

Yours in partnership,  
Craig Bodensteiner, Principal

Jennifer Allen, Assistant Principal



## REDEMPTION PROGRAMS

Redemption Programs mean \$ for our School!

THANKS FOR JOINING IN!

Imagine It

[www.imaginerecycling.com](http://www.imaginerecycling.com)

Bring in your used printer cartridges, PDA's, cell phones, MP3's, or portable electronics for recycling and Plank North will receive money back to the school.



# EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS WITH BOX TOPS

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

For over 25 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn for schools with products they already buy. Today, you can find thousands of participating products throughout the store — and all you need is the Box Tops app.

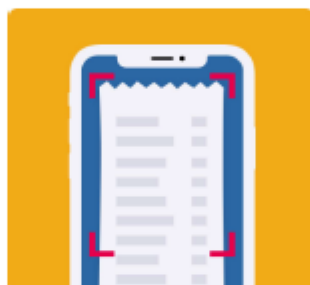


## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



### BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

Earn for schools with the brands you love.



### SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the Box Tops app to submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



### EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS

Box Tops products are identified and earnings are credited online.



### ONLINE SHOPPERS CAN EARN WITH BOX TOPS, TOO!

Whether you order groceries for delivery or pickup, shop through your store's app, or request an email receipt at checkout, you can earn for your school no matter where you shop.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfef.com)

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS  
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:





PLANK  
NORTH  
ELEMENTARY

## Bottle/Can Donation at Nickel Back Bottle & Can Return!



Does your family have bottles/cans sitting around to be returned? Please consider donating them to the Plank North PTSA! All funds raised will be used towards activities, programs, etc. at Plank North!

- \* All bottles and cans with NYS \$.05 deposits are welcome: fast, friendly hassle-free drop off!
- \* No fees involved, the Plank North PTSA will receive all funds for bottles and cans returned!
- \* Please label your bags "**Plank North Elementary School**" prior to drop off!

### Location:

Nickel Back Bottle & Can Return

659 Ridge Road

Webster, NY 14580

Call for hours: (585) 690-5805

(Behind Hadlock's House of Paint building, next to Bowling Alley)



-----

You are also welcome to email the Plank North PTSA and we will pick-up your bags!  
**[pnptsa@websterptsa.org](mailto:pnptsa@websterptsa.org)**





FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 2024

**ONE WEBSTER MUSICALS TAKE THE STAGE!**



**WEBSTER MUSICALS SAVE THE DATE!**



Get ready for some toe-tapping entertainment as the curtain rises on One Webster musicals in February and March. Webster CSD's secondary schools are planning four musicals in the coming weeks, so be sure to save the dates for:

- Disney - Pixar *Finding Nemo Jr.*, February 2-3 at Willink Middle School
- *Catch Me if You Can*, February 8-10 at Webster Schroeder High School
- Nickelodeon *The SpongeBob Musical Youth Edition*, March 8-9 at Spry Middle School
- DreamWorks *Shrek the Musical*, March 21-23 at Webster Thomas High School

Please visit [websterschools.org](http://websterschools.org) for performance times and ticket information as dates near for each performance.

In addition, the Webster Schroeder Theater Company will present the beloved drama *Little Women* on April 25-27. Performances will be 7:00 p.m. nightly plus a 2:00 p.m. Saturday matinee. Again, watch the district's website for more information.

We wish all our student performers the best as they rehearse for an exciting theater season!

**STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION THROUGHOUT 2024!**

Please stay connected with your board of education by visiting [our website, websterschools.org/board](http://websterschools.org/board). There you'll find agendas, minutes, and even the latest meetings, which are streamed live and also recorded for later viewing.

We hope to see many of you in the new year! Be sure to join us for these upcoming board meetings:

- Tuesday, February 13 - Regular Business Meeting: Business Department, 5:30 p.m., Spry MS - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor PDC



## Music “Notes”

By Miss Mossey



There are so many exciting things happening in music classes already in 2024!

Kindergarteners and 1st graders are developing solid foundations by being able to identify concepts like fast/slow, loud/quiet, and high/low. Singing games, playing percussion instruments, moving with music, and dramatic play are present in every music class.

Second graders are developing some fine skills at playing the barred instruments. Lately they have been improvising (making up on the spot) melodies for a familiar song. We have also been enjoying playing games with rhythm sticks to the song “Sarasponda.” And at the beginning of each class a different student has the opportunity to be the “Conductor of the Day.”

Third grade students are taking a field trip in February. We will be experiencing a performance by the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra! We have been preparing in music classes for this exciting field trip by learning about the different families of instruments and doing listening activities centered around the pieces we will hear the RPO play.

Fourth graders have been working on learning a challenging piece on the barred instruments. It has been a new challenge to play together with a large group of players. Students are learning that it’s ok to make mistakes as long as we persevere and work together to develop strategies to play better.

Fifth graders have also spent a good amount of time playing the barred instruments by playing a piece called “Round Robin Rondo.” Singing and playing instruments is at the core of every music class with the occasional silly game thrown in. :-)

~~~~~

We also want to welcome our student teacher for the next several weeks, Mr. Leif Pedersen! He is a student at the Eastman School of Music and will be sharing lots of great songs, games, and activities in the music room with Miss Mossey.

## Kids Heart Challenge



Mr. Sayers and Mrs. Craig would like to thank everyone who participated in the Kids Heart Challenge this year. As a school we raised 8,765.34 dollars for the American Heart Association. The money raised in schools stays in the Rochester area. The donations go towards education and to help others with heart disease in Rochester.

The rest of the thank you gifts will come in late February.  
As soon as they come in we get them out to the students.

Again, thank you so much for participating in giving back to the community through Kids Heart Challenge.



## Plank North Physical Education Students of the Month – **FEBRUARY**

Mrs. Craig and Mr. Sayers are very proud of all the students at Plank Road North Elementary. We would like to take this time to recognize two 5th grade students that have demonstrated characteristics that were extraordinary for February. These students have shown that they are working continuously at a high level of achievement. A student must go above and beyond what is expected of them, and demonstrate they are not only an outstanding student of Physical Education, but also a superior member of the Plank Road North community. Characteristics exhibited include the Webster essential skills, personal living skills, and skillful moving. Congratulations to this month's recipients **Ellie Rook** and **Lorenzo Samperi**!

Mrs. Craig and Mr. Sayers sat down with the students to ask them a few questions, and here are the responses.

Ellie Rook is a 5th grader in Ms. Napolitano's class where her favorite subject is math. Outside of school, Ellie plays basketball in the position of point guard for the Northcoast Travel Basketball League. At school Ellie is one of our Plank North announcers and flag raisers. You may have seen her on the Morning Show. Ellie is also a member of the Plank North orchestra where she plays the violin. If you have Ellie over for dinner her favorite food is homemade beef tacos. When Ellie grows up she would like to become a professional basketball player. Ellie's favorite teams to cheer for are the Buffalo Bills for football and the Golden State Warriors for basketball.

Lorenzo Samperi is a fifth grader in Mrs. Rokosz's class where his favorite subject is science. Outside of school Lorenzo plays flag football for the Webster team in the position of running back and wide receiver. In the spring you can find Lorenzo on the baseball field playing in all positions for the Webster Wolves Travel Baseball Program. Lorenzo is also an avid golfer and plays often with his dad at Midvale golf course. At Plank North, Lorenzo is a member of the Plank North Safety Patrol assisting kindergartners. We asked Lorenzo what his favorite food is and he answered pizza, not any pizza, pizza from his favorite place in Italy. When Lorenzo grows up he would like to be a professional golfer. When asked who do you cheer for he said the Miami Dolphins for football and the NY Yankees for baseball.

Congratulations to our Student Athletes of the Month!





## February PTSA Event – Play Registration Now Open

The Plank North PTSA in conjunction with Bravo! Creative Arts  
Presents... The Wizard of Oz



Performances: Wed, May 22 at 6:00pm & Thurs, May 23 at 6:00pm

Registration: Grades 3-5 (Sponsored by the Plank North PTSA)

Registration opens online, 2/1 and closes on 3/1. You will be able to choose your audition day upon registration.

Everyone who registers will receive a role in the show!!!

\*Register at: <https://forms.gle/fHp3cTFhrognUgGG6>

## Apparel Sale!



The MatchPlay apparel link will be open from 2/2-2/8

Be on the lookout for a ParentSquare post for more details!

**Your membership pays for itself in just a few visits to our discount partners!**



WC PTSA members get \$5 off rentals Monday - Friday



Show your  
WC PTSA  
membership card  
for \$5 off \$40!

Offer valid at Webster locations.  
Discounts cannot be combined.



WC PTSA members:  
buy 1 Blizzard, get 1  
for 99¢ every day!



Webster Central PTSA  
members save \$5 off \$30  
(regular-priced items)

www.lalaofwebster.com



WC PTSA members  
save 10%  
on teas and shakes  
at Nourished!

900 Holt Road (Wegmans Plaza)



www.secretingredientcupcakery.com

Webster Central  
PTSA members save  
\$5 off \$20



CARPET  
UPHOLSTERY  
TILE & GROUT  
FIRE/WATER DAMAGE  
MOLD REMOVAL

WCPTSA MEMBERS  
SAVE 10% OFF  
REGULAR-PRICE SERVICES



WAFFLES.  
SHAKES.  
ICE CREAM.

The  
Waffle Factory  
EST. 2012

WCPTSA MEMBERS  
SAVE 10%



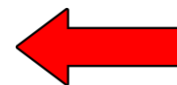
WC PTSA  
members  
save 10%  
every visit!

**Parents/families, please  
purchase your PTSA  
membership today!**

**[WebsterPTSA.org/JOIN](http://WebsterPTSA.org/JOIN)**

If you have not already purchased your PTSA Membership, please do so through the link above! The cost is \$10 per adult membership/\$5 per student membership.

\$6 of the adult membership comes back directly to Plank North to help us run fun events at our school! Also, your PTSA card gets you some wonderful discounts around town this year!



**For those of you have already  
purchased, we are very  
appreciative of your support!**



**Webster Public Library  
872-7075**

For program information and up-to-the-minute news on what's new in the Children's Department, visit our blog:  
[wplkids.wordpress.com](http://wplkids.wordpress.com)

**WSCD K-5 Family Handbook**

Have a question about your child's school day, school and district policies or PTSA programs?

The WSCD Handbook is a great place to start to have your questions answered. In an effort to be more eco-friendly, the handbook is now located on the school's website. You can find it here: [www.websterschools.org/planknorth](http://www.websterschools.org/planknorth)

The PTSA encourages parents to keep this reference book handy throughout the school year to answer questions that may pop up. If there is anything you would like to suggest adding to the handbook in future editions, or if you have any corrections, please contact us at [pnptsa@websterptsa.org](mailto:pnptsa@websterptsa.org).

Thank you!



**705 Plank Road**

**Phone:**

(585) 671-8858 – Main Office

**(585) 670-4012 – Attendance Line**

(585) 670-4011 – Health Office

We're on the web!

**[websterschools.org](http://websterschools.org)**

## Plank North PTSA 2023 – 2024

| <b><u>Executive Committee:</u></b> |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair                              | Alison Basch                |
| Vice Chair                         | Krista Castronova           |
| Treasurer                          | Karin Anello                |
| Secretary                          | Elsbeth Ebenhoe             |
| Communications Coordinator         | Sarah Rook                  |
| Membership Chair                   | Shannon Morrell             |
| PTSA Teacher Liaison               | Ann Merkey                  |
| School Board Liaison               | Janice Richardson           |
| <b><u>Event Chairs:</u></b>        |                             |
| Bingo for Books                    | Krista Castronova           |
| Book Fair                          | Karin Anello                |
|                                    | Alison Basch                |
| Community Arts Day                 | Brandy Sydor                |
| Donuts with Grown-Ups              | Elsbeth Ebenhoe             |
| Fall Fundraiser                    | Nicole Katz                 |
| Fifth Grade Social                 | Melissa Selner/ Kym Bernard |
| Kindergarten Play Date             | Alison Basch                |
| Pie Sale Chair                     | Brandy Sydor                |
| New Family Gathering               | Kelly Lape                  |
| School #17 Holiday Giving          | Kym Bernard                 |
| School Picture Coordinator         | Melissa Selner              |
| School Spirit Wear                 | Krista Castronova           |
| School Yearbook                    | Lisa Currier                |
|                                    | Amanda Lindley              |
| Spring Plant Sale                  | Alison Basch                |
|                                    | Krista Castronova           |
| Staff Appreciation Week            | Elsbeth Ebenhoe             |
|                                    | Melissa Selner              |
| Spring Dance                       | Krista Castronova           |
| Trunk or Treat                     | Bonnie Deiore               |
| Square 1                           | Karin Anello                |
| <b><u>Other PTSA Services:</u></b> |                             |
| PTSA Bulletin Board                | Alison Basch/ Karin Anello  |
| Pioneer Press Newsletter           | Sarah Rook                  |
| <b><u>Ongoing Programs:</u></b>    |                             |
| Box Tops for Education             | Karin Anello                |
| TOPS Markets                       | Karin Anello                |
| Nickel Back Can Return             | N/A                         |