

Pioneer Press

March 2024

Craig Bodensteiner, Principal

Jennifer Allen, Assistant Principal



Pioneer Families,

Welcome to March! It won't be long before the warm weather arrives. The first full week of this month is a special time as we celebrate Read Across America Week! This annual event promotes the joy of reading, especially among children. Celebrated in honor of the birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, famously known as Dr. Seuss, this week will be filled with reading events, dress- up days and fun activities for our students and staff.

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Our spring parent/teacher conference days are this month. Attending conferences and supporting your child's learning is one of the most important things you can do. Conferences present a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress in school. All your efforts and parental involvement is a direct correlation to your child's success, so again, we say THANK YOU!

Calendar Reminders

Parent/Teacher Conference Days (Half Days of School) - March 14, 15, 21 and 22 (Conferences are held in the afternoon on these days. Students are released from school during Conference Days. Dismissal will begin at 9:53 am with buses pulling out of the parking lot at 10:00 and parent pick up from 10:00-10:10 each of these days.)

Virtual PTSA Meeting - March 18 (3:00-4:00 pm via Google Meet Link)

PTSA Scholastic Book Fair - March 26, 27 and 28 (students will visit during assigned class times/online ordering available as well)

Spring Recess March 29-April 8 (No School PreK-12)

World Read Aloud Day

On February 7, Plank North celebrated World Read Aloud Day where millions of people from around the globe joined together to celebrate the power and joy of reading aloud! Plank North was fortunate to have over 20 adult readers from our community visit and share the power of reading! A very special thanks to our library staff (Mrs. McCorry, Ms. Richardson and Mrs. Rosenberry) for organizing this special event.

100th Day of School Celebrations:

Our students enjoyed their 100th day of school celebrations on February 9! Our teachers provided a variety of activities and PTSA delivered pencils honoring the occasion! Seems like just yesterday it was the first day of school! It is amazing to see the amount of growth our children have made since September! Thank you for your support!

Class Placement Input:

Class placement of the students is a significant decision with many perspectives to consider. Recognizing the importance of a child's classroom assignment doesn't make it any easier. From the school's perspective, our ability to locate students with similar learning needs can be very helpful in scheduling the services these students require to help them be successful academically. This school-based need takes on more significance with the growth of support services provided to the students. I ask that parents be open to the placement needs identified by your child's teacher.

With the above in mind, parents are asked to only provide input that would seriously impact your child's ability to be successful in school. The request for a specific teacher isn't a part of this process. We recognize the need to maintain open lines of communication and will consider information about your child and what suits their learning from your perspective. Please provide this information in writing by May 1 to the Office of the Principal.

March Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Parents should have received a message from their classroom teacher(s) on Wednesday, February 14 regarding scheduling a conference date and time. Parent Teacher Conferences for Webster CSD students grades PreK-5 will take place over four days, March 14-15 and 21-22. Conferences are held in the afternoon on these days. Students are released from school during Conference Days. Dismissal will begin at 9:53 am with buses pulling out of the parking lot at 10:00 and parent pick up from 10:00-10:10 each of these days.

Kindergarten Registration:

Registration for kindergarten for the 24-25 school year has opened and it is completely online! Welcome to the Class of 2037! Parents/guardians who have a child who will be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2024, that child is eligible for kindergarten enrollment for the 24-25 school year. If you have existing children in the Webster CSD please go through your parent portal account to register as it will pre-fill in most of the application for you. If you are a new family to the district, please go to websterschools.org/registration for more information and to complete the 100% online process. 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) 216-0029 to book a time.

If you do not have an incoming kindergartner for the 2024 -25 school year, please help us spread the word to your friends and neighbors in the One Webster community that registration is open!

If you have any questions, please contact WCSD Student Registration at wcdschoolregistration@webstercsd.org or (585) 216-0029.

Spring Book Fair

We are excited to have our annual spring book fair event! The book fair will be held from March 26-28. Each class will have the opportunity to view and/or purchase many affordable, high-quality books for sale during these days. More information will be provided from your child's teacher(s). Thank you to our Plank North PTSA for their support with this endeavor!

Staff Recognition:

We would like to invite you to recognize the amazing work of our staff! Parents, community member or students can go to the Plank North website (websterschools.org/planknorth) and complete the brief online form. Once on our website go to the left sidebar and select "Plank North Staff Recognition". Please consider taking a moment to complete the form about a staff member who has gone the extra mile for you or your child. Our Plank North Family is fortunate to have such a dedicated and supportive team!

Save the Date: Community Arts Day - April 13, 2024

Community Arts Day highlights WCSD students' creative talents and involves the whole community in a day to celebrate the arts! This treasured One Webster tradition, created in 1976, is a collaborative effort to raise funds to encourage and enhance fine arts through the Webster School District. JOIN US to enjoy musical entertainment, art displays, demonstrations and more on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Webster Schroeder High School.

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

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

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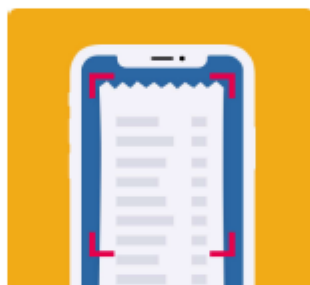


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PLANK
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Bottle/Can Donation at Nickel Back Bottle & Can Return!



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



FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MARCH, 2024

WEBSTER CSD CELEBRATES MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS/YOUTH ART MONTH!

Our district is looking forward to celebrating the talents of our student musicians and artists with thousands of other districts throughout the nation during March, which is Music In Our Schools and Youth Art Month. While our district hosts concerts and art shows throughout the year, following are just two examples of the outstanding opportunities for community audiences this month:

- Nazareth College's Arts Center Gallery, 4245 East Avenue, Rochester, is celebrating *Shared Spaces*. This biennial show allows local artist teachers to submit one work of a chosen student alongside a work of their own, celebrating the unique apprenticeship process that occurs between teacher and student. Our district has several students and teachers represented, so be sure to visit the exhibit through March 10. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Thursday 12:00-5:00 p.m., Friday-Saturday 12:00-8:00 p.m., and Sunday 12:00-5:00 p.m.
- The curtain goes up on the Spry Middle School Drama Club's production of *SpongeBob the Musical: Youth Edition* on March 8-9. And, Webster Thomas High School's production of DreamWorks *Shrek the Musical* hits the stage on March 21-23. Watch for ticket information on websterschools.org.



Be sure to check the [district calendar](#) for even more opportunities to celebrate the talents of our students throughout March and all year long!

PREKINDERGARTEN 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR LOTTERY NOW OPEN!



The online lottery application for our prekindergarten program is now open and will remain open until March 14. One Webster families with a child who will be 4 years old on or before December 1, 2024, but who are not eligible for kindergarten, that child is eligible for prekindergarten enrollment for the upcoming school year.

Webster CSD PreK is a play-based program that engages students in social and emotional skills with a heavy emphasis on communication. The district offers both full-

day and half-day options for families. Locations are determined by the lottery and according to the child's home catchment for kindergarten. Families may find more information and fill out a lottery application by visiting Webster CSD's prekindergarten web page at www.websterschools.org/upk.

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Be sure to join us for these upcoming board meetings:

- Tuesday, March 5 - Budget Workshop #1, **starts at 5:00 p.m.**, Spry MS - 2nd floor PDC
- Tuesday, March 12 - Regular business meeting: WEB/LINK, 6:00 p.m., Spry MS - 2nd floor PDC
- Tuesday, March 19 - Budget Workshop #2, 6:00 p.m., Spry MS - 2nd floor PDC



Music "Notes"

By Miss Mossey



So many exciting things are happening in music classes! I'm going to take a moment for some of the highlights in the upper grades.

Back in February, the 3rd grade classes went on a field trip to the Eastman Theatre to hear the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Students have been learning about the different instruments and how they are grouped into different instrument families. This field trip was a wonderful experience for the 3rd graders to see a "real, live" orchestra.

Recorder time is upon us! 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will be learning how to play the recorder as part of the music curriculum. A paper copy of the order form will be going home with 3rd graders and any upper grades who think they may need to order a recorder. (If students still have their recorder from last year or an older sibling, they may use that one and will not need to order another recorder.) For an electronic copy of the information letter/order form, please [click here](#).



@PlankNorthMusic

Library News

Jen McCorry
School Librarian

March is going to bring lots of fun and excitement to the Plank North Library!

The tradition of "March Book Madness" will continue with a great selection of recently published picture books! Following the format of the NCAA tournament, the books will be paired up and students in each class will vote on which one moves on to the next round. Be sure to ask your students about the books and find out which one they favor to be this year's "Champion"!

March also means the start of "Battle of the Books" for the fifth graders. Student teams from each class will be encouraged to read from a variety of books and use their reading comprehension skills to "battle" other fifth grade teams in a trivia style competition. Please encourage your fifth grader to participate in this exciting event!

Finally, the spring installment of the Scholastic Book Fair will take place in the library on March 26-28. Keep your eye out for the class schedule and book fair flyer in the next couple of weeks.

As always, we would like to thank all of our Plank North families for making the library a priority and part of your family routine. Over 16,000 books have been checked out so far this year! That is fantastic! Please continue to reinforce responsibility with your children through proper book care and returning books on library day. Thank you for your support!



Plank North Physical Education Students of the Month – **MARCH**

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 this month. 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 **Ellery Decker** and Sam **Kroening** for the month of March.

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

Ellery Decker is a 5th grader in Mrs. Peffley's class where her favorite subject is ELA. Outside of school Ellery plays lacrosse for the WWLC in the position of defense. She is also an avid runner and has done too many 1-mile races to mention here! At school Ellery is a member of the Plank North Safety Patrol in the job of kindergarten helper. Ellery also plays the flute in the Plank North band. If you have Ellery over for dinner her favorite food is homemade meat sauce with any kind of pasta. When Ellery grows up she would like to become a runner and an elementary school teacher. Ellery's favorite team to cheer for is the Buffalo Sabres.

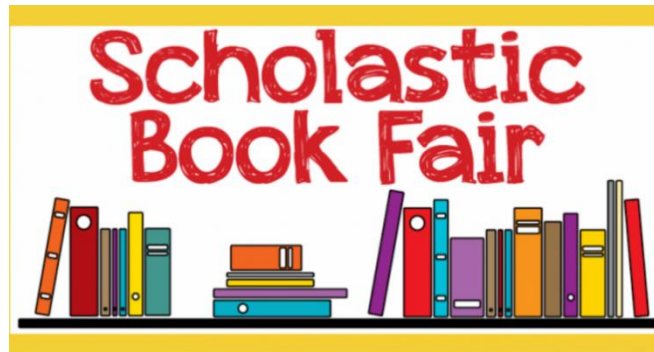
Sam Kroening is a fifth grader in Mrs. Merkey's class where his favorite subject is science. Outside of school Sam plays basketball for the Northcoast Travel Basketball League in the positions of wing or point guard. He also plays baseball for the Webster Wolves Travel Baseball Program in the positions of first base and pitcher. At school Sam is a member of the Plank North Safety Patrol as an outdoor safety with the responsibility of being in charge of the bus board. Sam also plays baritone in the Plank North band. When asked what his favorite food is he quickly answered apples. When Sam grows up he would like to be either an NBA or MLB player. When asked who do you cheer for he said the Milwaukee Bucks professional basketball team.

Congratulations to our Student Athletes of the Month!



Webster Central
PTSA

PLANK
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PLANK NORTH LIBRARY

Tuesday March 26th

Wednesday March 27th

Thursday March 28th

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/plankroadnorthelemsch1>

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.

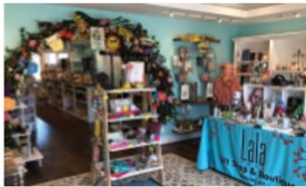


Grill & Chill

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



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

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at Nourished!

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REGULAR-PRICE SERVICES



WAFFLES.
SHAKES.
ICE CREAM.



WCPTSA MEMBERS
SAVE 10%



WC PTSA
members
save 10%
every visit!

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

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

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 eco-friendlier, the handbook is now located on the school's website. You can find it here: 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.

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

Plank North PTSA 2023 – 2024

<u>Executive Committee:</u>	
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
<u>Event Chairs:</u>	
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
<u>Other PTSA Services:</u>	
PTSA Bulletin Board	Alison Basch/ Karin Anello
Pioneer Press Newsletter	Sarah Rook
<u>Ongoing Programs:</u>	
Box Tops for Education	Karin Anello
TOPS Markets	Karin Anello
Nickel Back Can Return	N/A