

May, 2008

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Wahoo Middle School Newsletter

“Whatever It Takes”

WAHOO MIDDLE SCHOOL – 402-443-3101 “Home of the Warriors”

WAHOO MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN LEADERSHIP DAY

“The best example of leadership, is leadership by example.” ~ Jerry McClain.

By Courtney Clifford

After two long days of testing, Wahoo Middle School students participated in a student-led field day on Apr. 16 on the high school football field from 1-2:30 p.m. Looking down onto the WPS football field from the parking lot last Wednesday, one would witness what could be described as pure chaos, but taking a closer look revealed that six organized events were happening simultaneously.

The Middle School Unity Council and the WMS Student Council organized and led the day’s activities. Students split into six groups and participated in six different activities and including games like tag, Simon Says, and wheelbarrow and crab walk relays.

One of the activities was a partner blindfold game where one student gave directions to their friend while they tried to weave in and out of cones, go under a hurdle, through a hula hoop, and run back to the beginning of the track to give the blindfold to the next two students in line.

Another relay was the water race. Teams of either boys and girls soaked sponges in water, ran to the first hurdle, and either jumped over this hurdle or just stepped over it. Then they would run to go under the next hurdle and squeeze all of the water out into a bucket. They then had to run back to the starting point and hand off the sponge to the next person in line.

At the end of the chaos, the students met in the middle of the field where the students who organized the event were recognize for their stellar efforts.

“Coordinating these activities takes a lot of time and really shows how much students really care about each other,” said middle school principal Jason Libal.

The ending activity for the day was the teacher egg toss, which included, Mr. Libal, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Walker, and Mr. Bomar. Libal was the first person to have his egg break. Bomar and Walker loss simultaneously. Foster was the winner of this event. The students then went back into the building and went back to their 8th period class. This chaos for the middle school students was a way to interact with other students and it ended up being a very positive event.

Summer Thoughts – Jason Libal - Principal

WOW!!! It is hard to believe that the school year is nearly over. That has to be an indication of how great the school year went!!!! I am so proud of our students and the job that they did this year. They have made my job very enjoyable. It has been a priveledge working with you and your student(s). A couple of housekeeping items prior to the summer:

1. Please communicate with Michelle Krecklow regarding the payment of any possible library book fines, unpaid lunch balances, etc... prior to your son or daughter checking out for the school year. We will be implementing a “check-out” sheet system this year. This will insure such items are taken care of.
2. Our students will be attending a variety of field trips this spring. Those students that have shown an inability to follow the school rules and to perform academically will forfeit their right to attend.
3. Should your student be in poor academic standing (failing one or more classes), they will be required to attend summer school prior to advancing to the next grade level.
4. Have a great a relaxing summer. 8th grade students we will miss you!!! Good luck as you advance into high school.

- Adapted by TEENANGELS.COM
(CBS) Each fall, teachers regularly spend up to six weeks going over the same lessons their students had been taught the previous school year because of a phenomenon known as the "summer slide."

How kids spend their time outside of school is critically important to their success. It is a societal issue and something Ron Fairchild, the executive director of the **Center for Summer Learning** at Johns Hopkins University, tells *The Early Show* is important to address, community-to-community and parent-to-parent.

The following are his tips:

Visit your local public library. Use this as an opportunity to read every day. Participate in library summer programs; make sure they're reading books. Use opportunities like the new Harry Potter release to get kids reading.

There are many camps in almost every price range. There are camps provided by schools and recreation centers such as the YMCA. Those kinds of organizations offer camp programs that can really offer help learning.

Take educational trips, which can be low-cost visits to parks and museums, or you can look into vacations with educational themes.

Summers are great for informal learning. Parents can use this time to structure opportunities. If they're interested in comics or technology, you want to expose them to as much as possible that allows them to become a student of their hobbies.

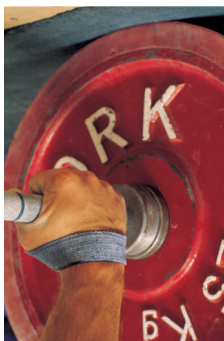
Practice math skills every day. Think about opportunities through cooking to learn fractions, or trips to the grocery store as an opportunity to learn math skills, just doing measuring, or tracking temperature.

Play educational games. The trick is: How do we make this fun and motivating while giving them serious opportunities to learn the skills they need?

Limit time with TV and video games. Just like during the school year, there should be a similar strategy over the summer months. It always makes sense to provide structure and limits. The key is providing a balance and keeping kids engaged.

Since there is a huge gap in summer opportunities between middle class and lower income kids, Fairchild says dual-working or single working parents should find those summer camp programs provided at low or no cost in their communities to make sure their kids don't fall behind in the summer time.

**LAST DAY OF
 SCHOOL – MAY 21ST –
 1:15 DISMISSAL –
 HAVE A GREAT
 SUMMER!!!!**



SUMMER ATHLETIC CAMP SCHEDULES

THERE WILL BE A VARIETY OF SPORTS CAMPS AND WEIGHT LIFTING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER. WE ENCOURAGE ANY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT INTERESTED IN LIFTING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SUMMER LIFTING OPPORTUNITY. MIDDLE SCHOOL AGED STUDENTS WILL BE WORKING ON TECHNIQUE AND SAFETY, NOT HEAVY LIFTING. CAMP FORMS AND LIFTING SCHEDULES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE AND ATTACHED TO THIS FORM.



PICTURES OF THE MONTH –



DEREK HAMAR & WALKER RATHKE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S AWARD
WINNERS

**PARENTS OF INCOMING 7TH
AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS:
ALL 7TH GRADE STUDENTS,
AND ANY 8TH GRADE
STUDENT PLANNING ON
PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS
MUST HAVE SCHOOL
PHYSICAL COMPLETED
PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT
AND/OR PARTICIPATION.**

****SEE OUR SCHOOL WEBSTIE – www.wahooschools.org for additional articles and pictures.

Football In The House - Story of the Month by Ben Wotipka

One day before school my brother and I were reminded not to play football in the house. When someone tells us not to play football in the house it just makes it more fun to do it anyway.

We had to run about five yards and then we had to dive on the couch to make a touchdown. Of course the game was tackle football.

We started playing the game. I went first. Don't worry I made the touch-down. Next it was my brother Jonathan's turn. I think that he made the touchdown too. It was my turn again. I made the touchdown again. It was Jonathan's turn. He started to run. I smashed into him trying to tackle him, but he went straight over to his left and tripped over all of my sister's toys. He was losing his balance and heading straight towards the end zone.

The TV is on the left side of our end zone. All of a sudden I heard tons of glass breaking and things falling. His whole right arm had gone through the entertainment center. Things had fallen over from on top of the TV. Right away I knew that we were going to be in so much trouble when my dad walked in the room to see what had happened. My dad asked Jonathan if he was okay. He said that he was fine but then he looked at his hand and it was bleeding all over.

My cousin was there too. She was sitting down watching the whole. We had to stop the bleeding from my brother's hand. We stopped it a little bit but he would still have to go to the Wahoo Clinic. We all loaded in the truck and my cousin was saying that her head hurt. When she was in the truck, she puked all over. My dad took her out of the truck and cleaned the truck up. My great aunt came and took her to her house. We were having a bad day.

We went to Wahoo and went to my mom's office. We thought for sure that we were in so much trouble, but she just kind of laughed about it since it wasn't too serious. She even asked if the movies were okay. My mom called the middle school and told them that I would be in late. Then she called the elementary school and told them that Jonathan wouldn't be there at all.

After a while all loaded into our other vehicle that my mom drives to work. They took me to school. They went to the Wahoo Clinic and found out that Jonathan had to have stitches. After he had the stitches he came back to my school to show me them. They looked pretty gross. He was lucky that he didn't have to go to school that day. But what had happened to his hand wasn't so lucky.

When I came home that day my mom and I cleaned up all of the glass. Jonathan had hit the glass so hard with his elbow that he pushed the VCR and DVD player clear back. He pushed lots of movies back too.

My brother and I learned not to play football in the house. Unless someone tells us not to.

Off To A Great START!!!! – Wahoo Middle School Track

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.wahooschools.org

The Wahoo Middle School boys and girls track teams have gotten off to a great start this year, despite the weather. The sixty-plus athletes on the two teams combined have been busy learning the basic running, jumping and throwing skills necessary to compete at a high level at all of the team's six scheduled meets.

Outstanding performances so far this season have included the 8th grade girls 4x100 relay team (track record at Fort Calhoun Invite), Ben Brabec's 41' 10" shot put (Schuyler Invite) and Sadie Murren's school record 30.9 run in the girls 195 hurdles (Schuyler Invite). There have been many WMS athletes who have bettered their own personal records each week, putting other school and meet records in reach.

The team wraps up the track season with a home meet on May 9th. Come out and support the WMS track teams!



From Nurse Mary----

Summer must be almost here! I heard some of our students talking about the Aquatic Center!!!!

This is the time of the year for ticks. Please have your children do "tick checks" when they come in from outdoor activities.

Many students are out riding their bicycles/4-wheelers. Encourage the wearing of helmets when your children are engaging in these fun activities. Safety habits are so very important when riding.

As your children are spending more time in the sun, also encourage the use of sunscreen. It does not take very much exposure time to end up with uncomfortable sunburn.

