



The Paw Print



WMES is "PAWS"-itively the Best!
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2022 SCHOOL REPORT CARD RATING—51 (AVERAGE)

SEPTEMBER 2023



Dear WMES Family-

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I encourage you to frequently visit our webpage and to join our new WMES Facebook page for up-to-date and accurate information. Our teachers have also set up REMIND accounts that they use to send information home. If you have not joined, please reach out to your child's teacher(s) for their link(s). It is also very important that you make sure your telephone numbers are current in PowerSchool, since these are the numbers used for the School Messenger System.

While we are in the business of educating our students, our first priority is the safety and well-being of our students and employees. Be assured, we are working diligently to ensure that our building is clean and disinfected daily and that we are following all protocols for safety. We will conduct monthly fire drills as well as practice drills for earthquakes, tornados, and intruders (lockdown and lock out).

We will hold our Open House later this month. The Annual Title 1 Meeting will also be held during this time. Information will be sent through REMIND and posted on the school's website and Facebook page.

This year, the District is sponsoring an Elementary Soccer League for the three (3) elementary schools. Registration will be \$20.00 and will cover the cost of a T-shirt and shin guards. When we host our games, they will be held at St. George Middle School. Please be on the lookout for the registration form.

Thank you for your continued support and positivity as we strive to do what is best for all of our students!

Ruth Mims

Our Mission Statement

The children, parents, and staff of Williams Memorial Elementary School are unified in their purpose of accelerating the learning of all students through shared decision-making and powerful learning experiences.



A Few Reminders...

The school day begins at 7:45 A.M. and ends at 2:40 P.M. Students are considered tardy after 7:45 A.M. and will have to be signed in through the Front Office. To sign out a student, you must be in PowerSchool. Please remember there will be no sign-outs after 2:00 P.M. for students to be dismissed early. Also, students will not be dismissed from the front afterschool until all of the buses have been loaded.

Students should not bring electronic devices to school. This includes SmartWatches.

Please make sure you return the Home Language Survey Form and all paperwork sent home at the beginning of school to your child's teacher.

Due to regulations on school wellness policies put in place by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Dorchester School District 4 will regulate treats brought into the school (birthday treats, celebratory treats, etc.). Treats must follow the "Smart School Snack" guidelines that were sent home at the beginning of the year. Please visit the following site to find snacks that are acceptable to send to school:

<https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator/>

WMES is implementing a "PAWS"-itive Behavior Reward System with T.I.G.E.R. tickets. As students display Trust,



Integrity, Generosity, Excellence, and Respect, staff members can reward them with T.I.G.E.R. tickets. Students will write their names on the tickets and drop them in grade level boxes for drawings that will be held bi-weekly for varying prizes.



Dates to Remember in September

- 4—No School (Labor Day)
 - 5-8—Fall i-Ready Diagnostic Testing Continues
 - 10—Grandparents' Day
 - 11-15—Grade Level Grandparents' Lunch or Breakfast*
 - 14—Open House/Annual Title 1 Meeting (5-6:30 P.M.)
 - 19—DD4 Board Meeting @ WHS (6:00 P.M.)
 - 20—Early Release (12:35 P.M.)
 - 21—Interim Reports Home
 - 21—SIC Meeting @ 4:30 P.M.
 - 29—Character Kids Celebration (Trust)
- *Information will be sent home by Grade Levels for Lunch or Breakfast with our Grandparents



Reminders Continued...

All vehicles should have a maroon and white car tag displayed to pick up any student in the car rider line. If you do not have a car tag, you will have to report to the front office. An extra car tag can be purchased for \$5.00, if needed. The afternoon car rider line will be cut off at 3:10 P.M. Students will have to be picked up from the front office after that time.

Car Rider Reminders

- Please pull all the way forward.
- Morning car riders should be ready to exit the car with their belongings.
- Students should exit and load on the right side of the vehicle.
- Drivers should remain in their vehicles. Staff will assist students.

Thanks for helping us keep our students, staff, and drivers safe by being attentive in the car rider line and following the car rider procedures.

Our Vision Statement

The vision of Williams Memorial Elementary School is to create a community of academic excellence for our students by establishing high expectations and academic rigor, providing effective and innovative educational practices in a safe and supportive environment, and helping our students develop world-class skills and to graduate with a 21st Century education and to be globally competitive in their chosen career path.



From Our Literacy Coach

Dorchester District 4's Elementary Schools will continue to implement the Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) curriculum. CKLA is a language arts program for Grades K-5 that combines an explicit, multisensory approach to phonics with rich texts that are carefully sequenced to build content knowledge so that learning to read and reading to learn develop together. Every day in Grades K-2, students complete one full lesson that builds foundational reading skills, as well as one full lesson that builds background knowledge. In Grades 3-5, students start to master the basic skills of reading, further opening up their worlds. Be on the look for Take Home informational letters and activities in your child's communication folders to complete at home.

Student Readers:



Student Activity Book:



What is a silent auction? A silent auction is a fundraiser in which people

people bid for items in writing rather than by calling out or raising their hands. We are inviting you to join our Silent Auction during Open House on September 14, 2023, from 5-6:30 P.M.

Rules:

- Cash only. No refunds after purchase.
- All items must be bid in dollar increments.
- All bidding ends at 6:25 P.M. Winners will be announced at 6:30 P.M.
- All prizes must be picked up by September 21st or the prize will go to the next highest bidder.
- All sales are final, there are no exchanges, and all items are sold "as is." Guests are responsible for item(s) once they're claimed.

Prizes:

- VIP Car-rider tag. Always be the first in line any time all year long!
- VIP Free Snacks at School Events Pass. 1 Free snack per person in a family up to 4.
- VIP Free entry to all charged school events pass. Free entry in a family up to 4.
- Norwex Cleaning supplies basket
- School and Learning supplies basket: Workbooks, flashcards, books, crayons, pencils, etc.
- SC Snaps (Ashley Danztler) - 20 minute mini session.
- Litterini Travel (Renay Haton) vacation credit certificate.
- Others may be added at a later date.