

**Friday, January 6, 2012**

**Words From Wilshire is now being sent via email to all of our families in a new format. If you are not receiving the email version, please email Cindy Ridge to be added to the contact list: [cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us)**

# **Important!**

## **No School Monday, January 16, 2012.**

**Dear Families,**

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that we are already midway through the school year and into 2012. I hope you had a nice winter break and found some time to connect with family and friends.

I would like to inform all of our resident parents about some changes in resident and open-enrolled student status. In the past, if a resident became a non-resident by moving out of the St. Anthony-New Brighton school district, they were allowed to stay at Wilshire Park as an open enrolled student. Due to the influx of residents, we are no longer allowing residents who become non-residents to be automatically enrolled as open enrollment students. Families must understand this if you are considering moving out of the district. If you are considering a move out of the district, please contact the office or me directly to talk about your student's status.

The next part of this message is directed at families of open-enrolled students who have pre-school siblings. If you are not aware, last year we reduced our kindergarten sections from 6 sections (2 AM, 2 PM, and 2 All Day) to 5 sections (2 AM, 1 PM, and 2 All Day). This happened so that we could try to provide more classroom spaces for the upcoming years for the large class sizes that we are experiencing at some of the upper grades. By reducing one kindergarten section, we had fewer spaces for kindergarteners on the open enrollment list. This means that we have several families with siblings who had to make the difficult decision about having their elementary age siblings attend different schools or having their older sibling/s leave Wilshire Park to attend with their kindergarten sibling.

I anticipate that we will remain at 5 kindergarten sections for the 2012-2013 school year. What this may mean for families with pre-school siblings is that we may not have a space for your child in our 2012-2013 kindergarten class or in future classes. I urge you to have an alternative school plan for if this becomes a reality for your family. I write this article so you know that you can meet open enrollment deadlines in other districts or explore your options within your home district, private or charter schools.

Please note, that this has been a very difficult situation for some of our families. It is not my intent to make the school experience difficult. However, resident students are assured space first

as this is their home school and district. With the influx of residents, I must make sure there is a healthy learning environment for our students and try to control large class sizes.

In the near future I will be working with the school board to outline recommendations for the number of sections at the other grade levels. As I receive approval, I will share this information with you so you know what you can anticipate at all the grade levels for the 2012-2013 school year.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this information.

I hope many of you can join me for Coffee and Conversation with the Principal on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. No reservation necessary! Our topic will be PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention Supports.

Sincerely,

Kari Page, Principal

[kpage@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:kpage@stanthony.k12.mn.us)

**Important Phone Numbers:**

Wilshire Park School Office: 612.706.1200

Wilshire Park Attendance Line: 612.706.1204

MN Central Bus Company: 651.633.0300 or 651.430.3311

## What Our Students are Learning:

### **From Physical Specialists, Mr. Allison and Mrs. Egan:**

In physical education it is our hope to get outside and do some winter activities that may include snowshoeing, cross country skiing, sledding, and team building in the snow. After that unit we will be learning about bowling and how to score a game.

### **ACHIEVE and Destination ImagiNation News from Mrs. Boatman:**

- Mrs. Boatman will be working with 1st graders in January and February to exercise their creative/productive thinking skills of FLUENCY, FLEXIBILITY, ORIGINALITY and ELABORATION. Fluency means giving many ideas, Flexibility refers to being able to change thinking, Elaboration is showing details and being able to make an idea grow, and Originality is producing unique and unusual ideas. Once-a-week lessons will be presented and students will practice their creative thinking with a follow-up activity. Teachers will observe responses to better meet the needs of students. These classes are a part of the ACHIEVE Program at Wilshire Park and help to enrich the regular curriculum for first grade.
- ACHIEVE Class Program *Night of the Notables*; Tuesday, January 24; Wilshire Park stage/cafeteria; 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- ACHIEVE Independent Study Unit Parent Meeting; Tuesday, January 31; Wilshire Park Media Center; 6:45-7:30 p.m.
- Destination ImagiNation autumn launch shows great success with six active teams:
  - Anacondas Dancing with Bacon, Manager, Dave Johnson;
  - Black-Eyed Girls, Manager, Alissa Brink;
  - Cows that Moo Inside Your Shoe, Manager, Joel Marquette;
  - Super Stealthy Ninja Smoothies, Managers Krista Rosemeyer and Tiff Severson;

- Taconators Eating Football Pajamas, Manager, Neil Carlson;
- Divas Incorporated, Manager, Barb Mathieu.

Thank you to parent/teacher managers for their first stretch of team building and independent challenge work. Team members will be sporting WP DI t-shirts as they rise to the challenge of problem-solving with a creative skit! Congratulations on the effort put forth in the next three months leading to district competition. Go DI!

**From Band Instructor, Mr. Ravndal:**

- Congratulations to our 5th Gr. Band for an excellent concert with the SAVHS Concert Band just after Thanksgiving! That was a lot of fun and so cool to get to sit alongside the high schoolers while they played.
- With December behind us, we now take a break from Full Band until sometime in February, when students earn their way into Full Band by passing the "Band Page" (p. 20 in the lesson books; for the percussionists it's p. 10 in their mallets book AND Solo #3 in the drum book).
- With the holidays now also behind us, parents, keep doing all you can to ensure a stable & regular practice routine. 150 minutes/week remains the expectation.
- Private lessons are always a great way to support your student's band growth -- especially the Community Services program and our High School kids. Please contact me for any suggestions.
- Finally, now that the 3-month trial period with Schmitt is up, some parents look to buy instruments rather than continue renting. How you proceed is certainly your call. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about an instrument you're considering.

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**Thank You:**

- Thank you to Robert Carlson for a generous donation of Beanie Babies to Wilshire Park. Several staff members will be using the stuffed animals to reward students' accomplishments and for "Panda Pride" raffle drawings which recognize and reward positive behavior.
- Thank you to the St. Anthony Curves for collecting and donating mittens, hats and gloves to Wilshire Park. Sometimes students come to school unprepared for the weather and need to borrow or keep items to stay warm. Curves wanted to support a school in St. Anthony.



**A Note from the Volunteer Room**

Thank you to all of our volunteers for the many hours you donate to school! I hope you enjoyed the treats provided for all in the Volunteer Room before Winter Break. Just a small token of our appreciation!

Hours that volunteers work are logged into a database each week. Those hours should include ANY time you help out Wilshire Park – including chaperoning field trips, working any special events, (Fun Fest, Book Fairs, vision screening, Track and Field etc.) and also anytime you do work for a classroom teacher at home. The date you work these hours is not as important as just the hours worked. If you have not logged some of those type of hours already this year, please add them to the sign-in sheet the next time you're in the building. We want to make sure that all your hard work is accounted for.

Jolene Hodson, Volunteer Coordinator

## Events:

### **Wilshire Park Family Night - Rich Wieber's Bicycle Stunt Show:**

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the Gym**

**(Rescheduled Show from November 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

Rich Wieber uses his bicycle and message to present a high energy and fast-paced program that will inspire students to live out their dreams. His rock solid message is designed to educate, empower, motivate and inspire students.

This 45 minute program will cover these topics:

- Determination
- Goal Achievement
- Peer Pressure
- Perseverance

Please email Helen at [hsiggelkow@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:hsiggelkow@stanthony.k12.mn.us) by Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> to register for this free activity. Thank you to the Wilshire Park Parents Association for generously providing funding.

**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**

### **Coffee with the Principal:**

**Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room**



Parents are invited to coffee, juice and cookies with Principal Kari Page. Our topic this month will be PBIS: Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. Anna Nelson and Carrie Nord who are the co-leaders of PBIS will provide information about the program and give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. No reservations are needed; please come if your schedule allows!

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition Planning Meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at Caribou Coffee, 2218 County Road D**

Attention ALL 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents! You are invited to attend a planning meeting for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders' special Activity Day (June 6th) and Recognition Day (June 7<sup>th</sup>). We will meet on Tuesday, January 24th at the Caribou Coffee on 2218 County Road D at Long Lake Road (across from Perkins) at 8:00 p.m. There are many ways to be involved in these final 5<sup>th</sup> grade activities before sending them off to the Middle School so please join us! If you are unable to attend but would like to help out, contact Andrea Scamehorn at [scamehorn9464@msn.com](mailto:scamehorn9464@msn.com) or Sue Pawlyshyn at [suepaulmhg@comcast.net](mailto:suepaulmhg@comcast.net)

### **Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>: Hat Day**

Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the quarter. Students are encouraged to wear their favorite or most unusual hat to school on that day.

### **No School on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> – Staff Development Day**

St. Anthony Community Center is open. Call 612.706.1166 to arrange child care.

## Report Cards

Students in Kindergarten through 5th grade will be receiving their report cards at school on Friday, February 3. If you have a kindergartner or first grader, you will be receiving their first report card of the year that day. Be sure to check your child's backpack on Friday, February 3rd.

## Fun Fest is Friday, February 3rd from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

It is time to mark your calendar for Fun Fest, which will be held on Friday, February 3, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Fun Fest is only as good as the help we get so we need YOU! Please consider helping for one hour at this fun, family night! A sign-up form is being sent home with your child today. Contact [funfest@wilshireparents.org](mailto:funfest@wilshireparents.org) to sign-up. Thanks!

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## Announcements:

### Superintendent Search Update

The School Board of St. Anthony-New Brighton School District has begun its search for a new superintendent. The following are the dates/events for the Superintendent Search Process. At 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, Wednesday, February 1 (and possibly February 2<sup>nd</sup>) parents and community members are invited to the High School/Middle School Media Center to meet the finalists.

November through January	Recruit candidates
January 23	Five to six candidates presented to Board
January 25-26	First Board Interviews (5:00, 6:15, 7:30 each evening)
January 26	Board narrows choice to two or three candidates
January 31-February 2	All-day interview process. Parents and community members are invited to the High School/Middle School Media Center at 5:00 p.m. January 31, February 2 and possibly February 2 <sup>nd</sup> to meet the finalists and perhaps ask a question that you may have.
February 2	Board narrows choice to one

### New Year's Resolution: Be @ School!

Our school district is participating in the Hennepin County Attorney's Office Education Neglect/Truancy be@school Program. We are working to reduce the number of students who arrive at school late.

Mrs. Page will be in the office at the start of the school day following winter break to remind tardy students and their parents about the importance of being to school on time. All families need to understand the importance of bringing their child to school on time because of the distraction late arriving students can cause. If your child has an appointment, please bring a note from the doctor, dentist or orthodontist. Let's practice some good habits starting now!

Three unexcused tardies count as one full day unexcused absence. Parents will be contacted by Intervention Specialist, Anna Nelson, to work with them to get their child to school on time. After 5 unexcused tardies, morning detention (8:00-9:00 a.m.) will be scheduled.

## **Guidance and Support Groups Offered by School Counselor, Mrs. Woodworth**

I am offering guidance and support groups for the Winter term. Permission forms with information will be sent home next Friday with every student. If you are interested in having your child be a part of a guidance group this round, please return the form no later than January 27<sup>th</sup>. Groups will start the first week of February. Forms will also be available in the main office, or you can call or e-mail me directly to sign up your child. Groups focus on the following topics: family change, yoga calm, friendship, anger management and grief. If you have any questions, please let me know!

Mrs. Becky Woodworth  
School Counselor

612.706.1222 or [bwoodworth@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:bwoodworth@stanthony.k12.mn.us)

## **Paraprofessional Education Week January 16-20**

Paraprofessionals are the non-licensed staff members who work in schools in a variety of roles. They are the cooks, custodians, instructional assistants, office staff, lunchroom and recess supervisors and special education paraprofessionals. Governor Mark Dayton has declared the week of January 16-20 Paraprofessional Recognition Week in honor of their exceptional service to the students of Minnesota. We have truly exceptional paraprofessionals at Wilshire Park. If you have the chance, please thank them for their contributions to your child's education during their special week.

## **Kindergarten Registration & Open Enrollment for 2012-13 School Year**

Do you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2012 and live in the St. Anthony-New Brighton School District? Please e-mail [cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us) or call the school office at 612.706.1200 to be added to our kindergarten mailing list for the 2012-13 school year. Please contact us even if you think we already know about your child!

If you or someone you know is considering open enrollment for the 2012-13 school year, please go to the district website for information and to apply online: [www.stanthony.k12.mn.us](http://www.stanthony.k12.mn.us) and click on "Open Enrollment". To be considered for the first round of openings, you must apply for open enrollment by Sunday, January 15, 2012. Any new student wishing to enroll through open enrollment (even those with siblings attending Wilshire Park) must have completed the online open enrollment form. Each child within the family must have their own open enrollment form on file. (If you currently have a child attending Wilshire Park, you do not need to re-register that child for open enrollment). We are anticipating a limited number of openings for next year.

## **Bus Company Information**

MN Central School Bus is the company contracted for our student transportation. Occasionally delays in student pickup or drop-off may occur for a variety of reasons. Our office staff is always available to assist during office hours but please note our office does close at 4:00 p.m. Please make your first call to the bus company at: 651.633.0300 or 651.430.3311. Transportation phone numbers are also listed on the home page of the Wilshire Park website.

## **Wear School Colors on Fridays**

Students and staff are encouraged to wear school colors on Fridays (t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.). Our school colors are royal blue and white. Our school mascot is the panda.



From the Nurse:

### **Give Kids a Smile!**

February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> will be **Give Kids a Smile** days in Minnesota. On these days children who otherwise don't have access to dental care can get FREE dental care at local dental offices. Parents must call the United Way to make an appointment by dialing 211. Please see attached fliers in English and Spanish for more details!

It is not too late to get your flu shots if you haven't gotten them yet. The season flu has not peaked yet in Minnesota. All children over 6 months of age are encouraged to get the flu shot. The shot will cover both seasonal flu and H1N1. If you have questions about influenza please call the Health Office at 612-706-1205.

Lori Watzl-King, RN LSN  
612-706-1205  
[lwatzl-king@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:lwatzl-king@stanthony.k12.mn.us)

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### **Take Note:**

#### **After School Change in Plans**

We understand that after-school plans for your child may change occasionally. Please send a note with your child or email the teacher, when possible. On those occasions when plans change during the school day, please call the school office as early as you can. Many times, the office staff is inundated with calls and visitors at the end of the day. Some grades have late-afternoon recess which makes it challenging to deliver a message to your child.

#### **Yoplait and Dannon Yogurt: Cups of Hope**

- Mrs. Burba will collect your Yoplait yogurt lids to support breast cancer. Please bring rinsed lids to the school office.
- Also, give hope with every cup of Dannon Yogurt. Look for the lids with the pink Breast Cancer Ribbon, on the back of the lid there is a code on the back of the lid with instructions to go online to [www.cupsofhope.com](http://www.cupsofhope.com), Dannon will donate up to \$1.5 M to Breast Cancer Research. October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, please go online to be informed and put your health first. Thank you for caring by helping all mothers, daughters, sisters and friends find a cure to a disease that affects us all.

#### **Money Sent to School with Your Child**

When sending money to school with your child, please mark the check or envelope clearly with your child's first and LAST name, teacher's name and why the money is being sent (lunch money, field trip, book order, All Day Kdgn. tuition, etc.). If paying on your child's lunch account, please include your child's Lunch PIN number.

**Lost and Found:**

The Lost and Found area inside Door #3 has many, many lost sweatshirts and other items waiting to be found. Next time you are at school, please stop by and look for items your child may have left behind at school. A friendly reminder: If you mark your child's clothing, jackets, snowpants, boots, etc. with their name, we will do our best to return your child's items to them. Lost and Found items will be donated to charity during Winter Break.

**If Your Child is Absent or will be arriving late. . .**

Please call the attendance line at 612.706.1204. Please call before 9:05 a.m. (Afternoon kindergarten, please call before 12:50 p.m.) You may leave a message 24 hours a day.

**After School Child Care**

Please remember to notify your child care provider if your child is ill or you pick up your child from school. Sometimes we receive calls from Kids' Connection, Nativity, etc. after school looking for children. Save all of us some anxious moments! We want to know that our children are safe.

**Bus Stops**

Please be aware that if a bus stop goes unused for a period of 10 days, that stop may be inactivated by our bus company, Minnesota Central Transportation. Please contact our Transportation Director, Todd Niklaus at [tniklaus@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:tniklaus@stanthony.k12.mn.us) or 612.706.1117 if you need assistance with your child's bus route.

**Flyers**

Non-school-related flyers are not sent home with students but will be made available to parents in the school office. Parents may also call the school office to request that a flyer be sent home.

**Flyers currently available in the school office:**

- **Piano Lessons** by Michelle Carpenter, a Wilshire Park mom: Individualized instruction – ½ hour lessons in my St. Anthony home. 20 years experience working with children of all abilities. Please e-mail: [michellelynn Carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:michellelynn Carpenter@gmail.com) or phone: 612.788.4679.
- **St. Anthony Cub Scout Pack 153** would like you to consider scouting! It's not too late to join. A flyer is available in the school office or contact Cubmaster Michael Garrett at [garrett2600@comcast.net](mailto:garrett2600@comcast.net) or call 612.298.2962.

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**Community News:****ST ANTHONY VILLAGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE****JANUARY LUNCHEON NOTICE**

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

11:30 a.m. Networking followed by Noon Program

LOCATION: St. Anthony City Hall Conference Room

3301 Silver Lake Road, St. Anthony Village

PRICE: \$10.00

**PROGRAM:** Our speaker is Gail D. Olson, author of "A Village in the City", the book published recently about the history of St. Anthony Village. Gail will talk about the creation of the book and share anecdotes from the book and interesting stories about St. Anthony Village. She will also present a slide show comprised of "the slides/items that didn't make it into the book". Books will be available for sale.

PLEASE RSVP BY NOON OF MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2012

Kelly Salseg

Email: [info@saintanthonychamber.org](mailto:info@saintanthonychamber.org)

Phone: 612-782-8786

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**Mark your Calendar: ST ANTHONY VILLAGE FEST**

Save the Dates: Friday-Sunday, August 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Parade on Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Details to follow!

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**Question of the Week:**



**Question:** My child is forgetful! How can I get their lunch, warm clothing, band instruments, etc. to them during the school day?

**Answer:** Each week our students recite the Panda Pledge:

“At Wilshire Park we are a community of dedicated learners  
who are **respectful** to others,  
**responsible** for our actions,  
and **ready** to learn.

We strive for excellence in all that we do!”

In the event that your child forgets something that they need, you may drop it off in the office (It helps if the child’s name is on it). Office staff will send an email to the teacher so that the child can come to the office to retrieve their item when it is convenient. Office staff try not to call into classrooms to keep the learning environment free of distractions but do work to ensure that your child has what they need when they need it. Please understand that a number of forgotten items are brought to the office each day and it would take quite a bit of time to deliver all of them.

Fifth graders are NOT notified by office staff if their band instrument is dropped off. We encourage 5<sup>th</sup> graders to take on the **responsibility** for remembering their band instrument so that they go to band **ready** to learn. Band instruments that are dropped off by a parent are kept safely in the office. 5<sup>th</sup> graders may check the office before going to band to see if their instrument was dropped off.

## **Calendar: Looking Ahead!**

- **Monday, January 9:**
  - 7:00 p.m. - WPPA Meeting – Staff Lounge
  - 7:00 p.m. – School Board Meeting – St. Anthony City Hall
- **Wednesday, January 11:**
  - 7:50-8:45 a.m. – K-Kids Meeting - Cafeteria
- **Thursday, January 12:**
  - 6:30-7:15 p.m. – Bicycle Stunt Show – WP Gym (rescheduled from November)
- **Friday, January 13:**

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Coffee & Conversation With the Principal – Multipurpose Room, all are welcome to attend, no reservation needed.
- **Monday, January 16:**
  - **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – No School**
- **Tuesday, January 17:**
  - 7:00 p.m. – School Board Meeting – High School Media Center
- **Tuesday, January 24:**
  - 6:30-8:00 p.m. – “*Night of the Notables*” program – Cafeteria
  - 8:00 p.m. – Parent Meeting for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition – Caribou Coffee, 2218 County Road D at Long Lake Road (across from Perkins)
- **Wednesday, January 25:**
  - 7:50-8:45 a.m. – K-Kids Meeting - Cafeteria
- **Friday, January 27:**
  - Last Day of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester/Hat Day (Students may wear their favorite or most unusual hat to school today).
- **Monday, January 30:**
  - **No School: Staff Development Day**
- **Friday, February 3:**
  - 4:00-8:00 p.m. – Wilshire Park Fun Fest

Words From Wilshire is published twice each month on the second and fourth Friday of the month. (Exceptions: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays in September; One issue in November on November 10; One issue in December on December 9 and one issue in March on March 9th). Deadline for articles to be printed in Words From Wilshire is noon on Tuesday before publication. Editor: Cindy Ridge: [cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us](mailto:cridge@stanthony.k12.mn.us)