

WESTWOOD GAZETTE



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(754) 323-7900

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"Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow"

<http://westwoodheights.browardschools.com>

<http://twitter.com/WHElementary>

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Westwood Heights Elementary School Families and Community Members,

Our hard work and dedication to a delivering a high-quality education to our learners has once again paid off. Westwood Heights Elementary School has earned a letter grade of a B, as awarded by the Florida Department of Education. This is an accomplishment not achieved since 2005 and I couldn't be more proud of our learners, teachers, staff, and community members who collectively contributed to this achievement.

To continue our mission to foster a growth mindset, we will begin referring to our learners as scholars. The word scholar is defined as "someone who is highly educated or has an aptitude for study." With the goal in mind that our scholars will one day be leaders of their own lives, we want to ensure they are ready to complete any future educational endeavors necessary for them to achieve their goals. Elementary school is the foundation to building the habits needed to pursue dreams.

As we welcome scholars for the upcoming school year, we will implement enhanced safety/security measures. Please see page 3 of this newsletter for additional information. We request that you exercise patience and understanding at all times as we work to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of your child at all times. You will also be expected to produce a valid photo ID when visiting our school so we ask that you come prepared.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat, do not hesitate to reach out to me at 754-323-7906 or at jodi.washington@browardschools.com. Don't forget to follow me on Twitter @WHEPrincipal as well as Westwood Heights Elementary @WHElementary for the latest news about our school. You will also find exciting news in this edition of the Westwood Gazette. I look forward to an outstanding new school year!

Jodi Washington



Educating Today's Students to
Succeed in Tomorrow's World

Important Dates

8/14.....Meet & Greet
8/15.....First Day of School
8/20.....Independence Day!
8/29.....Open House 6pm
9/3.....No School
9/10.....No School
9/19.....Open House 6p.m.
9/17.....Interim Reports

Assessment Window Dates

8/15-10/2..... Florida
Kindergarten Readiness
Screening (FLKRS)

4/1-4/12...FSA Writing 4th &
5th Grades

4/1-4/12...FSA ELA 3rd

5/1-5/14...FSA ELA 4th & 5th

5/1-5/14...FSA Math 3rd- 5th

5/1-5/14...Statewide Science
Assessment 5th Grade

School Hours

PreK: 8:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

K-5: 8:00 a.m.- 3:00p.m.

Hot Breakfast: 7:30-8:00 AM

Cold Breakfast: 8:00-8:30 AM

A NOTE FROM YOUR INTERN PRINCIPAL

Greetings Westwood Heights Family,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! As Mrs. Washington mentioned, we will continue to foster a growth mindset as we begin the journey towards an A letter grade. One of the first steps is to begin each day reciting our new Westwood Heights Eagle Pledge, which says:

I am a Westwood Heights Eagle.

I am a leader.

I was leader when I came in and I will be a better leader when I leave.

As a learner, I am dedicated, committed, and focused to succeed.

I cooperate with my classmates, teachers, and community members.

I am exceptional, not because I say it, but because I work hard.

I dream big, believe, and achieve.

I will graduate from high school because I always do my best.

I am an Eagle and Eagles soar above the rest!

The school motto and pledge will be introduced to scholars during the first week of school. Also, during the first week of school, scholars will receive First Day packets that contain the following documents:

- Emergency Contact Card
- Classroom Admittance Form
- School-Parent Compact 2018-2019
- Preliminary Family Needs Assessment
- After School Program (ASP) Information
- School Parent and Family Engagement Plan (PFEP) (formerly Parent Involvement Plan)

The District/LEA PFEP and the 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan can be found in the front office or on our school website at <http://westwoodheights.browardschools.com>.

School Public Accountability Report (SPAR) provides parents and the community with important information about each public school such as demographic, safety and academic data. The SPAR is available in the front office or online at

<http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbspar/index.cfm>

Respectfully,

Lavina Robinson
Intern Principal

Safety and Security Updates

Armed Safe School Officer or Police Officer

Westwood Heights Elementary (WHE) will be staffed with an armed officer every day during student hours to provide school security and safety services for the campus and protect the life and well-being of scholars, staff, and visitors. The officer will use appropriate level of force to stop, disrupt or eliminate physical threats to students, staff, and visitors on campus.

Security Cameras

The WHE security monitoring system has been upgraded per district protocol to meet new digital standards. All security cameras can now be monitored in real-time from several computers when on district campuses. Upgrades to the security system will continue throughout the 2018-2019 school year to include additional cameras with analytic capabilities that will further enhance our abilities to identify and mitigate threats to the security of our campus and safety of all scholars, faculty/staff, and visitors.

Doors

All doors, including front office and classroom doors, will be locked at all times. The single point of entry to the campus is the front office. All visitors must enter the campus through the single point of entry.

Perimeter Gates

School perimeter gates will be unlocked only for arrival and dismissal. Unlocked gates will be monitored by school staff members who will have a functioning two-way radio and be trained in procedures of how to respond to intruders accessing the campus. When utilizing the parent car loop on the north side of campus (NW 7th St entrance), all parents/caregivers are expected to remain in their vehicles. School staff will assist in getting children to cars. The parent car loop will be unlocked during the following times:

Arrival 7:30-8:00 a.m.
K-5 Dismissal 3:00-3:30 p.m.

At the end of arrival and dismissal, all perimeter gates will be secured. All perimeter gates will remain locked after 3:30 p.m. even while students and staff are still on campus. Access to the campus will only be permitted through the single point of entry in the front office.

Signing In

All visitors must enter through the front office and be processed through the Security Tracking and Response (STAR) System by providing a valid Federal, State, or Broward County School Board issued photo identification. This includes, but is not limited to, parents, District staff, vendors, volunteers, and members of the public. Visitor names, date of visit, time of arrival, purpose for visit, and time of departure will be logged.

Parent, Scholar & Staff ID Badges

Individuals visiting campuses must wear a district-issued identification badge, site-based visitor badge or volunteer badge while on campus. ID badges **MUST** be worn at all times. Any visitor that is not wearing a badge will be expected to produce and wear the appropriate badge or immediately leave campus. Additionally, identification badges will be produced for all scholars and staff members and must be worn at all times. The Crisis Text Line will be printed on the back of student and staff identification badges. This tip line can be used by texting FL to 741741.

Meet & Greet and Open House

You will have an opportunity to meet your child's 2018-2019 teacher(s) on Tuesday, August 14th from 9:00-10:00 p.m. Additionally, our annual Title One Meeting & Open House will be held on Wednesday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m. In accordance with daily access procedures, all perimeter gates will remain locked for both events. Access to the campus will be through the school's single point of entry in the front office. There will be an information table outside the rear front office doors where parents/guardians will check-in.

SAC/SAF & PTO

SAC begins at 3:30p.m.

PTO begins at 4:30p.m. SAF begins immediately after PTO.

Tuesday, September 5, 2018

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Tuesday, December 5, 2018

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Tuesday March 5, 2019

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Tuesday, May 7, 2019