



The Clark-Wilkins Villager

August 21, 2018

[Clark-Wilkins Website](#)

NIXLE COMMUNICATION

As you are aware, SAU-39 is using Nixle to communicate with our school community. Parents and guardians **do not need to do anything to receive emergency notifications**. We will use the information we have on file to contact you in the event of an emergency.

For all non-emergency communication, including **snow day** notifications and **weekly parent messages**, you will need to sign up to receive messages. Information on how to sign up was emailed to parents and is available on our school [website](#) as well as the SAU 39 [site](#).

The weekly email is also posted on our [website](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS – [Click here for the 2018-2019 SAU39 Calendar](#)

- September 24 - Godin/Chazanoff Hike
- **September 24 - Open House – Grades 1 & 2, 6:15**
- September 25 – Vaupel/Wright Hike
- **September 25 - Open House – Preschool, 5:30, Kindergarten, 6:15, Grades 3 & 4, 6:45**
- September 26 – School Pictures
- October 8 – Columbus Day – no School
- October 9 – Late Start – Wilkins School Store
- October 31 – Halloween Parties
- November 5 – Teacher In-Service Day – no school
- November 6 – Election Day – no school

MESSAGE FROM MRS. FRALEY

Understanding the Standards

Each year we hear from families about the need to better understand the standards that we are using to build and revise our curriculum, prepare for instruction, and target in our assessments. Students at every grade, kindergarten to 12th grade, are expected to work towards mastery of these set standards over the course of the year. The National PTA created Math and ELA overview guides for families that target the standards at each grade level. We have found these to be of high quality and really helpful for parents. These helpful documents are available by clicking on the following links, and through our Clark-Wilkins website. Parents' Guide to [Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, Third Grade, Fourth Grade](#)

NWEA

During the weeks of September 24th and October 1st, all Kindergarten – fourth grade students will participate in our NWEA assessments. The reading and math NWEA assessments help your child's

teacher to develop a clear picture of what your student knows and what they are ready to learn next. Both assessments are administered on the computer and are “adaptive,” meaning that the questions presented to the test take change based on the child’s response. For example, when a student answers a question correctly, the test follows up with a more challenging question. When an incorrect response is given, the assessment follows up with an easier question.

The results from these assessments will be shared with families at the end of the first trimester with report cards.

Open House

The dates and times have been set for our Open House Nights, which take place on Monday, September 24th for grades one and two, and Tuesday, September 25th for preschool, Kindergarten, grade three, and grade four. Your child’s classroom teacher will also be sending out reminders about Open House Nights. Open House Nights provide families with an opportunity to meet the staff, visit classrooms and learning spaces, and see the school through your child’s eyes. We hope that you can join us.

Attendance

Thank you to all families for working hard each day to get your child(ren) up, out and ready for school on time. Regular and punctual attendance at school is essential for your student’s immediate and long-term growth and success. Arriving at school on time (8:10-8:25 AM) and staying until the end of the day (3:00 PM at Clark, 3:05 PM at Wilkins) ensures that your student is present for all learning opportunities (social, emotional, academic, and behavioral).

This year, we will be reaching out more regularly to families when a threshold of excessive tardies and absences are recorded. Our goal in connecting with families is to build a supportive relationship where we can work in tandem to increase student attendance at school, and therefore positively impact student success.

If your child is sick and staying home from school, please call the school before 8:25 and/or enter the absence in PUP. Please state the reason why your child will be staying home, this information is important as we track illnesses passing through the school. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for more details about when you child should stay home.

Have a wonderful weekend, and enjoy the first days of fall.

Respectfully submitted by Nicola Fraley, Principal

NOTE FROM THE AMHERST PTA

- ✓ Stop in to Bertucci’s on 101A for a portion of proceeds to benefit the Amherst PTA! All day on Friday, 9/21.
- ✓ Clark-Wilkins spirit wear order forms are due next Friday.
- ✓ Consider participating in the Fall Fundraiser catalog sale kicking off fundraising for curriculum enrichment opportunities from preschool through 8th grade.
- ✓ Free family movie night on 9/28 at Wilkins at 6:30pm

Best way to ask questions and keep in touch:

amherstptanh@gmail.com www.amherstnhpta.org

JOIN THE FUN: VOLUNTEER AT THE SCHOOL STORE

We are looking for volunteers to help us run the School Store this year. The School Store is open every late start Tuesday beginning October through June. You may choose to volunteer for the 1st and 2nd grade block (10:40 - 11:30) or the 3rd and 4th grade block (11:30 - 12:20) or BOTH. Younger siblings are most welcome! Please contact Melissa Gomeau @ melgomeau@gmail.com
Below are the dates:

October 9
November 13
December 10
January 8
February 12
March 12
April 9
May 14
June 4

DESTINATION IMAGINATION IS BACK!

Calling all creative students and their families! Join us for a Destination Imagination Information Night on October 3!

Has your child ever started planning their Invention Convention project months before the event? Do they randomly take things apart just to see how they work? If your kid is crazy about puzzles, loves to paint and draw, can build anything out of cardboard boxes, writes amazing stories, thinks up whimsical new worlds, has a flair for drama and acting, is totally into science, or has rewired your toaster into a working time machine (or wants to), then you may have a Destination Imagination child!

Destination Imagination (DI) is an international educational program that gives kids an amazing outlet for their creativity, while teaching them leadership, teamwork, positive thinking, project management, and so much more. Teams of up to 7 kids solve one of six open-ended Challenges (Scientific, Engineering, Fine Arts, Service Learning, Improvisation, or Technical) in their own unique ways, and present their solutions at Regional Tournaments in March. Teams also solve an on-the-spot Instant Challenge at the tournaments, where they must think quickly on their feet and work together to solve a problem in around five minutes.

Teams involved in DI learn to excel in creative and critical thinking, collaborative problem solving, and project management. Students who have participated in Destination Imagination say they believe participation helped them improve their grades and do better in school, increased their self-confidence, assisted them in becoming better communicators, enhanced their respect for others, and improved their creativity and problem solving skills.

If you'd like to find out more, bring your K-8 student and come join us for a **DI Information Night** on **Wednesday, October 3, 6-7 p.m.** in the **Amherst Middle School Innovation & Design Room** [enter Amherst Makerspace door "M" near softball fields in back]. If you can't make it or have questions, please contact Amherst DI Coordinator Terri Behm (terri.behm@nhicc.org).

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR [COMMUNITY NEWS PAGE](#) FOR INFORMATION ON:

- [Amherst Town Library Programs](#)
- [Pat's Peak Ski Program](#)
- [Scouting in Amherst](#)