



WOLFPACK EXPRESS

Focusing On Activities In The School District of Manawa

October 15, 2020



School District of Manawa - Annual Meeting

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BY DR. MELANIE J. OPPOR



The Annual Meeting of the School District of Manawa will be held on Monday, Oct. 26, 2020, beginning at 7 p.m.

The meeting will be held in-person at Manawa Elementary School with a specific room to be announced.

This year, there will also be a virtual option to join the meeting either online or by telephone using Google Meet. The addition of a virtual attendance option is intended to be as inclusive as possible for all District residents, given that the pandemic may prevent some citizens from being able to attend in-person.

Electors who attend virtually may vote on the motions and resolutions as long as there is no citizen objection to virtual voting.

Please join the meeting at:
Meeting ID

meet.google.com/wnm-dmpw-myt

Phone Numbers:

(US)+1 352-800-6563. PIN: 512 945 769#



In recent years, the electorate has chosen to use a voice vote. If voice votes are used this year, each adult District resident participating will state their name, address, and indicate their vote for the record.

A private written electronic alternative will be provided at the meeting if there is a request to use written ballots and paper ballots will be provided to those who attend in-person. The voice vote or ballot decision is made by the citizenry during the setting of the "ground rules" portion of the meeting.

This year, there will be a resolution for the citizens of the School District of Manawa to consider implementing a School Resource Officer (SRO) program in addition to the typical resolutions on which you deliberate annually.

Prior to the Annual Meeting, information about the SRO program will be shared with the public for your consideration. Please feel free to contact the District Office at 920-596-2525 if you have any questions about the Annual Meeting.

GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES!



Creating Community At Manawa Elementary School

BY DANNI BRAUER

MES PRINCIPAL/DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

The pandemic has caused the students to be placed into cohorts at the elementary school.

A cohort is a group of students who stay together throughout their school day with the specials staff coming to the students. Being part of a cohort minimizes the risk of exposure to COVID-19 to a smaller group of people.

Working in cohorts has created an unfortunate separation between students in different classrooms. The staff has been working hard to find ways to connect while keeping everyone safe.

Below are a couple ways the staff are trying to bring everyone together even though students are apart:

The first day of school, Mrs. Ziemer orchestrated a virtual assembly for the entire school. Even though it did not go exactly as planned, it was a way for students to receive a collective message from the staff.

The highlight of the assembly was the video Mrs. Ziemer put together that introduced all the staff. Students even got



Social distancing during milk break.

to see teachers dancing (socially distanced, of course) and lead the MES school cheer for the year.

Morning announcements are not anything new to MES but how they are delivered sure is creative and new. This year, announcements are done by students instead of having the principal do it over the PA system.

Each week, a new class is signed up to present the Pledge

of Allegiance, lunch menu, birthdays, special days, and to give a positive message to the rest of the school. Classes can choose to video tape their announcements or do them "live" online from their classroom each morning.

The staff continues to brainstorm new ways to create a strong school community. Teachers are receiving training that includes community building in both in-person and virtual learning environments.



Locker and lunch line spacing at Manawa Elementary School.



Ms. Tassone's class at Manawa Elementary School.



Mrs. Bortle's elementary art class comes to the classroom.



Mrs. Whitman's elementary students have blended learning with Mrs. Hansen.

Back to School!

BY DANIEL WOLFGAM
LITTLE WOLF HIGH/MIDDLE
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Staff and students were energized and exhilarated as they entered the new Manawa Middle School and Little Wolf High School for the very first time in over six months.

With the assistance of the staff, students quickly found their way to first hour classes, and fire drills were conducted for both sets of high school cohorts on consecutive days.

Kudos to all staff who assisted in readying the building for occupancy. Staff was present for numerous hours before the first day of school with students to complete moving, unpacking, cleaning, and preparing their rooms for instruction. The opening of the school would not have happened as smoothly were it not for the collaborative efforts of the entire staff.

The staff prepared a Flipgrid video to welcome and introduce themselves to the students.

Students and staff have quickly adapted to mask-wearing, social distancing, and cleaning protocols. Lunch service and dismissal of school have gone smoothly as high school and middle school students have demonstrated outstanding cooperation and positive attitudes.

Contractors have continued the final tweaking on infrastructure systems during second shift work times or in areas of the building not occupied by staff or students. This includes work on HVAC, door and fob systems, intercoms, cameras, and wi-fi connectivity within the building.

Staff and students have demonstrated extreme patience as work on these systems continues.



All indicators point to the fact that everyone is happy to be back in school!

Helping Your Child with Digital Learning

Now that the digital learning age is well upon us, it seems timely that we have conversations with our children about how to support their technology and how they best learn with this medium.

Learning the ins and outs of technology as parents seems a daunting task. The ease that students take to it is like many things in life, it comes easier or more naturally the younger you are. As schools shift toward online platforms and E-learning devices, tech-challenged parents may feel a bit intimidated.

Please do not worry. Support is on the way. After reading many articles about digital learning, several tips are universal to assist parents in being involved in their child's education.

One of the first things recommended is to ask your child to show you how they are proficient in their technology. Many children embrace the opportunity to be "the teacher" to their parents about technology. This strategy is used by educators at both the secondary and post-secondary levels. You are demonstrating that you are a lifelong learner!

The second recommendation is to simply Google what it is you are looking to learn. The world of YouTube virtually covers a myriad of tutorial videos. Surprise your child by contacting them via a new medium like Google Hangouts or Facebook Messenger. The connections that you will make will demonstrate your willingness to be engaged in their world.



New high school/middle school entrance.



New high school/middle school administrative office.

Often overlooked by parents is the importance to keep technology public in the home. Keeping the computer in common living spaces as opposed to the bedroom allows parents to monitor digital interaction and communication. What your child is doing on the computer should not be a secret. Parents should "friend" their students on Facebook, follow them on Twitter, and know who their online friends are. Checking browser histories is also important to know where your child is going online.

Lastly, get excited with your child about digital learning. Education has changed dramatically since the time most parents were in school. Information about everything is at a child's fingertips. With proper supervision, children get to gain insight on career paths, culminate and foster new interests, and demonstrate proficiencies that will lead to promising lives and cutting edge careers.

While the face of education is changing, taking the first step in engaging with your child is just a few clicks away!



Redesigned band room at Little Wolf High/Middle School.



Music class in the commons area.



Cindy Jaeckle
Sales Associate



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05543089



The new fitness center includes weightlifting and cardio equipment.

{upper right} Students take advantage of the new fitness center.

{lower right} Physical education classes are held in the new fitness center.



District Safety Protocols Get an Update

BY DR. MELANIE J. OPPOR

School safety is always a top district priority. Safety during a pandemic is even more important.

This year, the School District of Manawa is beginning the implementation of a new way of responding to intruder or other emergency situations. Over the past school year, all school personnel have become trained in ALICE protocols.

ALICE stands for: A – Alert; L – Lockdown; I – Inform; C – Counter; E – Evacuate.

The ALICE framework, in alignment with recommendations from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides a programmatic approach to addressing active intruder situations. This program is used by school districts, businesses, and medical facilities to enhance current best practice addressing active intruder situations. Annually staff and students will receive training on options that can be utilized if an active intruder situation were to occur.

Below is a link to information about the training and the ALICE program: <https://www.alicetraining.com/our-program/alice-training/k12-education/>

This school year, all students will be introduced to age-appropriate ALICE training. This initial training focuses on empowering our students and staff with an understanding of the options available to make important decisions in the event of an active intruder situation.

Similar to fire drills, ALICE training is designed to take students and staff through various scenarios to help them consider their options and choose the best response for their situation. In future years, students will learn more about the ALICE protocols as the SDM more fully implements this new safety program.

If you have any questions about the safety drills conducted at your child's school, please contact your child's school principal.

Counselor Corner: Routine is Key

BY JANINE CONNOLLY

With summer ending and school starting, all of us are trying to get into the swing of things and find our routines.

Adults and students alike can benefit from having set routines for school days.

Routine helps students know what to expect, and this can help relieve anxiety. Many students benefit from seeing their routine in pictures and writing. While every moment of the morning or evening does not need to be planned, students can benefit from a structure to their time. Having a snack before going to an activity or starting homework at a certain time can be beneficial.

Students also benefit from a routine for their school work. Having a space that is free of distraction is important for their routine. Working on their work at the same time each day, for example before or after dinner, can help give students a sense of control.

Shutting down screens before bed can assist with better sleep for students, as can having a routine bedtime and waking time every day. Students can pack their lunches and backpacks before they go to bed and can also pick out clothes before they go to bed to ease rushing in the morning.

For students learning from home online, this routine is just as important as it is for the in-person students. Routines can help everyone feel more confident and productive!

FFA Receives National Recognition

The National Chapter Award Program is designed to recognize FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization.

These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality Chapter Standards (NQCS) and a Program of Activities (POA) that emphasize growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership.

In order to qualify for a state or national award, the chapter must complete at least 15 activities: one for each of the five quality standards in each of the three divisions. Additionally, the chapter must meet the minimum requirements as outlined in the National Quality Chapter Standards.

Manawa FFA earned accolades in this award area for being number two in the state for Growing Leaders and fifth in the state for Strengthening Agriculture. Additionally, the chapter will be recognized at the virtual National Convention in October for receiving a 2 Star in the prestigious National Chapter Award.

Members of the Manawa FFA look forward to developing innovative programming as they strive to develop premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in agricultural education.



CAPP English and Blended Learning



BY MICHELE KOSHOLLEK

This year the English department made some changes to course offerings.

Whether it be college, tech. school, apprenticeship programs, workforce or the military, Mrs. Konkol and Mrs. Koshollek wanted to be sure that each student received instruction best suited to his or her needs.

As a result of this change, AP Language was discontinued as a course offering and CAPP was added for Seniors. Mrs. Koshollek applied to be a CAPP instructor for U.W. - Oshkosh last fall and was accepted as part of their adjunct faculty. For a fraction of the cost of an on-campus college course, students enrolled in CAPP have the opportunity to earn dual credit. They will receive credit toward their English requirements for their high school diploma and they will also receive three writing credits accepted at all U.W. schools and many other institutions.

With the current A/B schedule, teaching and learning in a college course has been an adventure, considering so much of the course depends on discussion. Currently, students are reading "Columbine" by Dave Cullen.



"Talking Sticks" assist during discussion.

The students have been completely engrossed and have many questions and much commentary.

When it came time for the first Socratic Seminar, students discussed how to ensure that all students, both those in-person and online, could have a voice and a role in the discussion.

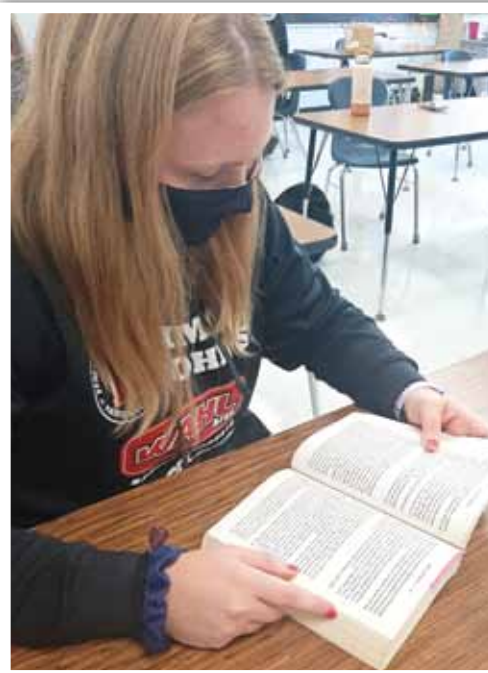
What is a Socratic Seminar? A Socratic Seminar is a formal discussion, based on a text, in which the leader asks open-ended questions. Within the context of the discussion, students listen closely to the comments of others, thinking critically for themselves, and articulate their own thoughts and their responses to the thoughts of others.

Mrs. Koshollek suggested paddles as a way to signal a student wanted to be heard. Grace Johnson and Katie Buschke got to work immediately and created what Grace dubbed "Talking Sticks." This worked extremely well for the class' first discussion.

Mrs. Koshollek is very impressed with how all of her students have handled themselves in this new format. The discussion hours fly by and the participation has been exemplary. This is a very proud time to be a Wolf!



Mrs. Koshollek prepares students for the first Socratic Seminar.



Stephanie Besaw reading in preparation for dialectical journals and discussion.



Maddie Meyer reading and journaling for "Columbine."



Students engaged in discussion in-person and virtually.

New Positive Awards

BY DANNI BRAUER

MES PRINCIPAL/DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

This year, Manawa Elementary School staff are making a conscious effort to acknowledge our students' positive behaviors.

Teachers who see a student displaying positive behavior that goes above and beyond expectations can fill out

a P.A.W.S. slip. P.A.W.S. stands for Praising Amazing Wolf-wise Students.

Every afternoon, the awards are read over the loud-speaker and students are given a pencil with a positive message.

So far this year, MES has given out 26 P.A.W.S. awards. WAY TO GO WOLVES!



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VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2020

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Manawa Middle School and Little Wolf High School would like to honor all who served again this year. Due to COVID-19, this year's ceremony will be virtual. Please watch for more information on our Facebook page and the school website (www.manawaschools.org).


One-way hallway at Manawa Elementary School.



School is back in session at Manawa Elementary School.



Virtual Learning



¿Hablas Español?

Classrooms have changed unbelievably since last year and not just physically.

While technology can be a challenge, students have adapted to this new world in stellar form. Their patience and understanding as teachers navigate new methods and practices are truly commendable.

This is no less true than in our Spanish classes, where students have had to jump into comprehending and communicating in Spanish on the first day.

The Little Wolf High School advanced class enrollment has doubled from last year. This is impressive, as it speaks to the strong academic goals of our students. First- and second-year Spanish enrollment has remained constant.

In addition to new classroom arrangements, Spanish students (estudiantes) will experience changes in how they are learning Spanish. Estudiantes will be doing almost all of their work digitally.

Learning will be facilitated through more natural activities that promote better comprehension because students are using it in authentic situations. Games as well as reading books and watching weekly episodes of two highly acclaimed series from Spain, “Gran Hotel” and “Bolivar,” will be used to help students learn more specific communication and literacy skills.

This year promises to be one of great accomplishments for students as well as for staff who have been preparing and learning instructional technology to make this an outstanding year for students and families.



It's Good To Be Back



BY DANNI BRAUER
MES PRINCIPAL/DIRECTOR
OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

The first week has ended and what a joy it has been to welcome the children back into the building.

The staff was excited to be able to see them after an extended absence. Students were well behaved and demonstrated that they know the importance of following our safety protocols.

Every effort we make now to follow these protocols will result in continuing with the In-Person Mode of Instruction.

While we are celebrating the return of staff and students to the building we also want to recognize the fact that the return has not been perfect. We have received and hear your concerns with the Synchronous and Blended Modes of Instruction and we are attending to

the concerns as quickly as we can.

We are aware of the internet connectivity issues in the community, and our legislators are crafting legislation to ensure that rural broadband service remains a high priority for financial support.

Issues regarding technology and connectivity in the buildings are also receiving attention. Thank you for your understanding and patience.





The SDM receives a monetary donation from the Manawa Lions Club and school supplies from Stuff the Bus event.



Elementary library class with Mrs. Krueger.

School District of Manawa Information

District Office

Phone: 920-596-2525
800 Beech Street
District Administrator: Dr. Melanie J. Oppor
Business Manager: Carmen O'Brien
Special Ed. Director: Danielle Brauer
Technology Director: Bryant Cobarrubias

Little Wolf High School

Grades 9-12
Manawa Middle School
Grades 6-8
Phone: 920-596-2524
515 E. 4th Street
Principal: Daniel Wolfgram

Manawa Elementary School

Grades PK – 5
Phone: 920-596-2238
800 Beech Street
Principal: Danielle Brauer

Paving the Way

Phone: 920-596-2526
407 S. Bridge St.
Director: Danielle Brauer

Manawa Board of Education

President: Joanne Johnson
Vice President: Russ Johnson
Clerk: Bobbi Jo Pethke
Treasurer: Bruce Scheller
Director: Russell Hollman
Director: Stan Forbes
Director: Lucas Seeger

Board Meetings:

Regular Board Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except April – fourth Monday) in the Board Room located at the Manawa Elementary School at 7 p.m. Any additional meetings are duly posted on the district's website, in the City Hall and at Sturm Memorial Library. For additional information, please contact the District Office at 920-596-2525.

The Board of Education and Administrative Team would like to thank all the individuals, groups and businesses that so generously contribute to the District. Your gifts of money, time, materials and talents support and enhance programs for all our students and staff.

The School District of Manawa does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Federal law prohibits discrimination in education and employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability.

Mission Statement:

The School District of Manawa is the place where students choose to excel academically and realize their strengths.

Vision Statement:

The School District of Manawa engages students to reach their full potential in a changing global society through highly effective instruction and leadership.

Website Accessibility

The School District of Manawa strives to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of all district residents. Anyone finding district information or website functionality to be inaccessible to persons with disabilities is asked to contact the District Webmaster, Mr. Cobarrubias, by telephoning 920-596-5737 or emailing him at: bcobarrubias@manawaschools.org

The following links provide direct access to the School District of Manawa Policies related to Section 504 and Title II along with the names and contact information for the District's 504/ADA Compliance Officers and can be accessed from the district website under Board of Education > Board Policies > Link to Policies:

- 2260.01-SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY
- 1623-SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 3123-SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 4123-SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 2260-NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
- 1422-NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 3122-NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 4122-NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The School District of Manawa's Section 504 and ADA Compliance Officers are as follows:

Carmen O'Brien

Business Manager
School District of Manawa
800 Beech Street
Manawa, WI 54949
920-596-5332
cobrien@manawaschools.org

Daniel Wolfgram

High School/Middle School Principal
School District of Manawa
515 E. Fourth Street
Manawa, WI 54949
920-596-5310
dwolfgram@manawaschools.org



WAYS YOU CAN HELP MANAWA SCHOOLS

Boxtops Needed – Clip the Boxtops for Education logo on many household products and drop off at any school office. Some of the many products with the logo are: Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, General Mills, Ziploc, Hefty, Kleenex and Huggies.

STEP VOLUNTEERS:

Senior citizens can save on their property taxes by volunteering in the schools through the Senior Tax Exchange Program.

Contact Ruth Lord, Director, at 920-596-5673 for more information.



The SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANAWA is the place where STUDENTS choose to EXCEL academically and realize their STRENGTHS.

