



Royal Roundup

Commitment to Student Success at Watertown-Mayer

All means All... No Exceptions

Superintendent, Darren Schuler



The Watertown-Mayer Strategic Roadmap, which includes the district's mission, vision, values and strategic directions, identifies a strong message in terms of our commitment to student success. That message is "All means all... no exceptions."

To make sure we are actively working towards this commitment, our district embarked on a three year initiative with the University of Minnesota's Center of Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI). Together we adopted a new preventive framework called Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) that provides support to ALL students to ensure mastery of grade level content standard and social emotional learning. MTSS is an organizational framework that provides a high quality curriculum and instruction to all students, as well as intervention support to students who are not achieving at grade level.

The MTSS framework incorporates screening, progress monitoring, and then uses the data to make decisions about what students need to be successful. We are excited to see the foundation for MTSS in our district beginning to be implemented, and we are even more excited to see students learning and achieving to their full potential.

Our district's strategic direction also reflects the vision of "effectively managing resources to support district facilities and financial stability". I am pleased to report that our district recently had a favorable annual audit report. The unassigned general fund balance increased by \$523,888. In November, we also had the opportunity to refund the 2012B district bond. A part of the refunding process is to take advantage of low interest rates, lower

the outstanding debt, and acquire a credit rating. Not only were we able to reduce our debt by \$593,493.75. In addition, we were issued Standard and Poor's credit rating of A+.

If you are interested in looking over the 2020-2021 school year audit report, you can find it on the district website: www.wm.k12.mn.us. Thank you for your continued support of Watertown-Mayer Public Schools. 🏡

STRATEGIC ROADMAP CORE VALUES

Integrity – Having the courage to do what is right in all situations.

Intentionality – Acting with purpose and reason.

Collaboration – Working together to provide the best outcomes.

Inclusivity - Meeting the needs of the individuals we serve.

Creativity – Implementing innovative solutions in ever-changing environments.



**Watertown Mayer
Public Schools**

Connections • Opportunities

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Bond Referendum Project Highlights

So much has changed since the beginning of construction! New spaces are being enjoyed in all of our buildings and we are looking forward to the projects still on the horizon.

The elementary school and high school spaces are nearly complete and we continue to put finishing touches and make minor repairs on both these spaces. Middle school continues with their phased approach and is nearing completion.

The middle school main entrance, middle school office spaces and district office spaces should be near completion at the end of this school year.

Check out what's yet to come in 2022! Through savings throughout the bidding and construction projects, we have been able to increase the scope of the remodeling throughout our schools. These favorable bids have allowed us the opportunity to update the middle school locker rooms and high school pool locker room, which will include the addition of a Family Locker Room. These spaces are original to the schools and will be a welcome upgrade. This work will take place over the Summer of 2022.

The flow of traffic at our middle and high school campuses has been a concern and we are working towards improving the overall flow and decreasing congestion between these parking lots. Currently still under design, the finished product will improve the dropoff and pick up operations at the middle school and allow an improved exit route when leaving our campuses.



We want to ensure our District and Community members remain informed throughout the entire Bond Referendum process. We encourage all residents to visit our Bond Referendum website regularly, www.wm.k12.mn.us/domain/107

Thank you to all District residents, Community members, staff, parents, and students. We appreciate your involvement and feedback. 🏰



The Watertown-Mayer Education Foundation (WMEF) will start selling raffle tickets in late February for a chance to win a Polaris Ranger side-by-side, \$500 in cash, a 21-speed Trek bicycle, a Wings of Watertown Pheasant Shoot, and other great prizes! The raffle drawing will take place at our "Diamonds and Denim" Royal Celebration, October 8, 2022, at the Watertown Community Center.

Individual and group tickets to the Diamonds and Denim event will be on sale soon. WMEF is looking for business sponsors and donations of items or services for the silent auction. Check our Facebook and/or Instagram pages for ways to donate and more information on the raffle and fundraising event. You can also contact us at 612-516-3434 or wmeducationfoundation@wm.k12.mn.us.

WMEF's annual scholarship drive will start in February with a goal of raising \$100,000 to award to graduating seniors. To donate, scan the QR code to be directed to our PayPal donation page, or go to our website at www.wm.k12.mn.us/wmef. WMEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that operates independently of the School Board and the District. 🏰



WMMS Explores the Outdoors at Wolf Ridge

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in Finland, Minnesota designs courses that help students be more aware of the natural world, embrace the love of lifelong learning in nature, and become more socially responsible.

Since 1982, Watertown-Mayer Middle School students have had the opportunity to attend a week-long experience at Wolf Ridge, that is, until 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, WMMS had to miss their first year in almost 40 years. Fortunately, on our fortieth anniversary, Wolf Ridge is scheduled to host both this year's sixth-grade students and the seventh-grade students who were not able to attend last year!

While at Wolf Ridge, students and parent chaperones will take a variety of courses. Many students would say their favorite class is the high ropes course. Students also enjoy an outdoor survival course where they make a shelter and a fire with the end goal of enjoying hot cocoa. Attendees participate in cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and finding animal tracks in the woods.



To work on relationship building, this year's kids will be participating in TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) games. It is a week filled with innumerable opportunities for growth!

These weeks are made possible by the cooperation and dedication of the parents who go with us on the trip. The teachers and students are truly grateful for the time, dedication, and hard work that the parents put into this unique educational experience. 🏠

CURRICULUM CORNER

WM Curriculum Continues to Be a Priority

by Joe Vieau, Director of Teaching & Learning

The Watertown-Mayer Strategic Roadmap guides the District to “deliver curriculum that is consistent and rigorous for all” and provides “instruction that reflects best practices and focuses on the needs of the individual student.” We fulfill this commitment via our Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC). This committee consists of teachers, parents and administrators who review state standards and seek the best curriculum designed to support achievement.

This past year, curricular updates were made in our K-4 math program with the purchase of enVision Math from Savass Learning (formerly Pearson). Purchases were also made in the area of K-5 Science. Mystery Science is an online provider that meets many of the new science requirements, including a shift in teaching practices to a model called phenomena-based instruction, which

encourages students to ask questions, discover connections, and design models to make sense of what they observe. Staff who have used this computer-based program have reported wonderful results both in the area of content and student engagement. The District has also made investments in our Middle School Health curriculum which includes Mental Health.

The focus for 2022 will be in the High School Language Arts and Middle School Science curriculum. Committees of teachers will be reporting their progress to the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee throughout the school year. We will be continuing this process until a solid recommendation can be made to the committee. Curriculum is our priority as we seek to support best practices and the needs of our students district-wide. 🏠

Dated Material. Deliver Promptly

ECRWSS

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in School District 111

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on Social Media



#GoRoyals

At Watertown-Mayer Public Schools, we make authentic learning connections with each of our students, providing them with the opportunity to reach the full potential of their passions and strengths.

Congratulations to the WM Triple A & ExCEL Representatives

Each year, four Watertown-Mayer students are selected for the Triple 'A' and the ExCEL Awards.



Representatives for the '21-22 Triple 'A' Award are Maris Heun & George Janikula. The Academics, Arts, and Athletics Award, commonly known as the Triple 'A' Award, honors high school seniors throughout the state who have a 3.0 or higher grade point average and who participate in League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities. Maris was also the winner of Region 5A District #17. Congratulations Maris & George!



Representatives for the '21-22 ExCEL Award are Mercedes Burmeister & Albert Rundell. ExCEL honors Juniors who are active in school activities, show leadership & are model citizens! Congratulations Mercedes & Albert!



#OwnTheCrownWM

Have you seen this hashtag on Watertown-Mayer's social media over the past year and wondered, "What does this mean?"

In one word, it means PRIDE.

Pride in our school
Pride in our activities
Pride in our athletics
Pride in our communities
Pride in our perseverance

We strive to create a culture of inclusivity and school pride in all aspects of our life together at Watertown-Mayer Schools.

We are the Royals!
#OwnTheCrownWM