



Dear WISD families and friends:

We welcome October as a school family. The advent of this month marks the fifth week of the school year. We are mindful that the weather is changing, bringing cooler temperatures. Our recess monitors have asked me to remind students and families to bring an extra pair of shoes-boots and warmer clothing for outdoor playtime, as well as those days that physical education is outside. We want our students to have a mask break, and the recess time allows for this. Thank you for your help in keeping our students warm and dry.

And speaking of staying warm, we would ask you contact Ms. Zuzka in the office, if your child will not be riding the bus to or from school. This will help us manage the release of students more efficiently. Thank you for this information and support.

The DCHD is again offering its yearly FLU CLINIC. This will take place on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Students and staff will have an opportunity to receive their annual flu shot on this date. Ms. Zuzka will be contacting families directly as we near this date.

The United Way of Door County has again worked to offer services for our students. There is a Teen Empowerment program being offered virtually, with an Art Therapist guiding 5-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in creative art classes. The program is open to all DoCo schools on a first-come, first-serve basis. The registration forms have been emailed home to all families. This is a free program, with several different time slots to choose from. Please get your registration form in soon, if you are interested in this for your child.

This fall marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> year our high school students will compete in the Wisconsin Academic Decathlon program. Head Coach Dalhke, assisted by Assistant Coach Grzelak, will guide these students as they prepare for the first round of competition in seven content areas that all focus on the COLD WAR.

Our K-12th graders will begin their annual progress monitoring sessions the week of Oct. 5-9<sup>th</sup>. This data we glean from these sessions helps the district in regard to best practices in curriculum development and individual student growth and progress. Thank you for encouraging your child to do their best during these ELA and Math testing sessions. Accurate data drives better teaching.

The middle school students are receiving some exciting educational opportunities in science: they are partnering with students from Mexico in a University of Wisconsin-Madison program. Ms. Dahlke secured the grant that allows for our students to participate in the *Journey North Symbolic Monarch Migration program*.

These same students will also participate in a *Junior Phrenology program* funded by the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers (WSST). Students will study cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena in relation to climate, plants and animal life. This grant was also secured by Ms. Dahlke. Both Ms. Dahlke and Ms. Dennis are members of this society, and have been invited to participate as guest speakers and panelists the last two years.

Congratulations to Mr. Jim Rose. He was honored by the Wisconsin Athletic Director's Association for his service to the WISD high school boys and girls basketball programs. He received his plaque at Monday's Board of Education meeting. This program is supported by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association.

There is a new link (mental wellness moment) on the district webpage which is dedicated to interested students and families. One link has activities that can be done each day of the week which prompt mindfulness and mental wellness. The other is a monthly newsletter for DoCo students and families. Please check these out.

Ms. Welke and her high school students, along with the staff have organized a SPIRIT WEEK which will run from October 12-16<sup>th</sup>. More details will be sent out as we near this week of dress up and fun!

Finally, listed below are two sections of new books that might be of interest to your child or family. Reading is a great screen-less activity that not only provides ELA practice, but also relaxation from electronics. Please take a look at the variety.

**Thank you for your partnership and support. We could not do this without you!**

**Take care, and stay well.**

### *Recommended 2019 Young Adult Coming-of-Age Novels*

In this *English Journal* feature, Bryan Gillis (Kennesaw State University) says he read all the young adult books that were featured on "best of" lists last year and chose the six coming-of-age books he believes are must-reads (see the link below for cover images and capsule reviews):

- *Dig* by A.S. King (Penguin Books/Dutton), grade 9 and up
- *Like a Love Story* by Abdi Nazemian (Balzer + Bray), grade 9 and up
- *Lovely War* by Julie Berry (Penguin Random House), grade 8 and up
- *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay (Penguin Random House), grade 7 and up
- *Pet* by Akwaeke Emezi (Make Me a World/Random House), grade 7 and up
- *Shout* by Laurie Halse Anderson (Viking/Penguin Random House), grade 7 and up

[“Honor List of 2019: Prize-Winning YAL: Coming of Age – Past, Present, and Future”](#) by Bryan Gillis in *English Journal*, September 2020 (Vol. 110, #1, pp. 92-99); Gillis can be reached at [bgillis@kennesaw.edu](mailto:bgillis@kennesaw.edu). The link access is for NCTE members.

### **Children’s Books About Voting**

In this *School Library Journal* feature, Cicely Lewis recommends books that can inspire future voters and inform those who are eligible to vote this year:

- *Lillian’s Right to Vote: A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965* by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Shane Evans (Random/Schwartz & Wade, 2015), grades 1-4
- *For Which We Stand: How Our Government Works and Why It Matters* by Jeff Foster, illustrated by Julie McLaughlin (Scholastic, 2020), grades 3-7
- *We the People: The United States Constitution Explored and Explained* by Aura Lewis and Evan Sargent (Quarto/Wide-Eyed Editions, 2020), grades 5-8
- *The Voting Booth* by Brandy Colbert (Hyperion, 2020), grades 7-10
- *Votes of Confidence: A Young Person’s Guide to American Elections* by Jeff Fleisher (Lerner/Zest, 2020), grade 8 and up

[“Get Smart About Voting”](#) by Cicely Lewis in *School Library Journal*, September 2020