

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS**

**March 13, 2017**

### **Middle School Schedule 2017-2018**

The administration in conjunction with the scheduling committee has restructured the Wamogo Middle School Schedule for the year 2017-18. Our goal is to offer a middle school schedule that positions students for academic success while providing the supports and structures that are responsive to the needs of young adolescents. The rationale for the changes can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

### **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Assessments**

Standardized testing for all middle school students will begin in April. Parents will be receiving specific information within the coming weeks.

Wamogo aims to ensure that your child - and all Region 6 students - receive an education that prepares them to thrive in a global economy and civic life. The Connecticut Core Standards set learning expectations for what students should learn and be able to do at each grade level so that by the time they graduate from high school, they are ready to succeed in college and the workplace.

Statewide assessments are like academic checkups. They provide a snapshot of student achievement to teachers and parents providing insight as where students are in their learning compared to where they need to be. The results can reveal subject areas and specific skills where a student is excelling as well as provide information as to how to help each child improve.

Information about this assessment can be found at <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents/>

Wamogo's seventh and eighth grade students will take the **Smarter Balance** Assessments in English language arts and math. The total testing time for most students is approximately 4 hours. Testing sessions will be spread out over the course of several days, allowing teachers to plan for developmentally appropriate testing time frames for students. The testing window begins the week of April 3 and concludes the week of April 17. English Language Arts will be administered the week of April 3 over a two-day period in a 70 minute session each day. During the week of April 17, the Math will be administered over a three-day period in 70 minute sessions each day.

Eighth graders will also take the annual statewide **CMT Science** assessment in one 70 minute test session on Wednesday, March 29. Information about this assessment can be found at

<http://ct.portal.airast.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-CMT-Science-Student-Parent-Brochure-English.pdf>

### **Mrs. C's Crafty Creations Club**

Come join us for an afternoon of fun and creativity. Spend time with friends and meet new people. Club meets Monday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:00 beginning on March 6 in Room 234. Open to all Middle School Students. Activities include, but are not limited to: homemade moon

sand, community service projects, Board Game Day, tie dye t-shirts, bracelet making, painting, Manicure Day, flower pot decorating/planting and more.

### **Course Registration Update**

**Eighth grade students** have completed the course registration process and their courses have been entered into PowerSchool. Parents are encouraged to schedule an appointment with me to meet and review course selections and to discuss any questions relating to the high school transition process. Parents can email Barbara Hart at [bhart@rsd6.org](mailto:bhart@rsd6.org) or call the school counseling office at 860-567-6646 to schedule an appointment. Please feel free to email me with any questions at [aspielman@rsd6.org](mailto:aspielman@rsd6.org).

### **Grade 7 Course Registration Update**

Seventh grade students have completed the course registration process and their courses are in the process of being entered into PowerSchool. Parents are encouraged to schedule an appointment with me to meet and review course selections and to discuss any questions relating to the course selection process. Parents can email Barbara Hart at [bhart@rsd6.org](mailto:bhart@rsd6.org) or call the school counseling office at 860-567-6646 to schedule an appointment.

### **Sixth Grade Visits to Wamogo**

During the month of March, sixth grade students from each elementary school will be visiting Wamogo. Seventh grade students will be paired with a sixth grader and will serve as their mentor for the time they are visiting. James Morris will visit on a date to be determined; Warren School will visit on Monday, March 20; and Goshen Center will visit on Tuesday, March 21.

### **UConn Exploring Expertise**

May 13, 2017 - University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT Exploring Expertise is a conference for students in grades 8 to 12 and their parents. They invite talented, motivated adolescents to spend a day with them, learning about the university and its many offerings. Experts in a wide variety of disciplines will share their specialties and answer questions in panel discussion sessions. Parents can learn about college preparation and talent development opportunities, including the resources that will be available to students in college at UConn and other universities. Registration: February 27- April 28, 2017. Registration costs: \$99 per parent/student pair (includes lunch); \$30 per additional family member (includes lunch). Spaces fill quickly; please register early. To register for this event go to <http://exp2.uconn.edu/>