



WOLF CREEK ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



November 2014



Dates to Remember

Mark it on your calendar!

Second Qtr: Nov 4—Jan 15
No School: Nov 3, Nov 26—Nov 28
No School: Dec 22—Jan 5
Mid Term: Dec 4

School Board Meetings

November 6 @ 4:00
December 9 @ 4:00

Staff Contact Information

Tracy Quarnstrom: 651-213-2017
 Director/ 504 Coordinator/Tuancy Officer
 tqarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org

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 Dean of Students/Testing & Graduation
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 mweinand@wolfcreekhs.org

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year.

It is hard to believe that term 1 is already coming to a close and cold weather will soon be upon us. All of the staff at Wolf Creek are excited to work with your students this year and by working together we will make this a great year. If at any time throughout the year you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. It's always good to hear from our families.

Sincerely,
Tracy Quarnstrom, Director
 651-213-2017 or email me at: tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org

Wolf Creek: A Focus School and Student Success

TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School is dedicated to providing all students with an excellent education so that each child can succeed in school and in life. To ensure your child's success, we have set high standards that are reflected in what is taught in our courses. In the coming school year we will look at multiple assessment measures that indicate how our school is succeeding. This will ensure that we reach our goal of all children succeeding in school and in life. This year Wolf Creek has been designated as a Focus school. The designation is based on student performance data from 2013 and 2014 that placed our school among the ten percent of schools making the largest contribution to the state's achievement gap.

The 2014-2015 school year will be the first year in a three-year process of school improvement. The planning for this process will be aimed at improving the performance of student groups within the school that are currently underperforming and contributing to the state's achievement gap. While many of the improvement activities will be targeted toward students from those groups that are currently underperforming, many changes will take place across the school and will be aimed at improving the academic performance for all students. In order to accomplish this important work, we will put together an improvement team which includes a variety of stakeholders, including parents. You are highly encouraged to be a member of the improvement team; if you are interested contact Tracy Quarnstrom at tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org or 651-213-2017.

Families and communities will be at the center of our school improvement plan. Your engagement and support in your child's education is critical to his or her success. Contact your child's teacher(s) with how you can best support the work they are doing in the classroom. All staff email addresses and the school phone numbers are posted on our school's website. Wolf Creek will also be offering several activities for you to be engaged in your child's education, all activities will be publicized in our weekly communication through the campaign monitor. Please make sure you are reading the campaign monitor each week.

We are looking forward to a great year. Wolf Creek will have its annual meeting to inform parents about our Title I program and revise the parent involvement plan. This meeting is scheduled for December 9th at 3 p.m.

Sincerely,
 Tracy L Quarnstrom, Director



Star-studded Lineup for WeDay MN
Magic Johnson, The Band Perry, Martin Sheen and JR Martinez announced to join 18,000 local youth at We Day Minnesota



Wolf Creek is proud to participate in We Day Minnesota for the second year! WeDay is a celebration at the Xcel Energy Center, empowering a generation of young global citizens through an inspirational event and a year-long educational initiative. Past speakers have included: Demi Lovato, The Jonas Brothers, MN Vikings players, Martin Luther King Jr. III, and Barbara Bush! To attend WeDay, Wolf Creek must commit to participating in one local, and one global, service project. Past service projects include Toys 4 Tots, Pumpkins for Pamily, collecting and sorting Books for Africa, packing food at Feed My Starving Children, penny wars benefiting the Red Cross and Water.org, and more! If you are interested in attending, and organizing these service projects, please contact Becki Olseen on campus or by email: bolseen@wolfcreekhs.org. We are excited to see what our students will plan this year as we carry the message of WeDay throughout the year! For more information on WeDay and Free the Children go to: <http://www.weday.com/we-day-events/>

Wolf Creek Online Opens 8th Grade

Wolf Creek is excited that we were able to add 8th grade to our enrollment choices this fall. The new hybrid 8th grade program is required to meet on campus each Monday and Wednesday with flexible hours other days of the week. We still have spots open in this new innovative middle school program that prepares students for future success in online courses and as independent learners. Please help us spread the word about this unique opportunity!

Wolf Creek's 8th Grade Hybrid Program

The 8th graders enrolled in the new hybrid program took an experiential trip to the Park Square Theater on October 22.

The 8th graders of Wolf Creek's new hybrid program along with a group of high school students joined together for a fun and exciting experience. This was the opening day of the production "The House on Mango Street" and even more exciting it was the first public performance on the new Thrust Stage at the theater.



The students are reading this book for their English course at Wolf Creek and this was a great addition to the unit. After the play, all students had a question and answer session with the cast, director, and costume designer for the production. The new hybrid 8th grade program at Wolf Creek utilizes high quality online curriculum with required days on campus that include great experiences like this trip to the theater.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Do you receive our TWC Newsletters? If not, please visit our website and join our mailing list today! Start getting updates on all the happenings at Wolf Creek Online High School.

Join Our Mailing List

Name:

Email:

Weekly TWC Updates... You can unsubscribe at any time

To register go to www.triowolfcreek.com

World's Best Work Force Plan for Wolf Creek is available on our Website

Find the required World's Best Workforce Plan or WBWF plan on our website under student information.

Based in legislation in the spring of 2013 this plan documents how Wolf Creek students will be prepared for life beyond high school.

If you have input for the WBWF plan, please contact Sean Miller at smiller@wolfcreekhs.org.

Mission Statement: To provide students with a personalized and flexible online education that will prepare them for future success.



WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

For Attendance: 651-213-2095

Testing Coordinator:

Brenda Swanson@651-213-2037

Transcripts and credits:

Brenda @651-213-2037

Truancy Coordinator, 504 Coordinator and Homeless Liaison/Coordinator: Call Tracy Quarnstrom at 651-213-2017

Wolf Creek School Board Open Position



This could be what you've been waiting for. Wolf Creek currently has an open position for a community-at-large person to join the board. If you are interested in this position, and are not a parent of a student attending Wolf Creek, you could be eligible to fill this position. The school board meets once per month on a Tuesday at 4 p.m. Attendance at meetings and reading of the board information prior to the meeting is required of this position. A small monthly stipend is available for this position. If interested, contact Tracy Quarnstrom at tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org or by calling Tracy at 651-213-2017.



Wolf Creek Parent Advisory seeks Parent Involvement

The school board has created a parent advisory to work with the charter school director, Tracy Quarnstrom and investigate parent needs and concerns around partnering with school officials for student success. If you are interested in being a part of the parent advisory please contact Tracy Quarnstrom at tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org.

Meet the New Staff



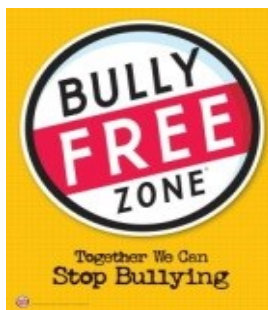
Shelli Matheson enjoys cuddle time with her granddaughter, reading and sewing. Her favorite book is *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card and her favorite TV show is *Criminal Minds*. Shelli is a Learning Manager for 8th grade.

Safe and Supportive School Act

Wolf Creek staff have been trained on the new elements of the safe and supportive school act and are working diligently to make sure that all Wolf Creek students feel safe on campus and via electronic means. If you see issues with bullying or other safety concerns at Wolf Creek please report them to any member of the DART—Disaster Assistance Response Team. Also available for review is our new bullying policy and that can be viewed on our website under school board policies.

DART Team members include Tracy Quarnstrom, Brenda Swanson, Sean Miller and Sheryl Palmquist.

If you have questions, please contact the director, Tracy Quarnstrom at 651-213-2017 or email Tracy at tquarnstrom@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us

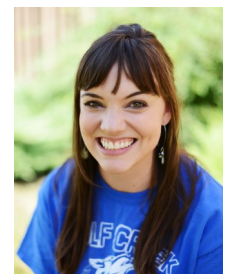


Hannah Swenson enjoys spending her time outdoors, playing softball or with family. Her favorite TV shows are *Parenthood* and *Law and Order SVU*. Hannah is a Special Education Learning Manager.



Julie Trombley enjoys family time, camping, reading and riding her motorcycle. Her favorite books are suspense/drama and her favorite TV Show is *Shark Tank*. Julie is an administrative assistant.

Molly Weinand likes to spend her time walking her dog, watching hockey and her favorite author is Jane Eyre. She also likes to watch *Friends* and *Say Yes to the Dress*. Molly is a Language Arts Learning Manager.



New Graduation Accountability Tests....Mark these dates!

There have been many changes this school year regarding Minnesota's graduation accountability program. This includes adding new graduation required exams. Starting this school year all 8th grade students are required to take the EXPLORE test, all 10th grade students are required to the PLAN test, and all 11th grade students are required to the ACT plus Writing test. All tests are given at our school at no cost to the student.

These tests include an interest inventory and four testing portions in the areas of English, Math, Reading and Science. The results provide information of college readiness, college planning, careers options, and the potential need for remediation. Visit www.act.org for more info.

Please mark your calendar now for these test dates:

Grade 8: EXPLORE test 8AM on November 10 (make-up November 12)

Grade 10: PLAN test 9AM on November 11 (make-up November 13 & November 18)

Grade 11: ACT+ Writing test 8AM on April 28 (make-up May 12)

Students are still required to take the MCA's in March and April. Students not passing the MCA also qualify for the GRAD retest offered every other month. Please watch for more details. Feel free to contact me regarding specific testing questions.

Brenda Swanson, Dean of Students & Testing Coordinator
651-213-2037 or bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org



Lunchtime at Wolf Creek

There are several different ways students can obtain lunch, at Wolf Creek. First, is a service that we purchase through Chisago Lakes School District and lunches are catered in on days that the Wolf Creek Campus is open to students. **Student lunch cost \$2.25; and no charge for students meeting the criteria for lunch benefits.**

Students who wish to have School Lunch must order by 9:30 a.m. for lunches to be catered in. If you would like to receive the lunch menu or order lunch please contact Sheryl at 651-213-2095.

As a public school student you are entitled to complete the Educational Benefits form to see if you qualify for free lunches. This form is kept confidential. If a family should qualify for benefits a letter will be mailed from Chisago Lakes School Food Service Department notifying you.

All Wolf Creek students have an account for the purpose of ordering lunches set up when they enroll with us. You can send cash or checks with your student to Wolf Creek to pay for lunches or you can prepay for school meals at www.paypams.com for questions or concerns regarding PayPAMS call: 651-213-2506 or 651-213-2025.

Students can also bring in a bag lunch from home or a frozen meal. We have a student kitchen area on campus. Students can use the refrigerator, microwaves or the convection oven. There is also a vending and soda machine on campus for students to be able to purchase snack items. Note: that students will **need cash** to do this that monies from their school lunch account **cannot be** used to purchase vending items.

Lastly students can also choose to leave campus for a 30 minute lunch break between the times of 11:30 and 1:00. Students are only allowed to leave if they have the open lunch form signed by a parent or guardian along with their student handbook form signed. If students are abusing this privilege it can be taken away.

Please direct questions to Tracy Quarnstrom, Director
651-213-2017 or tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org

