



# Wolf Creek Online High School Newsletter

10363 Liberty Lane, Chisago City  
Phone: 651-213-2095 FAX: 651-257-0576

We are halfway through the school year and things have been busy at Wolf Creek. We have had an incredible year so far, with many activities on campus and more exciting things planned by the Wolf Creek council this year. We have seen more students graduate this year than in previous years at the end of Terms 1 and 2 and we are very proud of all the elements in place at Wolf Creek that made this happen.

Another change this year is that our enrollment numbers have been very high since August. This means that it is more important than ever to secure your enrollment spot at Wolf Creek by attending school on a regular basis. If a student is 15-day dropped for not completing work it can be very difficult to return to school when we are closed for enrollment purposes. And, because word of mouth advertising is our most effective form of communication with perspective students and families, we are asking all Wolf Creek families to spread the word that we highly suggest interested families apply on our website one quarter prior, or about two months, prior to the term in which they wish to enroll with us.

We want to serve the needs of all students, however, we know that we must keep our numbers at a certain point to allow Learning Managers to be effective, to keep class sizes low, and create an incredible experience for all students who enter our doors.

We do believe that the acceptance of online learning and the reputation of Wolf Creek as a premiere online school are contributing to our enrollment numbers and high interest by many families. We thank all of you for being a part of this trend and we are committing ourselves to keeping our small school and personal elements in place as well.

If you have thoughts or concerns on any items you read in this newsletter please contact me for further discussions at [tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org) or by calling 651-213-2017.

Sincerely,

*Tracy Quarnstrom,*

Director



## Mental Health Services

School-based mental health services are available at Wolf Creek. Wolf Creek collaborates with mental health agencies that provide these services in the school setting. Tasha Barnes is with Family Based Therapy and Ashley Krantz is with Therapeutic Services Association. Both therapists are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays on campus at differing times or by appointment.

If you would like to meet with a mental health professional, or would like more information on either therapist and/or services, please call Wolf Creek at 651-213-2095 to schedule an appointment with either Tasha or Ashley. Wolf Creek continues to meet the needs of our students to help them all be successful students.

### Dates to Remember

|            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| Qtr 3:     | Jan. 26 - Mar. 31              |
| 2/15:      | President's Day-no school      |
| 2/23:      | College Fair 10:30-12:00       |
| 2/26:      | Midterm                        |
| 3/10:      | Jobs & Employment Presentation |
| 3/17:      | Late Lab                       |
| 3/17:      | St. Patrick's Day              |
| 3/21-3/25: | Spring Break                   |
| 3/25:      | Good Friday                    |
| 3/31:      | End of Quarter 3               |

### School Board Meetings

February 9 @ 4:00

March 8 @ 4:00

### Staff Contact Information

#### Tracy Quarnstrom

651-213-2017

Director/ 504 Coordinator/Truancy Officer  
[tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Brenda Swanson

651-213-2037

Dean of Students/Testing & Graduation  
[bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Martha Airhart

651-213-2054

[mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Hanna Coleman

651-213-2034

[hcoleman@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:hcoleman@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Sandra Flint

651-213-2067

[sflint@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:sflint@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Lindsay Jarombek

651-213-2052

[ljarombek@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:ljarombek@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Shelli Matheson

651-213-2055

[smatheson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:smatheson@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Sean Miller

651-213-2032

[smiller@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:smiller@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Becki Olseen

651-213-2033

[bolseen@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:bolseen@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Meagan Rathbun

615-213-2046

[mrathbun@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:mrathbun@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Hannah Swenson

651-213-22024

[hswenson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:hswenson@wolfcreekhs.org)

#### Molly Weinand

651-213-2035

[mweinand@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:mweinand@wolfcreekhs.org)

**MAA..... Math Assistance Available**

Meet with Shelli Matheson for assistance with math. Shelli is on campus Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30-2:00. If you are not on campus, you can still take advantage of this opportunity by scheduling a Google Hangout or time to meet that works best for you. Contact Shelli at 651-213-2055 or smatheson@wolfcreekhs.org.

**PAC - Parent Advisory Council**

Wolf Creek is currently organizing a parent advisory council and seeking members who wish to contribute via meetings and electronic means. If are interested in serving on a committee to discuss items of interest to parents at Wolf Creek please contact Julie Trombley at jtrombley@wolfcreekhs.org.

**Strategic Planning**

Wolf Creek will be engaging in a strategic planning process this spring. If you would be interested in serving on a committee to discuss the future of Wolf Creek please contact Julie Trombley at jtrombley@wolfcreekhs.org.



**Tidbits**

**Spring Sports:**

Students who reside in the Chisago Lakes School District are eligible to play sports at CLHS. For more info, contact Sean Miller at smiller@triowolfcreekhs.org. Don't wait as the deadline is approaching.

**Wolf Creek Election—Ballots Available:**

Ballots for voting in the election are available on Conference Night, January 28, or call 651-213-2095 and request a ballot be mailed to your home address. The election will be finalized at the WC Annual Meeting on Feb. 16 at 4 pm.

**Hot Lunch Menu:**

You will find the menu on the WC website. Click on Current Students then Student Information. Click on TRIO Wolf Creek on the green banner.

*“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.”*

**GPS LifePlan**

**What** is GPS? Well, for most it means Global Positioning System and it helps you find your way when driving somewhere you don't know how to get to.

**Well**, now there's a website that can help you find your way when researching what career or college you want. [www.gpslifeplan.org](http://www.gpslifeplan.org)

This GPS stands for:

**Goals + Plans = Success**

Whether it's how to find a career, determine what education is needed, help to pay for it and personal tips to achieve it... this site has it all.

This site will also save any info you want by creating a portfolio to store it in. Get started now. You'll be glad you did.



**Campus Tours**

Wolf Creek offers monthly campus tours. If you are interested in visiting Wolf Creek you can choose one of the following scheduled dates or call 651-213-2095 to schedule a visit. All scheduled monthly tours are held on Tuesdays and begin at 5:00 p.m.

**February 9, March 8, April 12 and May 19**

**WC Council Fleece Blanket Donation**

Wolf Creek students raised funds to purchase fleece and materials needed to make beautiful fleece blankets to donate to Fostering Families Inc., a local non-profit organization, that strives to provide the most basic needs to foster children in Chisago County. For more info go to: [fosteringfamiliesmn.com](http://fosteringfamiliesmn.com)

Members of the Wolf Creek Council, a student group that plans student activities and several service projects throughout the school year, completed the blankets during their lunch hour while on campus.

Students interested in being a part of the Wolf Creek Council should contact Martha Airhart at mairhart@wolfcreekhs.org or by calling 651-213-2095.



## Science Museum Field Trip



All Wolf Creek students are invited to attend a trip to the Science Museum on Thursday, February 18. Students will experience the many wonderful exhibits including “Race, Are We So Different?” and see the film “Humpback Whales”. Permission slips are required and available at the front desk. Permission slips are due on Feb. 4. This trip is subject to cancellation. Please call 651-213-2095 for more information.

### Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship

The MN Assoc. of Townships Scholarship Program is awarding \$1,000 scholarships to up to six juniors currently attending a MN public, private, or parochial high school or a home study program who plan to further their education at college, university or vocational school.

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it prior to May 1 along with a written essay discussing this year’s topic: **Rural Broadband-Essential for America’s Future**. Describe ways in which broadband internet access improves the lives of rural residents. What challenges exist in providing broadband internet in rural areas? And what policies should governments at all levels, (federal, state, and local) adopt to ensure that regardless of geographic location all Americans have equal access to broadband internet? Essays must be between 450-500 words and must be typed with double spacing.

Please visit the college and career room on Wolf Creek campus to receive application form and more helpful information on this scholarship opportunity. Or login to [www.mntownships.org](http://www.mntownships.org) for samples of previous winning essays. Good luck!



### Online Colleges in Minnesota—Colleges by Location

This site provides resources that will help you evaluate Minnesota’s online colleges. There are facts on funding and enrollment trends as well as ranking of the best online colleges in Minnesota.

These fully accredited schools each offer multiple degrees across disciplines, entirely online. You can find state-specific scholarship information as well—keep in mind that most funding opportunities are open to both online and on-campus students.

Also provided is a list of trusted sites designed to help you with your higher education research. Then, when you’re knowledgeable about the colleges, this site provides a database of online colleges across the country. Check it out at [www.onlinecolleges.net/minnesota/](http://www.onlinecolleges.net/minnesota/).

### Social Media Policy #450

It is important to understand that if a student accepts a Wolf Creek staff member as a friend on a “social” websites and allows them to view the staff member’s page that the staff member is still a mandatory reporter. This means that all materials viewed on a student’s social page that refer to drugs, alcohol, or sexual activity will be reported to parents and also to the authorities if necessary. In addition any information that is viewed by Wolf Creek staff as being harmful to the student or others will be reported. To view the full policy, please refer to our website under school board and legally required policies.

We encourage all families to review your social media expectations with your child to ensure that they are safe online at all times.



## WC College Fair

**SAVE THIS DATE:** 

**Tues., Feb. 23  
10:30—12:00**

Several colleges will have representatives on campus. They will assist students with information on programs offered, how to apply, financial aid and answer any questions you may have.



### Colleges Attending:

Anoka Ramsey CC  
Art Institute (tentative)  
Century College (tentative)  
Institute of Production & Recording  
Military / Nat’l Guard  
MN School of Cosmetology  
Pine Technical CC

\*Students should plan to bring a pen and, to save time, bring index cards with your name, address and email address printed on it that you can leave with each school of interest.

## Parents: Help your Student get Better Grades for Life

Helpful tips for parents to help their child succeed:

- Make sure that school comes first with your child
- Listen when your child talks about the school day
- Meet your child's friends and watch them as carefully as you do your own children.
- Visit the school often, and if you think there's a problem at school, talk to the teachers and principal immediately.

### Math Assistance in Lab Available

Shelli Matheson is on campus to help students with any math homework or concerns on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30-2:00 p.m. If students don't attend labs, they can contact Shelli to meet via Google hangouts anytime that works for the student's schedule. Virtual tutoring from FEV tutor in math and other courses is also available free of charge by contacting Shelli Matheson at [smatheson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:smatheson@wolfcreekhs.org) or by calling 651-213-2055.

## New Crisis Resource Website Launched

The Minnesota Department of Human Services has announced the launch of a **new version** of the MinnesotaHelp.info website, which features a new Crisis Link page to connect people with resources for a variety of immediate crisis needs, including mental health problems, substance abuse problems, emergency housing needs, fear of being harmed, or health care, food, job, or transportation for organizations that serve their specific needs and domestic violence. In addition, the website has an online chat service available from 8 am to 4:30 pm on weekdays.

[www.MinnesotaHelp.info](http://www.MinnesotaHelp.info)



**BELIEVE IN  
YOURSELF**

## Graduation Accountability Tests and College & Career Readiness

Spring is a very important time in regards to state graduation tests. This year students are required to take the following tests:

- Grade 10 – MCA Reading
- Grade 11 – MCA Math, ACT + Writing
- High School – MCA Science (after passing 1.0 Biology credit at WC)

### Please mark your calendar now for these test dates:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| April 5 and April 7:   | Grade 11 MCA Math & Grade 10 MCA Reading              |
| April 12 and April 14: | Grade 11 MCA Math & Grade 10 MCA Reading              |
| April 19:              | Grade 11 – ACT + Writing (College Entrance Exam)      |
| April 26 and April 28: | Grade 11 MCA Math & Grade 10 MCA Reading Make-up date |
| April 26 and April 28: | Science MCA   |
| May 3:                 | Grade 11– ACT +Writing Make-up date                   |

Students are required by state guidelines to take the MCA's. Please watch for more details. If you have any questions, contact the Dean of Students, Brenda Swanson at [651-213-2037](tel:651-213-2037) or [bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org).

## Graduation 2016

The 2016 Wolf Creek commencement will be held on Fri., June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Performing Act Center at CLHS. TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School diplomas will be granted when the student meets all graduation requirements and/or obligations. Per policy #613, to graduate and receive a diploma, a student must:

1. Pass the MCA/GRAD tests in reading, math, and written composition, per state requirements or higher guidelines or show proof of equivalency exams \*listed below.
2. Complete a minimum of 26 courses credit requirements in specified classes, as established by the school board.
3. Return all materials and pay all fines, charges, etc.

\*Seniors who have not passed the MCA tests have these options to meet graduation requirements via Equivalency exam. Wolf Creek must receive official documentation that the test was taken by the student to earn a "Met by Alternate Pathway/Pass." There are not cut scores on any of these tests to meet graduation requirements.

ASVAB (Military Entrance Exam) can be taken by contacting a military recruiting office.

ACCUPLACER (Community College Entrance Exam) can be taken by contacting a college admission office.

ACT (College Entrance Exam) The writing portion is required if the GRAD written Comp has not been passed.

Only students that have earned at least 21.0 credits by the end of term 3 will be listed in the commencement documents. For students to participate in the commencement ceremony, they must complete at least 25 credits by the May 26 senior deadline. Seniors will be mailed their graduation plan in February; please review it. If you have questions, contact Brenda Swanson, Dean of Students at 651-213-2037 or [bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org).