



# Wolf Creek Online High School Newsletter



From the Director:

Greetings from all of us at Wolf Creek. The school year is once again moving ahead quickly and I can hardly believe it is Term 4 already.

Term 4 brings lots of activity for any public school, and Wolf Creek is no exception. During this busy time of the year we encourage all families to read the newsletter and also subscribe to the Campaign Monitor each week to get the most up to date information from us.

April will be testing season and we need the support of all families to get students to Wolf Creek on required testing days, on time and ready to test. April will also bring this year a Wolf Creek strategic planning process. This is a process we have not participated in for several years but one where we ask parents, students, and staff members to contribute insight in to what the future of Wolf Creek will look like. There will be opportunities via electronic surveys and in-person meetings to share your thoughts, so I hope many of you are able to participate in this important project that will shape Wolf Creek's future.

Finally, we know that Term 4 also brings our graduation ceremony to be held on Friday, June 10th. We want to ask families to again encourage students who need that extra nudge to get through courses and notify the student's Learning Manager if extra assistance is needed to make graduation a reality.

I welcome any comments or questions you may have so please feel free to contact me by calling 651-213-2017 or email at [tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org).

Sincerely,  
*Tracy Quarnstrom,*  
 Director



### Dates to Remember

- Term 4: April 5 - June 7
- April 21: Campus closed/Staff Dev.
- April 30: Prom
- May 6: Term 4 Midterm
- May 18: Annual School Picnic
- May 19: Late Lab
- May 30: Campus Closed/Holiday
- June 7: End of Quarter 4
- June 10: Graduation

### School Board Meetings

- April 12 @ 4:00
- May 10 @ 4:00

### Staff Contact Information

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## Wolf Creek Spring Picnic on May 19



Wolf Creek will host its annual Spring Picnic for students and faculty on May 19. This is a time for students to enjoy a good meal, get outside, play yard games, and mingle and spend time together. The spring picnic is a favorite tradition of the school and one of the final events that marks the end of the school year. A great time to celebrate student success and friendships.

# Testing Information

## MCA Testing for all 10th and 11th Graders

MCA tests are state mandated tests in Reading (grade 10) and Math (grade 11).

1. These tests help measure student progress toward MN's academic standards and meet the requirements of 'No Child Left Behind' now called ESEA for Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
2. Reading MCA test - 10th grade: choose one day to attend and plan for at least 2 hours of testing.  
**Tuesday, April 5 @ 12:00-2:00 pm OR Thursday, April 7 @ 12:00-2:00 pm**  
\*Make up sessions for this test will be on Tuesday, April 12 at noon.
3. Math MCA test—11th grade: choose one day to attend and plan for at least 2.5 hours of testing.  
**(Students will need a calculator and headphones)**  
**Tuesday, April 5 @ 9:00-11:30 am OR Thursday, April 7 @ 9:00-11:30 am**  
\*Make up sessions for this test will be on Tues., April 12 or Thurs., April 14 at 9 a.m.

If you need to attend on a make-up date, please contact Brenda. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Swanson, Dean of Students, at 651-213-2037 or bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org.

**Attendance is critical.** These tests are lengthy and every effort will be made to makeup a test if the student is absent. Student academic scores and participation scores are ranked for each school. Students assigned to test will be notified via mail and email. If your student is not able to attend testing dates Wolf Creek must receive written notification indicating parent refusal for your student to take the MCA test prior to test dates!

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## ACT + Writing for all 11th Graders

Students in grade 11 have the opportunity to take the ACT plus writing for FREE at Wolf Creek campus on April 19, 2016. Students must complete the non-test portions prior to test day.

### **ACT + Writing (students WILL need a calculator and picture ID)**

The ACT plus writing exam will be offered the following days, choose one day to attend, plan for at least 4 hours of testing. \* Due to limited seating ONLY 30 students will be allowed to test on each day. Please contact Brenda Swanson @ bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org to secure a seat for one of these test dates.

**Tuesday, April 19 @ 8 am-1 pm OR Tuesday, May 2 @ 8 am-1 pm**

The ACT+ writing test is optional this year. The test is free and registration will be taken care of by Wolf Creek and MDE. Students can take the test as many times as they want to (at their expense), but the test administered at the school on April 19 and May 3.

\* Take advantage of the practice material available at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

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## Tidbits

**MCIS:** To learn your personal strengths and skills to match them to a career, check out this website: <https://mncis.intocareers.org> To access the site, the username is: wcreek and the password is: success. Once logged in, explore planning, skills assessments, jobs, higher education and employment. Create a portfolio to store all the information you are interested in and refer to it as you plan your future. This program has it all.. Check it out.

**Career Exploration:** For information on careers and general information about wages, employment trends, fastest-growing jobs in your state, videos and more go to the Bureau of Labor Statistics at [www.bls.gov/ooh/](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/). Four of the 'Most new Jobs' include nurses, nurse assistants, home health aides and personal care aides. Starting wages are approximately \$25,000 with the market expanding "much faster than average" indicating room for growth. Explore and go for it!



## Science Museum Field Trip

A group of Wolf Creek students traveled to the MN Science Museum and attended the Omni Theater presentation on Humpback Whales. Students learned the history of commercial whale hunting and how close we came to making the Humpback Whales extinct. Students and staff also attended a stage presentation that introduced the exhibit "Race: Are We So Different?" Students learned about race throughout history and discovered reasons we should celebrate our shared histories.

## Penny Wars

Students from the Wolf Creek Council recently sponsored a Penny Wars fundraiser on campus. Each year students raise funds for a worthy cause and this year all proceeds will go to the Northwood's Humane Society. Besides raising over \$80 in donations, items for care such as food and supplies were also donated.

If you would like to donate to the Humane Society, please visit their website at: [www.northwoodshs.org/wish-list/](http://www.northwoodshs.org/wish-list/) They need items such as items like trash bags, litter, food, postage stamps and paper towels. They can be contacted at 651-982-0240.



### Why You Get Higher Ed:

You earn your high school diploma online, why not a college degree? Take a look at these sites:

**Degree.net**—take an in depth look at the state of the economy and how online education is helping many earn a good salary while working in a career they enjoy.

**Petersons.com/distance/learning**—Search for your program of interest from among 1,100 included on this site by school name, or by a keyword.



### Quick Facts:

**In 2015**, workers with a bachelor's degree had almost twice the earnings per week than workers with a high school diploma.

**In 2011**, 9.5% of those unemployed were those who had just a high school diploma. Those with a 2-yr degree, also called an "associates" degree earned an average of \$768/week. That's roughly \$37,000 a year right out of college. Not bad. Here's how budgeting might look: becoming independent is \$600/mo. rent, utilities about \$50/mo., food is about \$200/mo. and monthly payout for that new chick/dude is \$250 totaling roughly \$12,600/year. Leaves a lot left for YOU! Check it out.

## ~ Don't Miss the 2016 Prom ~



Prom 2016 will be held Saturday, April 30 at the Aria Event Center in Minneapolis. Tickets to attend the 2016 prom will go on sale **at Wolf Creek on Monday, March 31 through Thursday, April 19.** Ticket prices are \$50 each. Tickets will need to be picked up at Wolf Creek by Thursday, April 30.

All students attending prom will need to follow the Wolf

Creek policy which is different than Chisago Lakes High School. For Wolf Creek students, you must be demonstrating adequate academic progress in order to participate in prom activities. Academic progress will be reported by the Learning Managers to Wolf Creek administration. The report will be completed prior to administration approving the participation agreement for any student's prom attendance. If you have questions about your academic progress please see your Learning Manager, or the Director, Tracy Quarnstrom.

## Welcome Back Bob Downs!

Bob Downs, Mental Health & Family Counselor will be returning to WC. He will be returning and meet with any students interested during Term 4. Bob will be on campus Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. If additional time is needed to seek Bob's assistance then hours may be adjusted as needed.





# Graduation 2016

The 2016 Wolf Creek Commencement ceremony will be held on **Friday, June 10** at **6:30 PM** at **Chisago Lakes Performing Art Center (PAC)**



## Graduation Requirements

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. Complete a minimum of 26 course credit requirements in specified classes, as established by the school board; see list below.
2. 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**.\*
3. Return all materials and pay all fines, charges, etc.

Only students that have earned at least 21.0 credits by the end of term 3 will 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 were mailed their graduation plan; please review it. Any question about graduation requirements should be addressed with Learning Managers or Brenda Swanson, Dean of Students, at 651-213-2037 or bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org.

**\*Students have the option to provide proof that they took any of the tests below to earn a “Met by Alternate Pathway/Pass.”** There are not cut scores on any of these tests to meet graduation requirements. Wolf Creek must receive official documentation that the test was taken by the student.

- A. ASVAB (Military Entrance Exam) can be taken by contacting a military Recruiting office
- B. ACCUPLACER (Community College Entrance Exam) can be taken by contacting a college admission office.
- C. The ACT (College/University Entrance Exam) The writing portion is required if the GRAD Written Composition has not been passed.

Tip: Write test dates in your calendar



## College Fair

TRIO Wolf Creek held a College Fair on campus with many students and families attending to take advantage of this opportunity. There were representatives from many local colleges on campus to answer questions and provide information. This is an annual event, free to the public and a great way for students to explore both colleges and career fields all while conveniently located on Wolf Creek’s campus. A special thank you to families and students for participating in this annual event.



### Wolf Creek Graduation credit requirements:

- 4.0 credits Social Studies
- 4.0 credits English
- 3.0 credits Mathematics
- 3.0 credits Science
- 1.0 credit Physical Ed.
- 1.0 credit Art
- .5 credit Careers
- 1.0 credit Health
- .25 credit OTIS
- 8.25 credits Electives