



Will Carleton Academy

2001 W. Hallett Rd, Hillsdale, MI 49242 • 517-437-2000 • WillCarletonAcademy.com • Tuition-Free K-12

January 16, 2023

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

I hope each of you caught some sunshine on your face this weekend! The days were beautiful! It amazes me how weekend chores can become more thorough when that sun is peeking through!

High school exam week went well. It seems that the students were prepared, and if they weren't, the week was a good opportunity for the students to experience what it takes to have a successful week. They will have another chance in the spring! Today brings the start of the third quarter for them which hopefully feels like a new light!

We will host the 2nd quarter Honor Roll Ceremony this week on Wednesday the 18th right after Opening Ceremony. Please feel welcome to join us to celebrate the academic accomplishments of so many students. We hope to see you there!

As we march into the third quarter, the substitute teacher situation on campus has not improved. While we do have a few "regulars", WCA is in dire need of subs to support our students in the event that a teacher or staff member must be absent. The requirements were adjusted last academic year as the state sees the need for subs, so it might be within your credentials to support this need. If you have an interest in this or simply have a few questions, please connect with Mrs. Stewart (carla.stewart@wcak12.org) as she is WCA's sub caller and does a beautiful job working with subs and staff to make the perfect plan when needed.

The Parent Forum is meeting this week on Friday right after Opening Ceremony for their monthly meeting. Please plan to join them! The agenda is included in your mailer. This is a lovely group of folks who love WCA! Come join them! They'll save you a seat!

Speaking of the Parent Forum, the student directory which is created by the Parent Forum is available upon request in the office. If you would like a directory, please call the office and one will be sent home with your child.

The high school faculty and I would like to invite interested parents, specifically 8th grade parents, to a Will Carleton Academy High School Information Night. The evening will hopefully provide all sorts of information regarding the high school program. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, February 1st at 7:00 pm and we will gather in the gym. The faculty met with all of the 8th grade students last week on Friday and presented the same information and the energy in the room was amazing! The high school faculty is a stellar group of educators who are so passionate about their craft; I was thrilled to listen as they talked about their classes and what it means to be a WCAHS student. I was so proud! I hope you save the date!

Thank you so much for the information that you shared on the recent parent survey that came home. Upon their return to the office, the surveys were full of information that will help direct communication and discussion at the administrative level. Thank you for that direction! I plan to use comments from those surveys to formulate a "Did you know..." section of my Monday Mailer letters each week. This week will focus on the "Did you know...?" that Will Carleton Academy is a public, charter school? In its

25th year, WCA is still often considered a private school, as indicated by the most recent accolade from the Hillsdale Daily News' Community Choice Awards, as Will Carleton Academy was awarded the distinction of *Best School-Private* as voted by the paper's readers. While the opportunity for pride abounds, more importantly is the opportunity to clarify this misunderstanding! As a public charter school, WCA receives a per pupil allotment from the Michigan Department of Education, as do traditional public schools, for operating expenses. We therefore do not charge tuition. Other requirements are also placed upon our public charter school providing layers of oversight to be sure that we are meeting the needs of our students and their families. WCA is proud to work in partnership with families who provide transportation, lunches, uniforms and daily support to children for the well-being of each enrolled student. Parents exercise their right to choose Will Carleton Academy as the free, public educational setting for their children. Please help me to continue to educate our community about this misunderstanding. WCA is a wonderful place to grow and learn for all children!

I hope each of you has a good week. Thank you for partnering with us on campus to provide a wonderful experience for all of our students. Please know that we all work tirelessly to be sure that each child is cared for and that each decision that we make reflects thought and consideration for all involved.

Be well,


Colleen A. Vogt