



Will Carleton Academy

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

August 22, 2023

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

My heart is so full! This 26th year will be wonderful! The day started with a wonderful Opening Ceremony with students, faculty and parents all present for this important day. And, I just spent the morning walking through classrooms and I am so excited to see smiling faces and hear lots of giggles as we settle in to the new year. We are thrilled to be on campus and are poised and ready for a brilliant academic year!

It was so good to see so many of you last Thursday at the Ice Cream Social! I know that darkness shewed the last of us home after a lovely evening reconnecting. Thank you to the Parent Forum for hosting this event! Thank you to the faculty and staff for preparing campus in such a way that made everyone feel at home and proud to be a member of this school community.

I am thrilled to welcome so many new faces to WCA. I will include a full faculty list in next week's mailer so that all can be officially introduced. Honestly, the dust is still settling around some of the new folks and giving them this week to settle in is a gift that we can afford. I truly feel blessed to be surrounded by staff members who are committed to the students and who bring such talents and gifts to campus.

Welcome to your first Monday Mailer which is our vehicle for communication between home and office, and home and classroom. Each week your mailer will have a correspondence from me and any other important notes from the office as well as most graded work from your child from the previous week. This is a great way to stay in touch with families and you always know when to expect any news from us; it seems to work well! Please take a look at all that is included, sign the outer envelope and send it back to school with your child. Each week we will reload and send it home again! It is that easy!

Included in your mailer is a pink colored form to be completed providing the necessary information for us to create the student directory. Please fill out this form and return it to the office as soon as possible.

The forms for all of our student information that needs to be collected were included in your August Mailer. Those forms were lavender, yellow and light blue and need to be returned as soon as possible to the office. Please let us know if you need another copy of those forms and Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Miller will send those home as soon as we know.

Also in your mailer, please find a form needed in the event virtual or remote learning needs to happen (not that I am planning on this at all!). The department of education and pupil accounting office has determined that a parent signature is necessary to approve such a swing if required. Will Carleton Academy is not offering remote learning as a mode of instruction, but again, in the event of such a circumstance, we will be prepared! I appreciate you being proactive with me!

The first Cougar News of the year is included in your mailer, too. Check out the happenings of our athletics thus far this fall. Thank you to the fall coaches and Mr. Westblade for being available to our student athletes even before the start of school! It was a ray of sunshine in many students' lives to simply be on campus!

Lunch went well today and conversations were filled with stories of summer. Please be sure to include a spoon or a fork and a napkin with your child's lunch if necessary. Milk will be available for purchase again this year for 50 cents (...that's 10 cents less than last year!). Please send in milk money with your child for the week, month, semester, year...whatever works for your family. If your family has already qualified for free milk this year, you will find those letters in your Monday Mailer today. If you didn't get a letter about qualifying for free or reduced milk and think your family would qualify, please contact Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Miller and a form will be sent to you. Water bottles are also necessary this year. Please be sure to send a water bottle to campus each day with your child. Our touchless water bottle fillers are ready to go in three places on campus but all drinking fountains remain closed.

School Closet boxes are flooding the office these days! Please know that the office will contact you when an order is received. We will make those calls the same day to give you ample time to pick your items up. If you are checking the status of your order, we'd like to suggest that you call School Closet (614.476.4104) directly as they will know first-hand the status of each order.

Please like WCA on Facebook to be sure to catch glimpses of our days here on campus. The energy is terrific and we'd love to share with you all the wonderful things that happen each day in our classrooms. Most classrooms are full with 24 students, but we do have some openings in certain grades. If you know a family who would like to join our student body, please encourage them to call to be a member of our school family!

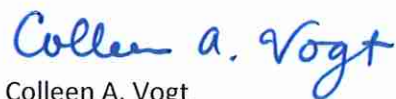
Please be patient through dismissal this week as we work through this tried and true process. Look to the faculty and staff members who are poised and ready to direct you; there is a method to their madness and we simply ask for kindness and respect as they safely direct you. All students will load from the loading sidewalk and will be loaded into the vehicle from the passenger side. Please look for direction if unsure of how to proceed. We are here to help!

This next tidbit of news can be sensitive, so here goes! I have learned this weekend of some WCA students who attended a local camp this summer who were perhaps exposed to headlice. I want to be sure if your child has been exposed, that you are aware and can take the necessary steps to mitigate the situation. This happens to the best of us, so please feel free to connect with us to support you!

As always, if you have a question or need assistance with anything, the office is here for you! Give us a call and let us support you! We love to make connections with all WCA families and we will do our best for you each day!

Have a great first week! Stop by Opening Ceremony if you can; we'd love to start our day with you!

Be well,



Colleen A. Vogt