



Will Carleton Academy

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

September 18, 2023

Dear Will Carleton Academy Families,

This week brings our second full week of classes. It is so good for us all to gradually work our way into the swing of things. Next week is a short week with no classes on Monday, September 25th. After dismissal on Friday, September 22nd, classes will resume on Tuesday, September 26th at 8:10 am with Opening Ceremony giving all WCA families a long weekend.

The Parent Forum is thrilled to invite all parents to the first forum of this academic year. The group will meet on Friday, September 22nd right after Opening Ceremony on campus. The agenda includes a New Parent Welcome as well as many other items of business. The by-laws for the Parent Forum are included in your mailer today. Take a look to get a better understanding of how the forum operates. All parents are welcome to the forum as simply by being a parent of a WCA student, you are a member of this incredible group! I hope to see you there!

The Parent Forum is also excited to invite you all to walk in the Fair Parade on Monday, September 25th. The parade is at 10:00 am and WCA's group should meet shortly before in the mid-town lot. Wear your best green and gold and show your school pride by walking with our school family. Hope to see you there!

Also, from the Parent Forum, don't forget about the Reverse Raffle! Tickets are available by calling the office today! The Parent Forum is excited to be planning this event which is the one and only large fundraiser each academic year for WCA. The raffle is scheduled for Saturday, October 21st at Johnny T's in Hillsdale. In addition to tickets being purchased, we will be requesting items for the grade level/classroom themed baskets in next week's mailer. Keep your eyes out for those details! Makes me smile just thinking about it!

Dismissal seems to be settling in and timing seems to be improving. One hint for some families might be to not arrive so early as that is what is lending to the long lines backed up on Hallett Road. The rope barrier cannot be removed any sooner than 3:15 pm as students are traversing across campus and that becomes a safety issue. If you know your high school student is a bit slow to the line, please consider arriving to campus nearer the end of the dismissal process. That will afford your student time to pack up and you to simply swing in and swing out. Please keep being patient and know that within days the whole process will narrow to about 12 or 13 minutes. That is a huge measure of success!

A few reminders regarding dismissal might be to not speed through the line or any place on campus, to not have curbside conferences as the children are being loaded, to please pull all the way forward when loading per the direction of the staff member requesting you to move up, and please only stop once as all carpool riders should be in one spot. Phew! Seems like a lot to remember, but if you let us guide you, it truly is a safe and efficient way to get all students and their families headed home. It will all work even if you don't wave your children to the car; this impedes the process that we are trying to accomplish. Let us guide you and load them, and all will be fine!

As you come to campus for drop-off, pick-up or various activities it is important for you to know that Will Carleton Academy is a tobacco-free campus. This designation includes all forms of tobacco and nicotine in any device or mechanism. Please re-commit to this long-standing designation that WCA remains proud of; one more way to keep campus safe at all times for our students and staff.

As promised, if applicable, please find a second set of "important paperwork" in your mailer if the office has not received it when it was originally sent to you in August. Please understand the importance of this paperwork for the day-to-day business of the office. Thank you for making this a priority.

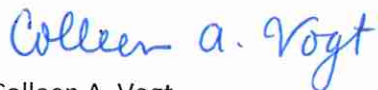
In this our 5th week of school, let's do our best to work together to keep sick children home and to keep an eye on all symptoms of illness. It seems that there have been some pretty sick children coming to school "to do their best" and they simply need rest at home. Trust me: the look in their eyes when fevered or just feeling punky is hard to see. Teachers are poised and ready to support absent children so make a great decision for your child.

Don't forget about the large dumpster in the back-parking lot for all of your metal items that need to be discarded. This is an on-going fundraiser for our 8th grade class toward their Washington DC trip each spring. It is super simple as you just dump your items inside and when full, the dumpster gets emptied and WCA receives a check for its worth. Sounds like my kind of fundraiser!

WCA is again in need of substitute teachers for campus this year. With 60 hours of college credit, one is eligible for this responsibility. We would love to have you, or anyone that you know and trust, on campus to substitute teach. Please connect with Mrs. Stewart (carla.stewart@wcak12.org) if you are willing to begin this process and become part of our team.

I hope you all have a great week. I truly enjoy my time with those who call or stop in; teamwork is a great thing!

Be well,



Colleen A. Vogt