



Jean McNair Elementary School
304 East McNair Road, Winnebago, IL 61088

February 2021 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

- **No School** Monday, February 15, President's Day
- **Third Quarter Grading Period Midterm Reports** Friday, February 19
- **Spring Pictures** Thursday, March 4
- **Planned Remote Learning Day** Friday, March 19
- **Third Quarter Grading Period Ends** Friday, March 19
- **Third Quarter Report Card Grades Available** Friday, March 26
- **Spring Break** Monday, March 29-Friday, April 2
- **Bago Art Week** Monday, May 3-Friday, May 7 (Details TBA)



5ESSENTIALS PARENT SURVEY

The 5Essentials is a comprehensive, evidence based tool designed to drive improvement in schools, identifying both areas of strength and areas in need of support. The Parent Survey is open through April 2 and we're asking you to spend a few minutes (about 10) to complete the survey. You may skip any questions you do not wish to answer, but you are encouraged to take your time and click all the way to the end in order to submit the survey. The survey can be found at <http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/> and select the parent survey. Thank you in advance for your participation!



NWEA, or MAP, TESTING

Our MAP testing window for in-person students has been extended due to our unexpected remote learning days and will be finished by February 19. If you have any questions about your child's mid-year progress on these ELA and Math tests, please reach out to your child's teacher after February 19. These tests will be administered again in the Spring for both in-person and remote students.

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP

Just a reminder to continue pulling up in line when picking your child up after school along the sidewalk when the car ahead of you leaves the line. It not only keeps the line moving, it keeps traffic off of McNair Road whenever possible. Students are dismissed this year by grade level, starting with 3rd grade and ending with 5th grade between 1:55 and 2:05.



REMOTE LEARNING ATTENDANCE AND WORK COMPLETION

Just a reminder that it's important that remote learning students check in each morning with Mrs. Wandell to review their schedule for the day, but it's even more important that you be sure to attend Zoom meetings with your ELA and Math teachers to not only get the lesson presented, but to make sure you understand what's being assigned. In addition, it's important to make sure assignments are completed in a timely manner or they will begin to affect your grades. Attendance is taken for each Zoom meeting, so make sure you're attending each of them!

PICTURE DAY INFORMATION

Class Composites are now available to order! Get yours today at inter-state.com/order. Use Order Code 56424NQ. These are available until February 17, 2021 at 11:59 pm.



SAVE THE DATE! More information will be shared in the coming weeks regarding our Spring Picture Day, scheduled for Thursday, March 4 for both in-person and remote students.

This year only students who wish to order photos will be photographed on Spring Picture Day. To participate, you may either place your order online using the code listed in the information being sent home, or bring your order envelope to school on Picture Day.

SCHOOLWIDE REMOTE LEARNING DAYS



Just a reminder that when we have previously planned remote learning days and/or weather related remote learning days, it's important that your child check in to their Google Classroom each morning and follow the guidelines laid out by the teacher. We are still required to take attendance on these days. If for some reason your child is unable to attend, please leave a message in the school office (815-335-1607) or notify your child's teacher through email, Class Dojo, or Google Classroom. Thank you!

WINTER RECESS

Outside recess happens when the "feels like" temperature is 22 degrees or higher per the Childcare Weather Watch guidelines. If it doesn't quite make it to that point, recess will be held inside. For outside recess, please make sure students are dressed for the colder temperatures. This should include, at a minimum, winter coats, hats, and gloves. In order to play in the snow, students should also have snow pants and boots. An extra pair of socks for days where our feet might get cold and wet isn't a bad idea, either. In addition, since there is virtually no barrier to the wind whipping across our playground, there could be an occasional time where we decide to stay in ignoring that "feels like" number due to extreme winds.



NEWS FROM THE LUNCHROOM



Winnebago Schools offer both breakfast and lunch for students. Also, if you notice your child's lanyard and ID at home, please make sure they bring it to school and keep it here as it's used to scan when they take a hot lunch or breakfast.

In addition, just a reminder that the Winnebago School District is part of the USDA Free Lunch Program this year, which allows us to provide our students with free lunches. Please watch for additional guidance from Dr. Schwuchow should anything change regarding this program.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

The Winnebago PTO may look a little different this year, but they are still collecting Boxtops for Education through the mobile app that requires no more clipping! More information can be found here, [Boxtops for Education](#)



HOME AND SCHOOL CONNECTION

Here's the latest news from Home and School Connection. Please take a moment to look over the information on Managing Emotions, Reviewing Report Cards, Creative Writing, and other strategies for supporting your child's education.

[Home School Connection #7](#)

THANK YOU



Finally, a big THANK YOU to our parents and students for taking on so much during this pandemic and everyone trying their hardest to maintain a sense of normalcy during this "COVID School year". Our students have done a tremendous job figuring out how to log into Zoom sessions from home, navigating Google Classrooms, overcoming technology issues, wearing masks and dealing with many other new challenges this year. A big THANK YOU also to our remote learning parents for providing amazing support at home and helping your children through this new online learning adventure. I know many of us are balancing work, health and personal challenges in addition to this unique school year and all the changes it brought. I am confident that we will come out more resilient than ever before once this year is over and we will all gain a sense of gratitude for the "normal" school experience when it returns. Thanks again!