

A Message From
Lindsey Vela,
Dean of Students

September 3, 2019

West Briar Middle School

Grizzly E-News

8th Grade

*The function of education
is to teach one to think
intensively and to think
critically. Intelligence plus
character – that is the goal
of true education.*

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Good Afternoon Grizzly Families,

West Briar Middle School had a GREAT first week with our 1116 Grizzlies! Principal Lopez led grade level assemblies addressing campus expectations for the year, including campus safety, dress code, attendance, acceptable technology use, and school pride. All expectations are now expected to be followed. All lanyards/ ID's will be distributed (during lunches) and are expected to be worn as your grizzly is moving through our campus. This is a safety procedure for both your child and our staff, not to mention it speeds up the lunch line process. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can assist your child personally in any way, as that is why I am here.

Beginning of Year Forms DUE!

The Beginning of Year Forms were distributed through your student's advocacy class. Take a few minutes to complete the SES, Student Code of Conduct Signature Page, Media Release, and WBMS Responsible Use Technology Agreement. Each grizzly is required to have all BOY forms submitted as a requirement to participate in upcoming grade level celebrations and social events.

Dress Code

We will be strictly enforcing it every day. Meaning your child will not be allowed to go to first period if they are out of dress code. Rules are in place for a reason, and something that will be part of your child's real-world job experience. School is their first job, so they need to dress like it matters. As Grizzlies we (both staff and students) are expected to model self-pride and character, and dress code is an expectation that we will NOT waiver on.

Tardies

Tardies began today, I have personally walked the campus from one end to the other and still made it to class on time, so your student should have no problem getting to class on time if they use their time wisely.

*That's exactly the way
parents develop positive,
successful kids. Don't look
for the flaws, warts, and
blemishes. Look for the
gold, not for the dirt; the
good, not the bad. Look for
the positive aspects of life.
Like everything else, the
more good qualities we
look for in our children,
the more good qualities we
are going to find.*

—Zig Ziglar

Schedule Changes

Schedules have been fluctuating and changing due to class changes and requests made over the last few days. I am working to level class sizes and accommodate student and parent requests, as much as possible. Level changes will be reviewed at the end of the six weeks after students and teachers have an opportunity to authentically assess if a level change is needed.

School Spirit

School spirit will be in full force this year! I want your child's middle school experience to not only set them up for high school but to create some of the best memories of their life along the way! That means experiencing new things and supporting each other through our Character Count pillars! The month of September will focus on INTEGRITY.

How Do I Stay Connected?

These simple steps can help you stay informed on what is happening at West Briar Middle School. Receive text messages from the 8th Grade Dean.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: <https://www.remind.com/>



Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

- If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications. Text the message **@6bac2a** to the number **81010**



On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: <https://twitter.com/>

Follow the instructions to sign up for Twitter. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

- Follow Dean Vela @VelaLindsey

Be in the Know!

Parent Resources:

Vaping Health Risks

<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/collections/vaping>

<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/teen-vaping-soars-past-cigarette-use>

Upcoming Events ~ Mark Your Calendar!

- ❖ Thursday, September 12th ~ Author Visit Renee Watson
- ❖ Friday, September 13th ~ Progress Report Window Closes
- ❖ Tuesday, September 17th ~ Parent University
- ❖ Wednesday, September 18th ~ WBMS vs Pershing (Football)
- ❖ Thursday, September 19th ~ WBMS vs Rice (Volleyball)
- ❖ Thursday, September 19th ~ OPEN HOUSE (6:00-8:00)
- ❖ Tuesday, September 24th ~ WBMS vs Lanier (Football)
- ❖ Thursday, September 26th ~ Crime Stoppers Parent Presentation
- ❖ Friday, September 27th ~ Early Dismissal (12:20)

Included in this edition of the WBMS Grizzly E-News:

- 2019-2020 Instructional Calendar
<https://www.houstonisd.org/2019calendar>
- HISD Bus Routes
<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/69921>
- West Briar Middle School
<https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/12259>