

# Wiesbaden Middle School

Sept. 22, 2008



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## Some Important Dates to Remember:

**Sept. 29-30 – Student Pictures (Brochure attached)**

**Oct. 3 – ½ Day Teacher In-service. Students released at 1100 (WMS, HES, AES, WHS)**

**Oct. 8 – Parents' Shadow Day MOYA**

**Oct. 10 – Teacher In-service. No school for students**

**Oct. 13 – Holiday No School**

**Oct. 17 – Volksmarch MOYA**

**Oct. 30 – Last day of first quarter**

**Oct. 31 – No school for students. Teachers' recordkeeping day.**

**Congratulations to the following students elected by their peers to lead the WMS Students Council for SY 08-09!!!!!!! Go Wildcats!**

**President - Kirsten , VP - Ron, Treasurer - Brandon, and Secretary - Melanie**

## Month of the Young Adolescent (MOYA)

**October is Month of the Young Adolescent** Initiated by National Middle School Association (NMSA), Month of the Young Adolescent is a celebration to focus on the needs of this important age range, ages 10 to 15. The key messages for the celebration are

- The importance of parents being knowledgeable about young adolescents and being actively involved in their lives;

- The understanding that healthy bodies plus healthy minds equal healthy young adolescents;
- The realization that the education young adolescents experience during this formative period of life will, in large measure, determine the future for all citizens; and
- The knowledge that every young adolescent should have the opportunity to pursue his or her dreams and aspirations, and post-secondary education should be a possibility for all.

The attached flyer gives you an outline of the events we have planned for October. Coming up very quickly is the Parent Shadow Day on October 8. Please plan to join us for these special event in support of young adolescents. POC is Dr. B.

**DROP EVERYTHING AND READ – D.E.A.R.** is another strategy at WMS to promote student reading. The program will be consistent across the school during the second half of seminar on Gold Days. Everyone will be reading between 1230 and 1310 - students, teachers, secretaries, and administrators.

Scholastic Reading has tracked student reading scores on the Scholastic Reading Inventory (that we administer in the fall and spring) and the annual Terra Nova to discover that students who read 20 minutes a day will score at the 75 percentile on the Terra Nova.

**Parents you can help by reading with your students each day.....20 minutes.**

Dear Parents:

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, inspectors completed an asbestos inspection of all school buildings in DoDDs. The most recent full re-inspection occurred in 2003. The inspection at Wiesbaden American Middle School has been conducted in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines and Department of Defense Dependents Schools policy.

Samples of suspected asbestos-containing materials were taken during the inspection and were submitted to a laboratory for analysis. Test results indicated minor (non friable, not free to enter the atmosphere) asbestos present in materials used in:

1. Vinyl tiles in some rooms, hallways, and stairwells.
2. Window sills in some rooms.
3. Shingles on some roofing (outside).
4. Floor adhesive in some rooms.

Previous projects have cleared and sealed ceiling ducts; removed debris from the attic; removed and replaced floor covering, adhesive and ceilings. In each case, the report says no immediate abatement is required. All other materials on the list are considered “non-friable” and safe.

As required by the EPA, a periodic surveillance program for these materials and their condition will be closely monitored.

Copies of the inspection report, periodic surveillance records, and the school's Asbestos Management Plan are kept in the school office. The documents are available for your review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Alexia Venglik  
Principal

**Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (Nov. 7)** Last year when the parent, teacher, and student forum met with the visiting Accreditation Team there were voiced concerns about our practice of Student Led Conferences. Following the visit we met again with parents and teachers to discuss. Parents want more time with teachers, students did not like the script, and teachers complained about the class time used to train students to lead a conference. We have met as a faculty again this SY to discuss ways to improve given this valuable feedback. Our discussion emphasized the continued importance of the development of students' responsibilities for their learning. Students should be able to articulate how they use materials and time to accomplish learning goals. This should not be the sole responsibility of teachers and parents. Teaching teams discussed ideas and will submit their plans. We will relay the details to you as they are submitted.

If you have suggestions please contact me at 337 6251 or 0611 721182.