

Dear Friends,

On 3/13/15 the Governor announced the members of the newly created Local Government and Unfunded Mandates Task Force. The task force is comprised of statewide municipal and county leaders, representatives of school districts, state legislators, and experts in consolidation, which includes members from DuPage County. The task force is chaired by Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti with a goal to streamline services that will help



to prevent waste and use taxpayer dollars more efficiently. It will also find ways to reduce the number of unfunded mandates the state imposes on local communities and districts. Their work will hopefully overlap and continue the recommendations from the previous governor's Classrooms First Commission chaired by then Lt. Governor Sheila Simon, which published its findings in July 2012. I was fortunate to have participated as a member on the Realignment Work Group which addressed a variety of ways for school districts to share services/resources. We continue to advocate for the implementation of those recommendations that we developed after many months of work, which can be viewed on our website at www.winfield34.org/boardofeducation.

D34 and our partner districts: Benjamin D25, West Chicago D33, and Community High School D94 continue to demonstrate our commitment to collaborate on a variety of initiatives as we have over many years in our efforts to utilize our districts' collective resources more efficiently. As noted in the final consolidation study conducted by the state in 2009 (Executive Summary found on our website at www.winfield34.org/boardofeducation) our four partner districts were lauded for our students' achievement, maintaining fund balances and well maintained buildings. We were also acknowledged for our ongoing cooperation to meet regularly; not only the district superintendents but also our joint school boards and Board of Education Presidents. These collaborative efforts have resulted in partnering on curriculum adoptions, joint bids on supplies purchasing, shared professional development for staff, shared programming to accommodate the specific needs of students with disabilities as well as students identified as gifted requiring an alternate educational environment and even joint fundraising planned cooperatively by our Education Foundations.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Planning process that we implemented this past school year is another example of our ongoing cooperative efforts with our community that was facilitated through the Consortium for Educational Change (CEC), an Illinois organization of over 90 member school districts that produced measurable goals such that D34

can now "live" our Strategic Plan beginning this August. Our Plan came from our own ideas and aspirations, coupled with effective research-based practices used by the best schools and school districts. The Planning Team represented all levels of staff, the Board of Education, parents and community members such as; Cadence, Winfield Park District, the business community, etc. It also represented a wide range of D34 staff. All told over 30 people participated on our Planning Team over seven months during the FY15 school year that ultimately created our new Plan, of which we are very proud. This August we begin work on creating our Plan's dashboard which will become a "live view" on our website of our progress toward and completion of our six identified goal areas. A great big THANK YOU to the collaborative relationships we have established with our community that continues to contribute to our District's success. Please view our Strategic Plan on our website at www.winfield34.org/strategicplan

This edition of our *Chalkboard* newsletter also continues our tradition of celebrating our students, staff and partnerships. Please enjoy our student interviews celebrating the retirements of our beloved staff and all of our students' achievements. We continue to look for ways to communicate all of the great happenings in D34 so please visit our website at www.winfield34.org to learn more about us. As always we thank you for your continued support of our school district.

Best Wishes,

Gwynne Kell, Ph.D., Superintendent

Join Us for the First ever Joint School Districts (Winfield 34, West Chicago 33, Benjamin 25, and Community High School 94) Fundraiser on November 14, 2015

Summer Reading Incentive

All students who complete the Winfield Library summer reading program, *Every Hero Has A Story*, will be eligible for a special prize when they return to school in the fall! **Students will need to turn in their completed reading log from the Winfield Library to their new teacher in fall.**

Please make family reading a priority this summer! Visit our Winfield School website, under the Parents tab, for a variety summer reading ideas or www.winfield34.org/readingspec.



WINFIELD SCHOOLS

District 34 Administrative Offices 0S150 Winfield Road Winfield, IL 60190 phone 630.909.4900 fax 630.260.2382 Winfield Primary School 0S150 Winfield Rd Winfield, IL 60190 phone 630.909.4910 fax 630.260.2382

Winfield Central School 0S150 Park Winfield, IL 60190 phone 630.909.4960 fax 630.933.9236

In Their Words... Students Interview retiring D34 teachers







Mrs. Mahoney

by Aimee Cejna & Kyle Toledo

Q: How long have you been working in district 34?

A: I came here in 1986, I have worked for 29 years

Q: What subjects or grades have you taught while working here?

A: When I started in 1986, I taught Reading and Language Arts, then a couple of years later it changed from the block schedule to 80 minutes.

Q: What has been your favorite grade to teach?

A: 8th grade, without a doubt!

Q: What club/activities have you been apart of while working here?

A: One activity we used to is the international fair which tied up to Language Arts, years ago we used to Christmas Caroling, and I used to do yoga and teach the 8th grade it. I'd like to get a yoga retreat.

Q: If you didn't teach Language Arts, what other subject would you teach? Why?

A: Social Studies, that's what I would teach. I LOVE history, I LOVE to connect these stories with history.

Q: What has been your favorite memory while working here?

A: My favorite memory is when we moved classes. I started in the Social Studies room.

Q: What was your favorite project that you've done with your students?

A: We used to do kinds of art things/projects. We did a mystery project, where the kids would report a murder in the library.

Q: What are some things that you've always wanted to do that you will pursue during retirement?

A: I LOVE to garden, I don't have to rush with my school time going on. I would like to still do yoga. I would like to more things with my friends and family because with work it's been busy.

Q: What advice would you give the new teacher entering this profession?

A: Be sure to have work, life balance. Not all work. Be organized. I'd just say, this district is a very good place for a career, stay here.

Mr. Tyle

by Spencer Schramer & Max Kirchoff

Q: How long have you been working in the district?

A: 41 years

Q: What subjects or grades have you taught while

A: First I taught French, then Science and French, and then just Science.

Q: What has been your favorite grade to teach?

7th grade because it's life science and that was my major.

Q: What club/activities have you been a part of while working here?

A: The first couple years I did ski club. I also worked on

Q: What was your favorite moment while teaching in

A: When the students enjoy what they are doing.

Q: The school has undergone many changes over the years including the addition of technology to building construction. What were some of the most important changes you've seen? Which changes took the most getting used to?

A: The technology was the biggest change. When I first came here 6th grade was self contained, too. Then, there were other classes that we didn't continue teaching such as Home Ec.

What will you miss most about having the science lab?

The plant area.

Q: In science, what is your favorite unit to teach?

A: I like all of the things I teaches because I chose to teach them, but I enjoy ecology and genetics.

Q: How do you plan to spend your time during retirement?

Doing whatever, whenever.

Q: What advice would you give a new teacher entering the profession?

A: Join a professional organization for new ideas for activities and teaching. This way you can stay current and informed on your subject area.

Ms. Demos

by Christina Wasserstrom & Adelia Hasselgren

Q: How long have you been working in in district 34?

A: 18 years

Q: Since you don't teach a specific subject or grade level, how do you explain your job title?

A: I have worked with everything from 3-8 grade and I do interventions with small groups of kids. I used to be in a class all the time such as Mr. Tyle's class. I was there in there for 18 years and I helped certain kids.

Q: What made you want to work in special education?

A: I could see that all kids have potential. I want to help kids who struggle with certain things. I want to teach them their own style that works for them. I had curiosity about this area growing up, and we knew that special education was an area that was out there. Once I really got to find out about it, I became really interested...

Q: Since you teach many grade levels and subjects, which grade level subject is your favorite

A: Middle school, math.

Q: What is the best memory you have while working here?

A: When Mr. Tyle was taped to the pole for the fundraiser last year, and the field trips.

Q: What has been your greatest accomplishment while working as a teacher?

A: Seeing students who have never been on the honor roll, who never thought they could, reach that goal. It helps them feel confident, and shows them that they are smart

Q: If you weren't a teacher what else would you do?

A: I love gardening and being outside, riding horses, being a ranger in a park district or forest would be great just because you get to be outside. Also, I love to travel.

Q: What are your plans for retirement?

A: To be outside as much as I can. Travel more to Europe and go on more cruises, anywhere. I want to travel to Europe because I love to see historic things. I also love to read because when you're a teacher you never really have time to read.

• What advice would you give a new teacher entering the profession?

A: Be organized. Also, you really have to love to be with kids. Also have a lot of patience.

Thank you from the Winfield PTO

The collaboration of District 34 staff, families, and local businesses helped Winfield PTO fulfill its mission to organize activities that foster the connection between home and school life and provide resources benefiting district children and their families.

Fundraisers this year included Under the Big Top family day, Manna gift cards, Prosek's Greenhouse plant sale, Lou Malnati's pizza sale, and a craft show. Our biggest and most successful fundraiser of the year was Trivia Night, which raised almost \$8,000 to support our school. We organized activities such as Vertical Endeavors rock climbing, family movie nights and parent social fundraisers at Caliendo's and John's Restaurant. We partnered with many businesses throughout the community in hopes of thanking them for the support they give to our school. We were glad to find ways throughout the school year to support and thank the dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators of our district.

Thanks to the support of our community this year, PTO was able to purchase school supplies such as Chromebook cases, science supplies and models, bilingual books, student atlases, classroom privacy cubes, and sponsor a Cosley Zoo in-class program. PTO brought educational and entertaining all-school assemblies, including magician The Great Scott performing "Books Are Full of Magical Words" and Scott Douglas of The Science Alliance performing "Close Encounters of the Chemical Kind!".

None of this would be possible without the generous participation of our community and the energy, talents and time of our volunteers; **THANK YOU** for helping us make a difference!

This summer, please consider participating in these ongoing programs to help raise money for our students and teachers:

- Target Debit/Credit Reward Program 5% goes back to you and 5% goes to the school
- Box Tops for Education clip labels from General Mills products
- Tyson Project A+ Labels clip labels from Tyson food products
- Campbell's Soup Labels clip labels from Campbell's food products
- **Kellogg's Family Rewards** send codes to school or log points online at kelloggsfamilyrewards.com (search for Winfield Central School)
- My Coke Rewards Program collect codes on Coca-Cola or Powerade products
- Ink Cartridge Recycling turn in used printer ink cartridges (any size)
- Fundico.org Shop Amazon.com through www.Fundinco.org to earn \$ for our school at no cost to you

See the PTO website for more details on these initiatives. www.winfield34.org/pto

Have a great summer.

Sincerely

Eileen Tibble and Dan Janowick, PTO Co-Presidents



Introducing the Winfield School District 34 Board of Education:

Bob Brown, President

Dave Hempe, Vice-President

Elizabeth Lee, Secretary

Lynn Kammes

Donna Bartlett

Prem Mony

Matt Tibble

Special Recognition and Thanks to Our Continued Supporters

LEAP donors

Carton Craft Caliendo's

Cadence Health

- \$14,500 for 2 Crossing Guards
- \$33,880 for 1 full time district nurse
- Participation in Cadence Employee Assistance Program
- Cadence provides annual free flu shots on site for D34 staff
- Beneficiary of annual Community Chest grant dollars per District request (FY2015 received \$740 for safety signs)
- \$2,000 towards scholarships for low income students

AT&T

Employee Giving Campaign

DuPage Credit Union

\$300.00 Donation

Exchange Club of DuPage

\$1,000.00 Donation to the Education Foundation

Kohl's

Donation for Trivia Night

Full-day Kindergarten

by Dawn Reinke, Principal

This was the first year for full-day kindergarten in District 34 and it proved to be as successful as was expected. Data collected throughout the year using AIMSweb and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) illustrate the academic growth that took place this year. One of the measures in AIMSweb that indicates reading readiness is Phoneme Segmentation Fluency and this year, 77% of the students were at or above district level expectations, compared to 42% at the end of the 13-14 school year with the half-day program. Phoneme segmentation fluency is the ability to break down a word into individual sounds. When students have strong phoneme segmentation fluency, they are able to manipulate sounds and letters in order to read and write words. This was also the first year that kindergarten students participated in the MAP assessments and 87% of the kindergarten students met their individual student growth targets in Math. Kindergarten math skills that were targeted in the MAP assessment include basic addition facts, two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes, graphing, place value and counting. These are just a few examples of the excellent academic growth that occurred, although it is not the only advantage to having a full-day kindergarten program. The social-emotional growth that our children exhibited was seen in their peer-to-peer interactions, self-regulation ability, and day-today problem solving skills. We look forward to many more years of the positive impact of full day kindergarten.



D34 8th Grade Government Studies

For the second time Representative Jeanne Ives visited Winfield Central on Wednesday, October 15th and discussed the upcoming fall election, the veto and lame duck sessions, as well as answered questions. Rep. Ives stated that she loves meeting with her constituents and she enjoys speaking with the 8th graders on their level and about their interests. Just after her visit our students visited the state Capital on October 18-19 as part of their continuing governmental studies.

Online Safety During Summer Vacation

Summer vacation is here! The pencils and notebooks are being packed away and the kids are ready for some summer fun! Children love the hot summer months because they provide the perfect opportunity to spend lots of time doing the things they love! Whether it's swimming in the pool, taking long walks, going for a bike ride, or spending time using their favorite technology/gaming devices, they have plenty of extra time away from school.

While we hope everyone enjoys the freedom of summer, we want to also remind parents that there are potential dangers during the summer months, and it's important to be aware of what they are. Included in this year's final report card envelope is a brochure on Online Safety that we hope will be shared with your family. There are also many resources and tips provided under the Technology Department on our Winfield website. The Internet can be a great source of fun and social interaction for your kids; it can also be a dangerous place. While it feels like home is the safest place for your kids - the more time they spend online the more they could potentially be exposed to a variety of content.



STEM Learning in D34

by Melissa Doucet, Instructional Technology Specialist

Innovator Benjamin Franklin said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." This is what Winfield Middle School students experienced in our first year of participating in a STEM!

Students completed a variety of engaging units that required them to design products, get their hands dirty and even struggle a little bit in trying to figure out solutions to challenges. We had many highlights in this first year of implementation! The K'NEX Education Amusement Park unit provided an opportunity to combine real-world applications

with STEM concepts. Students were engaged and energized as they gained further knowledge in understanding engineering concepts associated with rides and structures. The Lego Mindstorms Education EV3 unit provided students with an opportunity in constructing and programming robots. Robots could be seen roaming around the classroom in variety of motions, talking, singing, racing and even competing against each other challenges. Participation



in Computer Science Week and the Hour of Code allowed students the opportunity to learn computer science and computer programming through engaging courses. The final unit of the year students gained knowledge and a hands-on experience with the 3D printers. They learned how 3D printers solve problems in today's society and how to design prototypes. Most importantly, the 3D experience gave them first hand experience with the design process, learning to embrace failure as many failing prototypes lead to improvement and change.

Throughout this first year of STEM, the true focus has been on improving critical thinking and problem solving skills, while increasing their overall enthusiasm and interest in future STEM careers. It was clearly evident that Winfield students will be future producers, artists, designers and innovators!

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." - Thomas Edison

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2015

Kristin Aalbue Iaron Allen Robert Bartlett Jackelyn Carrasco Aimee Cejna Clifford Chase Gabriel Chase

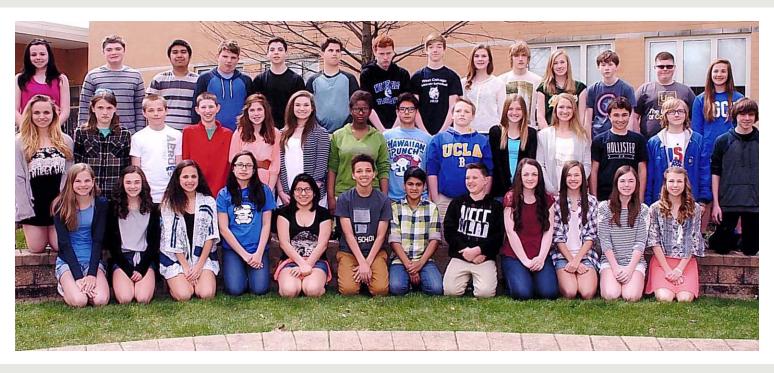
Alyssa Fini Rebeca Flores Alexander Gauss Jackson Happel Adelia Hasselgren Gianna Hernandez Sarah Kamara

Dena Karonis John Karwoski Maxwell Kirchhoff Adrian Krzysztofiak Lenai Lisching June Ludwig Sabrina Lutfiyeva

Madelyn Malay Grant Memler Sarah Memler Joseph Mustafa Tyler Neander Caleb O'Neil Christopher Paulsen

Ryan Pineda Sam Ricci Spencer Schramer Alyssa Szulczewski Kyle Toledo Ray Trejo Sarah Turek

Valarie Walker Christina Wasserstrom Iulia Wasserstrom Nicholas Wasserstrom **Iordan Wilkins**



High Honor Roll

Kristen Aalbue Bobby Bartlett Jackie Carrasco Addie Hasselgren Gianna Hernandez Sabrina Lutfiyeva Maddy Malay Joseph Mustafa Ryan Pineda Sam Ricci Spencer Schramer Alyssa Szulczewski Sarah Turek Christina Wasserstrom

Honor Roll

Jaron Allen Aimee Cejna Rebeca Flores Max Kirchhoff Jackson Happel Lenai Lisching

Student Council President

Caleb O'Neil

Student Council Vice-President Chris Paulsen

Kristen Aalbue John Karwoski

Student Council Treasurer

Tyler Neander

Representatives

Student Council

Band Awards

Iaron Allen Joseph Mustafa Sarah Turek Bobby Bartlett Tyler Neander Christina Wasserstrom Sarah Kamara Caleb O'Neil Julia Wasserstrom Max Kirchhoff Rvan Pineda Nick Wasserstrom June Ludwig Spencer Schramer

World Beat

Jaron Allen Spencer Schramer

8th Grade Music Award

Spencer Schramer

Drama Outstanding **Achievement Awards**

Aly Fini Spencer Schramer

Outstanding Athlete Awards

Alyssa Szulczewski Jordan Wilkins

John Hemmer **Spirit Awards**

Rebecca Flores Ryan Pineda

Fitness Awards Gold

Kristen Aalbue Aimee Cejna Lenai Lisching Grant Memler Sarah Memler Alyssa Szulczewski Sarah Turek Christina Wasserstrom Julia Wasserstrom Silver Jackie Carrasco Maddy Malay

Spencer Schramer

Bronze

Bobby Bartlett Aly Fini Rebeca Flores Addie Hasselgren Gianna Hernandez Dena Karonis Sabrina Lutfiyeva Chris Paulsen Kyle Toledo Nick Wasserstrom Jordan Wilkins

Social Studies-**Geography Awards**

Kristen Aalbue Sam Ricci

Social Studies-**Current Events Awards**

Jaron Allen Joseph Mustafa

Foreign Language Awards

Kristin Aalbue Sabrina Lutfiyeva Jaron Allen Spencer Schramer

Science Awards

Joseph Mustafa Spencer Schramer

Language Arts Awards

Aimee Cejna Jackie Carrasco Gabe Chase Gianna Hernandez Lenai Lisching Ryan Pineda Kvle Toledo Christina Wasserstrom

Math Awards

Jackie Carrasco Gianna Hernandez Max Kirchhoff Sabrina Lutfiyeva Joseph Mustafa Spencer Schramer Alyssa Szulczewski Christina Wasserstrom

Technology Awards

Gabe Chase Joseph Mustafa

Odell Showalter Volunteer Award

Mrs. Mary Schramer

Volunteer Service Awards

Jaron Allen Sabrina Lutfiyeva Kyle Toledo

Bobby Bartlett Maddy Malay Ray Trejo Clifford Chase Sarah Memler Sarah Turek Gabriel Chase Joseph Mustafa Valarie Walker Jackson Happel Tyler Neander Christina Wasserstrom Addie Hasselgren Christopher Paulsen Julia Wasserstrom Sara Kamara Rvan Pineda Nick Wasserstrom Dena Karonis Alyssa Szulczewski

Student Leadership **Team Awards**

Bobby Bartlett Max Kirchoff Alyssa Szulczewski Gabe Chase Maddy Malay Valarie Walker Addie Hasselgren Ryan Pineda

Sports & Activities



Girls' Basketball

The season began in January and ended in March. This sport was offered to 7th and 8th grade girls with a total of 11 girls participating. It was a very exciting basketball season with the girls finishing 6-4.

Track

28 students participated in Track this year. It was a very exciting season with very stiff competition.

Guitar Club

Winfield School District 34 offered Guitar Club to $5^{th} - 8^{th}$ grade students for the first time with students working through lessons to play modern pop, rock, and blues tunes.





Chess Club

43 children participated in Chess Club. This once a week class was open to 2nd-5th grade students. The focus of this club was to learn the basics of the game and to develop strategic thinking.

Drama Club

 5^{th} – 8^{th} students participated in this year's production of *Goldilocks and the* Three Pigs, a fractured fairy tale which mashes classic storybook characters to deliver both great morals and greater laughter. Storybook-land characters like Goldilocks, the Big Bad Wolf, and the Three Little Pigs helped audiences discover that there's no place like home, and that sometimes parents really

do know what's best. Winfield District 34's Drama Club has been putting on productions for over 20 years. Most Winfield Drama students have gone on to West Chicago High School, whose Drama Club is competitive at the state level, and some Winfield alumni have even gone on to perform on Broadway.



Come to the play next year and see why Winfield Drama is such fun!

Sports Camp Offering

We will be offering two Summer Sports Camps again this year, which will focus on volleyball and basketball. The Volleyball Camp is open to all entering 6th-8th graders and the Basketball Camp is open to all entering 4th-6th grades. Basketball Camp will be run from 10:00-11:30 and Volleyball camp will be run from 12:00-1:30 on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, July 21, 22, 23, and Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, July 27, 28, 29, 30. The purpose of these camps is to keep student athletes more active year round in specific sports as a supplement to our school-year eight week sport seasons, park districts, and other camps.

Once again thank you to Cadence-Northwestern for sponsoring Health Sports Physicals for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls.

It will take place on Friday, August 21st during the school day. There is a \$25 fee. Have a Great Summer! Ray Serbick Activities Director

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Permit No. 46 Winfield, IL 60190

CONTACT US

Please send your comments, questions or suggestions to Superintendent Dr. Gwynne Kell at the District Office or email, gkell@winfield34.org

Mark Your Calendar

NOTE: Per state law, the first and last days of school will be a full student attendance day.

Summer Sports Camps: July 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 10-11:30 a.m. Basketball Camp boys and girls grades 4-6 \$45.00 12-1:30 p.m. Volleyball Camp boys and girls grades 6-8 \$45.00 Registration required

ug.	18	Institute	Day
110	10	Inctitute	Day/Meet the Teach

PreK.-8th Grade 2:30-3:30 p.m.

First full student attendance day PreK-8th Aug. 20

Aug. 21 Northwestern Sports Physicals for 7^{th} & 8^{th} graders 1:00–3:15 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting 6:55 p.m. Budget Hearing 7:00 p.m. Aug. 27 Regular meeting

PTO Back to School Ice Cream Social on Primary Playground Aug. 28 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Sept. 7 Labor Day / NO SCHOOL

PTO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in Central Commons Sept. 8

Good Old Days 12:00 p.m. Band Performance, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Sept. 12 Student Council Penny Carnival

Sept. 13 Good Old Days 1:00 p.m. Staff in Parade

PreK-5th Grade Curriculum Night 6:30-8:00 p.m. Sept. 15

 $6^{\text{th}}\text{-}8^{\text{th}}$ Grade Curriculum Night 6:30–8:00 p.m. Sept. 17

Sept. 18 PTO Family Movie Night

Sept. 24 Coffee and Conversation with the Principal 8:30-9:30 a.m. Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.

School Improvement Day Early Dismissal

Oct. 3 PTO Craft Fair

Oct. 12 Columbus Day NO SCHOOL

Oct. 13 PTO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in Central Commons

Oct. 22 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.

School Improvement Day Early Dismissal Oct. 23

Oct. 26 No School / Teacher Workday

Nov. 2 Parent-Teacher conferences 4:30-7:00 p.m. Nov. 5, Parent-Teacher conferences 3:30-6:00 p.m.

10, 12

Sept. 25

Nov. 6 PTO Family Movie Night

Nov. 12 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 14 Joint District Foundations Fundraiser - Casino Night

Nov. 19 Band Concert 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 23-27 No School

Dec. 10 Holiday Music Concert (Grades 2-5) 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 11 Coffee and Conversation with the Principal 2:15-3:15 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting/Levy Hearing 6:45 p.m. Dec. 14

Dec. 21-Winter Break

Jan. 1

School Resumes Ian. 4

School calendar information may be found on the Winfield District 34 website at www.winfield34.org