



Parent/  
Teacher  
Conferences  
for  
**TERM 1**  
Will be  
held on  
**Monday  
Oct. 7th**  
**from**  
**4:00-7:00**  
**pm**

### Reminder

There will be  
**NO SCHOOL**  
**October 4th &  
November 1st for  
Teacher In Service**  
**&**  
**October**  
**19th & 20th**  
**for Fall Break**



## WHS Cell Phone Policy

Most teenagers like to think of themselves as expert multi-taskers. Students believe they can use their phones, Snapchat with friends, and study for tests all at the same time effectively. Unfortunately, the research is clear: multi-taking in school does not work. Even brief glances at a cell phone during class takes away attention and concentration. This loss of learning has been proven to have negative consequences on learning and grades for students.

This is a reminder to students and families of our Willmar Senior High Cell Phone Policy.

### Cell Phone Expectations:

Cell phones cannot be physically on your person during instruction time. This means cell phones cannot be on a student's desk, in student pockets, and/or within reach while in classrooms.

### Storing Cell Phones in Class:

Classroom Teachers will have one of the following places for students to put their phones while in class.

- A. Pocket Charts
- B. In Backpacks
- C. In a bin/basket

### Progressive Cell Phone Discipline:

If students do not adhere to the cell phone policy in class the following steps will be taken.

**1st Offense** - Teacher gives a verbal reminder for the student to put the phone away in compliance with the Cell Phone Expectations.

**2nd Offense** - Teacher holds onto the phone until the end of the block. Teachers will contact the parent/guardian of the student.

**3rd Offense** - Teacher holds the phone till the end of the school day. Student will pick up the phone at the end of the school day from their Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal will contact the student's parent/guardian.

**4th Offense** - Cell phone is brought to the office for the remainder of the school day and Assistant Principal notifies parent/guardian. Parent must come in after school for a meeting and to pick up their student's phone.

### Substitute Teachers Phone Policy:

Students will get one warning to put their phone away. If correction isn't made, the student will be sent to the office and a meeting with an Assistant Principal will take place.

### No Cell Phones in Bathrooms:

Cell phones cannot be out and visible in restrooms at any time (INCLUDING PASSING TIME). Staff will bring students to the office to meet with an Assistant Principal if their phone is out while they are in a bathroom.

Please note the school schedule below for clarification on instructional and non-instructional time.

1st Block	8:00-9:30 (90 min.)	INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
Passing Time 1	9:30-9:38 (8 min)	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
2nd Block	9:38-11:08 (90 min.)	INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
Passing Time 2	11:08 - 11:15 (7 min.)	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
3rd Block	11:15-1:09 A) lunch 11:10-11:37 B) lunch 11:40-12:07 C) lunch 12:10-12:37 D) lunch 12:40-1:07	INSTRUCTIONAL TIME/ NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TIME DURING LUNCH
Passing Time 3	1:07 - 1:14 (7 min.)	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TIME
4th Block	1:14-2:45 (91 min.)	INSTRUCTIONAL TIME



## Zero Hour at the High School

As you are aware, Willmar Senior High School starts late on Wednesdays with 1st block starting at 9:00 AM instead of our regular 8:00 AM starting time. We call this time Zero Hour and serves two primary and separate purposes:

First, it will allow staff to have much needed regular staff development time from 7:15am until 8:50am. Part of what we will do each Wednesday morning will be to prepare for our “Ramp Up” curriculum to be delivered to the students at 1:05 PM on Wednesday. The remaining staff development time on Wednesday mornings is devoted for teachers working together to advance their teaching and to increase student engagement and learning.

Second, our Wednesday morning Zero Hour is designed to support students learning and give them the opportunities for enrichment. Room 115J will be dedicated to students who need help in Science. Room 115H is available for students who need help in Math. Other school tutors will be assisting students in Room 115E for other subjects. In addition to tutor-led homework help, students also have opportunities to study in groups or catch-up on tests or quizzes. Room 105B is the dedicated Test/Quiz Make-Up room.

Zero Hour is an opportunity for students who have busy schedules before or after school, or for those who ride the bus and cannot make it to school outside of the school day, to catch up on missing tests or do a re-take if the teacher allows. We are encouraging our students, especially those with college level classes, to use study group learning strategies and start study groups in the library or other areas of the school. Peer-led group study has been proven to be a very helpful tool for students and with our increase in college level classes at WHS, we are excited to be able to offer dedicated time for students willing to put in the work.

Besides the academic opportunities, students who are on track in their classes are still welcome to be in our building on Wednesday mornings. Our cafeteria will be open from 7:30 until 8:45 serving breakfast. We will have staff in the gyms for students who would like to get exercise or play basketball, volleyball or soccer. Also, the music pod will be open and available for music students to come in and practice individual lessons.

Although the Zero Hour opportunities are optional for some students, Zero Hour will be mandatory for others. Any student who has an NC in a current class or on their transcript (NC's are generated by unexcused absences or having excessive tardies) will be required to attend our detention room in the IMC computer lab until their time is made up. Those students will not be allowed anywhere else in the building if they are here between 7:50 and 8:50 on Wednesday mornings.

Students who are falling behind in class or are not completing their homework will also be “ticketed” to one of our study rooms. The ticket process begins with the teacher having a conversation with the student. The teacher will lay out the expectations for the student of what is expected in class with a timeline for those expectations to be completed. If the expectations are not met, a contact home will be made. The parent and student will be informed that the student has been “ticketed” for Zero Hour and attendance from 7:50 until 8:50 on Wednesday is mandatory for that student until they are meeting expectations. That student must attend the study room they have been ticketed to or they will be marked unexcused absent from Zero Hour. Once the ticketing process has been done once in a class and the parents and student know the expectation, the teacher can re-issue a ticket if the student falls behind again by simply emailing the student by Monday night for the Wednesday morning Zero Hour. Not doing what is academically expected is not an option at Willmar Senior High!





**It's a Hard Knock Life!**  
**2024 WHS Fall Musical Production**



Annie is a musical based on the book "Little Orphan Annie" by Thomas Meehan with music by Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin. The performance dates are November 7, 8, 9 at 7:00 p.m. and November 10 at 1:00 p.m. All performances are reserved seating in the Brau PAC. Tickets go on sale to the public October 16th online on the WHS website or at the WHS main office.

All performances are reserved seating.



**Fall Showcase Concert!**

Monday, October 14th is the Fall Showcase Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the big red gym. This concert consists of performances from all four choirs, three concert bands and two orchestras.

The evening will culminate with a combined performance of all music groups performing together.

**WIIHISEAN YEARBOOK 2024- 2025 Sales**

Yearbooks can be purchased for **\$70**.

You can ORDER ONLINE at

**[willmaryearbook.com](http://willmaryearbook.com)**

Once again, these full color yearbooks will be packed with photos and memories from the ENTIRE year in a 176 page color book.

We will order only a few extra copies - All of the events up to graduation will be included and yearbooks will be printed in the summer.

**YEARBOOKS will be shipped DIRECTLY to your HOME.** Shipping and Tax is included in the final price when you order from **[willmaryearbook.com](http://willmaryearbook.com)** LAST YEARS SALES,

We have just 6 copies of the most recent 2024 Wihisean Yearbook.

These books (176 pages) can be purchased at the high school with cash or a check written to WSHS Wihisean Yearbook. Books are \$70.

**Mr. Hovland has 6 copies left if you are interested.**

If you are interested, contact Mr. Hovland at [hovlandl@willmar.k12.mn.us](mailto:hovlandl@willmar.k12.mn.us) as soon as possible. Purchases are based on first come, first serve



The WHS Jazz Ensemble has been selected to perform at the Minnesota Music Educators Association mid-winter in-service! The ensemble will perform on Friday, February 14th at 2:30 p.m. in the Minneapolis Convention Center.





## **NEWS in the Athletic Department**

All tickets and Activity passes for Willmar High School home events must be purchased online through GoFan. **No** cash sales at the door.



Follow Willmar Senior High Activities on:

1. Twitter @cardsathletics
2. Willmar Public School mobile app found on the Apple App/Google Play Store
3. Online at [centrallakesconferene.org](http://centrallakesconferene.org)  
Click on Willmar High School CLC Calendar

**\*\*There you will find game times, directions to event venues, ticket links and livestreaming information.**

### **Students Coming's and Going's**

#### **-Plan ahead!**

- Student appointments should be scheduled before or after school if at all possible. (Last minute appointments require classroom interruption.)
- There is no open lunch policy.
- Attendance line has 24 hour voice message capability with office staffing 7:15 am – 4:30 pm.

ENGLISH 320.231.8462

SOMALI 320.231.8307

SPANISH 320.231.8305



**Interpreters can be reached directly for your needs as follows:**

Abdullahi Ibrahim (Somali) – 320.231.8353

Michelle Vazquez (Spanish) – 320.231.8390

## **Student Data Privacy Notice**

Willmar Public Schools uses a variety of digital resources and tools to support student learning. For reference purposes, we refer to these resources and tools as “Technology Providers,” as they are defined in Minnesota statute. Our district takes great pride in ensuring that student information and academic data is protected to the highest of standards. Our technology/teaching and learning staff routinely evaluate providers utilized for digital assessment, online testing, digital curriculum resources, and digital curriculum activities to ensure that contractual requirements that ensure the safety.

As a part of our ongoing process to inform you of the safety and privacy of the data that is held by technology providers utilized by our district, we have made a listing of the Technology Providers utilized within the school district available for your review. Included in this listing you will find the data elements that the resource stores and utilizes as well as the grade levels in which the resource is authorized for use in.

Please visit: <http://www.willmar.k12.mn.us/SDP> to access the current listing of Technology Providers that we utilize.

Please reach out to Jason Hulstein by Email [hulsteinj@willmar.k12.mn.us](mailto:hulsteinj@willmar.k12.mn.us) or phone 320-231-8545 for additional questions regarding specific digital tools used in classrooms, or if you would like to arrange for an in person appointment to inspect any of our Technology Provider contracts.

## **Winter Sport Athletes and Parents!!**

Winter Sports are just around the corner! Don't wait until the last minute to register. You need to be registered online and have a current sports physical on file before the first day of practice or you can't participate.

**Register at [willmar-ar.schooltoday.com](http://willmar-ar.schooltoday.com)**

Dance starts Monday, October 22

Girls Hockey begins Monday, October 28

Gymnastics, Boys Hockey, Girls Basketball and Nordic Ski begins Monday, November 11

Boys Basketball and Wrestling starts Monday, November 18

Boys Swimming & Diving begins Monday, November 25





## Ramp Up Notes

### 9th Grade: How To Do High School

Students have been learning about the different resources available at the high school to help them be successful and meet their needs. Upcoming lessons will provide opportunities for students to learn skills related to organization, studying, decision making and test taking to help them be successful in their classes. High school graduation requirements will also be reviewed so students know what is expected each year for required credits.

### 10th Grade: Career Investigation

Students have been doing activities to help better understand themselves and how their personality fits with different career opportunities. They have also performed a reality check to learn about possible careers that match the life they hope to have in the future. Students will continue to research and investigate possible careers and what they entail. Students will also have an opportunity later in the year to meet with local professionals related to their career interests.

### 11th Grade: Career Pathways

Students have been reviewing and selecting careers they are interested in pursuing. Later in the year, students will have an opportunity to meet with local professionals related to their career interests. Upcoming lessons will focus on the different Career Pathways available to gain education and/or credentials for a career of their choice. These pathways will include 4-year colleges, community colleges and trade schools, and the military. Students will be researching what these different pathways require and have to offer so they can make a decision that best fits their plan.

### 12th Grade: Life After High School

Students have discussed and chosen a possible career pathway for their life after high school. These pathways included 4-year colleges, 2-year colleges, on the job training/ trade schools or the military. Some upcoming lessons will provide opportunities for students to learn about applying within their chosen pathway, financial aid & scholarships, budgeting, interviewing skills, and other topics related to graduation and life after high school.



## From the Health Office

By Darla Hammerschmidt, LPN 320 231-8457

Joy Wohlin Oman

The school health office is a first aid station for students who become ill or are injured during school hours. If a student is too ill to attend classes or has sustained a serious injury, a parent/ guardian will be notified to arrange for the student to go home. The school does not transport ill or injured students and an ambulance will be called only in extreme situations. To avoid disciplinary actions, authorization from a parent/guardian is required prior to a student leaving the building.

During the school year, please notify the school health office about infectious diseases, major illness, or injuries concerning your child.

Hearing and Vision: Screenings will only be done at the request of a teacher or parent during the school year.

Medications: If your child requires medications to be administered at school, a physician's order and written parent/guardian's permission must be provided along with the medication in a properly labeled container. A new medication physician's order/written consent must be provided every year. NO medications will be provided by the school. If a student requires an "as needed" medication, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen they must have their own supply. These can be stored in the health office. The school is not responsible for administration of these medications.





# October 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Ramp Up Mid term	3	4 Teacher In Service Day NO School for Students	5
6	7 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-7 pm  Student Success in High School Meeting @ 5:00 pm in BPAC for 9th & 10th Grade Senior Parent info Mtg @ 5:30 pm in BPAC	8	9 Ramp Up	10 Picture Retakes	11	12
13	14  Fall Showcase Concert 7:30 in the Gym	15  ASVAB test for JRs & SRs (voluntary)	16 Opportunity Day	17  NO SCHOOL for staff and students	18  NO SCHOOL for staff and students	19
20	21  Dance begins	22 PSAT test for Juniors and invited sophomores	23 Ramp Up	24	25	26  National ACT test
27	28  Girls Hockey begins	29	30 Opportunity Day	31 End of Term 1		

# November 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Teacher In Service Day NO School for Students	2
3	4 Term 2 begins	5	6 Ramp Up	7  Musical 7:00 pm	8  Musical 7:00 pm	9  Musical 7:00 pm
10  Musical 1:00 pm	11  Gymnastics, Boys Hockey, Girls BB and Nordic Ski begins	12 Pre ACT for students in a 10th grade Ramp Up	13 Ramp Up	14	15	16
17	18  Boys BB and Wrestling begins	19	20 Ramp Up	21	22	23
24	25  Boys Swim & Dive begins	26  Blood Drive	27 Opportunity Day	28  NO SCHOOL for staff and students	29  NO SCHOOL for staff and students	30







## From the Guidance Office

- Invited 10th graders & interested 11th graders will take the PSAT test on October 22nd, 2024
- **All students in a 10th grade Ramp Up** will take the Pre ACT test on November 12th, 2024
- **Juniors** will have the opportunity to take the ACT plus writing on April 8, 2025



## • Important meetings

### Student Success in High School Meeting for 9th & 10th grade

October 7th, 2024 5:00 pm

### 12th grade Parent Meeting

October 7th, 2024 5:30 pm

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is available December 1st.

We've moved back our **Financial Aid Night**, to accommodate this change. We've scheduled an informational meeting for December 5th.

**FAFSA work night** will be in January.



## ACT Tests

Signup is available at

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

Information packets are available in  
the Guidance Office.

Test Date	Regular deadline	Late registration deadline
October 26, 2024	September 20	October 7
December 14, 2024	November 8	November 22
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 26

## Class of 2025

### WIHISEAN YEARBOOK PHOTO SUBMISSION INFORMATION for SENIORS

All of the information for 2025 Senior Photo Submissions and yearbook purchases can be found on our Wihisean Yearbook Site at <https://hovlandwillmar.wixsite.com/wihiseanyearbook> and in the Class of 2025 Graduation / Yearbook SCHOOLOGY class.

SENIOR PHOTOS are DUE by December 20th, 2024.

Seniors: Follow the directions with the link above to submit your photo.

No photos will be accepted by email.





Cardinal Courier

Willmar Senior

High School

2701 30th Street NE

Willmar, MN 56201

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US Postage  
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Willmar MN  
Permit 667

## HOMEWORK

Homework for students who have been absent can be received by contacting the individual teacher through parent/student portal or emailing the student's teacher directly using the district website directory.

Students may also access homework on their iPad. The Main Office is open until 4:30 Monday through Friday for homework pickup.



## WHS Main & Guidance Office Staff

*The following people are available for questions or concerns on WHS policies, activities, or individual student matters.*

Paul Schmitz, Principal	231-8310
Nick Clasemann, Ass't. Principal Grades 10 & 12	231-8311
Scott Hisken, Ass't Principal Grades 9 & 11	231-8312
Ryan Blahosky, Activities Coordinator	231-8331
Jen Hess, Counselor A — G	231-8321
Megan Erickson, Counselor H — N	231-8322
Leah Rosendahl, Counselor O — Z	231-8323
Natalie Campos, Social Worker A-L	231-8464
Monica Crow, Social Worker M-Z	231-8381
Darla Hammerschmidt, Nurse	231-8457

