



Wapsie Valley Community School District



2535 Viking Avenue

Fairbank, Iowa 50629

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www.wapsievalleyschools.com

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Wapsie Valley Schools, April 2011 District Newsletter

A college education is not a quantitative body of knowledge salted away in a card file. It is a taste for knowledge, a taste for philosophy, if you will; a capacity to explore, to question, to perceive relationships, between fields of knowledge and experience. ---A. Whitney Griswold

Griswold is a former president of Yale University, and his comments about a college education were interesting to me. The college education, he says, isn't something that is a concrete set of facts, or a "container" of knowledge that can be filled over time. Rather, a college education is intended to whet the appetite for learning, and teach a student how to learn, rather than what to learn. We often note at Wapsie Valley that our mission is to prepare students for a lifetime of learning after they leave our buildings, and for some students, that starts with a college education. However, more and more students are beginning their college education before they leave the halls of Wapsie Valley Community Schools.

Students at Wapsie Valley take a variety of college course that range from Post Secondary Enrollment Option courses (PSEO), concurrent enrollment courses, and college credit career academy courses. Some students leave Wapsie Valley Schools with nearly 20 college credits, and in some cases, are able to start their "college careers" as a second semester freshmen. For parents who have accumulated college debt to help support their son or daughter's tuition, a one-semester reprieve can be a significant benefit. In addition to the financial benefit, students are able to experience college level coursework while still studying in the supportive, "home-town" atmosphere of Wapsie Valley high school.

What kinds of college classes are Wapsie Valley students enrolled in this semester? Students are enrolled in College Composition I, a college course offered through Hawkeye Community College taught right here at Wapsie Valley Jr./Sr. High School during the school day. Students receive Wapsie Valley elective credits, and Hawkeye Community College credit as well. (This is a concurrent course.) Students also attend the Regional Academy of Math and Science (RAMS Center) in Oelwein and enroll in morning classes like Anatomy and Physiology and Public Speaking through Northeast Iowa Community College. These students travel to and from Oelwein and the RAMS Center on their own time, often times leaving for school far earlier than they would for our traditional 8:30 start time. Following their course in Oelwein, they return promptly to the jr./sr. high school.

Students also enroll in PSEO courses through local community colleges as well. These classes are often online courses that students take during our school day. Their work is evaluated by a college professor who also sets the deadlines, establishes the syllabus, and moderates student-teacher interaction. Students at Wapsie Valley are currently enrolled in PSEO courses like Introduction to Literature, Introduction to Business, and Personal Wellness.

Wapsie Valley students are also involved in college credit career academy courses. Some students have applied to participate in the EMC² program; this program offers machining and manufacturing coursework and internship

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opportunities through Hawkeye Community College. HCC has partnered with local manufacturers like John Deere, along with local high schools to provide students with this opportunity to gain college credit, coursework, and practical internship experience in the machining field. Students are required to take courses in our own Industrial Technology department, apply to the program, and then take college coursework both during the school year and in the summer, in addition to working many hours as part of the internship program. The competition for spots in this program is fierce.

In order to be eligible for these courses (PSEO, concurrent, and college academy), students must pass certain eligibility requirements. The foremost requirement is that they be proficient in reading, math, and science based on their most recent ITED tests. For parents, this is yet another reason to encourage your child to take these assessments seriously. The district has also adopted alternative assessment guidelines for those students who have not yet met the proficiency requirements through the ITED. These requirements include grades in current WV courses, use of the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress Assessment—taken twice per year at Wapsie Valley), teacher/counselor/parent conferences, and passing the local college entrance/placement examination. In short, students need to demonstrate readiness to take college level work and the responsibility that comes with these courses. Not all students are ready, or eligible for, college-level work.

For students and parents who are interested in college courses, please visit with Mr. Wharram. Much of registration is already in progress for next fall, so spaces in college classes for Fall 2011 may not be available. However, it's never too early to begin planning for the next registration opportunity for college level courses. This may include preparation for the ITED, completion of a college entrance exam, or setting up an appointment to visit the RAMS Center in Oelwein or to talk with one of our students who is currently attending there.

While these college courses provide students rich opportunities, the level of responsibility it also heightened. Students in PSEO courses are monitored by Mr. Wharram, but the foremost interaction in those courses is between college professor and student. Grades for these courses also impact student eligibility for extracurricular activities, just as a high school course in our building would. They also impact the students' grade point average. College course credits may be used by a student as elective course credit. However, students may not replace a Wapsie Valley required course with a college credit course. Students may also be responsible for textbook rental fees. In the event that a student fails a college level course, the responsibility for the cost of tuition becomes the student's and his or her family's. Again, with the opportunity that accompanies college level courses for high school students, also comes an increase amount of responsibility.

The Iowa Legislature and Iowa Department of Education are continually increasing pressure for schools to offer opportunities for college credit to students. You may hear of Senior Year Plus, which outlines the State's expectation for public schools to make college courses available to our students. Just as A. Whitney Griswold described the purpose of college, so, too, does Wapsie Valley. Our purpose is to cultivate learners that seek knowledge, value learning, and can use those skills to solve problems. We continue to offer rich opportunities for students in our pre-k-12 classrooms, and college courses are one more tool available to students at Wapsie Valley to prepare them for their future as learners and workers. Have a great month of April, and as always, Go Warriors!

Wapsie Valley Happenings

Gregg Eschweiler, Principal

Graduation Rates Across Iowa

State officials released the following information regarding graduation rates across the state. Wapsie Valley does a very commendable job in tracking our students and assisting them in reaching graduation. Our Student graduation rate ranks above the state average and towards the top overall in the state.

The following data is from the Department of Education:

District High School Status: Wapsie Valley

District Title I Graduation Rates:

Cohort ending 2009-2010 4-year cohort graduation rate: 100.00%

Cohort ending 2008-2009 4-year cohort graduation rate: 97.44%

Cohort ending 2009-2010 5 year cohort graduation rate: 97.44%

Statewide Title Graduation Rates:

Cohort ending 2009-2010 4-year cohort graduation rate: 88.8%

Cohort ending 2008-2009 4-year cohort graduation rate: 87.3%

Cohort ending 2009-2010 5 year cohort graduation rate: 90.5%



Foods Class Cafe



The Wapsie Valley Foods Class will be holding a café on April 14, 2011. Serving will begin at 11:30.

The Menu

French Dip
Salads
Strawberry Shortcake

The cost of the meal is \$5.00

Please RSVP by Monday, April 11, 2011.

Guidance News from Mr. Wharram Class of 2011 - Countdown.

Ask most of the seniors and they are a little bit in "shock and awe" that their 13 years of public school education is about to come to an end.

Here are some important dates that directly involve the counselor.

Friday, April 15 marks deadline to almost all of the local and regional scholarships. A special note about the Fairbank American Legion Scholarship; it's deadline is also now on April 15.

Seniors Awards night is Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 in the auditorium.

Practice for commencement is Wednesday, May 18 at 1:30pm. Wednesday May 18 will be the last day of school for the Wapsie Valley Class of 2011, if the graduates have completed and passed all academic work.

Seniors who have not completed their academic work will be required to report to school Thursday and Friday if necessary.

MAP Testing Grades 7-11

MAP testing at the junior/senior high school will be April 7 – 15. Most of the testing will be conducted during the math and English classes, with some minor disruptions in the rest of the schedule. If a student misses for some reason he/she will be required to make up the tests during a study hall the week of April 18 – 21

2011-2012 School Year Registrations

All of the 9th-12th Grade registrations, and most of the four-year plans have been returned to the guidance office. I want to thank students and parents who returned that information in a timely fashion.

During the first week in May I will be visiting the 6th Grade classrooms with a registration sheet for our incoming 7th Grade class. The main questions are about music and athletic participation in junior high.

Parents will also find information about the recommended math placement at the junior/senior high school. If you have any questions please contact me by email or phone.

Healthy Habits for Children and Families

Poor nutritional habits and inactivity lead to overweight children and subsequently to obesity. Obesity takes a huge toll on children's health. It can put them at increased risk for Type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, high cholesterol and other health problems. Today, about one third of school age children and youth weigh too much. It is reported that half (51%) of obese teen-age girls and a third (37%) of teenage boys will be morbidly obese, 80 to 100 pounds overweight by age 30, the research shows.

Sleep

How much sleep do children and youth need? The amount a child needs depends on several factors, but reported guidelines for the ages of children include: "There's more and more information showing insufficient sleep affects cognitive ability, and emotional and physical well-being," says Dennis Rosen at Children's Hospital in Boston. More than a third of elementary school-age kids and 40% of teenagers have significant sleep complaints, according to the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

Experts are saying, "Get the computer, TV and cell phone out of the bedroom." Light exposure from screens or anything lit up suppresses the release of melatonin,

a hormone linked to circadian rhythms (affecting the timing of sleep).

"Anything lit up is stimulating and delays your ability to fall asleep." The majority of under-rested kids are simply going to bed too late and as a result

do not concentrate well in school and cannot participate as well in class, sports and other activities. Some studies show that over the course of a week, high schoolers miss nearly 12 hours of needed sleep.

Many parents develop a pre-sleep routine for their children and youth, including a bath, reading, a light healthy snack. Essentially, a scheduled wind-down for the day is important for all elementary and high school children.

"Get the technology out of the bedroom. No TV, no cell phone, no computer. You really want it to be the place where they just sleep." –

Nancy Collop, American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Wapsie Valley Community Schools
Board Approved Bills for March 2011

Board Bills

1st Class Lighting	\$71.74	Supplies
ACES	\$6,147.00	Purch Serv
Aable	\$71.50	Purch Serv
Adv. Sys	\$3,457.13	Purch Serv
AgVantage	\$3,193.51	Gas
Ahlers	\$3,939.85	Const.
Alliant	\$132.37	Elec
AEA 267	\$4,302.20	Purch Serv
State Auditor	\$625.00	Purch Serv
A Martin	\$4.00	Purch Serv
A Schares	\$8.00	Purch Serv
B&K	\$95.71	Repairs
B Brennan	\$150.00	Purch Serv
B Eberhard	\$86.02	Gas
B Wittenburg	\$1,225.00	Const.
B Marticoff	\$4.00	Purch Serv
Bremer Sheriff	\$240.00	Purch Serv
Butler REC	\$3,221.53	Elec
C&J Supplies	\$824.25	Supplies
C O'Donnell	\$4.00	Purch Serv
Casey's	\$873.73	Bas
CR CSD	\$2,018.80	Open Enroll
Cent IA Water	\$85.32	Water
C Garber	\$250.00	Travel
Chase	\$869.90	Gas
Chemsearch	\$312.15	Supplies
City Fairbank	\$9,000.00	Const.
City Fairbank	\$39,472.00	Repairs
City Fairbank	\$9,618.40	Elec
City Readlyn	\$3,092.44	Elec
Consolidated	\$846.02	Gas
Cont. Research	\$371.83	Supplies
Cy & Charleys	\$643.80	Tires
Del's	\$128.94	Repairs
DAI	\$250.00	Purch Serv
Don's	\$1,503.86	Repairs
D Billhorn	\$90.00	Supplies
D Bentley	\$180.00	Supplies
East REC	\$532.69	Elec
Edgeton	\$177.31	Supplies
Fbk Food	\$79.86	Supplies
Farm Plan	\$79.93	Supplies
Fauser	\$11,537.89	L P Gas
Flinn	\$150.54	Supplies
G Meyer	\$4.00	Purch Serv
Haan	\$327.80	Supplies
Herff	\$414.16	Supplies
Hillyard	\$1,082.55	Supplies
Horticulture	\$49.95	Supplies
Hub City	\$191.49	Supplies
IKON	\$213.15	Purch Serv
IKON	\$141.48	Purch Serv
IA Sports	\$435.00	Supplies
IA Water	\$225.00	Purch Serv
J Joerger	\$12.00	Purch Serv
J Richards	\$37.64	Supplies
J Mast	\$108.33	Supplies
J Burke	\$8.00	Purch Serv
K Oltrogge	\$3,200.00	Audit
K Drew	\$4.00	Purch Serv
Kwik Trip	\$307.65	Gas
Larry's	\$19.84	Repairs
Larson	\$1,193.00	Const.

Larson	\$3,007.52	Elec
Laydon's	\$560.00	Purch Serv
M Owens	\$400.00	Purch Serv
Mediacom	\$514.90	Purch Serv
MARC	\$161.17	Supplies
Mod Bldg	\$1,558.23	Supplies
NetINS	\$14.99	Purch Serv
Oelwein CSD	\$4,311.47	Purch Serv
Oran Tele	\$662.92	Tele
P Brown	\$4.00	Purch Serv
Pronto	\$88.05	Gas
Readlyn Lib	\$50.00	Supplies
Readlyn Tele	\$389.72	Tele
Retrofit	\$224.00	Supplies
Rite Price	\$2,142.46	Supplies
R Wenner	\$45.90	Supplies
Scheels	\$675.00	Snow
Scholastin	\$996.00	Supplies
School Sales	\$73.55	Supplies
School Nurse	\$66.95	Supplies
Softchoice	\$369.95	Purch Serv
Spahn&Rose	\$29.95	Supplies
Storm Water	\$350.00	Water
Superier	\$766.57	Supplies
Team	\$599.50	Supplies
Paper Corp	\$4,075.80	Supplies
Waverly Tire	\$103.00	Tires
Tiger Direct	\$2,653.97	Supplies
US Cellular	\$288.16	Tele
VISA	\$746.08	Supplies
V Schellhorn	\$90.00	Supplies
WV Post Prom	\$250.00	Supplies
Wast Manage	\$730.97	Purch Serv
Wat Courier	\$124.56	News
West Music	\$104.65	Supplies
Windstream	\$319.47	Tele
Zupke	\$154.87	Supplies
Total	\$145,648.00	

Activity Fund

AEA 267	\$71.36	Supplies
Anderson's	\$656.70	Prom
All Am Graph	\$359.40	Resale
J Bjorklund	\$24.60	Mileage
Coe College	\$50.00	Fees
E Doese	\$3,331.23	Supplies
S Doese	\$70.00	Mileage
J Erhardt	\$65.00	Mileage
Fbk Food	\$328.54	Supplies
Floral Images	\$55.00	Supplies
B Gordon	\$75.00	Mileage
D Gordon	\$60.00	Mileage
B Gruetzmacher	\$20.32	Supplies
M Gruetzmacher	\$5.00	Mileage
T Hageno	\$10.00	Mileage
M Huebner	\$30.00	Mileage
IHSADA	\$100.00	Dues
IHSMA	\$85.00	Fees
IA FFA	\$320.00	Supplies
Inventory Trade	\$420.00	Supplies
J Joerger	\$74.97	Supplies
Maple Grove	\$38.07	Supplies
M McKowen	\$51.23	Supplies
Natl FFA	\$580.00	Supplies
K Niebuhr	\$19.38	Prom

Pronto	\$142.89	Supplies
The Printery	\$140.80	Resale
Rec Room	\$1,014.25	Resale
Tiger Direct	\$73.53	Supplies
U of I	\$270.00	Clinic
Visa	\$743.41	Supplies
J Volker	\$40.00	Mileage
WV Hot Lunch	\$77.74	Supplies
K Watts	\$45.00	Mileage
N Westemeier	\$70.00	Mileage
H Wiersma	\$75.00	Mileage
G Wittenburg	\$5.00	Mileage
C Woods	\$5.00	Mileage
Total	\$9,603.42	
Hot Lunch		
AE	\$2,734.32	Supplies
Wonder	\$621.89	Supplies
Fbk Food	\$11.64	Supplies
Martin Bros	\$4,868.04	Supplies
WV Gen Fund	\$14,182.44	Salaries
Zells	\$383.90	Supplies
Oran Locker	\$445.91	Supplies
Keck, Inc	\$810.03	Supplies
Total	\$24,058.17	

Show your Warrior spirit!



Driveway Painting Fundraiser

We will paint a Wapsie Valley Warriors logo on your driveway in bright yellow and black paint. The logo will be placed near the end of your driveway, unless otherwise noted. The cost is \$20 for new logos OR repainting your current driveway logo. Logos will be painted as soon as possible once we've received your order and your money.

Orders are being taken now through August 15th.

Let's paint the town black and gold in support of the

WAPSIE VALLEY WARRIORS!!!

In Fairbank, contact Jen Schmitz at 319-635-2228
In Readlyn, contact Kristin Blaylock at 319-231-5687

All meals include a carton of milk.

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Cheese pizza, corn, fruit, sand- wich, ice cream	2
3	4 Mini corn dogs, sandwich, hot vegetable, pears, bar	5 French toast, sausage, orange juice, fruit	6 Goulash, carrot sticks, fruit, school made rolls 1:30 Dismissal	7 Beefburger/ bun, vegetable, mixed fruit, cookie	8 Shrimp poppers, mashed potatoes, p-nut butter sand- wich, fruit	9
10	11 Chicken pattie/ bun, vegetable, chilled fruit	12 Sub sandwich, oven potatoes, fruit	13 Spaghetti/ meat sauce, lettuce, bread stick, chilled fruit	14 Cook's Choice	15 Tomato soup, toasted cheese sandwich, carrot sticks, fruit, cookie	16
17	18 Hot dogs/ bun, vegetable, chilled fruit, no-bake cookie	19 Turkey/ stuffing, mashed potatoes/ gravy, tea roll, jello salad	20 Pizza, corn, sand- wich, ice cream, fruit	21 Hamburger/ bun, hot vegetable, fruit, bar	22 No School	23
24	25 No School	26 Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, p-nut butter sand- wich, fruit, cookie	27 Taco, lettuce, cheese, salsa, sandwich, fruit 1:30 Dismissal	28 Cold meat sand- wich, oven pota- toes, fruit, cookie	29 Weiner winks, green beans, pine- apple, pudding	30

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.