



## **WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS CLIPS FOR DECEMBER 2024**

***Please make sure your students get to school on time. School starts for all middle schools at 7:55am. It becomes very disruptive to other students and the teacher when students are late to 1st period.***

### **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS –**

***All assignments are posted in Canvas. If you are absent, check in Canvas for work that you may have missed.***

***BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL DROP OFF AND AFTERNOON PICK UP FOR STUDENTS... We need to remind drivers who are bringing our students to school in the morning, or picking them up in the afternoon, pull into the proper drop-off areas. We have students being dropped off at the crosswalks and cars are blocking the busses. **No student drop-offs are to be done in the back of the school, the Black Hills Works parking lot or the former Brain Injury building across the street to the North.** In the afternoon, all students should be out of the building by 3:15 p.m. and off the school grounds by 3:30 p.m.— unless they have an after-school activity. We appreciate your consideration of these issues.***

***PAWS PTA ~ LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT WEST MIDDLE SCHOOLS PTA. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT <http://parentsatwestmiddleschool.weebly.com/>***



### **WINTER WEATHER ALERT!!!**

***Winter is on its way! If the temperature or wind chill is zero degrees or below, snowing, or raining, students are allowed into the building. 6th grade students need to go to the Old Gym, 7th grade students need to go to the New Gym (Community Center), and 8th grade students need to go to the cafeteria. Students need to enter the cafeteria through the cafeteria doors (drop off in community center parking lot, walk around back of new gym, and enter through cafeteria doors). If the temperature or wind chill is above zero degrees, students need to wait outside in the designated areas. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENT IS DRESSED APPROPRIATELY FOR WINTER WEATHER!!!*****

***Please go to the [rcas.org](http://rcas.org) website or tune into your local TV channels for school closings, or late starts.***



***ALL LOST AND FOUND ITEMS ARE GOING TO BE DELIVERED TO GOODWILL DURING CHRISTMAS VACATION. PLEASE ASK YOUR STUDENTS TO CLAIM THEIR BELONGINGS BEFORE THAT TIME. 99% OF THE TIME, STUDENTS WILL BE UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THEIR ITEMS HAVE BEEN STOLEN AND THEY ARE IN THE LOST AND FOUND AREA INSTEAD!***



*It's time to get AMP'd up to showcase your creative talents!*

*Lifeways is looking for students to submit artwork for our annual event. We encourage our students to choose ART over alcohol, tobacco. Or other drugs. The event is called AMP, which stands for Art, Music, and Performance. We are accepting applications for all art styles; drawing, painting, photography, pottery, etc. (a MAX of 2 art pieces per student may be submitted). The art portion will be displayed at the Lifeways office from January 3rd until the performance in March. \*\*If you choose to submit an art piece, please have it already matted or framed to help avoid damage to the art.\*\**

*This is where the performance part comes into play! Students who wish to perform, whether that be singing, interpretive dance, composing music, instrumental piece, etc., will look at the Lifeways website to see all the art pieces that are submitted. They will then draw inspiration from one art piece and create a performance component on that. ONLY ONE PERFORMANCE PER PIECE OF ART. Once an art piece has been claimed, no one else can select that piece of art for their inspiration. The application for the performance part will be available in January.*

*They will then perform on March 29th from 6-8:00pm (doors open at 5:00) at the Dahl Art Center with a rehearsal from 5-8:00pm at the Dahl Art Center on March 28th.*

*If any students at West Middle School are interested in submitting an application and art piece, please speak to Nicholes Wiest, the Lifeways counselor. Applications and art pieces are due on January 17, 2025.*

**CONGRATULATIONS** *Gianna Grigg, Victoria Hresko, Rylee Knispel, Emory Parrish, and Lindsay Plunkett on being selected for the 2025 SDACDA Jr Honor Choir.*



**STUDENT OF THE MONTH** *nominees chosen by the teachers for the month of NOVEMBER are:*

**6th grade**

*Liam Ankele  
Rhett Carlson  
Olivia Holm  
Evelynn Hurley*

**7th grade**

*Brody Kalahar  
Connor Knisley  
Lexi Marshall  
Avery Vetch*

**8th grade**

*Zeva Dailey  
Devin Morrison  
Emory Parrish  
Matthew Staedtler*

## Just A Reminder

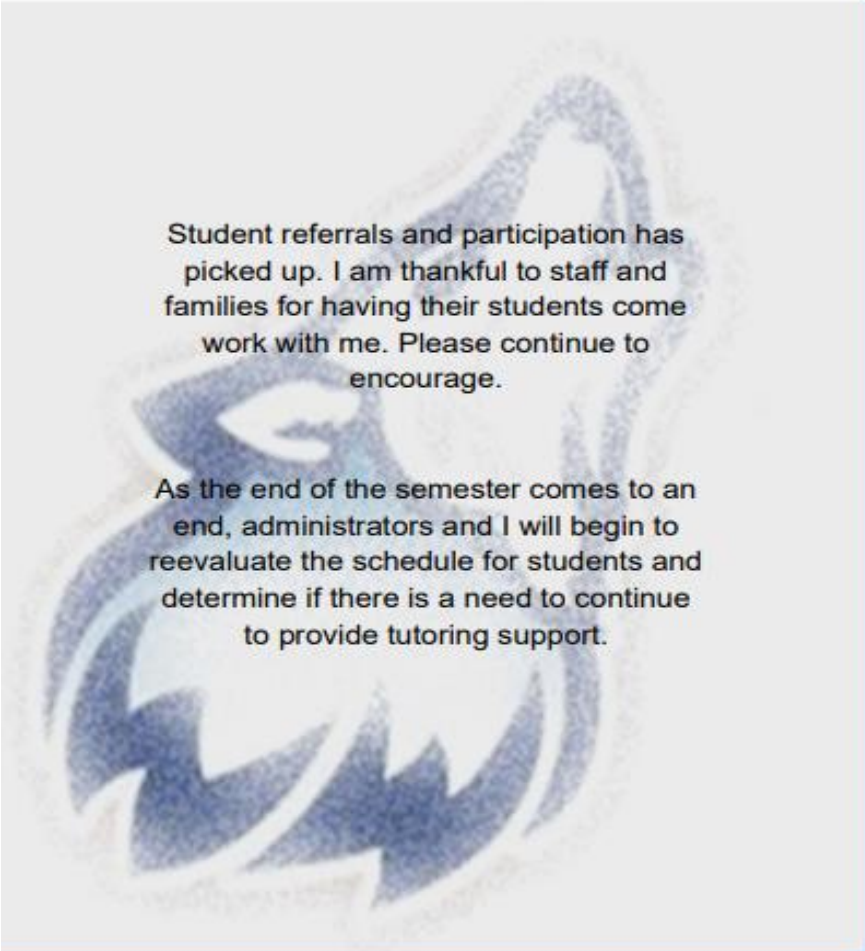
*December 5, 2024  
December 6, 2024  
December 9-13, 2024  
December 14, 2024  
December 16, 2024  
December 19, 2024  
December 23-January 3  
January 6, 2025  
January 7, 2025*

*Winter Choir Concert @ Stevens High School Theatre 7:00pm  
Early Release Friday – 1:00  
Maps Testing  
Orchestra at the Uptown Rapid Mall  
Orchestra Holiday Concert @ Stevens High School Theatre 7:00pm  
6<sup>th</sup> grade Musical @ 2:15pm Cafeteria  
**NO SCHOOL ~ WINTER BREAK**  
**NO SCHOOL ~ TEACHER WORKDAY**  
**SCHOOL RESUMES***

**"WISHING YOU, MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025"**



## West Middle School (WMS) Bi-weekly Newsletter



Student referrals and participation has picked up. I am thankful to staff and families for having their students come work with me. Please continue to encourage.

As the end of the semester comes to an end, administrators and I will begin to reevaluate the schedule for students and determine if there is a need to continue to provide tutoring support.

### Tutoring Schedule

I offer tutoring services at Stevens HS, Rapid City Alternative Academy, and West MS.

Stevens HS will be Monday thru Thursday 7:30 am – 8:00 am.

West MS will be Thursday 3:05 pm – 3:35 pm.

RCAA will be Thursday from 11:00 – 12:30.

I will continue to work with administrators to determine if additional days and times will be needed.

Email: [william.velez@k12.sd.us](mailto:william.velez@k12.sd.us)

Phone: 605-394-4051

### **Lakota Proverb**

**“The ones that matter most are the children. They are the true human beings.” Lakota**