



ELEMENTARY EXPRESS

Whitmore Lake Elementary School

Monday, August 23, 2021

Dear Whitmore Lake Elementary School Families,

All WLES staff returned to school today for a day of learning and preparation. All of you will have an opportunity to meet your child's teacher tonight or tomorrow. The real fun begins on Wednesday with a half-day of school!

There have been some common questions over the past few days. Here are the responses in case you are wondering about them too.

- LUNCH: Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. We will limit the number of students in the cafeteria, leave space between students, and have assigned seats to keep cohorts together.
- SPECIALS: We are trying something new this year. Instead of rotating between specials every three days, students will have the same special for ~6 weeks then rotate to a new special. For example, one class might have art from the first day to early October, music from early October to mid-November, and gym from mid-November to mid-December. The rotations will repeat during the second semester.
- MASKS: Students, staff, and visitors will wear masks indoors at WLES while we are at substantial or high-risk levels.
- SUPPLIES: We have all the basics for every student. If you would like to donate an item to your child's classroom or the school, check out the WLPS Amazon wishlist: [amzn.to/3BCEVCC](https://www.amazon.com/?ref=AHS_search&pf_rd_p=3bce5cc8-4d4d-4d4d-4d4d-4d4d4d4d4d4d)
- CROSSING GUARDS: Crossing guards will be on duty from 7:35-7:50AM (5-6) and 8:35-8:50AM (K-4) Please plan your child's walking time accordingly.
- DROP OFF & PICK UP: It takes longer than everyone wants it to for the first few days. Once all staff, students, and families know the routine, it will be down to about 10 minutes start to finish!

Welcome Back to WLES!



Heidi Roy-Borland
WLES Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 23	Kindergarten Open House New Student school tours
August 24	Virtual Open House 1st-6th grades
August 25	First day-1/2 day
September 1	PTO meeting, 6PM at WLES (in person)
September 3	No School
September 6	No School
September 8	Picture Day

SCHOOL HOURS

5th & 6th grade

Full day: 7:50AM-2:35PM

Half day: 7:50AM-11:05AM

Kindergarten-4th grade

Full day: 8:50AM-3:35PM

Half day: 8:50AM-12:05PM

DROP OFF TIMES:

5th & 6th grade: 7:40AM

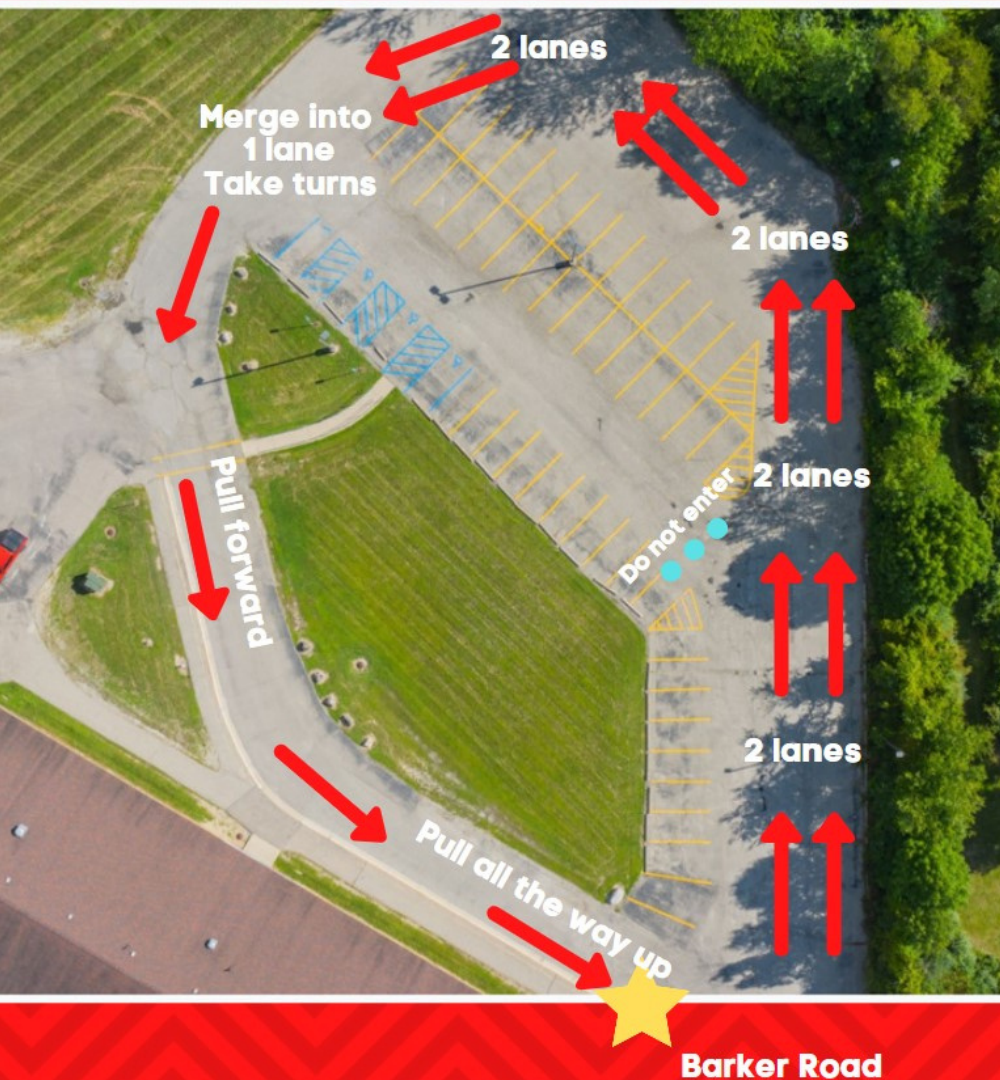
Kindergarten-4th grade: 8:40AM

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Arrival and dismissal times are the busiest times of the day at WLES. Please help us keep it safe and efficient by remembering the following:

- Note the drop off times for arrival.
 - 5th & 6th grade: 7:40AM Kindergarten-4th grade: 8:40AM
 - Students will NOT be let in the building, off the bus, or out of vehicles before this time.
- Follow the directions on the Kiss and Go map below if you drop off or pick up your child.
- Stay in line unless directed by a staff member to pull around another vehicle.
- If your child is late for school, an adult must walk them to the school and wait for a staff member to sign them in.
- Please call in all dismissal changes to the office by 2:15PM for 5th & 6th grade students and by 3:15PM for Kindergarten-4th grade students.
- At pick up, put a sign with your child's last name in large bold letters in your window so staff can easily read it from a distance. A sign will be provided to the youngest student in your family on the first day of school.
- Please be patient.

WLES Kiss and Go-AM & PM



AM Drop Off

- Drop off opens at 7:40AM (5-6) and 8:40AM (K-4)
- Kids must stay in vehicles until 7:40/8:40AM
- Form 2 lanes of traffic (see map)
- At the last turn, merge into 1 lane, take turns (see map)
- Pull up as far as possible (see star on map) Staff members will move to you
- Adults stay in the vehicle
- Kids exit vehicle from passenger side
- Pull away with caution

PM Pick-Up

- Pick up opens at 2:35PM (5-6) and 3:35PM (K-4)
- Form 2 lanes of traffic (see map)
- At the last turn, merge into 1 lane, take turns (see map)
- Display a sign with your student's last name in the window
- Pull up as far as possible (see star on map) Your kids will walk to you
- Adults stay in the vehicle
- Kids enter vehicle from passenger side
- Pull away with caution



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WLPS BACK TO SCHOOL GUIDE

The Back to School Guide is filled with helpful information for the 2021-2022 school year. Check it out at <https://www.wlps.net/back-to-school-guide/>

WHAT TO BRING ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- face covering*
 - water bottle* (WLES will provide cups for water if a student needs one)
- *Please put your name on face coverings and water bottles. They will be sent home each night for washing.

FREE BACKPACKS FOR STUDENTS

- Costco donated hundreds of backpacks to WLES! Students will have the opportunity to choose a new FREE backpack on Wednesday.

MEDICATION & SUPPLIES DROP-OFF

You are welcome to drop these items off at any time, but the first day of school tends to be a busy one. Please wait for the buses to clear (~9:00AM) before approaching the front door. If your child needs medication at school, a parent must bring the medication in the original packaging to school and fill out a medication authorization form.

SUMMER FIT ACTIVITIES BOOK TURN IN

If you kept your brain active and completed (or mostly completed) your Summer Fit Activities Book, please turn it in to your teacher by Thursday, September 2. Your rewards will be passed out the following week.



TAKING CHROMEBOOKS HOME-3rd-6th grades

Third through sixth grade students will be bringing Chromebooks home this year. Please make sure you have a case or padded sleeve for an 11 inch Chromebook. Watch for more information from your child's teacher about when this will begin.

WELCOMING NEW WLES STAFF!

1st grade teacher: Mr. Woodard
4th grade teacher consultant: Ms. Blake
Paraprofessional: Ms. Hamlin

Behavior Specialist: Mr. Harrison
Resource Room teacher: Ms. Mildenstein
Art teacher: Ms. Miller