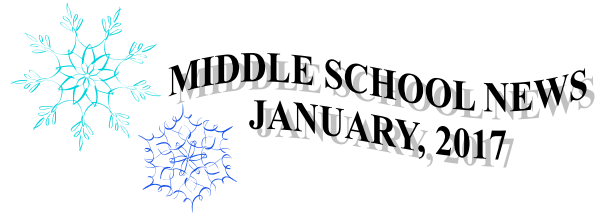




**Warren Township Schools**

*Shining Brighter Every Day*



*From the Principal's Desk Mr. Robert W. Comba*

Dear Parents,

The Warren Board of Education regularly schedules vacation days during the school year so that parents/guardians may plan for this family time/extracurricular time. We acknowledge that occasionally an extraordinary circumstance may occur where a child may need to accompany a parent outside of the board approved vacation days.

Please understand that missed instructional time cannot be replaced by classwork/homework. Faculty members are not required to provide work prior to the vacation, but will collect work that may be completed after the child returns to school.

Please note the section entitled MAKE-UP WORK in the District Handbook and Calendar:

- \*Students who are absent for any reason may make up assignments, class work, and tests within a reasonable period of time. It is the student's responsibility to obtain make-up assignments.
- \*Students excused for field trips, concerts, competitions, etc., must make arrangements with the teacher to complete work missed prior to the absence.
- \*When a student does not complete work missed for absence within the prescribed length of time, he/she is subject to receiving a failing grade for that assignment.

Sincerely,  
*Robert W. Comba*



**Dean's List Mr. Max Ahtau**

Happy New Year Students and Parents!

I hope all of our WMS families have the opportunity to relax and spend time with loved ones. My family will spend the majority of the vacation in Vermont. Both my daughter (9 years old) and son (7 years old) will spend a week skiing at the Middlebury Snow Bowl. My wife and I will have the pleasure of skiing with them (trying to keep up ☺) while creating wonderful memories at the same time.

Off the slopes, we will play board games, sleep in, make pancakes for dinner, and refuse to operate on "a schedule." Although the break will be restful, my family and I will be all happy to be back to our regular routines.

I wish all WMS students and parents a wonderful 2017 and as always, please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,  
*Max Ahtau*

Dean of Students



**Counselors' Corner** *Mrs. M. Johnson, Mrs. L. Regal, Ms. H. Scully*

**Students of the Month**

The Students of the Month for November are:

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

Brandon Lombardo  
Ava Arrosa

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

Christian Beisler  
Sara Sifert

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

Brian Hopwood  
Megan McGee

**Unified Arts**

Taylor Memoli  
Cordelia Ortega

Congratulations to all!



**From the Nurse.....Mrs. L. Lontai, RN, MSN**  
**Holiday Health and Safety Tips**

The holidays are a time to celebrate, give thanks, and reflect. They are also a time to pay special attention to your health. Follow these holiday tips to give the gift of health and safety to yourself and others:

- Wash your hands to be safe and healthy** for at least 20 seconds, with soap and warm water.
- Eat Healthy and Get Moving** – then those New Year’s Resolutions won’t be so hard to keep!
- Manage Stress** through creative ways, not with food, smoking, or alcohol. Try yoga, taking a walk, and/or watching a movie together as a family.
- Wear Your Seatbelt** – be a positive role-model to those you are driving. The holidays can be a busy time; make it a safe, healthy time as well.
- Get Plenty of Rest** – parties are great, but allowing adequate time for quiet rest is important and necessary for good health.

**Just a reminder about Sports Physicals:**

- All forms are due by March 1, 2017.
- If you have a physical for your child that has already been approved for fall sports, an updated Health History is required to be able to participate in sports for the spring.
- All forms can be downloaded at [www.warrentboe.org](http://www.warrentboe.org), or the health office.

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year!!



**Music Department**

*Mrs. A. Jensen, Mrs. D. McCloskey, Mr. J. Seremula, Mr. J. Van Tine,*

Congratulations to the Music Department’s performing groups on the great December concerts.

The CJMEA, Region 2, will hold auditions for Middle School Band and Orchestra students on Saturday, February 4, 2017, with a snow date of February 11th. The performance will be in March.

Our spring musical, **Legally Blonde**, is now ready to start rehearsals. The show promises to be a great success! Performance dates are March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. Stay tuned for ticket information.

Honor Band rehearsals begin on January 4th, with a performance at the High School Auditorium in February, and a tour of all of the participating Middle Schools the following day.

Students and parents need to start considering having their student take summer lessons at the Warren Summer Program held at Long Hill during the month of July, with a lesson every day and a band rehearsal held every day. It's a great way to improve their playing abilities.



### **The E2Connection**

*Keeping you connected to the events of WMS Enrichment Education Programs*  
*Dr. S. Cooper*

#### **Continental Math**

The third Continental Math meet is scheduled to take place in mid-January (2017). Listen to morning announcements for more information.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade E2 Happenings**

Sixth grade E2 will begin in mid-January where students who meet eligibility requirements will be invited to participate in a series of enrichment and challenges. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade E2 program is predominantly a project and competitive based program geared to challenge students who need this additional support.

#### **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade E2 Happenings**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade E2 students will have an opportunity to sign up for new activities like Mock Trial Writing, Take it on the Road, Quiz Bowl tests for eligibility,...(and some returning activities like Solar Car, Chess, Photography, Quiz Bowl) in January 2017. Watch the E2 door for information on choosing new classes and activities.

#### **Mock Trial at the Warren Court House**

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade mock trial students took their cases to court on December 19<sup>th</sup> where the Honorable Mark Adler presided. This event was a huge success for the students where they learned many aspects of trial law. Thank you, Judge Adler for your time and expertise.

#### **Academic Tournament Team**

The Academic Tournament Team, consisting of 20– 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders is on the road to great challenges this year. The start of ATOMS (Academic Tournament of Middle Schools) is being held at Bridgewater Middle School starting January 12<sup>th</sup>. The Thinking Cap quiz bowl also will be held in late January and the American Scholastic Challenge in February. Also, watch for information on the fourth annual history bee, which will be offered to any WMS student interested in trying their hand at history facts and trivia.

#### **Math Club**

The Math Club students have participated in several math competitions this year including Continental Math, AMC8, AMTNJ and the St. Joseph's Math Competition scheduled for early January. The Math Counts qualifying exams will take place in mid-January. The Math League Press Competition is

scheduled for February. Watch the E2 any updates to these opportunities.



schedule, the E2 website, and the E2 door for

### **JANUARY 2017**

1/3	School Opens	1/18	PTO Meeting
1/16	MLK School Closed	1/26 & 27	PTO Book Fair

---

### **Superintendent's Corner**

At its meeting on December 12, 2016, the Warren Township Board of Education approved a revised district mission statement. It reads:

*The mission of the Warren Township School District is to provide, through a safe, nurturing yet challenging environment, all students with an outstanding education that engages students and fosters academic excellence, healthy social and emotional development, and a lifelong passion for learning.*

This slight adjustment of the mission statement reflects the shared goal that we think about the whole child as we approach educational decision-making in the district. That is, the five tenets of a whole child approach to education - healthy, safe, supported, engaged, challenged - are embedded in everything we do.

*Each student enters school **healthy** and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle.*

*Each student learns in an environment that is physically and emotionally **safe** for students and adults.*

*Each student is actively **engaged** in learning and is connected to the school and broader community.*

*Each student has access to personalized learning and is **supported** by qualified, caring adults.*

*Each student is **challenged** academically and prepared for success in college or further study and for employment and participation in a global environment.*

I am excited to announce that on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, the District will be hosting a Community Conversation on the whole child at Watchung Hills Regional High School. Our featured speaker will be Sean Slade, Senior Director of Global Outreach for ASCD, a professional education association and international leader on the topic. There, attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about what a whole child approach to education entails and to provide feedback on areas where we excel and areas where we have work to do.

More details and the registration process will be announced in January. All members of the Warren Township community are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Matthew A. Mingle, Ed.D.