WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Learning Today…
Leading Tomorrow

July 31st, 2026

Winneconne Elementary
Back-To-School 2026-27

Monday, August 24th , 2026

- 12:00 PM - 6:30 PM Get to Know you Meetings 4K-5; (sign up info below)

Tuesday, September 1st, 2026

- First day of school for K-9 students
- 4K only Get to Know you Day #2 (sign up info below)

Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026 First day of school for 4K and students in grades 10-12

Watch for an email with a link to sign up for 'Get To Know You' meeting
Families should sign up for a 15 minute time slot with their child's classroom teacher. The link to sign up will come from your child's classroom teacher on August 14th, 2026.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Winneconne Families:

We are excited to see everyone back at school! We hope you had time to relax and enjoy fun times with family and friends. It is almost time to start the 2026-27 school year. In this newsletter you will find registration information, staff updates, 4 year old kindergarten details, fee schedules, safety/security information and more. You can find school supply lists on our website. Please call if you cannot find the list or if you have questions about anything. Our school secretary, Mrs. Breister, can be reached at 920-582-5803 X 3122. Mrs. Schmoker (x3123) will return to the office and work with Mrs. Breister once the school year begins. NEW THIS YEAR- 4K students will now participate in morning recess from 7:45am to 8:10am on the north playground (along with K-2nd grade). Please make sure they are dressed accordingly).

Please read/review the 2026-27 FAMILY HANDBOOK with a parent/guardian and watch for a google form from your child's teacher acknowledging you read and discussed the information in the handbook with your child.

The staff at WES has completed the Act 20 training, and we have shifted our literacy focus to phonics. Our instructional practices are not all phonics - students will still be reading books geared toward their instructional reading level and comprehension. Our goal is to make at least one year's growth over one year's time. We continue to monitor student learning data carefully to close any learning gaps. We are fortunate to have instructional coaches who work with teachers to implement teaching strategies that are the most engaging, effective, and advantageous for student growth.

We will also continue to focus on positive behaviors at WES. We know children make mistakes; we reinforce appropriate behaviors/expectations and provide students the opportunity to make a change. Our goal is to create positive relationships with our students and guide them to be good citizens.

Your student(s) may talk about Zones of Regulation. We use 'Zones' to help students identify their feelings and respond in a safe manner. We believe it is important for students to be able to recognize and identify their feelings/emotions and know how to respond safely. Feel free to learn more about the Zones of Regulation from your child's teacher and/or our school counselors Mrs. Chevremont and Mrs. Achterberg.

Our goal is to provide a safe and happy place for your child(ren). I am looking forward to a fantastic school year. See you soon! Please contact me at 920.582.5803x3129 or meunierm@w-csd.org if you have any questions.

Mike Meunier

WES SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Recess and/or Breakfast (4K-5)	7:45 – 8:10 AM
Students enter the building	8:10 AM
4K Arrival 4K AM 4K PM	7:45-8:00 AM 12:15-12:25 PM 8:00-10:45 AM 12:25-3:10 PM
Announcements/ Attendance/Class meetings	8:15- 8:25 AM
Lunch K-1 Recess 2-3	11:00-11:30 AM 11:00-11:30 AM
Lunch 2-3 Recess K-1	11:30 – 12:00 AM 11:30- 12:00 AM
Lunch 4-5 Recess 4-5	12:00 – 12:30 PM 12:30-1:00 PM
Dismissal	3:10 PM

NEW FACES AND CHANGES AT WES

- Mr. Michael Meunier is our new Elementary Principal
- Mrs. Mary Gogo is our new Elementary Assistant Principal
- Ms. Lauryn Hayes is one of our new 5th grade teachers
- Mrs. Peggy Nozar is one of our new 5th grade teachers
- Ms. Faith Kules is our new 3rd grade teacher
- Ms. Brianna Geis is our new Kindergarten teacher
- Mrs. Staci Chevremont is our new 4K-2nd grade Guidance counselor
- Mrs. Kara Riley is our new Stem Teacher
- Mrs. Summer Ennis is our new Occupational Therapist
- Mrs. Jessica Winterhack is our new Literacy coach
- Mrs. Sarah Schultz is our new Kindergarten aide
- Mrs. Allie Wnek is one of our new Special Education aides
- Ms. Aryah Baker is our new Special Education aide

The **School Year Calendar** is available for families to view. We encourage you to take a few moments to review important dates, including holidays, and special events, so you can plan ahead for the upcoming school year. Staying informed will help ensure a smooth and successful year for both students and families!

SAFETY AND SECURITY: VISITORS

Our front entrance is secured in an effort to keep students, staff, and visitors safe. If you need to enter the building during the school day, you will buzz in, ask for permission to enter the building, and go through our school visitor management system called Raptor. **As a reminder, all visitors will need to bring a government issued ID if you plan to enter the building.** In addition, visitors going into the building must wear a visitor sticker. Please be patient with our security procedures as we do our best to be both efficient and helpful while maintaining maximum school safety. In an effort to keep everyone safe, we also need parents to refrain from entering the playground area. If you want to walk your child to the playground you can, but you will not be able to enter the playground and wait.

SAFETY AND SECURITY: ALICE TRAINING

All staff will be trained in Alice (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) prior to the start of school. ALICE training provides options for staff and students when faced with an active shooter/armed intruder. ALICE drills have been conducted semi-annually across the district, typically in the fall and spring of each year. Security experts in our community and across the country believe, as we do, that these practices will enhance student and staff safety. Please read below to find out more about the guidelines and recommendations that WCSD will be following in an effort to provide a safe and secure environment at all district locations. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Hughes.

ALICE

ALERT This is the first notification of danger. Get the word out!

Lockdown Use PLAIN language to convey the type and exact location of the situation. Lockdown is a good starting point. We will make lockdown more secure by learning how to barricade/tie down classroom doors whether they open into the room or outward into the hall.

Inform Continue to communicate via the 'all call' system. An 'all call' can keep an intruder off balance and allow for good decision making by other staff members.

Counter Apply skills the staff has learned to distract, confuse, and gain control.

Evacuate Reduce the number of potential targets by evacuating students in a controlled manner to pre-established rally points. Rally point practice drills will be held.

FROM THE TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

Parent Square

WCSD is switching to a new notification and messaging system called Parent Square. This system replaces Skylert and will allow our district an universal and immediate means of communication with families and employees. It can utilize four methods of communicating via this system: phone, email, app, and/or text messaging. It is **essential** that your family's contact information is accurate and up to date in Skyward so that we are able to ensure you receive district communications.

REGISTRATION AND DISTRICT INFORMATION

Who should register? Every child entering grades 4K-12 for the 2026/2027 school year is required to register online.

Why do I need to register my children every year? Registering online each school year provides an opportunity to update contact information such as addresses, cell/work phone numbers, emergency contacts, email addresses, etc. This updated information will help our staff communicate effectively with families.

How do I complete the online registration?
1. Starting Tuesday, August 4th, 2026 (8am) please visit the district website at www.winneconne.k12.wi.us, proceed to the "Families" tab and then click on "Family Access Skyward". From there you will be prompted to enter your login information. If you do now know your username and/or password please contact Lynn Breister in the elementary office 920-582-5803 ext 3122. Please register by August 14th so teachers have accurate contact information to send you information about the Get To Know You Meetings.
2. Once you are logged in, select the **online registration tab** to begin the registration process. Once registration is completed, you will receive a **confirmation of completion** letting you know you are done with the registration process.
3. Once your registration is complete log back into family access and click on the "Schedule" tab to discover which classroom teacher your child will have for this school year. If you do not have access to a computer, we will have computers available during the Get To Know You meetings.*****When prompted to enter emergency contact information, please DO NOT USE PARENT INFORMATION. Please enter grandparent, aunt/uncle, friend, neighbor etc. Parents/Guardians will automatically be called first. If we cannot reach the Parent/Guardian, we then call the emergency contact(s).** Once registration is completed, you will receive a **confirmation of completion** letting you know you are done with the registration process.

Families have the ability to pay fees and add money to lunch accounts together through e-Funds for Schools! This e-funds service will allow you to make payments on behalf of your student(s) for lunch account deposits, material fees, and athletic/activity fees. To get started, you will need to create an account by following the instructions at the link e-Funds for schools. If you have already created an account, you can proceed directly to the "Add a Fee" or "Make a Payment" section under FEE MANAGEMENT. For your convenience, and to encourage more online payments, the regular user fees associated with the online fee payment system will be waived.

The school fees for each grade level are listed below. **We are not accepting cash payments. Please pay through efunds (no charge).**

"GET TO KNOW YOU DAYS"

We are excited to once again host our "Get to Know You Day" on Monday, August 24, 2026, from 12:00 PM – 6:30 PM. Families are asked to sign up for a 15-minute time slot with their child's classroom teacher to meet and get to know each other. Classroom teachers will send an email on August 14 with a SignUpGenius link to schedule your meeting time.Please be sure to complete your child's online registration (opens August 4, 2026) by August 14 so teachers have up-to-date parent/guardian contact information to send the sign-up link.Grade-level classroom teachers will send the SignUpGenius link. If you would like to connect with a specialist teacher (Art, Music, Physical Education, or Spanish), you are welcome to email them directly to request a time or stop in on August

24th. They will meet with you as their availability allows.

These "Get to Know You" meetings will take the place of the large-scale Open House we have held in previous years. Families are encouraged to bring school supplies with them to their scheduled meeting time.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS - Click here

(Prices/fees listed below are for Elementary School only)

MATERIAL FEES

$15.00 EC/4K

$20.00 Kindergarten - Grade 5

FROM THE FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

Prices

Elementary School Breakfast - $1.50 Reduced price $.30
Elementary School Lunch - $2.90 Reduced price $.40
Cold lunch & Break Milk - $.45
Please discuss the breakfast option with your child (ren) so you do not have unexpected charges.

Free & Reduce

Each year we are required to carry over F&R status from the previous year for 30 days into the new school year. Families that have not put in a new application for 2026-27 will go back to full price status Oct 15, 2026. This change may affect materials, athletic fees and field trip costs. You can fill out an application in family access under the food service tab or you can find an application on our webpage https://www.winneconne.k12.wi.us/ that can be printed off and dropped off at the school office. If you are approved for Free or Reduced meals your children are able to get breakfast (reduced .30), Lunch which includes a milk (reduced .40). However, milk at lunch for cold lunch students is not free or reduced for families on Free or Reduced.

ParentSquare Calls

There are two different phone call reminders that go out nightly -
1. Families with an account that is below $10.00
2. Families that have a negative balance.

Although you may find the calls annoying, they are meant as a reminder that your account is low or negative. Please do not ignore these calls. If you do not want to get them you must maintain a zero balance or an account that is over $10.00.

Negative Balance Accounts

Students that have a negative balance will not be allowed to buy any ala carte items such as cold lunch milk or break milk. **It is the parents or guardians responsibility to keep the account up to date.**

Family Access/ Foodservice Tab

Parents are able to see what their children are purchasing, add ala carte limits to the account, check balance, fill out F&R applications, and check on F&R status. In an effort to save paper & postage you will also find your F& R approval or denial letters in this area also.
NOTE: Ala carte limits must be put in each school year.

ACCOUNTS

Foodservice accounts are family shared accounts, so you only need to put dollars in under one student. Money can be dropped off in a food service box by the office (please put name on envelope) or funds can be added to accounts through E-Funds which can be found under the foodservice button on the district webpage.
Feel free to contact me with any food service questions.

Diane Agrell, SNS
School Nutrition Director
400 N. 9th Ave.
Winneconne, WI. 54986
Phone- (920)-582-5810 ext. 1104 E-mail- agrelld@w-csd.org

FROM THE TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR

Lamers Bus Lines will be sending route information by the end of August. Mr. Dan Dobner, Transportation Coordinator, can assist you with busing questions 582.5800 ext. 1102 or changes to your transportation needs.
Bus passes: Due to space concerns on buses, **we will not** be able to issue or use bus passes again this year.
If the busing address changes during the school year, please obtain and fill out a Transportation Request Form from the Transportation Dept. page on the district website. **Please allow at least one week** for any address changes to the students pick up or drop off location. These requests can take longer since approval is based upon a spot available on the bus.
Please help us ensure your child's safety by following these simple but important procedures:

- Make sure your child arrives at the bus stop at least *five minutes early* each day. Children who are late for the bus may panic and chase it, or run into the road creating an unsafe situation. Realize that the bus times can fluctuate with weather and changes in ridership.
- Insist that your child wait for the bus safely in an orderly fashion, back from the roadway to avoid creating hazardous conditions for children.
- When the bus arrives, your child should wait for the bus driver's signal before boarding and then board single file.
- Children are to sit in their seats and not move around the bus.

- Remove long drawstrings or other dangling items from your child's clothing and backpack to avoid these items getting snagged in the bus door as they get off the bus. Consider bright clothing or backpacks with reflective material to make your child more visible at the bus stop
- Teach your child to sit quietly on the ride to and from school. Behavior problems could distract the bus driver and could result in an accident. It is important that our drivers are able to concentrate on driving the route safely.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

We need your help and patience when dropping off and picking up. Please drive slowly and watch for pedestrians.

DURING THE MORNING, 3RD AVE. WILL BE FOR BUS TRAFFIC ONLY!
PASSENGER CARS SHOULD USE MEADOW LANE
FOR 4K-K (Hug N Go Zone)
OR
5TH AVE. FOR GRADES 1-5

Drop off in the morning/before school

Buses will unload along the east side of the street near the kindergarten playground as we have in the past. Parents choosing to drive their student(s) to school have two options for drop off: 1. Meadow Lane Hug 'N Go Zone near the opening in the fence onto the playground (4K AND KDG) 2. In back of school on 5th Ave. using the Hug 'N Go Zone.

After school pick-up

Children getting a ride home from school can meet up with parents at the following locations:

1. In back of school (East Playground)
2. Outside by the bell in front of school (cars cannot park in front of school)
3. Outside Door G (by Kindergarten playground)
3. On Meadow Lane

Please do not drop off on 3rd Avenue.

Please do not drop your child off prior to 7:45 AM since there will not be supervision.

PLEASE try to avoid driving on 3rd Ave. during morning drop-off and afternoon pickup due to buses and students crossing the streets.

****ATTENDANCE (arriving late and/or leaving early)****

All communication regarding your student's attendance (appointments, late arrival, early departure, etc.) should go to the office - through Mrs. Breister and/or Mrs. Schmoker. Mrs. Breister and Mrs. Schmoker will then pass the information on to the classroom teacher.

*******Please help us by getting information to the office first, and then let the**

office share the information with the teachers.****

Students arriving late and/or leaving early must enter and exit the building through the front doors only.

Please email the attendance line or send a note for your child to bring to the office stating the time the student should meet his/her parent in the office and the reason for leaving during the day.

Parents should come into school when dropping off or picking up at any time during the regular school day (8:10 AM - 3:10 PM).

If someone other than a parent/guardian will be picking up your child, please call or email the office to let us know who will be picking up. Student safety is our biggest concern and we want to ensure we are releasing your child to the appropriate and safe person.

****When your child is absent, please notify the school by email/phone.**

Email: esattendance@w-csd.org Phone: 920-582-5803, then press 1

****To prevent truancy issues:**

*****If your child is absent due to an illness and sees a physician, please get a note from the physician and have your child bring it to the office when they return to school.
*If your child is absent all day or part of a day due to a dental or medical appointment, please get a note from the health professional and have your child bring it to the office when they return to school.
For vacations and other planned absences lasting **more than 3 days, please fill out a Pre-Arranged Absence Form or one can also be picked up in the office. Please return the filled out form to the office at least 2 days before the absence.
Each child is permitted 10 personal days and 10 sick/dr days.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE - NURSE KRAUSE

REQUIRED VACCINATIONS: Please reference this one page 2026-2027 School Requirements for Immunizations, required by the state of Wisconsin, and submit the linked form within the document with your student(s) immunization record back to our district nurse, Jennifer Krause, by mail or bringing into our school offices, or emailing krausej@w-csd.org.

The health office will be open during our Get to Know You days. Please feel free to stop by to drop off any medication and paperwork for your child's health needs or to answer any medical questions you may have regarding your child. If you would like to meet with me to further discuss your child, please contact me at krausej@w-csd.org.

PROJECT BACKPACK

Our Mission: To support students inside and outside the classroom.

Your child(ren) can participate in a program called "Project Backpack." This program gives your child a backpack not for books, but for food. Each Thursday, or on the last day of classes in vacation-shortened weeks, your child can receive a backpack to take home filled

with nutritious food and snacks. On Mondays, or on whatever day happens to be the first day of classes for that week, your child will return their empty backpack to the school for it to be restocked with food to take home the following Friday. During online registration you will be asked if your child would like to participate in this program.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are an exciting time for our students to celebrate. Again this year we are asking families to refrain from sending food items and/or treat bags/other 'stuff' to school. We are going to celebrate your child's birthday with different opportunities. Teachers in each grade level will share birthday options with students so every child has the choice of how to celebrate their special day. Some options *may* include choosing where to sit in the cafeteria, reading a special book to the class, inviting a guest reader to school, eating lunch with a favorite teacher, bringing and playing a favorite game. Every student in the classroom will be offered the same grade level choices so we are able to eliminate the concern of food allergies and reduce the competitive and costly nature of birthday treats/bags/decorations, etc. Our goal is to celebrate your child's special day…….we will continue to celebrate their special day with some different opportunities. Thank you for your support.

CAFETERIA/FOOD SHARING

Students may bring cold lunch to school, however, we do not want students to share the cold lunch with others. Cold lunches may have items that are not pre-packaged (which is fine) but we will not know the ingredients and thus allergens may be present and cause an unsafe situation for some. Please talk with your student about eating only his/her lunch.

OTHER FOOD SHARING/SPECIAL EVENTS

Classrooms may or may not have celebrations throughout the school year for productions, end of unit sharing, or holidays (not birthday celebrations). You will receive information regarding these celebrations from the classroom teachers. If your beliefs restrict the celebration of certain holidays, please contact your child's teacher so appropriate accommodations can be made. Teachers will contact families to determine which pre-packaged snacks students may bring to share. Pre-packaged foods will reduce the spread of germs and help identify allergens.

Students are taught in the classrooms about good nutrition and the value of healthy food choices. Below are some suggestions for healthier party treats.

Milk/Flavored milk;100% juice;water/flavored water (calorie free);fresh fruit;100% fruit snacks; veggies, string cheese/cheese cubes;pretzels;lowfat popcorn;graham crackers;animal crackers;vanilla wafers;apples with fatfree caramel dip;instant pudding made with milk;yogurt parfaits/smoothies; lowfat breakfast or granola bars;apples or celery.

PICTURE DAY

We have 3 Picture days scheduled for WES: Location will be in the Big gym inside the main doors by the office.

You can come anytime during these hours:
Monday, August 17th, 2026 from 8:00 - 5:00 PM
Monday, August 24th, 2026 from 11 - 7:00 PM
Wednesday, October 7th, 2026 - Picture retake or for students that were not able to attend the August 17th or August 24th date. Since students will be in school, they will be called down during the school day to have their picture taken.

This year we will be using VIP Photography for our school pictures. Families can order pictures after they have been taken. Please click here for more information. Each order will also include a class picture.

YEARBOOK INFORMATION

If you would like to purchase a yearbook, **sales will run from now through December 31, 2026**. Yearbooks must be ordered and paid for online through Walsworth; the school office will not be accepting payments.

The cost of the yearbook is $20.00.

Please note that **we will not have extra copies available for purchase later.** All yearbooks must be ordered before the deadline through Walsworth. Be sure to keep your receipt for your records.

To place your order, please **here.**

SUMMER HOURS FOR AUGUST

August 4th - August 13th: Monday – Thursday 6 AM - 4:30 PM *The office closes for a half-hour lunch.*
Regular hours will begin Monday, August 17th - Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Family/School Communication - message from Dr. Larson

Dear Families,
We all know the importance of teachers and families working together to foster the success of their students. Families and teachers have a common goal: to facilitate the best educational experience possible for students. We know when families and teachers communicate, together they better support student success. In fact, we think communication is key to success! Technologies, like texting and emails, have made communication between home and school much more efficient and convenient and has increased the quality and quantity of communication, too. We also understand that a family's or a student's communication to the teacher/administrator is likely to be in the evening when your child may question an assignment or the parent is just hearing about your child(ren)'s school day over dinner. Please keep the communication coming: thank a teacher or administrator for an experience you heard about, question what your child is voicing at home, or ask that homework question. We want to hear from you.
Yet, with communication devices at our fingertips, it is harder and harder for everyone, including our staff, to unplug. There is the temptation to always be "on," and it is sometimes unclear what is expected for a timely response. That's why I'm writing today. We think it is important to strike a balance that keeps the lines of communication open and sets reasonable expectations of

responsiveness from our staff. I hope you can understand that we can't immediately respond to all communication (although I know many staff members try to). Therefore, to avoid any misunderstanding, please expect a return to your communication within 24 hours or during the next school day, and communication initiated on Friday-Sunday evenings will be returned on Monday, or the next day of school. *If there is an emergency situation, please contact the teacher via phone/leave a message or call me at (920) 585-5648.

I hope you will view this request in the spirit of caring for the whole person. We are adjusting our communication expectations of our staff so that everyone has time to "decompress" after a great day at school to care for themselves and their families. Then, they can return the next day refreshed to care for our students each and every day. With this request, we hope it creates a clear, mutual understanding of responsiveness, which allows our staff to feel it is "OK to unplug," while being assured you know we truly value your communication!

Thank you for your understanding!
Respectfully,
peggy
Dr. Peggy Larson, District Administrator
Winneconne Community School District

NOTICE OF STUDENT DISCRIMINATION:

The Winneconne Community School District does not discriminate in its student programs, activities, or employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, sex, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or any other characteristic protected by law.

This notice is issued in accordance with Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity and Policy 2266 – Title IX Sexual Harassment and Grievance Procedures. The District has adopted procedures for filing and resolving complaints related to discrimination. This notice is issued in compliance with Wis. Stat. § 118.13, Wis. Admin. Code PI 9.05, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, and related state/federal regulations. For more information or to file a complaint, contact the Winneconne Community School District's designated Title IX Coordinators: Joe Pitsch, Director of Learning, 400 N 9th Avenue, Winneconne, WI 54986, Phone: (920) 582-5802, ext. 3135, Email: pitschj@w-csd.org, or Laurin Dodd, Director of Pupil Services & Special Education, 233 South 3rd Avenue, Winneconne, WI 54986, Phone: (920) 582-5802, ext. 3125, Email: doddl@w-csd.org.