

# The Bay Window

February 2022

*Dream. Aspire. Achieve.*



Officer Hammett of the Williams Bay Police Department uses an RC Plane to explain the different forces a plane undergoes when flying.

## Aviation Workshop: Phase One

By: Jacob White, Technology Education Teacher

Phase one of the Aviation Workshop was held on February 2 and was a great success! The workshop is being sponsored by the Williams Bay School District Technology Education Department and the Williams Bay Police Department.

During the first phase of the workshop, thirteen students learned about all the different forces that a typical plane undergoes. Using the information that they learned, students took to the lab to modify and construct their own RC planes. Now that the RC Planes are all completed, phase 2 will be to test fly their planes through an elaborate obstacle course in the Elementary Gym on Feb. 16. Anyone is invited to join in on the fun and see how well the students do.

## New at Williams Bay Middle/High School: Investing Club

Williams Bay MS/HS is launching a new club this spring. The Investing Club will be participating in the Wisconsin Stock Market Game sponsored by Economics Wisconsin from February 14- April 22. The Stock Market Game is an online simulation created by the SIFMA foundation and is offered to Wisconsin schools each semester. The simulation explores the global capital markets and engages students in the world of economics, investing and personal finance with the goal of preparing them for financially independent futures. Participants are given a virtual \$100,000 to invest in stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. Played in teams of 1-5 members, students develop and enhance skills in leadership, management, research, problem solving, and team-building.

The inaugural Investing club consists of 90 students divided into 28 teams in grades 6-12. The grand prize winning team members from the state of Wisconsin will each receive a \$500 gift card. Mr. Jim Pfeil, an independent financial advisor with Sierra Financial Services, will advise the teams throughout the competition.

In sponsoring clubs and activities such as the Investing club, it is our hope that the lessons learned will continue to help prepare our students to become more career and life ready.



## The Great Kindness Challenge

Williams Bay Elementary staff and students participated in The Great Kindness Challenge from January 24-28. We joined millions of students across the world to celebrate kindness, demonstrate compassion, extend gratitude, and put LOVE into action in so many uplifting ways! There's no doubt about it, this boost of positivity was good for all! #KindnessMattersEverywhere! The Williams Bay Elementary School Community honored Chris Randall during this week of the Great Kindness Challenge for her endless supply of kindness shown to others and her devotion to the Williams Bay staff and students. Mrs. Randall is an Aide at WBES who consistently demonstrates kindness, caring, selflessness, and dedication to the students and the community. She has worked to support the students for over 20 years!

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

<b>Williams Bay Elementary School</b> 250 Theater Rd. Williams Bay, WI 53191  245-5571 245-0397	<b>Williams Bay Middle/High School</b> 500 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay, WI 53191  245-6224 245-6225	<b>Williams Bay School District Office</b> P.O. Box 1410 Williams Bay, WI 53191  245-1575
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## From the Desk of Mr. Brent Mansky MS/High School Principal

As a part of our commitment to Wisconsin's Redefining Ready ([www.redefiningready.org](http://www.redefiningready.org)) program, one of the metrics of College and Career Readiness is the percentage of students per academic year who have participated in at least two seasons/terms of a school-sponsored "No Pass, No Play" athletics, activities or co-curricular offerings. We will be reporting this data for the class of 2022 as a part of our pilot scorecard this summer. We are also in the process of collecting participation data for the classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Co-curricular activities are activities that are pursued in addition to the normal course of study. In addition to the athletic programs we offer here at Williams Bay, we also offer opportunities such as History club, Spanish club, Esports, Drama club, Student Council, Forensics, Investment club, Pep Band and the high school and middle school Musicals.

Why are co-curricular activities important? According to Crimson Education, participation in co-curriculars helps students in the following areas:

**Improved Academic Performance:** Some students worry that participating in co-curriculars may take away too much time from their schoolwork, however, studies show that participating in activities can increase brain function, improve concentration, and improve time management. Participating in sports helps to build focus and build stamina in the face of adversity, which can provide an advantage when studying and preparing for exams.

**Explore Interests and Create Broader Perspectives:** When students participate in multiple activities, they get the opportunity to explore a range of interests and broaden their perspectives.

**Higher Self Esteem:** The more students achieve success through activities they are passionate about, the more their self confidence will improve. Working hard and mastering new skills in a fun, relaxed, and sometimes competitive environment is a confidence builder.

**Social Opportunities:** Each co-curricular activity our students participate in is another opportunity to expand their social network. When new friendships are formed, the likelihood of deeper involvement in the activity increases.

**Productive Breaks:** Co-curriculars provide students with opportunities to do something fun aside from school. It also allows students to explore things they are passionate about beyond academics

**Essential Life Skills:** One of the greatest benefits of co-curricular participation is the development of "real world" skills such as: teamwork, time management, problem solving, leadership, and public speaking.

**Resume builder:** Without much previous work experience, one of the ways hiring managers can assess work ethic and ability is through co-curricular participation.

**College application:** As a part of the application process, colleges not only want to see co-curricular participation but also longevity and leadership development with the activities.

Our overall goal at Williams Bay is to increase the number of offerings and participation in co-curricular activities. For the benefits mentioned above, we are encouraging all students to become involved with at least two co-curricular activities and/or athletics programs each year of high school here at Williams Bay. The lessons learned will continue to help prepare our students to become college and career ready. If you are interested in creating and/or advising a co-curricular activity that we currently do not offer, please contact Mr. Mansky at [brentmansky@williamsbayschool.org](mailto:brentmansky@williamsbayschool.org). We'd love to explore a partnership with you!

# HOPE SQUAD®

We are proud to announce that we will be implementing the Hope Squad program at Williams Bay High School. We received a grant that will allow us to purchase this program for four years. Hope Squad members are nominated by their classmates as trustworthy peers and trained by advisors. The advisors are Mrs. Williamson and Ms. McOmber. The program goals are to enhance school culture as a community of support for students, improve mental health education and provide connection and belongingness between Hope Squad members and their peers. is to reduce youth suicide through education, training, and peer intervention. We will be reaching out to our students to receive peer nominations in the next few weeks. Families will receive permission slips that must be completed in order for their student to participate.

The Williams Bay High School  
Drama Club Presents:

I  
**HATE**  
Shakespeare 

We hate Shakespeare! At least that is what the audience thinks until they get a rip-roaring rundown of Shakespeare's classics. With zombies, talking cows, and an appearance by Jerry Springer, I Hate Shakespeare! is a hilarious and fast-paced introduction to Shakespeare -- with a modern twist. Our spring performance is March 4 and 5 at 7 p.m. and March 6, at 3 p.m. in the Middle/High School Lecture Center. Doors open thirty minutes before curtain and the cost for all shows is \$5.00 per person. Runtime is approximately 70 minutes.

All Drama Club productions are student run. This year's Drama Club leadership team is: Co-Directors senior Monica Paur and junior Citlali Carbajal, Technical Director Evelyn Hamberg and Stage Manager junior Nadia Nateghi. Drama club is supervised by Mr. Matt Dunlap.



**WBHS History Club**  
Research-Preserve-Educate



In November, History Club Officers and other members gave a presentation to the Williams Bay Civic League at the invitation of Mary Umans, president of the Civic League, who felt it was important to reflect on local history. In honor of "Native American History Month" the History Club members told about Geneva Lake's "Paradise Lost". One by one, each student gave a brief, but stirring history of before the Native Americans were forcibly removed to areas in the west.

## From the Desk of Mrs. Ali Bond Elementary Principal

**4K Round-Up & Screening:** Round-up and screening for the 2022-23 P.A.W.S. (Preschoolers Actively Working in School-4K) students will be held on Wednesday, February 16, and Wednesday, March 16 at Williams Bay Elementary School. On the day you choose to attend, your child will spend from 8:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Mrs. Breen's classroom (Room 153). While visiting the classroom your child will meet classmates, the 4K teachers, and classroom aides as well as play games with various people. It is very helpful to prepare your child for this experience prior to attending the screening session. Parents will drop off their children by 8:45 a.m. and participate in an informational parent meeting in the elementary school lunchroom that will begin at 9:00 a.m. This will also be an opportunity to meet various school staff and tour the building if interested. Children will be ready to be picked up at 11:00 a.m.

There are several reasons why this program is being conducted. Our most important aims are: the early identification of areas that could affect your child's learning... visual, physical, hearing, speech, etc. and securing information concerning your child's strengths and weaknesses so we can provide the best educational program suited to your child's individual needs.

Please call Williams Bay Elementary School (262-245-5571) to sign up your child for the screening. All children must be four years of age on or before September 1, 2022.

**Wisconsin Forward Assessment:** The Wisconsin Forward Exam is designed to gauge how all students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do in order to be college-career ready. The Forward Exam is administered online in the spring of each school year at:

- \* Grades 3-8 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics
- \* Grades 4 and 8 in science and,
- \* Grades 4, 8, and 10 in social studies.

Williams Bay Elementary School students in grades 3-5 will participate in these assessments between March 22-24. We have been working with students to prepare for these assessments using test-taking strategies for content areas as well as strategies to help manage stress and anxiety that some students feel during testing. Teachers have also been working with students using test preparation booklets to help students become familiar with the types of vocabulary and questions they will experience when taking these assessments.

We take all assessments very seriously. Results provide information about student performance, allowing teachers to target instruction to student needs. Assessment results also enable teachers to reflect upon their own instructional practices. Students, administrators, and parents also gain valuable information that provides a better understanding of what students know and what we can do to support and assist them. Sample or practice test questions can be found at Forward Exam Practice Test and Sample Items | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. There is also an online tools training that will be available for students in mid to late February and is intended to give students the opportunity to practice with the tools available on the Forward Exam. More information regarding the Wisconsin Forward Exam will be shared with families in the near future through the weekly Bulldog Nibbles. Families who are interested in more information are welcome to contact the Office of Student Assessment at [osamail@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:osamail@dpi.wi.gov).



In Mrs. Mulhall's 5th Grade Art class, Officer Borgen helps students create soap carvings.

## DISTRICT DISCUSSIONS

By Superintendent Dr. William White

**Superintendent Advisory Committee:** The Superintendent Advisory Committee (S.A.C.) was formed to gather feedback from parents, community members, and staff to establish collaborative, two-way communication on important matters that affect the school district. The committee met on January 26 to discuss the recent Village Comprehensive Planning Meetings and individuals who attended these sessions had the opportunity to share some of the comments they heard and how they related to the school district. The consensus was that the S.A.C. members would like to see work done to draw families into our community and would like the district to work closely with the village to support the efforts to maintain the resources and unique qualities that have attracted our current residents.

The S.A.C. reviewed the survey given by the Williams Bay Business Association (W.B.B.A.) most specifically question #6, which asked how village residents would like to see the Williams Bay School District contribute to the community beyond the classroom. Comments received indicate that people want to volunteer in school buildings and in turn want kids to volunteer in the community. The respondents also would like more community classes for adults and access to the school facilities. They would like students to engage in internships and other work experiences within the community. Overall, I felt that the responses indicated a clear need for better communication from the school district to those in the community regarding available opportunities.

The committee then discussed ways to improve communication with everyone in the community and how to tell the district's story. An idea that was suggested was to have liaisons from school at W.B.B.A. as well as other community organization meetings. The S.A.C. would also like to start working on the following items:

- Improve communication with all organizations in the community.
- Work with the Village Administrator, Park and Recreation Department, Barrett Memorial Library, and other agencies to provide services to the community
- Schedule a joint Village Board and School Board Meeting
- Work on developing marketing materials and communication
- Re-Open the schools to volunteers as soon as practicable considering the pandemic

**Open Enrollment:** The State of Wisconsin's regular open enrollment application period for the 2022-23 school year begins on February 7, 2022 and ends at 4:00 pm on April 29, 2022. The open enrollment program is an important form of public-school choice that allows parents to choose the best public-school experience for their children. Due to the high-quality educational experience students receive, many families choose the Williams Bay School District.

Each of the school districts in Walworth County offer a comprehensive educational opportunity for its students, but no other school district prepares students for success post-high school than the Williams Bay School District. Williams Bay students can experience the benefits associated with a smaller school, while still being able to take advantage of the many wonderful resources our district provides. Our students have numerous academic and extra-curricular opportunities that allow them to become extremely well-rounded and prepared to successfully navigate their post-high school lives.

Parents who have open enrolled their children to Williams Bay were invited to provide feedback about what pleases them with their decision. Here are some of the reasons that have been shared:

- “Class size”
- “Rigor of classes”
- “Teacher communication”
- “Structure, discipline in class and around school...”
- “I love the teachers, activities, and programs offered to the students.”
- “My child is learning something new every day and is being challenged.”
- “Students come here to learn.”

We encourage our community members, and anyone interested in attending school in the Williams Bay School District to schedule a visit so that you can see for yourself what separates Williams Bay from other schools and why it is the school of choice in Walworth County.

### IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ALL DISTRICT PARENTS/GUARDIANS

It is the responsibility of all parents/guardians to keep their demographics updated for all students via Skyward. This will assure that you will receive timely correspondence from school administrators and staff through our school messenger program.