

The Bay Window

May 2023

Dream. Aspire. Achieve.



Top of Their Class

Class of 2023

Valedictorian & Salutatorian



Valedictorian Rosa Jimenez has been a proud member of the Williams Bay School District since she was four years old. Next year, she will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison and major in psychology with the hopes of becoming a research psychologist.

Once she entered high school, Rosa joined the History Club and stayed a member for four years. Additionally, she joined the Spanish Club her sophomore year and became president her junior and senior years. Rosa was also a part of the Student Council all four years; her senior year she was fortunate enough to be elected secretary. Finally, Rosa was a part of the Teen Advisory Board with Barrett Memorial Library

where she helped plan events for the community.

Besides participating in clubs and within the community, Rosa was a member of the Academic Bowl Team for three years, participating in the social studies and science categories. Moreover, she was a member of the Math Team for three years, where she got a 2nd place medal in the individual Advanced Math category. In addition to these academic accolades, Rosa was also a member of the National Honor Society, a part of the High Honor Roll all eight semesters of high school, and was awarded the AP Scholar with Honor Award.

Salutatorian Hannah Abram will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall. She will be studying Environmental Studies. The daughter of Colleen and Ian, Hannah has been a student in the Williams Bay District since 2nd grade. Hannah played on the Williams Bay/BigFoot Co-op Varsity soccer team for all 4 years. In her junior year, Hannah earned Honorable Mention All-Conference Player, and in her senior year, she was a captain of the team.

In addition to athletics, Hannah was a member of the Student Council, History Club, Spanish Club, Principal's Committee, and was inducted into the National Honors Society her junior year. Outside of school Hannah worked at the Barrett Memorial Library Teen Advisory Board.

Hannah was also involved in the community. She volunteered for the Williams Bay Corn and Brat Festival, the Fontana Lobster Boil, and helped run youth soccer camps through the BigFoot Recreation Department. Overall, Hannah is thankful for the opportunities that were given to her during her time in Williams Bay and is excited to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison next year.



High School Graduation
Friday, May 26th
7:00 p.m.

8th Grade Promotion Night
Wednesday, May 31st
6:00 p.m.

Elementary Last Day of Classes
Wednesday, May 31st

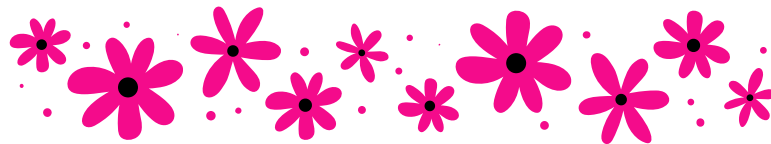
MS/HS Last Day of Classes
Thursday, June 1st

Happy Retirement

Educators can never truly retire.
Even if they stop attending school,
they will continue to inspire us everyday.

Linda Luberda, Elementary Paraprofessional

When we moved to Williams Bay in 2005, I did not anticipate I would eventually retire from the district with 16 years of experience. The Williams Bay school system has been such an integral part of my life in the Bay. I began as a Teacher's Aide for the 4K in 2007. While teaching, however, I was very active helping as my four kids worked their way through and graduated from the district. I was in leadership in the SCA (now known as the PTO), as well as instrumental in the Fine Arts Boosters. Helping with makeup, choreography, and set creation for a couple of high school musicals led me to approximately a decade of choreography and team-directing for the 5th/6th grade school musicals. It was working in the classroom as an Aide with Laura Breen that has defined the bulk of that time. My first year was also the beginning of the 4K program. I very much enjoyed having such a collaborative group of teachers with whom to work, as well as the success of being part of the team that developed a screening program for incoming 4K students and helped develop the 4K community outreach program. I will forever be grateful to have worked with students of this age that come into school with such a wonder and love for learning.



Amy Mitchell, Library Media Specialist



I began my teaching career at Williams Bay in the fall of 1989, fresh out of college, and I have made Williams Bay School District my home for the past 34 years. I've served as the District Media Specialist and spent the early and middle part of my career stationed in the high school where I ran the library, taught yearbook for 19 years, and creative writing for three years. The later part of my career was spent in the elementary library teaching Library/Tech classes to students in 4K-5th grade and sharing my love of reading and storytelling. I've had the unique opportunity to experience students at all different grade levels.

As I leave the field of education, I'm excited to pursue other interests and opportunities: cruising (at times other than spring break and Christmas), taking water aerobics and swimming classes, and finding a part time job doing what I love—organizing and throwing stuff out. My husband and I fell in love with Simpsonville, South Carolina, which will be our new home. We will still make trips back to Wisconsin to visit friends and family and to stock up on good cheese. I am grateful for the many opportunities I've had during my time at Williams Bay and will truly miss the many friends I've made. It has been a great honor to work with such an amazing and caring group of educators. Being a teacher at Williams Bay School District has been a privilege.

Kara Rowbotham, High School Science

After graduating from UW-Madison and teaching for 3 years in Cadott, WI, I arrived in Williams Bay to teach Chemistry and Physics. I still remember arriving early for my interview and first meeting School Secretary Phyllis Erickson, who immediately put me at ease. Although my interview was something of a blur, I recall that I was put through my paces by the interview committee that included Mr. Bice, Miss Thiel, and Dr. Bob Lowenstein, a University of Chicago Astrophysics professor working at Yerkes Observatory. I was so nervous, but everyone was really kind. After joining the staff, I taught for 3 years in the old elementary school on 139 Congress Street (K-12 at the time) and was honored to be chosen to fly on the Kuiper Airborne Observatory with Karen Hanson on a flight shared with Physics Nobel Prize winner Dr. Charles Townes. We are, and always will be, the only teachers from the state of Wisconsin to be chosen to do that (the Kuiper no longer exists, so that helps).



I was here for the 1996 move to our current "new" middle/high school, I ran back and forth with a cart from the middle to the high school wing to teach all manner of classes, I earned a Master's degree, I helped expand our science programs from alternating years of Chemistry and Physics to offering both every year and adding AP classes, I developed a crick in my neck by working with 5 different Biology teachers of various heights (Jim, Barb, Nicole, Shane, and Jessica), I accompanied students to Yerkes for nighttime programs and observing, and I took students to Six Flags Great America for the last time this year, an activity started in 1994 and only interrupted for a few years by the COVID pandemic and its aftermath. I managed to find a little time to cause mischief with Phil Sanborn before his retirement, but it really was mostly his fault. Mary Kavanagh was wise enough to avoid involvement in our nonsense.

While it's hard to imagine a life after Williams Bay, I will still be working with my husband in the family business, we plan to travel, and I will pursue a number of projects and hobbies (cooking, gardening, riding bike, reading) that I've put on the back burner for the last 30 years or so. I will definitely miss my students and colleagues, and wish everyone the very best in the coming years. Thank you, Williams Bay!

Battle of the Books

By: Mrs. Osborne's 4th Graders



Lacey says, "I loved doing Battle of the Books. I had a great time and had so much fun hanging out with my friends and reading new books. One of my favorites was "Ban This Book" and you should totally read it. Also, we worked well together while doing our team poster and dividing who was reading which books. We were a great team and we won. I got to keep the poster we worked so hard on. I had a great time."

According to Eva, "Battle of the books is a great way to hang with friends, read new books, make posters, and work as a team. Battle of the Books is fun because it is all about friendly competition. So, if you like to compete against others then I think you would love to partake in Battle of the Books. Also,

you can be on the same team as your best friends and work as a team. Not to mention, you get to make posters which is a lot of fun with friends. Plus, you get to read a lot of new books and I mean a LOT of new books."



Mrs. Breen demonstrates the letter "d" in the Alphabet Jibe Time video.

It's Alphabet Jive Time

High School students in the Web Design & Multimedia Class collaborated with the kindergarten teachers to create a video that would help the 4K and 5K students learn the sound that each letter of the alphabet makes. With Mr. Quinn's help in setting up the green screen, audio, and video camera, various elementary staff recorded a letter video. The high school students then took the raw videos and edited them to create a slide that included the elementary teacher video, the letter of the alphabet, an animal image, background, and sign language symbol. When the project was done, there was a movie premiere. The kindergarten students were invited to the lecture center where the high school students presented the video to them. The kindergarten students had a blast and were yelling out their teacher's names as they appeared on the screen. The high school students enjoyed working on this project and were thrilled with the excitement and enthusiasm of the kindergarten students.



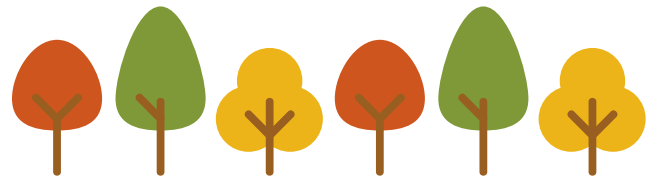
A big Bulldog shout-out to the Fontana Garden Club for their generous donation to our Outdoor Education program.

From the Desk of Dr. Bond Elementary School Principal

Kishwauketoe Arbor Day Tree Planting Event

On Friday, April 28 the Williams Bay Elementary School students and staff participated in the Kishwauketoe Arbor Day Tree Planting Event. We shuttled students to Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy to help plant trees. The event started with a proclamation. April 28, 2023 was the 151st year celebration of Arbor Day in which more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska.

This year marks 33 years of celebrating Arbor Day at Kishwauketoe. Next, there was an explanation of the proper way to plant a tree, the reasons why it is important to plant a tree correctly, and a demonstration. Classrooms found the area in which to plant their tree. It was all hands on deck to get all of the work done. Then students spent time exploring the great outdoors. All students were given a tree to take home to plant.



Join Us

8TH GRADE CAREER EXPLORATION

When:

Wednesday, May 24
1:45pm - 2:50pm

What to Expect:

8th Grade Students sharing their knowledge of their chosen career field

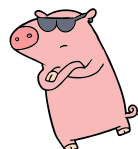
Where:

Middle / High School Commons

CAREER



Q: What does the pig say on a hot summer day?



A: I'm bacon!!!



FROM THE DESK OF MRS. SOLEY-JOHNSON MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Dream! Aspire! Achieve! That's our vision and this past month we have definitely been living it! State testing welcomed middle and high school students back from a beautiful spring break in April. But testing didn't deter our positivity from spring break because our sophomore and freshman classes were able to dream about their post high school goals.

On Wednesday, April 12, sophomores had the opportunity to tour Gateway Campuses in Elkhorn and

Burlington. Students participated in a career interest survey, learned about earning college credits while in high school and numerous programs and certifications offered by Gateway. Many positive comments from students!

On Thursday, April 13, it was the freshman classes turn to engage in their tour of UW-Whitewater. Not only did students have the opportunity to tour a campus with over 10,000 students, but they discovered there was a Starbucks on campus! Needless to say Starbucks seemed to be the selling point! There were so many positive comments from students and we cannot wait to support all of our students in future opportunities to see what is available to them post high school.

It's a Two for One Opportunity for Personal Finance Students **By: Denise Durkin**



What is the new advantage to taking the Personal Finance course? It became a transcribed credit course this year! Through the transcribed credit program, students in high school can sign up for a course that has an agreement with a post-secondary institution, and if they meet the requirements of the course, they can earn both high school and college credit for FREE! A two for one deal! Williams Bay students now have the option to not only earn the Personal Finance graduation requirement, but also sign up and earn three college credits.

Over the summer, the agreement to make Personal Finance a transcribed credit with Gateway Technical College was completed. As the instructor of the course, I became an adjunct faculty member of Gateway and learned what was needed to fulfill the transcribed agreement. For Personal Finance, Gateway topics and outcomes must be followed and the final exam, created by Gateway, must count as 10% of the final grade. Within the course, there is flexibility to complete projects and assignments to help students meet the outcomes. Teaching the class as transcribed credit for the first time was challenging as there is a lot of content that must be covered. In the fall, twenty students signed up to take the class as transcribed credit. I was thrilled that so many students were willing to come along on a new journey with me. It turned out to be a great experience and all twenty students earned the required high school graduation credit and the three college credits from Gateway! These credits can be used to complete a degree at Gateway or possibly transfer the credits to another college. Each student saved \$475 by taking the class in high school. At the end of May, there are twelve students on their way to earning transcribed credit. That will make thirty-two students who will have three college credits that would have cost over \$15,200.

For the 2023-24 school year, students will also be able to take Personal Finance as transcribed credit. As KayLee Perez said, "Personal finance is an important course to take in order to learn how to be smart with your money. Taking it for transcribed credit was an added bonus. I have the required credit for graduation and an additional three college credits that did not cost me anything. I highly recommend students take it for transcribed credit. Why wouldn't you take advantage of that opportunity?"

8th Grade Lock-In: A Success!

By: Mrs. Lauren Hudson, Middle School Literacy Teacher

On the evening of Friday, April 21, 34 eighth grade students arrived at school with snacks, pillows, blankets, and a goal of staying up all night. The 8th Grade Lock-in lasted from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM and was, for many participants, a highlight of the year. With a rotating group of staff chaperones, the lock-in participants had the school to themselves for an unforgettable night. Students spent the evening playing games in the gym, running relay races through the halls, watching movies in the lecture center- and maybe just a little bit of sleep!

The 8th Grade Lock-in is an event that doesn't happen every year- student leaders need to put together the event proposal, coordinate staff volunteer supervisors, plan for food, put together permission forms, and plan activities for the night. This year, John Beilman took on that role; his planning began this past fall, and with the help of teachers and administration, John's vision came to fruition.



Here's what the students had to say:

"I definitely made a lot of memories with my friends and some with my classmates. We played Apples to Apples (in which I destroyed everyone), lots of games in the gym, and just overall fun stuff. Some of us were laying on the mattress thing in the gym towards the end laughing at stuff and taking stupid pictures of each other and we went outside and attempted to watch the sunrise." -Isabelle Chamberlain

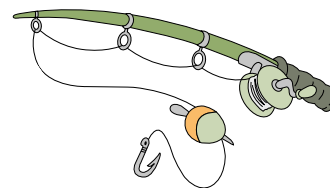
"...we played lots of games, specifically volleyball. I played badminton with Camila, Connor, and Bryce. We then all went into the lecture center to watch movies and hang out. We all just talked and sat until we fell asleep." -Gracie Pils

"[The lock-in] is easily one of my favorite highlights of the year. It started with us in the gym playing whatever game we wanted, some were playing basketball, and others were playing badminton, we eventually got a game organized for kickball. It was fun, of course the teams were unfair but that happens- we lost. After that, we played Capture The Pin. This time, even with the same teams, we won all three rounds." -Nicky Kwiatkowski



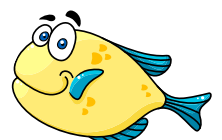
Jeff Bailey assisted the students in planning and implementing the 8th Grade Lock-in for many years. The 2023 Lock-in was an appropriate way to remember and honor Jeff's legacy for student leadership, school spirit, and general love of fun! He would have been proud of the students and staff who were involved in making the event spectacular.

Thank you to the staff members- Andrea Deel, Emily Soley-Johnson, Amanda Sabourin, Matt Landers, Darla Thiel, Ann Majercik, Amanda Anderson, Lauren Hudson, Mike Dowden, Dan Dowden, and Jacob White- for donating their time, to the parents for donating food, and to the students for stellar behavior.



Annual Elementary School Fisheree - May 23, 2023

The Williams Bay Elementary Fisheree will be held Tuesday, May 23 after school at the Municipal Piers. Williams Bay school is again sponsoring an after-school fishing contest open to students in grades K-5. Students take buses down to the lakefront close to the end of the day and fish from the municipal piers. Students in grades K-3 must be accompanied by an adult. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to join in the fun. There are prizes awarded to the students who catch the biggest fish in each grade level.





2nd Grade Swimming at the YMCA

By: Sarah Stephens

The second graders recently finished up their swimming unit at the YMCA. We spent six Wednesday afternoons taking swimming lessons. The second graders learned strategies to be safe in the water and learned some important swimming strokes and skills. The kids learned so much and had a lot of fun too!

A few of us went to the May school board meeting and shared about our experience with the school board. Here is an acrostic poem we wrote about our time at the YMCA:

S is for safety around water

W is for we learned how to swim

I is for in the gym fun

M is for Mr. Olson and the high schoolers helped us out.



Children helping others through their art.

By: Maya and Ethan Mulhall

We are celebrating our thirteenth children art auction. We started it 15 years ago, but our school had to stop it for two years because of Covid 19. Each year all of the money that we raise from the auction goes right to people in need, we have raised over \$10,000 to help charities like ; Children's Hospital of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, The Time Is Now and last year we raised over \$1,700 for our furry friends at Lakeland's Animal Shelter! To be a part of the art auction you want to try your hardest on your art, donate your art to Mrs. Mulhall at least four weeks before the auction. She will frame your work after you turn it in. On the day of the art auction Mrs. Mulhall and other staff members will put it up on the tables for people to see. After that I love seeing other kid's art. People start to bid on your art after the Spring Sing. My mom likes to win my art right away! So she can hang it up on our wall at home. It makes me happy and proud when my art is hanging up! We hope that you come and visit our thirteenth annual art auction!



Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Amanda Bauer and staff, Mrs. Lile's first graders were given the opportunity to visit Yerkes Observatory on April 27. Students were taken on a tour of the building, looked through the world-renowned telescope, and planted a tree on the beautifully restored property. It was a wonderful experience for the students to learn about the history that resides right here in Williams Bay!



**Williams Bay High School Math Team
2023 Trailways Conference South Division Champions!**

By: Darla Thiel

On Monday, March 13th, the high school math team travelled to Hustisford High School to participate in the Trailways Conference South Division Math Meet.

The Williams Bay Math Team placed 1st in all four divisions which included Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Math. The team also earned 8 individual awards.

Algebra I Team – 1st Place in the Conference

Team Members included: Niklaus Anagnos, John Beilman, Isabella Chamberlain, Joshua LeBaron, Matilda Snyder, and Ethan Weigel

Algebra I Individual Awards:

2nd Place – Joshua LeBaron

Geometry Team – 1st Place in the Conference

Team Members included: Noah Cornella, Braden Hayes, Derek Johnson, Avery Kimmerly, Finn Pecht, Lauren Schnobel

Geometry Individual Awards:

1st Place – Avery Kimmerly

2nd Place – Lauren Schnobel

Algebra II Team – 1st Place in the Conference

Team Members included: Syllas Jeninga, Dylan Karcher, Jose Pilo, Blake Reynolds, Lacey Silverman, Gage Stanek

Algebra II Individual Awards:

1st Place (Tie) - Dylan Karcher & Gage Stanek

3rd Place – Lacey Silverman

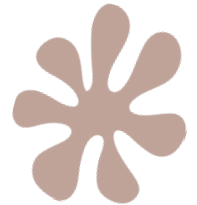
Advanced Math Team – 1st Place in the Conference

Team Members included: Rosa Jimenez, Aaron Johnson, Henry Kwiatkowski, Sofia Normington-Slay, Charlie Pecht, Nicholas Schnobel

Advanced Math Individual Awards:

1st Place – Henry Kwiatkowski

2nd Place – Rosa Jimenez



The Middle School Musical Through the Eyes of a First Grader **Reviews by Mrs. Gaylord's First Graders**

The first graders in Mrs. Gaylord's class were excited to be invited to see the middle school musical performance featuring Spongebob Square Pants and his many ocean friends.

Here is what some of the first graders had to say when asked by Mrs. Gaylord to write a review of the performance:

"The most cool and funny thing was how the volcano was erupting. The musical was funny. It was LOUD. The background was pretty. There were SO many people." - Hazel Moore and Melanie Behrens

"We met Spongebob and Patrick and that guy gets a plan to get to the volcano and they did. Happily ever after." - Dylan DeVries and Nash Needham

"It is really funny and dark and loud and crazy and everyone was really loud." - Taylor Bellows and Ruby Yates

"I saw my (middle school) buddy. She was the girl who put the stuff out. I also saw another buddy. He was the old man. They were confident." - Mika Huerta and Alex Wester

"The actual Spongebob is funny too. It was cool. Old man Jenkins is funny. Mister Krabs is rich and Patrick was in there." - Gus Granberg and Evan Cook

"The Spongebob play was funny and silly and lots of people laughed. There were lots of bubbles and some of them had faces." - Liam Potsch and Conor Stowell

"I saw a couple of people look silly in their costumes. I love, love, love my buddy in the musical."
-Jayda Aranda and Tessa Zwijacz

"When Mr. Crabs did tip toes and snip-snap, when the people went down the stairs, it was funny."
-Gabe Walker and Kolton Shan