



Cheetah Family News

2019-2020 School Year

(615) 472-4300

February 14, 2020

1000 Secluded Lane

Dear Parents,

Please remember that every minute, hour, day, week, and month add up to a school year of learning for your child. Prioritizing school attendance will ensure that your child has the best opportunity to succeed.

We have had quite a few students out of school for illness these past few months. Therefore, I wanted to include the WCS attendance policy for your information:

- **Truancy** : counts only unexcused absences, emphasizes compliance with school rules and relies on legal and administrative solutions.
- **Chronic Absenteeism**: counts all absences (excused, unexcused, and suspensions), emphasizes academic impact of missed days, and use of community based positive strategies.

Williamson County Schools follows a 3 tiered approach to absences.

- Parents will be notified as **unexcused absences** accumulate to proactively support truancy concerns.
- Parents will be contacted via email or phone once 3 unexcused absences have occurred.
- The Principal will meet with the student and parents to create a plan to ensure consistent attendance once 5 unexcused absences have occurred.
- Additional unexcused absences will require the student and parents to attend a regional truancy awareness meeting hosted by the WCS **truancy officer**.

Excused absences include: illness, death in the family, recognized religious holiday, doctor or dentist appointment, and/or emergency/exceptional circumstances with principal approval.

Family trips taken when school is in session will not be excused, except for extenuating circumstances which will require prior approval from the principal. You may obtain a form in the office or email Dr. Garrett at carolgj@wcs.edu.

Please help us make every instructional day count by keeping absences to a minimum and making sure your child arrives to school on time.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

- Dr. Garrett

IMPORTANT DATES

February 17th- No School for Students

March 5th- PTO Spirit Night at Sonic

March 10th-2nd Grade folk dancing program

March 12th- STEM Night

March 13th- End of Quarter 3

March 16-20th- Spring Break

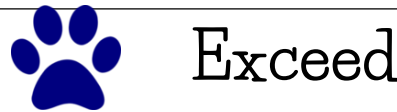


CheetahFest

preparations have begun! Parents, please be on the lookout for information from your child's Room Parents regarding classroom silent auction baskets.

Also, please be sure you have **April 3rd** saved on your calendar!

Also, save the date for our next **Spirit Night at Sonic on March 5th**!





We are beginning a city planning unit in the Learning Commons! We will be looking at making a model of a sustainable city. Each grade level will participate in creating our city model and will be using the engineering process to do so. You can help too! **We are in need of supplies for our STEM lab. You can help out by donating glue sticks, scissors, scotch tape, and construction paper. Please send in supplies by 2/21/2019.**

The Learning Commons has started a fun and exciting opportunity called the Celebration of Books. The Celebration of Books is an opportunity for you and your child to donate a book to the library in honor of a family member, for a birthday, or an achievement of your child. Fill out the order form (extras are located in the office or the library) and send in \$15 and your child will have a donation plate inside the book he or she chooses, a picture taken with the book, and will be the first to check the book out from our library!

Lastly, we are hard at work bringing new and exciting titles into the library. At the end of 2019 we removed 1,000 old titles from our non-fiction section! These titles were either ones that had old information, were not being checked out, or both. As we weed out old titles, we are bringing in high interest books that our kids are eager and excited to check out!

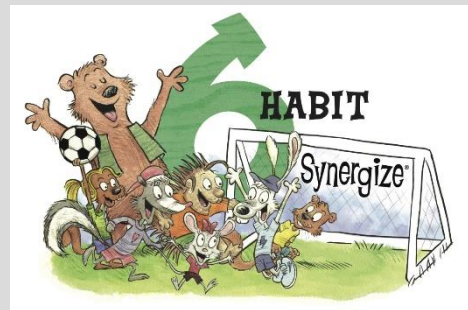
- Amber Walker, Media Specialist



This Month's Habit...
...is Synergize!

"Two is better than one."

This month we're focusing on working together in a group setting. By teaming with others, we can create better solutions than anyone of us can alone.



Check out the steps in the Synergy Action Plan below.

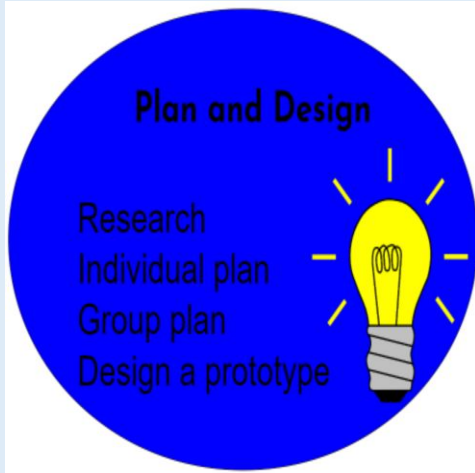
| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Define the Problem | Make sure you understand the problem or task. |
| Their Way | Try to understand everyone's ideas. |
| My Way | Seek to be understood. Share your ideas. |
| Brainstorm | Be creative. Everyone create new ideas. |
| High Way | Find the best solution |

This Week's Technology Tip

Have you heard about CheeTV? The Learning Commons is continuing to expand the skills of each student and one way we are doing that is by using our green screens to produce our own news reports. Students are learning how to research stories, interview teachers and peers, and report and produce a news broadcast. Story ideas are written and investigated by students. The whole process allows students to learn as they work through the different parts of the engineering model. Most importantly, students are expanding their view of the community and truly understanding what it means to have empathy for those around them. So ask your student what's the latest news from CheeTV! "...and that's part of our world tonight."



Research & Planning



Part of the engineering model to planning and research. Often this step is skipped over or not given much time because students like to go to the building or testing stage. However, it is vital that students take time to plan and research their plan before moving on to other steps. At home you can support the planning and research stage by asking your student questions, giving them time to think about what would happen, and explore what they know about the subject. Try asking them how they might solve simple problems as you are driving around running errands, or fixing things around the house. Allow students time to explain their thinking or ask them to research a solution to help you find the best solution. Students will feel empowered and it's a wonderful way to understand how your student is thinking through problems!

WCS Early Childhood Program

The WCS Early Childhood Program is currently taking applications for peer models for the 2020-21 school year. Please see the attached form for more information and to apply. Applications are due by March 6th.



Animal Shelter Drive

Wednesday, February 19th will be the last day that Cheetah Council will collect donations for the Williamson County Animal Shelter.

Please consider donating one of the following items: dog food, treats, and toys, peanut butter, Fancy Feast canned food, cat litter, towels, paper towels, washcloths, detergent, dish soap, and laundry detergent

You may place donated items in the labeled boxes in the foyer!



Changing Our Community
One Animal at a Time



Roller-skating is right around the corner! Our skating unit runs from February 19th - March 13th! We would love to have parents come and help tie skates! Please be sure to sign up for your student's PE time! Thanks so much!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aaea62aabfe3-skating>

Health News from WCS



With widespread cases of flu being reported across Tennessee, parents are encouraged to review the [Williamson County Schools Illness Guidelines](#) when deciding whether a student should go to school or stay at home.

In addition to seasonal flu, school nurses are seeing students with respiratory viruses, stomach viruses, and strep throat.

Here are some important considerations for parents when making the decision to keep a student at home:

- A student should be **fever-free for 24 hours** without fever-reducing medication before returning to school. If your child has a temperature of 100.0 or above, do not send them to school. Do not give your child Tylenol or Advil and send them to school if you suspect they are coming down with something.
- When **antibiotics** are prescribed, students must wait **24 hours** before returning to school, regardless of whether they have a doctor's note.
- A student should **not experience any signs of diarrhea/vomiting within 24 hours of school start time**. If a student vomits in the evening, don't send them to school the next morning. Students should be symptom-free and able to tolerate regular food.
- If your child **is coughing uncontrollably**, they should stay home or seek advice from a health care provider. An uncontrollable cough is disruptive to the classroom, and it is difficult to manage the spread of germs.

Student absences related to illness are excused with documentation from a parent for up to eight days. After eight days, parents need to provide a doctor's note to the school attendance office.

Williamson County schools are following [guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) to help reduce the spread of seasonal influenza, including the routine cleaning of surfaces and allowing extra hand-washing time in student schedules.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse or the health services department.

December 3rd,

2019 | Categories: [District](#) | Tags: [health](#), [illness](#), [wcs](#), [williamson county schools](#)

Williamson County Schools Early Childhood Program
2020-2021 School Year
Longview Elementary Site

Longview, Allendale, and Chapman's Retreat Zoned Families:

***Please note that our Early Childhood classrooms are different from our Williamson County Pre-K programs. You can find more information about the Pre-K programs that are offered in our county along with their application process on the Williamson County Schools website: <https://www.wcs.edu/district/departments/tla/pre-k/>

Below you will find information about the Early Childhood program in Williamson County Schools. **Please read all information carefully before completing and returning an application.**

The public-school systems serve children with identified disabilities beginning on their third birthday. Williamson County Schools believes that children with special needs as well as children with typical development are best encouraged to grow when included in the same Early Childhood classroom setting together. Our Early Childhood program integrates students with disabilities and typically developing peer models. This program focuses on pre-academic, motor (gross & fine), language, social, & adaptive skills within the context of a preschool curriculum. The early childhood classroom setting encourages all children through the use of play, movement, music and other developmentally appropriate activities to teach foundational skills.

Early Childhood (EC) classrooms are located at a variety of schools across Williamson County, and the program site children attend is based on their school zone. However, if there is availability at another site, you may elect to be considered for multiple sites. EC sites do sometimes change between years based on the needs and makeup of the county. Williamson County Schools is a rapidly growing district and occasionally unforeseen growth may result in the change of an early childhood classroom location. If we learn of a change after your child has been accepted to a site, we will communicate this change to you, and you may decide to enroll at the new location or decline your spot. Our hope is that this will not happen, but we want parents to be aware that sometimes growth and school needs are outside our control. EC classes meet on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and follow a modified Williamson County Schools schedule. Children do not attend class on Wednesday. The EC classrooms have 2 sessions each day, an AM session from 8:50-11:50 and a PM session from 12:50-3:50. You will be able to indicate your preference on the application. The first day of school for the EC program will be Monday, August 17.

We are now accepting applications for typically developing peer models in our Early Childhood Programs for the 2020-2021 school year. This is an opportunity for your 3, 4, or 5-year-old to attend the WCS preschool classroom. As some of our peers return each year, we may have limited openings in some classrooms. Our enrollment of peer models is designed to match/complement our enrollment of children with disabilities and is therefore based on a variety of factors such as gender and age. Please note that, to be eligible for Williamson County's Early Childhood Program, you must reside in the Williamson County School zone (regardless of your employment status with Williamson County Schools), and be able to transport your child to/from school as EC peers are not eligible for WCS bus services. If you live in the Franklin Special School District or Maury County, your child is NOT eligible for the Williamson County Schools Early Childhood program. There is no charge for the Early Childhood program.

In order to be considered for placement for the 2020-2021 school year, **PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS by March 6th**. You will be notified by e-mail if your child does or does not have a placement by April 1st. After March 6, we will continue to take applications that will be added to our applicant pool, and you would be contacted by email if you child is accepted as availability occasionally occurs throughout the school year. Applications may be sent by email or mail to Mandy Peirick at Longview Elementary School.

Longview Elementary School
2929 Commonwealth Drive
Spring Hill, TN 37174
ATTN: Mandy Peirick, Early Childhood Program
Email: amanda.peirick@wcs.edu