



# LJ Stevens Intermediate School

Notes from Mrs. Dennis

## December

- 2 School Resumes
- 2-6 Penny Wars
- 4-5 Santa's Shop
- 9 School Board  
6:30pm
- 11 Holiday Program  
WMS gym  
2nd Grade 5:30pm  
3rd Grade 7:00pm
- 20 Holiday Parties  
12:45-1:45pm  
1:50 dismissal
- 23-Jan 6 Winter Break

## January

- 6 Teacher Institute
- 7 School resumes
- 7 WE-PTO @ WMS 4:00

As we have now arrived into the colder months of the year, **we want to remind our students and their families of the importance of being prepared with the proper clothing to go outdoors during recess.** Please know, based on our student handbook, all students are expected to go outside for recess as long as the temperature, including wind chill, is 15 degrees or above. Students are expected to wear coats, stocking caps or hats, and gloves so they are still comfortable in the colder temperatures. If not dressed properly, students will be given a coat to borrow. Students will be allowed to play in the snow if they bring snow pants and boots.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the students and staff of Stevens Intermediate School. For the second year in a row, our school was rated ***Exemplary***, the top rating in Illinois.

Exemplary status means that Stevens Intermediate School is in the top 10% of schools in Illinois. To give you more information, there are currently 3,052 elementary schools in the State of Illinois.

## Transportation

**For the safety of our students, no transportation changes can be made after 2:00 p.m.**

## **Math Fact Club**

Students in grades 2-5 at Stevens Intermediate School participate in the Math Fact Club. In order to be more proficient in math in the upper grades, students need to be fluent in math facts. Facts have to be memorized. It is expected that students have facts memorized as below:

**2nd grade: Addition and Subtraction Facts**

**3rd grade, 4th grade, and 5th grade: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division.**

Please take time to practice math facts nightly!

## **HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes will be performing a Holiday Program on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in the Wilmington Middle School gymnasium. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade performance will be at 5:30 p.m. and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade performance will be at 7:00 p.m.



Get ready to shop! Students will have the opportunity to go shopping for their family or friends on December 4<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> in the LJ Stevens Intermediate School Library. Many volunteers are needed to make this a success. Please contact 815-926-1689 if you are interested in volunteering.

# Winter Break:

December 23rd to January 6th; School Resumes January 7th.

## Emergency School Closings

The Wilmington School District uses the Alert Now/Blackboard Connect System to inform parents of emergencies and non-emergencies. The Alert Now/Blackboard Connect System calls parents and guardians automatically. The system is only as good as the information it retains. Please keep your contacts up to date in our school system.

If you receive an emergency call, you should see a 411 prefix on the caller I.D. The message runs in a loop. If you do not hear speaking right away DO NOT hang up, the loop will restart. If the message is non-emergency it will say Wilmington Schools on the caller I.D. Please be aware: If you are using a privacy blocker on your phone, Alert Now will not register.

Sometimes power outages, flooding, or weather develops suddenly. Emergency information regarding District 209U schools is announced over the following radio stations as soon as a decision is made:

- \* **Joliet – WJOL – AM 1340**
- \* **Chicago – WGN – AM 720, FM 98**
- \* **Joliet – WBUS – FM 100.7**
- \* **Chicago – WLS – AM 890**
- \* **Kankakee – WKAN – AM 1320**
- \* **Television Channels – 2,5,7,9**
- \* **Kankakee – WONU – FM 89.7**
- \* **Kankakee – WVLI – FM 95.1**
- \* **Wilmington – WKAT – FM 105.5**
- \* **Morris – WJDK/WCSJ – FM 103.1 & FM 95.7**
- \*

Or visit the following websites: [www.EmergencyClosings.com](http://www.EmergencyClosings.com), or our District website at [www.wilmington.will.k12.il.us](http://www.wilmington.will.k12.il.us).

## Getting Along with Others

It's easy for kids and parents to think that if friends aren't getting along with each other, maybe they shouldn't play with each other. However, most relationships have problems from time to time. Kids, especially, are learning how to negotiate and balance having their needs met while also keeping their friends content.

It's useful to talk about getting along with others as "taking care of a friendship." You can ask your child, "Does being a good friend mean always making sure your friend is happy?" After you hear what they have to say, you can give examples of how, sometimes, even though you're being a good friend, your friend might not be happy with you. That's ok because taking care of a friendship means taking care of yourself and your friend. You can come back to the question, "So, is that taking care of you and taking care of your friend?" You can also tie in kindness – you might not do something that your friend wants you to do because it wouldn't be kind. For example, a friend might be leaving someone else out of a game. Your child wants to play with his friend, but he doesn't want to leave anyone else out. He might say to his friend, "I want to play with you, but let's include Joe, too. He might feel bad if we leave him out."

Some possible solutions for getting along with others:

**Shrug and move on:** If the issue is not that big of a deal, shrug your shoulders and move on. This is similar to ignoring, but gives kids something concrete to do. Help them practice shrugging and moving on in a way that is kind and takes care of the friendship as opposed to creating more problems by coming across as disrespectful or rude. Help them figure out which situations might be "shrug worthy" and which situations might require something else.

**Talk it out:** Encourage your child to use a "compliment sandwich" when talking to the person they are having a conflict with. This means say something nice, state the problem, suggest a solution, and say something nice again. For example, "I have so much fun playing with you. I feel bad when we leave Kate out, so I was thinking we could all play together. You have the best ideas for games!"

**Use I statements:** I statements can let the person know how you feel and what you want from them. Fill in the blanks in a way that takes care of you and your friend and in a way that is kind and respectful. I feel \_\_\_ when you \_\_\_ and I wish you would \_\_\_." For example, "I feel frustrated when you don't agree to play any of the games I want to play and I wish you would agree to take turns picking what we play."

**Compromise:** Help your child figure out ways to compromise with friends. Kids generally have great ideas for compromising. Ask them to come up with ways to help both parties get a little of what they want such as take turns, flip a coin, do rock-paper-scissors, create a new game that involves aspects of both people's ideas, or set a time limit for each person's idea.

**Walk away and take a break:** Help your child understand that sometimes it's ok to take a break and have a little space from a friend. Sometimes a little time away from each other is all that is needed to start getting along again.

## Stevens Intermediate School Calendar 2019-2020

### November

27-29 Thanksgiving Break--NO SCHOOL

### December

2 School Resumes

2-6 Penny Wars

4-5 Santa's Shop

9

11 Grade 2 Holiday Music Program 5:30 pm at WMS

11 Grade 3 Holiday Music Program 7:00 pm at WMS

20 Holiday parties (12:45-1:45 pm)

20 Early Dismissal 1:50

20 Progress Reports

23-Jan-06 Winter Break- NO SCHOOL

### January

6 Teacher Institute- NO SCHOOL

7 School resumes

7 WE-PTO Meeting 4:00 pm @ WMS

20 Martin Luther King's Birthday-NO SCHOOL

27-31 Career Week

### February

4 WE-PTO Meeting 4:00 pm @ WMS

12 School Improvement Early Dismissal 11:20

14 Valentines Day Party 2:00-2:45

17 No School Presidents Day

20 4th Grade Patriotic Program 6:30 @ WMS

21 End of Second Trimester

24-March 3 Book Fair

28 Report Cards

### March

2 Pulaski Day--NO SCHOOL

3 WE-PTO Meeting 4:00 pm @ SIS

4 2nd Trimester Awards

13 Spring Pictures

23-27 Spring Break

30 School Resumes

### April

3 Progress Reports

7 WE-PTO Meeting 4:00 pm @ SIS

8 School Improvement Day 11:20 Dismissal

10 No School Good Friday