

This is Tripp Crayton, Principal at Wakefield Middle School, with your weekly announcement. A copy of this message will be posted on the school's website in case you miss any information.

We had a very smooth opening this past week. We appreciate your patience and cooperation during carpool and bus routes. We knew the first couple of days would be a bit busier than usual, and it is good to know that we have persevered through the first week of school.

Beginning Tuesday, we will be following a new procedure with regard to messages and articles left for students brought to the receptionist in the main office. In order to protect the instructional day, the names of students with messages will be written on a dry-erase board next to the cafeteria. It is the student's responsibility to check the board during his/her lunch to see if he/she has a message. If the student's name is on the board, he/she will report directly to the front office to receive the message. Names will also be called at 2:57 p.m. at the end of the day with messages concerning transportation. We ask that you give your child all messages and materials prior to the school day.

If you visited our front office this past week, you should have noticed a new visitor check-in system. When entering the school building, you should report immediately to the front desk in order to receive a visitor's pass. The system is simple to operate and requires you to have your picture made along with your name and reason for visiting our campus. Parents/guardians who are checking out students will also need to use the system to check out your child and have your picture made. Although we invite you to visit our campus, this new form of checking in and checking students out is required to ensure your child's safety. We appreciate your cooperation with this new procedure.

The first Beta Club meeting will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2007 at 7:30 a.m. All Beta Club members are required to attend. Parents are encouraged to attend the Beta Club meeting as well. Please contact Mrs. Ainslie if you are unable to attend.

Along with first day packets you should have received a copy of the 2007-2008 instructional calendar. You should have noticed that we will have four early release days this school year where students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. This will allow our teachers to participate in professional development focusing on diversity in education and professional learning communities. As indicated on the calendar, our first early release day will be held on Friday, September 28th. The remaining early release days will be November 9th, February 15th, and April 25th. Thank you in advance for your cooperation on these days.

School is closed on Monday, September 3, 2007 for the Labor Day holiday.

Have a great and enjoyable long weekend. Goodbye.