



October 7, 2011

Watershed Families:

Our school year is in full swing and everyone is settled in their schedules. We have some updates and reminders for your information as well as dates for your calendars. Last week we held one of Watershed's unique celebrations, the Festival of Compassion. Our students brought in a vast array of veggies, grains and spices for our "stone" soup and it was delicious! The clothing exchange was fun for everyone and we had plenty of items left over to donate to a local charity group as well. The bowl exchange, always fun, brought in some of the most unique pieces I've seen in a long time!

On the reverse side of this letter is your user name and password to access our parent portal on "Power School" for grades and attendance. Periodically reviewing the information on the parent portal can help keep you apprised of your student's current grades, check up on attendance and to ensure that absences for appointments and illness have been excused in our system. As a busy parent myself, I understand that contacting each teacher is tedious and Power School is a great way to ensure there are no surprises come report card time!

Speaking of grades and parent-teacher communication, we have conferences this month. Conferences have been scheduled for one evening and one afternoon to try to accommodate parent/guardian work schedules. **Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 18th from 4-8 p.m. and on Thursday the 19th from 1-5 p.m.** As always, we value your partnership in the education of your child.

October is the month of the annual MEA Convention for educators. This year the convention falls on October 20th and 21st, so we do not have school on those days. Combined with the early release day the 19th for conferences, this makes a wonderful time to schedule doctor/dental appointments for your student or for a fall getaway!

School pictures will be taken the morning of Monday, October 24th at 11:00. It will be important that students are on time for school to meet our photographer's morning time slot. Whether or not students purchase pictures, it is important that everyone is photographed for school id cards and the yearbook. If you'd like to purchase pictures, watch for a flyer to come home listing prices or visit the school website. We have a high-quality, yet affordable family company taking our pictures this year and helping with the yearbook. If you'd like to check the photographers out, please visit: scherlingphotography.com (no w.w.w.).

Lastly, if you haven't visited our website yet this year, please do so. The site has finally been updated and is much more user-friendly than the former site. School Board meeting minutes, current events, school forms, staff bios and more are now posted. Thanks to our volunteer, Deb, for spending her free moments working on creating the website and keeping it updated! Please visit: www.watershedhs.org weekly if possible to stay current on what's going on at school.

Thank you for your support,

Paul M. Kinsley, Executive Director

Destiny D. Sparks, Director of Education