



## TJ WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL – DECEMBER 2017

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**NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL:** Our first semester ends January 19 and we are at the midpoint of the second quarter. Progress reports will be sent electronically on **Wednesday, December 13** to those parents who have an e-mail address in PowerSchool. Progress reports and the Link will be sent by U.S. mail for those parents who do not have an email address in PowerSchool.

**ALLIED ARTS:** Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Allied Arts students presented five performances of *Shrek the Musical* to enthusiastic audiences during the week of December 5-8. Our first performance was especially for local senior citizens and was followed by a free luncheon hosted by the TJWMS student council. We'd like to extend a huge thank you to all the parents, staff, and community members who were involved in making the show a success.

### **ATHLETICS:**

- **Boys' Basketball** - The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams wrapped up regular season play December 11 with wins against Sevastopol. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade team will compete Saturday, December 16 in the conference tournament at Gibraltar.
- **Girls' Basketball** – Practice begins on December 18 with games beginning in January. Please visit the school's website for a list of the scheduled games.
- **Wrestling** – A number of meets are coming up in January. For a full list, please visit the school's website.

### **BAND NEWS:**

- **Thank you** to all those who supported our band fruit sale by either buying fruit or volunteering at the pick-up. The students raised funds needed for their trips, band camps and private lessons.
- **Winter Concert** - The MS Winter Band Concert will be held on Monday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. Fifth grade band students will also be performing in the concert. This will be their first performance since beginning in June. Students should report to the band room at 6:30 p.m. on the night of the concert.

### **CHOIR NEWS:**

- **Grade 6 Solo and Ensemble Festival** - The students in our 6<sup>th</sup> grade choirs had their own in-house Solo and Ensemble Festival during the first part of November. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' choir entries were judged by local music teacher and SBHS graduate Dori Arbter. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls received comments from retired elementary music teacher Carmen Youra. It was a wonderful learning experience for all.
- **Thank you** to the brave adults who walked with us in the Sturgeon Bay Christmas parade. It was a blustery day, and we were trying something new in having *all* the choir students march in a parade. We've received many positive comments from the community, and this was only possible because families were willing to share their time to make it happen. Our "float" was courtesy of the Gigstead family, and we want to thank them for their time and effort in support of our choir program.
- **Performances** - Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir will be providing music of the season at Glas Coffee House during one of their choir class periods next week. We will also carol throughout the middle school again this year.
- **Winter Concert** - Our MS/HS Winter Choir Concert will be held on January 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the SBHS auditorium and will feature selections by all our HS and MS choirs. Students should report to the middle school commons at 6:30 p.m. on the night of the concert.

**GRADE 6 CWES TRIP:** Attention Parents and Students! This is a reminder that the overnight field trip to Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES) is February 14, 15, & 16. There will be a parent meeting on Monday, January 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the middle school commons for parents who have questions about the trip.

**GRADE 8 BABY PICTURES:** A reminder to 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents; if you are submitting a baby picture of your son or daughter, those photos are due by Friday, January 26. You may email a digital photo to [jhanson@sturbay.k12.wi.us](mailto:jhanson@sturbay.k12.wi.us) or drop off a hard copy photo in the middle school office with your child's name written on the back. Please do not take a picture of a photo and email it. These do not make a photo of high enough quality for publication. Photos will be returned by the end of the year. Thank you!

## **GRADE 8 WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP UPDATES:**

- **Trip payments** - The next payment of \$125 will be due February 9, with any remaining balance due April 6, 2018. If you do not want a large sum due on April 6, you are welcome to make additional payments before this date. Please plan accordingly and take advantage of the many ways to raise money for the trip. The total cost of the trip will be approximately \$825. Remember you can check your student's point totals and individual fundraising sales on the TJ Walker website by navigating to 8th Grade DC Trip Information under Activities & Clubs.
- **Fundraising opportunities:**
  - **Seroogy's candy bars** – Please contact Jen Nellis at 920-495-0453 or [jmathias2001@gmail.com](mailto:jmathias2001@gmail.com) if your child would like to sell candy bars. Money from sales should be turned in to the middle school office.
  - **Econo Foods receipts** – Please keep saving them! There is a drop off for them in the middle school office.
  - **Grocery bagging** – The next date is December 31 at Pick N' Save. Sign up in the office. The next Econo Foods date is January 6. Please contact Wendi Carter or Erin Hemminger via Facebook to sign-up.
  - **Concessions** - Earn group points by working concessions at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball tournament on February 24. Contact Bill Bissen at 920-746-4107 or [skreft@charter.net](mailto:skreft@charter.net) for more details.
  - **Frozen Spoon Fundraiser** – This is expected to take place in February or March. More details to come on this event.

**GRANT WINNER:** Congratulation to 7<sup>th</sup> grader, Ellen Tellstrom, who earned one of 52 Petco Foundation's Holiday Wishes grant from \$5,000 to \$100,000 that will be presented in December to the Safe Haven Humane Society and Outreach Center which serves the Howard - Suamico areas.

**LIBRARY NEWS:** Innovation Hour is focusing on Coding and Robotics through the end of first semester. Enrichment students have the opportunity to work with robots such as Dash & Dot, Sphero, Ozobot, and Cubelets. They may also learn to code on the computers using Scratch or Code.org. Forty-one students are participating in December's Innovation Hour on a weekly basis during Enrichment time.

**POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL ASSISTANCE:** For help setting up your PowerSchool Parent Account, or if you previously set up an account and need help with your username and password, email Mrs. Nickel at [mnickel@sbsdmail.net](mailto:mnickel@sbsdmail.net) or call 920-746-3876.

**STAFF CHANGES FOR 2018-19:** At the end of this school year, TJ Walker will say good-bye to Ms. Hill who next year will become the high school's full time choir director. Choir will continue to be offered to middle school students in each grade.

**TOYS FOR TOTS:** You can donate to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation in addition to giving holiday gifts to those special individuals in your life, and help provide Christmas joy to millions of children living in poverty in our country. Drop off is located by the middle school office and runs through December 15. Thanks for your support!

**YEARBOOK ORDERS:** All yearbook orders are due by **Friday, February 2**. The basic book costs \$22; personalization and icons will be at an additional cost. Yearbooks can be ordered online through the link on the school website on the Families & Parents menu under Middle School Yearbook Information. Order forms are also available in the middle school office. Thank you for supporting your middle school yearbook!

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

December 13	Progress reports sent out
December 15	Last day to donate to Toys for Tots
December 18	Winter Band Concert – 7:00 p.m.
December 22	Last day of school before winter break
January 2	Classes resume
January 11	Winter Choir Concert – 7:00 p.m.
January 26	8 <sup>th</sup> grade baby pictures due
February 2	Yearbook orders due
February 9	8 <sup>th</sup> grade D.C. trip payment of \$125 due

**\*\* Check our website at [www.sturbay.k12.wi.us](http://www.sturbay.k12.wi.us) for updated school calendar.\*\***



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