

***Mission Statement:*** *Watson Williams will provide a quality education for a diverse student population in a peaceful and positive learning environment. Students will continue to use their reasoning, literacy, mathematical and technical skills to become life-long learners and productive members of society.*



***Vision Statement:*** *Watson Williams' vision is for students to obtain the knowledge, skills and character necessary to become life-long learners and college and career ready one leap at a time.*

## WATSON WILLIAMS SCHOOL

### FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

*"Strive to be the best you can be"*

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In honor of Black History month, we will be commemorating various African Americans for their achievements and contributions. The students will receive information which acknowledges past and present leaders, such as Harriet Tubman, Maggie Lean Walker, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, Fannie Barrier Williams, Carter G. Woodson, Dr. Donald Hopkins, Lorraine Cole, Robert Johnson, Duke Ellington, Benjamin Banneker, Jan Ernst Matzeliger, Percy Lavon Julian, Bessie Coleman, and Martin Luther King, Jr. and others...They will study their achievements and contribution to our nation throughout the month in various ways. Please ask your child to share with you and reflect on the person and the great character traits that helped them achieve success.

In addition, for advance notice, we will celebrate our schools' diversity at our **International Night Celebration** on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00P.M. – 7:00P.M. We welcome you to share your diversity with a cultural dish and or artifacts. Please let your classroom teacher know if you will be attending. Hopefully, there will not be any snow storms! But, in case of bad weather, you should receive a message from the district school messenger service. Please listen to the radio or watch TV for a possible school closing.

Just a gentle reminder! Please be reminded that Mid-Winter recess will be Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> through February 21<sup>st</sup> and will resume Monday, February 24, 2020.

Again, thanks for all that you do! Good work parents!!

Sincerely,  
*Dr. Cheryl B. Minor*  
Principal



#### **SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY**

The Utica City School District has collaborated with the Sheriff's Department to provide Watson Williams with a School Resource Office to help maintain and oversee the safety of the students and staff. There is no student entry through the front entrance before 9:05A.M. If it is an inside day due to weather, student entry is only in the back at the cafeteria entrance. Adults may not enter the building with students unless they have an appointment with the teacher. All parents and visitors **MUST** enter through the front entry door near the main office. Any unauthorized adult in the building will be cited for trespassing.



### **FUNDRAISERS**

Every Wednesday school is in session; purchase a lollipop for 50 cents. Every Friday school is in session is popcorn day. Purchase a box of popcorn for 50 cents. If you are available to assist with making popcorn, please let your child's teacher know.

### **SHARED DECISION MAKING MEETING**

We look forward to working with you on Monday, February 3rd at 8:30 A.M. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend. We welcome your ideas.



### **MID-WINTER RECESS: February 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**

School will not be in session from Monday, February 17th-21<sup>st</sup> due to mid-winter recess. Classes will resume on Monday, February 25, 2019.

### **PLAN AHEAD: MARK YOUR CALENDARS –**

♥ March 3rd: K and 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduation and Yearbook Group Picture Day

♥ **SDM INTERNATIONAL NIGHT- Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

Please join us at 5:00P.M. to see how Every Child is Succeeding (ESSA) at Watson Williams and enjoy a food tasting experience with the ethnic dishes provided by our community restaurant partners and parents.

♥ March: 4th: Spring Picture Day

### **CFLR SECOND STEP NEWS**

Watson Williams performance characteristic word for the month of February is: **PERSISTENCE!** Persistence teaches students that if they make great effort, they can overcome and accomplish anything!

This month our Second Step Prevention Specialist at Watson Williams, has a great home activity that you can do with your child/children to help encourage persistence.

Put a couple of vocabulary words in a basket that your child is learning and studying for a quiz or test that they may have coming up in school. Then every day, have your child take out a couple of those vocabulary words, and challenge them to be persistent in using those words throughout the day. Ask them where they were able to use the words, and have them keep trying to use the words at home also. This will not only help them to persistently study, but to become persistent in learning! If you keep this game going throughout the year, your child/children will become excellent in vocabulary in no time, if they are not already!

