

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.



Watson Williams School

October 2019

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

"The world's most precious treasures are in the mind of a child."

Autumn Is Here...

I hope all the parents and guardians of the Watson Williams School community were able to meet with their child's teacher, on Wednesday, September 18th at our Open House. Valuable information was provided regarding our curriculum, Title I funding, Watson's Academic performance, and our AIS program. All of the teachers were available to discuss our Reading Curriculum and grade level expectations. As mentioned at the open house your continuous support has helped us to make incremental gains and increase the learning outcomes of our students.

However, if you were unable to attend, we will have a 1/2 day of school on Thursday, October 24, 2019 to conduct Parent Teacher Conferences. You will receive a date and time for your conference. We ask for your partnership in helping us to effectively prepare our students for our local and the New York State Assessments. Please review your child's homework assignments daily and communicate with your child's teacher(s) frequently for updated information.

Your voice is very important to us and your attendance is highly encouraged and recommended at the scheduled events throughout the school year. I'm looking forward to the new school year and meeting with each of you. In addition, our fundraising campaign starts the 1st Wednesday and Friday in October. Please speak with your child's teacher about how you can become an active parent in supporting the schools initiatives throughout the year.

On behalf of all the staff at Watson Williams, we thank you for your continued support and interest in our programs and becoming active participants in your child's education.

Sincerely,
Dr. Cheryl B. Minor
Principal

SAFETY PATROL- Congratulations! to all of our Safety Patrollers for the 2019-2020 school year. The students will be helping throughout the building and on our busses to support student safety. Our program begins October 1, 2019 and the installation of patrollers will be at our assembly October 17, 2019.

FIRE PREVENTION week is October 7th-11th. There will be a fire prevention assembly for our students on October 9th. In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy. The assembly will also reinforce why everyone needs to have an escape plan.

PARKING

On February 5, 2003 the Utica Common Council passed a code of ordinances with respect to stopping, standing and parking on Elmwood Place and Elm Street.

The following is in effect:

ELMWOOD PLACE: Northside (school side)- NO STOPPING, STANDING or PARKING
Southside (Across from school) – NO PARKING, STANDING ONLY
DRIVER MUST STAY IN CAR

ELM STREET: Eastside (school side) – NO PARKING, OR STOPPING, STANDING ONLY
DRIVER MUST STAY IN CAR
Westside (Across from school) – NO PARKING, STANDING or PARKING

**** Illegally parked or stopped cars will be ticketed. The fine is \$20.00.***





***PLEASE NOTE: WHEN DROPPING YOUR CHILDREN OFF FOR SCHOOL REMEMBER TO REINFORCE SAFETY RULES. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE CHILDREN LOOK BOTH WAYS BEFORE CROSSING!! ALSO, PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO PARKING OR STANDING IN THE DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE OFF OF ELM STREET.**

WATSON WILLIAMS FUNDRAISERS—Every Wednesday, lollipops will be sold for 50 cents and every Friday beginning on October 4th, popcorn will be sold for 50 cents. Please let your child's teacher know if you are available to assist with making popcorn.

SHARED DECISION MAKING MEETING

Watson Williams' Shared Decision Making Team Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 7th at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room to finalize our objectives and annual activities. The team has parent and community member vacancies. Please become involved and join our team. We need your input and support to ensure optimal student achievement and a positive school climate.

1st GRADE FIELD TRIP TO NORTHSTAR ORCHARDS – Tuesday, October 8th

WATSON WILLIAMS HALF DAY – Friday, October 11, 2019

All students will be dismissed at 12:05 p.m. on Friday, October 11, 2019.

SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION: Monday, OCTOBER 14, 2019 - School will not be in session on Monday, October 14, 2019. Classes will resume on Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH ASSEMBLY The Student of the Month assembly will be conducted on Thursday, October 17, 2019.

Kgn – 3 at 9:30 a.m. and Gr. 4-6 at 2:10 p.m. in the Gymnasium.

4th GRADE CLASSES TO MWPAI – October 18th and 22nd

WATSON WILLIAMS HALF DAY- Thursday, October 24, 2019

All students will be dismissed at 12:05 p.m. on Thursday, October 24th due to Parent/Teacher Conference Day. Classes will resume on Friday, October 25th.

****MARK YOUR CALENDAR****

School Picture Day will be conducted on Wednesday, October 30th. Students are to bring their **ORDER FORMS AND MONEY** with them on this date. The re-take day is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 3, 2019.**

DISTRICT-WIDE HALF DAY- Thursday, October 31, 2019

All students will be dismissed at 12:05 p.m. on Thursday, October 31st. Classes will resume on Friday, November 1st.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH REMINDERS

Just a gentle reminder, all walkers that wish to eat breakfast must arrive before 8:45 a.m. Please remind your child(ren) to enter the cafeteria as soon as they arrive at school if they are attending the breakfast program. Each child who eats at school is expected to follow the cafeteria expectations, remain on school grounds and obey personnel. Children who fail to do so will not be allowed to eat in our cafeteria.



STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

A copy of the UCSD Student Conduct Policy citing behavioral expectations and consequences and also the Dignity for All Act is available in the main office for parent or guardian's review.

DRUG PREVENTION WEEK – "RED RIBBON WEEK" - October 28th–Nov. 1st

We will have an agenda of fun; daily activities and announcements pertaining to this, such as wear red/white/blue day. I would like to ask the Watson Williams Community to get ready for our "Animal Food Drive for the Utica Humane Society." During this week, we will be collecting any items for cats and dogs from bowls, food, collars, leashes, etc...Please help us out and plan ahead!

We are learning to do good things for others and animals! Thank you!

TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS

Please support our students at Watson Williams Elementary by giving us your 10 digit #. You can enroll at Price Chopper.com or at any store. Send in the form that we gave to all students. WE NEED YOUR HELP to earn points to get FREE educational equipment.

MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Please send in any physicals and updated immunizations for your child(ren). Physicals are required for Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd and 5th grades per NYS law.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS – Fall back one hour – November 3rd



Dress for the weather...It's Fall time again!! Please make sure your children dress for the weather: Encourage your child to wear a warm sweater, jacket or coat. The mornings are cooler than the afternoons. The students will be lining up at their entrances before entering school unless the weather is rainy, snowy and or below 32 degrees. It's important to keep body parts, such as the head, hands and feet warm when it's cold outside.



HALLOWEEN TIPS:

When Trick-or-treating-

1. Wear light clothing.
2. Carry a flashlight.
3. Go in groups.
4. Have adults check candy.

