Notes from Mr. Biscan

Dear Falcon Families,

I hope all of you are having a wonderful school year. This edition of the Falcon Focus contains important information that ranges from the Jefferson Early Childhood Center to additional math resources for all students. As always, if you seek further information about our school or need to contact anyone affiliated with Wheaton North, please go to our website.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a great weekend.

We are Falcons. We are Proud. We are North.

Notes from Mr. Venckus, Assistant Principal of Student Services

Heroin Awareness

Student safety and well-being is always a top priority for Wheaton North. Therefore, it is our goal to continue to collaboratively work with parents to provide information that is practical and applicable. As many have seen, heroin use is no longer a city problem. It has found its way into suburbs and affluent communities. It has also been a growing problem in DuPage County. Here is some information about heroin from the Heroin DuPage website (http://www.heroindupage.org):

1) Heroin is a highly addictive depressant drug that has increased in purity and decreased in price over the years.
2) Heroin is a white powder in its purest form, but its color can vary from white to black depending on the purity.
3) In DuPage County in the last couple years, the numbers for opioid-related overdose deaths are staggering: 72 in 2017, 78 in 2016 and 51 in 2015. The victims range from adolescents through senior citizens and represent all socio-economic levels.
4) People no longer have to inject heroin; they can now inhale it by snorting, sniffing and smoking it. There is a misconception that heroin inhalation is less addictive or not as addictive as compared to using a needle.
5) Heroin is not usually used alone but with other drugs as well. Prescription medicine such as vicodin, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, methadone and fentanyl can act as gateway drugs to heroin.
6) Heroin is packaged in foil squares, balloons, gelatin capsules and small parts of plastic bags or small zip lock bags. Cut-up straws are used to snort heroin.
7) Some behavioral warning signs:

   1) Some behavioral warning signs:

      Withdrawal from friends and family
Decrease in school grades and attendance
Quitting teams or hobbies
Sudden change in attire
Increased lying
Aggressive behaviors towards those they love
Increased secrecy, especially with electronics
Increased time spent sleeping
Change in friends
Start locking themselves in their rooms

2) Signs of an individual high on heroin:
   - Lethargic
   - Low, slow voice
   - Slurred speech
   - Droopy eyes
   - Hunched over/droopy appearance
   - Shortness of breath
   - Dry mouth
   - Pinpoint or excessively large pupils that don’t adjust to light changes
   - Disorientation
   - Cycles of hyper alertness followed by suddenly nodding off
   - Vomiting, especially common in beginning stages
   - Sweating
   - Lack of appetite
   - Slow reflexes
   - Scratching arms and face

On a related note, if you find a pill you’re unsure of, you can have it identified at http://www.drugs.com/imprints.php.
Seek professional help in dealing with heroin use. Our deans, counselors, nurses, social workers, and school psychologists at Wheaton North can be a good resource for you.

**Halloween Costumes**

For students who are wearing costumes, they must fit within our school dress guidelines. The following are not allowed:

- Costumes and/or make-up deemed threatening or inappropriate
- Masks, headgear, and make-up that prevent clear identity of the student
- Imitation weapons and theatrical props

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Veterans Day**

Annually, Wheaton North High School presents a Veterans Day event to honor the service and sacrifice of our nation’s armed forces. For the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day concluding WWI, WN will host an all-school assembly headlined by honored guest and Medal of Honor Recipient, Sergeant Allen Lynch.

In conjunction with the assembly, a Healing Field® of 250 American flags will be displayed along Geneva Road. We are asking faculty, district families, and the community to join us in recognizing current and former service members by dedicating a flag to a loved one. For $40 you can purchase a 3 x 5-foot flag that will be hung on an 8-foot pole with a personalized tag recognizing your loved one’s commitment to this nation. On Veterans Day (Sunday, November 11) you are welcome to pick up your flag from 9am to 2pm and continue to display it throughout the year.

To purchase a flag to be displayed at Wheaton North, please visit the [online order form](http://www.drugs.com/imprints.php).

Flag purchase will help to pay for the Veterans Day Assembly and provide a donation to the Midwest Shelter of Homeless Veterans located in Wheaton. Due to the limited number of flags, be sure to reserve yours today.
Scores From Spring 2018 State Testing

Current Freshmen - Individual student test scores from the Grade 8 Spring 2018 PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) were distributed to students on Friday, October 12. If your child completed all units of these tests (Math & English/Language Arts), he/she received a score report. Information on how to interpret the scores can be found at http://understandthescore.org/.

Current Sophomores & Juniors - Individual student test scores from the Spring 2018 PSAT 8/9 & PSAT 10 have been available for student pick-up during the last 3 weeks of Falcon Time. If students have not yet picked up their scores, paper copies will remain available in the Main Office until October 31.

For any questions regarding these tests and scores, please contact Assistant Principal, Dr. Julie Pavlini (630.784.7306), julie.pavlini@cusd200.org

Jefferson Early Learning Center

There was an excellent article in the Daily Herald about the referendum that will be on the ballot November 6. We encourage you to reference this article as well as detailed referendum information that can be found on our website, wnhs.org, Jefferson Referendum Article, Facebook, Twitter.

Link Crew - What are we up to?

This week’s Link Crew focus is GOAL SETTING!
To accomplish this goal, all freshmen will experience the importance of setting measurable goals. Special focus will be on creating meaningful short term goals to make long term goals a reality. Ask your freshmen what their goals are to help them see the importance of GOAL SETTING!

Winter Play

Calling all novice actors! Auditions for the Winter Play are approaching! The Winter Play is for WN actors who have little acting experience but who would like to give acting a try. Our target audience is children (preschool-elementary school). Please encourage any students you know who might be interested in acting to audition.

An informational meeting to be held in Taylor Auditorium on Monday, October 29 at 2:30. Auditions to be held in Taylor Auditorium on Tuesday, October 30 at 2:30.

For more information contact Mr. Phillips at Brian.Phillips@cusd200.org

Parent Workshop

On Wednesday, November 7, we are hosting our first District 200 Parent Workshop - ‘It’s more than ‘just say no’, Raising Resilient and Drug-Free Kids’. We have an excellent speaker lined up. They are highly encouraging elementary and middle school parents to attend, not just high school parents.

Raising Resilient and Drug Free Kids, Dear Parent/Guardian
**Falcon WiNGS**

**Please join!**
Need a Winter Sports Pass? This is your chance to join the WiNGS and get your pass. We hope you will consider joining the Falcon WiNGS this year. Here are your membership options & information.

**Please volunteer!**
We invite you to get involved at Wheaton North. The Falcon WiNGS has Concessions Sales and Falconwear Sales volunteer opportunities. Check out the Sign-up.

**Need a yard sign?**
Have you seen the Wheaton North yard signs around town and want for your student? Please order one online.

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**From the Math Department - News You Can Use**

Khan Academy is a great online learning system that can be utilized by teachers, students, and parents. Some of the mathematics teachers at Wheaton North have incorporated Khan Academy practice into their courses over the past few years. Some students at Wheaton North have researched topics through Khan Academy and used it as a resource for learning. Parents can also use Khan Academy to assign and monitor their children's progress. In addition to all of course offerings in Khan Academy, there is also standardized test practice available, including very detailed SAT preparation. Anyone can use Khan Academy for free. All you have to do is visit www.khanacademy.org and get started.

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**Dates to Save**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 31</td>
<td>Falcon Time - classes start at 8:03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 1</td>
<td>Band Concert - 7:00 p.m. - Taylor Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 7</td>
<td>Falcon Time - classes start at 8:03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 9</td>
<td>Institute Day - NO SCHOOL</td>
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