

Woodlan Jr/Sr High School

17215 Woodburn Road, Woodburn, IN 46797

<https://whs.eacs.k12.in.us/> T: 260-446-0290

From the desk of the principal.

The education environment definitely looks different this year. Aside from the different safety and health precautions we are taking, EACS is utilizing a new student management system and teachers are finding even more ways to incorporate technology in their lessons. As we progress through the semester, I hope you have been able to login to [Skyward](#) and check your student's grades. Teachers have been learning and updating the new student management system on a regular basis. Teachers have also been working to make their [Canvas](#) pages student and parent friendly by creating homepages with clickable icons to help with navigation.

It has been great catching up with students and talking with them about the different adjustments they've had to make and what they have learned since we were in session in March. Many students have expressed how much they appreciate their teachers and the overall environment at school. I couldn't agree more!

Although things might look a little different, students and staff have adjusted. We are encouraged with how students have engaged and what they have accomplished so far.

Denny Kern
Principal

[Woodlan Junior High facebook](#)

[Woodlan High School facebook](#)



Upcoming Events

October 14

PSAT Test

October 15

School **IS** in session

October 12-16

Homecoming

November 12

Picture Retakes

November 25-27

Thanksgiving Break



Assistant Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As the first nine weeks comes to an end, I am sure that many of you are concerned about your student's grades. While students have another nine weeks to bring grades up to passing, there are some things you can do to assist them.

There are many reasons that students fail a class and identifying the problem can be difficult. According to metroparent.com, one reason might be that they do not understand the material, another could be that they are having difficulties managing their time and for some, it simply means they are not doing their work. However, there are ways that you can help your student be successful.

- Be proactive by keeping in contact with their teacher on a regular basis, especially if you know your student struggles.
- Set clear expectations for your student by taking away privileges if they are not passing their classes.
- When available, attend parent/teacher conferences. This year is somewhat different because we are not having them, but when we do, it is important that you try and attend.
- Create a routine for your student. Even high school students need a routine.
- If you are unsure about a class and its grading policy, please contact the teacher.

We are so fortunate to have so many supportive and involved parents. We truly appreciate all that you do for your students. However, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school. We are here to assist in any way that we can.

I hope that all of you enjoy the fall season and that everyone stays healthy.

Sincerely,

Ms. Michelle Rodgers

Assistant Principal

Guidance Department

Fall is an exciting time in the Guidance Office, as all sorts of activities are taking place to encourage students to think about and begin preparing for their future. A few of them are listed below:

COLLEGE go WEEK . . .

. . . was the last full week of September, which found the Guidance Office in all 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grade English classes presenting a wide variety of information concerning post high school opportunities, graduation pathway information, as well as having each student take a career interest inventory

college visits

As a reminder, Juniors and Seniors can take two excused college visits a year. Please see Mrs. Berning in the Guidance Office prior to your planned visit day.

PSAT

Is scheduled for Wednesday,
October 14th in the AM

All 10th and 11th grade students will be taking the test on this day for no cost. The PSAT is a great primer for the SAT/ACT and also serves as the qualifying test for 11th graders for the National Merit Scholarship competition. Contact Mrs. Wagner (ext. 7408) with questions

POST-secondary EXPLORATION

Many colleges and apprenticeship programs have virtual tours you can take to find out more about the opportunities available. Take a virtual tour of most Indiana colleges/universities by clicking [here](#) and then click 'Show Table'. Another site designed to help students explore future opportunities can be found [here](#)

FREE COLLEGE TUITION

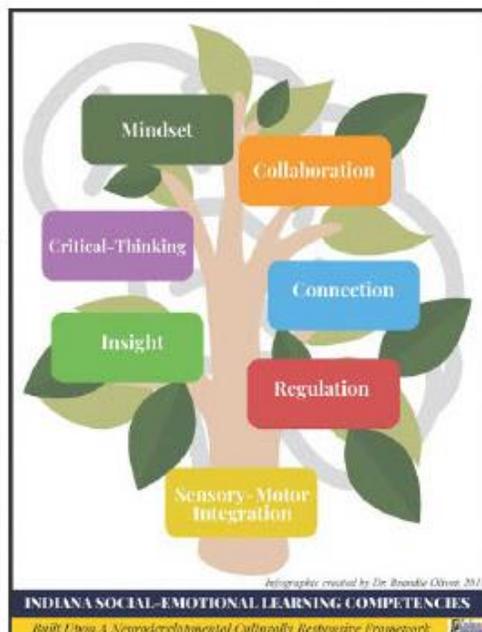
If your child is in the 7th or 8th grade, and your family meets certain income criteria, you can sign your JH student up for the 21st Century Scholars Program which will pay 100% of college tuition to any Indiana public college/university. Visit this [website](#) for more details, or call Mr. Davis (ext. 7478) with questions. You must apply before June 30 of your student's 8th grade year

Social Emotional Learning *at Home*

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. - CASEL

Science of Resilience – Key ingredient can be YOU!

We are all tolerating a lot of uncertainty these days. Constant adjustments and changes. It can be exhausting. For you and your child(ren). Resilience can be defined as a positive, adaptive response in the face of significant adversity. You can be a key ingredient in fostering resilience in your child. Research shows time and again that behavioral and physiological stress can be offset by the presence of one dependable and caring adult. There is so much power in just one strong adult relationship for a child. It's never too late to be that person. You can start today! A few 'action' ideas are provided for you below. Onward!



ACTION CALENDAR - FOR FAMILIES



30 actions to help parents look after themselves and their families in challenging times. Please use and share

- | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 Go on a smile collecting mission, starting with a smile in the mirror | 2 Choose one song each and arrange a family dance off | 3 Send someone a message to show you really appreciate them | 4 Take turns to notice 3 things around you that are beautiful | 5 Be kind to yourself and others | 6 Together, make a list of things you are grateful for | 7 Think of a goal to work towards and do one thing to get started |
| 8 Take a mindful walk together and notice what you see hear and smell | 9 Play Musical Statues | 10 Create a bedtime routine together to help with sleep | 11 Bake cupcakes and decorate them as gifts for each other | 12 Cross your arms and give yourself a hug | 13 Take turns to share a happy memory | 14 Find out about the values and traditions of another culture |
| 15 Do something together to support a local charity | 16 Create a collage of things that make you feel happy | 17 Before bedtime, share what has gone well during the day | 18 Introduce a family 'Daily Pause' to be calm together | 19 Create a family wishes jar and take steps to make them happen | 20 Learn a new skill together as a family | 21 Create a kindness box to keep a record of kind actions |
| 22 'Surprise' yourself. Find unexpected ways to move your body | 23 Make a rainbow salad | 24 Smile and say something positive every time you walk into a room | 25 Create a poster highlighting everybody's strengths | 26 Notice the shapes, colours and smells of a new family meal | 27 Make a list of things that have helped you cope with difficult times | 28 Tell someone you love how much they mean to you and why |
| 29 Do something good for the environment | 30 Hold an awards ceremony to celebrate acts of kindness | "A person's a person, no matter how small"
- Dr Seuss | | | | |

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS



www.actionforhappiness.org

Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind

Find out more about the Ten Keys to Happier Living at www.actionforhappiness.org/10-keys

From the Instructional Coach

Woodlan students in grades 7-10 will be using the IXL learning program during success time. Teachers will assign both a math and language arts activity each week that will give students more practice on the standards they are working on in class. The students have a smart score goal of 80% for these activities. As students begin working on activities, IXL will assess students' progress and create a personalized action plan for each student to help address individual knowledge gaps as well as provide challenging activities for students at or above grade level. Beyond working on standards in success, students have the ability to visit their recommendations wall in IXL and work on activities at their individual level. Because it is an online program, students can login wherever there is Internet.



As a parent, you may login to your student's account to track their progress.

1. Website: www.clever.com
2. Login as student
3. "EACS Login Click Here"
 - a. Username: Student ID #
 - b. Password: Student first name, with the first letter capitalized, followed by last four digits of student id#.
4. Select IXL icon
5. Select "Analytics" at the top of the page to view your student's usage, trouble spots, scores, and progress.
6. Select "Diagnostic" at the top of the page to view the continuous diagnostic action plan. This will give your student's overall grade level for both math and language arts. It will also list their grade level at individual standard strands, making it easy to see specific areas where students are meeting grade level expectations.

If you have any questions about this program, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Athletic Department

This fall has been truly amazing. We have been given the opportunity to compete and that is exactly what our teams have been doing! Thank you to the coaches and players for all the hard work on the field and off to ensure this fall has been a special one!

Sectionals is upon us and Woodlan has the honor of hosting one of the most competitive sectionals in the area! Come out next week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday night to see some high-quality soccer! Be sure to come and support our boys!!

Good luck to all of our teams as they compete in this year's tournaments! We have special athletes here who are ready to make some noise!

Athletic Department Continued

Sectional Participation Dates

Boys Soccer - Tuesday October 6 vs Belmont 7 pm start

*Possible Semi-Final Wednesday 7:00 pm and Final Saturday October 10th 7:00 pm @ Woodlan

Girls Soccer – Tuesday, October 6 vs Luers (@Canterbury) 6 pm start

*Possible Semi-Final Thursday at 5:00 pm and Final on Saturday, October 10 2:00 pm @ Canterbury

Cross Country – Saturday, October 10 @ Belmont High School Boys Start at 10:30 am Girls start at 11:15 am

Volleyball - Sectionals the week of October 12

Football - Sectional Draw Thursday, October 8th @ 5 pm. The first game will be Friday October 23.

Student Athletes of the Month

This month we had two very deserving athletes for athlete of the month!

Ashton Widenhoefer - Volleyball

Ashton is the model of what it means to be a Warrior. She worked extremely hard to develop the skills needed to be successful on the court. Her leadership can be seen through her work ethic and willingness to sacrifice her own goals and to take on a new role that has ultimately helped the team to have a very successful season. She did all of this while excelling in the classroom!

Lydia Dyer - Cross Country

Lydia has made some great strides as a runner this season, winning the South Adams Invite, while breaking 20 minutes, and winning the ACAC conference meet! Her running will put the Cross-County team in a great spot to be very competitive as the post season starts. Meanwhile, she is a model student in class with exceptional grades!

Don't forget to follow Woodlan Athletics on Twitter [@woodlansports](https://twitter.com/woodlansports)



Sportsmanship Reminder:

Please remember to represent Woodlan in a positive manner. Yelling at officials and coaching from the bleachers should not be happening. Be there for your athletes when you can, cheer when they do well, be supportive when things don't go the way we want, and enjoy the chance to watch them compete.

Winter Athlete Reminder: An updated physical must be on file before you can participate.

Winter Athletic Season is Fast Approaching!

HS Girls Basketball

- Practices start Monday, October 19th
- First game (Scrimmage) Saturday October 31 vs West Noble at 2:00 pm.
- First Regular Season Home game Thursday, November 5th vs Garrett 6 pm JV start with Varsity to follow.

JH Girls Basketball

- Practices start Thursday, October 29
- First game Thursday, November 12 vs South Adams 5 pm start

JH Boys Basketball

- Practices start Thursday, October 29.
- First game Thursday, November 12 @ South Adams 5:30 pm start.

HS Boys Basketball

- Practices start Monday, November 9th
- First game (Scrimmage) Saturday, November 21 vs Wayne HS 6 pm JV and Varsity start
- First Regular Season home game Wednesday, November 25th vs New Haven 6pm Freshman and JV start with Varsity to follow

HS Wrestling

- Practices start Monday, November 4
- First match Monday, November 23 vs Dekalb 6:30 pm start

LIBRARY NEWS!

with Mrs. Davis

Hello! I'm the new librarian at Woodlan Jr/Sr High School! I am passionate about books, writing, and reading and am excited to find opportunities to further literacy in the building!

There have been a lot of changes to the physical layout of the library. We have 3 sections of tables and chairs for student learning, as well as soft seating for reading. Teachers have been signing up to bring their students to the library every day! To see photos of what's changed, check out the library's social media sites (see below).

There are changes to the function of the library as well. It's open before school for students to hang out, print papers, or check out books. Also, I meet with junior high Reading classes on a regular basis and conduct "5-Minute/1st Chapters" with them, where I read to them from the first chapter of a chosen book for 5 minutes to pique their interest in a new book. This has been effective!

I have started 2 book clubs: one for junior high and one for senior high. We will be meeting on a regular basis before school to discuss our chosen books. I am so excited! I'm really looking forward to all the fun things we can plan and do in the library this year! ~Mrs. Davis

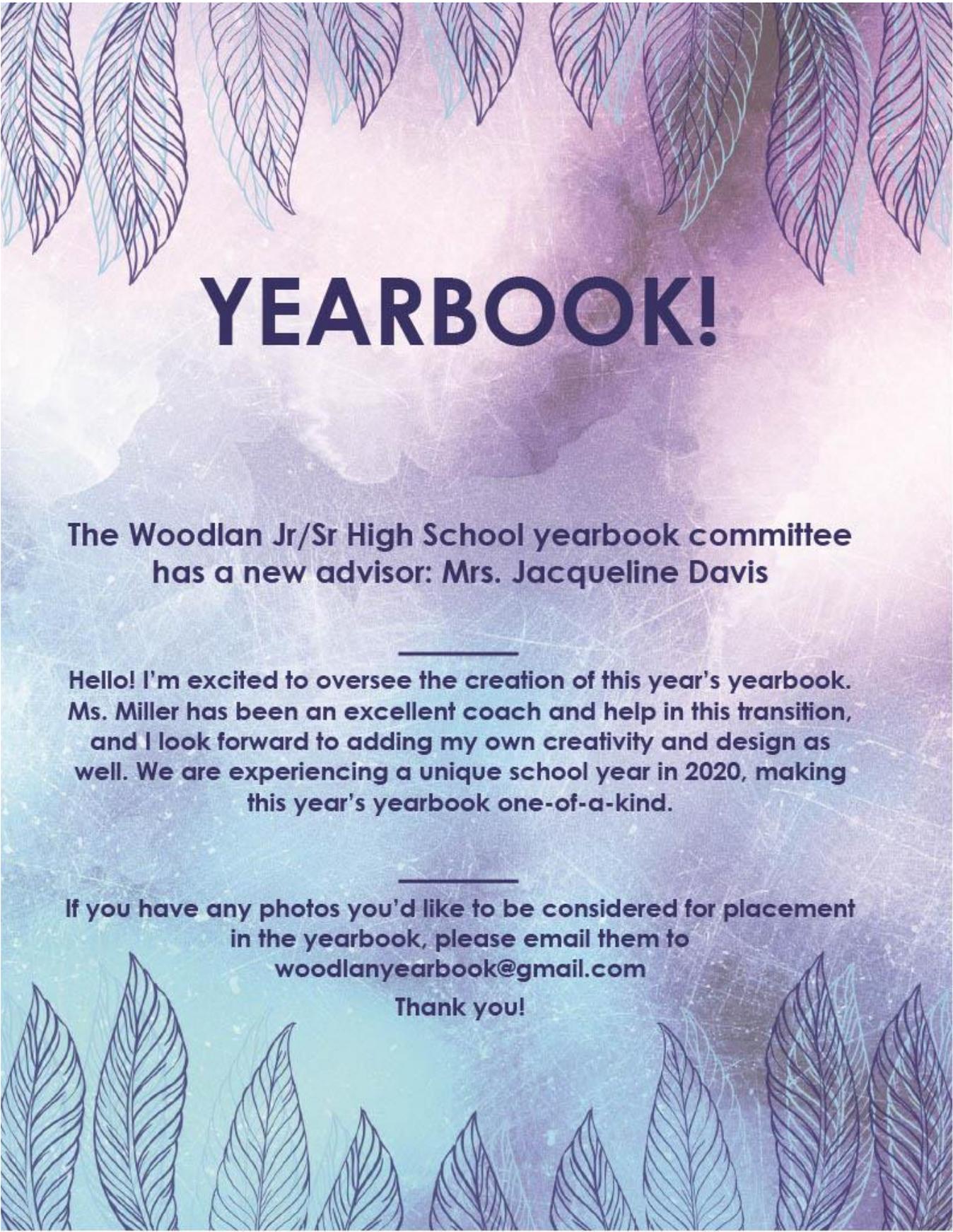


Jacqueline Davis

Licensed librarian
jadavis@eacs.k12.in.us

Follow the library on social media to get the latest news!

*Twitter: @WoodlanLibrary
Facebook: @WoodlanLibrary*



YEARBOOK!

**The Woodlan Jr/Sr High School yearbook committee
has a new advisor: Mrs. Jacqueline Davis**

Hello! I'm excited to oversee the creation of this year's yearbook. Ms. Miller has been an excellent coach and help in this transition, and I look forward to adding my own creativity and design as well. We are experiencing a unique school year in 2020, making this year's yearbook one-of-a-kind.

If you have any photos you'd like to be considered for placement in the yearbook, please email them to woodlanyearbook@gmail.com

Thank you!

Math Department

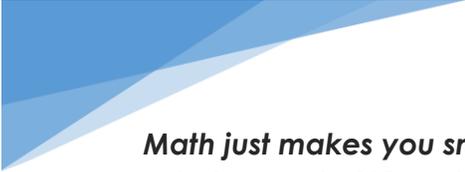
Mr. McAlexander—Department Chair

“Why do we have to learn this?”

If you have ever spent time in a math class, this is one of the most common things that you've heard. In many instances, I have always felt that this statement is being made simply because the student that said he/she just isn't remotely interested in doing whatever it is we are doing that day. Certainly though, that isn't always the case and sometimes the kids are truly interested in knowing why they are learning what they are. In a broader sense, kids often wonder why they have to take so many math classes in school. This is especially true for kids that don't necessarily see a direct link between the math they are taking and the career they are interested in pursuing. In truth, there are a lot of good reasons to take as many math classes as possible even if you might never have to use each particular skill you learn.

Nationally speaking, mathematics instruction in schools has long been viewed as necessary to a healthy economy and a strong nation. The logic flows that technological advances, in many ways, drive progress of a nation. A country wants to have the companies that are at the cutting edge which requires a populace capable of working effectively in those fields. STEM classes like math are therefore necessary for that to happen. We can see that playing out on the world stage right now with the race to find a vaccine for COVID-19. Researchers from all over the world are working towards an effective vaccine and you can bet everyone involved had quite a few math courses in preparation for their careers.

While we might recognize the needs for some people across the nation to be taking math classes, that may not really answer the question of why everyone needs to do so. Fortunately, there are some pretty practical reasons as well. Mathematics is truly everywhere. I once saw a quote that said, “going through life without knowing math is like walking through a museum with your eyes closed.” Numbers and mathematical thought are a huge part of daily life. Certainly, some careers obviously need math, like engineering. People working in the business or finance world would also clearly need a working understanding of math. However, studies have shown competency with numbers goes even farther. Contractors regularly take measurements and have to find missing values. An understanding of fractions and proportions are huge helps for someone in a culinary field. What's more, studies have shown that having mathematical competencies helps people better develop a sense of time or even a feel for doing personal finances. You'd be hard pressed to find any field that doesn't in some way utilize math.



Math just makes you smarter, and in what aspect of life is it not helpful to be more intelligent?

There is even a more important reason to study math than the ones I already mentioned. Math just makes your brain work better. Doing math is kind of like a workout for your brain. Much like hitting the weight room makes your muscles stronger, so too does working on math make your brain better. Research has shown that as a result of mathematical studies, the part of a person's brain that handles critical thinking, rational thought and problem-solving actually grows larger and functions more efficiently.

People who have studied math are better able to approach complex life situations and make good decisions than people who haven't spent as much time in a math classroom. Mathematics also helps people analyze situations and separate the useful information from the unneeded. For me, this is the number one reason why kids should spend as much time as possible in a math classroom. Math just makes you smarter, and in what aspect of life is it not helpful to be more intelligent?

So next time you or your student are wondering why we are always pushing them to take math classes, you'll hopefully have a better understanding of the answer to that question. Sure, the average person likely won't ever have to use that quadratic equation thing after school but because he or she did that and those other things we made them do, they'll be better able to navigate the complexities that they'll encounter in the real world!