

Winnebago CUSD#323

JANUARY 2023



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Season Greetings from Winnebago #323!

We are very excited to share these achievements over the last few school years, including:

THE WINNEBAGO COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORTS, INSPIRES, AND ENSURES INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE THEIR GREATEST POTENTIAL.

We believe our students are the hope and the future of our world; our primary function is to educate the whole child for a successful future.

We believe our students deserve extraordinary teachers and staff who are provided individualized, professional development.

We believe ongoing, valid, and differentiated evaluation is essential for the growth of students and staff district wide.

We believe our students achieve excellence through a rigorous, engaging, diverse, global, and inclusive curriculum.

We believe our students and staff thrive in a safe, clean, structured, and inclusive environment.

We believe our students and staff deserve respect and are held accountable for their actions in an environment where positive behaviors are modeled, taught, and expected.

We believe we are accountable for providing responsible and forward thinking financial management to our community.

- Improved Reading and English curriculum at Simon, which help our students with letter sounds, reading, and comprehension.
- Math Curriculum at our Middle School that assists our students with learning basic facts, fractions, and decimals.
- Science and Social Studies curricula at McNair that build our students' knowledge in these core areas.

Additionally, we are pleased to share that we now have additional counselors and social workers at each of our buildings to assist with students' social-emotional needs, and daily character education reminders for students and staff. Finally, we are happy to share that this Fall, with the assistance of over 40 staff, students, and community members, we have updated our 2019 Strategic Plan to meet the needs of our students. Please visit our website to review the plan.



01 ACADEMICS

02 FACILITIES

03 TECHNOLOGY

01 ACADEMICS

Winnebago CUSD #323 is committed to a continuous cycle of school improvement, that includes guaranteed and viable curriculums to ensure high levels of learning for all students. The commitment to this process is identified in the 22-23 District Strategic Plan through the Professional Learning Community (PLC) process. Professional Learning Communities emphasize a shared commitment to the District's Mission & Beliefs, embed a collaborative culture, and a commitment to a data-driven, research based culture at every level.

Career Awareness/Exploration Activities are a vital part of our students' futures. We are introducing and continuing events for students Preschool through 12th grade to expose them to the working world.

- **Annual 8th-12th Grade Career Day**

Students were given the opportunity to hear from four different occupations from local experts in the field, as well as hear from three different keynote speakers.

- **Annual Triple EEE Night at WHS**

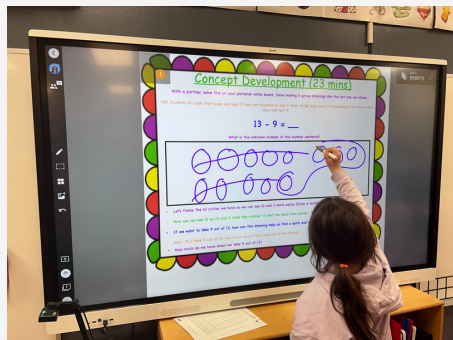
WHS new initiative that empowers students to be Enlisted, Employed or Enrolled after graduation. This event invites current 11th and 12th grade students & families to choose sessions to learn more about scholarship opportunities, FAFSA information, meeting various local employers eager to employ our youth, the four military branches, and Rock Valley College to share information about their A.A.S. & Certification programs.

- Looking ahead to Spring 2023:

- **Annual PreK-5th Grade Touch a Truck Event**
- **7th Grade Pathways Program**



02 TECHNOLOGY



The Winnebago Technology Department has been hard at work deploying new SMARTboards to all district classrooms, replacing outdated boards. Additionally, the district continues to provide updated chromebook devices that support our 1:1 technology initiative to support student learning and 21st century technology skills. Behind the scenes we continue to stay focused on a strong infrastructure to support all district technologies and have completed a core virtual host upgrade. As part of the 2019 Strategic Plan the district will continue to evaluate educational resources, programs and hardware that align with the overall district goals, mission and values.

03 FACILITIES

We are also very pleased to share that our Stadium Project has been completed. The scope of the track and football field replacement project had three major goals:

1. To reconstruct and upgrade the existing track to provide eight (8) lanes, thus allowing for the hosting of Sectional track meets and relocating the sprinting straightaways to be in front of the higher capacity homeside bleachers.
2. To relocate the long jump, triple jump, and pole vault field events from the interior of the existing track to the exterior, which will allow for more space and better event flow during track meets. This relocation also allows for a safer sideline during football games by providing additional space due to centering the football field.
3. To replace the existing, outdated lights with a brighter, more energy-efficient lighting system by Musco lighting.

Additionally, other upgrades have been completed as part of the facility reconstruction. These upgrades include (1) the replacement of the old fencing around the facility, (2) construction of a walking and standing path around 1/2 of the facility to allow on-lookers a paved area to stand/walk-on during games, (3) installation of an irrigation/sprinkler system, replacing the old football field playing surface with a new sod surface, (4) replacement of the football goal posts, and (5) drainage improvements to alleviate the ponding that routinely occurred on and around the track.

Lastly, we now have solar panels on all of our schools. The benefits of having these panels include reducing our energy costs, lowering our environmental impact as well as having a teachable moment for our students.