

WASD
Wilson Area
School District

Office of Student Services Newsletter



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A- Is for Attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.

- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when session

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in the early grades so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work. For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org



Important Upcoming Dates

- 4/4-4/29 PSSA Testing
- 4/22: Deadline to register for May SAT test
- 4/30: WAIS Drama Production



- 5/7: SAT Test
- 5/16-5/27 Keystone Testing

**All school events can be viewed on the District Website Calendar at www.wilsonaread.org

School Guidance Office
Contact Information:

- Wilson Borough Elementary
484-373-6220
- Avona Elementary
484-373-6250
- Williams Township
484-373-6170
- WAIS:
484-373-6110
- WAHS
484-373-6040

8 Reasons to Get your Child Involved in After School Activities.

Can after-school programs give your children an academic boost? According to a new study of after-school programs serving low-income elementary and middle school students, the answer is yes. Students who regularly participated in after-school programs surpassed their peers in academic performance. They also exhibited notable improvements in work habits and behavior.

It's no surprise that after-school programs can do much more than keep your children occupied during the afternoon. In fact, after-school activities can help them in a variety of ways. Children develop time-management skills, build self-esteem, and practice goal-setting. While it may be tough to squeeze in after-school activities for your children, the benefits are well worth the extra effort.

1. Time Management and

Prioritizing

Extracurricular activities teach children how to manage their time and prioritize various tasks and commitments.

2. Exploring Diverse Interests

The school band, drama club, or any sport may be an activity your children are interested in joining. By allowing your children the opportunity to explore diverse interests, you give them the opportunity to discover what they are passionate about. Once your children find an activity that they enjoy, succeeding in the activity could ultimately build their confidence and self-esteem.

3. Making a Contribution

Extracurricular activities allow your children to make a contribution to their school or community, which is an important step in preparing them for life outside of academics.

4. Building Self-Esteem

Mastering new skills can help build confidence in children. By participating in after-school activities, they can build their self-esteem in a relaxed setting as their activities provide the opportunity to be successful in something that they are passionate about.

5. College Applications

Another benefit of after-school activities is that they look great on college applications. In addition to academic performance, many colleges look at what activities students are involved in outside of school as a way to fully understand each student.

6. Setting Goals

After-school activities present opportunities for your children to develop their goal-setting skills. Most extracurricular activities involve reaching or achieving a goal, whether it be the lead actor in the school play, winning the state championship or coming in first place in the science fair. As a result, these activities help encourage students to work toward achieving those goals, while having fun at the same time.

7. Teamwork

Sports teams, clubs and activities, like dancing and music, all require children to work together toward a common goal. By participating in these activities, your children develop the skills they need in order to successfully work with others. In addition, extracurricular activities let children to build relationships and socialize with peers who share their interests.

8. Academics

As mentioned previously, recent studies show a correlation between improved grades, behavior and work habits as a result of students' involvement in after-school activities.

-www.kumon.com

For more information on the extracurricular activities available at your child's school, please contact their guidance counselor or main office.



TRANSITION

Road to Employment: Career Exploration

Beginning at age 14, or sooner if the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team determines that it is appropriate, transition planning becomes the foundation for the development of the IEP. Transition planning begins with exploring interests and preferences to identify the student's goals for postsecondary training, employment, and independent living. The IEP team needs to design transition services and activities that allow students to explore careers as part of their educational program. As a parent/guardian, you provide important input and support in helping your child to explore careers and to choose a career path.

Why should my child explore careers?

As part of the transition planning process, your child needs to explore and investigate many career options. Active participation in career exploration activities will help your child become aware of the many career opportunities available and the steps needed to reach his/her career goals.

Career exploration includes:

- Understanding the work environments of interesting careers;
- Exposing your child to careers he/she may have never considered;
- Discovering the various types of post-high school education and training, as well as their costs; and,
- Understanding the accommodations that may be needed to accomplish his/her career goals.

When should career exploration start?

Career development is a life-long process and a young person's plans frequently change as he/she gathers more information. Career exploration

begins in early elementary school and expands to become a continual process throughout the middle and high school years. Exploring careers helps your child to make decisions about his/her career direction and choices. Those decisions should be based on current and realistic information. Your child's preferences and interests will be used to identify his/her goals for postsecondary education and training as well as employment

How Parents Can Help

- Talk to your child about the importance of work.
- Ask your child about jobs that might interest him/her.
- Encourage your child to express his/her preferences related to career experiences.
- Discuss various occupations when traveling or watching television.
- Have your child visit your job site, or that of a family member, if appropriate.
- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible.
- Teach and model appropriate social and work related behaviors.
- Find someone who works in your child's career interest area and arrange for your child to watch that worker for a day.
- Talk with your child about his/her experiences.
- Help your child to ask questions about the current career activity.
- Help your child to consider additional experiences for future explorations.
- Provide structure to assist your child with developing increased independence and responsibility for personal and

school-related tasks.

- Teach and model appropriate social and work related behaviors.
- Discuss with your child any barriers related to his/her disability that need to be considered or addressed.
- Participate actively in your child's IEP team meetings.

For More Information:

Pennsylvania's Employment Site:

www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us

Federal Employment Site:

www.careervoyages.gov

Pennsylvania Career Zone (Online Career Interest Resources):

www.pacareerzone.org

Pennsylvania Career Education and Work Standards Toolkit:

www.pacareerstandards.org

O*NET Online Comprehensive source of occupation information: [http://](http://online.onetcenter.org)

online.onetcenter.org

Holland Self Directed Search:

www.self-directed-search.com/

Holland

Your Child's Career, A Website for Parents:

[www.yourchildscareer.org/](http://www.yourchildscareer.org/careerplanning/career-plan_no_plan.htm)

[careerplanning/ career-](http://www.yourchildscareer.org/careerplanning/career-plan_no_plan.htm)

[plan_no_plan.htm](http://www.yourchildscareer.org/careerplanning/career-plan_no_plan.htm)

[-www.secondarytransition.org](http://www.secondarytransition.org)



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WASD
WILSON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Enter to learn...Go forth to serve.

We're on the web!
www.wilsonareasd.org

Enter to learn.....The Wilson Area School District will provide a safe environment and a variety of learning experiences that embrace diversity and allow all students to achieve to their fullest potential as responsible and productive citizens, who become life-long learners. The District and Community will work in partnership to prepare our students for tomorrow's challenges so that they may..... Go forth to serve

Recovery Revolutions Counseling

Recovery Revolution (RR) is the premiere outpatient addictions treatment in the Pennsylvania Slate Belt and surrounding areas. Recovery Revolutions create programs that are responsive to the needs of the community that we serve. RR understand that addiction can be a progressive, incurable and fatal disease, However, it can be treated successfully.

Recovery Revolutions is a charitable non-profit organization with a mission to provide addictions treatment outpatient counseling services to adolescents and adults residing in and around Northampton County,

PA . Recovery Revolutions will not deny services strictly based on an individual's ability to pay. Recovery Revolutions provides drug and alcohol counseling to students during the school day.

For more information on how to have your child meet with a Recovery Revolutions counselor, please contact your child's guidance counselor.

Phone: (610) 599-7700
109 Broadway
Bangor, PA 18013



**Recovery
Revolution**
steps for healthy living.