



THE CARDINAL NEWS

WILLOWS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

January 2010



Upcoming Events

January 4	Back to School
January 5	8 th Grade Parent Mtg, 6:30pm, WIS Library
January 7	School Board Meeting – City Civic Center, 7:00pm
January 8	Report Cards Sent Home
January 13	School Site Council, 3:00pm, WIS Library
January 18	Holiday – Martin Luther King Jr.

Athletic Schedule

See the schedules on the website under Sports.

Message from the Principal

Happy New Year! We hope the New Year brings your family good health and a whole lot of happiness.

Please be aware we have a safety problem with the potential of causing serious harm to one or more of our students. It has to do with the traffic on Cedar Street and the “dropping off” of students before school and the “picking up” of students after school. With so much congestion and young students “darting out” from behind cars and in front of traffic, we are asking for the parents’ and public’s support and assistance. Please do **NOT** park and pick up your children on the **South** side of Cedar Street. It is already posted – **“No Parking”!** For the well being of all children, please pick up your children on the North side of Cedar Street. We are sorry for the inconvenience, and we thank you for your support and understanding in this matter.

Emergency Card Information

We realize that over the course of a school year, families move, change phone numbers or even employment. Please be sure to contact the school office with any address or phone number changes. In addition, please check the emergency contact information on the emergency card to be sure the information is current.

Willows Recreation - Youth Basketball Program

Willow Recreation Department’s winter youth basketball registration for grades 2-8 is available on line at www.cityofwillows.org or at the Willows Recreation Department, 201 N. Lassen St, Willows. The program begins Saturday, January 16th. For more information call 934-7043.

Teacher Requests

Teacher request forms may be picked up in the WIS Office beginning January 4th. You may download a copy of the form on our website.

8th Grade Discipline Policy

Note: 8th Graders are on a very strict discipline policy for the 2nd semester, the consequences of which may be losing the 8th Grade trip, graduation dance and graduation. For questions regarding the policy, go to our website under Parent Resources-Student Handbook.

Promotion Retention Policy Revisions

At the November School Board Meeting, the WUSD Trustees adopted a revised version of the District's Promotion Retention Policy. It is important that you read carefully the changes listed below:

- Students who have been identified “at-risk” will attend **Mandatory Intervention**:
 - At-risk students will attend English-Language Arts or Math Intervention as assigned by their classroom teacher.
 - A minimum attendance of 75% is a requirement for promotion to the next grade level, beginning January 1, 2010.
 - Students failing to meet these requirements may be retained.

For a detailed review of the Promotion – Retention Criteria, see the attached section of the policy. If you have questions, contact the school office at 934-6633.

PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY:

5th to 6th, 6th to 7th, 7th to 8th and 8th to 9th:

1. A grade point average below 2.0 based upon an average of the semester grades.
 2. Below Basic (69% or below) on a majority of the State Standards in English-Language Arts or Math at the end of the 4th quarter.
3. Below Basic on the most current STAR scores in English-Language Arts or Math.
 - **Any two of the three criteria constitutes a student being “at risk” of retention. Retention should not result in student being more than two years above normal grade level age by June 15th of the retention year.**
 - If the STAR scores are the determining factor for placing the student “at risk” of retention, a grade-level proficiency test will be provided prior to the end of the school year.
 - Students who have been identified “at-risk” will attend **Mandatory Intervention**:
 - At-risk students will attend English-Language Arts or Math Intervention as assigned by their classroom teacher.
 - A minimum attendance of 75% is a requirement for promotion to the next grade level, beginning January 1, 2010.
 - Students failing to meet these requirements may be retained.

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PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

*ASSESSMENT AND REPORT CARD RUBRIC

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Percentage related to standards assessments	Report Card Scoring (Willows Intermediate)	Report Card Scoring (Murdock Elementary)
Advanced	100-90	A	4
Proficient	89-80	B	3
Basic	79-70	C	2
Below Basic and Far Below Basic	69-60	D	1
	59-below	F	0

*Assessment should reflect only what has been taught and tested.