

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



## WRHS NEWS AUGUST 2023

### A WELCOME MESSAGE

We are thrilled to extend a heartfelt welcome to you and your child as they embark on an exciting journey through high school.

We value the fact we get to be part of their growth, from the first steps in 9th grade to their final year as 12th graders. Each year is a unique chapter, and we're dedicated to creating an environment where all students thrive.

A strong home-school partnership is vital. Keep communication open, ask questions, and engage in school activities. Thank you for trusting us with your child's education. We look forward to a year of growth, discoveries, and achievements for all students, no matter their grade.

Warm regards,

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Pens/pencils
- Colored pencils
- Paper
- Organization method of choice

### Contact Us :

(208) 578-5020

1250 Fox Acres Road  
Hailey, ID 83333

[www.blaineschools.org/domain/14](http://www.blaineschools.org/domain/14)



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday, August 7:**  
**FALL ATHLETICS START**
- **Wednesday & Thursday, August 16/17:**  
**WRHS REGISTRATION**  
August 16 from 7am-12pm  
August 17 from 2-7pm  
\*See details on page 2
- **Monday, August 28, 6-8pm:**  
**WRHS OPEN HOUSE**  
Come meet teachers and tour the school. More information will be provided closer to the date.
- **Wednesday, August 30:**  
**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL/PICTURE DAY**  
Altered schedule to accommodate a full school assembly, grade level meetings, and pictures. Students will begin the day reporting to the gymnasium for kick off.

### REMINDER :

Early release Wednesdays begin on  
**September 13.**

# NEW STAFF AT WRHS

## **SAMANTHA JOHNSON - Vice Principal (A-L)**

Samantha, an alumna of Wood River High School, returned to the WRHS community in January 2019, this time as a dedicated math teacher. Her fervent enthusiasm for everything Wood River stands for makes her an invaluable addition. With her dynamic presence and exceptional abilities, we are confident that she will make a lasting positive impact on students and provide dedicated service to the staff.



## **BENSON BLAIR - Social Worker**

We are pleased to welcome our new social worker, who arrives with experience from St. Luke's and holds a special connection as a proud father to one of our students.

## **JACKIE GUZMAN - EL Teacher/Family Liaison**

Our new EL teacher and Family Liaison is a WRHS graduate (yay!) who brings valuable experience from previously teaching in Carey.

## **JOSH JAHNKE - Social Studies Teacher**

We are thrilled Josh is joining us from Wood River Middle School and will be teaching World History and U.S. History.

## **SAMUEL PALMER - Math Teacher**

We take great pleasure in introducing Samuel, our newly arrived math teacher from Utah, who is embarking on an exciting educational journey with us..

## **TANNER RILEY - Math Teacher**

As another new member of the math department, Tanner brings her expertise from the middle school, along with her background as an alumna of WRHS.

## **TIZZ STRACHAN - English Teacher**

We're delighted to welcome back our new English teacher, who returns to WRHS from The Community School, bringing her wealth of experience and high energy.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Wood River High School registration will be held on Wednesday, August 16, from 7am-12pm, and Thursday, August 17 from 2-7pm. See below for what you need to bring.

### **STUDENTS NEW TO WRHS (Incoming 9th Graders and New Students)**

- Proof of Residency: You need at least TWO pieces of evidence. These can be utility bills with name and physical address of residence, OR a copy of landlord/lease agreement, OR a copy of property tax bill and photo ID showing physical address, OR a notarized letter from landlord listing all household members.
- Current immunization records.
- Birth certificate (if not in Hemingway/WRMS file).
- Custody records, if applicable.

PLEASE NOTE: All students, by state law, must have a copy of their birth certificate and current immunizations or waiver in their student file.

# SCHOOL SCHEDULE

| M/T/Th/Fr     |       |       |
|---------------|-------|-------|
| 1             | 8:25  | 9:33  |
| Advisory /WIN | 9:37  | 10:17 |
| 2             | 10:21 | 11:29 |
| Lunch         | 11:29 | 12:04 |
| 3             | 12:08 | 1:16  |
| 4             | 1:20  | 2:28  |
| 5             | 2:32  | 3:40  |
| W             |       |       |
| 1             | 8:25  | 9:16  |
| 2             | 9:20  | 10:11 |
| 3             | 10:15 | 11:06 |
| Lunch         | 11:06 | 11:40 |
| 4             | 11:44 | 12:35 |
| 5             | 12:39 | 1:30  |

## BCSD CALENDAR

Starting this school year, all schools will have an early release on Wednesday. The first early release is **September 13** and will happen every Wednesday after that. On early out Wednesdays, Wood River High School students will be released at 1:30 pm.

## BELL SCHEDULE

All days except Wednesday will have the same bell schedule. There has been a slight adjustment to the starting and ending times. The 40-minute period four days a week will serve as our Advisory and WIN periods and will flex based on need. The default schedule will be Advisory on Monday and Friday and WINs on Tuesday and Thursday.

## ADVISORY

WRHS's advisory program cultivates healthy relationships and student success in high school and beyond. By emphasizing soft skills, academic support, and mentorship, the program helps prepare students for college, career, and personal growth and helps contribute to a positive school culture.

## WIN PERIODS

WIN, or "What I Need," periods are designed to provide students with what they need academically. This year, students will be able to sign up for WINs or will be assigned either intervention or enrichment support for their academics. On our "Fun Fridays," students can sign up for non-academic options during the Advisory time.





# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES INFORMATION

- Fall athletics began on August 7. Contact our Athletic/ Activities Director Kevin Stilling, (208) 5020 x 2295, if you have any questions.
- All freshmen and juniors must have a new physical if they are to compete in a sport.
- WRHS has many sports and activities that students can be involved in. See the list of current clubs/activities available to students.

*Studies show that student participation in extracurricular activities has a positive impact on academics. Students who participate have higher grades and more positive attitudes towards school as well as learn the values of teamwork, individual and group responsibility, physical strength and endurance, competition, diversity, and a sense of culture and community.*



## PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PTSA)



Parent/Guardian engagement is invaluable and critical so we encourage your involvement in our PTSA. Join us to collaborate, influence decisions, seek insights, and support our students. Your contribution matters! Contact Laura Gvozdas or Cecilia Vega, our current PTSA leadership team, if you have any additional questions at [ptsa@blaineschools.org](mailto:ptsa@blaineschools.org). More information will be provided at Open House and in future newsletters.

## MEDICAL/NURSE INFORMATION

- Several basic over-the-counter medications (ibuprofen, acetaminophen, tums, antihistamine, etc.) will be available through the nurse's office. Before the nurse provides medication, a parent/guardian must provide permission over the phone.
- General return to school after illness guidelines include: Fever free for 24 hours without medication and any other symptoms are improving. For additional questions, please call the school nurse.
- If your student has a doctor's appointment, please ask the provider's office to provide a note that includes specific dates & times of appointments and any needed accommodations so that we can take care of the absences as soon as possible.
- If your student has had a medical action plan in the past, please watch your email for information from the school nurse. If they need to meet with their provider for any updates, please schedule those appointments.



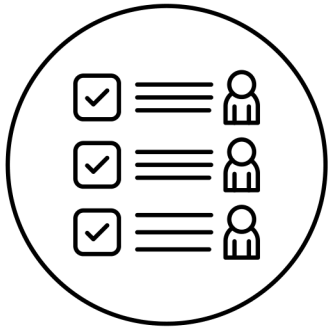
**WRHS Nurse**  
**Alli Burns**

(208) 578-5038

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## District Policies

### Attendance Policy (#522)



Students are required to be in attendance at least 90% of the time that school is in session. This equates to students being able to have up to 6 excused & unexcused absences in one or more classes each trimester. Please note that school or documented medically excused absences do not count toward a student's total.

WRHS may deny credit to any student who does not meet the 90% attendance requirement. Students who are denied credit as a result of excessive absences are provided with the opportunity to appeal to the Attendance Review Committee.

Repeated attendance policy violations will lead to permanent credit loss and necessitate class retakes. Repeated violations may potentially culminate in a pre-expulsion hearing for chronic truancy. Additionally, an NC (no credit) designation on report cards could impact eligibility for athletics.

If there are any challenges that impact your student's attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to your student's assigned Vice Principal so they can help in getting your student to school on time.

### Electronics Policy (#518)

To address the mental health crisis affecting our students and to better support their emotional well-being and academic growth, the Blaine County Board of Trustees is greatly limiting the use of cell phones and other personal devices during the school day. Students will only be allowed to access their cell phones during lunch. Failure to follow this policy will result in the phone being taken and returned to parents/guardians only at the end of the day.

With the ban on all personal devices, each student will be issued a district Chromebook to support their educational process.

If you need to connect with your student during the school day, please contact the front office staff.

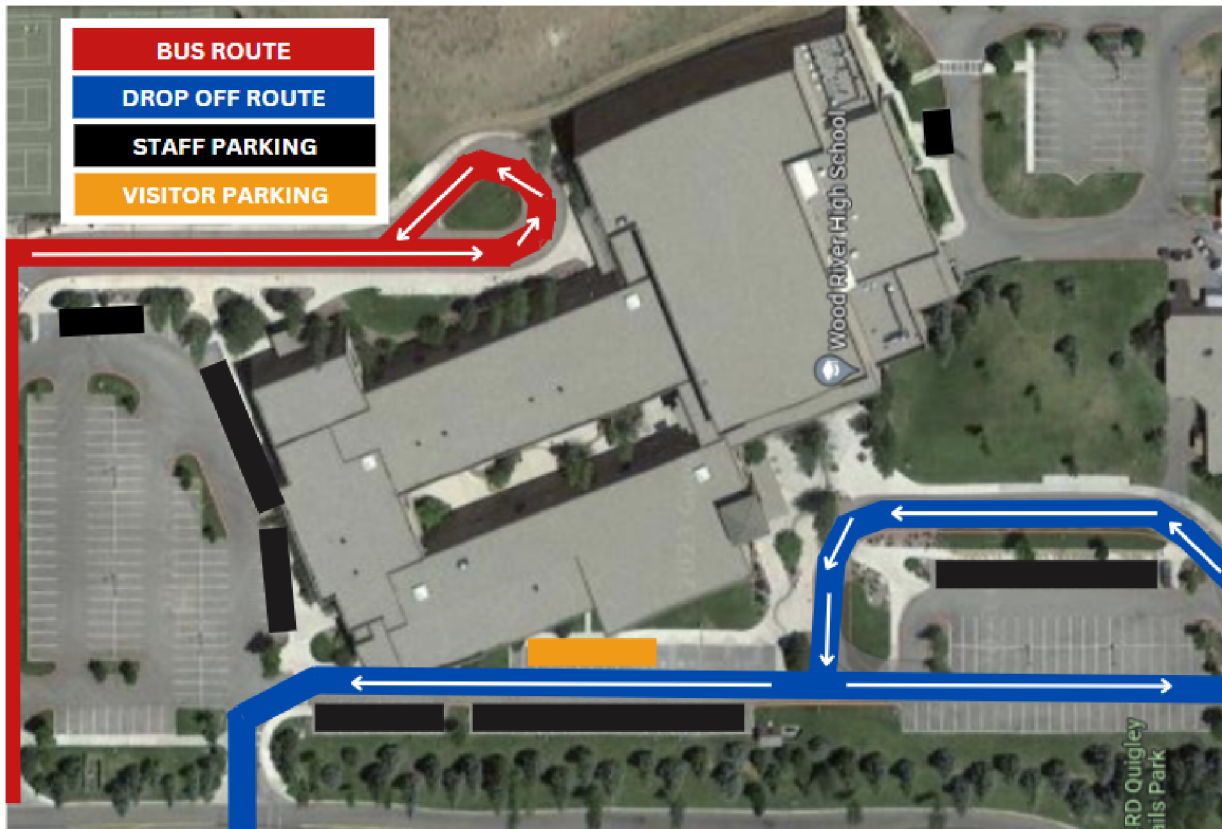


# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## PARKING/TRAFFIC FLOW

Parking at WRHS is challenging, and we are unable to accommodate parking for the entire student body. As such, parking permits (\$20) will be available to Seniors and Juniors first, and then those remaining will be opened up to Sophomores. Freshman will not be able to purchase parking passes; however, the dirt lot across from the high school does not require a parking pass.

To better accommodate our parking needs, School Resource Officer Ballis has redesignated staff parking spots within our current lots. Students with a parking pass can access any spots available outside of Handicapped, Visitor, and Staff designated spots.



### SENIOR PARKING

Seniors will be able to purchase one of the limited number of reserved "Senior" spots that they can personalize. Details of this will be shared at the grade level meeting on the first day of school.





# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## OTHER CHANGES AT WOOD RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

### ***NEW STUDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: PowerSchool***



We're excited to introduce PowerSchool Management, a dynamic tool that brings you closer to your child's education journey. With PowerSchool, you'll have instant access to important updates on grades, assignments, attendance, and more, right at your fingertips.

Schoology, our learning management system, is entirely integrated with PowerSchool so parents/guardians will only have ONE login to access all pertinent information on their students. PowerSchool will also enable us to send out progress reports more frequently so parents/guardians can be better kept informed on their student's progress.

### ***PERSONAL PROJECT***

Personal Project will no longer be completed in 10th Advisory. Now students will be able to craft a project aligned with their personal interests in a dedicated class, either first or second trimester, to fulfill the graduation requirement.

Michel Sewell, the new Personal Project Coordinator, is happy to answer any questions you may have.



msewell@blaineschools.org ◆ (208) 578-5020 x 2245

# NEW WOOD RIVER MERCHANDISE



CHECK OUT OUR NEW INVENTORY AND  
YOUR WOLVERINE PRIDE!

*Online*  
**STORE**

## STICKERS



## T-SHIRTS - \$17

Variety of colors and designs

## LONG SLEEVED SHIRTS - \$30

Variety of colors and designs

## SWEATSHIRTS - \$50

White or Carbon Heather with  
updated Mountain Tough Logo



## HATS - \$25

New styles\* to choose from!

- Heather grey/white with heather grey WR\*
- White with green WR\*
- Black/white with Wolverine

## DELUXE PLUSH BLANKET - \$75

60" x 80"



## STADIUM SEATS

**\$60**

Limited supply left



## PENNANTS - \$12

## FLAGS - \$75



~3' x 5'

Check out the merchandise at the  
WRHS Open House on August 28!