

APPRECIATION and an opportunity for growth

Thank you to all of the supportive audience members at our music concerts earlier this month. Students performed very well on and off-stage at the Sixth Grade Concert and the Seventh-Eighth Grade Band Concert – lots of Ram Pride on those nights! We are very aware of the need for improvement in behavior (on-stage and in the audience) of some of our performers at the Seventh-Eighth Grade Orchestra/Vocal Concert. Unfortunately, some excellent musical performances did not get the full attention they deserved that evening. Please know that there are plans in place to address this situation. We are looking forward to significant improvement at the next performance in February.

YOUTH PEACE PROJECT at WILSON

We are pleased to announce a recent addition to Wilson Middle School – the Youth Peace Project. Sponsored by Kids First Law Center, a non-profit agency that focuses on conflict-resolution and changing patterns of behavior to create positive relationships for kids.

Kids First's Youth Peace Project will help resolve conflicts between students or between students and teachers. Ari Crum is the facilitator for Youth Peace Project. The Youth Peace Project uses restorative practices to resolve conflicts.

Restorative practices are a different way of holding students accountable. The benefits of restorative practices are:

- keeping children in the school community
- helping students take responsibility for their own actions by having a dialogue between the person who was harmed and the person who did the harm
- restoring relationships when harm happens
- resolving conflict to keep it from repeating

All people affected by a conflict can participate in a conversation together in conferences or circles. Participation is voluntary. Each person tells his or her own story and how he or she has been affected. These conversations can lead to mutual understanding and empathy. The participants then come up with resolution that makes things right. This creates a path forward. Often, students identify a solution to repair harm that is better than could be accomplished through traditional means of punishment.

We are fortunate to have this program at Wilson and anticipate the positive impact it will have in our building!



WILSON PARENT GROUP

Wilson is fortunate to have a supportive group of parents who have helped to organize recent events, including grade-level celebrations of Thankfulness and a Swim and Gym Night at Jefferson High School. We would like to invite ALL parents and guardians to join this group. A meeting is set for **Thursday, December 7, at 5:30pm** in the East Cafeteria. Topics will include group structure and purpose, ways to volunteer, and sharing of ideas.

A FEW REMINDERS – please read and share with your student(s)

- Backpacks and bags are to be stored in lockers throughout the school day – this includes 8th Period Advisory
- All students eating breakfast should be in line by 7:40am
- For safety of students, please observe posted signs along J St. – drop-off/pick-up ONLY on the building side, heading north toward Wilson Avenue – thank you!