

Welcome!



est. 1942

New Family Information



est. 1942

CELEBRATING

85 years

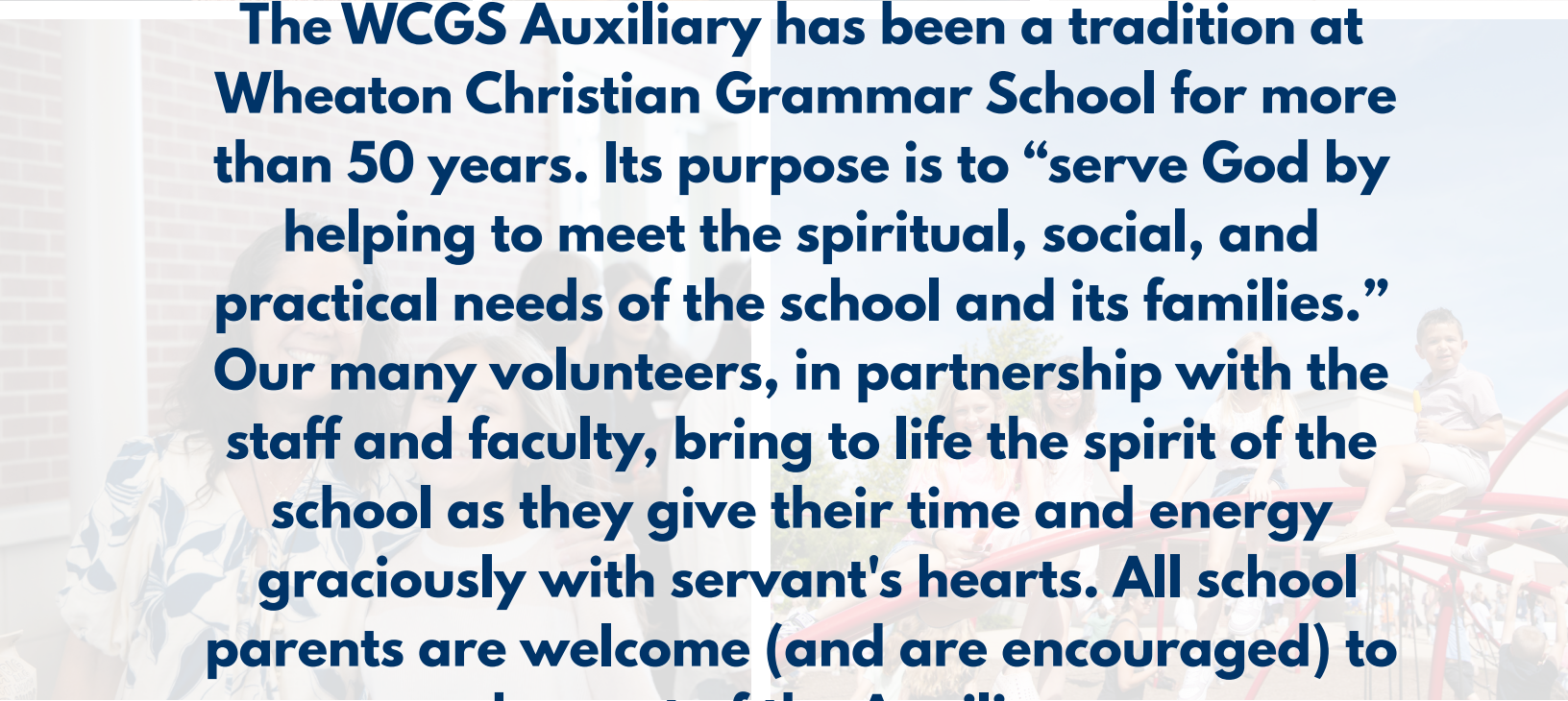
OF

 wheaton christian
est. 1942 GRAMMAR SCHOOL

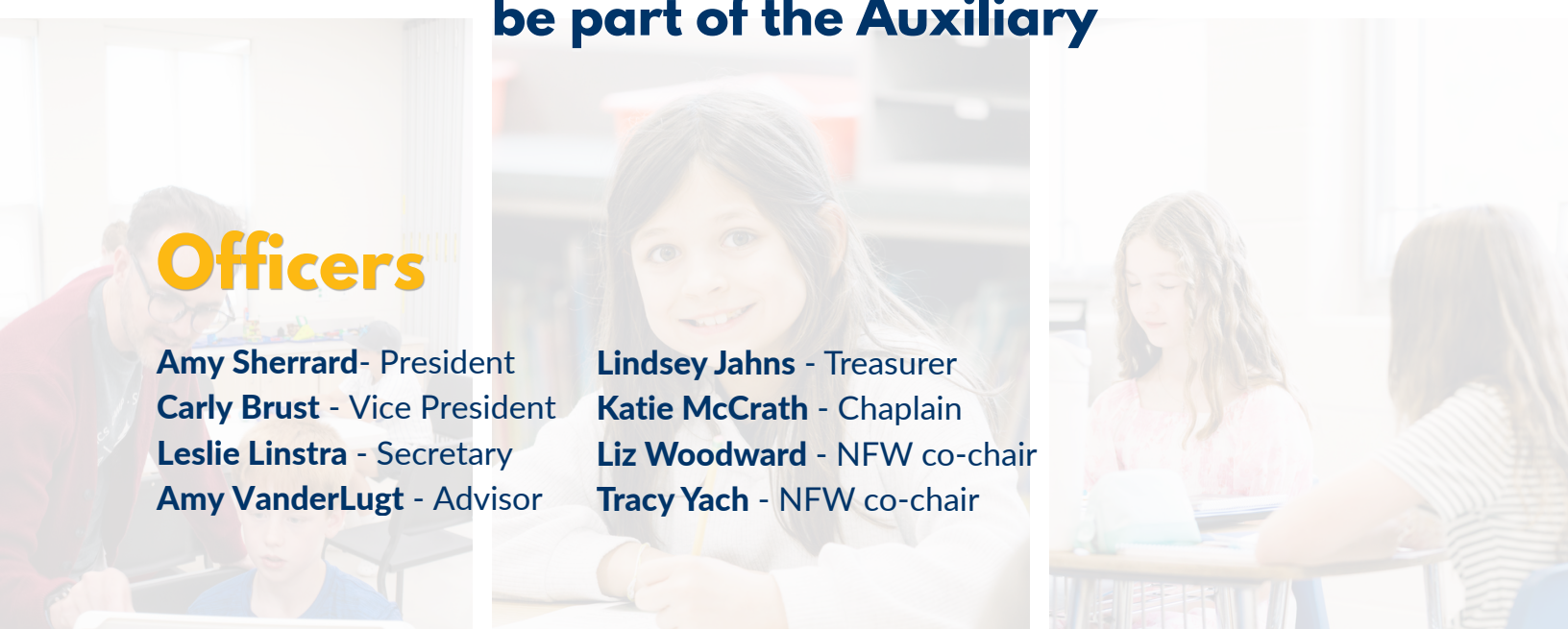


Auxiliary:

A group of volunteer committees, led by an auxiliary board.



The WCGS Auxiliary has been a tradition at Wheaton Christian Grammar School for more than 50 years. Its purpose is to “serve God by helping to meet the spiritual, social, and practical needs of the school and its families.” Our many volunteers, in partnership with the staff and faculty, bring to life the spirit of the school as they give their time and energy graciously with servant's hearts. All school parents are welcome (and are encouraged) to be part of the Auxiliary



Officers

Amy Sherrard - President
Carly Brust - Vice President
Leslie Linstra - Secretary
Amy VanderLugt - Advisor

Lindsey Jahns - Treasurer
Katie McCrath - Chaplain
Liz Woodward - NFW co-chair
Tracy Yach - NFW co-chair

Helpful Information for New Families

Upcoming Events



New Parent Reception, August 13, 7:00 p.m.

This parents-only event is a great opportunity for you to meet other new parents and learn more about WCGS.

Grades K - 5 Open House, August 19

Come with your child between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to meet the teacher, drop off school supplies, and set up your student's locker. Be sure to stop by the table in the main hallway to pick up a welcome gift from Admissions and Development.

Grades 6-8 Jr. High Orientation, August 19

All students in grades 6-8 are expected to attend the orientation from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. New students will meet their Student Ambassadors at 9:45 a.m. by the office.

Be sure to stop by the table in the main hallway to pick up a welcome gift from Admissions and Development.

Resources



School Supply List and Appearance Code

You can find both of the above items as well as other helpful resources on the website under "Current Parents" then "School Forms, Handbooks, and Links."

Who do I ask if I have a question?



Tuition and Financial Aid

Vange Schock vschock@wheatonchristian.org

Medical

Rachel Austin nurse@wheatonchristian.org

FACTS Family Portal

Debbie Cairncross dcairncross@wheatonchristian.org

Admissions

Kim Norbeck knorbeck@wheatonchristian.org

Marketing, Photography, and Communications

Varya Bazalev vbazalev@wheatonchristian.org

HOW TO GET INVOLVED AT WCGS

SERVICE COMMITTEES

SERVICE COMMITTEES GIVE PARENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE MANY EFFORTS OF WCGS.



ROOM PARENTS

Room Parents assist teachers with classroom events, field trips, and class parties; organize parent helpers for these events, and communicate classroom needs to the families.

CONTACT: Christy Burkhardt roomparents@wheatonchristian.org



STAFF APPRECIATION

This committee coordinates various efforts to show gratitude to the teachers and staff of WCGS for all they do throughout the year.

CONTACT: Taryn Nelson staffappreciation@wheatonchristian.org
Jenn Lesner
Andrea Hecht



STREAM

Supports STEM and library staff by coordinating events and volunteers throughout the year.

CONTACT: Rachel Engeltjes (Library Events) auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org
Jessica Norman (Library Events)
Ivy Wirsing



WCGS COMMUNITY GARDEN

Student and parent volunteers plan, plant, and maintain the vegetable garden. The produce is used by the volunteers or donated to those in need.

CONTACT: Zach Ingram auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org



LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found: Responsible for organizing items that need to be claimed or donated at the end of the year.

CONTACT: Caitlin Torres auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org
Renee Torres



FATHERS' PRAYER BREAKFAST

Provides a breakfast for men who gather for fellowship and prayer once a quarter on Saturday mornings.

CONTACT: Kara Harrell auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org



ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

This committee leads 3rd-5th grade students in service activities throughout the year.

CONTACT: Michelle Norman auxiliaryevents@wheatonchristian.org

SOCIAL COMMITTEES

SOCIAL COMMITTEES PROVIDE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP FOR WCGS FAMILIES.



NEW FAMILY WELCOME

This committee assists new and current families and students in feeling welcomed and appreciated.

CONTACT: Liz Woodward newfamily@wheatonchristian.org
Tracy Yach



GRAND PARENTS' DAY

This committee works with WCGS Administration to organize a special afternoon to honor grandparents.

CONTACT: Kendra Painter auxiliaryevents@wheatonchristian.org
Bethany Shaver



SPECIAL EVENTS

This committee is responsible for organizing the Spartan Social, Mother/Son Night, Daddy/Daughter Night, and the 7th and 8th Grade Gala.

CONTACT: Christy Burkhart auxiliaryevents@wheatonchristian.org
Amy VanderLugt

SPIRITUAL COMMITTEES

THESE COMMITTEES SERVE AS “THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST” BY PRAYING, ENCOURAGING AND MINISTERING TO THE FAMILIES OF WCGS.



SUNSHINE

This committee provides practical help, support and encouragement for families who are experiencing a life circumstance.

CONTACT: Heidi Ruettiger sunshine@wheatonchristian.org



PRAYER CHAIN

Immediate prayer support is provided for the school community.

CONTACT: Jodi Bauer prayerchain@wheatonchristian.org



MOMS IN PRAYER

This group of moms meets weekly to pray for the children, faculty and staff of WCGS.

CONTACT: Michal Kolb momsinprayer@wheatonchristian.org
Katie McCrath
Amy Paglia

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES

THESE COMMITTEES PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO NUMEROUS PROGRAMS OF WCGS AND FUND ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE AUXILIARY.



HOT LUNCH DAYS

This committee provides hot lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for students, which gives parents a break from making lunch. The proceeds go to the Auxiliary's General Fund.

MON. Elise Ewert mondaylunch@wheatonchristian.org

Kasie Fallow

TUES. Lisa Apa tuesdaylunch@wheatonchristian.org

WED. TBD wednesdaylunch@wheatonchristian.org

SIDES Jenny Lenninger auxiliarytreasurer@wheatonchristian.org

FRUIT Christi Koehl auxiliarytreasurer@wheatonchristian.org

Fritzie Vandermolen



POPCORN

Popcorn is offered once a month for the students. The proceeds go to the Auxiliary's General Fund.

CONTACT: Amy Baruch auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org

Rachael Roth



SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR

School spirit apparel is sold to encourage students to take pride in being a part of WCGS. The proceeds go to the Auxiliary's General Fund.

CONTACT: Desiree Chiappetta spiritwear@wheatonchristian.org

Brittney LeDonne

Amanda Simmons



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SALE

This committee crafts and purchases Christmas gifts for students to buy at a low cost for their family members. The proceeds from this annual sale go towards monetary Christmas gifts for staff members at WCGS.

CONTACT: Elizabeth Larson (Administration/Logistics)

auxiliaryevents@wheatonchristian.org

Krystal Sampson (Crafts)

Elise Ewert (Shopping/Inventory)

Brie Holtrop (Shopping/Inventory)



ARTSONIA

Artsonia is an online gallery of WCGS students' and children's artwork from around the world. Parents can order merchandise featuring their children's artwork. The proceeds support the WCGS Art Department.

CONTACT: Michelle Norman auxiliaryadvisor@wheatonchristian.org

Kristen Wilding

AUXILIARY SPONSORED EVENTS

First Day Parent Welcome - On the first day of school, all parents are given a chance to renew acquaintances and to sign up for various Auxiliary committees.

Spartan Social - This is an all-school event for students and their families to celebrate the beginning of a new school year and a time to enjoy fun games with new and old friends.

Mother/Son Night and Daddy/Daughter Night - WCGS students can bring their parents, grandparents, or aunt/uncle to a special evening in the Commons where they can make fun memories and enjoy refreshments together.

Ladies' Salad Social - This evening is an opportunity for WCGS women to come together for food, fellowship and an inspiring program. It also serves to acknowledge the contributions of our many wonderful volunteers, faculty and staff.

Frequently Asked Questions



How does the school communicate with parents?

You will receive two school emails each week, both sent from Beth Wright. On Mondays, you will receive the Monday Auxiliary Announcements. These notes include information on all Auxiliary run committees (you can read about all we do [here!](#)) Each week you will find highlights and reminders, volunteer opportunities, and upcoming important dates and events. On Thursdays, you will receive the Thursday Notes. These notes are published by the school and include updates from our administration and additional information on events not run by the Auxiliary.

What is the best way to contact the school nurse?

Rachel Austin and Karen Cherry are our school nurses - they're AWESOME! nurse@wheatonchristian.org

What are the traffic patterns for drop-off and pick-up?

At the beginning of the school year, parents will receive an email with details regarding the school's traffic patterns. We also are given maps (which are SO helpful) so everyone is on the same page when it comes to entering and exiting our beautiful campus. As far as pick-up, it's important to communicate with your child(ren) where you'd like to meet them each day. This just helps the overall process and will hopefully eliminate confusion... with you or them!

What is FAMILY PORTAL/FACTS and how do I access it?

The Family Portal has so much great information! You can access all the online forms (Field Trip Driver & Chaperone Form, Criminal History Background Check, Pre-Arranged Absence Notification, and the WCGS Kindergarten Questionnaire). You can also access a digital version of the School Directory, see your student(s) grades, report cards, schedules, and complete re-enrollment when the time comes! Once Debbie Cairncross communicates login credentials with you, log in to become familiar with this awesome tool.



How do I find the online forms that need to be completed?

At the beginning of the school year, there is a group of online Web Forms posted to the Portal that parents are asked to complete. These include: Field Trip Driver & Chaperone Form (complete each year and by anyone who would like to drive and/or chaperone a field trip) and Criminal History Background Check (complete only once during your years at WCGS). Also found in the same section of the Portal are the Pre-Arranged Absence Notification and WCGS Kindergarten Questionnaire.

How do we submit the completed summer reading program form?

Your child will turn this form in to the homeroom teacher during the first week of school. The reading program is required for 6th-8th graders.

How and when do I receive a supply list?

The school will send a supply list near the start of the school year. Good news! You will notice there aren't too many items for you to purchase! The school provides many supplies for your child(ren).

If you would like to find the list on the school website, you can find it [here](#), along with many other important documents.

Note: Many parents ask, why does my child need a pair of shoes at school?!? At WCGS, we teach our students to care for the gifts we have been given! So, your child will change shoes throughout the day to help keep certain areas of our school clean!

When and how do I purchase book covers? Does my child(ren) need them?

Book covers will be available for purchase at the beginning of the year at various events, including: the Open House, First Day Welcome, and in the office (during the first week or so of school). Reference your student(s) supply list to see if your teacher prefers for your books to be covered!

How and when will we receive class lists and teacher assignments?

Class lists and teacher assignments are typically communicated to families about one week before school begins. Be on the lookout for communication from Beth Wright during the summer months to learn more specifics. When the time comes to access the lists on the Portal, Debbie Cairncross will email step-by-step instructions.

When is school picture day and how do I order?

School Picture Day is usually early September (date can be found on the official school calendar). Parents will receive emails directly from JostensPix to the addresses you provided to WCGS with reminders and notifications. Photos will be shipped directly to your home! Previewing, personalization, ordering, and payment will all take place online at jostenspix.com. Please note that all students will be photographed for the yearbook, but there is no obligation to make a purchase. If a student is absent on picture day, re-takes will be available.

What do students wear to school?

We recommend referencing the WCGS Parent Handbook for all the specifics; however, a highlight is that our students can wear SPIRIT WEAR every day! GO SPARTANS!



How often does my student attend Chapel? Can I attend Chapel?

WCGS typically holds Chapel for all grades the first Wednesday of every month. Our Junior High Students attend a second Chapel each month. You can find all of these dates on our school calendar. Chapel is usually separated by age group (K-2, 3-5, 6-8). YES! Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

What is the Junior High praise team?

Incoming 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to audition for the Praise Team. This group exists to serve the Lord in leading the student body in worship while growing in faith and developing Christ-like relationships with others. The Praise Team is a one-year commitment that involves practicing music individually, being at each rehearsal throughout the year, and leading the school in singing at every chapel throughout the year. Currently the praise team is led by Mrs. Mittlestaedt and Mr. Spradley.

How do I order hot lunch?

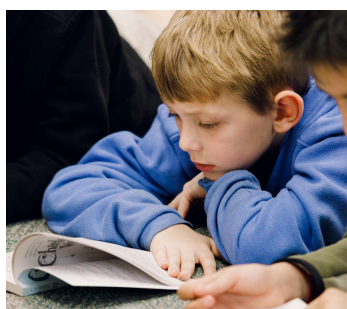
Hot Lunch is offered 3 times a week: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Hot lunch is ordered through an online platform, <https://www.ezschoollapps.com/>. At the start of each trimester, look for ordering information in the Monday Auxiliary Notes, sent by Beth Wright. There you will find ordering dates and a detailed attachment that walks you through the ordering process.

How do I order popcorn and slush day?

When you order hot lunch in the first trimester, you will have the opportunity to add several other “one time order” items to your order. These include slush, popcorn (order once for the entire year), teacher blessing donations, and staff gift card donations. If you select to order popcorn in the first trimester, your child will receive it for the entire year. All orders are placed through an online platform, <https://www.ezschoollapps.com/>. At the start of each trimester, look for ordering information in the Monday Auxiliary Notes, sent by Beth Wright. There you will find ordering dates and a detailed attachment that walks you through the ordering process.

What is the Teacher Blessing Fund and how can I contribute?

Teacher Blessings are donations collected from each child to be used by the room parents for teacher birthdays, Christmas, and year-end gifts. This contribution helps to avoid multiple requests for money during the school year, allowing us to pool our funds to generously bless the homeroom teachers with group gifts from their class. Teacher blessings are not a mandatory expense, so please give as you feel led. You can contribute to the Teacher Blessing Fund when ordering hot lunch for the first trimester or you may stop by the office to fill out a form and make a donation.



What is the Back to School Open House?

You're not going to want to miss the Back to School Open House! The day before school starts, WCGS opens its doors to host an all-school open house and orientation.

Grades K-5 are invited to an informal drop-in anytime between 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. This is where students (and parents!) will have an opportunity to meet their teacher, drop off school supplies, and prepare their locker for the year!

Grades 6-8 attend an official orientation. All students in grades 6-8 should plan to attend the entire hour of their respective grade level orientations from 10:00 am - 11:00 am. New students in grades 6-8 are invited to come 15 minutes early to meet their student ambassadors at the front office and their teachers, as well as get acclimated to the junior high hallway.

What is the First Day Parent Welcome?

The First Day Parent Welcome is a great opportunity to find your place to join! The First Day Parent Welcome is filled with fellowship, food, a chance to learn more about the many Auxiliary Committees we have, and there will be opportunities to sign up to get involved! This is one of the first events of the year where you're able to plug into the WCGS community! All school families are encouraged to attend and younger siblings are welcome, too! Please take this opportunity to connect with other school parents and find out more about the Auxiliary and how you can become involved in your child(ren)'s school!

REACH OUT WITH ANY OTHER QUESTIONS!



Grade Level Advisors

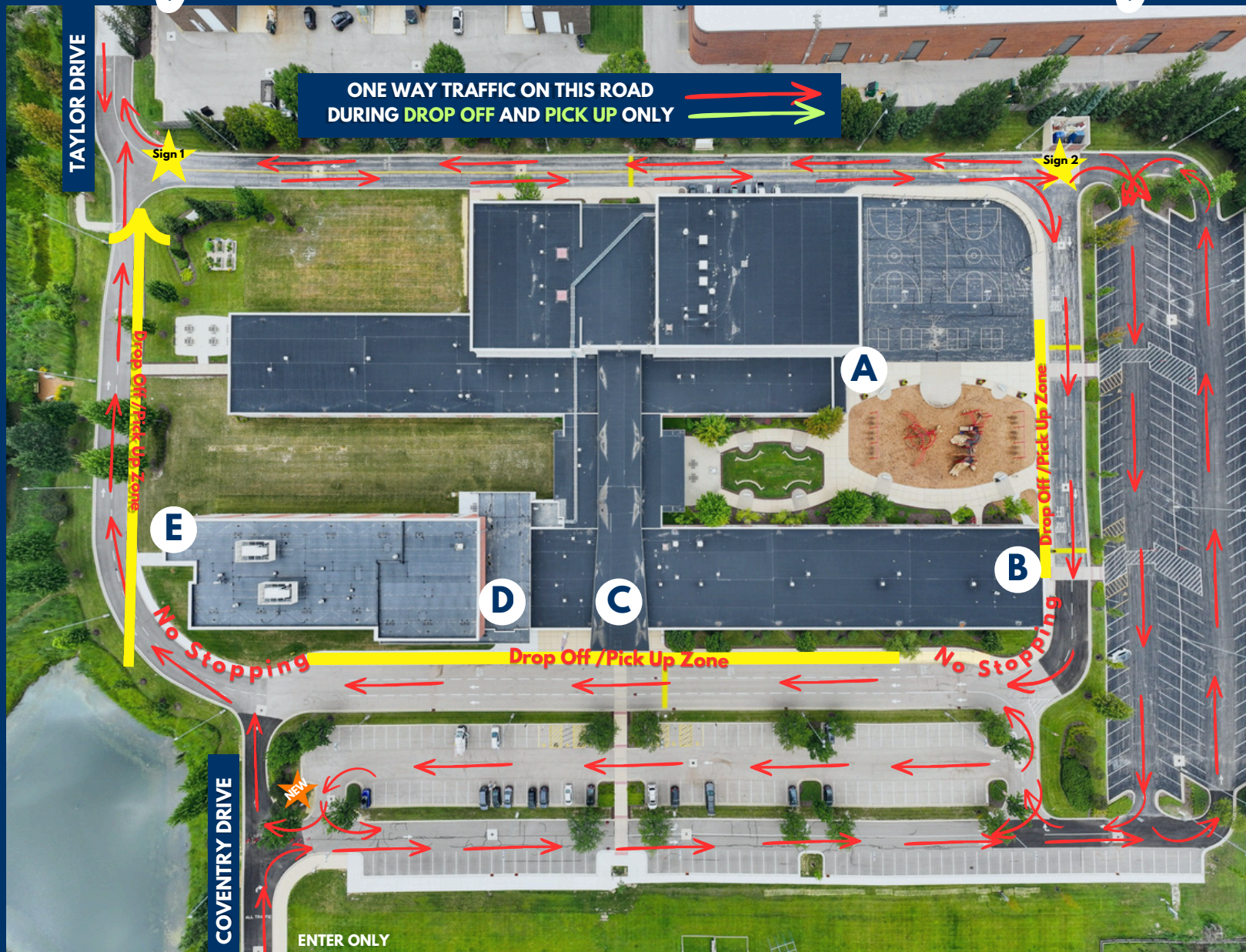
Contact List

2026-2027

Auxiliary	auxiliary@wheatonchristian.org	
New Family Welcome	newfamily@wheatonchristian.org	
Half Day Kinder	Grace Cairo	grace.cairo@hotmail.com
Full Day Kinder	Crystal Miller	ncmillerfamily5@gmail.com
First Grade	Jenn Lesner	jenniferlesner@gmail.com
Second Grade	Elizabeth Woodward	echwoodward@gmail.com
Third Grade	Taryne Russo	taryne.russo@gmail.com
Fourth Grade	Robin Wynsma	robin.a.wynsma@gmail.com
Fifth Grade (Girls)	Anne Prunty	anne.prunty@compass.com
Fifth Grade (Boys)	Tracy Yach	tracy.yach82@gmail.com
Sixth Grade (Girls)	Kristy Amato	klamato@comcast.net
Sixth Grade (Boys)	Betsy Johnson	betsygjohnson@gmail.com
Seventh Grade (Girls)	Jenny Louis	jjlouis19@gmail.com
Seventh Grade (Boys)	Tracy Yach	tracy.yach82@gmail.com
Eighth Grade (Girls)	Leslie Mathews	lesliemathews84@gmail.com
Eighth Grade (Boys)	Whitney McKevitt	whitneymckevitt@gmail.com



Updated Traffic Map



Updated Traffic Map

