

*Re: New Second Elective and Targeted Intervention Time*

Dear Grades 1-5 Parents and Guardians:

Beginning with the start of the Spring Semester on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, the West Elementary School daily schedule for all grades 1-5 students will include a few time and class changes in order to incorporate new Art and Computer Skills classes, as well as a specialized time for students in need of intervention. Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes will continue with their small group learning centers and incorporate Art and Computer activities throughout their school day.

With this new schedule, your student will notice a new second elective offered each school day. The first elective will continue to be a rotation of Physical Education and Music. This new second elective will be a rotation of Art and Computer Skills. Included with this second elective will be the specialized intervention time for targeted students in need of extra small group or individual instruction in the core classes (English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies). All students will continue taking the first elective, but the second elective will be scheduled based on educational need. The teachers will use classroom observation data, progress monitoring data, past state assessment data (if applicable), and grades to help determine if the student needs to take part in the intervention time. If your student is mastering all grade level standards, then the second elective of Art and Computer Skills will be a part of his or her schedule. If your student is in need of extra help or intervention, then the second elective of Art and Computer Skills will also include a time for additional instruction.

West Elementary is excited to add these new classes to the daily schedule and know our students will greatly benefit from this Art, Computer Skills, and intervention time. The grade level schedules will be tweaked to include this second elective, so the teacher conference time, first elective time, or the times for core instruction may change. Your student's teacher(s) will send home the new schedule after the Christmas break. The schedule for special programs such as English as a Second Language (ESL), Dyslexia, or Speech may also change.

As always, please feel free to contact our Front Office at (254) 981-2200 if you have any questions or need additional information. We believe our students will enjoy the many upcoming Art and Computer units of study. We, also, believe the targeted intervention time will help ensure all West Elementary students are ready for all campus and state assessments, as well as success at the next grade level. West Elementary is excited about the New Year and these changes to help make your student's experience the best it can be during the 2015-16 school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Detlefsen, Principal