

West Running Brook Middle School

1 West Running Brook Lane
Derry, New Hampshire 03038
603.432.1250

Justin Krieger, Principal
Laurie Cloutier, Assistant Principal
Mitch Edwards, Assistant Principal
Pauline Beland, Secretary
Dawna Sanville, Secretary
Phil Baroody, Counselor
Cheri Haidaichuk, Counselor
Caitlin Almon, Counselor
Sheryl O'Connor, Athletic Director
Kerry Soucy, Special Education Facilitator

Jennifer Ciarla, 6-1 Team Leader
Barbara Dupont, 6-2 Team Leader
Misty Crompton, 7-3 Team Leader
Stephen Campo, 7-4 Team Leader
Kelly Rickenbach, 8-5 Team Leader
Patty Thomas, 8-6 Team Leader
Blake Leister, UA Team Leader
John Michalsky, Head Custodian
Kristina Lubelczyk, Kitchen Manager
Laura Walker, Nurse

FRIDAY FOCUS

Welcome to the end of the first full week. The first full week is typically jarring for students, families, and staff. Practically speaking, routines change, timing is extended, and the frequency with which events occur increase. There is also an emotional element that accompanies the first full week as sleep and stress present differently for all of us when school is in session. It is indeed a test of our perseverance, grit, and stamina. Specific to these traits or habits, I do want to point out some places we will challenge your child(ren) and why they are so important to their success; there are compelling arguments to be made for pushing through challenges, moving yourself toward something when the path becomes difficult, and trying again. First, at WRB, Writers Workshop, at all grade levels, will provide opportunities to build stamina throughout the act of writing. There is also an emphasis, based in the Standards for Math Practices across all grade levels, to “make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.” I think about the transfer of that connection - between perseverance and solution - to other areas for children. In addition to the mathematical gain, we are challenging them to find and see the value in seeing things through, in wanting successful outcomes, and in their capacity to deal well in struggle. These are life habits for your child(ren) that open opportunities for future successes. Ask your child(ren) what kind of writing they are doing in their ELA (and other) classes. And ask them where they feel math (and all) teachers are stressing the value of perseverance, grit, and stamina. For more on these concepts, you can watch [this](#) short talk by Angela Lee Duckworth, a researcher who investigated grit, and read [this](#) semi-cautionary piece of writing on grit by Daniel T. Willingham, a professor of cognitive psychology.

Be well, Justin Krieger - Principal

[A Few Upcoming Dates and Information of Interest](#)

- [PTSA Spirit Wear](#) - You can support the PTSA (and in turn, support our student body) and look sharp at the same time. Place an order for WRB spirit wear, [here](#).
- [Custodial Employment Openings](#) -The DCSD has employment openings on the custodial team. Apply [here](#).
- [Parent and Guardian Volunteers](#) - In the interest of student safety, the DCSD School Board has revised their policy pertaining to volunteers. You can find an updated policy, [here](#). Essentially, to serve as a designated volunteer in any capacity, you will need to undergo a criminal background check. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Toby Kaboub (432.1210) at the SAU to schedule a time to begin this process, as it takes 6-8 weeks to complete. To save you time, you may complete this [form](#) prior to your appointment. At WRB, we welcome your time and expertise and hope that in getting this message out early in the school year we can continue to generate a significant amount of volunteer support.
- [1st PTSA Meeting: Wednesday \(9.19.18\) 7:00 PM](#)
- [WRB Open House: Thursday \(9.20.18\) 6:00-7:00 PM](#) - This informal evening is dedicated to creating a time and space for families to interact with school staff. It is always good to connect. For more detailed information and a schedule, see this [invite](#).
- [Walk With West: Wednesday \(9.26.18\) 2:15 PM](#) - Organized by our Kids Care Club, this fundraiser is open to WRB students and families to generate funds to give back to the community. It is an awesome event to walk through our community as a unified team in support of others. Look for more information to come.