

West Allegheny Middle School



WAMS Pride

Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports

2023-2024 Community Guide

*We show our WAMS Pride when we are safe, responsible,
and respectful community members*

PRIDE IN MYSELF PRIDE IN MY SCHOOL

West Allegheny Middle School is a member of the *Positive Behavior Support Network*-a system that works with over 300 schools in the Commonwealth. 'PBIS' is an approach for creating and maintaining safe and effective learning environments for your child and ensuring that all students have the social/emotional skills needed to ensure their success at school and beyond.

At West Allegheny Middle School, we have '*Pride in Ourselves*' and '*Pride in our School.*' This pride is shown through three core areas:

Being Safe
Being Responsible
Being Respectful

Our *WAMS Pride* system started in the 2016-17 school year. Yearly, we recognize hundreds of students for demonstrating our core values: safe, responsible, & respectful behavior.

PBIS is a system that involves our whole school community. This includes our non-teaching staff and our parents. We hope you can take the time to become familiar with our expectations. Should you visit WAMS, we will have opportunities for you to participate in the program, too.

How the **WAMS PRIDE** system works...

Students are introduced to our system through fun and engaging lessons that demonstrate our expectations and our rewards.

Every staff member has been trained to effectively implement the systems through school-wide professional development sessions.

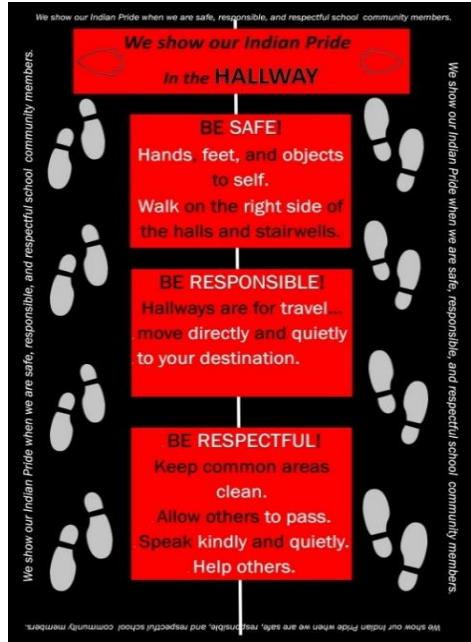
Students are given a ticket, which they placed on our Principals 200 Board. When the board is full, students are randomly selected to win a variety of prizes.

All tickets submitted throughout the school year are entered for the Grand Prize Raffle which is drawn at the end of the school year.



In the **HALLWAYS**

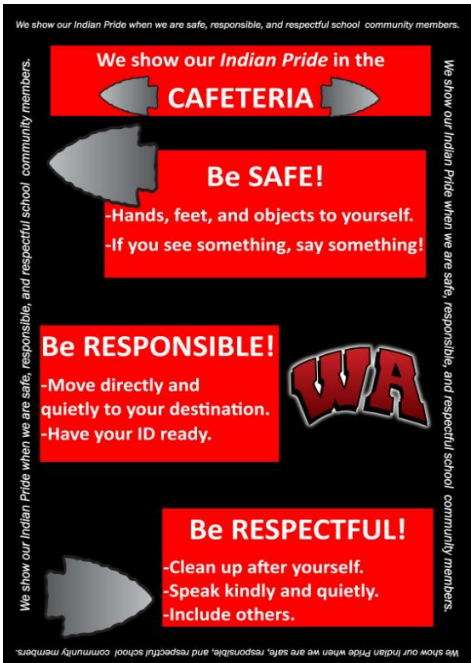
When a staff member observes a student demonstrating one of our hallway expectations, i.e. walking on the right-side, the student is issued a virtual *WAMS Pride* ticket.



During **LUNCH**

Students observed being safe, responsible, and respectful in the lunch area are eligible to earn *WAMS Pride* tickets to place on the grid in our main lobby.

Grade levels earn daily recognition for their positive behavior during lunch. Grade levels meeting expectations will be rewarded periodically with a variety of activities.



At **DISMISSAL**

Bus lines have been grouped into “pods” and there are 5 different colored pods. Students who board during the 2nd wave report promptly to their pod and wait until they are instructed to board their bus by the teacher on duty.

Students can earn WAMS Pride tickets for meeting expectations.

During **TEAMS MEETINGS**

When TEAMS meetings may be required during remote instruction days, students will use their school account and log into the meeting using their actual names.

Proper TEAMS etiquette includes sitting still, being mindful of backgrounds, & muting microphones when not speaking. Be polite and patiently wait for your turn before speaking and use communication tools appropriately, i.e. Zoom chat.

Students can earn WAMS Pride tickets for meeting expectations in large groups and earn rewards towards classroom PBIS incentives for small group sessions.

In the **CLASSROOM**

In each classroom, students will find a set of expectations displayed for safe, responsible, and respectful classroom behavior.

Students periodically participate in lessons that re-teach expected behaviors.

Teachers have designed fun and engaging reward systems to reinforce positive behaviors.

In Mrs. Meehan's class, we have **PRIDE IN OURSELVES** by:

BEING SAFE:


- . Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- . Keep your desk and surrounding area clean. Push your chair in before you leave.
- . Maintain your belongings on your desk and/or below your seat.

BEING RESPONSIBLE:

- . Use the restroom, use the water fountain, and sharpen your pencil before class begins.
- . Have all assignments and materials ready for the start of class, including your book, folder, and agenda.
- . Before turning in your class work, check and review your answers.

BEING RESPECTFUL:

- . Look and listen when others are talking. Raise your hand.
- . Include others and give others a chance to speak.
- . Use low and quiet voices when working in a small group.
- . Treat others as you would like to be treated and have respectful disagreements of thoughts and ideas. Promote kind language!



Should you have any questions about our system, please reach out to a member of our *WAMS Pride* committee:

Valerie Meehan, Jess Henry, Krista Dapper, Jacqueline Schmidt, Jonathan Denk, Jeff Kiser, Patricia Nolan, Bobbi Jo Buggy, Beth Anne Swartzwelder

To learn more about *Pennsylvania's Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports System*, please visit:

www.papbs.org.