

Warren Consolidated Schools

Creating Dynamic Futures through Student Achievement, High Expectations, and Strong Relationships

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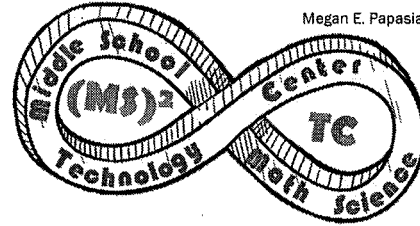
MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY CENTER

27500 Cosgrove
Warren, MI 48092
586.574.3171

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September 21, 2023

Dear 7th Grade Parents and Students,

We are pleased to announce the participation of the entire (MS)²TC 7th grade class in the Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) Stream Leaders Program. The **CRWC Stream Leaders Program** gives students an in-depth understanding of their natural world and how it affects them, while promoting interdisciplinary learning.

Students will be onsite at a local body of water and examine the chemical constituents of the water, inventory physical stream-side conditions and land uses that may affect water quality, and sample the aquatic biological communities to evaluate the health of the water.

On **Tuesday October 10**, we will visit **Joseph Delia Park in Sterling Heights** to monitor a stream-side area in the park. We will travel to the park via WCS school buses during the regular (MS)²TC class time. Students **WILL NOT** miss any of their classes at the home middle school or their regularly scheduled lunch period.

For your student to participate in the event, parent(s) MUST complete the following items:

- Review the **Safety in the River** information with your student before the monitoring day due to the potential safety concerns when working outdoors and around water. Students should dress appropriately for working outdoors and have sunscreen, bug spray, and a bottle of drinking water.
- Complete and return the **Student Travel** permission form to **Mrs. Duddles** by **Tuesday, September 26**.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Duddles

Safety in the River

General Safety:

During monitoring, keep your hands away from eye and mouth areas. Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after monitoring. Never eat after monitoring without first washing your hands.

If the water appears to be severely polluted (a strong smell of sewage or chemicals, unusual colors, lots of dead fish, oil sheen), you may decide not to monitor.

Insect and Tick Bites:

Before monitoring, ask if any of your monitoring team members are allergic to any type of insects, bees, or spiders. If so, make sure you know where they keep any antidotes or medicines that will subdue or stop an allergic reaction. If a volunteer gets an insect bite that swells up to unusual size or has severe redness, seek medical attention.

Ticks are prevalent in grassy and wooded areas. It is important that volunteers check their bodies (especially hair-covered sections) for ticks. If it is a tick, do not pull it out. Yanking the tick from the scalp may cause an infection if the tick's head or tube remains in the scalp. Grasp the tick with a pair of forceps or tweezers and gently twist the insect counter-clockwise for several rotations until the tick is free. Swab the area with hydrogen peroxide after removing the tick to clean the area.

Wader Safety:

Excerpt from "Gone Fishin'" by L. Gordon Stetser, Jr.
Michigan Out of Doors, June 1992

Fisheries biologists, who carry up to 70 pounds of gear when they wade, stress that a good technique will minimize your problems when wading. First, plan your route. Look ahead for exits, should you have difficulty, and "read" the water for spots to avoid, such as drop-offs, sunken logs, and tricky currents. Backtracking is often dangerous or impossible once you've committed to a tough situation.

Cross currents at right angles or slightly downstream. Move slowly, keeping the foot on the upstream side in the lead and pointed forward. Your rear, or anchor, foot should point downstream and be at right angles to your lead foot. Move the lead foot forward about half a step, feeling for a solid hold. Next, move the anchor foot forward the same distance – you should shuffle across so that your anchor foot never passes the lead. This way, both feet are always in position to lend support. If you must turn around, do so toward upstream.

If, despite your precautions, you take a spill, don't panic. Your waders, even full of water, weigh less than on land and the water inside the waders doesn't add a single ounce as long as you're in the water! Further, the common fear that air trapped in your waders will raise your feet higher than your head and force your face underwater is simply unfounded.

Waders do streamline your legs and make kicking useless, however. If the current is gentle, your best bet is to bend your knees and use the side or breast stroke to safety. In a swifter current, lie on your back, bend your knees, and point your feet downstream so your feet, not your head, will bounce off the rocks. Sculling with your hands will help direct you to the nearest shallow area, which, of course, you had noted before. *Don't* waste precious energy in the vertical position going for the bottom. Without the ability to read, this position is virtually impossible to maintain and leads quickly to exhaustion – the major cause of many drownings. And remember, concentrate on getting out of the water and *not* saving your gear!



WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

6-12 SECONDARY STUDENT TRAVEL

PARENT AUTHORIZATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT TRAVEL TO AND FROM NON-ATHLETIC SCHOOL DISTRICT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

THIS AGREEMENT IS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS WHO AUTHORIZE THEIR STUDENT TO TRAVEL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY FOR NON-ATHLETIC SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS DAYTIME FIELD TRIPS AND TRAVEL TO AND FROM DIFFERENT SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND/OR FACILITIES. EACH PARENT MUST REVIEW AND SIGN THIS FORM, WHICH RELEASES THE WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS AND ALL OF ITS AGENTS FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY RELATING TO THE TRIP, EVENT, TRAVEL, OR ACTIVITY.

Student Name: [Signature] Emergency Contact Name & Telephone Number [Signature]

This form authorizes Student to travel to:

- All Events Related To: (MS)2TC 7th grade class participation in the CRWC Stream Leaders Program October 2023
Specific Program/Event(s)/Date(s):

My Student has my permission to travel to and from the event(s) in the following ways if authorized by the school district and/or consistent with state law:

District-Provided Transportation

- Via school bus when a bus is made available by the District (e.g. field trip)
With school personnel or volunteers in District vehicles Personal vehicles (e.g. student traveling with staff member for Spanish Club)

Student-Provided Transportation (e.g. travel related to CPC, MMSTC, WCSPA, Dual Enrollment/MCC, Radio-TV, Robotics, MSBOA, NHS, etc.)

- In the Student's own vehicle: Without Passengers With Passengers Only with Authorized Passengers
In another Student's vehicle
If your Student is only authorized to be transported by a particular student(s), please identify here:

Other Transportation

- Specify here:

I release the District of any responsibility for verifying any driver's license restrictions or the vehicle insurance of the friend(s) or other student(s) with whom our Student is authorized to travel. I further agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Warren Consolidated Schools (the "District"), its Board, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from and against any and all claims and/or damages, including costs and attorneys' fees, related in any way to the above-referenced travel, excursion, activity, or event, including, without limitation, any personal injury to any participant. I have carefully reviewed this Parent Authorization and Hold Harmless Agreement for Student Travel to and from Non-Athletic School District Events and Activities, know and understand its contents, recognize that I am completely releasing the District of any possible liability for the Student's participation, and sign it of my own free will.

[Signature]
(Printed Name and Signature) Parent/Guardian Date

I have carefully reviewed this Agreement and I agree to comply with the approvals given by my parent/guardian and I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations in the Student Code of Conduct and all rules established by school officials when I participate in school travel or school activities. I understand that my participation may be canceled or suspended for failure to comply with this Agreement and/or the Student Code of Conduct prior to or during the activity or event.

[Signature]
(Printed Name and Signature) Student Date