



Volume 25 Issue 5

# WHS National Honor

# Society

Wrenshall High School's Chapter of National Honor Society is inducting three new members this winter: **Birk Stensaas** (pictured here with current members Molly Sheda and Isabel Riley), **Alex Murray** (PSEO), and **Patrick Ankrum** (PSEO).

CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS HIGH HONOR!



DECEMBER 6TH, 2024



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



# Wrenshall PIE Partners In Education

#### **PIE MEETING:**

Wednesday, January 8th 5:15 p.m. | Media Center



### **ENROLLMENT UPDATE:**



In the past year, Wrenshall teachers and the school board collaborated to set class size targets as part of the district's commitment to quality.

Early in 2024, a projected enrollment of 315 students was used to build the district's 2024-2025 budget.

That projection grew over the summer as new students joined the Wrenshall family. By the first day of school, 343 Wrens in grades K-12 were enrolled. Enrollment has remained stable (344 K-12 students reported at the December 10, 2024 school board meeting), and class sizes and total enrollment have been closely monitored all school year.

The school board and staff have actively backed up their commitment to quality by splitting sections and adding resources where needed.

At Wrenshall, we believe strongly in the benefits of our low class sizes and nurturing culture. We offer a personalized educational experience where each student is cared for and their achievements are celebrated. Our close-knit community is committed to empowering every student for a successful future. If you are a family who would love to take advantage of this focus on care and quality, call (218) 384-4274 x2000 today to find out how to enroll!





# NOTES NEST

By: Michelle Blanchard, Ed.S.

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR WRENSHALL FAMILIES!



JANUARY IN OJIBWE is Gichi-Manidoo-Giizis (Great Spirit Moon). Staff will return on January 3rd for a staff development day and students will return on January 6th. As we near the end of the first semester, we will continue to

prioritize a quality education for students. We have two Ameri-Corps tutors joining our team in January. Students who qualify will receive extra support in reading for grades Kindergarten through 3rd and math support for grades 4th through 8th. We are fortunate to have Cindy Washenesky in her second year as our Kindergarten through 3rd grade math tutor.

I would like to welcome our newly elected board members Jon Beck, Ashley Laveau, and Erin Riley. They are familiar faces to our school community but are new to this important role as elected leaders on the school board.

#### A few reminders as we begin the new year:

**Elementary Parents:** If you are bringing your child to school after 8:20 a.m. please check in at the window and a staff member will bring them safely to class. This causes less disruption for the classroom teacher. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

**Attendance Matters:** Regular attendance is key to student success. Please continue to prioritize daily attendance and communicate with us if challenges arise.

**Stay Connected:** Keep an eye on our website, newsletters, and Facebook for updates. If your contact information has changed, please inform the office so we can stay in touch.

Winter Weather: As temperatures drop, please ensure students come to school dressed for the cold. Check our website or you will receive an instant alert for any weather-related closures or delays.

#### Keep these dates in mind:

- January 17th Early Release
- January 27th No School for students as that day is set aside for staff development

Wishing you a joyful and prosperous New Year!

Principal Blanchard







# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: isd100.net



#### SCHOOL BOARD:

**2025 Organizational Meeting / Work Session:** January 6, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center (this is a date change)

with The McKinney-Vento Act of 2001, Wrenshall School is committed to providing a free, appropriate public education to any children or youth in the school district who are experiencing homelessness. Homelessness is defined as a lack of a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. Anyone aware of local school-age children experiencing homelessness, please contact Wrenshall School's homeless liaison, Jeff Pesta. Further information on McKinney-Vento and rights of homeless children can be found at http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/SchSup/ESEA/HomelessMcKinneyVento/index.html or call the NCHE

Helpline at 800-308-2145 or e-mail homeless@serve.org

### WRENSHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Administration

Jeff Pesta, Superintendent Michelle Blanchard, Principal

#### **School Board Members**

Mary Carlson, Chairperson, 651-206-0203 Eric Ankrum, Vice Chairperson, 218-348-9587 Ben Johnson, Clerk, 218-260-7559 \*Jon Beck, Member-Elect, 218-380-2637 \*Ashley Laveau, Member-Elect, 218-391-7504 \*Erin Riley, Member-Elect, 218-460-9336 \*Terms begin January 6, 2025



2024 glow stick routine majorettes



Perform at the Girls basketball game on Friday February 14th Time - during the varsity basketball game. (half-time)

Practice dates/time (must attend all): Sunday February 9th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Monday February 10th 7:00-7:45 AM Wednesday 12th 7:00-7:45 AM Main Gym

Cost: (checks out to community education) \$36.00 Baton \$4.50 Lights \$10.00 for three All Lessons

Check or Cash must be in by January 24th to order batons & lights



PARENT
ADVISORY &
FAMILY SUPPORT
COMMITTEE

ORGANIZING RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

#### WHAT IS THE PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE?

This group is comprised of parents, county and school personnel who organize resources and support for families of children and students with disabilities. Meetings include updates on current special education topics and how the information relates to services for families and children.

#### **PURPOSE**

- to develop resources for families of children with disabilities
- to become informed about current topics in special education
- to become effective advocates for children with disabilities
- to connect with agencies that provide assistance to families



#### **MORE INFO**

16 East Hwy 61 PO Box 40 Esko, MN 55733 Phone: 218-655-5018

www.nlsec.org/parents/ parentsupportcommittee

#### **MEMBER DISTRICTS**

Barnum, Carlton, Cloquet, Cromwell-Wright, Esko, Hermantown, Lake Superior, McGregor, Moose Lake, Northern Lights Academy, Proctor, Willow River, Wrenshall

#### WHEN?



#### WANT TO JOIN?

Use this QR code to visit the website and upcoming meetings:



The Parent Advisory & Family Support Committee has also established an effective email distribution list. Your email will be kept confidential and will only be used to provide you the most current information related to special education.

If you are interested in adding your name to the email list or joining the committee, contact:

> Billie Jo Steen at bsteen@nlsec.org

# GO Raptors!

### High School *Honor Band* Festival

Kendal Kot and director Ms. Debbie Fenlason attended the University of Minnesota Duluth's 67th Annual High School Honor Band Festival at the beginning of this month. Kendal plays the French Horn - a beautiful and richly-t

NOVEMBER 2ND, 2024



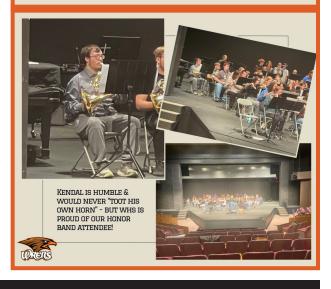




**UMD HONOR BAND 2024** 









WRENSHALL.

A small school where we cultivate BIG FUTURES.

# WRENSHALL COMMUNITY EDUCATION

HELLO WRENSHALL COMMUNITY! It's time again to share Wrenshall Community Education news



and updates. It's been about a year since I accepted the community education coordinator role. Under the recommendations of our director, a number of changes have been made to CE programs to create a more sustainable future. Change is needed to ensure that we have viable community education services here at Wrenshall long into the future. We understand

change can be difficult to navigate. I appreciate the patience and understanding from parents and our community as we work towards our goals of quality programming under a balanced budget.

There have been so many great happenings this past month, not to mention the year as a whole, but I want to focus on a few recent highlights. We wrapped up yoga classes, put on a very popular Lego club for grades K-2, and are currently hosting a weekly board game club for grades 2-6. I was fortunate to be a part of planning the school's winter festival where the CE team helped put together a huge community event with games, bounce houses, food trucks, and a craft fair. The event raised money for CE programs, Partners in Education, and the Lady Raptors basketball team. It was a fun Saturday at our school. It's always a wonderful feeling to welcome our community into the school building!

We have a small team in Community Education to provide different services and programs: School Readiness Preschool for 3-5 year olds, Pre-K and elementary wrap around care, after school programming for all ages, facilities reservations, adult programming, event planning/hosting, researching and applying for grants to make the program more affordable and sustainable, and engaging with the Community Education Advisory Committee. Amongst all of this, I've been learning from our director Michele. I've enjoyed opportunities to attend different training events to represent our school and increase my ability to excel in this position. There is so much more that goes into CE than meets the eye. I'm still learning,

and I will not stop learning for this community. This is where we all call home, and I want everyone to have the greatest experience possible.

While our CE team is small, it is mighty. It consists of our wonderful School Readiness teacher, our indispensable School Readiness assistant/Wrens Club assistant, myself, and a group of dedicated student and adult employees

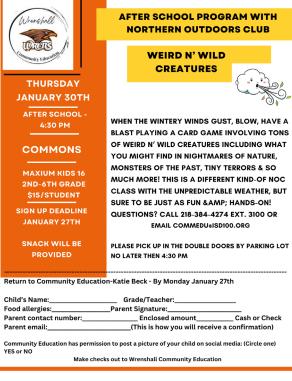


who help us provide care before and after school. We are currently accepting applications for a Child Care Coordinator. If you know someone who would be great for this position, please send them our way!

Thank you for supporting Wrenshall CE programs. Thank you to those who participate in our advisory committees, to my team, and to the community. I can't thank you enough for the trust and opportunity to play this vital role in CE. I'm excited to see where Community Education in Wrenshall can go in 2025.

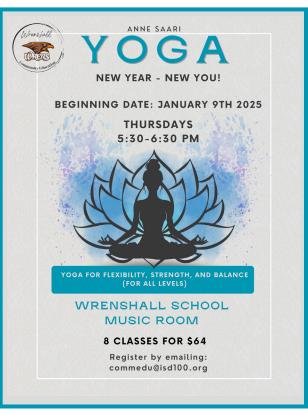
Please follow Wrenshall Community Education on Facebook or the school website for the most up to date information

- Katie Beck | commedu@isd100









# HAVE AN IDEA FOR A COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASS?

Please contact Katie Beck at Commedu@isd100.org

# ATHLETIC EVENT REMINDER:

All elementary students attending athletic events must be accompanied by a parent/guardian for supervision.



### January Athletics

**RAPTORS** Basketball:

Schedules online at isd100.net





#### SILVER BROOK TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Silver Brook Town Hall, 401 Alcohol Road Wrenshall, Minnesota

#### Regular/Reorganization Meeting:

Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Any additional special meetings or changes to regular meeting dates will be posted on the township website:

www.silverbrooktownship.com

#### **HOLYOKE TOWN BOARD**

Town Board Meetings are held the Second Tuesday of every month at the Town Hall.

Linda McCuskey • Supervisor • 651-230-0773

John Magnuson • Supervisor • 218-348-3831

Paula Siltberg • Supervisor • 218-496-0424

Holyoke Township has a new area of its cemetery available for gravesites. Interested individuals should contact a township supervisor for more information.

#### WRENSHALL TOWNSHIP

All regular meetings are called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, 3096 County Road 1, Wrenshall, Minnesota. The schedule of the regular meetings for Wrenshall Township is set forth below:

January 14, 2025 (Reorganizational and Regular)

Judy L. Korby Wrenshall Town Clerk 218-384-4452 Supervisors:

Marvin Durkee: 218-384-3645 Dwain Meyer: 1-218-460-8910 Henry Wyman: 218-390-6495

#### **PARTICIPATION FEES:**

#### Academic and Extra Curricular:

\$30.00 per student Debate \$30.00 per student One Act Play \$30.00 per student Robotics \$30.00 per student Speech \$30.00 per student Visual Arts \$30.00 per student Knowledge Bowl \$30.00 per student Three Act Play \$30.00 per student \$30.00 per student

All Other Non-Athletic

Extra Curriculars \$30.00 per student

#### Athletics:

Grades 9-12 \$100.00 per sport/student
Grades 6-8 \$70.00 per sport/student
Cheerleading \$50.00 per season/student

There is no longer a family cap. There is a student cap of \$175 for athletes in grades 6-8. There is a student cap of \$250 for athletes in grades 9-12. The student cap includes all athletics and activities with the exception of band and art fees. If a student qualifies through the Application for Educational Benefits, they will receive 1/2 price discount on all athletic and activity fees. Families in financial hardship should contact the AD. Participation not allowed until activity fee is paid.

# COMMUNITY POTLUCK

Last Monday of each month
(No meeting in December)

City Hall
Doors open at 11:30
Lunch is served at Noon



All are welcome!

### Thank you, **images**

### **SPONSORS**

Wrenshall School District

Silver Brook Township

City of Wrenshall

Holyoke Township

Wrenshall Fire Department

Wrenshall Township

SonLife Community Church 417 Alcohol Road Wrenshall, MN

Cloquet Sanitary Service North Country Waste Randy Crestik • 879-3723

CMH Raiter Family Clinic 417 Skyline Blvd., Cloquet 218-879-1271 www.cloquethospital.com

Bethesda Lutheran Church 204 5th Street Carlton, MN

Brickyard Restaurant
Byron and Caroline Johnson
111 Broadway • 384-3569

River's Edge Church 506 Chestnut Avenue Carlton, MN

Del Zotto Products of Minnesota, Inc. 1900 County Road 1 Wrenshall • 384-3066

#### Area Worship Services

#### **Bethesda Lutheran Church of Carlton**

204 5th Street, Carlton

Website - www.bethesdacarlton.org

Email - bethesda55718@msn.com

(218)384-4501

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. (for up-to-date status of worship services, please visit the Bethesda Lutheran Church Facebook page).

#### **Elim Lutheran Church**

2077 County Road 6, Barnum (218)389-3129

Pastor Becky Wagner

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Education Hour: 10:30 a.m. (All Ages)

#### **Mission Creek Church**

521 131st Ave. West, Duluth | 626-3309 6:00 p.m. Saturday Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service Awana (3yrs to 8th grade): Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. H.S. Youth Group (9th-12th grades): Sundays, 6:00 p.m.

#### The River's Edge Church

506 Chestnut Avenue, Carlton (218)384-4434

Sunday Coffee: 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

#### St. Francis Catholic Church

509 Sunrise Drive, Carlton Fr. Joel Hastings/384-4563 Mass: Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

#### Sts. Mary & Joseph Church

1225 Mission Road, Sawyer Church 878-1146 Fr. Joel Hastings/384-4563 Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

#### **SonLife Community Church**

417 Alcohol Road, Wrenshall (218) 384-4760

Pastor Paul DeVall

Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m. with children's programs for nursery through 6th grade. Wednesday Evenings: SonLife Kids' Club 3:30-5:30 p.m. and Youth Group 6:30-8:00 p.m.

www.sonlifechurch.com

Find us on Facebook

### City Minutes

WRENSHALL CITY COUNCIL November 6, 2024, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Attendance: Gary Butala, Joyce Gvesrude, Duane Ziebarth, Jody Mattinen, Melvin Martindale, Alieca Johnson, John Mikrot, Peter Laveau, Mike Gravelle, and Nathan Feist from Bollig. Several residents and a community member were also in attendance.

Motion by Martindale; seconded by Mattinen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Gvesrude; seconded by Mattinen to approve the Consent Agenda including minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on October 2, 2024, and the Special Meeting on October 15, 2024, and checks as follows — Pre-paids: #31174-31199=\$16,539.89; Payroll: #31200-31209 & 31228=\$8,254.81; October bills: 11/06/24-1 thru-3 and 31210-31224 (Void-31225 & 21226)=\$18,865.19; and Electronic Transfers: 10/09/24-1 &-2=\$2,119.72. Motion carried.

Fire Chief: There have been 122 runs so far this year; 4-fire & 10-medical in October. The department has been notified that they did not get the FEMA grant, but they will try again when the grant reopens. The Firefighter's Bingo will be held November 30, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Wrenshall School. Pete will be bringing a proposal for use of Public Safety Funds to purchase extrication equipment, and he was directed to talk to the school about evacuation planning for city residents during weather emergencies. Motion by Butala; seconded by Martindale to start the probation period for Amanda Knight effective today. Motion carried.

Bollig Engineering: Bollig is still working on the PER. The city was awarded the Coastal Grant for the purchase of a tablet and accessories to use with the Silversmith system (grant-\$1754/city-\$195). The city has been notified that its application for the Safe Routes to School Grant is moving forward.

Water Operator: Maguire Iron has not been here to compete tower repairs and it is getting too late in the year to have the tower out of service. One of the reasons for the delay was the lack of equipment. Motion by Mattinen; seconded by Gvesrude to approve the purchase of three (3) hydrant relief valves (\$1,200/each) as recommended by John Mikrot. Motion carried.

Clerk: The Wrenshall building/trades class did not get the grant to build a spec home in the Pleasant View Addition. They will try again and have asked that the Wrenshall Development Commission and the City continue their support of the project. So far twenty (20) applications have been received for the posted clerk position. Resumes will be reviewed and discussed at the budget work session. A meeting on wellhead protection planning with Minnesota Rural Water and the State Department of Health will take place on December 17, 2024, at 10:00 AM.

Maintenance: The front-mounted snowblower was delivered and installed, and the plow truck was repaired. The Wrenshall School has sent a Request for Proposal asking the city to bid on snow removal. Motion by Mattinen; seconded by Martindale to submit a quote for plowing services at \$200/hour labor/equipment. Motion

MHP I & I: Motion by Mattinen; seconded by Gvesrude to adopt Resolution 24-06 to assess the cost of jetting/televising the private sewer lines to the landowner. A public hearing on the assessment will be held December 4, 2024, at 4:30 PM. Gvesrude-Yes; Ziebarth-Yes; Mattinen-Yes; Martindale-Yes; Butala-Yes. Motion carried.

Ponderosa Sales IUP: There has been no additional information from the Carlton County Attorney's Office.

Pru Ponds: City Attorney David Schaps has confirmed that mowing services cannot be used as payment for real property. The attorney

### For FIRE or MEDICAL Emergencies: **Remember to Dial 911**

Are you looking for a rewarding and exciting volunteer opportunity? Do you have the heart to serve your community? Come join the Wrenshall Fire Department.

**NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED** — Just the desire to learn new skills and be part of a volunteer team dedicated to serving our community.

**FLEXIBLE HOURS** — We realize life is busy and value your time. Every effort is made to help you fulfill the requirements of the department as well as the requirements of your job and family.

**BENEFITS** — Pension for members completing 10 years of service. Required as well as optional training in fire suppression and medical training provided by the department resulting in state certification.

Cadet Program available for interested young men and women greater than 15 years of age to 18 years of age.

Positions available in fire suppression or medical or both.

For more information contact Fire Chief Peter Laveau at 218-591-2329 or stop by the fire hall on Tuesday evenings after 7:00 p.m. Also check us out on Facebook at Wrenshall Fire and Rescue.

#### Thank You for Your Support

Our fire department is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to the protection of our community. The Wrenshall Fire Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

will be asked to contact Mr. Proulx to continue negotiations so that the ponds on Outlot A can be cleaned and maintained by the city.

A meeting to finalize the 2025 budget will be held on November 20, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

Motion by Martindale; seconded by Ziebarth to send four (4) delinquent water/sewer accounts totaling \$1,499.38 to the Carlton County Auditor to be levied with property taxes in 2025. Motion carried.

Motion by Ziebarth; seconded by Gvesrude to set 2025 liquor license fees at: On-Sale- \$700.00; Off-Sale- \$150; and Sunday- \$50 = \$900/year, and to approve the license renewal for Brick's Pub & Grub. Motion carried.

The Board of Canvass Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 9:00 AM. The tie for the mayoral race will be decided by lot at that meeting as directed by Minnesota State Statute 205.185(c).

Cannabis Business Ordinance: The proposed ordinance has been split to address regulations and zoning separately. Ordinance No. 34, An Ordinance to Regulate Cannabis Businesses (Regulations) and Ordinance No. 35, An Ordinance to Regulate Cannabis Businesses (Zoning) will be considered at the Public Hearing on December 4, 2024, at 4:30 PM. Motion carried.

Motion by Martindale: seconded by Mattinen to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM. Motion carried.

### WRENSHALL SCHOOL WINTER WEATHER PLAN

Our highest priority is the safety of our students, staff, and visitors. It is important to remember that <u>parents and guardians are</u> the final decision makers regarding their child's safety. Please contact the school attendance office if you choose to keep your child home due to unsafe weather or driving conditions.

# School delay, closing, and early dismissal decisions will be communicated through our Infinite Campus emergency messaging system.

Instant messaging is the most efficient and effective way to notify families of any changes to the school schedule. Please ensure that your preferred contacts are updated.

- · There will be <u>no</u> television, radio, or social media postings.
- The district website will display a banner at the top of its main page to confirm any change in the school schedule https://www.isd100.net

Any student utilizing Wrenshall school transportation will follow the Wrenshall notification. This includes students who are transported by Wrenshall to any Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative site or other school.

Our decisions are based on first hand observations about local road conditions as well as the forecast from the National Weather Service. http://www.weather.gov/

#### **Weather Factors**

Advanced decisions will be based on the forecast for the starting time of bus routes.

- · Air temperature colder than minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit
- · Wind chill colder than minus 45 degrees Fahrenheit
- · High probability that travel conditions will be unsafe or routes may be impassable

School delay and closing decisions based on temperature will usually be made the preceding evening. The final, same day decision on road conditions will usually be made between 4:30 and 5:30 a.m. based on first hand observations.

- **Preschool programs** (Hatchlings and Little Wrens) will follow the decision made for K-12 classes, with the exception of no late start schedules for Hatchlings.
- Latchkey program (Wren's Club) will follow the decision made for K-12 classes, with the exception of 9:00 a.m. starts whenever there is a delayed K-12 start time.
- School sponsored activities including practices and rehearsals will be canceled if school is canceled or dismissed early.
- Evening competitions, events, and community education programs will continue as scheduled, unless specifically noted in the delay or closing announcement. The Carlton-Wrenshall Raptors Sports Cooperative activities director will make and communicate final decisions about sports events.

# Wrenshall PIE Valentine's Candy Gram Sale

Wrenshall
Partners In Education

Valentine's Candy Gram Fundraiser

Wrenshall PIE

Valentine's Candy Gram Fundraiser





#### Wrenshall Partners in Education Fundraiser



Grams cost \$1 each and will include a Lollipop (Yum Earth organic) or Valentine's themed pencil.

Orders for Valentine's Grams are due Friday, February 7th.

Late orders cannot be accepted.



- 1. Order online or fill out the form below using legibly printed words.
- Return the order form & money (cash/check) to your child's teacher, or Katie Beck in the office, by Friday, February 7th.

Valentine's Grams will be distributed the week of February 10-14th. Questions? wrenshall.pie@gmail.com



#### **Holiday Candy Gram Order Sheet**

1 To:	Grade:	Circle One: Lollipop or Pencil
From (optional):	<u>_</u>	
To:	Grade:	Circle One: Lollipop or Penci
From (optional):		
то:	Grade:	Circle One: Lollipop or Penci
From (optional):		
То:	Grade:	Circle One: Lollipop or Pencil
From (optional):		
To:	Grade:	Circle One: Lollipop or Pencil



#### A NOTE FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE:

### YOUR CHILD SHOULD STAY HOME IF:



They have had a temperature of 100 degrees or higher in the past 24 hours. The student may return to school when they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.



They have an uncontrolled cough.



They have an undiagnosed rash.



They have vomited (related to illness) within the past 24 hours.



They have uncontrolled diarrhea and need to use the bathroom frequently.



They have strep throat. Stay home until 12 hours after antibiotic treatment begins (and fever free for 24 hrs if one is present).



They feel too ill to remain in class and benefit from attending school.

Please contact the nurse's office with questions or concerns regarding any illness.

Danielle Arneson BSN-RN, PHN, LSN | Licensed School Nurse Wrenshall School | 218-384-4274 ext. 2005

### WINTER

### **WEATHER CLOTHING**



Please send students to the buses dressed for winter.



Grades K-6 will be on the playground each day (unless it is colder than 0). Hats, warm mittens/ gloves, snow pants, winter coats and boots are required to keep students warm and dry each day before school and during lunchtime recess.



#### LOOKING FOR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES?

Wrenshall School Board meeting minutes can be found on the BoardBook Agenda tab in the school board area of the website. Or, the QR code on the right will bring you directly to the Wrenshall BoardBook site. Click on any blue "Agenda" link and scroll to find minutes being approved at that meeting.



# WRENSHALL SCHOOLS

CELEBRATING AND INVESTING IN **EACH STUDENT**TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR **LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES**.

