

New Rules



WHS principal **Jeff Stuewe** speaks to the freshman class about his expectations for the year on August 23. Rule changes this year include the lunch room and cell phone policies. Photo by Jared Hedges.

Principal wants to 'tighten up the rules'

Ciara Carroll
senior

New Wabaunsee High School principal Jeff Stuewe is bringing new rules and changes to the student body.

Actually, some of the rules existed already, but Stuewe said he plans to enforce them more rigorously.

Last year, students were allowed to use their cell phones between classes, and teachers often wouldn't confiscate phones when they caught students using them. Now, students are only allowed to have their phones before school, at lunch, at break, and after the last bell rings.

When asked why the students aren't allowed to use their phones during passing periods, Stuewe said that phones between classes can cause distractions that lead to more tardies. He also said that students at WHS have more phone freedoms than students at

Mission Valley, where he used to be principal.

Another new rule requires underclassmen to stay in the commons area during lunch time until the bell rings. Stuewe said it's to keep the underclassmen under more supervision and to avoid potential problems. He also said that in the future he may allow the students more freedom but they need to show they can handle it.

In the past, students were allowed to cut in front of each other in the lunch line, but this year the staff is cracking down. Stuewe said that it's a first-come, first-serve type of situation. "Some people could take cutting in the lines as a type of bullying. Upperclassmen think they have the seniority but that's not the case," Stuewe said.

Students and teachers have mixed feelings about the new rules. Senior Hanna Falk said she likes the lunch rule but wishes the underclassmen would actually follow it. Sophomore Bailee Hen-

ry said she wishes the administration would allow the underclassmen more supervised freedom. Freshman Andrew Bird said he still feels like he's in junior high.

Brendan Praeger, a new teacher at WHS, said the rules here differed from Manhattan High School, where he used to teach. "The cell phone rules are more strict. The students at Manhattan were allowed to use their phones whenever, and it caused a lot of problems. Manhattan also had an open lunch and students were allowed to drive, but I think the rules here are more appropriate."

Business and computer teacher Jeron Weisshaar said "Cell phones are okay if used responsibly. The rule itself is very generous compared to other schools in our area."

Stuewe said the students are reacting well to the new rules. "We're not trying to change everything, We're just trying to tighten up the rules around here."

Principal excited to improve WHS

Emily Supernaw
senior

New WHS principal Jeff Stuewe has worked in education for 17 years, including four years as principal at Mission Valley.

"I'm proud of being alumni to Wabaunsee High. I want everybody to be like that. It makes the job a little more personal for me," Stuewe said. "Someone once told me it's harder to lose at home. I'm excited about being the principal here because I'm now able to be a leader in the school I care for and love."

Stuewe said he is excited to improve WHS. "I want to improve the overall pride in being a Charger student and alumni."

Although Stuewe hasn't faced any daunting challenges yet, he's

working on implementing changes to the school's policies and procedures. "How things were done before weren't wrong, but there are some things I do want to change," he said.

The student body also includes Stuewe's son, freshman Justice Stuewe. "It's nice for me to get to see Justice and what he does in his activities. I don't know how it is for him, but being at Mission Valley I missed time with my family, and now I get that time back. It's really nice," Stuewe said.

To the students, Stuewe has a simple message: "I'm glad to be here, and I'm enjoying getting to be acquainted with you all. I've been pleased with what I see. We have good kids here."

Science teacher new to education

Ian Carroll
sophomore

New Wabaunsee High School science teacher Jenifer Sutter isn't just new to the district, she's new to the profession.

Sutter teaches physical science, physics and chemistry.

She lives in Junction City with her husband and two children, Drew, 13, and Logan, 6.

Sutter attended Pocatello High School in Pocatello, Idaho and participated in drill team as a freshman. She attended Idaho State Uni-

versity and Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. She majored in chemistry, and has a master's degree in Education.

This is her first year teaching and she said she likes WHS because she teaches small classes.

Physics student junior Nick Herren is optimistic about her class, "There are lots of hands-on activities. She keeps us busy, but I think it should be a good year," Herren said.

Sutter said she likes teaching because she wants to get students interested in science and make it fun for everybody.

English teacher adjusting to WHS

Aaron Mayer
sophomore

English and newspaper teacher Brendan Praeger is entering his fourth year in education, but his first at WHS.

"I really like him," freshman Alissa Barber said.

Praeger graduated from K-State and majored in secondary education with a focus in English and journalism. Praeger said his experience training staff members at the K-State Collegian and working at high school journalism workshops inspired him to become a teacher.

Praeger graduated from Claf-

lin High School in 2003. While in school he played football, basketball and tennis. He said one of his favorite high school memories is going to state all four years in football and winning state his freshman year.

This will be a busy semester for Praeger because he's getting married in early October in Manhattan.

Praeger spent his first three years teaching journalism at Manhattan High School, but said he is adjusting well to WHS. "So far I like the school. I like being at a small school because I feel more involved," Praeger said.

Spotlights

Freshman Jamiee Holcomb

Freshman Jamiee Holcomb has Bieber Fever. Her favorite quote is, "Believe in everything, because everything is reachable." Notice the first letters of each word spell out "Bieber."

Q: How is WHS different from your old school?

A: There are only four classes a day and no cell phones.

Q: What kind of music do you listen to?

A: Lady Gaga, Justin Bieber, Akon and rap.

Q: Favorite class?

A: Science, because we do experiments.

— Sarah Healey

Sophomore Adrian Russo

Adrian Russo was born July 2, 1996. He has one little brother, Stanley, who is a third grade student at Alma Grade School. He came to Alma from Massachusetts at age 11.

Q: Do you play any instruments?

A: I play the trumpet and guitar. I like music and the chance to make music.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: My dad's french toast.

Q: What is your favorite class in school?

A: Science classes, to learn how stuff works.

Q: Something about you?

A: I like my hair long.

— Delaney Reves

Junior Nicolas Herren

Junior Nick Herren enjoys Ag Mechanics because he loves to weld and create things out of metal. Some of his favorite outside of school activities are fishing, hunting, eating and watching "Tosh.0." He participates in football, basketball, and baseball.

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up?

A: I want to be an Architectural Engineer because I love building things and making things more efficient.

Q: What are you going to miss about summer?

A: I am going to miss working at the pool and summer baseball.

— Hannah Berroth

Senior Wade Capoun

Senior Wade Capoun plans to attend the Denver Stock Show for livestock judging in January. He said livestock judging in Allen County is one of his favorite memories of high school.

Q: Is being a Senior different than being a Freshman?

A: Yes, cause I'm an upperclassman.

Q: Favorite sport?

A: Football, because I'm good at it.

Q: Favorite school lunch?

A: Oriental chicken salad, because it's good, mmm.

Q: Anything you wanna do before high school's over?

A: Win a basketball game.

— Sarah Healey

The Charger Staff

Hannah Berroth
Kristin Berroth
Ciara Carroll
Ian Carroll
Dakota Cassity
Taylor Falk
Sarah Healey
Aaron Mayer
Dakota Shuckman
Emily Supernaw

Adviser: Brendan Praeger

The Charger is an open forum for student free speech. Send letters to the editor, story ideas or pictures to whscharger@gmail.com or The Charger, Wabaunsee High School, 912 Missouri, Alma, KS 66401,

Phone: (785) 765-3315

The Charger is distributed free to WHS students and faculty. For additional stories and photos, go to usd329.com.