

WOLF CREEK ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL

WWW.TRIOWOLFCREEK.COM



February 2010 No. 7

Dates to Remember - Mark on Calendar!

3/2 & 3/4

GRAD Reading & Math Retests

3/8 –3/16

No School: Spring Break

3/25

Late Lab: Open 7:30 am—7:00 pm

4/1

Term 3 Ends! All work due by 10 am. Campus Closed.

4/2 and 4/5

No School

4/6

Term 4 starts

4/13 & 4/14

MCA II Testing Required
Grade 9= Written Composition
Grade 10 = Reading
Grade 11 = Mathematics

School Board Meetings

3/16 - 4:00 p.m.

4/13 - 4:00 p.m.

Campus Open:

Tuesdays and Thursdays
7:30 am - 2:00 pm

Main Phone Line: 651-213-2095

Attendance Line: 651-213-2032

Fax Line: 651-257-0576

Website: triowolfcreek.com

Staff Email:

FirstInitialLastname
@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us

STATE REQUIRED- HIGH STAKES TESTING

High stakes testing is a part of every student's graduation requirements. For students to graduate from Wolf Creek they must: earn 26 course credit requirements in various classes and standards, as established by the school board and pass the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in reading, mathematics, and written composition as per state requirements or higher guidelines.

The MCA II/GRAD tests are high school tests that all students, beginning with the class of 2010, must pass in order to graduate from a public high school in Minnesota; Written Composition in grade 9, Reading in grade 10, and Mathematics in grade 11. Students must obtain a satisfactory score on each of the tests in order to graduate from any and all public

schools in Minnesota.

Please mark your calendars now for these very important tests. Students enrolled fulltime at Wolf Creek in grade 9, 10, and 11 are required to take their respective test.

April 13- MCAII Reading & Math Grades 10 & 11: Segments 1 & 2 @ 1 pm

April 13- GRAD Grade 9 Writing @ 1 pm

April 14 -MCAII Reading & Math Grades 10 & 11: Segments 3 & 4 @ 1 pm

April 20 and/or 22- (Make-up) MCA-II Reading & Math Grades 10 & 11: Segments 1, 2, 3, and 4

April 20 and/or 22- (Make-up) GRAD Grade 9 Writing

Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

PSEO is an advanced high school, dual-credit program open to all Minnesota high school students during their 11th and 12th grade years.

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, school districts must provide all 10th and 11th grade students with general information about Post-Secondary Enrollment Options by March 1 every year.

For your convenience, there is an informational flyer and other useful information on the MDE

website at http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/College_Career_Readiness/PSEO/index.htm.

Students who are interested in pursuing PSEO should keep in mind that the planning process occurs the semester before the semester you plan on attending. For example, if you are planning to take PSEO classes in the spring semester, you need to begin planning and signing paper work during the fall semester.

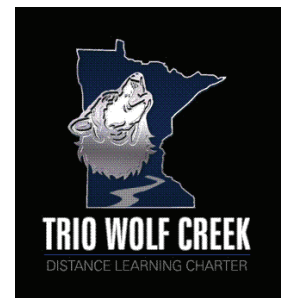
Applying for PSEO is the

responsibility of the student. Staff members are available to suggest college programs and support students; however, students are in charge of contacting colleges and providing the necessary paper work.

Keep in mind that the PSEO application process can take up to two months, so please plan accordingly.

More information about PSEO, as well as, some guidelines for applying is available at our website at the Student Information link.

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Legislative Session at the Capital has Begun!

The legislative session at the capital opened last week in St Paul. It is very important to get students and parents who support online learning efforts in the state of Minnesota to write to local legislators and make sure that these options continue for students.

The state of Minnesota is facing a budget crisis and a lot of educational funding is on the chopping block for all Minnesota schools. Wolf Creek believes that online learning is the wave of the future for education and that we need to continue to invest in online options.

It is important to note how happy you are with the Wolf Creek model of offering Learning Manager and a physical lab setting for tutoring and testing when writing letters, as well as urging legislators to continue to invest in innovative charter schools models such as Wolf Creek. It is also important to urge legislators to continue to provide lease aid to charter schools so that we can continue to provide this physical space to our students.

For tips on writing letters to legislators please visit the following website: <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/faq/faqtoc.asp?id=47>

Find your legislator's contact information at the capital at: <http://www.gis.leg.mn/mapserver/districts/>

If you have any questions about how to contact legislators, please email Tracy Quarnstrom for more specifics and assistance.

Wolf Creek Prom Procedure

Don't purchase your prom dress or tuxedo until you have reviewed this policy. Wolf Creek Online High School students in good standing and showing adequate academic progress are welcome to attend the Chisago Lakes Prom through our cooperative agreement. Wolf Creek students as guests at the CLHS Prom must follow CLHS rules and also have the restrictions of being Wolf Creek students demonstrating adequate academic progress in order to be able to attend the prom. This progress will be reported by the student's Learning Manager. A student showing adequate academic progress is a student who has been enrolled at Wolf Creek for at least one term and has passed a majority of classes in term 3. This report will be completed prior to administration signing the participation agreement form for any student's prom attendance. If you have any questions about the prom policy, please contact Tracy Quarnstrom.

Paperwork and permission slips should be available at Wolf Creek on April 1. All paperwork and payment is due to Sheryl Palmquist at Wolf Creek by 10 a.m. April 13, 2010! This is a firm deadline. Wolf Creek cannot permit prom sales after the deadline for any reason.

Prom will be held on Saturday, April 24 at the Union Depot in St Paul. Please watch for more details.



Lunch Time News

Students who wish to order school lunch must sign up at the front desk for lunches and payment by 9:45 am. If you wish to create a Wolf Creek lunch account or use your lunch account created at Chisago Lakes Schools, money may be deposited accordingly with the front desk at Wolf Creek. If you know that you will be arriving later but will need a school lunch for a specific day, you can arrange this with the front desk in advance.

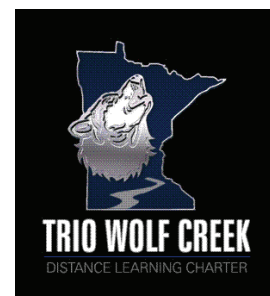
School lunch costs \$2.05. Applications for Educational Benefits are available anytime on the Wolf Creek website under Student Information then Forms or at request from the receptionist.

Snacks and frozen food are also available for purchase in the Wolf Creek café, as well as, vending machine access during all school hours.

Please note that starting March 1st the prices for items in the school store will increase. If there is something not priced, just ask and we will let you know. If you have any food requests, please see Sheryl Palmquist. Also the condiments in the refrigerator are for those who order school lunches.



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Tips on Staying Healthy

It is that time of year again. We have arrived at the depths of winter when it seems that no one can escape illness. So how can we avoid those nasty cold and flu bugs? The Wolf Creek Wellness Committee did a little research to hopefully help you stay healthy this season.

>**Suds up!** Hand washing is the number one best way to avoid spreading germs. You should wash for at least 15 seconds. This is about the time it takes to sing "Yankee Doodle"

>**Hit the Sack.** Make sure you get plenty of sleep. Shoot for 7-8 hours of sleep a night.

>**Enjoy the Outdoors.** It has been pretty cold lately, but now that it is warming up, try to spend some time outside engaged in a physical activity.

>**De-stress!** Take some time everyday to do something that you truly enjoy and will help you relax.

>**Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!** Try to drink at least 36 oz of water daily. Carry water bottle with you.

>**Eat healthy foods.** Whole grains, nuts, and Omega-3 fatty acids (such as those found in salmon) are antioxidant rich. Antioxidants help fight off illness.

>**Avoid sickness.** Do not share items with those who are sick, and encourage those around you to practice the suggestions above.

REFERENCES: <http://www.uwhealth.org/familydoctor/10waystostayhealthyduringcoldandfluseason/10371>
<http://www.realsimple.com/realsimple/content/0,21770,1555312,00.html>

Attention All Juniors- ACT Information

It is time to start talking about and planning for college. At this time of the year, the next step is to sign up for the ACT. The ACT is an entrance exam that is needed in order to be accepted into a college or university. You will be tested on math, reading, English, and science reasoning with the option to also take a writing component.

To sign up, go to www.ACT.org and follow the directions to sign up for the test. TRIO Wolf Creek's school code is- **241-342** Please review the chart below for testing and registration dates:

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010	March 6 - 19, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 8 - 21, 2010



Upcoming College Visits

For the following two college visits, students will need to sign-up and complete a permission form on a first come-first serve basis. Contact Cassie Gaede with questions.

Wednesday, March 24- College visit to Anoka-Ramsey Community College-Cambridge and Pine-Technical. Leave Wolf Creek at 11:00 and return at 4:00.

Thursday, April 8- Century College- College in a Day in which students will get a presentation on the college, take the acceptance exam, and meet individually with each student. Departure and arrival TBD.

Attendance and Truancy

According to Wolf Creek Online High School's attendance policy (available on our website – Policy #503), student attendance is defined by **work completion**. In order to be in compliance with this policy, you need to be on track in your classes each week and making sufficient progress toward course completion. Attendance (work completion) is crucial to maintain your enrollment status at Wolf Creek and to avoid truancy issues if you are under 18 years of age. Truancy laws dictate that students must be in compliance with their school's attendance policies, or they and their families face involvement from their county truancy social workers or probation officers. If you have any questions concerning this policy, please contact your LM or Stacy (sbender@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us).

Education is Changing Wolf Creek Online High School is Leading the Way

Can you imagine a world without change; a world without microwaves, the interstate highway system, or digital cameras? What if there was no internet, cell phones, or television? In the article, "Getting it Right & Doing it Better," Bryan Townsend stated, "Reasonable people understand all change is not progress. However, we must concede, all progress is change." He goes on to say that change is a two step process. Progress comes from those who are determined to do their thing and they are insistent about getting it right. Then these determined people insist on finding ways to do it better. Those who are constantly and consistently looking for ways to improve are the ones who bring us progress and innovation.

Wolf Creek Online High School works in much the same manner. Wolf Creek has had many areas of change and progress. Wolf Creek opened in 1996 as one of the first distance learning schools in Minnesota as a school with-in a school at Chisago Lakes School district. Wolf Creek was part of a three year study with University of Minnesota to see if students could learn online. The conclusion of the study was "yes, students can learn online!" From that point this distance learning school has blossomed. In 2002 Wolf Creek received its charter school designation and has been growing, gaining ground, and bringing progress and change to students ever since.

Today Wolf Creek Online High School's campus is located at 10363 Liberty Lane in Chisago City, MN. This small tuition-free public online charter school is busy educating approximately 125 fulltime students in grades 9-12, up to age 21, across the state. Another set of approximately 25 students are enrolled part-time using supplemental services and the online learning law. These students can take up to 50% of their classes at Wolf Creek while remaining enrolled in their traditional brick and mortar district.

Wolf Creek Online High School's curriculum is available 24/7 online, and students have the option to work on campus each week. The school is based on a "small community" philosophy; students are assisted by one individual who helps them in academic as well as non-academic areas of their lives. This individual is called a Learning Manager and is the center of the school's model. Each Learning Manager works with about 25 students both on and off campus daily. Wolf Creek enrolls a variety of students; these students range from those who are excelling to graduate early to those who are working hard to get caught up. Students like the change to online learning due to the flexibility and ease of accessibility. Wolf Creek is a great option for students who are independent and self-motivated.

Kalli Frost is one of those independent and self-motivated students; she is a junior and has been enrolled at Wolf Creek Online for the past two years. Kalli says that her Learning Manager, Lindsay Jarombek, is fantastic and she helps her with everything, not just coursework. She is there to talk about academics, college, and future plans anytime. Kalli says a typical day for her involves getting up at about 8 am and working online in her pajamas or getting ready to come to campus to work. She likes the option of working at home several days per week. She enjoys the comfort of working in her own home, as well as being able to have whatever food, music, and work time she desires. She has her mom available at home for assistance if needed and her Learning Manager is always a text, email, chat-room, or phone call away. She comes to campus weekly to meet with her Learning Manager, to get help with classes, and talk about future plans. She also attends campus to meet with other students and work in the computer labs on specific assignments. Kalli says her favorite thing about Wolf Creek is "the flexibility and the ability to be on her own schedule. She is able to move ahead in courses if she wants to do that."

The staff at Wolf Creek Online High School are dedicated to progress and innovation. Wolf Creek is accredited by NCA, CITA, and NCAA. Instruction is innovative and technology based, and the course work can be completed on or off campus. Wolf Creek has Continuous Learning Year status from the Minnesota Department of Education; therefore, students are able to complete course work throughout the year; applications for summer school are currently being accepted. If you are interested in learning more about Wolf Creek, please visit www.triowolfcreek.com or stop by for a tour on Tuesdays at 10 am.

The staff and school board at Wolf Creek Online High School are honored to serve you and your family! Most students hear about Wolf Creek from friends or neighbors who are happy and excited about Wolf Creek.

Please share information about Wolf Creek with someone who may be interested. We are currently accepting student applications for term 4, summer session, and the 2010-2011 school year.



Wolf Creek Online High School
Learning...Anytime...Anywhere

- Grades 9-12 (up to age 21)
- Fully Accredited Diploma
- Flexible Schedule
- 24/7 Online Curriculum
- Individualized Instruction
- Challenging Curriculum
- Campus Located in Chisago City
- Teacher/Student Ratio 1:25
- Small, Safe, Successful

Wolf Creek Online High School

www.triowolfcreek.com

651-213-2095