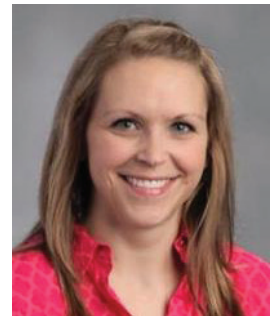


Connection

THE CHANGING TIMES OF EDUCATION

Interview with WHS Principal, Leah Michaud



The world of education is changing. Preparing today's graduates for employment or college in this decade requires an education that blends the best in classroom instruction with student experiences that prepare students for today's world. In this article, Ms. Michaud examines her first year as principal at Winneconne High School and shares her insights about education overall.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself: What is your background and why did you join the Winneconne School District?

A: I grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. I joined the Winneconne School District as a high school English teacher in 2008 and felt right at home. My husband and I have found the community where we want to raise our children. While my role at WHS has changed from teacher to dean to principal, Winneconne has continued to show itself as a special place to learn and grow.

Q: What is different about education than just 10 years ago, not to mention 25 or 30 years ago? What experiences do students need to be successful after graduation?

A: The most visible change is the use of technology. The evolution of cell phone technology alone has had a major impact on education, not to mention iPods, iPads, Chromebooks, laptops, 3-D printers, laser engravers, and SmartBoards! We embrace the ideal that students shouldn't just be using technology, they should be using technology to learn. Teaching our students how to participate in an online community in a safe and appropriate manner not only prepares them to be successful in school, but in their future communities and jobs as well.

Education has become much more individualized, too. We invest much time and effort into working with students individually to devise plans to ensure each student takes advantage of every possible opportunity available at WHS.

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THE LEGACY BRICK CAMPAIGN

Winneconne Community School District

Announces the next step on our JOURNEY TO THE FUTURE...

Watch for some nice improvements to the high school and middle school campus this summer as the district embarks upon the next steps of upgrading our facilities with the support of businesses and individual donations. Here's a rundown on some of our donations to date.

Miron Construction and McMahon and Associates are teaming up to donate the design, materials, and labor for construction of a main entrance gate/ticket booth to our High School athletic field, plus a monument sign that will be located at the end of 9th Ave and Wolf Run. Complementing this new feature, a new concession stand which will be built very close to our football field, and has been generously donated by Brian and Meghan Keller from the J.J. Keller Foundation, Radtke Construction, and All-American Construction.

In addition to these building projects, the track reconstruction has come to fruition thanks to the many people who purchased our legacy bricks and gave monetary donations to our track fundraisers. The legacy brick campaign and monetary donations generated \$118,000, exceeding the District's goal of \$100,000 that had been set for the project! The remaining funds needed for the track will be taken from the District's fund balance to complete the project this summer to make our track a safe place for our students and community use.

Don't forget - the legacy bricks will continue to be available. They make great gifts and are a wonderful way to honor or memorialize a loved one. If you live outside of the area, bought a legacy brick, and would like to see how your legacy brick looks in the entranceway, please contact Julie Abler at ablerj@w-csd.org. Also, please contact Julie if you are interested in purchasing a brick as we continue this campaign on our journey!

We hope to complete all of these projects prior to the start of the 2015-16 school year to welcome back students with some nice improvements that would not have been possible without the generosity of our community, alumni, businesses, and individuals.

Our schools are funded with public tax dollars and we work hard to remain fiscally responsible and to provide opportunities for an excellent education within our school operating budget. The students of the Winneconne Community School District are fortunate to be supported by a generous community that has provided additional funding for capital improvements that may not be otherwise possible within our regular operating budget. It is a wonderful reflection on the community that so many people are willing to step forward and support our schools. Thank you all very much.

You make a difference in the lives of Winneconne students!

Thanks to your generosity during the 'Legacy Brick Campaign' we will have earned over \$80,000 to invest in the new track project which will serve students for many years! THANK YOU!

Bricks by the numbers: There were 247 bricks and plaques purchased to date by:

211 INDIVIDUALS
28 BUSINESSES
8 CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

WE WOULD LOVE TO "SEE" YOU!

SHARE YOUR CLASS REUNION PHOTOS WITH FELLOW ALUMNI!

Submit your photos with brief caption to ablerj@w-csd.org. They will be posted on the Alumni page of the District website and on the District's Facebook page.



The Changing Times of Education

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Students need real-world experiences and strong interpersonal skills, too. That being said, we look to our students to start making appropriate decisions for themselves, embrace their independence, and we help them identify their individual areas of need and/or interest.

Q: What is the best of Winneconne High School and what are some challenges?

A: At WHS, we continued to maximize Focus Time, the 30-minute intervention block we have built into our daily schedule. Focus Time is an incredible avenue to work with students on a wide-variety of skills, ranging from traditional homework help, reteaching, or one-on-one tutoring, to small group discussions, help with scholarship applications, meetings with post-secondary financial aid programs, and so much more. Teachers and staff engage students in real-world experiences and build interpersonal skills in a way that was not often possible prior to the addition of Focus Time. While there are always challenges that accompany a change to tradition, Focus Time has proven to be an invaluable part of our high school services. Focus Time is a perfect example of how Winneconne High School is small enough for individualized attention, yet big enough to offer a wide-variety of opportunities for our students.

Q: What would you tell an alumni about our school district – say, someone who hasn't been back in our school in last 15-20 years?

A: If you haven't been back in a while, stop in for a visit! You will surely be proud to see the cutting edge educational experiences we are able to provide for our students on a daily basis at your alma mater.

Catch Up with Alumni and Retired Staff!



Barb Thiel
Retired Winneconne Teacher

Teaching in Winneconne was the greatest job ever! When Mr. Breister hired me, I promised him that I would work very hard. I truly hope that I met his expectations. I especially loved high school students. The staff was outstanding. Education changed a lot during my time there, but I loved the challenge.

My favorite memories are of the students. When I go through the yearbooks, I remember something about each one. Roger Hoytink was athletic director at the time, I coached volleyball and basketball. Selling tickets on Friday evenings was a great way to connect with the community. There were some sad times too but everyone came together to help the students. I loved doing the blood drives. The Community Blood Center was amazed with the number of blood donors Winneconne had. It speaks for the generosity of the community. National Honor Society also brings back many great memories. Key Club was the most fulfilling because I worked with kids who wanted to help others. Mentoring student teachers was especially important because their experience would influence their future.

All that said, I do enjoy retirement. I now live in Oshkosh but often think of the many miles I walked in beautiful Winneconne. My daughters received an excellent education there. Brenda is a nurse practitioner and Nan is a teacher. I live near them and their families, and enjoy cooking their favorites. Stamping is my major activity; I love to make greeting cards. I see only good things happening in Winneconne. I was so glad to read about the success of the Szadkowski brothers (WHS Alumnus) in the medical field. I was very humbled to be mentioned by them in the article.



Andrea Rew
Class of 2000

I graduated from WHS in 2000. After graduation, I began my full time banking career in Oshkosh, and have been in banking ever since. Most recently, I joined the 1st National Bank team in May of 2014, and I'm currently the Financial Center Leader for our Omro & Winneconne locations.

My husband and I bought a home in Eureka in 2005 and have been living there ever since. I love it! It's pretty much country living, but it's still close enough to everything we need, and not too long of a drive for either of us for work. We married in 2010 and we now have a daughter who'll be 3 in July and another baby coming on April 30th (so they tell us!).

I attended a small, private school through middle school. Being close to friends and family has always been very important to me. I'm NOT a 'big city' sort of person. I attempted to start high school in Oshkosh but the sheer size of the classes and the huge number of students was so uncomfortable for me. I felt lost and it wasn't working. My freshman year I moved in with my dad, and transferred into the WCSD. The much smaller, close-knit community and atmosphere here gave me back that sense of "home" that I needed and that I still value very much today.

I miss Friday night football games and homecoming parades. To see the kids now in those events or to be in town on a Friday evening and see the lights and hear the crowd just brings me back to a time when life was so simple and we didn't worry about much. We were able to just be kids!

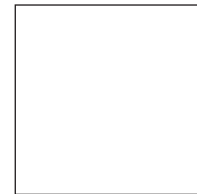


WINNECONNE ALUMNI

Connection

P.O. Box 5000
Winneconne, WI 54986

*Learning Today...
Leading Tomorrow*



WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



TRAP TEAM: NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

Our Winneconne Wolves' Trap Team is a new extra-curricular opportunity for Winneconne students. The Varsity team is comprised of High School Student Athletes, while the Junior Varsity is all Middle School Athletes. It's just another way we try to include all students in the school.

PROUD TO BE A WINNECONNE WOLF

Through the dedication of our staff, our students have the opportunities for an excellent education. We are pleased to share the accomplishments of these four outstanding staff members:



Becky Pepler, recipient of the Excellence in Education Award from the Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers.

Will Bryden, recipient of the Early Career Education Award from the Wisconsin Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, UW-Oshkosh.

Roger Rozek, nominated for Facilities Manager of the Year from the Wisconsin Association of School District Business Officials.

Diane Agrell, Future Leaders in School Nutrition Award.

Thank you all for a job well done!



WINNECONNE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

2015 GOLF OUTING

Saturday, July 25th

Four-person Scramble
10:30 a.m. Shotgun Start
Lake Breeze Golf Club

\$85 per person entry fee includes:

- 18 holes of golf with cart
- Lunch delivered on the course
- Three drink tickets per person
- Dinner after golf
- Hole event prizes and chances to win other prizes

8:30 to 10 am Registration – Driving Range Opens
10:15 am Report to Cart – Introductions
10:30 am Shotgun Start
12:15 pm Lunch Delivered on Course
3 to 4 pm Cocktails – Final Raffle Ticket Sales
4 to 5 pm Dinner and Prize Giveaway

Team Captain _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Team Members

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Notes:

- Advance Registration is Required
- All entries will be on a 'first come, first served' basis
- Registration is limited to 144 golfers
- Payment is required with all entry forms
- Please make all checks payable to:
Winneconne Area Community Foundation
- Please mail all entry forms with payment to:
Lake Breeze Golf Club
6333 Ball Prairie Road, Winneconne, WI 54986

Sponsorship Opportunities

○ Foundation Level – \$2,500

- Recognition as one of our Foundation Sponsors
- Priority recognition during extra-curricular and other special events
- Recognition and an introduction at the golf outing
- Sponsorship of two foursomes at the golf outing

○ Platinum Level – \$1,000

- Recognition as one of our Platinum Sponsors
- Recognition during extra-curricular and other special events
- Recognition and an introduction at the golf outing
- Sponsorship of one foursome at the golf outing

○ Gold Level – \$700

- Recognition as one of our Gold Sponsors
- Sponsorship of one foursome at the golf outing
- Recognition and an introduction at the golf outing

Sponsor Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please make all sponsorship checks payable to:
Winneconne Area Community Foundation
P.O. Box 476, Winneconne, WI 54986-0476

I would like to pay with my credit card.

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Name: (please print as it appears on the card) _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration date: _____ 3 digit code: _____ (found on back of the card)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

All Proceeds Benefit
Winneconne Community School
District Extra Curricular Activities

GOLFING TODAY...FOR THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW!