

A Cornucopia of Bounty...

by rodge wilson, interim superintendent

Just as the color change of October brought to mind the arrival of autumn, so the time change of November signals the approach of winter. It is getting dark much earlier now, and that has prompted my household, and my office, to prepare for the changing season.

At home, this means cleaning out dressers to put away summer clothes, clearing out lockers to exchange sandals for snow boots, and sorting out the toy boxes in anticipation of the holidays. At school it means making arrangements for snow removal, updating school closing procedures, and organizing schedules and transportation for all the various winter events. As I packed away bags and boxes last weekend, and met with various departments at school this week, I was reminded of the many reasons I have to be thankful.

With a family of any size, resources can often be scarce, but somehow things always have a way of working out. Your child's school pants you just bought in August are already starting to get a little small just when the neighbor drops off a bag of clothes. On the Friday after payday you're wondering how you're going to feed everyone for the next week, and by Wednesday you're complaining about the amount of leftovers that are going to the dog. Just when you are worrying about the worst, you are provided with the very things you need most. This truly is the purpose of Thanksgiving; to take time to recognize the blessings that we have around us.

At Western Reserve we have much to be thankful for. Our community's support of the school district has allowed us to remain stable amidst the current economic hardships. The parental support for our teachers and principals has allowed us to make great strides in student achievement this year. The staff is successfully working to make sure students are safe, healthy, and well educated. And the quality of the young people in our schools makes me proud to have worked with them for the last twenty years. The New Oxford American Dictionary defines a cornucopia as "an abundant supply of good things". That is what Western Reserve is; a symbol of plenty.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Rodge F. Wilson