

# WICOFF J. FOX

## November Newsletter

Michael C. Welborn, EdD, Principal  
e-mail: michael.welborn@ww-p.org

Lindsay Jablonski, Assistant Principal  
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### SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> & Friday 8<sup>th</sup> –  
NJEA Convention

Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and  
Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving.

School will reopen on  
Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### EARLY DISMISSAL DAY

School will close at 1:00 p.m.  
Wicoff School will observe an *early dismissal*  
schedule on **Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

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Parents of kindergarten students should take note of  
the following shortened day schedule:

A.M. session – 8:40 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.

P.M. session – 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK



The week of **November 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>** is American Education Week. In recognition of this special week, the classrooms at Wicoff will have scheduled times for parent visitations as an opportunity to get a glimpse into a regular school day. Please check your child's backpack for information regarding the scheduled parent visitation time for his/her classroom. Visitation is for **Parents Only** because regular classroom instruction will continue during the allotted time. Please make babysitting arrangements for siblings.

### EXTENDED STUDENT VACATIONS/ABSENCES



**Policy and Procedures:** Each year there are many requests for students to be released from school for family vacations. These requests are disruptive to the educational process of the students.

Student absence for family vacations is discouraged. However, should it be absolutely necessary for a student to be absent due to a family vacation, the parent or guardian must put their child/ren's absence into GENESIS.

### LOST AND FOUND



Lost and found is located in the cafeteria. Please check the unclaimed items already in lost and found. **Please label** your children's clothing, lunch bags/boxes, backpacks, etc. If an item has a name, it can be reunited with its owner.

### BUS BUDDIES



This month we have started Bus Buddies meetings to review bus safety and build a sense of community on our buses. Please review the bus rules with your child to help support keeping our students safe.

1. Greet your driver every day!
2. Make sure you sit in your assigned seat and are buckled up.
3. Speak in a quiet voice.
4. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Working together we can all help to make a safe bus environment for your child/ren.

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### NOTES FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

**Mrs. Ellen Incollingo**

#### LIFE SKILLS

We will be focusing on the Life Skill, Social Awareness, for the months of November and December. **Social Awareness** is showing respect for other people's point of view and demonstrating the ability to show empathy.

#### STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER



Congratulations to the students who were selected as Students of the Month for the months of September and October. These students were recognized for being **self-aware**. They are aware of their thoughts, feelings and actions and make appropriate decisions in daily life. Our STARS are role models for their peers. Please look for their smiling faces on our Star Student Bulletin Board.



#### WICOFF'S ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

**NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> – NOVEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>**

#### THE PLAINSBORO TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Thanksgiving is coming and it is time for our annual food drive. The Plainsboro Food Pantry needs our help. The pantry helps many families each day and demand is increasing every year. We are asking each grade level to bring in different food/personal items in order to gather a variety of items. **Please keep in mind, the only items we cannot accept are GLASS and/or OPENED containers. Also, please check the expiration**

**dates on your donations.** Collection bins will be located outside the main office for your donations. Please encourage your child to place the donated items in the correct bins (the bins will be labeled: **boxed goods, canned goods, and personal hygiene items**). The food pantry will also accept donations of gift certificates from local food stores. These certificates are used to supplement items from the pantry such as dairy products, fresh vegetables, fruits, meats and fish. If you are donating a gift certificate please forward it to my office. Your donation, however large or small, can make a big difference in someone's life! Thank you for your help!

#### **Kindergarten** Cranberry Sauce

Stuffing Mix  
Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
Soup & Crackers

#### **1st Grade**

Fruit Juice  
Canned Vegetables/Canned Gravy  
Laundry Detergent  
Pasta/Pasta Sauce  
Macaroni & Cheese

#### **2nd Grade**

Canned Fruit/Applesauce  
Cereal  
Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Dish Detergent  
Disposable Diapers

#### **3rd grade**

Canned Meats (beef stew, chicken, etc.)  
Tuna Fish  
Rice  
Soap  
Toothbrush/Toothpaste  
Shampoo/Combs

*Ellen Incollingo, Guidance Counselor*

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### PENCILS PLUS



The third grade school store, *Pencils Plus* is open for business every day between 8:50 a.m., and 9:10 a.m. in the dining room. Items for sale include pencils, erasers, sharpeners, bookmarks and other school supplies. Prices range from \$0.10 to approximately \$1.00. **(Please do not send students with bills larger than \$5.00.)** Students may only purchase **two items** each visit. Afternoon kindergarteners will be visited by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in their classrooms to purchase items.

The schedule is listed below:

Monday-Kindergarten  
Tuesday-1st Grade  
Wednesday-2nd Grade  
Thursday-3rd Grade

Thank you for supporting our learning through this authentic real-life opportunity.

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### FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Moira Jean Healey, MSN, RN, CSN

#### FLU SEASON

Cover your mouth • Use a tissue • Wash your hands



- Seasonal Flu reappears every year, with outbreaks at their worst in the fall and winter months. These flu viruses have been infecting people for many years. The state does not require any other grade, other than Preschool, to get the influenza vaccine, but it is beneficial for your child. Please be proactive in our efforts to keep

our Wicoff family healthy. If children do get sick, parents should keep them home and stay away from school or child-care settings until the child has been without symptoms for one (1) to two (2) days. This will help prevent the spread of illness to others. For more information Visit: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).

#### SEASONAL ALLERGIES

- Many children are coming to school with itchy, bloodshot eyes. This could be due to the fact that the child has seasonal allergies, or it could be due to Conjunctivitis, which is commonly called pink eye. Conjunctivitis is an inflammation of the thin, transparent layer of the eyeball and the inner surface of the eyelids. The inflammation causes redness, tearing and on occasion the formation of a yellow discharge. Transmission is by direct contact, and is contagious for the first 24 to 72 hours and until discharge has ceased.

Bloodshot eyes from allergies are not always discernible from Conjunctivitis. If your child has the above signs and symptoms, please call your pediatrician for treatment and keep your child home.

If your child has been diagnosed with seasonal allergies and requires eye drops, they can be administered in school, as needed, following the school medication policy. If your child has been diagnosed with seasonal allergies, please forward a doctor's note so I can update your child's health record. If you have any questions, please call me at 716-5450 x5452.

#### HEALTH SCREENINGS

- Health Screenings** - State guidelines are as follows for Health Screenings. (as per N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3 (g), 6A:16-2.2(e), 6A: 16-2.2(e)3). The school nurse will also refer your child for the following reasons along with vision and hearing:



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- weight, less than the 5th percentile or greater than the 95th percentile
- dramatic weight loss
- dramatic change in student growth
- high blood pressure greater than 95th percentile for age and sex

### REMINDER:

#### Medication Policy –

If any medication must be administered to a student during school hours, it **MUST** be submitted under the following conditions to the nurse.

- The approved school district form (available in the school nurse's office and on line at ww-p.org) for the "Administration of Medication in School" must be completed by the student's physician, and signed by the parent.
- The form and the container with the pharmacist's label designating patient's name, instructions, name of drug and name of physician **must be given to the nurse by the parent.**

If you have any questions, please call me at 609-716-5450 x5452.

### FROM OUR PE DEPARTMENT Kacie Kellerman and Jason Petrone



During the short month of November, we will be moving indoors and playing the always exciting unit of "Pillo-Pollo" (hockey). We will have some creative indoor activities and basketball will begin at the end of the month.

Please remember to prepare your child with the proper footwear on P.E. Days. If wearing boots, please pack sneakers in a bag. No dresses or jewelry. Thank you.

## EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS



It is imperative that parents/guardians plan with their children for emergencies. **All emergency and contact information should be kept**

**up to date in Genesis.** Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding. Each decision regarding school openings/closings must be done on a case-by-case basis as the number one priority is safety.

### Please Review Your Plan With Your Child For School Closings!

### PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TIMES FOR EARLY DISMISSAL AND DELAYED OPENINGS

#### EARLY DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

a.m. Kindergarten – 8:40 a.m. -11:25 a.m.  
p.m. Kindergarten - 10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.  
All Day K, 1, 2, and 3 – 8:40 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

#### DELAYED OPENING SCHEDULE (90 MINUTE DELAY)

a.m. Kindergarten 10:10 a.m. -1:00 p.m.  
p.m. Kindergarten 12:45 p.m. -3:15 p.m.  
All Day K, 1, 2, and 3 - 10:10 a.m. -3:15 p.m.

### PLEASE PLAN WITH YOUR CHILD FOR THIS TYPE OF EMERGENCY SO THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF WHAT TO DO!

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### EDP EMERGENCY CLOSING PROCEDURES

The following procedures will be followed for currently enrolled EDP students:

EDP will **not be** available when school closes early at 1:00 p.m. due to a weather emergency. All children can ride the school bus home, plan for parent pick up (must pick up before 1:00 pm), arrange an alternative bus stop (must contact transportation for an alternate form) or walk, if they are listed as walkers.

### WW-P ELECTRONIC NEWS

**Virtual Backpack.** Every year, the WW-P Regional School District receives a significant number of flyers that we are asked to send home with students. While it is important to share school and community information with families, disseminating this information is time consuming and expensive, and uses valuable resources at a time when we are all working to control expenditures. In our effort to go “paperless,” we now provide this information to students, families, and staff electronically. On the district web site ([www.ww-p.org](http://www.ww-p.org)), we have a section under “NEWS ROOM,” which is entitled “Virtual Backpack.” In this section, we will post flyers and/or community information; the flyers are posted by month.

**E-News.** Every Friday, parents and guardians will receive a district e-mail highlighting the updates to the district web site. Check out the latest calendar events, programs, and happenings around WW-P.

To ensure that you receive this e-mail, please make sure your e-mail address in Genesis is up to date. Visit [www.ww-p.org](http://www.ww-p.org) for all the news that is fit to post!

**Twitter.** In the past, parents did not need to have a twitter account to receive notification, but recently there has been an increase in messaging issues when using the 40404 feature. Therefore, if you would like to receive notices from the district accounts **you must set up your own personal Twitter account.**

Listed below are links with instructions on how to set up a Twitter account.

- How to create a Twitter account:  
[help.twitter.com/en/create-twitter-account](http://help.twitter.com/en/create-twitter-account)
- To set up notifications for the district Twitter accounts:  
[help.twitter.com/en/managing-your-account/how-to-use-twitter-alerts](http://help.twitter.com/en/managing-your-account/how-to-use-twitter-alerts)

Twitter accounts to set up alerts for:

- WWPRSD’s Alert account:  
[twitter.com/WWP\\_Notices](https://twitter.com/WWP_Notices) (@WWP\_Notices)
- WWPRSD’s Transportation account:  
[twitter.com/WWP\\_Bus](https://twitter.com/WWP_Bus) (@WWP\_Bus)

Make sure to follow West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District’s official Twitter page (@WWP\_Schools): [twitter.com/WWP\\_Schools](https://twitter.com/WWP_Schools)  
Please continue to visit [www.ww-p.org](http://www.ww-p.org) for all the news that’s fit to post!



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### *Happy Fall-idays!*

We witnessed the most wonderful event of the century, the 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration of our Wicoff School. We had Walk to School Day, first PTA General Meeting and Pretzelicious Day, this month. Several PTA sponsored events are ongoing at school and we hope you are participating with great enthusiasm.

Keep revving the fun!

### *PAST EVENTS*

#### ***Walk To School Day***

On October 2, in honor of the International Walk to School Day, Wicoff students assembled in the Plainsboro Plaza and walked together to the school along with our beloved Principal. A huge shout out to our amazing Plainsboro Township Police for making sure our families were safe while crossing the sidewalks. A goodie bag (healthy snack and a small gift) was given by the PTA to the students who walked. The walk was followed by our first PTA General Meeting. The guest speakers for the day were Dr. Welborn, Mrs. Lindsay Jablonski and the Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Ellen Incollingo.

#### ***Pretzelicious Day***

Your choice of hot and fresh pretzels from Philly Pretzel Factory were sent home with your child on October 25. Hope you enjoyed eating them on the wonderful Pretzelicious Day. Big shout out to Mrs.

Lakshmi Thillai for organizing the event successfully. Thanks are in order for our wonderful moms who helped us pack the pretzels. These wonderful moms are Mrs. Carrie Doolan, Mrs. Geetanjali Sharma, Mrs. Rashmi Dev, Mrs. Veena Pai and Mrs. Vidya Daripineni.

### *UPCOMING EVENTS*

#### ***Reflections***

**Theme: Look Within**

**Due by November 11**

Here is a chance for your child to explore their artistic side in a variety of media from photography and visual arts to dance, film making, music composition or literature by creating a completely original creative piece as independently as possible. Parental help should be to guide and procure resources, etc. All works will be judged at different levels. The first level is within our school and then best entries will be sent to the local, council, state and national levels. It is fun and great exposure for your child's creativity. The theme for the 2019-2020 program year is 'Look Within.' This contest is open to all students. Please remember that at least one parent **MUST** be a PTA member for their child to participate. Please submit your artwork by Nov. 11, 2019, to Ms. Danica Taylor, our media center specialist.

#### ***Themed Dance Night***

**November 14**

Join us for our first annual dance party on the evening of Nov. 14. There will be dancing, music and lots of fun at this party. The theme for the event is "Disco". Our wonderful Wicoff teachers will be leading the show. Put on your dancing shoes and have fun. Food and merchandise will be available for purchase.