

Mar. 27, 2020

Grover Middle School Weekly Update

A Message From the GMS Administration

Staying Connected with the GMS Staff: Our staff members are doing everything possible to stay connected with your children during this period of online learning as it is extremely important that the lines of communication remain open between families and our school. If you would like to email any of our staff members, please remember to follow this format: first name.last name@ww-p.org. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. Remember for general questions, you can email us at GMS@ww-p.org. You may also receive phone calls from staff members where we will utilize the feature to block our personal phone numbers. This will show up as coming from an unidentified number. If you are not able to answer, we ask that you respond to us via email so that we may schedule a time to speak with you and/or your child.

For your convenience, we are listing the emails of our school counselors, Child Study Team members and our administration:

- Ms. Gilchrist, 6th grade counselor - dawn.gilchrist@ww-p.org
- Mr. Singer, 7th grade counselor - david.singer@ww-p.org
- Ms. Godnick, 8th grade counselor - jenny.godnick@ww-p.org
- Ms. Ambrosino, 6th grade case manager for the Child Study Team - austin.ambrosino@ww-p.org
- Mrs. Lehman, 7th grade case manager for the Child Study Team - kristen.lehman@ww-p.org
- Dr. Araki, 8th grade case manager for the Child Study Team - masami.araki@ww-p.org
- Wendy Alley, student assistance counselor - wendy.alley@ww-p.org
- Evan Malakates, assistant principal (Teams 6M, 6S, and all of 7th grade)- evangelos.malakates@ww-p.org
- Maureen Cook, assistant principal (Team 6T, 6G, and all of 8th grade) - maureen.cook@ww-p.org
- Lamont Thomas, principal - lamont.thomas@ww-p.org

Remote Learning Reminders:

- Please remember that district devices and email accounts are only for school-related activities.
- If you or your child need assistance, please email GMS@ww-p.org. This email is being monitored during weekdays, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- If your child is ill, please note it in Genesis as usual and there is no need to email your child's individual teachers. Please take care of yourselves and your family.
- Students will be able to complete work on their own schedule and will have real time access to teacher feedback during the "[office hours](#)."
- Students should follow teachers' instructions on their teachers' Google Classrooms.
- Students will receive feedback via Google Classroom (not on Genesis) from their teachers.
- Students should be sure to hit "**Submit**" when completing assignments via Google Classroom.
- Students should submit questions to teachers during the designated "office hours" period/day/time via Google Classroom or email their teachers directly.
- Teachers will check email, give feedback on assignments, and/or respond to students' comments and questions during designated "office hours" period/day/time.
- Teachers may participate in a Google Hangout with their students and students will have access to Google Hangout from 8:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

School Updates

- **Google Classroom by Graduating Class:** Students are reminded, if they have not done so already, they should join the Google Classroom associated with their graduating class to ensure they are receiving important messages from their school counselor. If you son/daughter has not already joined and requires the classroom code, please have them email the school counselor.
- **WW-P Middle School March/April Office Hour Calendar:** The Middle School virtual "office hours" calendar through May 1, 2020, may be viewed/downloaded [here](#).

- **Yearbooks:** Don't miss out on the 2019-2020 GMS yearbook. **The order deadline is Apr. 1.** Go to yearbookforever.com and search for our school to place your order. *There is NO extension to this deadline.*
 - **Self-Care for Teens:** Please use the following link: [Self-Care for Teens](#). There are a number of simple but valuable activities you and your family can use throughout the day.
 - **Spam Folder:** During this period of virtual/remote learning, our teachers will be reaching out via phone and email to students and parents. Please check your spam filters to ensure that emails sent from your child(ren)'s teachers are being directed to your inbox and not your spam folder.
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District Updates

- [District Website](#) | [COVID-19 Information](#) | [Virtual/Remote Learning Website](#)

Counseling and Wellness

- **Virtual Parent University:** In partnership with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, WW-P will be facilitating a virtual Parent University in the near future. The topic will be "Coping with COVID-19" to assist parents in understanding the anxious feelings, worries, and fears during these unprecedented times. We are asking for parents with questions/concerns related to social distancing, isolation, and quarantine to please submit them [here](#) so that they may be addressed by our clinicians during the upcoming virtual workshop.
- **Health Resources:** WW-P Health Services has pulled together [important health information/resources](#) for families.
- **Counseling and Wellness:** The WW-P District Wellness Committee has created a [website](#) to promote the understanding that wellness is an active process of becoming aware of and making choices toward a healthy and fulfilling life. Students, families, and staff are encouraged to embed these self care resources into their daily routine.

Curriculum and Instruction

- Click [here](#) for a message from Dr. Pamela Nathan, WW-P Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

Technology

- **Broken Chromebook?:** WW-P students with Chromebooks that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must login to their Google account to access the form). Once the form has been completed, students or parents may bring the broken device to the front of High School North (90 Grovers Mill Rd., Plainsboro) on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

District Facilities

- **Playground Equipment and Athletic Fields:** As WW-P continues to sanitize our facilities and practice social distancing, all school playground equipment/athletic fields/courts/tracks/etc. remain closed until further notice.

Registration

- At this time, all student registration for incoming Kindergarten students for the 2020-2021 school year, as well as students moving into the WW-P Regional School District will be done by appointment and virtually until the district re-opens. Please [click](#) here for more information and to begin the process.

State Information

- **State of New Jersey:** www.covid19.nj.gov has been created as the official **COVID-19** information hub for the State of New Jersey. The website includes up-to-date information, services, where to find assistance, job opportunities, and more.
- **New Jersey Department of Education:** Governor Murphy [announced on March 24](#) that NJ is cancelling all statewide student assessments for the spring 2020 testing window.
- **A Program of Center for Food Action - Hunger Free New Jersey:** This non-profit organization is working with its partners to inform citizens of rapidly developing changes to address hunger during this crisis. For information and resources on programs such as NJ school meals, SNAP, WIC, and more, please visit the [organization's website](#).

Communications

- WW-P uses SchoolMessenger as our [district communication tool](#). SchoolMessenger integrates with Genesis. It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis so that you may receive emails/texts/calls from WW-P.

Board of Education Meeting

- The March 31, 2020 WW-P Board of Education meeting will be conducted electronically in light of Executive Order 107's mandate for all citizens to avoid any unnecessary travel or social gatherings, as well as to remain home or in their place of residence. The public will be able to electronically view the public portion of the meeting via a link posted on the front page of the District's [website](#). The public will also have opportunities for community feedback and comment during the meeting through the use of Google Forms that will be posted on the front page of the District's website starting on Friday, March 27, 2020 after 3:30 p.m.

Make sure to follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Youtube](#)