

Mar. 27, 2020

## **Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Update**

### **A Message From the Wicoff Administration**

Dear Wicoff Parents & Guardians,

As we come to the end of our second week of remote learning, we hope you are doing well and are finding a way to balance the virtual learning opportunities and all the other responsibilities in your life. The teachers have shared what a wonderful job your children are doing on the assignments. They have even shared some samples of their students' completed work, which we thoroughly enjoyed viewing. Please let your children know how proud we are of them.

We realize you have moved into a situation that is unfamiliar and can be somewhat daunting. Your "school day" will not be perfect, and that's OK. Just try and remember both you and your child are adjusting to something new and there will be bumps along the way. There is no map nor perfect plan for this learning journey.

Here are just a few tips from us:

- Breaks and Downtime - Our teachers provide "moments of downtime" during your child's regular school day. It is important you do the same at home. A quick 15-minute break can do wonders for both you and your child. Weather permitting, your child should also be getting some outside time, like they would during recess at school. Keeping in mind that "social distancing" is best practice, please avoid such areas as playgrounds and other gathering spaces.
- Make a Schedule - As mentioned in our opening, it is helpful to have a daily schedule that includes learning time, chores, meals, recess, etc. It's also important to make sure that the daily schedule is not too ambitious and offers some choice and flexibility.
- Resources - The teachers and district teacher resource specialists have shared various resources to support your child while working at home. Please take advantage of these resources. There are also many additional resources included in this weekly newsletter such as health resources, a counseling and wellness website, a school counselor corner, and a curriculum corner.

In closing, please know you are not alone and we are on this learning journey from home together. As always, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or us if we can be of further assistance.

Fondly,

Michael Welborn and Lindsay Jablonski

## School Updates

- **Assistance:** If your child needs assistance, please email us at [we@ww-p.org](mailto:we@ww-p.org).
  - **Grades K through 5 e-Learning Plans:** Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers will share links to the upcoming e-learning plans with their classes on Monday morning, March 30. Links to these learning experiences will also be posted to the [WW-P virtual/remote learning website](#) on Monday morning.
  - **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.
- **School Counselor Corner:** District K-5 school counselors have created a [resource](#) of activities to keep our students talking and thinking mindfully while the district is virtual/remote learning.

- **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.

### **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](http://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](#)