

May 8, 2020

Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Update

A Message From the Wicoff Administration

Dear Wicoff Parents & Guardians,

The weeks since our closure on March 13 have found administrators, teachers and parents exploring new ways to successfully bring meaningful learning into the homes of our K-5 WW-P students. The process led teachers into new modes of planning and delivering instruction that even weeks ago, we could hardly have imagined. New ways of introducing, reinforcing, and maintaining essential learnings have welcomed engagement and interactions into the school day in your living rooms, dining rooms, and kitchens. Laptops, screens, cameras, and phones have been staged throughout our homes as the new pandemic era classrooms have evolved. Your active and enthusiastic involvement in this 'new normal' learning experience has been critically important to the success our students have been able to achieve. Your resiliency, patience, and stamina, as you embrace these challenges, is a valuable learning lesson as your children observe your commitment to their education on a daily basis.

As the adult community, we have listened to the direction Governor Murphy maps out for the remainder of this school year for our New Jersey schools. We prepare ourselves for these last weeks and once again we will take on the challenge and move forward.

We have become dependent upon and grateful for your partnership in this remote learning. We have learned from one another how to surround our students with a message so simple yet so strong and profound. We, the parents, administrators and staff, "*Have this,*" we are here to take care of you.

We continue to be here to support you and want to assist you as needed. We have resources available to families in need.

- Families who qualify for free or reduced meals are being supported by bi-monthly food distribution. If your circumstances have changed and you need

assistance in this area, please contact either the guidance counselor, nurse or building administrator.

- Technology is another resource available. Families who are having difficulty with their school-issued device or for those families who need access to a device for their child, please complete this [form](#). Once you complete this form, you may report to High School North on Tuesday or Thursday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to get the tech support or sign out a device. Please note: The form must be completed prior to going to High School North. You will not receive a notification to report to the high school; please go to High School North on the next Tuesday or Thursday following submission of the form.
- In addition to the curriculum that is being provided virtually, we also support any student who is struggling with the circumstances and loss of being at school with peers and teachers. If your child is experiencing difficulty, please reach out to his/her teacher, guidance counselor, CST, or building administrator for support.

The administrators and staff members of the WW-P schools have been humbled by the outpouring of supportive sentiments from our parents and students as the nation celebrated National Principals' Day, National Nurses' Day, and National Teachers' Week. We have observed our students' lovely drawings, read their thoughtful notes, viewed creative videos, and enjoyed every heartfelt comment of thanks for our dedication and spirit. Your acknowledgement of our commitment sparks our energy to keep our work at the top of our game for the sake of our WW-P children. Thank you for taking the time to extend your appreciation. It has truly touched us as a district family.

Many families have been affected by the grip this pandemic has on our world. We are thinking of you every day and please let us know if we can make these days less stressful for you.

Warm regards,
Michael Welborn and Lindsay Jablonski

School Updates

- **Assistance:** If your child needs assistance, please email us at we@ww-p.org.

- **Attention Parents of Current 3rd graders:** Parents are reminded to login to Genesis in order to select their child's music ensemble choice for the 2020-21 school year. Specific details and instructions were emailed earlier in the week.
 - **Absences:** If your child is ill, please note it in Genesis as usual. Please take care of yourselves and your family.
 - **Grades K through 5 e-Learning Plans:** Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers will share links to the e-learning plans with their classes via email.
 - **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.
 - **Athletics:** Check out the latest edition of the [WW-P Athletics newsletter](#) featuring highlights of some of our amazing senior spring athletes, fall registration and more.
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District Updates

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

Virtual Experiences and Activities

- Dr. Aderhold wanted to provide you with some fun educational activities to enjoy at home. Check out this list of [virtual experiences](#).

Curriculum Corner

- Click [here](#) for a message on "Strengthening our Connections in Six Words or Less" from Beth Pandolpho, Teacher Resource Specialist for Curriculum and Instruction, grades 6-12.

Counseling and Wellness

- **School Counselor Corner:** District K-5 school counselors have created a [grid](#) of activities to keep our students talking and thinking mindfully while the district is implementing virtual/remote learning.
- **Health Resources:** WW-P district nurses have pulled together [important health information](#) for families. Please check it out.

- **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.

Dual Language Immersion Kindergarten for 2020-2021

- The mandatory virtual WW-P Dual Language Immersion Parent Information Session is now live. Children entering kindergarten in September 2020 are eligible. [Check out the virtual session for information regarding the registration process.](#)

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.

Food Services

- If your child(ren) receives food benefits, please check your email next week for instructions.
- If your financial situation has recently changed and you would like information on food benefits, please click [here](#) for details and to download the application.

Registration

- At this time, all student registration for incoming kindergarten students for the 2020-21 school year, as well as students moving into the WW-P Regional School District will be done by appointment and virtually until the district reopens. 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.

- **Remote Instruction Continues Through End of Academic Year:** On May 4, [Governor Murphy announced](#) the closure of all school buildings through the end of the academic school year.
- **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.

Virtual Community Events

- Community groups and organizations are beginning to organize virtual events. Click [here](#) for some upcoming virtual activities.

West Windsor-Plainsboro Education Foundation

- It's Teacher Appreciation Month! Show your appreciation to our heroic teachers and staff for their phenomenal work during this unprecedented time with a STAR. During the month of May you can honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal or a staff member who makes a difference in their life via [STAR Campaign](#). Your donation helps fund grants that enrich your child's education.

Board of Education Meeting

- Check out the upcoming [Board of Education Meeting](#) dates. Agenda and materials for Board meetings are published after 3:30 p.m. the Friday prior to the meeting.

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

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