

May 22, 2020

## Grover Middle School Weekly Update

**WW-P schools will be closed in observance of Memorial Day Monday, May 25, and Tuesday, May 26, returning to virtual instruction Wednesday, May 27.**

### School Updates

- **ATTENTION 8th GRADE STUDENTS:**
  - **A Special Note to Our 8th Grade Families Regarding End of the Year Activities:** Although we are saddened by the state's decision to keep schools closed for the remainder of the year, we would like to assure you that our teachers, administrators, and PTSAs are working to celebrate our 8th-grade classes with the honors and celebrations that they deserve. Keeping everyone's health and safety as priorities, we will celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> graders with some traditions and new surprises. We miss our students and look forward to all of the end of the year activities we have in store. Details will be forthcoming.
  - As part of your child's transition to 9th grade, a **New Student Orientation** will be held Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for those entering High School North or High School South for the 2020-21 school year. Please save the date. Additional orientation details will be provided as the event nears. Be well and stay safe.
  - Looking to play a **2020 fall sport** in High School? Registration opens at 8 a.m. May 11, in Genesis. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Digital Wellness Day:** Staff and students at both CMS and GMS will participate in a Digital Wellness Day Monday, June 8. Events will take place from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., and will replace that day's "office hours." More information will follow.
- **Canceled Trips:** As you are aware all remaining trips have been canceled for the year. Some refunds have been disbursed, while others have not. Refunds will be disbursed as soon as the venues reimburse the school for deposits and payments that have been made. Many venues are on a delay because they are either short-staffed or temporarily closed due to COVID-9. Please be patient as we are in constant communication with each venue and will process individual refunds as soon as reimbursements come in.

- **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.
- **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](mailto: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.
- **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 your son/daughter has not already joined and requires the classroom code, please have them email the school counselor.
- **WW-P Middle School May/June Office Hour Calendar:** The Middle School virtual "office hours" calendar may be viewed/downloaded [here](#).
- **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.

### **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](mailto: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 yourself 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” below.
- 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.
- If your child is not following up on assignments, a staff member will contact you.

## 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](#)

## Counseling and Wellness

- **Absences:** 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 yourself and your family.
- **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.

### **Curriculum Corner**

- Click [here](#) for a message on "Small Moments in Big Times" from Cathy Reilly, WW-P Supervisor of Language Arts & ESL, 6-12.

### **District Facilities**

- **Playground Equipment and Athletic Fields:** 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](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.
- **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](#).

### **Teacher Communication**

- Parents have often used Genesis as a tool to monitor their child's progress. Our teachers realize that with this tool missing, there is a need for increased communication. Please trust that if your child is missing assignments or has not resubmitted an assignment that needed revision, the teacher will reach out to you. As always if you have specific questions about your child's progress, please initiate contact. However, if you do not hear from your child's teacher, you can rest assured that all student work is submitted and meets the learning standards.

### **Technology**

- **Broken Chromebook?:** WW-P students with Chromebooks that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must log in 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.
- **NEW:** Beginning Friday, May 29, the Technology Department will be at HSN from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. every Friday. This is in addition to their Tuesday and Thursday hours. Please remember to complete the [Google form](#) prior to showing up.

### **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 the [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](#)