

Oct. 16, 2020

Wicoff Elementary School

PTA

What an overwhelming response to our first virtual drama workshop! Thank you Wicoff families for participating. We are very grateful to Ms. Emily Vorp for volunteering her time and talent!

Equally successful was the first Bingo Night with our new and first grade families. The students were overjoyed to see so many of their teachers at the event! A big shout out to Ms. Bri Frazier, Ms. Massoma Geisz, Ms. Ruthann Butterfield, Ms. Kristin Miller, Ms. Katie Seitz, Ms. Danica Taylor and Mr. Joe Erb for making the event so special for the kids. This event would not have been possible without the meticulous planning of the event chair and long time parent volunteer, Loi Moliga.

And the PTA is always thankful to our pillars of support, Dr. Welborn and Ms. Jablonski!

Bingo Night:

The next Bingo Night event is for 2nd and 3rd grade on Oct. 22, from 7-8 p.m. Registration closes Oct. 19. Click [here](#) to register. This event is open to PTA members only, so please make sure to join the PTA by clicking [here](#). You must register to receive the Bingo cards and Zoom login information. Any questions, please email wicoffbingo@gmail.com. Our teachers are super excited to play Bingo with their students and families. Prizes will be delivered to the Bingo winners.

Online Fall Book Fair opens TODAY!

Visit and click the "Shop Now" button to support Wicoff Elementary School:

https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=wicoffelementaryschool_

Enjoy a selection of over 6,000 books, with all orders shipped to your home, including FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25. All purchases will benefit the Wicoff Media Center. If you would like to donate a book to your child's classroom, from their teacher's wish list, please complete this form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfe-OXtLwPz47zLR-gPIJtSPGFOF8xPnyQaLV-Lz9IQT0WLoQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

2020 Jack-O'-Lantern Photo Submission:

Time to celebrate and be spooky! Halloween is around the corner! All students are encouraged to submit a photo of their carved, painted, and/or decorated spooky, clever, scary or silly pumpkins. Decorate the pumpkin whatever way you want. All you have to do is submit the picture to wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com with your name and grade. **Submissions may be submitted from Oct. 19 through 8 p.m. on Oct. 28.** No entries will be accepted after the submission date. The entries will then be put on display on Wicoff PTA's Facebook page, Instagram, and tweeted on the Wicoff school Twitter account.

Amazon Smile:

Please take a moment to link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile. Select "33626 job wicoff elem school" as the charity under Amazon Smile. Click <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3447652> This will be no cost to you! Amazon in turn donates 0.5 percent of your purchase to the Wicoff PTA. Every dollar counts! And every good deed counts!

Questions? Email us at wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com.

Useful PTA Links: [PTA Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Wicoff's Twitter](#)

SEPTSA

- Events and Notices: Visit our [website](#) to become a member and find out more about SEPTSA.
- Oct. 22: SEPTSA Meeting, 10-11:30 a.m., via Zoom. Join our presentation and discussion with the special services director and supervisors to understand services and programs in this year's virtual and hybrid environment. RSVP by Oct. 20 via the [registration form](#) or go to our [website](#). Contact Kathleen with any questions (kkz4@verizon.net).
- Oct. 25: "Office Hours" from 4-6 p.m. We're pleased to restart our informal parent gatherings in a virtual environment. Bring your questions about IEPs and special education services (etc...), or just come to "hang out" with other parents. RSVP by Oct. 24 through the [registration form](#) or find it on our [website](#) which lists the upcoming dates. Contact Jen with any questions (jenballen@yahoo.com).

Links: [SEPTSA Facebook Page](#) | [SEPTSA Website](#) | [Membership Form](#)

School

Parent/Teacher Conferences: A BIG THANK YOU from our Wicoff staff to our Wicoff parents. The teachers were happy to meet you and grateful for your time. Your partnership with us is critical in creating a successful learning experience for your child/children.

Student Supply Pick-Up: If you have not had the opportunity to pick up your child's supply bag, please email our main office secretary, Lisa Recchia, Lisa.Recchia@ww-p.org to make arrangements to pick-up the supplies at Town Center School. Your child will need these supplies for learning tasks. Please note that in-person hybrid students received their supply bags from their teacher when they were in school.

Wicoff PTA: Your help and support is needed! PTA membership is down this school year. Our school benefits from a supportive PTA. We appreciate all they do for our students, staff and parents. [If you have not already joined the PTA, please consider joining. We would love to see 100 percent participation!](#)

School Newsletter: Check out the [October 2020 issue](#) of the Wicoff J. Fox newsletter.

"Choose Kind" School Theme: Wicoff's "Choose Kind" theme will continue throughout the year. Staff and students are encouraged to wear KIND shirts or Wicoff shirts on Fridays.

District: [WW-P District Website](#) | [Academic Calendars](#) | [Events Calendar](#)

Reminders

- **The week of Oct. 19 is Hybrid Week 1.** Please click [here](#) for the Oct./Nov./Dec. Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade level Sample Rotations and Schedules.
- **All-Virtual Instruction Nov. 3.** In accordance with [New Jersey Executive Order #177](#), all WW-P Schools will be closed to in-person instruction Nov. 3, 2020,

(Election Day). Instruction by WW-P staff will be conducted virtually on Nov. 3, 2020. This change to all-virtual instruction is ONLY effective for Tuesday, Nov. 3.

- **Health Screening:** Please remember to complete the Daily Health Screening form for your child(ren) on the days they will be in-person. The form is located under the Forms tab in [Genesis](#).
- **Masks:** Please also be advised that neither neck gaiters or valve masks provide appropriate protection and are not permitted for use on school or district grounds. Please use a mask with two or more layers that fits snugly over the nose and face. If a student does not have an appropriate mask, one will be provided by the district upon request.
- **Contact Information:** Is your contact information up-to-date in Genesis? If your email or phone numbers have changed, please make sure to update your information in Genesis. If you would like to opt-in to receive SMS text messages from the District, please text "Yes" to "67587" from a cell phone that is listed with your contact information in Genesis. Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).
- **HSN PTSA SPONSORED:** Support the HSN Senior Celebration/Post-Prom Committee, Halloween Boos! Surprise your friends and family this Halloween season by "Booing" them throughout the month of October. Cute ghost lawn signs and a bag of goodies from Robinson's Chocolates delivered to their home will bring a smile to their face. Please fill out the [Google form](#) and you will be contacted with pricing and available dates. Available districtwide.
- **HSS PTSA SPONSORED:** It's the HAPPY BIRTHDAY LAWN SIGN! The HSS Post-Prom Committee wants to help celebrate birthdays so they can celebrate their graduating seniors. Dates are currently available through November. For more information and to reserve your date, please click [here](#). Available districtwide.
- **HSN Popcorn for the People:** North students from Ms. Bard's class are working on a sales project this marking period. They are working with Popcorn for the People, which is a non-profit organization that employs people with Autism. If you are interested in supporting HSN students, please use their class code which is **WWPSD** and place it in the discount code section at checkout. This is how they will get credit for the sale. www.PopcornForThePeople.com

Health and Safety

- Please click [here](#) to read the Oct. 2 Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold.
- The next Health and Safety Update will be sent Oct. 23, 2020, to the WW-P community.

Athletics

- **Attendance at Sporting Events:** No students will be permitted to attend neighboring Colonial Valley Conference (CVC) games to comply with social

distancing policies and the State Order regarding the number of individuals at gatherings. Should you have any questions regarding the attendance policy, please reach out to Kate Dobinson, Athletic Director, Katharine.Dobinson@ww-p.org.

Counseling and Wellness

- **Virtual Parent University on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.** The topic will be "Coping with COVID: Grief and Trauma" to better understand grief and trauma-informed parenting practices to support students during the pandemic. Jesse Bassett, director of education for Good Grief, a non-profit organization that builds resilience in children, strengthens families, and empowers communities to grow from loss and adversity, will be presenting. To register for the presentation, click [here](#). To view past Parent University presentations, click [here](#).

Curriculum and Instruction

- Have a question about Google Classroom? Not sure how to use Zoom? Check out these [resources for support](#) in the Families and Caregivers Tutorial Helpdesk.

Community Education

- **EDP** is being offered for K-5th-grade students. Morning and afternoon care is available 5 days a week at your child's school. Full-day care is also available for your child's non-in person week. Care is available until 3:45 p.m. or 6:45 p.m. For more information, check out the offerings [here](#).
- Registration for **Fall Enrichment Session 2** is still available!. All classes are virtual and will be held from 3:45-4:45 p.m. For more information, check out the fall guide [here](#).
- **Family Fun Fridays** are beginning soon! Register your family to take part in different events or crafts such as crochet, yoga, game nights and more! Check out the program guide on page 11 to learn more!
- To view the fall guide, click [here](#). To register for Community Education programs, visit the [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- Anthony Jones has been named the new diversity, equity, and inclusivity coordinator for the district. Mr. Jones has 10+ years of experience working in higher education and non-profit organizations including Columbia University, Princeton University, and Rutgers University. Mr. Jones is excited to work with students, faculty, staff, families, and the WW-P community to cultivate the environment of inclusion that is required to unlock the richness of diversity. Click

[here](#) for an article that highlights the positive outcomes of equity in the classroom. Mr. Jones is currently working on the following projects:

- **Equity Audit and Listening Tour:** Visiting schools and meeting with school and district administrators and staff, to discuss current initiatives, challenges, and opportunity gaps related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- **Developing relationships and supporting Student Affinity (Advocacy) Groups at HSN and HSS.** Meeting with Student Affinity groups to listen, learn, and reflect on the experiences of group members.
- **Focusing on making sure students and staff have safe spaces to discuss equity and inclusion.** Mr. Jones is available to provide support and resources for all members of the district.

Food Services

- Distribution for WW-P students who currently receive food benefits will now occur on a **weekly basis**. The distribution will be held Mondays at High School North from 4-6 p.m. Families who receive benefits will continue to receive emails asking for a response regarding participation for the coming week. Completing the registration form in the weekly email is required prior to pick up.
- In conjunction with the federal government and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, a waiver has been issued that allows school-aged children access to nutritious meals. As a participant in the National School Lunch Program, all WW-P students are extended the opportunity to receive free breakfasts and lunches due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency. Click [here](#) for more information. Please register [here](#) by Oct. 21 for the Oct. 26 distribution.
- Reminder: Registration for the Oct. 19 distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the Oct. 19 meal kit pickup, it will be held from 4 -6 p.m. at High School North.
- To view this month's menus, please click [here](#).
- Send Hunger Packing WW-P (SHuP WW-P) is a program of the Mercer Street Friends food bank. During a normal school year, SHuP WW-P raises funds for the Friday afternoon placement of weekend food bags in the backpacks of food insecure students in grades K-6. This year has been anything but normal, and now more than ever, families throughout our communities are facing food insecurity. During this pandemic, SHuP has worked tirelessly with WW-P Food Services to supplement the weekly meal kits that students receive through the National School Lunch Program.
 - In order for SHuP to continue to supply much-needed food staples to food insecure WW-P families, SHuP is working with WW-P Foods Services on a grocery gift card food drive to help families in our communities. For more information on this gift card food drive and to donate, please [click here](#). Any amount, small and large, is welcomed and appreciated.

Technology

- WW-P students who need to request a device or with Chromebooks/iPads 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) and then come to High School North on Tuesday or Thursday from 12:45-3:15 p.m.

District Communication

- WW-P uses SchoolMessenger as our [district communication tool](#). It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis.

WW-P Education Foundation

- The WW-P Education Foundation Youth Committee will hold a [Halloween Craft Fair](#) 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Oct. 24. The afternoon will be packed with fun virtual activities and a live Halloween show. This event is FREE for students in grades pre-K-5. Donations are appreciated! Please sign up using this [link](#). All funds raised will go toward supporting our WW-P teachers to bring creative and innovative ideas to the virtual/hybrid classrooms. Donations may be made [here](#) or please visit the [Foundation website](#), and click on the Donate Now button.

Virtual Community Events

- Click [here](#) for upcoming virtual events and activities from community groups and organizations.

WW-P Board of Education

- 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.

Follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.

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