

Feb. 05, 2021

Wicoff Elementary School

All WW-P schools and board offices will be closed Friday, Feb. 12. Schools will be closed Monday, Feb. 15, for staff professional development. There will be no newsletters Friday, Feb. 12.

IMPORTANT

- The week of Feb. 8 is Hybrid 2. Please click here for the [Feb./Mar. Hybrid Week Calendar](#) as well as grade level sample rotations and schedules.
- WW-P Schools and Board Offices will be closed Friday, Feb. 12. Schools will be closed Monday, Feb. 15 for Professional Development.

PTA

Our upcoming Wicoff Spirit Wear Days will be **Feb. 19 and Mar. 19**. The classes that show the most spirit and wear their shirts will have extra recess. The Wicoff School Spirit Wear Store is OPEN online! If you haven't ordered the school spirit wear, please order it now! Click on the link below.

- Spirit Wear Online Store: <https://wicoff21.itemorder.com/sale>

PTA Reflections: Congratulations to the talented students and their unique, creative Reflections artwork that made it to the state level. Here are the winners - Nikil Nair (Film production), Franklin Lawrence(Literature), Johan Mekkuneel (Music composition), Shresta Gamini (Photography), Harshika Gamini (Photography), Samrutha Karthikeyan (Photography).

Shake A Leg: Let's tap, twist and dance the evening away with our Wicoff teachers and Ms. Babita Negi **Thursday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m.** For this very special evening put on your dancing shoes and log in from your home to attend. All grades dance together to the high energy dance numbers and burn a few calories with this free virtual family event that is open to all! Just click on the Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91027819031?pwd=Tm1pZjFjNHFWZG9EZE0yQ0ROdkxwdz09>

Meeting ID: 910 2781 9031

Passcode: 172722

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,91027819031# US (Chicago)
+19292056099,,91027819031# US (New York)

Masked Teacher: Are you looking for another fun family night? Do you love a mystery? The wait is over! The "Masked Teacher" is a guessing game that will feature a group of disguised teachers and staff. Our school teachers will wear masks/head costumes to conceal their identities. With small hints and clues our student detectives will play along and unmask the Wicoff teachers. Does the event sound fun!

- **The event for Kindergarten and Grade 1 will take place on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.** It is open to PTA members only. If you are interested, click on the link that follows to register:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctpcKha7Dj8cmBiosir5CJBllwAo7HX4JKDma-BrUvB1xZ0Q/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>
- **The event for Grades 2 and 3 will be on Thursday, Mar. 4 at 7 p.m.** It is open to PTA members only. If you are interested, click on the link that follows to register:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vCcEpPrsOiSWxOfBTKhuDyMROglIH4Gva5yd mUK1LBw/edit?ts=601ca181&gxids=7628>

Upcoming Event: Saturday, Mar. 13 - Green Science Fair. *Mark your calendar. More information coming soon.*

PTA Membership: If you missed joining the PTA membership. Here is the link [Wicoff PTA Membership](#)

Amazon Smile: Please take a moment to link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile. Select "33626 job wicoff elem school" as 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% 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

- **WW-P Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association (SEPTSA):**
WW-P SEPTSA exists to support students and families of students with IEPs and 504 plans. Please join SEPTSA to be added to our mailing list and be sure to hear

about upcoming events and speakers! Membership is open to all parents and families, older students (6th grade and above), and faculty and staff who support students with special needs. Please click [here](#) for more information.

- **Wednesday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.: Successfully Navigating the IEP Process:** Join us in a conversation with special education attorney Norma Francullo, based in Montclair, NJ, to discuss parental and student rights under special education law and how to work with school districts to build an effective IEP. Gain a better understanding of how to use data to write meaningful IEP goals and measure progress. To RSVP and receive the Zoom link for the meeting, or if you have questions ahead of time that you'd like to submit, please email Jennifer Riccards at jenballen@yahoo.com.
- **NEW! WhatsApp group for WW-P Special Education families:** If you would like to connect with other WW-P families of special education students via WhatsApp, please complete this form and we will add you when the group is started -- [Connect with WWP special ed parents](#)
- **WW-P Special Education Parent Advisory Group (S.E.P.A.G.):** To support parents of students with an IEP or 504 plan, and to provide input to the district on special education issues, the WW-P SEPAG meets regularly throughout the school year. Additionally, SEPTSA/SEPAG hosts monthly virtual "office hours" for informal conversation and advice regarding issues around IEPs/504 plans.
- **The next "office hours" is Sunday, Feb. 21, from 4-6 p.m.** Please contact Jennifer Riccards at jenballen@yahoo.com for more information or to receive the Zoom link. Future dates include March 21, April 18, and May 23. All times are Sundays from 4-6 pm. (If you cannot make one of these times and would like support or to connect with other families dealing with similar situations, please feel free to contact Jennifer at any time.)

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

School

School Closed: Feb. 12 and Feb. 15 (PD Day)

School Photos: Wicoff School Picture Days will be Feb. 18 and Feb. 25. Scheduling and ordering information will be sent out soon!

Wicoff NEW Supply Bag Pick-Up for Kindergarten Students: Monday, Feb. 8 and Tuesday, Feb. 9 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Town Center Elementary School. Parents may pick up their child's new supply bag at Town Center School. The materials in the supply bag will be used over the next several weeks. You will need to park in the front lot of Town Center School and report to the main entrance where you will share your child's name and grade with the security officer. Making a sign with this information would be very helpful. The security officer will bring your child's supply bag to you. If your child attends hybrid in-person, he/she received his/her supply bag in school.

Technology Help Center: The Technology Help Center is located at High School South at 346 Clarksville Rd., West Windsor (please use the Penn Lyle Road entrance). The Help Center operates out of the entrance to the new theatre. Parents should pull up to the theatre entrance and wait in their car to be greeted by a member of the technology staff. The hours of operation are 12:45 - 3:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. 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) prior to arriving at the Technology Help Center.

TCRWP Instructional Support for Families: Please see the resources listed below for supporting your child in virtual learning focusing on the areas of literacy (reading, writing, spelling and more). WW-P School District has had a long-standing partnership with Teachers College Reading and Writing Project (TCRWP). TCRWP has compiled a variety of resources for families to support student learning in the varied environments this year. Please visit this link to consider resources you may find helpful: [TCRWP Resources for Families](#)

Screen-Free Afternoons: The next Screen-Free afternoon is Thursday, Feb 11. Grade 1, grade 2 and grade 3 classes will end at 1 p.m. AM Kindergarten will be on a regular schedule with some asynchronous learning and PM Kindergarten will go from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. with some asynchronous learning. Please remember to have your child(ren) enjoy a variety of non-screen activities. Upcoming Screen-Free February dates are Thursday afternoons: Feb. 11, Feb. 18 and Feb. 25. Here are some ideas for [screen free activities](#).

Wicoff PTA: Your help and support is needed! It is never too late to join. The PTA has offered some really fun and exciting events for the students already and will continue to

offer more as this school year continues. 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, we urge you to join by clicking on the link below. We are hoping for 100 percent participation. [Wicoff PTA Membership](#)

Last Call - Volunteers Needed for Site-Based Council: Thank you to those who have reached out to us. We are still in need of a couple more members. Wicoff's Site-Based Council is looking for new members. The Site-Based Council is a group of teachers and parents/caregivers working together to discuss issues and solve problems so that each child's experience at Wicoff is a positive and enriching experience. In the past, the Site-Based Council group members selected various issues to discuss and solve, however; this year the charge of the group will take on a different focus. The events occurring in our country have made it imperative that the Site-Based Council seeks a representative group of parents/caregivers to join with our teachers in tackling more specific issues of equity, diversity, inclusivity, and justice in our school.

Historically speaking, the Site-Based Council met approximately four times a year but, if our desires warrant more time to meet we would certainly accommodate that need. We know that your time is valuable and we want to make these meetings as beneficial as possible. ***Please note that the meetings will be virtual this school year.*** It is our hope that you will consider joining us to find a voice in your school community and to ensure that your child is exposed to an education that values equity, diversity, inclusivity, and fairness for all. If you would be interested in serving on the Site-Based Council, please send an email to first grade teacher, Miss Sharon Refsin, who is the chairperson of the Site-Based Council, and copy principal, Dr. Michael Welborn.

Here are the email addresses:

- Sharon.Refsin@ww-p.org
- Michael.Welborn@ww-p.org

"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

- Please click [here](#) for the Feb./Mar. Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade level sample rotations and schedules.
- **Screen-Free Afternoons:** Screen-Free afternoons will continue for the remainder of the school year. February Screen-Free afternoons will be held on Thursdays. March Screen-Free afternoons will be held on Wednesdays. Click [here](#) for upcoming dates as well as each school's morning schedule on Screen-Free Afternoons.
- **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](#).
- **Valentine's Day Senior Celebration Fundraisers**
 - **High School South Post Prom Celebration Committee is offering Valentine's Day jars!** Check out this opportunity to send your friends a jar of Kisses or 'Bursts on Saturday, Feb. 13. You can send a super-sweet Valentine to family, friends, WW-P teachers/staff AND to men and women that serve our towns at the West Windsor and Plainsboro Police Departments. You send your love and we will deliver. [Click here to place your orders.](#)
 - **High School North Senior Celebration Committee is offering Valentine's Day boxes!** Looking to celebrate your Valentine? Surprise them with a secret Valentine's Day box. Delivery will take place Thursday, Feb. 11, through Sunday, Feb. 14. The last day to order is Feb. 12. The first box is \$14 and subsequent boxes are \$12 each. [Click here for more information and to order online.](#)

Health and Safety

- A Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent this afternoon, Friday, Feb. 5.

Counseling and Wellness

- **Virtual Parent University:** Please join us for our next **Virtual Parent University on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.** The topic will be "Coping with COVID-19: Video Gaming Addiction." For most players, playing video games is a fun activity, a way to relax, connect with friends, and enjoy a challenge, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, for some players, a video game hobby can escalate into an addictive disorder that takes over their lives. *Video Gaming Addiction* will examine the impact of video gaming on children and adolescents. [Register in advance for this webinar.](#)
- To view other 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

- Join Community Education for a virtual Spring Break experience! Virtual Spring Break registration is now open. New programs and vendors have been added. To view and register for programs, check out the brochure: [2021 Virtual Spring Break Guide](#).
- Community Education and the different program vendors will be hosting a Virtual Spring Break Open House on Saturday, Feb. 20, beginning at 10 a.m. Take part in the virtual open house and have your questions answered. All information is listed on [page 11 of the brochure](#).
- To register for Community Education programs, visit the [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

Food Services

- Distribution for WW-P students who currently receive food benefits will occur on a **weekly basis**. Distribution will be held Mondays (unless otherwise noted due to the school calendar) at High School North from 3-6 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 12 p.m. Feb. 10, for the TUESDAY, Feb. 16 distribution.

- Reminder: Registration for the Monday, Feb. 8, distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the Feb. 8 meal kit pickup, it will be held from 3 -6 p.m. at High School North. For pickup, please have students' names on a piece of paper in BOLD letters and please wear a mask to keep volunteers safe during the check-in process.
- To view this month's menus, please click [here](#).

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 South (346 Clarksville Road, West Windsor). Please enter using the Penn Lyle building entrance 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.

Virtual Community Events

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

WW-P Education Foundation

- The foundation is accepting requests through Feb. 10, for the [HEART Campaign](#). Give a Valentine's Day HEART to honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal, or staff member who makes a difference in their lives. Show them you love them!

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](#)