

Feb. 19, 2021

## Wicoff Elementary School

### PTA

Today was our first Wicoff Spirit Wear Day. Our next Wicoff Spirit Wear Day is **Mar. 19**. Battle it out for the extra recess time because the classes that show the most spirit and wear their shirts will have extra recess. Wicoff School Spirit Wear Store is still OPEN online if you haven't yet placed your order! Click on the link below:

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

**Shake A Leg:** What a great night! The event participation reached almost 100 that night! Our external presenter, Ms. Babita Negi from Let's Dance and our volunteer teachers, Ms. Pamela Ronen, Ms. Rebecca Pacella, Ms. Ellen Incollingo, Ms. Danica Taylor, Ms. Melissa Collins, Ms. Brianna Frazier, Ms. Masooma Geisz, Ms. Nikki Robinson, Ms. Melissa Exler rocked the dance floor! We are also forever grateful to our fabulous school administrators, Dr. Welborn and Ms. Jablonski for supporting the PTA in all its endeavors. And of course we cannot forget to celebrate the eagerness of our amazing Wicoff students and their families for participating in our events. Thank you!

**Masked Teacher:** If you are looking for another fun family night and love mystery, the wait is over! "Masked Teacher" is a guessing game that will feature a group of disguised teachers and staff. We have over 10 participating teachers for each night. This event is open to PTA members only. What are you waiting for, click on the link below to register. **The last date to register for the K-Gr 1 event is Monday, Mar. 22.** The Zoom link will be sent to all registered participants.

- **The event for Kindergarten and Grade 1 will take place Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.** 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 Thursday, Mar. 4 at 7 p.m.** Register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vCcEpPrsOiSWxOfBTKhuDyMROglIH4Gva5yd mUK1LBw/edit?ts=601ca181&gxids=7628>

**PTA Membership:** If you missed joining the PTA and are interested in a membership, here is the link to join and support: [Wicoff PTA Membership](#)

**2020-2021 Wicoff Green Science Fair will be held Friday, Mar. 13, 9 - 11 a.m.:**

The annual Green Science Fair allows participants (students in Grades 1 through 3) to understand how every effort, even one made by an individual, can impact their community in a positive way. It allows students an opportunity to show how their project can help others adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. This year's Science Fair will be a virtual event using Zoom meetings.

- For Wicoff Green Science Fair information, instructions, and project suggestions visit:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_3Gakzwx7Us5RZSlfABsEWGRnJmVHir/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_3Gakzwx7Us5RZSlfABsEWGRnJmVHir/view?usp=sharing)
- Register by Sunday, Mar. 7 at 5 p.m.: <https://forms.gle/oHLBA2QkP79iiAtk6>
- For questions, email the Science Fair Committee at [wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com](mailto:wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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.
- **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](#)

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## **School**

### **Wicoff NEW Supply Bag Pickup for Kindergarten Students and First Grade**

**Students:** If you were unable to pick up your child's new supply bag at Town Center School it is not too late. The new 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 on it 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. 25. 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 March dates are Wednesday afternoons: March 3, March 10, March 17, and March 24. 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](#)

**“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.

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**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. The week of Feb. 22, is Hybrid week 2.

- Due to the weather emergency closure day used Feb. 01, 2021, WW-P Schools will be open May 28, 2021. To view the updated academic calendars for the **2020-21 school year calendar**, please click [here](#).
- **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](#).

## Health and Safety

- A Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent this afternoon, Friday, Feb. 19.

## Counseling and Wellness

- **Virtual Parent University:** Please join us for our next **Virtual Parent University on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021, 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: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_nq-nMI1fQGGg6RMCUylGxg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nq-nMI1fQGGg6RMCUylGxg)

- 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. 24, for the Monday, Mar. 1, distribution.
- Reminder: Registration for the Monday, Feb. 22, distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the Feb. 22 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 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](#)