

Feb. 26, 2021

## Wicoff Elementary School

### PTA

Each and every class did great showing their school spirit. It was a tough call, but we had to pick a winner from each grade level. Here is the winning list:

- K-AM – Kristin Miller
- K-PM – Melissa Miller
- First Grade – Sharon Refsin
- Second Grade – Maureen McKenna
- Third Grade – Joanie Lewis

Congratulations to the winning teams! However, the battle for extra recess is not over, yet! The next upcoming **Wicoff Spirit Wear Day** is **March 19**. Wicoff School Spirit Wear Store is still OPEN online. If you haven't ordered yet, please click on the link below:

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

### Masked Teacher

The Masked Teacher event for grade K and grade 1, chaired by Ms. Emily Vorp, was a great success! Ms. Vorp's meticulous planning and teacher's rehearsing their disguised roles made it challenging for the students to identify them. It was such fun and an enjoyable evening together!

- **The event for grades 2 and 3 is scheduled on Thursday, March 4, at 7 p.m.** : If you are interested, click on the link below to register <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vCcEpPrsOiSWxOfBTKhuDyMROglIH4Gva5yd mUK1LBw/edit?ts=601ca181&gxids=7628>. Trust me, you don't want to miss the fun! If you haven't registered for the event, register now. It is open to PTA members, only.

### **2020-2021 Wicoff Green Science Fair will be held on Saturday, March 13, 9-11 a.m.**

The annual Green Science Fair allows participants 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.

- Participants: Students from grades 1 through 3

- Science fair will be a virtual event using Zoom meetings.
- For Wicoff Green Science Fair information, instructions, and project suggestions: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_3Gakzwx7Us5RZSlfABsEWGRnjmvHlr/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_3Gakzwx7Us5RZSlfABsEWGRnjmvHlr/view?usp=sharing)
- Registration: Register by Sunday, March 7, 2021, at 5 p.m.: <https://forms.gle/oHLBA2QkP79iiAtk6>
- For questions, email the Science Fair Committee: [wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com](mailto:wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com)

**Upcoming event:** March 25 - Bake night with Ms. Wendy Rosenthal

**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, March 21, from 4-6 p.m.** Please contact Jennifer Riccards at [jenballen@yahoo.com](mailto:jenballen@yahoo.com) for more information or to receive the

Zoom link. Future dates include 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, First & Second 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. Please 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.**

**Supply Pickup for Third Graders:** Friday, Feb. 26, and Monday, March 1, from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Town Center 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 Wednesday, March 3. 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 March Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade-level sample rotations and schedules. The week of March 1, is Hybrid week 1.

- 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**, please click [here](#).
- **Screen-Free Afternoons:** Screen-Free afternoons will continue for the remainder of the school year. 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

- Click [here](#) to read the Feb. 19, 2021, Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold.

## Counseling and Wellness

- **Save the Date for the next Virtual Parent University:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 7 p.m. The topic will be "Coping with COVID-19: Child and Adolescent Anxiety." Clinicians from Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care will assist parents in understanding anxious feelings, worries and fears that are common among children and adolescents. Coping strategies, supports and resources will also be presented.
- 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](#).
- 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. March 3, for the Monday, Mar. 8, distribution.
- Reminder: Registration for the Monday, March 1, distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the March 1, 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**

- **Plainsboro Police Department:** During these unprecedented times, the Plainsboro Police Department invites the Plainsboro and West Windsor communities to join our FREE Virtual Interactive Policing program that will provide virtual and interactive seminars throughout the year. These seminars will address topics that have the greatest impact on the quality of life of our residents. For more information, please click [here](#).
- 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](#)