

May 14, 2021

## **Wicoff Elementary School**

### **PTA**

Our wonderful school teachers and staff have gone extraordinary lengths to support our children during an extraordinary school year. Since, we could not appreciate them in-person, Wicoff PTA gifted them with customized mugs and \$10 e-gift cards.

**May 27 at 9:30 a.m. - Elementary Curriculum Session for Parents:** This informative session about the academic learning of our child at school will be led by Dr. Pamela Nathan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Melissa Pearson, Mathematics Supervisor K-5; Ms. Lindsey Jablonski, Language Arts Supervisor K-5; and Dr. Michael Welborn, Principal of Wicoff School. The session will be followed by a Q & A session.

**June 3 at 7 p.m. - Virtual Paint Night:** The event will be led by our Art Teacher, Ms. Megumi Itoh, and we will paint with friends and family! We will paint the silhouette of the Wicoff fox facing the sunset. Paint your own masterpiece from the comfort of your home! Stay tuned for more info...

**Spring Online Book Fair- April 30 - May 13:** Enjoy a selection of over 6,000 books, with all orders shipping to your home, including FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25. All purchases will benefit the Wicoff Media Center and Wicoff PTA. More details to come in your child's media lesson or visit the [Wicoff PTA website](#) for more information. The online book fair opens on APRIL 30.

**Book Fair e-Gift Cards for Teachers:** If you would like to help your child's teacher expand their classroom library, you may purchase an e-gift card for them to use at our spring book fair, please click [here](#). For more information, please email [wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com](mailto:wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com)

**Thanks so much to all our parent volunteers for joining the Wicoff PTA Nominating Committee.** The responsibility of the parent volunteers is to accept nominations via email and pass them on to the Wicoff PTA board members at the general meeting.

**Amazon Smile:** Please take a moment to link your Amazon account to Amazon Smile. Select "33626 job wicoff elem school" as your charity under Amazon Smile. Click <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3447652>. This will be at 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.
- **NEXT SEPTSA MEETING:** May 20, from 7-9 pm (virtual) - Estate Planning and Guardianship for Special Needs Children, presented by Hinkle Prior & Fischer, Attorneys at Law. This session will offer an overview of the need to ensure that your estate planning documents are in order to ensure that your child with special needs is financially protected and maintains eligibility for benefits after your death. A Q&A will follow the presentation. Please [click here](#) to attend.
- **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, May 23, from 4-6 p.m.** This will be the final office hours of this school year. Please contact Jennifer Riccards at [jenballen@yahoo.com](mailto:jenballen@yahoo.com) for more information or to receive the Zoom link. (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.)
- **AmazonSmile SEPTSA Fundraiser:** \*REMEMBER YOU MUST LOG INTO SMILEAMAZON.COM FOR THE DONATION TO REGISTER\* Choose #2681149 "Wwp Special ED PTSA." SEPTSA will receive a donation from Amazon amounting to .50% of every order as long as you've designated SEPTSA as your charity of choice and shop through Amazon Smile.

- **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](#).

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

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## School

**Wicoff's 2020-21 Educator of the Year:** Please join me in wishing our media specialist/computer teacher, Ms. Danica Taylor, a heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS for being selected as Wicoff School's Educator of the Year. WW-P School District created this special staff recognition program to honor an educator in each of the district's ten buildings. Ms. Danica Taylor was selected by a committee consisting of peers, parents, and administrators. The WW-P Board of Education will honor Ms. Danica Taylor and all of the honorees on June 8, 2021.

**In-Person Request to Change Learning Model to Virtual:** If your child needs to be virtual on one of their "in-person" days, please be sure to put your request in writing to the building administration ([Michael.Welborn@ww-p.org](mailto:Michael.Welborn@ww-p.org) and [Lindsay.Jablonski@ww-p.org](mailto:Lindsay.Jablonski@ww-p.org)) at least 24-hours in advance. It is important that the classroom teachers have notice, so they may plan accordingly. Please DO NOT log-on without administrator approval. Thank you for your support and understanding!

**Site-Based Council:** We are looking for volunteers to join our site-based council to discuss various school topics. The council is made up of teachers, administrators and parents. Your input is important to us. If interested, please email assistant principal, Mrs. Lindsay Jablonski at [Lindsay.Jablonski@ww-p.org](mailto:Lindsay.Jablonski@ww-p.org).

**Health and Safety:** Please remember to submit the Daily Health Screening form each day for your child(ren) on the days they will be attending school in-person.

**Reminder: Screen-Free Afternoons:** Here are some ideas for [Screen Free Activities](#). The remaining Thursday May Screen-Free Afternoon dates are: May 20 and May 27.

**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](#)

**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 May/June Hybrid Week Calendar as well as grade level sample rotations and schedules. The week of May 17 will have Hybrid Week 2 and All-In students in-person.
- **Memorial Day:** WW-P schools and board offices will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day. Please [click here](#) for the 2020-21 school year calendar.
- **Screen-Free Afternoons:** Screen-Free Afternoons will continue for the remainder of the school year. Screen-Free Afternoons in May will be held on

Thursdays. 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](#). The form should be completed by 7:15 a.m. for middle and high school students and 8:15 a.m. for elementary school students.
- **Masks/Water:** Please 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. Students attending in-person instruction should bring a pre-filled water bottle with them to school.
- **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 Job Skills Program Sponsored:** The HSN Knights' Armory and Job Skills Program have partnered with Inspired Threads, a company that provides positive, meaningful employment for people with disabilities and those facing other barriers to employment. This fundraiser offers the opportunity to create a one-of-a-kind blanket using your old t-shirts collected over the years. [Click here for more information](#). Use the code "KNIGHTS" at checkout.

## Health and Safety

- Click [here](#) to read the Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold that was sent May 7.

## Counseling and Wellness

- To view the 2020-21 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

- **Kindergarten Care**
  - A Kindergarten Care waitlist for the 2021-2022 school year will open Tuesday, June 1. Families will be able to register incoming

kindergarteners for a space in Community Education's Kindergarten Care program, at a location or locations to be determined.

- Register your child for the time opposite of their kindergarten schedule.
- There is no cost to register for the waitlist. When spaces become available, Community Education will notify you by phone and email.

- **Virtual Summer Programs**

- Community Education is offering hundreds of virtual summer program options! Check out the [Virtual Summer Guide](#) and take full advantage of the savings by registering for classes before June 1! (*Please note the price reductions for R2K Leadership*)
- Community Education just added virtual [preschool summer programs](#) to the line-up! Students as young as 2-years-old and as old as 6-years-old may sign up for virtual summer preschool programs. (*Please note the price reductions for Play Pattern.*)

- **Registering for Community Education Programs**

- Set up your Community Pass account [here](#). When registering, look for the 2021-22 Integrated Preschool, Kindergarten Care and Extended Day Program heading.

## **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. May 19, for the Monday, May 24, distribution.
- Reminder: Registration for the Monday, May 17, distribution has closed. If you registered to receive the May 17 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.

## WW-P Education Foundation

- **Teacher Appreciation Month:** Our WW-P teachers and staff give the gift of love and care... honor them with a 'STAR'! Now is the time to acknowledge and appreciate their efforts with a 'STAR' certificate. The [WW-P Education Foundation](#) is accepting requests through May 31, 2021, for the [STAR Campaign](#). Give a STAR to honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal or staff member who makes a difference in their life. Your donation helps fund grants that enrich your child's education.

## Community Events

- **STARTALK** - The West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District in collaboration with the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland offers a virtual STARTALK student program for Hindi and Urdu. Virtual classes will be offered to rising 3rd through 5th-grade students, heritage and non-heritage learners. No prior knowledge of the language is required. The program will be held virtually Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. from July 5 through July 31, 2021, (plus four Saturdays, 9 – 11:30 a.m.). Students that are enrolled in the summer language program will have access to the free 12 post-program classes starting Sept. 18, 2021. For more information and to register, [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](#)