

Sept. 24, 2021

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

We are grateful for so much enthusiasm for DN Spirit Wear this year! The ordering period is now closed. The t-shirts will be distributed to your child's respective classrooms within a few weeks. We appreciate your patience while we are processing the orders. For any questions, please contact: dutchneckfundraising@gmail.com.

Ways to Support the Dutch Neck PTA:

- If you are interested in volunteering with a particular event please [click here](#).
- Amazon Smile Support: Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at smile.amazon.com.
- Box Tops Support: Download the Box Tops App, create your account and select Dutch Neck Elementary. Scan your receipt for quick, direct addition of Box Tops to your account or email your e-receipt to receipts@boxtops4education.com
- If you would like to become a member of the PTA, please click the link that follows: <https://dutchneck.memberhub.store>.

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.
- WhatsApp group for WW-P Special Education families: Join us on WhatsApp to connect with other WWP families of special education students. [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.

- **Office Hours, held in McCaffreys Café (upstairs)** – More dates coming soon. Join us for an informal meetup to ask questions and/or share experiences. Contact Kathleen Moriarty at kkz4@verizon.net or Veena Pai at veenapai.0408@gmail.com for more information. If you have a question and timing doesn't work with your schedule (once additional dates are announced), but you'd like support or to connect with other families dealing with similar situations, please feel free to contact Kathleen or Veena at any time.

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

SCHOOL

Back to School Nights: We hope you enjoyed your BTSN presentations and found them informative. Dutch Neck staff members were thrilled to spend time with you, so you could learn all about your child's programs. Let's continue our open lines of communication between home and school throughout this school year.

Below are some important dates to place on your calendars:

- Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.: Virtual Parent University- Re-Entry and Resilience: Continuing to Cope with COVID. Register in advance for this webinar: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LpePGPi0RjK0FdpvovUBzQ
- Oct. 12, 13, 14 (evening) and 15: Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences: These are early dismissal days and dismissal is at 1 p.m.

Updated Parent Drop Off Procedures for the 2021-22 School Year: During arrival in the morning, our buses drop off children on the left side of the school (when facing the building). There are staff members assigned at each location to monitor and assist with the students exiting buses and entering the building. Because of the number of buses in these areas, parents should not be parking and walking children to the front or side doors.

If you choose to drive your child to school for morning drop off (doors open at 8:40 a.m.), please enter the east parking lot (the parking lot to the right when facing the school) and drive around the parking lot towards the front of the school. In previous years we have had students get out and enter the building on the side. In order to get

more traffic off of Village Road, please instead drive forward around the entire loop of the side lot and make a right within the parking lot so that you follow the building and go to the front of the school. When you are in the line in front of the building, you will notice about 6-8 cars stopped. The first car in the line pulls up further than the door where students enter the building and the remaining cars pull up one after the other. We ask that you remain in your car and follow the directions of the staff members who are assisting. Students should exit out of the cars on the side closest to the school and walk on the yellow lines that are on the other side of the barriers. After students enter Door 1, the next group of cars repeats the process.

We ask you to please be patient – the system is efficient and at most, you will wait a few minutes in the line. Please keep in mind that the start of the school day is 8:55 a.m. If you arrive at this time or later, you will need to park along the street or in the west visitor parking lot (the parking lot to the left when facing the school) and bring your child to the school through the front doors.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in helping to keep all of our students safe as they enter the school for the start of their great day.

--Mr. Argese & Mrs. Bruce

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- **Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences - Oct. 12-15:** Elementary school students will have an early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences. Half-day preschool is closed.
- **Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences - Oct. 14-15:** Students in grades 6-8 will have an early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences.
- **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 cellphone that is listed in your contact information in Genesis. Text messaging rates may apply. For additional details, please click [here](#).

- **Masks:** All students, staff, and visitors are required to wear a mask while indoors regardless of vaccination status except under specified reasons that impact an individual's health. Valve masks and neck gaiters are not permitted for use in school or District grounds. Unvaccinated individuals are recommended to wear masks in outdoor settings.
- **Health Screening:** For the 2021-22 school year, parents/guardians should ONLY complete a Health Screening Form in the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) for their child(ren) if one or more of the exclusion issues listed on the [School Exclusion Chart](#) apply to their child(ren). Upon completion of a health screening form in Genesis, parents/guardians should keep their child(ren) home and contact their school nurse for instructions.
- **Back-to-School Nights:** This year all [Back to School Nights](#) will be held virtually. Additional details and links will be provided by the schools closer to the event.
- **School Supply Lists:** Please click [here](#) to view a suggested list of supplies by school and grade level that will help to organize and prepare your student for the 2021-22 school year. High school teachers will provide students with a list of suggested items for their class during the first week of school. Individual teachers in the elementary and middle schools may also have a list of items specific to their class that they will share with students and families.
- **Substitutes:** Are you interested in being a 2021-22 substitute at WW-P? Please click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) to apply.
- **Virtual Preschool:** The child growth and development department and our WW-P high school students are excited to announce a free-of-charge virtual preschool for the 2021-22 school year. The program is open to children ages 3-5 who reside in WW-P. Students will have the opportunity to learn, interact, grow and develop age appropriate preschool skills virtually. For more information, please click [here](#).
- **Around the District News**
 - HSS PTSA fundraisers available Districtwide
 - It's the HAPPY BIRTHDAY LAWN SIGN! Celebrate your birthday to help us celebrate the HSS graduating seniors. For more information and to reserve your date, please click [here](#).

Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Sept. 24.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.

Counseling

- **Virtual Parent University:** in partnership with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, WW-P will facilitate a virtual Parent University Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. "Reentry & Resilience: Continuing to Cope with COVID" will assist parents in

understanding the anxious feelings, worries, and fears students may be feeling as they return to school. Appropriate support strategies, guidance, and tips will be shared. Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LpePGPi0RjK0FdpvovUBzQ

Community Education

- **Dutch Neck EDP:** Community Education is able to extend Dutch Neck EDP registration to a limited number of participants. Registrations will be taken on a first come-first served basis and must be completed online. Register through Community Pass [here](#)!
- **One Day Wonders- Day Off Care:** One Day Wonders is a full-day program open to ALL registered WW-P students in grades K-8 on most days in which school is not in session, through Feb. 1, 2022. Students will participate in activities and enjoy special visitors while on-site at a specific school location. More information can be found [here](#). To register for One Day Wonders, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).
- **Fall Afterschool Enrichment:** IN-PERSON and VIRTUAL after school enrichment program registration is now open for students in grades 1-12 and will close Sept. 28 or once capacity is reached. Registration is limited at each school or online. Check out the Fall guide [here](#). In-person enrichment programs begin the week of Oct. 4 as do most virtual enrichment programs. To register for fall after school enrichment programs, please set up your Community Pass account [here](#).

Food Services

- In conjunction with the federal government and the NJDOA, WW-P will be participating in a waiver that provides students access to nutritious meals at no cost.
 - [Click here](#) for directions for creating an account with PaySchools Central and pre-ordering may be found below.
 - Parents/guardians are reminded to pre-order via PaySchools Central if your student will be eating a lunch provided by WW-P Food Services.

Technology

- **Student Chromebook Issues:** If a student in grades k-8 has an issue with their Chromebook, they should report the problem to their homeroom teacher. All high school students who have an issue with their Chromebook should enter a tech ticket and drop off their Chromebook at the Media Center. Upon drop off, a replacement Chromebook will be provided.

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.

Community Events

- West Windsor is celebrating its 225th birthday in 2022. The Historical Society of West Windsor has many exciting events taking place throughout the year.
 - Take a [West Windsor Walking Tour](#) (ribbon cutting Oct. 10)
 - Enter the [225 Anniversary Logo Contest](#) (deadline: Sept. 30).
- Click [here](#) for more 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](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)