

Oct. 22, 2021

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

### PTA

- **Virtual Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest:** Dutch Neck PTA is sponsoring a virtual pumpkin carving and decorating contest for students in all grade levels! Do you have the scariest, the cutest, or most creative pumpkin? [Click here](#) for more details about this fun new contest. The contest is ending soon -- Tuesday, Oct. 26 is the final day to submit your entry. Check out all of the great entries so far on our Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta/>.
- **Reflections Program:** All Dutch Neck School students are invited to participate in the 2021-2022 Reflections Program sponsored by the National PTA by submitting original art related to the 2021-2022 theme. This year the theme is "I Will Change the World by...". Students may submit artwork in any of the following categories: dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, and visual arts. Student winners from the local level have the opportunity to move up through their district, region, council and state PTA programs to the national level. National PTA Reflections winners are celebrated at the annual convention and student showcase. To learn more visit [pta.org/reflections](http://pta.org/reflections). All Dutch Neck students who participate will receive a certificate. The deadline for entries is Nov. 8, 2021 (please give your child's teacher the entry form along with the artwork in an envelope addressed to PTA Reflections). Please see the [flyer](#) and [student entry form](#) for more details. Contact us at [reflections.dutchneck@gmail.com](mailto:reflections.dutchneck@gmail.com) for any questions.
- **Membership:** If you would like to become a member of the PTA, please click the link that follows: <https://dutchneck.memberhub.store>.

### SEPTSA

- **SEPTSA Meeting, Oct 28, 7 p.m., Virtual** - As many families complete their parent-teacher conferences, it's a time to reflect on whether their child's IEP may need adjustment. Join Dr. Teresa Taylor as she addresses questions regarding when adjusting IEP goals and accommodations may be helpful. Please RSVP to Veena by Oct. 28 at 5 p.m. for the Zoom link: [VeenaPai0408@gmail.com](mailto:VeenaPai0408@gmail.com)

- **SEPTSA Membership** - Our PTSA 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 available 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 for Special Ed Families** – Former and new participants for SEPTSA's WhatsApp will need to re-register due to a corruption of the application. Please use the following form to re-register.  
<https://forms.gle/69RqF2T8H5iuwxms7>
- **WW-P Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)** - To support parents of students with an IEP or 504 plan and to provide input to the district on special education issues, SEPAG meets regularly throughout the school year to hold discussions.
- **Lego Buddies, Oct. 23, 2-4 p.m., West Windsor Community Park Pavilion** – Show us your wild imagination wearing your favorite Halloween costume and building impressive creations with Legos. Kids can enjoy light refreshments and giveaways. Intended for students of special needs ages: pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. To RSVP by Oct. 22 by 10 p.m., and for questions: Kathleen Moriarty at [kkz4@verizon.net](mailto:kkz4@verizon.net).
- **Office Hours, Oct 24, 4-6pm, Virtual** – Join us for an informal meetup to ask questions and/or share experiences. **RSVP** by 12 p.m., Oct. 24 for the Zoom Link and for questions: contact Kathleen Moriarty at [kkz4@verizon.net](mailto:kkz4@verizon.net) or Veena Pai at [veenapai.0408@gmail.com](mailto:veenapai.0408@gmail.com). (If you have a question and this timing doesn't work with your schedule, but you'd like support or to connect with other families dealing in similar situations, please feel free to contact Kathleen or Veena at any time.)

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

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## SCHOOL

**Halloween Parade/Fall Celebrations:** We hope you and your family are doing well! With Halloween quickly approaching, we wanted to reach out regarding classroom celebrations. As always, safety is our top priority. Therefore, Halloween at Dutch Neck will look different this year. Instead of wearing costumes and participating in the schoolwide Halloween Parade, celebrations will take place in the classrooms throughout with various fall-themed and/or Halloween activities. Your child's teacher will provide further information specific to his/her classroom plans. We are looking forward to a fun-filled day with your child on Friday, Oct. 29! Thank you for your understanding!

If you are looking for other Halloween events, High School North National Honors Society will be hosting a Trunk or Treat event Friday, Oct. 22, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the high school. Please see the information below:

*Good afternoon Parents,*

*WW-P High School North's National Honors Society is hosting one of our biggest events of the year: Trunk or Treat this Friday, Oct. 22, from 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the High School North Senior Parking Lot! This event, open to all WW-P students and families, will be geared towards the District's K-5 elementary school students and will provide them a fun and safe way to enjoy the Halloween spirit. Students will be able to enjoy the decorated cars, have their picture taken (if desired), and collect their favorite Halloween candies! A path, marked by cones and arrows, will be set up for parents to drive their children around the parking lot. To ensure everyone's safety, NHS volunteers who are handing out candy will be gloved and masked. Trunk or Treat participants will also be asked to wear a mask and remain in the cars while driving through the parking lot. NHS volunteers will ask parents to open their car trunks, so NHS members can place the candy within.*

*If you are interested in bringing your child to attend this socially-distanced and very fun Halloween-themed event, please fill out the following [RSVP form](#).*

*Please email HSN National Honors Society ([wwpnorthnhs@gmail.com](mailto:wwpnorthnhs@gmail.com)) or Mr. Brendan McCann ([brendan.mccann@wwprsd.org](mailto:brendan.mccann@wwprsd.org)) with any questions or concerns. Be sure to have your children dress up in their favorite Halloween costumes and be prepared to have a lot of fun -- we are so excited to meet this year's trunk-or-treaters!*

*Best regards,*

*HSN National Honors Society*

**Kind Regards,**

**Mr. David Argese & Mrs. Laura Bruce**

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## **DISTRICT**

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

## Reminders

- WW-P Schools are closed Nov. 4 and 5, 2021. Please [click here](#) for the 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **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.
- **Substitutes:** Are you interested in being a 2021-22 substitute at WW-P? Please click [here](#) for more information and click [here](#) to apply.
- **Board of Education Meetings:** Effective Oct. 19, 2021, Board of Education meetings will be held in the multipurpose room at Central Office, 321 Village Road East, West Windsor, NJ. The meetings will also be live streamed via the District's [YouTube channel](#). Please [click here](#) for upcoming meeting dates.
- **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](#).
    - Share the joy of Diwali with a **Diwali gift bag** for \$15. Each gift bag will include a package of diyas, a package of sparklers, and an assortment of sweets. Place your order today using [this link](#) as quantities are limited!
  - HSN PTSA Post Prom/Senior Celebrations fundraiser available districtwide:
    - **Halloween Boos Fundraiser:** Send our Ghost Yard Stakes with a goodie bag to your friends and family. Boo deliveries will start Oct. 15 and end Nov. 1. Book yours today!! We have several options for sale, and you can easily pay through our [Memberhub store](#). [Click here to order](#).

- The HSN vs. HSS [Serve Up Hope Volleyball games](#) will be held Thursday, Oct. 28 (Varsity: 7 p.m.; JV: 5 p.m.; Freshmen: 3:30 p.m.) at High School South. All proceeds benefit Good Sports Equip-a-Kid.
- **HSN National Honors Society will host Trunk or Treat** for District K-5th grade students Oct. 22 from 4:30-6 p.m. in the High School North (90 Grovers Mills Rd.) Senior Parking Lot. Parents will drive their children through a marked path to enjoy decorated cars and collect candy from the safety of their personal car. Face coverings required for participants. [Click here](#) to register to attend.

## Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Oct. 22.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.

## Counseling

- **The next Virtual Parent University, *Video Gaming - Impacts of Addiction***, will be held Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. 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 which takes over their lives. *Video Gaming - Impacts of Addiction* will examine the impact of video gaming on children and adolescents. To login on Nov. 9, please use the following link:  
<https://zoom.us/j/93332150507?pwd=eFB4aTY2RUxFTi9rM1JPWHlnMGFMZz09>
- To view past Parent University presentations, please click [here](#).

## Community Education

- **Extended Day Program:** Spaces are available at Dutch Neck, Maurice Hawk, Town Center, Wicoff, Millstone River, Village, and GMS for afternoon EDP. As spaces are limited, registration is on a first come, first served basis. To check out EDP options, [click here](#). To register for EDP, set up or log into your Community Pass account [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](#).
- **Middle and High School Virtual Enrichment:** Virtual enrichment classes are still open for students to register. Most classes begin at the end of October and are offered in the evening and some Saturdays. Check out the Fall guide [here](#). To

register for fall middle and high school virtual 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.
- Effective Oct. 1, parents/guardians no longer need to pre-order student lunches.
- PaySchools Central is the new food service online system, [click here](#) for directions for creating an account.

### **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**

- The **West Windsor Health Department** has several upcoming COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Please [click here](#) for dates and more information.
- Gratitude Grows and Abundance Flows **4th Annual Gratitude Walk** will be held Oct. 24, 2021 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information.
- 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.
- Effective Oct. 19, 2021, Board of Education meetings will be held in the multipurpose room at Central Office, 321 Village Road East, West Windsor, NJ. The meetings will also be live streamed via the District's [YouTube channel](#).

**Follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.**

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)