

Oct. 29, 2021

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

On Tuesday, Nov. 2, all WW-P Schools will be VIRTUAL. There will be NO school Thursday, Nov. 4, and Friday, Nov. 5. Due to the shortened week, there will not be a Nov. 5 newsletter. The next newsletter will be sent Nov. 12.

PTA

- **Virtual Pumpkin Carving and Decorating Contest Update:** A big thank you from the Dutch Neck PTA to our talented students for participating in the first virtual pumpkin contest! There were so many amazing entries, it was really tough to choose the winners! The winning pumpkin photos will be showcased in the PTA display case near the main office and will be featured in the yearbook! The winners will receive a prize soon. Congratulations to all twelve of the winners! Click [here](#) to see the list of winners. Please get involved and help us plan our next events to continue the fun by emailing us at dutchneckpresident@gmail.com.
- **Reflections Program:** Now that we are done with the Pumpkin contest... let's get ready for the next exciting contest! All Dutch Neck students are invited to participate in the 2021-2022 Reflections Program sponsored by the National PTA by submitting original art related to this school year's theme, "I Will Change the World by...".
 - Please take a look at this [video](#) for more details about this contest.
 - Here is the website for further details: www.pta.org/reflections.
 - Please see the [flyer](#) and [student entry form](#) for more details.
 - Deadline : Nov. 8, 2021
 - Contact us at reflections.dutchneck@gmail.com for any questions.
- **Spirit Wear Update:** The shirts are finally here! Thank you all for your patience! The teachers should be done with the distribution by today. We hope your children will enjoy wearing their new shirts! If you have a receipt, but your child has not received a shirt yet, please email dutchneckfundraising@gmail.com.
- **Request to Help Mrs. Lavan, the Dutch Neck Nurse:** Would parents please donate clothing their children have grown out of to the nurse's office in sizes

5-10? Socks, underpants and long pants are especially needed. She is in dire need of boys' pants. Please ask your children to bring the clothes, in a grocery bag or a Ziploc bag, labeled with her name: Mrs. Brenda Lavan (or School Nurse) to give to their teacher. The teacher will give it to the nurse. Thank you!

- **Membership:** If you would like to become a member of the PTA, please click the link that follows: <https://dutchneck.memberhub.store>.

SEPTSA

- **SEPTSA Reflections Participation** – We're offering the Reflections program to all special education students with IEPs and 504s. The theme for 2021-22 is "I Will Change the World By...". Please refer to the following link for more information: <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>. Email your entries or questions to: septsa.reflection@gmail.com. The deadline for submissions is Dec. 1, 2021.
- **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.

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

SCHOOL

- **Reminders:** Remember that the District is only authorized to provide virtual instruction for COVID-based reasons. Please remember to communicate with our school nurse regarding any travel outside of NJ, NY, PA, or DE. Should virtual instruction be necessary, please know that the teachers will provide the students

with the Zoom links and login instructions in time for the first day of virtual instruction so that students may have “eyes and ears in the room” and can stay connected to their classrooms.

- **Virtual Day, Nov. 2:** As previously shared, all district students will receive their instruction virtually Tuesday, Nov. 2. Students will bring home a school-issued device on Monday, Nov. 1.
 - Some important information to make your child’s virtual day successful:
 - Students should be logged in by 8:55 a.m. Afternoon kindergarten students should log in at 12:45 p.m.
 - To connect with the classroom teacher on Zoom, your teacher will email you a link or make sure the link is posted in his/her Google classroom.
 - Help your child follow Zoom expectations when working virtually:
 - Be on time.
 - Dress for school.
 - Sit in a quiet location where you can work and not be distracted.
 - Have all your materials ready in your work area.
 - Mute your Zoom when not talking.
 - Be a kind and respectful listener.
 - Be sure to get up, get moving and move away from the screen during breaks.

Kind Regards,

Mr. David Argese & Mrs. Laura Bruce

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- All WW-P schools will be closed to in-person instruction Nov. 2, 2021, (Election Day). **Instruction by WW-P staff will be conducted virtually on Nov. 2, 2021.** This change is ONLY effective for Tuesday, Nov. 2.
- All 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](#).

Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Oct. 29. Please note: Due to the short week, there will be no Health and Safety Update sent Friday, Nov. 5.
- 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

- **Full-Day Care available Election Day- Tuesday, Nov. 2:** Community Education will be offering EDP Drop-In Day child care for any WW-P kindergarten through 8th grade student. This full-day, in-person child care will be held at Village School Nov. 2 from 7 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. for \$35/child. Spots are limited and registration is on a first-come, first served basis. The EDP Drop-In Day will follow the same health and safety protocols as WW-P Schools (i.e., temperature check upon entrance, masks required, frequent hand washing). Students must bring all materials needed to complete their full-virtual school day along with a nut-free lunch. Registration is online through [Community Pass](#) under "2021-2022 EDP Drop In Days."
- **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](#). ***Please note there is a change in location for Nov. 4 and 5.** To register for One Day Wonders, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).
- **Middle and High School Virtual Enrichment - November Classes Still Available:** Virtual enrichment classes are still open for students to register. Select classes begin in November. 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.
- 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

- 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](#)