

Jan. 14, 2022

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

**All WW-P schools and district offices are closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

### PTA

- **Dutch Neck Yearbook Update:**

- The yearbook cover contest has been cancelled. We thank all of the Dutch Neck families for your understanding at this time. Please upload your artwork (**Comic Book Theme: Dutch Neck School Comeback: Stronger Than Ever!**) with this [link](#). Submission deadline for these pictures is **Friday, Jan. 14 by 10 p.m.** The link will be changed to “view only” after 10 p.m. tonight.

- Kindly name the image file as  
studentname\_grade\_teacherlastname.jpeg.
- The submissions will be featured in a special section inside of the yearbook.

- Let's make this year's yearbook special by uploading your fun, and creative photos (JPEG format ONLY please). Some examples are: spirit days, first snow day, third graders chorus concert, around my town pictures, Halloween, etc

- To upload the photos, [click here](#). This link has all the folders.
- Please name the image file as  
studentname\_grade\_teacherlastname.jpeg.

- For any further questions, please contact us at [yearbookdn@gmail.com](mailto:yearbookdn@gmail.com)

- **Coffee with the Counselor: Jan. 26 from 10-11 a.m.:** Please save the date for an important virtual meeting with Dutch Neck guidance counselor, Mrs. Dunne about **“Anxiety related to handling behaviors at home.”** This is not a PTA meeting; the PTA is only promoting this special meeting with Mrs. Dunne and introducing her. Mrs. Dunne will have a Q&A session for families following

her presentation. Since we have noticed a lot of parents have had concerns about this matter, the PTA wanted to facilitate an opportunity to help.

### Important Dutch Neck PTA Links:

- **Dutch Neck PTA Membership:** For details, [click here](#).
- **Donate and Make a Difference:** For details about JWAC (Just Write A Check), <https://tinyurl.com/JWAC-DNschool>.
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Find instructions for AmazonSmile [here](#). Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at [smhttps://dutchneck.memberhub.com/store/items/89721ile.amazon.com](https://dutchneck.memberhub.com/store/items/89721ile.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](mailto:receipts@boxtops4education.com).
- **Visit Our Website:** <https://dutchneckpta.org/>
- **Visit Our Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta>

### SEPTSA

- **Lego Robotic Buddies, one hour session by arrangement (virtual):** Our student volunteers provide one-to-one sessions learning and playing with Lego WeDo robotics. Intended for special needs children of WWP SEPTSA adult members or student members. To arrange a session or ask questions, please contact Kathleen Moriarty at [kkz4@verizon.net](mailto:kkz4@verizon.net).
- **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 note that registration with your child(ren) school PTA/PTSA or having your child classified or "registered" with Special Services is not the same as registering for SEPTSA. Please click [here](#) for more information about SEPTSA.
- **WhatsApp for Special Ed Families:** Join us on WhatsApp to connect with other WW-P families of special education students. [Connect with WWP special ed parents.](#)

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

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### SCHOOL

- **Need BOOKS?:** Wondering what to read when your child can't get to the library? We've got you covered! Our school provides multiple ebook (online) collections for our students, teachers, and families. This past week, media classes were introduced to our newest ebook resource, Capstone Interactive ebook library. This collection of over 3,500 ebooks allows readers to search and filter books by topic, grade level, and reading level so that our readers can all find something interesting to read! Students have the option to have Capstone read the books to them or to turn off the audio to read on their own. Dutch Neck students brought home paper directions for logging onto Capstone Interactive (logon is through PebbleGo in ClassLink) and have practiced in media class. Check out the other ebook resources that we provide through ClassLink as well – Destiny Discover, MackinVia, Tumblebooks, and RazKids!
- **Coffee with the Counselor:** Join Mrs. Dunne and fellow Dutch Neck parents Jan. 26 from 10-11 a.m. to discuss "Anxiety related to handling behaviors at home." The PTA will be sending out more information including a Zoom link to attend this session.
- **Health Form in Genesis Parent Portal:** Currently, the nurse's office is receiving a high volume of emails and phone calls. If you are contacting us regarding your child testing positive for COVID-19, having COVID-like symptoms or being a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please be sure to complete the Health Screening form in Genesis per Dr. Aderhold's email. These forms are being addressed first. Someone will reach out to you regarding your form and virtual instruction (if eligible) will be set up within 24 hours. Please refer to the school exclusion chart linked below as to whether or not your child is eligible for virtual instruction.
  - Parents/guardians are reminded that if their child is experiencing symptoms or is unvaccinated and has been identified as a close contact, they are to complete the health screening form in the [Genesis Parent Portal](#). Virtual instruction will be provided to quarantined and isolated individuals during such quarantine based on the [School Exclusion Chart](#). We ask parents/guardians to be patient as virtual instruction information is set up due to the possibility of high demand. Once the form is submitted, please keep your child home and wait for a District staff member to reach out.
  - Please know that we are doing our best to address forms, answer emails and phone messages, as well as taking care of students present in school. If you have an emergency, please contact the main office.

- **Vaccinations:** If your child has completed both vaccinations for COVID-19, send a copy of your vaccination record to our school nurse, Mrs. Brenda Lavan at [brenda.lavan@ww-p.org](mailto:brenda.lavan@ww-p.org)
- **Symptoms:** Please keep your child home should she/he display more than one COVID symptom, regardless of vaccination status. Also, please do not provide medicine that may mask symptoms (e.g., Tylenol) then send your child to school.
- **Zooms:** Please expect a period of teacher preparation (usually one day) prior to your child being offered a Zoom link. Providing virtual instruction while teaching the live class is extremely complex and takes planning and adjustment of materials. While the Zooms are intended to be passive opportunities to hear what is happening in the classroom rather than active, interactive experiences, our teachers are working hard to make them as productive as possible for everyone involved, so a great deal of preparation is needed.
- There is no doubt that this "Omicron" phase of our COVID journey is a difficult one. We are grateful for our staff and our community for working together, staying flexible, and moving forward with the best interests of our students in mind. We want to specifically thank our nurse, Mrs. Lavan and our main office staff, Mrs. Wiener, Mrs. Wolosky and Mrs. Piccirillo, who have been giving superhuman effort and care. We know that every single family and staff member is doing their absolute best right now, and we appreciate that a great deal.
- Please don't hesitate to reach out and know that we are in constant communication with the health department to ensure that we are employing best practices in order to maintain a safe environment where students can learn and benefit from live interaction with their teachers.

Thank you for all that you are doing.

Mr. Argese & Mrs. Bruce

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## **DISTRICT**

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

## **Reminders**

- **WW-P Schools Closed Monday, Jan. 17, 2022:** All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please click [here](#) for the 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **Updated WW-P Academic Calendar:** With the change of the previously scheduled PD Day (from Feb. 21 to Jan. 3) as well as the use of one emergency closing day (Jan. 7), all WW-P schools and board offices will be open Feb. 21, 2022, and April 13, 2022. Please click [here](#) for the updated 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.
- **Around the District News**
  - PTA/PTSA fundraisers available districtwide
    - HSS PTSA: 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, Jan. 14.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.

## Counseling

- To view past Parent University presentations, please click [here](#).

## Community Education

- Winter After School Enrichment Registration Open for K-12th Grade Students: Join Community Education for both in-person and online enrichment programs, beginning Jan. 24, 2022! Programs are again offered to elementary through high school students. Kindergarteners are now eligible to participate in select programs at each school. **Registration closes Tuesday, Jan. 18.** Check out the winter guide by clicking here: [2022 Winter Enrichment Guide](#).
- 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](#).

## 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.
- Interested in a part-time job serving nutritious meals to our students? Please call Food Services at (609) 716-5000 x5938, or visit [www.Sodexo.jobs](http://www.Sodexo.jobs) and search "Plainsboro".

## 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.
- **Virtual Students with Chromebook Issues:** Students in grades K-8 who are currently learning virtually due to a required quarantine/isolation and are experiencing a Chromebook issue, should contact their teacher who will enter a tech ticket on their behalf. The student will then be contacted by a school staff member to exchange their current device with a new one. High school students should reach out to their assigned [assistant principal](#) to make arrangements.

## 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 upcoming COVID-19 vaccination clinics scheduled through January 2022. Click [here](#) for more information.
- WW-P AAPSG, West Windsor Arts, and the WW-P youth chapter of the NAACP invite the community to join them in participating in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Jan. 17, 2022. For more information on how to participate, please click [here](#).
- 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.
- Board of Education meetings are held in the multipurpose room at Central Office, 321 Village Road East, West Windsor, NJ. The meetings are also live streamed via the District's [YouTube channel](#).
- The West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District Board of Education has announced a West Windsor vacancy for a board position. Letters of interest, resume, and any other relevant information indicating qualifications is due no later than 4 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022. For addition information and how to apply, please visit the District [website](#).

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

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