

Jan. 28, 2022

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

**All WW-P schools will be closed Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022.**

### PTA

- **Coffee with the Principals: Feb. 3, 2021, at 7 p.m.:** Please save the date for our next virtual PTA general meeting with our special guest speaker, Mrs. Anne Marie Hughes, grade K-3 gifted and talented resource specialist. Mrs. Hughes will discuss "Ways to Encourage Lifelong Learning in Today's World." [Click here](#) for Zoom link and details.
- **Dutch Neck Yearbook:** Let's make this year's yearbook special by uploading your fun, and creative photos (JPEG format ONLY please). To upload the photos, [click here](#). This link has all the folders.
  - Please feel free to upload spirit days pics as you take them at home with your kids. Spirit day photos can be [uploaded here](#). **School spirit days can be found on this [calendar](#).**
  - 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)
- **NJPTA Outstanding Educator of the Year Award:** NJPTA recognizes the excellent educators in school who work collaboratively with the parents, students, and community. Dutch Neck PTA is applying for the award. We are asking you to recommend an educator for this year. Please fill out this [form](#) if you feel strongly about nominating any particular teacher (grade/special/resource) by Feb. 1, 2022. Thank you!

### 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 [smile.amazon.com](https://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](mailto:receipts@boxtops4education.com).

- **Visit Our Website:** <https://dutchneckpta.org/>
- **Visit Our Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta>

## SEPTSA

- **Lego Robotic Buddies, 1 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. Please see below for membership registration. To arrange a session and ask questions, contact Kathleen Moriarty at [kkz4@verizon.net](mailto:kkz4@verizon.net).
- **Office Hours, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m., Virtual:** Join us for an informal meetup to ask questions and/or share experiences. To RSVP by 12 p.m. Feb. 6 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 contact Kathleen or Veena at any time.)
- **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 does not qualify as membership with 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

- **Parent Presentation on Helping Children with Anxious Feelings:** Miss the Presentation from our School Counselor, Mrs. Dunne on Helping Your Child with Anxious Feelings? You are in luck! The slides are available for viewing [here](#).
- **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 (login 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!

- **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 are closed Tuesday, Feb. 1:** Please click [here](#) for the 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Monday, Feb. 7, and Tuesday, Feb. 8, are middle school parent-teacher conference days. Both Community and Grover Middle Schools will follow the [early dismissal schedule](#) and will dismiss at 12:20 p.m. An express lunch will be served at the middle schools Feb. 7 and Feb. 8.

- **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**
  - 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](#).
    - The Valentine Fundraiser is back! Send a jar of Hershey kisses to family, friends, WW-P teachers/staff or WW-P police and fire departments! Quantities are limited, so put your order in today using [this form](#)!

## Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Jan. 28.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.
- WW-P, in conjunction with West Windsor Health Department will hold pediatric COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinics for WW-P students and children of WW-P staff members Feb. 2 and Feb. 9 from 4-7 p.m. Please click [here](#) for more information.
- Beginning the week of Jan. 31, the District will offer students and vaccinated staff the opportunity to participate in a free, voluntary, opt-in weekly COVID

testing program. For more information and how to register, please [click here](#).

- Reminder: Testing kits will be sent home with registered participants Thursday, Jan. 27, and Friday, Jan. 28, and must be returned Monday, Jan. 31.
- For test instructions, please click [here](#).

## Counseling

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

## Community Education

- **Coming Soon:** Spring After School Enrichment (*In-person AND virtual options*); Saturday Sports Programs; Middle School and High School Programs; and Summer Program Registration Information (*in-person AND virtual options*)
- **Extended Day Program (EDP) Registration Available:** Extended Day Program (EDP) registration is open for spaces at each elementary and middle school location. Morning care begins at 7 a.m. and is available to all kindergarten through fifth grade students. Afternoon care begins at school dismissal (2:45 p.m. or 3:15 p.m.) and concludes at 6:30 p.m. for all students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade.
  - Spaces are limited due to social distancing requirements. Once a school has reached capacity, registration will be closed for that location. Registration is required.
  - To register for any of the Community Education programs, please set up your Community Pass account here: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).

## Food Services

- The Sodexo February menus and newsletter are available, [click here](#) to read.
- 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.

### **WW-P Education Foundation**

- The Education Foundation is accepting requests through Feb. 11, 2022, for the [HEART campaign](#). Give a Valentine's Day HEART to honor your child's teacher, school counselor, principal, or staff member who makes a difference in their lives. Show them you love them!
- The Education Foundation will host their annual Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival for students in grades K-8 as a virtual event this year. The event will be held Feb. 26 for students in grades K-3 and Feb. 27 for students in grades 4-8. For more info and to register, please click [here](#).

### **Community Events**

- Penn Medicine Princeton Health in collaboration with Carbon Health and Flow Health are partnering with Plainsboro Township to provide free COVID-19 testing at the Princeton Alliance Church in Plainsboro, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. [Click here](#) for more details.
- The West Windsor Health Department has several COVID-19 vaccine clinics scheduled in February. Dates, details and registration information may be found [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](#).

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

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