# **Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter**

# **PTA**

- **PTA REFLECTIONS**: There was a record number of entries this year from so many creative Dutch Neck students! All students who entered will receive a participation certificate. <u>Click here</u> to see the four winners who will advance from the county level to the state level.
- **Yearbooks Now On Sale:** Order your copy of the Dutch Neck Yearbook today! It is a full color, softcover book with over 100 pages of school memories to keep forever! This year, the Dutch Neck PTA has a special price offering of \$28, if you buy before March 15, 2022. The price after March 15, 2022, is \$32. The yearbooks will be delivered to school and distributed to the students by their teachers.
  - Please see this <u>flyer</u> for more details.
  - <u>Click here</u> to order yours today!
  - For any questions, please email <a href="mailto:yearbookdn@gmail.com">yearbookdn@gmail.com</a>.
- Yearbook links to upload photos: Thank you to all of the families that have been uploading photos to help make this year's yearbook special! Please keep uploading more of your fun, and creative photos (JPEG format ONLY please). To upload the photos, click here. This link has all the folders. Kindly upload your photos directly into the appropriately named folder instead of the main yearbook folder. Please note that some folders will be closed when there is no space left. We want to ensure that your photos can get in.
- Please feel free to upload spirit days pics as you take them at home with your kids. Spirit day photos can be <u>uploaded here</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:vearbookdn@gmail.com">vearbookdn@gmail.com</a>
- Virtual Third Grade International Carnival 3/31 from 6-8 p.m.: Please save the date, stay tuned for more details coming soon.
- Staff appreciation lunch update: The Dutch Neck teachers and staff really enjoyed the COVID-safe <u>lunch</u> on Wednesday, Feb. 23rd, catered by **Aljon's of** Plainsboro! It was a great way to show our appreciation for all that they do!

Thank you to all of the families who made that possible with your PTA membership dues and generous donations.

### **Important Dutch Neck PTA Links:**

- **Dutch Neck PTA Membership:** For details, <u>click here</u>.
- 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 <u>here</u>. Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at <u>smile.amazon.com</u>.
- **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 <a href="mailto:receipts@boxtops4education.com">receipts@boxtops4education.com</a>.
- Visit Our Website: <a href="https://dutchneckpta.org/">https://dutchneckpta.org/</a>
- Visit Our Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta">https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta</a>

#### 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. Please see below for membership registration. To arrange a session and ask questions, contact Kathleen Moriarty at 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 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. <u>Connect with WWP special ed parents</u>

Links: <u>SEPTSA Facebook Page</u> | <u>SEPTSA Website</u> | <u>Membership Form</u>

### SCHOOL

- Interested in being more involved at Dutch Neck? We have a lunch aide opening! The position assists with lunch and recess for our students from 11:15 a.m. -1:45 p.m. every day school is in session. We are looking for adults who love being around kids, are able to help with the management of the cafeteria procedures, and can work collaboratively with our staff. It is a wonderful opportunity for someone looking to work during the middle part of the day when students are in school! Interested?
  - Please follow this link to apply and search 'Cafeteria Aide' to find the one specifically for Dutch Neck:

https://westwindsorplainsboro.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx

• Important Message Regarding Safety and Drop Off Procedures: Dutch Neck Elementary School would like to remind you of the following information in a continued effort to make sure our students are safe during arrival times:

## Morning Parent Drop Off

- Drop off is from 8:40-8:55 a.m. Please note if you are not in the front of the school prior to 8:55 a.m., you will need to park and sign in your child, who will be marked tardy.
- Drop off is a single lane system. For everyone's safety, no one is permitted to pass cars at any time during drop off.
- Please follow the line of cars and pull up as far as possible. Staff members will direct you when to pull up.
- Students may exit the vehicle only when they are next to the yellow crosswalk in front of the building. Please do not drop off on the side of the school. No students should be dropped off where school buses are entering or exiting.
- The system in place moves quickly and efficiently so we ask for your patience as students exit cars and come into the building.

# Crossing the street

- Please make sure that you and your child ONLY cross the street at the designated crossing area. A crossing guard is posted there during arrival and dismissal times.
- If your child is a walker, please walk them to the front entrance, obeying all traffic laws.
- If you choose to park on the street, you may only park in open spots. Do not block entrances or exits. You must also walk your child to the front entrance.

### Buses Only Parking Lot

- Between the hours of 8:30-9:00 a.m. and 3:00-3:30 p.m., the left lot (by the gym and cafeteria) is closed with the exception of school buses. There are signs up as reminders that no cars should be entering or parking during those times.
- There is extra parking available on the street and across the street in the Windsor Chapel parking lot.

Our objective is to have all students enter the school in a safe manner. Thank you for following these guidelines in an effort to provide a safe space for our young children.

-Mr. Argese & Mrs. Bruce

### **DISTRICT**

Links: <u>WW-P Website</u> | <u>Academic Calendars</u> | <u>Events Calendar</u>

#### Reminders

- **WW-P Academic Calendar**: With the use of one emergency closing day (Jan. 7, 2022), all WW-P schools and board offices will be open April 13, 2022. Please click <a href="here">here</a> for the updated 2021-22 school year calendar.
- **Staff Email Addresses:** Please note that effective Feb. 8, 2022, all staff email addresses have been updated to @wwprsd.org. Staff email addresses use the following pattern <a href="mailto:firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org">firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org</a> (e.g., Jim Smith is <a href="mailto:jim.smith@wwprsd.org">jim.smith@wwprsd.org</a>).
- **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 <a href="here">here</a>.
- **WW-P Mobile Application:** The WW-P app is now available for download on both the <u>Apple</u> and <u>Google Play</u> app store. Designed for the school community, it features convenient links and information all in one place. Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.
- **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 <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Health and Safety**

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, Feb. 25.
- Click here to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.
- Free, optional, weekly COVID testing at High School North: The next testing date is Saturday Feb. 26, from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. for WW-P students and vaccinated staff. The free, COVID-19 testing program is completely voluntary and held onsite at High School North (90 Grovers Mill Rd., Plainsboro) Saturdays from 9 a.m. 12 p.m. For more information and how to register, please click here.
  - The onsite testing program replaces the program that sent test kits home with students/staff who registered to participate.

#### Counseling

• To view past Parent University presentations, please click here.

#### **Community Education**

- Integrated Preschool Registration to begin March 21: Beginning at 9 a.m., Monday, March 21, Community Education will open registration for the 2022-2023 Integrated Preschool program. Students must be either three or four years of age by Oct. 1, 2022, in order to register for the school year.
  - Spaces are limited to 12 students per section and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Once filled, a waitlist will automatically generate.
  - Open an account in <u>Community Pass</u> and register under 2022-2023 Extended Day, KE & Pre-K.

- Spring After School Enrichment Registration is NOW open. Both in-person and virtual programs are being offered! Spaces are limited.
  - Check out the 2022 Spring Guide <u>here</u>.
  - \*New Middle School and High School IN-PERSON programs are being offered May 3 at High School North.
    - CSI: How STEM is Used to Solve Crimes: Students in 5th through 12th grade can work alongside real police detectives for a day of forensic science!
    - Strategic Decision Making for WWP Students: Students in 6th-9th grade learn to build confidence, leadership, and steps in smart decision making!
    - Register for these classes under 2021-2022 Adult & Youth in Community Pass.
- In-person Saturday youth sports are back! Saturdays this May, learn and practice tennis and/or basketball skills and drills in-person. Classes begin Saturday, May 7, and are held indoors.
  - Spaces are limited and registration closes Friday, April 29 at 12 p.m.
- **COMING SOON:** In-person and Virtual Summer programs!
- Extended Day Program (EDP) Registration Available: 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 5th 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.
- Introduction to Discrete Math- High School Summer Course: The WW-P Introduction to Discrete Mathematics course will be in session from July 11, 2022, through August 5, 2022. Class will meet in-person from 8:30 11:30 a.m. on Monday through Friday. This class is taught by WWPRSD teachers and students will earn 2.5 math credits with no Option ii exam.
  - Spaces are limited and registration closes May 10.
  - For more information check out the <u>Frequently Asked Question</u> form. To register for the class, set up your Community Pass account and click on 2022 Summer Discrete Math.
- Registration: To register for any of the Community Education programs, please set up your Community Pass account here: <u>Community Pass Registration</u> <u>Link</u>.

#### **Food Services**

• Check out the Sodexo menus and newsletter by clicking here.

- 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, <u>click here</u> 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 <a href="www.Sodexo.jobs">www.Sodexo.jobs</a> 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 <u>assistant principal</u> to make arrangements.

#### **District Communication**

- WW-P uses **SchoolMessenger** as our <u>district communication tool</u>. It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis.
- The WW-P mobile application is now available for download on both the <a href="Apple">Apple</a> and <a href="Google Play">Google Play</a> app store. Designed for the school community, the app features convenient links and information all in one place (e.g., events calendar, District notifications, news, and more). Download the app using the hyperlinks above or by searching "WW-P Schools" in the Google Play Store or App Store on Apple.

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

• 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 <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Community Events**

 AAPSG invites the community to celebrate Black History Month. The theme for 2022 Black History Month is "Black Health and Wellness." Mark your calendar and register for <u>upcoming events</u>. • Click <u>here</u> for more upcoming virtual events and activities from community groups and organizations.

### **WW-P Board of Education**

- Check out the upcoming <u>Board of Education meeting</u> 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 <u>YouTube channel</u>.

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

<u>Twitter | Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube</u>