

March 04, 2022

## Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

### PTA

- **Virtual Green Science Fair:** Thank you to all the 70 participants for registering. All participants should have received the Padlet information this week. Please upload your videos by March 16 so we can publish them for all to view on the day of the Science Fair. Our teachers are busy assigning participants to teacher volunteers. Emails with a schedule will be coming out by March 10. For questions, please reach out at: [wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com](mailto:wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com)
  - **Event date and time:** March 19, 9-11 a.m. (Virtual)
  - **Zoom link:** To be mailed directly to participants
- **Spring Book Fair: SAVE THE DATE:** Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 8. Kids will have the opportunity to shop during their library/media period. All purchases go to support the Wicoff Media Center and student events sponsored by the PTA. More details to come in the following weeks.
- **Write a Check Campaign:** PTA is always in need of funds to support activities for our kids. Memberships cover some of the costs, but still fall way short of the funds required to cover the costs for the year. With a busy activities season underway and with upcoming activities like Field Day, 3rd Grade Carnival, Year End Picnic and 3rd Grade Yearbooks, we seek your help in raising money for the PTA. No amount is too small. The PTA is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. We respect your privacy if you want to keep the donation anonymous. PTA appreciates your generosity and support towards our kids. You can make a donation two ways:
  - Write a check to "Wicoff PTA" and send it with your child to school.
  - Make an online donation through <https://wicoff.memberhub.com/store>.
- **Ping Pong Fundraiser:** The Wicoff PTA is very excited to present the first-ever Family Table Tennis Event at "Princeton Pong", a local club in Princeton Junction. Please plan your visit and mark your calendars for this wonderful fundraiser event. PTA has negotiated a discounted rate of \$15/hr per table for Wicoff families. The event will run through March 6, 2022. More details on the event will be sent via email by teachers and will be available on PTA's social media.
- **Spirit Wear:** If you missed ordering and need to order, please let us know. We have limited quantities left.

- **Join the PTA:** Many families have registered for PTA membership. This gives you the right to vote at events and your children the opportunity to participate in Reflections. It is still not too late to register for PTA. Join PTA using this link: <https://wicoff.new.memberhub.store/store>

### Ways to support the PTA:

- **Amazon Smile:** <https://smile.amazon.com/> Add Jvb Wicoff Elem School as a charity you support OR on your amazon app, go to settings -> Amazon Smile to add Wicoff school.
- **Support by Donating:** [Click here to donate.](#)
- **Box Tops:** Download the Box Tops App on your phone, add Wicoff school and scan your receipts.

If you have any questions, concerns and/or ideas, please contact us at [wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com](mailto:wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com).

Useful PTA Links: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Wicoff's Twitter](#)

### SEPTSA

- **Lego Robotic Buddies, 1-Hour Session by Arrangement (Virtual or In-person)** – Our student volunteers provide one-to-one sessions learning and playing with Lego WeDo robotics. Intended for special needs children of WW-P 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).
- **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

### **Partner with us in celebrating SEL Day on March 11**

The West Windsor-Plainsboro School District is proud to participate with communities around the globe in celebrating the importance of social-emotional learning (SEL) on the third annual International SEL Day on Friday, March 11, 2022. This celebration will support our [district strategic goal](#) which focuses on Social Emotional Learning.

To celebrate SEL day, on March 11, our elementary school communities will strategically promote social-emotional learning throughout the day through classroom lessons, pre-recorded read alouds, morning announcements promoting positive affirmations, and fun, engaging activities. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to celebrate SEL Day at home! Click [HERE](#) to access a choice board of activities created to provide information about SEL and to help your child build skills in each area. If you would like to learn more about the five core competencies of social emotional learning, click [here](#).

During the week of March 7, we encourage you to take some time away from your daily routine and try a few of the activities linked above.

**Health Form in Genesis Parent Portal:** Parents/guardians are reminded that if their child is COVID positive, 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 (if eligible) 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 remember to hit SUBMIT so we receive your form.**

**Outdoor Recess:** Winter is here and the cold weather is upon us. We remind you to send your child/children to school each day with appropriate dress. This includes jackets, gloves, scarves and hats. Throughout the winter months, **we will make every attempt to send the children outside for recess whenever possible.** If going outside is not an option due to the temperature or inclement weather, appropriate indoor activities, projects and games will be provided for the children. Children will not be permitted to go outside if they are not dressed in proper attire for the cold weather.

### **Important Reminders About Winter Weather and Other Important**

**Announcements and Information:** With the snow season starting, it is important to be prepared. Any winter weather announcements will be shared on the following:

District website: [ww-p.org](http://ww-p.org)

Twitter: [Twitter.com/WWP\\_Schools](https://twitter.com/WWP_Schools)

Facebook: Facebook.com/WWP.Schools

Guardian email: The email listed in Genesis

Text messaging service: If you are signed up. For more information on how to sign up for emergency notifications via text, please click [here](#).

**Children's Sweatpants Donations are STILL NEEDED:** Thank you to those families who were able to donate. The nurse's office is still looking for donated sweatpants. We are looking for children's sizes 5-12. We will gladly accept new or lightly worn sweatpants. Please send in donations with your child or drop-off with the security officer at the main entrance doors. We thank you in advance for your generous donations!

**Wicoff Spirit Day Dates:** [Click here](#) for important **Wicoff Spirit Day** dates to place on your calendars. Students are encouraged to wear their Wicoff Spirit Wear or school colors (blue, white and orange) on Fridays throughout the school year. **Next Spirit Day: March 25 – Twin Day/Mismatch Day**

**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. Wicoff students can find directions in your child's Media Google Classroom 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!

**Important Reminders for Student Drop Off and Pickup:**

If you are dropping off your child in the morning, please park in the church parking lot (adjacent to Wicoff School) and walk your child to the front entrance of the building. Please DO NOT drive in the bus lane in the front of the school building to drop-off your child as this interferes with our buses.

If you are picking up your child at the end of the school day, you need to send a note with your child stating this information. If this is an everyday occurrence one note explaining this will cover pickup for the school year. If this is NOT an everyday occurrence you will need to write a note each time. Please also note our parent pickup location has changed. Parents picking up their child(ren) at the end of the day will report to the middle door in the front of the building. We call this the third grade hallway doors or Door #13. As always, the safety and comfort of our students is our top priority!

**Construction Safety:** Please be aware that construction has begun in the rear of the Wicoff School building. Construction vehicles will be entering and exiting the school driveway located off of Plainsboro Road. Please drive carefully!!

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## DISTRICT

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

## 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 [here](#) 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 [firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org](#) (e.g., Jim Smith is [jim.smith@wwprsd.org](#)).
- **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](#).
- **WW-P Mobile Application:** The WW-P app is now available for download on both the [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#) 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:** Through March 6, 2022, 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. Information regarding masks (effective for March 7, 2022), will be shared in the March 4, 2022, Health and Safety Update.
- **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](#).

## Health and Safety

- A **Health and Safety Update** from Dr. Aderhold will be sent Friday, March 4.
- 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, March 5, 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](#).

## Counseling

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

## Community Education

- **Registering for a Community Education Program:** Community Education uses a software called Community Pass. New users will need to open an account and list all program users and participants. There are specific registration deadlines and balance restrictions.
  - The Community Pass Registration site can be found [here](#).
- **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 [Community Pass](#) 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 [here](#).
  - Register in [Community Pass](#) under After School Enrichment Catalog. Registration closes at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29.

- **\*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.
- **Spring Break One Day Wonders:** Full-day childcare for WW-P students will be offered between Monday, April 18-Friday, April 22, at Millstone River Elementary School. The program will begin at 7 a.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. A special visitor will be presenting to the students each day. Registration closes 3 days before the start of each program or until the program meets capacity. For more information click [here](#).
  - Register in [Community Pass](#) under 2021-2022 One Day Wonders.
- **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 [Frequently Asked Question](#) form. To register for the class, set up your Community Pass account and click on 2022 Summer Discrete Math.
  - To register for the class, set up your [Community Pass account](#) and click on 2022 Summer Discrete Math.
- **COMING SOON:** In-person and Virtual Summer programs!

## Food Services

- Check out the Sodexo March 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, [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".
- Next week, March 7-11, is National School Breakfast Week. Encourage your children to become a BREAKFAST HERO and help celebrate by starting each morning with a healthy breakfast. Breakfast heroes try new breakfast foods, are kind to others, and do their best every day!

## 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.
- The WW-P mobile application is now available for download on both the [Apple](#) and [Google Play](#) 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.

## Community Events

- The West Windsor Health Department has several upcoming COVID-19 vaccine clinics scheduled for March. 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](#)