

March 18, 2022

Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

- **Virtual Green Science Fair:** Good luck to all our young scientists tomorrow for their presentations. For questions, please reach out at:
wicoffptasciencefair@gmail.com
 - **Event date and time:** March 19, 9-10 a.m. (Virtual)
 - **Zoom link:** Sent directly to participants
- **ProSkate Skating Event:** With winter winding down, come enjoy some skating fun with school friends and parents. This is a great opportunity to connect with others and raise money for the PTA while enjoying ice skating! Forms were sent home with students March 4. Please return the forms by March 21.
 - **Event date and time:** March 26, 4-6 p.m.
 - **Place:** ProSkate, 1000 Cornwall Rd, Monmouth Junction, NJ
- **Reflections:** Three Wicoff students won at the state level and have moved on to the national competition. Heartiest congratulations!! We are all rooting for you to win the National.
 - Visual Art
 - Tanvika Sivaraj - Special Artist Award of Merit
 - Film Production
 - Pramitha Venkateshwaran - Award of Excellence
 - Music Composition
 - Ridit Sharma - Honorable Mention
- **Panera FundRaiser:** Support the PTA by having dinner at Panera. Panera will donate a percentage of the proceeds to the Wicoff PTA. Show the [PTA flyer](#) (on paper or your phone or code PRFUND for online orders) while ordering.
 - Event Date and Time: April 1, 2022 between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.
 - Where: 15 Schalks Crossing Road, Plainsboro Township, NJ 08536
- **Spring Book Fair: SAVE THE DATES:** Monday, April 4 - Friday, April 8. Students 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>.
- **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.

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

SEPTSA

- **SEPTSA Transition to College Talk** (March 22, 7 p.m., Virtual) – Inviting WW-P high school students (and older middle schoolers) with IEP/504s to join our discussion with WW-P graduates who had IEP/504s and are now students in college. We'll discuss their experiences transitioning from WW-P high schools and their tips and advice navigating the greater demands of college/university. For questions and to RSVP by March 20, contact Kathleen at kkz4@verizon.net
- **SEPTSA Meeting** (April 28, 7 p.m., West Windsor Library) – Join us for a PTSA meeting followed by a presentation from prominent marketing professional and

disability advocate, Mark Brugger, who will conduct a simulation to better understand language processing challenges from the perspective of those experiencing them. This interactive workshop provides insight as to how family and friends can better support their loved ones facing these issues. For questions and to RSVP by April 20, contact Kathleen 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. There are many volunteers available for our members ranging from 1 hour total to 1 hour per month commitments. 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](#)

SCHOOL

- **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:** Please send your child/children to school each day with appropriate outdoor attire. This includes jackets, gloves, scarves and hats, etc. on cooler days, **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
- Twitter: [Twitter.com/WWP_Schools](https://twitter.com/WWP_Schools)
- Facebook: [Facebook.com/WWP.Schools](https://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:** Masking information for the week of March 21, 2022, will be included in the March 18 Health and Safety Update and posted to the District website. Masks must be worn by all passengers on buses, regardless of vaccination status or CALI level. Valve masks and neck gaiters are not permitted for use in school or District grounds.
- **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 18.
- 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 19, 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.
- **Full-Day Programs on May 3 (5-12th grade):** New Middle School and High School IN-PERSON programs are being offered May 3 at High School North.
 - *Strategic Decision Making for WWP Students:* Students in 6th-9th grade learn to build confidence, leadership and steps in smart decision making! [Check out the details here!](#)
 - *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! [Check out the details here!](#)
- **Adult Programs:** Learn about financial planning for the future or learn how to turn your beautiful voice into a profession! Or, join a class on how to safely and effectively tie your boat up to the dock in Coast Boating School's knot tying class! Check out the details [here!](#)
 - Register in [Community Pass](#) under 2022 Adult & Youth.
- **Saturday youth sports:** Basketball and tennis enrichment classes have already filled up at most schools! Sign up for Saturday programs at Grover Middle School. Programs begin May 7! Check out the details [here.](#)
 - 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.
- **Summer Programs:** Join Community Education for in-person summer programs beginning June 27! Weekly half-day or full-day programs along with extended care are being offered at Grover Middle School! Register for one week or all seven! Spaces are limited in each program, so do not delay in registering.
 - Online classes are also available. Full-day supervision cannot be provided for those enrolled in an online class.
 - Browse through the summer brochure [here!](#)
 - Register in [Community Pass](#) under 2022 Summer (In-person) OR 2022 Summer (Online).
- **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.

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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 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.
- 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](#)