

June 17, 2022

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

The last day of school is Tuesday, June 21, 2022. June 21 is also a half-day. Monday, June 20, 2022, is the last day of school for the Maurice Hawk half-day preschool program. This newsletter will be the last newsletter of the 2021-22 school year.

PTA

- **Third Grade Gift and Parade Update:** Thank you so much to all of the third grade families and other parents who contributed generously towards the gift of new outdoor games and P.E. equipment for Dutch Neck students to enjoy playing with at recess, field day, and P.E. for years to come! The items ordered will be delivered to the school before the school year ends.
 - Some of the items include: new basketballs and soccer balls, a giant Connect 4 game, a giant ring toss game, giant tic-tac-toe games, kick croquet sets, sidewalk chalk and outdoor portable speakers and microphones.
 - All equipment will be put to good use during all the outdoor school events.
- The PTA would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who signed up for two shifts on a workday afternoon to help decorate the parade pathways for the 3rd Grade Send-Off on June 13. As always, we are grateful to have such dedicated parents who take time off from their busy schedules to contribute for our school and DN kids.
 - See the slideshow here: <https://tinyurl.com/3rdgradesendoff>.
- **Thank You from the PTA:** The PTA wishes to extend our gratitude to all of the amazing Dutch Neck teachers, staff and families for doing so much to make this interesting year great for all of the students! Thank you to all of the wonderful PTA volunteers who helped us throughout the year for our various online and in-person events to keep students engaged! We appreciate all of the hard work and dedication from the various PTA committee chairs this year!
- Thank you to each of the members of the 2021-2022 PTA board for your service! We wish to welcome the 2022-2023 PTA board starting in July 2022.
- We are grateful for the generous donations made by parents, and for all of the PTA members who joined! If you are interested in helping out with a particular event for the 2022-2023 school year, please [click here](#). The planning starts during summer. Have a wonderful and safe summer! Good luck to all of the third

graders moving on to Village and Millstone River Schools! We look forward to seeing the rest of you in the fall!

- **Dutch Neck Garden:** Summer is almost here and the Green Committee will continue to work in the garden over the summer. If you would like to join the Green Committee to help with the garden this summer, please email: dutchneckgarden@gmail.com.

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>.
- **Donate to the High School Scholarship Fund:** <https://tinyurl.com/tw4h8b6a>
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Find instructions for AmazonSmile [here](#). Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at 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.
- **Visit Our Website:** <https://dutchneckpta.org/>
- **Visit Our Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/dutchneckpta>

SEPTSA

- **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 just one (1) hour total to one (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

- **Parent and Student Summer Visitations/Orientations:** Building staff members and administrators are planning summer visitations/orientations for both parents and students Aug. 24 and Aug. 25. The first time slots of each day (9 - 10:30 a.m.) are reserved for incoming Kindergarten students and parents/guardians. Parents/guardians of students in grades 1-3 will have the opportunity to sign-up for other time slots (11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 - 3 p.m.) on Aug. 24 and 25. More information will be forthcoming. Building tours, activities and presentations are being planned for these days. Please mark your calendars.
- **Summer Food Assistance:** If summer food assistance is necessary, please see the [informational link](#) from Food Services regarding free summer meals

Dear Dutch Neck Families,

It's hard to believe that the 2021-22 school year is coming to a close. Back in September, I shared in my Back-to-School Night opening remarks that school feels closer to normal this year with some important exceptions. We have a school full of students we get to greet every day, students excited to play on recess equipment, last calls for buses, and the buzz of learning happening in every room. We also wear masks like superheroes to keep each other safe, have individual Chromebooks, and reminders to keep an arms distance.

As we reflect on the school year, thinking about where we were when we began the school year and where we are now, we are happy to say that we have met the challenges which were presented with expertise and grace. We have been collectively patient and flexible. While we had many variables this school year along with a few restrictions, there have been several constants that have always been the foundational strength in our learning environment here at Dutch Neck. For example, one constant is the dedicated, cohesive staff of educators who band together to design a daily program that not only challenges our students, but also excites and engages them, stretching their imagination to want to know more, question more and research more. Many of these amazing educators are fortunate to work with support staff and additional resources, which provide the students with instructional tools and resources to enhance their learning.

Our students are truly amazing; learning, embracing, and even expanding our knowledge of how many of these resources and tools of technology could be used to express their learning. Our teachers have worked tirelessly providing your child with the warmth of our Dutch Neck community and the strong academic instruction they have always had. The decisions we made every day as educators came out of the heart mission of helping every student be the best they can be— academically,

physically, socially, and emotionally. Again, thank you for the tremendous support that you have shown our teachers this past year as they ever continue to grow as experts in what they do to the benefit of their students.

We would like to take a moment to thank you, the family members, for your understanding and patience. We are fortunate to be supported by parents who want the very best for their children and who have consistently surrounded the administration and teaching staff with encouragement. Most importantly, we are surrounded by our amazing students, our future, the core and center of everything we do. It is their growth and well-being that unites us as an effective team. We are the constants who have met the challenges this year's variables presented to us. We are resilient and creative. We are loving and caring. We are Dutch Neck. Thank you for all of your support and enjoy the summer break!

Sincerely,

Mr. David Argese & Mrs. Laura Bruce

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- The **last day of school is Tuesday, June 21, 2022**. June 21 is also a half-day. For dismissal times, please click [here](#). No food service will be provided.
 - Monday, June 20, 2022, is the **last day of school for Maurice Hawk half-day preschool program**.
- **Report Cards:** Marking period 4 report cards for students in grades 6-12 and third trimester report cards for students in grades K-5 will be posted to the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) **Thursday, June 23, at 3 p.m.** If you do not have a Genesis account or cannot remember your password, please email wwpsis@wwprsd.org.
- **2022-23 School Year:** To view the 2022-23 school year calendar, please [click here](#).
- **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:** WW-P schools and district offices are masking optional but masking is strongly recommended. The District reserves the right to update/revoke masking protocols due to events such as outbreaks in classroom/ school/ building, growing cases in our community, etc. It should be noted, masks must be worn by all passengers on buses, regardless of vaccination status or CALI level.
- **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 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, June 17, 2022.
 - This will be the final Health and Safety Update for the 2021-22 school year.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's **School Exclusion Chart**.
- WW-P, in conjunction with the West Windsor Health Department, will hold a **COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinic** Wednesday, June 29, from 4-6 p.m. at the Board of Education district offices. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register. Adult and pediatric doses and boosters #1 and #2 will be available at the clinic.
- **Free, optional, weekly COVID testing at High School North:** The next testing date is Saturday, June 18, 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](#).

- Please note that the last Saturday COVID testing date for the school year is Saturday, June 18. Saturday COVID testing at HSN will NOT be offered during the summer.
- For the safety of our school community, it is important that if your child is isolating or quarantining due to a COVID positive diagnosis or a COVID close contact, and was told they may not attend school, this quarantine/isolation would include any end-of-year activities including (but not limited to) Eighth Grade Salutes, graduation exercises, etc. Students may not attend school or end-of-year events until their [quarantine/isolation period](#) has officially ended.

Counseling

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

Community Education

- **Summer Programs:** 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.
 - Full-online classes are also available for those wishing to not come together in-person. 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).
- **Summer Online Hindi Programs Now Available!** Students can immerse themselves in the Hindi language and culture by participating in a fully-online summer class, taught by certified Hindi instructors!
 - Beginner and intermediate classes available.
 - Check out the program flier [here](#)!
 - Register in [Community Pass](#) under 2022 Summer Hindi (Online).

Food Services

- Check out the Sodexo menus and newsletter by [clicking here](#).
- 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".
- Sodexo at School will host a **WWPRSD Food Service job fair June 22** from 1 -3 p.m. at High School North (90 Grovers Mill Rd., Plainsboro). Positions available

include cooks, drivers, kitchen leads, and food service workers. [Click here](#) for more info.

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 COVID-19 vaccine clinics scheduled throughout the month of June. Details and registration information may be found [here](#). Information regarding second booster eligibility can be found [here](#).
- Mercer County Community College will host the Smithsonian traveling exhibit, *Voices and Votes: Democracy in America*, May 18-June 20. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Coming Summer 2022!: The Historical Society of West Windsor will publish a full-length book on the history of the town. 170-pages that will cover the history of West Windsor from prehistoric era to present day, full of color illustrations and more. To be notified when the book is available, 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](#).

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

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