Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

PTA

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 <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 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-formore 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>

SCHOOL

Welcome Back!: Happy New Year! The first days of school here at Dutch Neck have been filled with smiles and learning! Thank you to the parent helpers who volunteered

as students entered and exited the building during our first few days. Students are getting to know the building, their teachers, and each other as we work on building routines in the school. The children were so excited to go to specials, find their desks, meet Dexter, eat lunch in the cafeteria, and make connections with friends!

Back to School Nights: Please remember that Back to School nights are coming up soon. Your child's teacher will be sharing out more information:

Kindergarten/1st grade: Thursday Sept. 152nd grade/3rd grade: Monday Sept. 19

Schedule for those dates:

- 6:30-7:10 p.m. Classroom teacher presentations in their rooms
- 7:10 7:30 p.m. Special area teachers in gym

Safety: Dutch Neck Elementary School would like to remind parents/caretakers of the following information in a continued effort to make sure our students are safe during arrival and dismissal times:

- Morning Parent Drop Off:
 - o 8:40-8:55 a.m. is drop off for kindergarten-3rd grade students.
 - Drop off is a single lane system. For everyone's safety, no one is permitted to pass cars at any time during drop off. The system in place moves quickly and efficiently so we ask for your patience as students exit cars and come into the building. Students can only be dropped off at this designated area. No students should be dropped off where school buses are entering or exiting.
 - 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.
- Parent Pick Up
 - Please always make sure to send a note in with your child if you are
 picking them up at the end of the day. The note should have the date,
 your child's name, the intent that they will be going to parent pick-up and
 what adult will be picking them up.
 - Buses Only Parking Lot: Between the hours of 8:30-9 a.m. and 3-3:30 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.

Thank you again for your patience and caution when in the Dutch Neck area in an effort to provide a safe space for our young children.

DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- WW-P Schools Closed Monday, Sept. 26, 2022, and Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022: All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 26, 2022, and Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022. Please <u>click here</u> for the 2022-23 school year calendar.
- Back to School Nights: For a complete list of Back to School night dates, please <u>click here</u>. Additional information and details will be provided by the schools closer to the event.
- **District Newsletter**: <u>Click here</u> to read the Fall 2022 issue of the District newsletter.
- **School Supply Lists**: Please <u>click here</u> to view a suggested list of supplies by school and grade level that will help to organize and prepare your student for the 2022-23 school year. High school teachers will provide students with a list of suggested items for their class during the first week of school. Individual teachers in the elementary and middle schools may also have a list of items specific to their class that they will share with students and families.
- **Staff Email Addresses:** 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 <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: WW-P schools and district offices are masking optional but masking is 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. Masking is also optional but recommended on all passenger buses.

- Reporting COVID positive or COVID symptomatic: For the 2022-23 school year, parents/guardians should report their student's COVID positive absence or report their student as COVID symptomatic in Genesis or via Tel-safe and email their school nurse for further instructions. There is NO Health Screening Form in Genesis for the 2022-23 school year. There is no virtual instruction for COVID-related exclusions. Please view the 2022-23 COVID guidance here.
- **Substitutes**: Are you interested in being a substitute at WW-P? Please click <u>here</u> for more information and click <u>here</u> to apply.
- Around the District News:
 - HSS PTSA fundraisers available districtwide:
 - It's the **Happy Birthday Lawn Sign**! Celebrate your birthday and help support HSS Student Celebrations! For more information and to reserve your date, click here. Email Angela at Hssbirthdaysign@southptsa.org with any questions.

Health and Safety

- A Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent every other Friday. The next update will be sent Sept. 16, 2022.
- Click here to review the District's School Exclusion Chart.
- Please note that for the safety of our school community, it is important that if your child is isolating or quarantining due to a COVID positive diagnosis, exposure or symptoms that they may not attend school or school events until their <u>quarantine/isolation period</u> has officially ended.
- WW-P, in conjunction with the West Windsor Health Department, will hold
 COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinics Wednesday, Sept. 14 and Wednesday,
 Sept. 28, 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.

Athletics

- WW-P has updated ticketing procedures for United football and HSN and HSS
 basketball games and wrestling matches. All spectators must pre-purchase their
 tickets to the game through the Ticket Spicket Mobile Application or through the
 Ticket Spicket Website. Season passes are available as are tickets for individual
 games. Tickets for individual games are available for purchase one week prior.
 - United Football Tickets
 - High School North Tickets
 - High School South Tickets

Counseling

- Virtual Parent University: Safety and Security Please join us for the first
 Virtual Parent University of the school year on Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.
 This virtual presentation will include information on the District's safety and
 security measures, including partnerships with law enforcement, technology
 enhancements, facility upgrades, staff training, and mental health supports.
 Advanced registration for this webinar is required and can be completed here.
 - To view past Parent University presentations, please click <u>here</u>.
- Navigating the College Admissions and Financial Aid Process for International Students and Parents: The virtual webinar will be held Thursday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. and is open to HS North and HS South students and parents/guardians.
 - Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/95404786438?pwd=cFNMWUEwS2ZSNII3R1hBQzM4OHpEUT09

Community Education

- **Extended Day Program (EDP):** WW-P Community Education is offering EDP care (before and after school care) to WW-P students in grades kindergarten through 5 and after care to students in GMS.
 - Registration is available at each location until capacity limits have been reached. At this time, CMS will not be offering EDP registration due to staffing constraints. Several schools have also <u>reached capacity</u>. Should you like to be added to the waitlist, please contact Community Education at 609-716-5030
 - To register for EDP, please set up your Community Pass account here:
 <u>Community Pass Registration Link</u>. When registering, look for the 2022-2023 Extended Day, Kindergarten Extension, and Pre-K Program heading.
 - For more information on EDP pricing and procedures, check out the <u>EDP</u>
 <u>General Information</u> form. Be sure to download the <u>parent handbook!</u>
- One Day Wonders- Day Off Care: This is a full-day program open to ALL registered WW-P students in grades kindergarten through 5 on most days in which school is not in session, through November 11.
 - Students will participate in activities and enjoy special visitors or take field trips. More information can be found here: One Day Wonders Schedule
 - To register for One Day Wonders, please set up your Community Pass account here: <u>Community Pass Registration Link</u>.
- Fall After School Enrichment Registration Closes September 27!: After school enrichment program registration is now open for students in grades 1-5. Registration is limited at each elementary school. Enrichment begins the week of

Oct. 3 at all elementary schools. Registration closes Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 12 p.m. or once the program has reached capacity.

- Check out the Fall guide here: <u>2022 Fall Program Guide</u>
- To register for fall after school enrichment programs, please set up your Community Pass account here: <u>Community Pass Registration Link</u>. Registration closes on Tuesday, Sep. 27, 2022.
- **Saturday Youth Programs:** Check out the Saturday Youth Program <u>flier</u> with registration, dates, location and more information on the programs.
 - o Registration closes Wednesday, Oct. 12. Classes begin Saturday, Oct. 15.
- Adult Programs: Community Education not only offers youth programs, but adult programs as well! Check out page 11 in the Fall guide here: 2022 Fall Program Guide.
- **PSAT & SAT Prep Class:** In-person PSAT & SAT review class is available through Lentz & Lentz at High School South. Check out the <u>flier</u> for more details and registration information. Classes begin Sept. 14.

Food Services

- Check out the Sodexo menus and newsletter by <u>clicking here</u>.
- PaySchools Central is the food service online system, click <u>here</u> for directions for creating an account.
- The application for free and reduced price school meals, which also opens up other food benefits for families, is available for completion for the 2022-23 school year in your PaySchools Central account or may be downloaded from the District website. Benefits for current recipients will expire Oct. 21, 2022. Families must submit a new application for the 2022-23 school year.
- The School Nutrition Association has created a video regarding school meal changes for the 2022-23 school year. The video can be viewed in <u>English</u> and in <u>Spanish</u>.
- Check out the Food Services Department's <u>Welcome Back Newsletter</u> for the 2022-23 school year. Additional information regarding Food Services can also be viewed <u>here</u>.
- 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

- District issued Chromebooks for students in grades kindergarten through grade 3 are kept in the classroom.
- District issued Chromebooks for students in grades 4-12 are for students to use both in school and to take home.

- Students should bring their fully charged Chromebooks to school with them each day.
- Charging cords should remain at home.
- District Chromebooks need to be brought to school and logged in to by each student prior to State testing.
 - Students should bring the device to school, log in to the District device with their District email and test that their device is in good working order.
 If any issues are discovered, please follow the process at your school to submit a tech ticket for support.

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 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.

Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)

- WW-P SEPAG's mission is to facilitate communication between students, parents, staff, the Board of Education, and the community, about issues surrounding the district's special education programs and to advise the Board of Education and administration on matters about improving the quality of special education district-wide.
- WW-P SEPAG is a state-mandated group for parents, educators, and individuals concerned about children with special needs and/or learning difficulties in the WW-P School District.
- If you are interested in joining our mailing list, please fill out this form: https://forms.gle/ujE5PRyK5khchL7j9.

Community Events

- The West Windsor Health Department has COVID-19 vaccine clinics scheduled throughout the month of September. Details and registration information may be found here. Information regarding second booster eligibility can be found here.
- The West Windsor Township Human Relations Council (HRC) invites the community to celebrate Peace Day with two exciting activities in Sept. Peace Day supports the United Nations' International Declaration of Human Rights.
 - The HRC will be celebrating <u>Peace Day</u> with West Windsor Community Day
 Sept. 24, 2022 from 12 4 p.m. at Duck Pond Park. All are invited to

- attend. Check out the QR code on the flier linked above for Peace essay/multimedia contest rules.
- HRC is also sponsoring an essay/multimedia contest for District middle and high school students. This year's theme is "Peace through cultural understanding" and is open to written and multimedia submissions. The deadline for submission is Sept. 16, 2022. <u>Click here</u> for details.
- 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 YouTube channel.

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

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