

Sept. 30, 2022

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

**All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022.**

### PTA

#### Upcoming Events:

- **Scholastics Book Fair:** The annual fall Book Fair is here! The Book Fair will be held at Dutch Neck and open to parents, students and teachers **Oct. 10-18.**
  - [Reach out](#) to the PTA if you would like to volunteer for the Book Fair.
- **Reflections Program:** Coming Soon! The Reflections Program is sponsored by the National PTA and is an opportunity to celebrate art education. Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme. This 50+ year-old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.
  - Students participate in the appropriate division for their grade: Primary (Pre-K - Grade 2), Intermediate (Grades 3-5).
  - Students submit their completed works of art in one or all of the available arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts.

#### 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>. Thank you to all of our JWAC donors!!
- **Amazon Smile Support:** Find instructions for AmazonSmile [here](#). Please choose 33727 Dutch Neck PTA when you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://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](mailto: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 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. For clarification, registering with your child's school PTA/PTSA or having your child classified or "registered" with Special Services is not the same as registering for SEPTSA membership. There are volunteer opportunities for our members ranging from just one hour total to one hour per month. Go to [www.wwp-septsa.org](http://www.wwp-septsa.org) 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](#)

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## SCHOOL

- **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** On **Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m.**, the conference schedule will be open in the Genesis Parent Portal and appointments will be available for selection. The sign up process will end, and the portal for conferences will close **Sunday, Oct. 9 at 12 p.m.**
  - **Please sign up for a conference using the Genesis Parent Portal:**  
<https://parents.ww-p.org/genesis/parents?gohome=true>
- **Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Instructions:**
  - Directions (w/ screenshots) to sign up for conferences can be found using this link [HERE](#)
  - Step-by-step directions to sign up for conferences can be found using this link [HERE](#)
- **Week of Respect - October 3-7:** Next week at Dutch Neck, along with all NJ schools, we will be celebrating a Week of Respect as part of the Anti-Bullying Law. Messages about respect will be highlighted every morning during announcements. Teachers will be incorporating books, messages and activities around the theme of Respect throughout the week.
  - We will kickoff the week with a read aloud by Mr. Argese, Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Dunne, who will be reading the book, *All Are Welcome* by *Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman*. Our hope is for students to learn about and show respect next week as well as demonstrate being respectful every single day of the year.

- Below are ways students can participate and show their support for each day of the week:
  - **Monday, Oct. 3** - World Day of Bullying Prevention – WEAR **BLUE** today. We will be joining schools across the nation as we all try to put a STOP to bullying. Show your commitment and support. Be Kind shirts are perfect if you have one.
  - **Tuesday, Oct. 4** - Shine **BRIGHT** and Choose Kindness – Wear **BRIGHT** or **NEON** colors.
  - **Wednesday, Oct. 5** – School Closed
  - **Thursday, Oct. 6** - Flex Your Kindness – Wear your workout or gym clothes today.
  - **Friday, Oct. 7** – Put a CAP on Bullying. Wear a Hat to school.
- **Beginning of the Year Adjustments for our children:** As we transition into the new school year, it can be a big adjustment for our younger students. They work so hard, playing and learning so much that when they get home they might be more tired, irritable, or upset than usual. Believe it or not, it is normal and has a name! After school restraint collapse is a formal way of saying that after a long school day, our kiddos have spent their regulation and need a safe space to let go. If you are interested in reading more about this, please see some articles below.
  - [Today's Parent Article on After School Restraint Collapse](#)
  - [Yahoo's Article on Why Kids Melt Down After School and Why it is a Good Sign](#)

### Upcoming Dates:

- **Oct. 5** - WW-P schools Closed
- **Oct. 11-14** - Parent/Teacher Conferences
  - These are [early dismissal days](#) for elementary school students. No lunch will be served.
  - Information was emailed to families yesterday regarding the scheduling of conferences

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## DISTRICT

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

### Reminders

- **WW-P Schools Closed Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022:** All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022. Please [click here](#) for the 2022-23 school year calendar.

- **Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences - Oct. 11-14:** Elementary school students will have an [early dismissal](#) for parent/teacher conferences. Half-day preschool is closed. No lunches will be served.
- **Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences - Oct. 13-14:** Students in grades 6-8 will have an [early dismissal](#) for parent/teacher conferences. An express lunch will be served at the middle schools only.
- **District Newsletter:** [Click here](#) to read the Fall 2022 issue of the District newsletter.
- **Student Handbook and Policy Update:** District policies are updated on an as needed basis. In September, Policy 5600 was updated. In response, student handbooks have also been updated accordingly. Policy 5600 may be viewed [here](#).
- **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.
  - **Interested in receiving SMS text notifications from the District?:** 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. The cell phone must be listed in Genesis as a cell phone (not as a home phone number). 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 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 [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 and help support HSS Student Celebrations! For more information and

to reserve your date, click [here](#). Email Angela at [Hssbirthdaysign@southptsa.org](mailto:Hssbirthdaysign@southptsa.org) with any questions.

- **NEW DATE!!! HSS PTSA Fall Flea Market** will now be **Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.** For additional information, please [click here](#). Questions, contact Chandrika at [vpstudentcelebrations@southptsa.org](mailto:vpstudentcelebrations@southptsa.org)
- **HSS PTSA Fotolux Family Pop-Up Photo Session Fundraiser**  
Oct. 5 from 3-6 p.m.: Register for a photo session. Receive six digital photo files. The cost is \$75. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register for an appointment.

## Health and Safety

- A Health and Safety Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent every other Friday. The next update will be sent Sept. 30, 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 [quarantine/isolation period](#) has officially ended.
- WW-P, in conjunction with the West Windsor Health Department, will hold a **COVID-19 vaccine and booster clinic** Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 4-6 p.m. at the Board of Education district offices. Registration is required. Please [click here](#) for more information and to register. Adult and pediatric doses and boosters (including the bivalent booster) will be available at the clinic for those who are [eligible](#).

## 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: ADHD** - Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022, at 7 p.m. via Zoom
  - Register to attend:  
[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_16\\_ileR\\_QYaCuMhXTBv69Q](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_16_ileR_QYaCuMhXTBv69Q)
  - Virtual Parent University: Safety and Security - A recording of the Sept. 14 presentation and materials is [available here](#).

- To view past Parent University presentations, please click [here](#).
- **WW-P In-Person College Fair for Juniors and Seniors -- Oct. 13:** WW-P is hosting an in-person college fair Oct. 13, 2022, from 6-8 p.m., at High School North. Over 100 college admissions representatives will be in attendance.
  - The [current list of attendees](#) will be continuously updated until the day of the fair.
- **Attention High School Seniors and Parent/Guardians:** Upcoming financial aid planning workshops and recordings/info from previous events
  - **Class of 2023 - Senior College Planning Nights:** Check out materials and recordings of the Sept. 12 (HSS) and Sept. 13 (HSN) events [here](#).
  - **College Financial Aid Virtual Workshops:** HESAA Virtual FAFSA Completion Workshops and NJ Alternative Financial Aid Workshops for NJDREAMERS will be offered throughout the fall and early winter. For upcoming dates and login links, please click [here](#).

## Community Education

- **One Day Wonders- Day Off Care:** This is a full-day program open to **ALL** registered WW-P students in grades kindergarten through 8 on most days in which school is not in session, through November 11. (Oct. 5 has reached capacity.)
  - 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: [Community Pass Registration Link](#).
- **Saturday Youth Programs:** After school enrichment registration may have closed, but there is still an opportunity to participate in a sport or STEM program!
  - Check out the [Saturday Youth Program flier](#) with registration, dates, location and more information on the programs offered.
  - 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](#).

## Food Services

- Check out the **Sodexo menus** and newsletter by [clicking here](#).
- **PaySchools Central** is the food service online system, click [here](#) 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 [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).
- Check out the Food Services Department's [Welcome Back Newsletter](#) for the 2022-23 school year. Additional information regarding Food Services can also be viewed [here](#).
- 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".

## 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.
  - Middle school families: The Chromebook cover from last year's device should be used on this year's device. If you do not have a cover from last year, please follow the process at your school to submit tech ticket so that we can provide a cover.
- 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 [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.

## 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**

- Click [here](#) for upcoming 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](#)