

Dec. 23, 2022

Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

All WW-P schools will have an early dismissal Friday, Dec. 23, 2022; half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk is closed. All WW-P schools and board offices are closed Dec. 24 through Monday, Jan. 2, 2023, for Winter Recess. Schools and offices reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023. There will be no newsletters during Winter Recess. Newsletters will resume Jan. 6, 2023.

PTA

Events/Activities:

- **Dutch Neck Cookbook:** Do you have a great family recipe you would like to share? Submit your recipe to dutchneckpresident@gmail.com to have your recipe featured in our first annual Dutch Neck Cookbook.

Important Dutch Neck PTA Links:

- **Dutch Neck PTA Merchandise: Shop for Dutch Neck Merchandise** at <http://dutchneck.memberhub.com/store>
- **Dutch Neck PTA Membership:** To become a member, [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.
- **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 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 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](#)

SCHOOL

Dear Dutch Neck Families,

As we are approaching the end of the calendar year leading into winter recess, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude for all of your continued support in working in collaboration with us to support our students and help them to realize their potential. "May we never stop believing in the possibilities of a masterful teacher and an inspired student, each with the power to make a difference in the world."

We believe the true spirit of the season can best be captured by one of the most famous editorials ever written. It is the answer to a letter written by Virginia O'Hanlon that appeared in the New York Sun in 1897. While the editorial answers a child's question about the existence of Santa Claus, it is non-denominational in its response. The editorial focuses on turning your back on skepticism and believing in love, generosity, and devotion. Ultimately, the editorial asks us for a willingness to believe in the unseen, the potential, or the possibilities for greatness in every person. We cannot think of a better message to share during this time of year. A copy of the editorial is included [HERE](#).

As you celebrate your family traditions, may your heart be filled with joy, your mind with peace, and your days with laughter! We wish you and your children a wonderful holiday season and a happy, healthy new year. Keep believing in possibilities.

Warmly,
Mr. Argese & Mrs. Bruce

Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 23 - Jan. 2 - No Homework Nights
 - Dec. 26 - Jan. 2 - WW-P schools closed
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DISTRICT

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

Reminders

- **Winter Recess:** All WW-P schools will have an [early dismissal](#) Friday, Dec. 23; half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk Elementary School is closed. No food service will be provided Dec. 23. All WW-P schools and board offices are closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 2, 2023. Schools and offices will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023. Please [click here](#) for the 2022-23 school year calendar.
- **Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences - Jan. 12-13, 2023:** Elementary school students will have an early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences. Half-day preschool is closed. No lunches will be served.
- **WW-P Schools Closed Monday, Jan. 16, 2023:** All WW-P schools and district offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 16, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Please [click here](#) for the 2022-23 school year calendar.
- **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](#).
- **Title 1 Information:** Title 1 is a federal program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). The following WW-P schools receive Title 1 funding: Maurice Hawk Elementary School, Town Center Elementary School, Millstone River School, Village School, Wicoff Elementary School and High School South. Parent information about Title 1 in our schools can be found on our [District website](#).
- **Parent Gradebook Grade Alerts via Genesis:** Effective Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022, parents/guardians who have registered to receive Gradebook alerts via Genesis will receive one daily email notification that will summarize all updates made to your student's gradebook by their teachers since the previous daily summary was sent. This will eliminate the multiple emails sent to families on a daily basis from Genesis for each class/grade entered.
 - If parents/guardians wish to subscribe to receive this summary email, they may do so via [Genesis](#) in the "Message Center" under the "Message Alert Setup" tab.
- **Early Dismissal Requests for Students:** Parents/guardians notifying school attendance office/school secretary of a student early dismissal can be done via TeleSafe, a note in the "Daily Attendance" tab in Genesis Parent Portal or by emailing/sending a note to your school's attendance secretary.
- **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](#) 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.
 - **HSN PTSA** fundraisers available Districtwide. Support HSN Class of 2023 Senior Celebrations:
 - **[Birthday cakes delivered to your home](#):** Delicious Nothing Bundt Cake birthday cakes can be ordered throughout the school year with complimentary home delivery. Many packages are available.

Health and Safety

- A [Health and Safety Update](#) from Dr. Aderhold will be sent every other Friday.
 - Due to winter recess, the next update will be sent Jan. 13, 2023.
- Click [here](#) to review the District's COVID Guidance Chart. Click [here](#) for the District's Illness Exclusion Information.

- 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, Jan. 25, 2023, 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. Basketball season passes are available as are tickets for individual games/meets. Tickets for winter sports are now available for purchase.
 - [High School North Tickets](#)
 - [High School South Tickets](#)

Counseling

- **Virtual Parent University Events**
 - To view materials from previous Parent University presentations, please click [here](#).

Community Education

- **Extended Day Registration and Schedule Changes for the New Year**
 - EDP registration and schedule changes cannot be made during winter break. The office will reopen Jan. 3, 2023.
- **Winter After School Enrichment Registration is Open!**: After school enrichment programs are open for registration now through Jan. 17, 2023.
 - Programs are 6-weeks in duration and begin the week of Jan. 23, 2023.
 - Spaces are limited and classes begin to fill fast!
 - Check out the program offerings here: [2023 Winter Program Guide](#).
- **One Day Wonders (Day-off Care)**: Registration has opened for the One Day Wonders for Jan. 16, 2023. Registration is open to all WW-P students in grades K-8.
 - To learn more about the January One Day Wonders programs, click [here!](#)
- **Employment Opportunities Available in Community Education!**
 - Community Education is looking for creative, energetic and safety conscious individuals for assistance in the Extended Day Program! Morning and afternoon shifts available as well as full and part time

opportunities. Hours are either 7 - 8:45 a.m. and/or 2:45 - 6:30 p.m. Scheduled hours depend on the specific school location.

- Community Education has a limited number of High School Assistant positions also available for students attending High School North or High School South, who are at least 16 years of age or older. The ability to travel to different elementary locations is a plus.
- To apply online for either of the above mentioned positions, visit the WWPRSD Human Resources page or [click here](#) (look for EDP).

Food Services

- **Sodexo at WW-P is hiring.** Apply today! Now offering a \$200 sign-on bonus. Click [here](#) for more information.
- 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.
 - Need to set limits and/or restrict food purchases for your student account? [Click here](#) for a "How to" guide.
- 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 2021-22 recipients expired Oct. 20, 2022.** Families must submit a new application for the 2022-23 school year.

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 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](#)