

Feb. 24, 2023

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

### PTA

- **Yearbook:** The 2023 Dutch Neck Yearbook is on sale. Click [here](#) to buy one today. Early bird pricing is available through March 1, 2023.
- **Reflections Winners:** The PTA would like to thank all 33 kids who participated in the PTA's Reflections contest this year! This year was our best participation ever! Out of 33 entries received and judged, seven students went ahead to compete at the Mercer County level, and out of those, two students are now competing at the NJ State level! Again, thank you for your excellent entries and outstanding participation! We appreciate the passion, creativity and vision shown in your artwork.
  - **Visual Arts:**
    - 2nd Grader Aditi Varatharaj
    - 3rd Grader Shirly Liu
    - 3rd Grader Shanaya Rana
  - **Literature:**
    - 1st Grader Souravi Sri Devapatia
    - 3rd Grader Keshav Nath
    - 3rd Grader Varenya Borah
  - **Music Composition:**
    - 2nd Grader Nihira Bhosale
  - **State Level Winners**
    - Aditi Varatharaj from Visual Arts Category
    - Nihira Bhosale from Music Composition Category
- **Photos Needed for the Yearbook!** We are requesting parents to upload pictures for the below four school events for inclusion in the Dutch Neck yearbook. We will send new links every week so we can cover all the events and post the same on the Dutch Neck Parents WhatsApp group. If you have photos to share for the event listed, please upload them to the appropriate folder. PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY 1 PHOTO per link NAMED with child's name\_grade\_teacher. Email [dutchneckyearbook22@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckyearbook22@gmail.com) with questions. Thank you!
  - **Dutch Neck Spirit Day:**  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MDCOxtEg9ZUnZpV612xOvKpvy\\_mzoq9wk?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MDCOxtEg9ZUnZpV612xOvKpvy_mzoq9wk?usp=sharing)
  - **Hat Day:**  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KGwO8g8L-CcCLMnKTueBhLLugtoX2s5Z?usp=sharing>

- **Crazy Hair Day:**  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1M0VbUe7sPGDY-VDzlkaXM3Mk8VXQIqC4?usp=sharing>
- **Disney Day:**  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tNpUQhvRhCpSj9bTxswaQVqdPnMQIlzZ?usp=sharing>
- **Pajama Day:**  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Aofw5eSeRwl1HsYsMISE8j19zRVNCuj9?usp=sharing>
- **Book Fair:**  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11\\_q0kvqRSe12uViPfw1a4FG0wr6fkxI0?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11_q0kvqRSe12uViPfw1a4FG0wr6fkxI0?usp=sharing)
- **Do you love to garden?:** Would you like your kids to learn how? Have you ever planned a garden (lots of math involved)! Please join the Dutch Neck Green Committee for an information session on the 2023 Garden programming and planning. We will hold a session March 8 at 8 p.m. Dutch Neck is so fortunate to have outdoor learning space and a high fenced garden. This is your chance to help shape how we use it. Please email [dutchneckpresident@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckpresident@gmail.com) with your interest to be on the committee or to just be part of garden events.
- **Dutch Neck Cookbook:** Do you have a great family recipe you would like to share? Submit your recipe to [dutchneckpresident@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckpresident@gmail.com) to have it 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](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 and/or contact Kathleen at [kkz4@verizon.net](mailto:kkz4@verizon.net) if you're interested in sharing your time and skills with 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

- **Strategies used at school for conflict resolution, apologizing, and making good choices:** Linked below, please find some resources and articles used here at school when talking with students. There are helpful tips for many situations in and out of school, the town playground, siblings, or out and about. We hope you find these ways to talk to children about how to get along, make a plan and move forward helpful!
    - [PBS- 5 Strategies to Help Kids Resolve Conflict](#)
    - [Win-Win Guidelines](#)
    - [How to Apologize](#)
  - **Nurses Note:** As cold and flu season continues we want to remind you that your child needs to be fever free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication, as well as 24 hours free from vomiting or diarrhea and tolerating their normal diet before they can return to school.
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## DISTRICT

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

## Reminders

- **Kindergarten registration for the 2023-2024 school year** is now open. Parents/guardians must complete the online application and make a phone appointment for registration. For more information and to begin the process, please click [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](mailto:Hssbirthdaysign@southptsa.org) with any questions.
    - Start the new year off right! **HSS PTSA is sponsoring a Zumba party** with Ruchi Anand TONIGHT, Friday, Feb. 24, at 7:30 p.m! [Click here](#) to sign up! Questions, contact Chandrika at [vpstudentcelebrations@southptsa.org](mailto:vpstudentcelebrations@southptsa.org).
  - **HSN PTSA** fundraisers available districtwide. Support HSN Class of 2023 Senior Celebrations:
    - **[HSN Designer Handbag Bingo](#)** - Sunday, March 26, 3-5 p.m. at Millstone River School
      - **[GET your tickets NOW!](#)** This is the first time this event is being held since 2020!
      - [Get the pre-sale pricing of \\$35/ticket](#). Tickets will be \$40 at the door. Admission includes 12 games of BINGO plus one door prize ticket and dessert. Tricky tray and 50/50 tickets will also be available for purchase. Dabbers and additional cards will also be for sale.
      - Must be 18 or older to attend. Doors open at 2 p.m. and BINGO starts at 3 p.m.
      - Groups of six may reserve a table in advance. Outside food is welcome. No alcoholic beverages.
      - Questions?: Please email [hsnptsaseniors@gmail.com](mailto:hsnptsaseniors@gmail.com)
    - **[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 monthly.
  - The next update will be sent Feb. 24, 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 bivalent booster clinic Thursday, March 23, 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 bivalent boosters ONLY (no primary series vaccines) will be available at the clinic for those who are [eligible](#).
  - First and second doses of the primary series vaccines are available **by appointment only** March 16, 2023, at the West Windsor Health Department. To register for an appointment, call (609) 936-8400.
- The **expiration date for some COVID-19 at home test kits** from manufacturers such as BinaxNOW, Flowflex, iHealth Labs, etc. has been extended. Please [click here](#) for more information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

### **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**

- **Spring After School Enrichment Registration is NOW OPEN!** Check out the latest programs open for registration at the K through 5 schools!
  - For the spring brochure, click [here](#).
  - Registration closes once a class reaches capacity or on Tuesday, March 28, at 12 p.m.
  - To register, please click [here](#).
- **Saturday Programs Coming this April- Register Now!**
  - Community Education is offering Saturday programs beginning April 22!

- Basketball, tennis and robotics programs are being held at Community Middle School and are available to students in grades 1-8. \*Programs are grade specific.
- Check out page 8 here for more information here: [2023 Spring Program Guide](#)
- **NEW\* Spring Swimming Program for Beginners:** Toddlers to adults, join Community Education's certified swim instructors and lifeguards to practice basic swimming skills and get ready for summer!
  - All classes are 45-minutes in length and focus on water acclimation, safe pool entry and exit, blowing bubbles, treading water, and basic water movements. This class is built for the beginner swimmer with limited experience in the water.
  - Check out the swim flier here: [CE Saturday Beginner Swim Lessons](#).
- **Adult Programs:** Boating season is coming! Get your New Jersey State Boating Certification this April! Need help planning your retirement? Sign up for Financial Strategies for Successful Retirement!
  - More classes available for adult learners through Community Education! Check out the list on page 11 here: [2023 Spring Program Guide](#).
- **Lentz & Lentz SAT Prep Class at High School South - March 1**
  - Test prep for the May or June SAT begins March 1 for new students!
  - The in-person SAT/PSAT prep course will be held at High School South on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information and how to register click [here](#).
- **Employment Opportunities:** Community Education is seeking dynamic, creative, and safety conscious individuals for the positions listed below. \*All candidates must be at least 16 years of age or older. Apply online: [WWPRSD Employment Opportunities](#)
  - EDP Site Supervisor (full-time)
  - EDP Site Supervisor (part-time)
  - Lifeguards for spring and summer classes
  - Certified Swimming Instructors for spring and summer classes
  - Assistant Swimming Instructors
  - Summer EDP Group Leaders
  - Summer High School Assistants

## 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 and adding funds to the 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

- **West Windsor-Plainsboro AAPSG celebrates Black History Month** with events and activities held throughout the month of February. [Click here](#) for more information and event details.
- The West Windsor Health Department has **COVID-19 vaccine clinics** scheduled throughout the months of February and March. Details and registration information may be found [here for February](#) and [here for March](#). Information regarding booster eligibility can be found [here](#).
- **Rowan University Math Parent Workshops**: Six individual in-person sessions for parents of students in grades K-5. Attendees will explore how the math their children are learning is different from the way parents were taught. For more information, costs, registration, please click [here](#).
- 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](#)