

June 16, 2023

## Dutch Neck Elementary School Weekly Newsletter

**June 20, 2023: All WW-P schools will have an early dismissal Tuesday, June 20, 2023. No food service will be provided. June 20 is the last day of the 2022-23 school year. Half-day preschool at Maurice Hawk Elementary School's last day of school is June 19, 2023. This newsletter will be the last newsletter of the 2022-23 school year.**

### PTA

- This is THE LAST newsletter of the school year! Thank you to all the parents, friends and family members for all of your support this year; we've had a blast!
- **Yearbooks:** If you would like to purchase a yearbook, you may do so directly from Entourage. The cost is about \$45 (including tax and shipping) and they will ship directly to your home address.
  - Entourage Link: <https://link.entourageyearbooks.com/my/DutchNeck2023>
- **Third Grade Parents:** If you are interested in participating in a PTA-sponsored outside event to celebrate the completion of third grade for your child on Tuesday, June 20, after the school day, please fill out the Google form below and look for an email Friday June 16.
  - Interest form:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12JFRGOMi4-YD\\_hj485TE7Bq1P9eczQ9FWNQRvocyxkc/edit](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12JFRGOMi4-YD_hj485TE7Bq1P9eczQ9FWNQRvocyxkc/edit)
- **Donations:** If you would like to contribute to the 3rd grade class's gift to the school which is a makeover of the teachers' lounge, please visit the [MemberHub store](#). Your donations will be greatly appreciated!
- **YOUR 2023-2024 PTA BOARD WILL BEGIN THEIR TERM July 1:**
  - President - Tashawna Smith - [dutchneckpresident@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckpresident@gmail.com)
  - Treasurer - Tina Bhate - [dutchnecktreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:dutchnecktreasurer@gmail.com)
  - Executive VP - Becky Marks - [dutchneckvp@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckvp@gmail.com)
  - Secretary - Anita Nijhawan- [dutchnecksecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dutchnecksecretary@gmail.com)
  - Admin VP - Miko Weaver - [dutchneckadmnvp@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckadmnvp@gmail.com)
  - Co-VP Events - Lisa Wolfe - [dutchneckevents@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckevents@gmail.com)
  - Co-VP Events - Pat Acosta - [dutchneckevents@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckevents@gmail.com)
  - VP of Fundraising & Membership - Tina Dong - [dutchneckfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:dutchneckfundraising@gmail.com)
- We wish all our Dutch Neck families a safe and fun summer break! For returning families, see you this fall!!

- **WhatsApp Dutch Neck Parents Group:** If you will no longer have a child attending Dutch Neck, kindly remove yourself from the WhatsApp group to make room for incoming families. Thank you for your cooperation!

### **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!!
- **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**

On behalf of the entire Dutch Neck staff, we would like to thank you for your collaboration on a very successful year. It has been a pleasure seeing our students grow over the school year- academically and socially. We wish you a summer filled with fun,

reading, outside play, and curiosity. We look forward to hearing all about all of your adventures on September 7!

June 2023 | A Letter to Third Grade Students:

Dear Third Grade Students,

*"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."  
-From Winnie the Pooh*

The quote above reminds us that you can accomplish just about anything you believe in when you put in the time, work, and effort. If you really care deeply and have passion for something, you will figure out a way to make it happen. Always remember to follow your dreams and do what makes you most happy. If you put your mind to it, you are capable of doing anything!

You have accomplished so much during your time at Dutch Neck. Did you even think it was possible four years ago when many of you began your journey at Dutch Neck Elementary School as kindergarteners? Remember how your teachers taught you to take turns, to share, to play and work together, and to be a good friend? You also learned about how to be a Bucket Filler by saying or doing something kind. Since then, you have grown physically, socially, and academically. You have taken great pride in your work, and you have learned many important lessons over these past years. Whenever we visit you in the cafeteria or read to you in your classrooms, we love to see your smiles as we are greeted with the "Dexter wave." You have so many excellent teachers and staff members at Dutch Neck to thank who have worked so hard to provide you with a foundation that you will have for the rest of your life.

The 2022-2023 school year has been filled with many great programs, activities, events, and projects. You should take great pride in your achievements and successes. As we walk the hallways, we are amazed to see all of your wonderful classroom work, the creativity of your art, and the literary quality of your writing. You shared your singing voices at the Winter and Spring Concerts and made your teachers, parents and family members very proud. You demonstrated lifelong traits you learned during your time at Dutch Neck which include resiliency, optimism, empathy, flexibility, kindness and respect.

As you continue in the years ahead, we hope you will think back to many of the activities and memories you made here at Dutch Neck over the past four years. Some of those include decorating pumpkins, participating in the Halloween parade, attending and participating in our Grade Level Meetings, leading the school in the Pledge of Allegiance, Global Play Day, SEL Days, Author's Days, Spirit Days, International

Carnival, STEAM Days, Read Alouds, singing the Dutch Neck School song, Field Days, the End-of-Year celebrations, and so many wonderful events which took place in your classrooms.

All of us are so very proud of you and everything you have learned and accomplished here at Dutch Neck, our "Fine, Fine School." We know that you will continue to fill many buckets as you continue your education in the West Windsor-Plainsboro School District. Thanks to ALL of you for making our job as principals of Dutch Neck Elementary School the most AWESOME job in the world! It has been an exciting and memorable 2022-2023 school year because of you! And finally, "Always remember to be kind to yourself and each other."

Your PrinciPALS,  
Mr. Argese and Mrs. Bruce

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## DISTRICT

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

### Reminders

- **Tuesday, June 20, 2023:** The last day of school is Tuesday, June 20, 2023. June 20 is also a half-day. No food service will be provided. Monday, June 19, is the last day of school for the Maurice Hawk half-day preschool program.
  - For dismissal times, please [click here](#).
  - To view the 2022-23 school year calendar, please click [here](#).
- **Report Cards:** Marking period 4 report cards for students in grades 6-12 and third trimester report cards for students in elementary school will be posted to the [Genesis Parent Portal](#) June 22, 2023, at 3 p.m. If you do not have a Genesis account or cannot remember your password, please email [wwpsis@wwrpsd.org](mailto:wwpsis@wwrpsd.org).
- **2023-24 School Year:** To view the 2023-24 school year calendar, please [click here](#).
  - For the 2023-24 school year, teacher/team information and course schedules will be available in the Genesis Parent Portal on the following dates/times:
    - Friday, Aug. 25, at 3 p.m. - Info for students in PreK-8
    - Monday, Aug. 28, at 3 p.m. - Info for students in grades 9-12
- **Full-Day Kindergarten Beginning with the 2023-24 School Year:** Starting with the 2023-24 school year, WW-P will transition to a full-day kindergarten program for all District kindergarten students. For more information regarding this change, please [click here](#).

- **Summer Registration Information:** New student registration for the 2023-2024 school year is now open. Parents/guardians of new students must complete the online application for registration. For more information and to begin the process, please [click here](#).
  - WW-P will also hold **Open Registration Sessions** over the summer to assist new incoming families with the online registration process. These in-person registration sessions will be held from 2-8 p.m. June 28, July 26, and Aug. 23, at the District Central Offices located at 321 Village Road East, West Windsor. Members of the school registration and technology staff will be available to assist families with the online registration process. A registration appointment is not required but we do ask that you please [RSVP here](#) if you plan to attend one of the dates above. For more information, 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](#).
- **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](mailto:firstname.lastname@wwprsd.org) (e.g., Jim Smith is [jim.smith@wwprsd.org](mailto: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:**
  - **HSN Black Student Union and AAPSG hosts Juneteenth Festival**
    - All are invited to attend June 17, 2023, from 12-3 p.m. at High School North. [Click here](#) for details.
  - **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.
  - **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 monthly.
  - The next update will be sent June 16, 2023. This will be the last update of the 2022-23 school year.
- 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.

## Counseling

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

## Community Education

- **Summer Programs Are Here!** Community Education will be hosting summer programs at Community Middle School beginning Monday, June 26, through Friday, August 11!
  - Half-day, full-day and extended day options available.
  - Programs are offered on a weekly basis only.
  - [Check out all of the offerings here!](#)
  - Classes fill fast, so register early! Vendors begin canceling under enrolled classes two to three weeks before the actual start.
- **Registration Information:** Community Education uses Community Pass for all program registrations. Payment is due at the time of registration. [To access Community Pass, click here.](#)

## 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](#).

## Technology

- **End-of-Year Chromebook Collection:** This week, the District collected all District-issued Chromebooks and power adapters from all students. Chromebooks will be redistributed to students at the start of the 2023-24 school year.
  - Families with unreturned Chromebooks and chargers will be charged the replacement fee of \$399 for the device and \$40 for the charger. These will be listed in Genesis under the Fees and Fines tab.
  - If a student has a summer WWPRSD course that requires the use of a device and would like to borrow a district-issued Chromebook, please complete the Google form [linked here](#) (please use the student's WWPRSD account to login) and your student will be contacted by a staff member to make arrangements. **This form will close at 3 p.m. June 19.** No additional requests will be honored after June 19.
- **Important information for graduating seniors and students/staff not returning to WW-P for the 2023-24 school year:** If you are graduating, retiring or transferring out of WW-P your @wwprsd.org account will be disabled

as of **July 5, 2023**. It will be your responsibility to move, save, or transfer any files that you have created using your WWPRSD Google account from your school account to a personal Google account before that time.

- Please [click here](#) (requires WWPRSD login to view) for information should you choose to transfer your items from @wwprsd.org to a personal @gmail.com account.
- 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**



- **Teen Working Papers:** Great news from the NJ Department of Labor -- teens looking to obtain working papers will be able to do so online. For more information, please visit: [myworkingpapers.nj.gov](http://myworkingpapers.nj.gov).
- **AAPSG Summer Math Program** for rising 3rd grade through Pre Calculus/Calc 1 students: These math prep courses are taught by district math teachers. There are six, virtual Wednesday evening sessions from 6-7:30 p.m. (July 5, 12, 19, 26 and Aug. 2, and 9).
  - Interested families should register their child for the math class they will be entering during Fall 2023.
  - The classes are \$135/student.
  - [Click here](#) for details and registration information.
- **Meals on Wheels of Mercer County** is looking for volunteers. Opportunities include meal delivery, office assistance and event volunteers. Please click [here](#) for more information.
- The West Windsor Health Department and the Mercer County Health Department have **COVID-19 vaccine clinics** scheduled throughout the coming months. Details and registration information can be found [here](#). Information regarding booster eligibility can be found [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](#)