# **Wicoff Elementary School Weekly Newsletter**

### **PTA**

- Pretzels from the "I Want Pretzel" sale will be delivered hot and fresh TODAY, Friday, Feb. 23. Enjoy!
- We have added several new events and fundraisers! Please see the sections below for more information so you don't miss out.
- **Join our Wicoff PTA community!** There are plenty of opportunities to get involved, whether it's through donations, helping with events, or simply joining us for some exciting activities. Your participation can make this year truly special for our kids. Click here to join the Wicoff PTA: <a href="https://wicoff.memberhub.com/store">https://wicoff.memberhub.com/store</a>
- **PTA Mission:** To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for All Children.

**Connect with Wicoff PTA**: Website | Facebook | Instagram | WhatsApp Group | Wicoff's Twitter

# **Upcoming Events:**

- March 11-15: Spring Book Fair: The Spring Book Fair is right around the corner and we are so excited!
  - Volunteers Needed: In order to make this a success we need parent volunteers. Please click on the link below and sign up for a spot and help our Wicoff students build a love for reading! link:
    - Sign up to volunteer here: Volunteer Form
  - March 14: Family Book Fair Night: Come to the Media Center during and after (5:30-7:30 p.m.) the Science Fair for Family Book Fair hours.
     We will have extra fun goodies available during this time.
- March 14: Green Science Fair: Register to participate by Friday, March 8, at 5 p.m.
  - **4:30 p.m.** Check in and set up for participants.
  - **5-6:30 p.m.** Free entry for parents and visitors.
  - What is a Green Science Fair project? A Green Science Fair project is a presentation of an experiment, a demonstration, a research effort, or a display of scientific apparatus. It represents the efforts of a student's investigation into some area of sustainability and how it will positively impact the environment. Your child will have the opportunity to be the presenter, as well as a spectator.

- Students in grades 1-3 are invited to participate. Parents, please remember that you may provide help and guidance as long as the children do the majority of the work. Kindergarteners are invited to visit the exhibits.
- The Wicoff Green Science Fair is a voluntary activity. The science fair is noncompetitive. All entrants will receive a certificate on completion of a presentation. Get your thinking caps on! For more details, click <a href="here">here</a>.
  - **■** \*\*Must be a PTA Member to participate\*\*
- **Registration closes at 5 p.m. March 8, 2024.** Submit your registration form here.
- Volunteers Needed: We need volunteers on the Science Fair Committee to successfully host this event. Dads are welcome to join too! Sangeeta and Shreya from the PTA Board will chair the committee and offer complete support in all aspects. It is an amazing opportunity for us to keep running a beloved Wicoff event and showcase the abilities of our young science enthusiasts... and YOU CAN HELP!
  - Sign up to volunteer NOW: <u>Volunteer Form</u>
- March 17: Family Skate Night at ProSkate: Our 2024 Annual Skate Night fundraiser event will be Sunday, March 17, from 3-5 p.m. Join us for a fun afternoon of skating fun with your families! All proceeds from this fundraiser go towards funding programs for our students.
  - Venue: ProSkate Ice Arena, 1000 Cornwall Rd, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852
  - Open to all Wicoff students! Siblings who do not attend Wicoff are welcome. All student skaters must be accompanied by an adult on the ice.
  - Cost: \$15/child skater (includes skate rental); \$17/adult skater (includes skate rental); no charge for non-skaters.
  - Registration Deadline: Please return the registration form sent home with your student (or download a copy <a href="here">here</a>) with payment to your student's teacher in an envelope marked "PTA Skate Night 2024" no later than Thursday, March 7.
    - Payment must be via cash (must be exact change) or check made out to "Wicoff PTA".
- **3rd Grade Yearbooks:** Information about 3rd grade yearbooks will be coming soon!
  - 3rd Grade Parents: Please begin to think about and gather any photos you would like to submit for inclusion in your student's yearbook!

• **Full Events Calendar:** Click <u>here</u> to view our calendar of events for the upcoming school year.

#### **Ways to Support the PTA:**

- Label Daddy labels for your child's belongings: Wicoff PTA has partnered with Label Daddy! Winter is here and it is the season for the lost and found bin in school to grow. Help your child not lose their belongings by labeling your child's hats, gloves, jackets, sweatshirts, water bottles, and lunch bags with durable labels that don't come off in the wash. Use code FINAL25 for 25% off your order!
  - For every purchase using our special link, Label Daddy will donate 25% of the proceeds back to Wicoff PTA.
  - Please use this link to order your labels: <a href="https://bit.ly/49ZIX9I">https://bit.ly/49ZIX9I</a>
- Minted Card & Gift Discount: Wicoff PTA is partnering with Minted, the go-to destination for independent art and design. We're excited to share an exclusive discount of 20% off all Minted cards and gifts. What's more, Minted will also donate 15% of every order back to Wicoff PTA.
  - Make sure to use the code "FUNDRAISEWICOFF" when you place your order online at www.minted.com/holiday
- **Givebacks Cash Back Donation**: We have an easy way for our community to give back to Wicoff PTA...the Givebacks Shop to Give Program!
  - Whenever you shop or dine at any of 25,000 participating stores and restaurants, those businesses automatically donate a percentage to Wicoff PTA at no cost to you!
  - To make sure you're all set up to give, register for a Givebacks account at <u>bit.ly/3N0c0zZ</u> and securely link your credit card. Then, select "Wicoff Elementary School PTA" as your cause.
  - Once you've done that, you can use the Givebacks app on your mobile device or the Givebacks browser extension to start powering donations by simply shopping and dining like you normally do!
  - Check out the FAQ here if you need help getting started: <u>https://www.givebacks.com/how-it-works</u>
- Write-A-Check Campaign: Help support the Wicoff PTA! MAKE A DONATION AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE! The Wicoff PTA is a non-profit organization that depends fully on your donations.
  - Each year, the PTA sponsors various educational programs including:
    - Funding of some grade-level and school-wide grants
    - Supporting outreach initiatives in our community
    - Fully funding and hosting the 3rd Grade Carnival (3rd grade "Graduation")
    - Partial funding of yearbooks to 3rd grade students

- Coordinating activities such as Family Night, Shake-a-Leg, Family Bingo Night, and more
- To continue with these events and programs, we need you!!! By donating directly to the PTA, 100% of your donation goes straight to the PTA and is 100% tax deductible. We will be collecting checks throughout the school year.
- If you would like to donate any time during this holiday season (or during the school year), please send in your check payable to "Wicoff PTA" in an envelope labeled "PTA - Write-a-Check" Please include your name, your child's name, and their teacher's name.
- Questions? Email us at <a href="wilder.green"><u>Wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com</u></a>
- Volunteer: Wicoff PTA always welcomes volunteers for our events and activities
  throughout the school year. Your involvement and support are greatly
  appreciated by the school community. Visit our <u>SignUpGenius</u> or email us at
  wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com for information about volunteer opportunities.
- **Support by Donating:** You can also support the organization by making monetary contributions to support various programs. Click <u>here</u> to donate.
- **Box Tops:** Download the Box Tops App on your phone, add Wicoff School, and scan your receipts. It's that easy!

# **Important Information:**

- **Become a Member:** Online registration to join the Wicoff PTA community is available <a href="here">here</a>. Your membership plays a vital role in funding our school's fantastic events and creating memorable experiences for our students.
- **Spirit Wear:** Wicoff Spirit Wear merchandise is available in a variety of sizes with new items for the 2023-24 school year. Please order <u>online</u> through Unified Spectrum or via <u>this form</u>. You may also <u>email</u> us with any questions.
- All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.
- If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, don't hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com">wicoff.ptainfo@gmail.com</a>. Follow us on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a> and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a> for updates and reminders, join our <a href="mailto:WhatsApp Group">WhatsApp Group</a>, or visit <a href="mailto:www.wicoffpta.org">www.wicoffpta.org</a> for more information.

# **Special Education PTSA (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 <a href="www.wwp-septsa.org">www.wwp-septsa.org</a> for more information about SEPTSA and/or contact Kathleen at <a href="kkz4@verizon.net">kkz4@verizon.net</a> 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. <u>Connect with WWP special ed parents</u>.

Links: SEPTSA Facebook Page | SEPTSA Website

#### **SCHOOL**

- Thank you to everyone who joined us for Family Trivia Night!! It was so much fun to see how knowledgeable our families are!
- **Dreambox**: Ask your children about Dreambox. If your child is interested in going on Dreambox while they are at home, <u>here</u> are the directions.
- Wicoff Evening Read Aloud, Wednesday, March 6- Join Mrs. Cook for an
  evening read aloud of the book <u>Dumpling Day</u> by Meera Sriram. Learn how to
  use your read aloud time as a way to connect with your child, talk about
  characters and learn about other cultures. This is a virtual only event. See the
  scheduled times below:
  - Kindergarten & 1st Grade- 6 p.m. <u>LINKED HERE</u>
  - 2nd Grade & 3rd Grade- 6:45 p.m. <u>LINKED HERE</u>
- Wicoff "STEAM Week 2024" will be held March 18-22!: STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. During the week of March 18, all Wicoff K-3 students and staff will be engaged in activities that promote inquiry, creativity and communication skills needed to solve real world problems. Each day of the week offers students a different experience to think and act like a scientist. See our schedule below:
  - March 18- STEAM Day Kick Off
  - March 19- Schoolwide STEAM Challenge
  - March 20- STEAM Day presentations (Experts in the field of STEAM will be visiting your child's classroom to engage them in different learning activities.)
  - March 21- STEAM Night from 6-7:30 p.m. Caregivers and students are invited to join us at school to participate in STEAM activities.
     More information to follow
  - March 22- Mad Science Assembly for all K-3 students
- Star Student February Theme is Teamwork/Cooperation: Teamwork is the collaborative effort of a group to achieve a common goal or complete a task in an effective and efficient way. Cooperation is also the process of working together for a common purpose. At Wicoff, cooperation is an integral part of the school

day. Students are expected to cooperate and work together in various ways throughout the day. Whether it is in the classroom while working on a group project, or during recess where the students need to get along while playing, cooperation is of utmost importance.

- Please help to reinforce this important skill at home as well.
- Home and School Connection Regarding Academics for the month of February:
  - Kindergarten Bridges: <u>Family Letter Unit 5</u> "Two Dimensional Shapes"
  - First Grade Bridges: Family Letter Unit 5 "Geometry"
  - Second Grade Bridges: <u>Unit 5 Caregiver Letter</u> "Place Value to 1,000"
  - Third Grade Bridges: <u>Unit 5 Caregiver Letter</u>. "Multiplication, Division & Area"
- **Pickup and Dropoff Reminders:** As you know, the main office has moved! The three spots in the front that have cones are for visitors. Please use those if you need to come to the main entrance. Please <u>click here</u> for updated information on drop off and pick up locations.
  - Please make sure that if your child is arriving before 8:55 a.m.,
     you are dropping off at the OLD Main Entrance.
- When your child is sick: Please do not send your child to school if they are complaining of feeling ill or have had a fever in the previous 24 hours. Children should be fever-free (without medication) for 24 hours before they return to school. Children who don't feel well before school invariably feel ill in class and will be sent home. For a complete list of the District's illness exclusions, please click here.
- Outdoor Recess: We try to have outdoor recess whenever possible for our students. We have had to keep students in if they are not wearing appropriate clothing for the cold weather. Please remember to send your children with a coat/jacket.
- Snacks/Water: Please remember to pack a healthy snack each and every day
  for your child. Although we do have some extra snacks in the nurse's office for
  emergencies, students should not be going to the nurse's office daily for a
  snack/water. It is also important that every student brings a refillable
  water bottle each day. We have filling stations throughout the building. Please
  remember that the water bottle should be labeled with your child's name. We
  appreciate your support in being sure your child has a snack/water each day!

- Label ALL Student Personal Belongings: Please be sure to label ALL of your child(ren)'s personal belongings. This will help ensure that personal belongings left behind in the classroom, on the buses or in the dining room will be returned to the owner. Please include name, grade, and teacher.
- Genesis/Student Information System: Our student information system,
   Genesis, is filled with important information including attendance, grades/report
   cards, student emergency information, student schedules, bus routes, etc.
   Please familiarize yourself with our student information system.

#### **DISTRICT**

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

#### Reminders

- UPDATED: 2023-2024 school year calendar: With the use of three emergency closing days (Jan. 16, 2024, Jan. 19, and Feb. 13, 2024) all WW-P schools and board offices will be open April 24, April 1, and May 24, 2024.
  - Based on the Jan. 16, Jan. 19, and Feb. 13 closures the <u>school year</u> <u>calendar</u>, <u>half-day preschool calendar</u> and report card calendars for <u>PK-8</u> and <u>grades 9-12</u> have been updated.
- WW-P Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences and Early
   Dismissal March 22, 2024: All WW-P elementary schools will have an early
   dismissal and parent/teacher conferences Friday, March 22, 2024. Half-day
   preschool is closed. No food services will be provided March 22.
- **Spring Recess March 25-29, 2024:** All WW-P schools will be closed for Spring Recess Monday, March 25, through Friday, March 29, 2024. Schools will reopen Monday, April 1, 2024. District board offices will be closed Friday, March 29.
- **Kindergarten registration for the 2024-2025 school year is open:**Parents/guardians must complete the online application for registration. For more information and to begin the process, please click <a href="here">here</a>.
- **WW-P Plans for Future Growth:** <u>Click here</u> for more information on the District's purchase of local farmland on the West Windsor and Plainsboro border.
- **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 for the 2023-24 school year: Dutch Neck Elementary School, Maurice Hawk Elementary

- School, Town Center Elementary School, Wicoff Elementary School, Millstone River School, Village School and High School South. Parent information about Title 1 in our schools can be found on our <u>District website</u>.
- Student Handbook and Policy/Regulation Updates: District policies and regulations are updated on an as needed basis. The following policies and regulations have recently been updated: Policy 5600/ Regulation 5600 (Code of Conduct), Policy 5200/Regulation 5200 (Attendance) and Policy 5512/Regulation 5512 (HIB). In response, Student Handbooks have been updated accordingly. The recently updated policies and regulations can be accessed as follows:
  - o Policy 5200: Attendance
  - Regulation 5200: Attendance
  - o Policy Updates (2023): Policy/Regulation 5200
  - o Policy 5512: Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
  - Regulation 5512: Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
  - Policy Updates (2023): Policy/Regulation 5512
  - o Policy 5600: Code of Conduct
  - Regulation 5600: Code of Conduct
  - Policy Updates (2023): Policy/Regulation 5600
- 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 <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.
- **Substitutes:** Are you interested in being a substitute at WW-P? Please click <u>here</u> to apply.
- Around the District:
  - WW-P Spring Theater

- HSN Spring Musical "Mean Girls": Shows are at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 22, 23, and 24, 2024, and 2 p.m. on Feb. 24 and Feb. 25, 2024, at High School North.
  - Tickets are \$12 online at <u>wwpnorththeater.org</u>.
- HSS Spring Musical "A Chorus Line": Shows are 7 p.m. Feb. 29, March 1, and March 2, and 1:30 p.m. on March 2.
  - Tickets are \$12 at https://our.show/achoruslinehss.
- **GMS Spring Play "A Wrinkle in Time":** Shows are at 7 p.m. on March 8 and March 9 at Grover Middle School.
  - Tickets are \$10 at the door.
- **CMS Spring Musical "Shrek Jr."**: Shows are at 7:30 p.m. on April 4, April 5, and April 6.
  - Tickets are \$10 (cash only) and can be bought at the door the evening of the performance.
- HSN PTSA Senior Celebrations Committee will host <u>Designer</u>
   <u>Handbag BINGO</u>: Sunday, March 3, 3-5 p.m. at Millstone River School.
   This annual, community-wide event benefits HSN Senior Celebrations.
  - Get your tickets now for this SUPER FUN event by <u>clicking here</u>.
  - Email questions to <u>hsnptsaseniors@gmail.com</u>.

### **Monthly Update from the Superintendent**

- A Monthly Update from Dr. Aderhold will be sent the last Friday of each month.
  - The next Update will be sent Feb. 23, 2024.

#### **Health and Safety**

- Please note that for the safety of our school community, it is important that if your child is isolating due to a COVID positive diagnosis that they may not attend school or school events until their <u>quarantine/isolation period</u> has officially ended.
  - Please <u>click here</u> for the District's COVID guidance for the 2023-2024 school year.

#### **Athletics**

- TicketSpicket: WW-P will continue to utilize online ticket purchase procedures
  for United Football and HSN and HSS basketball games and wrestling matches
  for the 2023-2024 school year. All spectators must pre-purchase their tickets to
  the game through the TicketSpicket Mobile Application or through the
  TicketSpicket website. Season passes are available as are tickets for individual
  games.
  - United Football Tickets

- High School North Tickets
- High School South Tickets

### Counseling

- **High School Program of Studies Nights:** Virtual Program of Studies Nights were held for families of rising 9th grade students as well as families of rising 10th-12th grade students. To view the recordings of these info sessions and the 2024-2025 Program of Studies, please <u>click here</u>.
  - Genesis Parent Portal is open for high school course requests through March 22, 2024.
- Rising Grade 7 and 8 Students Middle School Course Selection for 2024-25 School Year: Genesis Parent Portal will open at 3 p.m. today, Feb. 23, for parents/caregivers of current grade 6 and grade 7 students to make their course requests for the 2024-2025 school year. The system will remain open for requests through March 8, 2024. Parents/guardians of current grade 6 and 7 students should see the email sent Feb. 21 for more information.
- Parent University:
  - Upcoming Virtual Events: Save the dates.
    - Monday, Feb. 26, 7-8 p.m.: In partnership with Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, WW-P will facilitate a virtual webinar on "Anxiety and Teens".
      - Zoom link to attend: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/95529032455">https://zoom.us/j/95529032455</a>
    - **Monday, April 15**, 7-8 p.m.: The topic will be "Handling Emotional Dysregulation". Additional information and a link will be provided closer to the date.
  - View material from previous Parent University presentations, including the Feb. 13 panel discussion, "Benefits of Youth Sports", here.

#### **Curriculum and Instruction**

- New Jersey school districts, charter schools, and renaissance school projects are required by statute (N.J.S.A 18A: 7C-6.6) to annually notify parents/guardians of the scheduled standardized assessments that will be administered over the course of the school year.
  - Please <u>click here</u> for the state assessments schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - Helpful resources for parents/guardians may be found at the <u>New Jersey</u> <u>Assessments Resource Center website</u>.

#### **Community Education**

- **Spring After School Enrichment Registration is Now Open!** Check out what is happening around the elementary schools this spring! New and exciting programs are being offered to Kindergarten through 5th grade students!
  - Program vendors require Community Education to meet a minimum enrollment in order to run, so do not delay in signing up! Limited spaces are available.
  - Check out the program brochure <u>here!</u>
  - Register through Community Pass <u>here</u>. (Click on 2024 Spring After School Enrichment.)
- **Saturday Youth & Adult Programs:** Register for these programs in Community Pass under 2023-2024 Adult & Youth <a href="here">here</a>!
  - Saturday Programs: Join On The Court Basketball, TGA Tennis, Brainy n
    Bricht, Bricks 4 Kidz, and Mindful Movements with Jackie for a jam packed
    Saturday of fun!
    - Check out page 8 in the 2024 Spring Brochure <a href="here">here!</a>
  - Adult Programs: Coast Boating school is back for another season of Boaters Certification! Reduce stress or put down those vices for good with a hypnosis class! Or, for the currently retired community, evaluate your retirement, learn new ways to stay healthy and active, and learn ways to plan your estate with Rejuvenate your Retirement!
    - Check out page 10 of the spring brochure <a href="here">here</a>!

### • \*NEW Swimming Programs

- Instructional Swimming: Community Education is now offering spring swimming programs! Students ages 5 to 10 can sign up for instructional swim classes, taught by an experienced WW-P teacher and coach! Classes run Saturdays April 6 - May 4 at the High School North pool. Instructional classes are for beginner (no swim experience) and intermediate (some swimming experience) students.
  - Check out the program flier <u>here!</u>
  - Register <a href="here">here</a> under 2023-2024 Adult & Youth Programs, under 2023-2024 Adult & Youth, look for the Swimming Programs heading.
- Middle School Swim Clinic: Experienced swimmers in middle school can refine their swimming skills with this engaging clinic!
  - Participants must first try-out for a spot in the clinic by filling out the google form <u>here</u>.
  - The try-out takes place Thursday, March 21. Anyone participating in the tryout MUST be pre-registered!
  - Once accepted into the program, parents or guardians will have to register for the program on Community Pass. Each participant will receive their own WW-P United Swim Clinic cap.
  - For more information, check out the program flier here!

- **Lifeguard Certification:** Summer jobs are right around the corner! Interested in learning a life-long skill that could earn you extra money? Register for the American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification class and be on your way to potentially earning some decent money!
  - Lifeguard students must be at least 15-years of age or older!
  - Class 1 runs Friday, May 17 Sunday, May 19
  - Class 2 runs Friday, June 7 Sunday, June 9
  - Lifeguard recertification classes are Saturday, May 18 or Saturday, June 8.
  - For more information, check out the program flier <u>here!</u>
- ACT & SAT Prep Course with Lentz & Lentz: Lentz & Lentz is back this spring with ACT and SAT preparation courses! Classes begin March 6!
  - For more information and to register for the course, visit the Lentz & Lentz flier here!
- **Employment Opportunities:** The Extended Day Program (EDP) is looking to fill open positions in the West Windsor schools.
  - Open EDP positions include:
    - Morning EDP Group Leader (7-8:45 a.m.)
    - Afternoon EDP Group Leaders and Assistant Group Leaders (3-6/6:30 p.m.)
  - o Apply online here

#### **Food Services**

- NEW!: Check out the new Sodexo Nutrislice Menu website: https://west-windsor-plainsboro.nutrislice.com/
- WW-P Food Services is excited to offer a **breakfast program at the elementary school level**.
  - Families should check their email for more information and the order form link.
  - Breakfast is available for order each week via a pre-order form sent to parents' emails on Monday morning. Orders must be placed by 5 p.m.
     Wednesday for the coming week.
- **PaySchools Central** is the food service online system, click <a href="here">here</a> 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 2023-24
  school year in your <u>PaySchools Central</u> account or may be downloaded from the
  <u>District website</u>. Benefits for 2022-2023 school year recipients expired Oct. 20,
  2023. Families must submit a new application for the 2023-24 school year.

In addition, NJ recently expanded the income eligibility requirements.
 Even if families have not qualified in the past, your child may qualify for no-cost meals through the Working-Class Families Anti-Hunger Act by completing the Free and Reduced Lunch Application.

# **Special Services**

- Special Needs Trusts and ABLE Accounts Virtual Workshop: Tuesday,
   March 12, 2024 from 6-7 p.m.: In partnership with the West
   Windsor-Plainsboro Educational Association, the West Windsor-Plainsboro Special
   Services Department's FAST (Families and Schools Together) grant team will host
   a virtual information session about creating special needs trusts for students with
   disabilities.
  - This presentation would be most appropriate for families who have students in Multiple Disabilities (MD) and Autism special education programs (Kindergarten through Post Grad). All are welcome to attend. <u>Click here</u> for more information, RSVP form and Zoom link.
  - RSVP by March 7, 2024.

# **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.
- Technology Help Desk Access for students reporting Chromebook issues.
  - Students in grades K-8 should report the technology issue to their teacher so that a ticket can be submitted on their behalf.
  - Students in grades 9-12 should use the ticket kiosk in the media center
    to submit any technology issue. Students MUST include their wwprsd.org
    email in the ticket description in order for technology staff to contact them
    to repair the issue.

#### **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 <u>Apple</u> and <u>Google Play</u> 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.

### **Community Events**

- **Teens' Working Papers**: Teens looking to obtain working papers may do so online. For more information, please visit: <a href="mayleotropy:myworkingpapers.nj.gov">myworkingpapers.nj.gov</a>.
- Study Buddy Program at West Windsor Library: The Study Buddy Tutoring Program at the West Windsor Branch has returned! This program pairs teen volunteers with students seeking tutoring, and it's entirely free. It operates throughout the school year, with Study Buddies meeting for 30-45 minutes once a week at the library, supervised by our youth department staff.
  - To apply, students can pick up a Study Buddy application at the West Windsor Library's youth desk. The library matches students with teen tutors upon application submission, and enrollment is ongoing.
  - o Please click here for more info.
- **West Windsor Little League (WWLL):** Spring 2024 registration is open for baseball, softball and t-ball for children ages 4-12 from West Windsor, Plainsboro and Cranbury. Workout and practices begin in early March and run through June 14. <u>Click here</u> for more information.
- **Send Hunger Packing Dining Fundraiser**: Feb. 22-24, from 4-7 p.m. Visit Jersey Mike's (43 Princeton Hightstown Rd., West Windsor) and mention this flier or order on the app using promo code SHP20 and 20% of your sale will be donated to Send Hunger Packing.
- West Windsor Arts Second Annual Family Fun Night: The Arts Council will host a night for families March 1, 2024. Activities include arts and crafts, board and card games, building stations, and galaxy fun in our space room. Tickets are \$5/person or \$15/family. Caregivers must accompany their child(ren). For more info and to register, please click here.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Information**: Please visit the <u>West Windsor Health</u>
  <u>Department</u> and the <u>Mercer County Health Department</u> for information as new vaccination/booster opportunities become available. Information regarding booster eligibility can be found <u>here</u>.
- **NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Basics** is a six session education program for parents, caregivers, and other family who provide care for youth (ages 22 and younger) who are experiencing mental health symptoms. The program is available both in person and online. For more information about the program and to register, please <u>click here</u>.
- **More!:** Click <u>here</u> for more upcoming 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.

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