

Dec. 20, 2019

High School South Weekly Update

All WW-P Schools will have an early dismissal today, Dec. 20, 2019. All schools will be closed Monday, Dec. 23, 2019, through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. The board offices will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019, through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. All schools and the board offices will reopen Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020. This will be the final newsletter of 2019.

PTSA News

Hello HSS Pirate families,

Here we are, another year has gone by, marking the end of the decade. Yet no matter how much time passes, HSS PTSA's mission has remained the same. For years, our focus has been to advocate for the educational, social and emotional well-being of our students. Our founders could not have imagined the challenges our students would face in today's school climate. Yet our message of service to HSS still rings true and is needed now more than ever.

As we welcome a new decade, let's all ask ourselves, "What can I do better?" or "How do I make a difference?" I encourage you to support the HSS PTSA. It may sound simple, but you would be surprised at how thankful and reenergized teachers and staff feel with our PTSA's support. Or how much your "Just Write a Check" donations make a difference in our students' everyday lives. Even just signing up and becoming a member of our PTSA is a reminder that we are a strong, supportive Pirate community. You are the difference; you make us better.

We would not have made it this far without every single volunteer who has answered the call to help by giving time and/or financial support. On behalf of the 2019-20 HSS PTSA Executive Board, THANK YOU! I look forward to continuing to serve our community with you in the New Year. Let's make these new "Roaring 20's" one of great change and renewal. Happy Holidays!

Important Events and Information

- **Jan. 14: Coffee with the Counselors at 8:45-9:45 a.m.** This month will feature open topics, so parents come with questions and concerns! Please [Sign up](#) in advance. (Only one member per family please.)

- **Jan. 22: PTSA General Meeting at 7 p.m. Healthy Brains. Successful Students.** - You are warmly invited to learn how to support your student's mental health. This is especially important during the stressful time of High School/College transitions. Please come to meet certified therapy dog teams, discover invaluable resources, and develop skills to detect possible warning signs. Tricia Baker and her nationally recognized team from AIR (Attitudes in Reverse) will be at South Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. See you there!
- **WHAT DOES THE PTSA DO? AND WHY SHOULD I JOIN?** The PTSA supports a wide variety of programs that benefit students, parents, and teachers and staff. [Click here to find out what the HSS PTSA does and why you should join.](#)
- **Membership in the PTSA** is also always open and you can [sign up online](#) or at any of our meetings or simply return your membership form to the school front office.

Useful links: [PTSA Website](#) | [Membership & Scholarship Donations](#) | If you have questions about information in the PTSA section please [email](#) us.

Post Prom

- Plan Ahead for our super fun evening at AR WORKSHOP on MARCH 12 at 6 p.m.! The Seniors will be in Disney so we can play all eve. Bring friends (everyone is welcome) and please help us spread the word. [Feel free to sign up in advance!](#)
- **Thank you to our current Post Prom Sponsors**
 - **Gold:** David Shapiro, DMD and Theza Friedman Realtor
 - **Green:** Princeton Financial Group and Princeton Nassau Pediatrics
 - **Pirate:** Tanya Dorfman Realtor and Mercedes-Benz of Princeton
- We need your help! We are behind on our fundraising goals for this time of the year. [If your child plans to attend Post Prom, we need you to participate.](#)
- **McCaffrey's Receipts** are being collected all year long. Please bring them into the front office marked for "PTSA Post Prom."

- Check out the [Post Prom Website](#).

SEPTSA

- **Dec. 28: Lego Buddies - 9:45 a.m.** Join our informal gathering of elementary students with IEPs or 504s to socialize through Lego play at the West Windsor Library.
- **Jan. 7: Transition to College Talk & Pizza - 6:30 p.m.** High schoolers with IEPs or unclassified issues who are considering a two/four-year college are invited to Romeo's Pizza (10 Schalks Crossing, Plainsboro), to eat pizza and discuss navigating higher education with collegians who faced similar challenges.
- **Jan. 30: PTSA Meeting "Understanding How to Improve IEPs and 504s" - 7 p.m.**, at Community Middle School (55 Grovers Mill Rd, Plainsboro). The speaker, Beth Manes, J.D., Special Needs Attorney, will help parents understand how to effectively use IEP documents and evaluations to improve your child's school experience.

Please contact Jennifer Riccards (jenballen@yahoo.com) for questions or to RSVP.

Links: [WW-P SEPTSA Facebook](#) | [WW-P SEPTSA Website](#) | [Membership Form](#)

School News

- **The HSS faculty and staff wish all of our families a safe and happy Winter Break. We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year!**
- Check out the [important upcoming dates for January and February](#).
- Make sure you are signed up to receive text messages from WW-P Schools? Click [HERE](#) for the district's communication process and make sure your phone numbers and email addresses are up-to-date in Genesis. To sign up to receive additional messages from the townships please follow the links below:
 - [Plainsboro Township/Police Alerts](#)
 - [West Windsor Township/Police Alerts](#)

Athletics

- [WW-P athletes and fans can now find out about game and practice cancellations by calling our athletic hotlines.](#)
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District Updates

- [District Website](#) | [Academic Calendars](#) | [Event Calendar](#)

Counseling and Wellness

- **Parent University:** A special Parent University event will be held Thursday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m. at High School North. The topic: Is Video Gaming Addiction Real? will examine the impact of video gaming on children and adolescents. Check out the 2020 dates for our upcoming [Parent University Events](#) or review the previous presentations.

Community Education

- [Winter After-School Enrichment is open for registration.](#) Registration closes Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.
- **Extended Day Program** registration is ongoing throughout the school year. [Sign up by clicking here.](#)
- Space is available in the morning and afternoon **Kindergarten Extension!** [Register by clicking here.](#)
- **Upcoming SAT Programs** - Community Education sponsored classes through [Kaplan](#), [Princeton Review](#), and [Lentz & Lentz](#) are offered throughout the school year at High School North and South.

Community Events

- Are you looking for programs, clubs and things to do around WW-P? Check out the [community event section](#) on the district's website!

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.

Make sure to follow the district on WW-P's official social media pages.

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Youtube](#)