

May 22, 2020

## Community Middle School Weekly Update

**WW-P schools will be closed in observance of Memorial Day Monday, May 25, and Tuesday, May 26, returning to virtual instruction Wednesday, May 27.**

### School Updates

- **ATTENTION 8th GRADE STUDENTS:**
  - **A Special Note to Our 8th Grade Families Regarding End of the Year Activities:** Although we are saddened by the state's decision to keep schools closed for the remainder of the year, we would like to assure you that our teachers, administrators, and PTSAs are working to celebrate our 8th-grade classes with the honors and celebrations that they deserve. Keeping everyone's health and safety as priorities, we will celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> graders with some traditions and new surprises. We miss our students and look forward to all of the end of the year activities we have in store. Details will be forthcoming.
  - As part of your child's transition to 9th grade, a **New Student Orientation** will be held Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for those entering High School North or High School South for the 2020-21 school year. Please save the date. Additional orientation details will be provided as the event nears. Be well and stay safe.
  - Looking to play a **2020 fall sport** in High School? Registration opens at 8 a.m. May 11, in Genesis. Click [here](#) for more information.
  - **8th Grade T-Shirt Size Form:** The CMS PTSA would like to continue to supply T-shirts to our 8th graders this year as we send them off to high school. Please use this [Google Form](#) to indicate your child's name and size. If you have multiple 8th-grade children, you should complete separate forms for each child. Information on distribution will follow.
- **Digital Wellness Day:** Staff and students at both CMS and GMS will participate in a Digital Wellness Day Monday, June 8. Events will take place

from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., and will replace that day's "office hours." More information will follow.

- The **remote learning calendar** for the rest of the year is available [HERE](#) (see page 4).
- **Panther Pause Google Classroom:** TeamCommUNITY, our Panther Pause has its own Google Classroom. Check out wellness tips and resources as well as videos of our therapy dog, Jake.
- **Google Classroom by Graduating Class:** Students are reminded, if they have not done so already, they should join the Google Classroom associated with their graduating class to ensure they are receiving important messages from their school counselor. If your son/daughter has not already joined and requires the classroom code, please have them email the school counselor.
- **WW-P Middle School May/June Office Hour Calendar:** The Middle School virtual "office hours" calendar may be viewed/downloaded [here](#).
- **Spam Folder:** During this period of virtual/remote learning, our teachers will be reaching out via phone and email to students and parents. Please check your spam filters to ensure that emails sent from your child(ren)'s teachers are being directed to your inbox and not your spam folder.

### **New Helpful Tips for #TeamCommUNITY:**

- View the weekly [CMS PAWSITIVE NEWS](#). If you also want to participate in the live challenges, don't forget to use this [Google form](#) to sign up! We love getting volunteers and it is so much fun!
- With a long weekend upcoming for **Memorial Day**, consider some of these activities with your family:
  - Watch the [National Memorial Day Concert](#) on PBS Sunday, May 24 at 8 p.m.
  - Join [Gail Van Prooien in singing or playing The Star-Spangled Banner](#) at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day to show respect for those who have died while serving in the military.
  - Check out the [Facebook Event "Parade of Heroes"](#) hosted by Ancestry.com on Memorial Day from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. EST.
  - Virtually attend the [Spirit of Princeton Virtual Wreath Laying](#) on Memorial Day at 11 a.m.

- Hear veterans' stories in their own words. StoryCorps offers a variety of oral stories from service members, veterans and their families through its [Military Voices Initiative](#)
- Get patriotic with chalk art! You and your family can use chalk as a creative way to mark the holiday. Illustrate a patriotic mural or scribble a thank you message to veterans in your driveway or a nearby walkway, if it's allowed.
- Looking to serve our local communities?
  - [HomeFront](#) is hosting a VIRTUAL Run/Walk for Hope. It has a 10K-5K-1 mile-even a dog walk option. Each family registers and comes out June 7 to do the Run/Walk/Dog Walk on their own.
  - Make encouraging cards and gratitude signs for health care workers, grocery store workers, law enforcement, or emergency personnel. Remember to disinfect cards before dropping them off or sending them in the mail.
  - Share your musical talents with a nursing home and send the residents a video of you singing, playing an instrument or dancing.
- Follow @CASEL on Twitter or go to [www.casel.org](http://www.casel.org) to see SEL (Social Emotional Learning) "tips of the day" to use SEL strategies at home.

### **Remote Learning Reminders**

- Please remember that district devices and email accounts are only for school-related activities.
- If you or your child need assistance, please email [CMS@ww-p.org](mailto:CMS@ww-p.org). This email is being monitored during weekdays, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- If your child is ill, please note it in Genesis as usual and there is no need to email your child's individual teachers. Please take care of yourself and your family.
- Students will be able to complete work on their own schedule and will have real-time access to teacher feedback during the "office hours" below.
- Students should follow teachers' instructions on their teachers' Google Classrooms.
- Students will receive feedback via Google Classroom (not on Genesis) from their teachers.
- Students should be sure to hit "**Submit**" when completing assignments via Google Classroom.

- Students should submit questions to teachers during the designated “office hours” period/day/time via Google Classroom or email their teachers directly.
- Teachers will check email, give feedback on assignments, and/or respond to students’ comments and questions during designated “office hours” period/day/time.
- Teachers may participate in a Google Hangout with their students and students will have access to Google Hangout from 8:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- If your child is not following up on assignments, a staff member will contact you.

### **Athletics**

- Check out the latest edition of the [WW-P Athletics newsletter](#) featuring highlights of some of our amazing senior spring athletes, fall registration and more.
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### **District Updates**

- [District Website](#) | [COVID-19 Information](#) | [Virtual/Remote Learning Website](#)

### **Counseling and Wellness**

- **Absences:** If your child is ill, please note it in Genesis as usual and there is no need to email your child’s individual teachers. Please take care of yourself and your family.
- **Health Resources:** WW-P district nurses have pulled together [important health information](#) for families. Please check it out.
- **Counseling and Wellness:** The WW-P District Wellness Committee has created a [website](#) to promote the understanding that wellness is an active process of becoming aware of and making choices toward a healthy and fulfilling life. Students, families, and staff are encouraged to embed these self-care resources into their daily routine.

### **Curriculum Corner**

- Click [here](#) for a message on “Small Moments in Big Times” from Cathy Reilly, WW-P Supervisor of Language Arts & ESL, 6-12.

### **District Facilities**

- **Playground Equipment and Athletic Fields:** All school playground equipment/athletic fields/courts/tracks/etc remain closed until further notice.

### **Food Services**

- If your child(ren) receives food benefits, please check your email next week for instructions.
- If your financial situation has recently changed and you would like information on food benefits, please click [here](#) for details and to download the application.

### **Registration**

- At this time, all student registration for incoming kindergarten students for the 2020-21 school year, as well as students moving into the WW-P Regional School District will be done by appointment and virtually until the district reopens. Please [click here](#) for more information and to begin the process.

### **State Information**

- **State of New Jersey:** [www.covid19.nj.gov](http://www.covid19.nj.gov) has been created as the official **COVID-19** information hub for the State of New Jersey. The website includes up-to-date information, services, where to find assistance, job opportunities, and more.
- **Remote Instruction Continues Through End of Academic Year:** On May 4, [Governor Murphy announced](#) the closure of all school buildings through the end of the academic school year.
- **A Program of Center for Food Action - Hunger Free New Jersey:** This non-profit organization is working with its partners to inform citizens of rapidly developing changes to address hunger during this crisis. For information and resources on programs such as NJ school meals, SNAP, WIC, and more, please visit the [organization's website](#).

### **Teacher Communication**

- Parents have often used Genesis as a tool to monitor their child's progress. Our teachers realize that with this tool missing, there is a need for increased communication. Please trust that if your child is missing assignments or has not resubmitted an assignment that needed revision, the teacher will reach out to

you. As always if you have specific questions about your child's progress, please initiate contact. However, if you do not hear from your child's teacher, you can rest assured that all student work is submitted and meets the learning standards.

## **Technology**

- **Broken Chromebook?:** WW-P students with Chromebooks that are damaged or in need of repair should complete this [Google form](#) (students must log in to their Google account to access the form). Once the form has been completed, students or parents may bring the broken device to the front of High School North (90 Grovers Mill Rd., Plainsboro) on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **NEW:** Beginning Friday, May 29, the Technology Department will be at HSN from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. every Friday. This is in addition to their Tuesday and Thursday hours. Please remember to complete the [Google form](#) prior to showing up.

## **Communications**

- WW-P uses SchoolMessenger as our [district communication tool](#). SchoolMessenger integrates with Genesis. It is important to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date in Genesis so that you may receive emails/texts/calls from WW-P.

## **Virtual Community Events**

- Community groups and organizations are beginning to organize virtual events. Click [here](#) for some upcoming virtual activities.

## **West Windsor-Plainsboro Education Foundation**

- It's Teacher Appreciation Month! Show your appreciation to our heroic teachers and staff for their phenomenal work during this unprecedented time with a STAR. During the month of May, you can honor your child's teacher, guidance counselor, principal, or a staff member who makes a difference in their life via the [STAR Campaign](#). Your donation helps fund grants that enrich your child's education.

## **Board of Education Meeting**

- 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](#)