

May 29, 2020

Maurice Hawk Elementary School Weekly Update

A Message From the Maurice Hawk Administration

Dear Maurice Hawk Parents & Guardians,

The start of spring weather and the recent honoring of Memorial Day with the extended weekend begin to signal that the final days of school are upon us. We have heard from some of you about the more energetic nature of our students as their bodies and minds want to be focused on more fun activities. The focus on learning activities and maintaining a sense of routine are critical during the final month of school. Please be assured that we seek to support your work with continued virtual learning at home. In that planning, we are considering the typical end of year activities that will provide a sense of normalcy and socialization.

We have been actively engaged in planning for the end of year events. Events may take place in a virtual format, but we are seeking to honor many of our traditions creating new formats for celebration with students. Virtual Field Day activities have been scheduled for June 12, a [separate communication](#) on that event is included with this correspondence. Individual classroom activities that foster positive and fun interaction have been planned and will be addressed by teachers. Communication for those transitioning between schools is being prepared in virtual formats and will be sent to students and parents for viewing. We remain focused on high levels of engagement for a positive culture for classes and the school as a whole.

The focus on socialization and fun is important, but is also a component of learning. To that end, learning activities will continue through the last week of school in the same format utilized in recent weeks. It is critical that students remain engaged with their learning, their teachers and their peers. We ask for your continued support in maintaining routines with ongoing participation in learning activities.

Preparations are underway for the retrieval and drop-off of items at school and more detailed information about the process will follow. We are considering multiple days for the drop-off and pick-up of materials. You can begin preparations now! Check with your child about any items that may need to be returned to school. For instance, library or

classroom books and other such things. These items should be gathered and labeled appropriately for return. This may be the perfect opportunity to say the principal said it's time to clean your bedroom. ;))

We continue to be here to support you and want to assist you as needed. We have resources available to families in need.

- Families who qualify for free or reduced meals are being supported by bi-monthly food distribution. If your circumstances have changed and you need assistance in this area, please contact the guidance counselor, nurse or building administrator.
- Technology is another resource available. Families who are having difficulty with their school-issued device or for those families who need access to a device for their child, please complete this [form](#). Once you complete this form, you may report to High School North on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to get the tech support or sign out a device. Please note: The form must be completed prior to going to High School North. You will not receive a notification to report to the high school; please go to High School North on the next Tuesday, Thursday or Friday following submission of the form.
- In addition to the curriculum that is being provided virtually, we also support any student who is struggling with the circumstances and loss of being at school with peers and teachers. If your child is experiencing difficulty, please reach out to his/her teacher, guidance counselor, CST, or building administrator for support.

Fondly,

Patricia Buell and Jack Colella

PTA News

- The PTA, with assistance from the Hawk administration, will hold a food drive to benefit the Plainsboro Food Pantry. Collections will occur through June 12, 2020. Please see the [flyer](#) for requested items, drop off times, and procedures. Please contact president@hawkpta.org with any questions or concerns.

School Updates

- **Assistance:** If your child needs assistance, please email us at mhe@ww-p.org.

- **Attention Parents of Current 3rd graders:** Parents are reminded to login to Genesis in order to select their child's music ensemble choice for the 2020-21 school year. Specific details and instructions were emailed earlier in the week. **Selections are due May 31.**
 - **Virtual Field Day - June 12, 2020:** Field Day is an important tradition at our school. It is a significant day for our students and our staff, and in these incredibly challenging times this school event provides a way that we can stay connected as a community and support one another in a fun and meaningful way. On **Friday June 12**, our school will participate in our own Virtual Field Day! Students will be able to choose four (4) different activities to participate in and will be able to post their videos or pictures to our school's Flipgrid! Please click [here](#) for the parent letter for more information regarding this fun day!
 - **Absences:** If your child is ill, please note it in Genesis as usual. Please take care of yourselves and your family.
 - **Grades K through 5 e-Learning Plans:** Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers will share links to the e-learning plans with their classes via email.
 - **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.
 - **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](#)

Community Education

- Registration is now open for WW-P's Community Education Virtual Summer Programs. Spaces are limited, register soon! Please click [here](#) to view the Virtual Summer Program Guide and click [here](#) to register.

Counseling and Wellness

- **School Counselor Corner:** District K-5 school counselors have created a [grid](#) of activities to keep our students talking and thinking mindfully while the district is implementing virtual/remote learning.
- **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.

Dual Language Immersion Kindergarten for 2020-2021

- The mandatory virtual WW-P Dual Language Immersion Parent Information Session is now live. Children entering kindergarten in September 2020 are eligible. [Check out the virtual session for information regarding the registration process.](#)

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 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 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.

- **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](#).

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 [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](#)