



Walsh, Jane <j.walsh@wissahickoncharter.org>

Weekly Wissahickon 11-12-2021

1 message

WCS-Fernhill <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>
Reply-To: WCS-Fernhill <fh.frontoffice@wissahickoncharter.org>
To: j.walsh@wissahickoncharter.org

Fri, Nov 12, 2021 at 2:27 PM

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Message From CEO

Dear Families,

Thank you for your incredible flexibility with our closure. We received a few messages from some of you about the timeline of communication. I want to sincerely apologize to you for the abrupt way we announced the news of moving to virtual learning because of Covid cases at Fernhill. I know the short notice was terribly inconvenient and surprising for many of you, and this is not how we want to operate. We had not fully anticipated the need to close prior to Tuesday, and I learned an important lesson around how quickly things with Covid can evolve.

Last Thursday, November 4th, we had a day with an unusually large number of Covid cases in a few cohorts. On that day we discovered 8 cases. While that number felt high compared to any we previously experienced, we were still not close to meeting the threshold for needing to close, which is 3% of the school and/or 3 classes. That day, we sent communications out to the classes and families who were directly impacted by the cases, not fully realizing that we were headed towards a closure which would impact everyone in our community. This was a misstep that resulted in you not getting more advanced warning about this major disruption. (For future reference, [this is one of the core resources](#) we use to make decisions, in consultation with our school's point person at the Department of Health.)

If I am in this situation again in the future, I will reach out to you all when there is a spike to let you know it has occurred, keep you updated about how it is developing, and give you as much warning as possible about potential changes to your students' schedules. Things still may evolve quickly, but I pledge that I will do everything I can to ensure that you won't be blindsided in the future.

Thank you,
Kristi

PS: Remember that you can always check under Family Resources on our website ([link here](#)) to see the number of cases we've had.

Essentials

Wissahickon's Mask Drive

In order to promote our CARES Value of Responsibility Wissahickon is holding a mask drive. The mask drive will run through **11/19** with the prizes the following week! Which class will win?

On Radar

Wissahickon Parent Partnership Announcements

Our next WPP meeting is on **Tuesday, November 16th at 6pm** via Zoom.

[MEETING LINK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 539 142 1361

Passcode: wpp123

School Meals

All menus and their nutritional information can be found [HERE](#) this year.

Reminders

2022-2023 WCS Application

The 2022-2023 application cycle opened on September 24. As a reminder, families must apply to Wissahickon through the Apply Philly Charter System at applyphillycharter.org or by calling 1 (800) 891-3999. Applications must be received by January 24, 2022 in order to be included in our lottery. As a reminder, WCS has sibling preference for applicants. A sibling is defined as a biological or legally adopted brother or sister who lives in the same household as the current WCS student. In the event the parent or legal guardian of a current student becomes the legal guardian of another child, sibling preference shall convey to that child. Applicants must also be Philadelphia residents in order to qualify for preference.

Follow Wissahickon Charter on Social Media

Follow WCS on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for important school updates and to see student learning and fun in action! And don't be shy- we love it when you like, comment, and share our posts! You can also follow WPP (Wissahickon Parent Partnership) on [Instagram](#).

Important Dates

Tuesday, November 23rd: School Closed for Professional Development

Wednesday, November 24th-Friday, November 26th: School Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 29th: Return to In-Person Learning

December 8th-10th: 12:45 Dismissal For Virtual Report Card Conferences



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