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Weekly Wissahickon 4-30-2021

1 message

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

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 11:25 AM

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Wissahickon
CHARTER SCHOOL

Message from CEO

Dear Families,

While we're still firmly rooted in this year, my announcements today are really all about the planning that is taking place for next year. Part of that planning includes determining the best way to use federal funds that are coming to us to respond to the impacts that Covid-19 has had on our community. We'd love your input! The following meetings are designed specifically for you to share your ideas for federal funding and talk about the home/school partnership. Please join us!

Meeting #1

WCS Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Time: May 5, 2021 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97464420394>

Meeting ID: 974 6442 0394

Passcode: fox

Meeting #2

WCS Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Time: May 11, 2021 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95545759847>

Meeting ID: 955 4575 9847

Passcode: fox

In order to make planning time possible for teachers before they leave for the summer, we are shifting our Friday schedules for the last few weeks of school. This means that for these Fridays (May 21, May 28, June 4, and June 11) students will not have any live classes online. All learning for those days will be asynchronous. Thank you for your flexibility!

Warmly,

Kristi

Essential:

May 3rd-7th is Staff Appreciation Week

The first week of May is Staff Appreciation Week at Wissahickon and we encourage you to reach out to your children's teachers and other staffers with words of gratitude and encouragement. A quick email of

appreciation means so much!

You can also show your support for our staff by leaving a note on our [Staff Appreciation Padlet](#). The note can be from you, your child, or your whole family!

Chromebook & iPad service/repairs

Please remember to email the Helpdesk BEFORE bringing your student's device to the school for support. helpis@wissahickoncharter.org

High School Matters for 7th Grade & Spring PSSAs for 7th & 8th Grades: COMBINED INTO ONE REQUIRED ZOOM FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS

Families, mark your calendars to attend ONE of these evenings. **Attendance will be taken.**

Session #1: Tuesday, May 4

5:30-6:15pm High School Matters (**required for 7th**; optional for 6th)

6:15-6:45pm PSSA Safety & Spring Schedule (**required for ALL 7th & 8th families**; 8th grade families can join at 6:15pm)

OR

Session #2: Thursday, May 6

5:30-6:15pm High School Matters (**required for 7th**; optional for 6th)

6:15-6:45pm PSSA Safety & Spring Schedule (**required for ALL 7th & 8th families**; 8th grade families can join at 6:15pm)

See High School Matters flyer [HERE](#) for more details and contact Ms. Aitiya or Ms. Rebecca with any questions.

PSSAs for Students Currently in Grades 3-6

As far as we know, we will be required to administer PSSAs for current 3rd-6th graders (next year's 4th-7th graders), assessing content from their current grades, by September 30, 2021. Our overall approach for these grades is as follows:

This Spring: Teachers of grades 3-6 will "sprinkle" multiple choice strategies and extended response questions throughout the units they're already teaching. There will be no discrete "test prep" units.

This Fall: In 4th-7th grades, we will likely start the year with a +/-2 week test prep unit, focused mainly on strategies (not academic content), so that students feel prepared and do NOT stress when they have to take PSSAs. We'll all work together to make the content as interesting and fun as possible.

As always, all families will receive information for how to "opt out" your children before the tests are administered in the fall.

Families with Food Insecurity

Families, if you are experiencing any food insecurity, please let Ms. Aitiya and Ms. Rebecca know. We have some funds and an organization who could provide support

RAC and In-person K Families

Thank you so much! Our families who are sending students into the buildings are doing a great job of following protocols and staying in communication.

Couple of quick reminders and updates:

- Please come at your specified drop-off time. This keeps us from having too many students going into the building at once. **Kindergarten drop off begins at 8:45.**
- You might have noticed that the wording on RUVNA changed this week to include members of students' households. For example, now instead of asking if just the student has a fever over 100.4, we are asking if the student or another member of the household has a fever over 100.4.

This is to help eliminate the possibility that a student who has been exposed to someone with Covid-19 comes into the building.

1st-8th Grade Students' Phones will be Collected Starting Monday

They are too distracting to learning. We will keep them locked in our computer cart during the day. If you need to reach your child, please do so by calling the front office.

All RAC & in-person K families MUST fill out RUVNA EVERYDAY.

This is essential for our school nurse to follow up as needed, as well as for all of us to have complete attendance records for students coming into the building.

Very important note about RUVNA screenings

If one of your children fails a RUVNA screening, please keep all students in household at home.

Charged Devices

Please make sure your child's device is fully charged when they get to school. We may keep devices here overnight if they routinely come in without a charge as students are missing class while they wait for it to have enough of a charge to launch Zoom.

Rapid testing & parent/guardian availability

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe through these practices!

On Radar:

A Note From our Digital Art + Animation Elective

The Digital Art + Animation elective made a virtual art gallery showcasing our favorite projects. The students wanted to share it with the school! [Digital Art Gallery](#).

La Salle Summer STEM Enrichment Camp

During La Salle University's Invention Convention, campers will Explore creative solutions to day-to day problems by using problem-solving, entrepreneurship and creativity skills that build confidence in invention, innovation and entrepreneurship! Click links for more information [flyer](#), [health form](#) and [registration form](#).

People are Beautiful Initiative

This week's Fact: Sacagawea (sa·kuh·juh·wee·uh) (1788-1812) was a Lemhi Shoshone woman who helped the Lewis and Clark expedition as an interpreter and a guide. She traveled thousands of miles with them from [North Dakota](#) to the Pacific [Ocean](#) between 1804 and 1806.

Important Date: Born: 1788-1812 Traveled: 1804-1806

Reminders:

Front Office Open By Appointment Only

The Front Office has reopened Monday -Thursday. You will need to call the front office at 267-338-1020 to make an appointment. The office staff is still available by email. **Please note that at this time there are no restrooms available for the public.** Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

FH- t.sumner@wissahickoncharter.org

Meals Distribution Mondays

Meals will continue to be distributed on **Mondays only from 8am-6pm**. Families will receive a meal kit for the week that includes hot entrees that can be reheated. Please continue to follow the Meal Pick up procedures as outlined outside the school.

Absences Due to Tech Issues

Families, if you are experiencing tech issues (i.e. trouble logging in, lost internet connection, etc.) please be sure to communicate that tech issue **in the moment** to helpis@wissahickoncharter.org to receive assistance and/or to have your child's attendance excused if needed. Copies of the emails sent to helpis@wissahickoncharter.org will serve as proof of your child's attempted attendance on that day.

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!

Important Dates:

Saturday, 5/1: First Day of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Tuesday, 5/4: 12-1pm WCS Annual Title I Parent Meeting

5:30-6:15pm High School Matters & May Information Session (7th and 8th grade)

Wednesday, 5/5: Cinco de Mayo

4-5pm WCS Annual Title I Parent Meeting

Thursday, 5/6: 5:30-6:45pm High School Matters & May Information Session (7th and 8th grade)



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