

Weekly Wissahickon 9-16-2022

1 message

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

Fri, Sep 16, 2022 at 2:54 PM

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Message From CEO

Dear Families,

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Family Barbecue this week. It was great to see so many people in our community enjoying the time together. We look forward to hosting more events for families in the future.

I hope your children are settling into their classes and routines well. Today I wanted to direct your attention to the handbook on our website (www.wissahickoncharter.org). The Student and Family Handbook is updated as needed and can always be found at this link. The website also houses information about our application for enrollment, our calendar, our most recent Weekly Wissahickon, and more.

I also want to let you know that as of Monday, September 19, Wissahickon Charter School will be Mask Optional. This means that each community member may choose to wear a mask or not to wear one. If you want your child to wear a mask, please communicate this to them and send a mask to school with them. There will be times when your child may be required to wear a mask even though we are mask-optional. Those include: if your child is symptomatic; if your child has been exposed to someone who is positive for Covid-19 in the previous ten days; or if your child is returning from isolation for days 6-10 of a positive case of Covid-19 (with permission from the School Nurse).

Hope you are enjoying these last long summer days.

Kristi

Essentials

Device Distribution for Grades 5-8

In the next few days, students will be given their school Chromebooks along with a charger. Your students have also participated in a responsible use information session. Please remind them of the importance of keeping track of their device, responsible use, and charging their devices at night. Also, families, if you need to read the policy again or still purchase the device insurance (available for purchase until 9/30/22), you can view the policy and insurance information here and purchase the insurance at this link (\$27). Please note that the insurance covers one device for the year (\$275 value).

Attention 8th Grade Families from Your School Counselors:

High school applications for the School District of Philadelphia will open on September 16, 2022. We will begin our mandatory high school advising meetings on September 27, 2022. Please use the MyConference Link to schedule a meeting with your child's counselor here at Fernhill. Student last names starting with A-L will schedule with Mrs. Aitiya and last names M-Z will schedule with Mrs. Meskun. These meetings will happen in person at our school. Masking and COVID Guidelines in place as per any new/updated WSC policies. Students and parents are expected to attend the meeting together. Please sign up for a time that works for you.

Please do not complete this application alone. Completing the application with your counselor assures that it is done correctly and any required documentation is submitted. Remember to have at least 5 district schools picked prior to your scheduled conference in order to complete the application. Do not include Charter Schools or Private Schools for this meeting. Please see THIS document for some examples of the types of High Schools or visit www.greatphillyschools.org to research different high schools in Philadelphia. Please email Mrs. Aitiya at a.hobson@wissahickoncharter.org or Mrs. Meskun at l.meskun@wissahickoncharter.org with any questions or concerns.

Families and students are encouraged to attend the 2022 Philly High School Fair on October 14th or October 15th. This is a free event. If you have a transportation hardship, let your counselor know. Link to Reserve tickets <u>HERE</u>

Late Pickup Policy revision

In the beginning of the school year a few warnings, not fees, were given to allow families to solidify their after school arrangements. However, no more warning will be given. Please be sure to read the entire revised Late Pick Up Policy in our Student and Family Handbook. The handbook can be found on our website, under Family Resources.

Arrival & Dismissal Parent Assistance

Parents, we are so thankful to have you as our partners. We continue to need your assistance in making sure students are getting to and from school safely. You can help in two specific ways:

- 1. Do not make illegal U-turns in front of the school.
- 2. Do not park in the crosswalk. This is the only safe space for students to walk to and from schools.

SEPTA Student Fare Cards

Students that are eligible to receive a SEPTA Student Fare Card should have received them by now. The fare card can be utilized for multiple years if the student remains eligible and enrolled at the same school. Going forward, we will not provide a new fare card each year. We will only provide fare cards to new students or students that have lost or damaged their card. If your child loses/damages their fare card, the school will provide one additional fare card for a fee of \$5.00. If your child loses/damages their fair card a second time, it is the family's responsibility to provide transportation for the student. Please contact Adrienne Oliphant (Ms. O) at a.oliphant@wissahickoncharter.org for additional information.

<u>Interested in receiving payment for opting out of bus transportation?</u> (Flat Rate Program)

The second enrollment period has begun. The period runs through September 30. To enroll, please complete the <u>enrollment form</u>. For 22-23, you may begin to submit the <u>parent payment form</u> in September. Additional information can be found on the <u>transportation page</u> on the Philadelphia School District website.

On Radar

Have a 7th grade student? This program is for you!

Germantown Friends is providing an Algebra Readiness Program for 7th graders with both in-person and virtual options. They aim to provide talented seventh grade students in the Germantown area a strong Pre-Algebra foundation to aid in their readiness for an Algebra 1 course and the high school application process. Topics in the program will focus on preparing students for success on their state tests, as well as exposure to content they can expect to see on high school entrance exams. Flyer attached. Fill out this form by September 30th to express interest!

After School Program Openings

There are still spots available in the after school program for students in 2nd-5th grade! After school runs daily from dismissal until 6pm. Fill out a registration form here and please feel free to reach out to Andrea Hegedus, the Recess & ASP Coordinator, at a.hegedus@wissahickoncharter.org with any questions.

School Lunch

All enrolled students of Wissahickon Charter School are eligible to receive a nutritional breakfast and lunch each school day at no charge to your household. No further action is required of you.

Please see the link to check out our <u>menu</u>. The site provides supplemental nutrition and re

Reminders

School Calendar

As a reminder, our school calendar for the 22/23 school year is here. Please plan

accordingly.

Has your address, phone number or email address changed?

Please inform the Front Office of ALL changes to your student's demographics.

Reminder: In order to change your address, you must submit (2) proofs of residency in addition to the change of address form.

Follow Wissahickon Charter on Social Media

Follow WCS on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> 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 <u>Instagram</u>.

Important Dates

Mon, September 26th: School Closed for Rosh Hashanah

Fri, September 30th: School Closed for Professional Development

Wed, October 5th: School Closed for Yom Kippur

Mon, October 10th: School Closed for Indigenous Peoples' Day



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