

GRETCHKO ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 19, 2019



ENJOY THE WINTER BREAK

We wish you all good health, happy times and lots of fun with your children. We hope you have time to enjoy reading with and to your children. Happy New Year! See you on January 6, 2020!

THERE'S MORE TO READING TOGETHER THAN JUST SAYING THE WORDS

Try asking your student questions like these when you read together.

Talk about the book

Is this a real story or a made - up story? How can you tell?

What can you tell by looking at the cover of a book? Talk about the title, author, and pictures about the story.

Where is the top of the book? Where's the bottom? Point to each.

Talk about the words

Example: Valiant means brave. Can you tell who was valiant in the story? Can you think of people in other books where were valiant?

Example: How many words can you think of that sound the same as “doom”– room, broom, boom, etc. (pick a word that is familiar from the story).

Talk about the story

How are the characters feeling in this part of the story? Scared, nervous, brace, etc.

Who do you think is in charge, How can you tell?

What do you think will happen next, etc.?

JANUARY RELEASE CALENDAR

Please remember Monday- January 13 is our ONLY Early Release Day in January. Students will be dismissed at 3:07 p.m. Please arrange to be available for your student.

No school on **January 20** due to the Martin Luther King Holiday.

Both days - **January 23 and January 24** - we have a **1/2 day** of school.

CONGRATULATIONS STAR SLIP WINNERS

Sorry we missed last week's Star Slip drawing. Since we had so many Gretchko Stars in this week's bins, we picked double the usual amount. Congratulations to the following students for being such good citizens and working hard to continue to make Gretchko a great school:

Brandon Stevenson, Kristina Matthews, Amear Grandberry, Lucas Sitto, Adelyn Farms, Dylan Daenzer, D'Angelo Ferguson, Vivian Saxe, Leah Alghazaly, Sachika Cobb, Ea'sence Stroman, Gavin Diop, Logan DeGrand, Jude Kaslly, Nahia Calvar, Elad Mardukhaev, Athina Brown, Rashaad Jackson Jr., Serenity Maki, Penny Parr, Zoe Adnson, Constantin Sullivan, Knoelle Brown, Oliver Smith, Jase Kellenberger, Ava Frimpong, Savanna Jones, Kai Creighton, Leo James, Olyvia Morgan, Paige Winkler, Timothy Gomez Hailey Kincaid, Zaiyah Gonzales, Rowman Taylor, and Alek Tisher.

THANK YOU LAKER EXPRESS

Fantastic concert! We would like to thank WBHS Laker Express for providing a wonderful concert for our students. We all enjoyed the songs and were happy to sing along.

MORNING DROP OFF REMINDER

Our car loop supervision stops at 9:12 a.m. to allow our staff to be in position for school to start. **The SIDE ENTRANCE doors will be locked at 9:12 a.m.** and you will need to park your car and bring your student to the front office to check in.

Please remember, **school begins in the classroom at 9:15 a.m.** At that time students should be in the classroom with their coats off, lunches put away, and ready to learn.

CAPTURING KIDS' HEARTS PROGRAM AT GRETCHKO

Capturing Kids' Hearts is a positive reinforcement program that is used by West Bloomfield Schools to help create a culture that supports the success of our students. We would like to share expectations of Capturing Kids' Hearts with parents. The following initiatives are being followed through our daily routines at Gretchko.

- * Teachers greet students at the door as they enter the classroom each morning.
- * Classroom Social Contracts are used regularly.
- * Students reference the Social Contract to help create an environment that places ownership and responsibility on the students in the class.
- * Staff and students use the thumbs up to reinforce acceptable behaviors.
- * Thumb sideways is used to remind students to "check" their behavior to see if it is acceptable under the classroom Social Contract.

The following questions are asked if a student needs redirection from a negative behavior.

1. What are you doing?
2. What are supposed to be doing?
3. Are you doing it?
4. What are you going to do about it?

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT UNVEILS BUS TRACKER APP

Durham Transportation is rolling out a new bus tracking app for West Bloomfield families. The Bus Tracker app is available for iOS, Android and web and allows families to track their student(s) bus along its route, to and from school. Families will need to have their student(s) ID numbers which are available in PowerSchool in order to log into the app and create an account.

SAFELINE PARENT REMINDER

Don't forget to call the safeline at (248) 865-6572 if your child will be late or absent from school. Any unreported absence is considered an un-excused absence on your student's record.

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The best opportunity for all students to learn is if all students are in attendance and the teacher has the least disruption as possible. **Late students** (interrupt lessons already being taught), **absent students** (miss lessons and take time to catch up), and **students leaving the classroom early** (create unnecessary interruption to all students and staff).

- * Students that arrive late 1 hour or more to school will be marked absent for the morning.

- * Students that leave school 1 hour or more before the end of the school day will be marked absent for the afternoon.
- * Students absent for vacations will be marked unexcused.

We thank and appreciate your understanding and look forward to working with you to ensure your student continues a successful educational career.

UNITED WE WALK- MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please join us on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020, 2:30 p.m. at WBHS for our [United We Walk Event](#)

Our district's United We Walk Committee will be celebrating 26 years of service in the community. The 2020 initiative is continuing our focus to **put the power of change in the hands of ordinary people so they can do extraordinary things.** Our vision in West Bloomfield is to collect specific items until Wednesday, January 15 to donate to the Grace Centers of Hope. This facility has identified their current needs which are listed below. A donation box is available at Gretchko. We are asking for the following items to help support this cause:



OUR SHARED MISSION

To celebrate annually the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by embracing the continuing influence and impact of Dr. King's dream of creating a beloved community that values diversity, promotes unity, and underscores the worth of every person.

**UNITED WE WALK /
MLK 365 ON THE RUN:**
"The Time Is NOW To Do What Is Right"

DONATIONS NEEDED:

- Canned goods - all types
- Toilet paper
- Men's disposable razors
- Underwear for children, women and men

Please join us on Sunday, January 19, 2020,
2:30 p.m. at WBHS for our United We Walk Event
as we prepare all donated items for the
Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac.
Visit [unitedwewalk.org](#) for more info.

50/50 Classroom Scholarship Raffle!

West Bloomfield Educational Foundation

WELCOMES
YOU TO *Fabulous*
CASINO NIGHT

Premiere Event Sponsors:
 & 

Adults Play - Kids Win!
 Friday, February 7, 2020
 7:00 - 11:00 PM
 Edgewood Country Club

BUY TICKETS EARLY AND SAVE! Adults only please 21 & older

	12/2 - 1/13	1/14 - 2/6	Door
Card Shark: Entry, Appetizers, 1 Raffle Entry, 100 Chips	\$ 30	\$ 35	\$ 45
Diamond: Entry, Appetizers, 5 Raffle Entries, 250 Chips, 1 Beverage	\$ 70	\$ 75	\$ 85
High Roller: Entry, Appetizers, 10 Raffle Entries, 500 Chips, 2 Beverages	\$120	\$125	\$135

Purchase tickets at www.wbef.org OR mail form to: WBEF - 5810 Commerce Road - West Bloomfield, MI 48324

Name _____ Email _____ Zip _____

Address _____

Number of Tickets _____ @ ☐ \$30/35 ☐ \$70/75 ☐ \$120/125

☐ Check made to WBEF

CreditCard: ☐ VISA ☐ MC Card# _____ Exp. Date _____

 **WBEF**
 WE BELIEVE IN EDUCATION FIRST
www.wbef.org
 248-865-6463

MATH PENTATHLON GAMES

Math Pentathlon season has already begun for Grades 2-7, but we're gearing up for Kindergarten and 1st Grade.

If you have a Kindergartner or 1st Grader interested in playing some fun math games, please sign up by December 13th. Practices will be after school on Wednesdays at Gretchko, starting on January 8th. The tournament will be held in April.

If you have any questions, please email Rene Kubiak at bacholzky21@sbcglobal.net.

And, if you have a 2nd Grader who is now interested, he/she can still join us. Practices have already begun at Gretchko on Wednesdays after school.



National Math Pentathlon Team

2020 Tournaments

You must register for one of these tournaments before practice begins at www.mathpentath.org. Plan on being there all day. 7:45am-8:15am Check-In Time. Tournament Fee is \$42 and is non-refundable. No substitutions will be allowed.

Michigan-Ohio Center

Div 1 (K/1) - April 25, 2020

Walled Lake Northern High School
6000 Bogie Lake Rd.
Commerce Township, MI 48382

Div 2 (2/3) - March 21, 2020

Bloomfield Hills High School
4200 Andover Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Div 3 (4/5) & Div 4 (6/7) -
May 16, 2020

Stoney Creek High School
575 E. Tienken Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Indiana-Ohio Center

Div 3 (4/5) & Div 4 (6/7) -
April 18, 2020

Ben Davis High School
1200 North Girl School Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46214

Registration

Student Responsibilities: Learn each of the five games in your division by practicing math concepts, learning strategies and sharpening skills. Respect the coaches, parents and fellow students by working as a team and exhibiting good behavior. Attend the National Math Pentathlon Tournament as a **Pentathlete**.

Parent Responsibilities: Attend the practices and learn each of the five games in your child's division. Assist in the growth of this team by helping the coaches during practice and your child at home. Attend the National Math Pentathlon Tournament as a Game Monitor.

In order for your child to be considered for this team, the following requirements must be met **before** the first practice:

1. Completed Registration Form, signed by student and parent, along with club fee of \$40 cash.
2. Receipt (Ticket) for the Math Pentathlon Tournament must be emailed to Coach Rene Kubiak at bacholdky21@sbcglobal.net.
3. Volunteer Form must be completed by each parent and/or family member that will be helping with practices.
4. Behavior Contract must be signed by student and parent.

Practices, Coaches and Teachers

Division 1: Every Wednesday starting 1/8 at Gretchko, after school
Coaches - Lucy Barber, Mrs. Wild, Mrs. Sizemore & Mrs. Lewis

Division 2: Every Wednesday starting 10/23 at Gretchko, after school
Coaches - Michelle Sokol, Mrs. Avag & Mr. Jamison

Division 3: Every Wednesday starting on 11/6 at Scotch after school
Coach - Rene Kubiak & Mrs. Ladd

Division 4: Every Monday starting on 11/4 at Abbott after school
Coaches - Lucy Barber, Michelle Sokol, Rene Kubiak & Ms. Walton

Registration Form

****Please print legibly****

Student Name _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Email _____ Phone Number _____

Student Grade _____ Teacher _____

Student Allergies _____

T-Shirt Size _____ Name on back of shirt (\$5.00 additional) _____

Method of going home: _____ will be picked up at 5:15pm

_____ will be going to Kids Klub/Tween Time

Who is authorized to pick up your child? _____

_____ Club Fee (Mandatory) - \$40.00 cash or pay online at www.wbsd.org (click on Departments, then Community Education and use search code 6375)

_____ Turn in Registration Form & Contract to your child's school office.

_____ Register for the National Math Pentathlon Tournament at www.mathpentath.org
This must be completed before coming to practice. The ticket should be emailed to Rene Kubiak at rahndzky21@sbcdglobal.net.

_____ I would like to volunteer to organize the end of the season party.

*****Deadlines for Registration: October 18, 2019 for Division II**

October 31, 2019 for Division III & IV

December 13, 2019 for Division I

Student Essay (For 2nd Graders and older): Please tell us why you would like to be on the Math Pentathlon Team and what you would be able to contribute to the team.

Math Pentathlon Student & Parent Contract

Math Pentathlon is a voluntary club, run by parent volunteers and filled with students who want to be in the club. The goal of Math Pentathlon is to increase students' math confidence and math problem-solving skills. In order to ensure that students and parents understand the responsibility and commitment needed by each club member, please take time to read over and sign this contract with your child.

Student Name _____

Please initial by each statement:

Student

____ I know that every practice is valuable and will attend every practice that I can. If I cannot attend a practice, I will send a message to the coach.

____ I will work cooperatively as a group, to share ideas with confidence to accept other ideas with an open mind and positive attitude. I will not be disruptive in game play, group discussion or activities.

____ I will stay focused during practice and respect the coaches, parents and other students. I will show good sportsmanship and fairness in any games that I play.

____ I will adhere to the rules of the Behavior Contract of the team. If not, I know I may be asked to leave the team.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent

____ I will attend at least 2 practices per month with my child so that I can learn the games and to assist with the flow of practice.

____ I understand that younger children are not allowed to attend the practices when I volunteer, unless cleared first with the coach, and will make arrangements for their care.

____ I will pick up my child at the end of practice on time and will check out with the coach. If I cannot pick up my child on time, I know that my child will be sent to Kids Klub/Tween Time and I will be charged \$15 if registered with them or \$25 if not registered.

____ I accept that membership in the club is a privilege that can be revoked if a student does not fulfill their obligations in this student contract. I understand that no refund will be issued if my child is removed from the program.

____ I give permission for any pictures of my child taken during club or tournament to be used in publication online or in print.

____ I agree to discuss all items listed above with my child.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR A SPECIAL SPIRIT DAY IN JANUARY

Name your own Spirit Day - Winner - Roy Brandon's Spirit Day is Friday, Jan. 10th.
The theme is "College Sports Team Day".



FLL Jr. Registration

Gretchko: Grade K-2

Wednesdays, March 4—April 29

4:07-5:10 pm (8 wks)

Program Cost: \$100

Includes: Team registration, t-shirt and certificate



Return registration to Gretchko school office no later than December 20, 2019

****Space is limited based on number of coaches so register early!!!!**

We are in need of coaches...guarantee your child's spot and become a coach!

Checks made payable to West Bloomfield School District

Visa/Mastercard/Discover/American Express cards accepted for payment

CLASS # 4070	FLL JR.	School: _____
Student's Name: _____ M _____ F _____ Birthdate: _____		
Teacher's Name: _____ Grade: _____		
Parent's Name: _____		
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____		
Phone (H): _____ Phone (Cell): _____		
Parent email: _____		
____ Check: Made Payable to West Bloomfield School District		
Visa/MasterCard/Discover/AMEX # _____ Exp. _____ CVV _____		
Signature _____ I would like to be a coach or an assistant _____		
Teammate preference if any: _____		
Coach preference if any: _____ Permission to photograph YES _____ NO _____		

All kids from any school regardless if they are currently in Chess Wizards are welcome as long as they are in grades k-5th

3 Divisions:
K-1
2nd-3rd
4th-5th



FORM A TEAM!

3 or more players from the same school in the same division automatically forms a team.

PRIZES!

Top 5 individuals,
Top 3 teams in each division.

DEC 14th
SATURDAY
8:15AM-2:15PM

In conjunction with
West Bloomfield
Community
Education

Each Child
Will Play
Four Rounds
Each Game = 30 min
No Elimination!



CHESS WIZARDS
Strategies for Life



SATURDAY
DEC/14th/2019
West Bloomfield High School

4925 Orchard Lake Rd,
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

DOORS OPEN: 8:15AM
1ST ROUND: 9:15AM
AWARDS: 2:00PM

REGISTER ONLINE BY 12/12
www.CHESSWIZARDS.com

\$30



WINTER 2020

YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Coaches:

Jeremy Denha and Ryan Watson

LOCATION:

West Bloomfield High School



SATURDAYS 1/25-2/29

GRADE: 1-3 9-10 A.M.

GRADE: 4-6 10-11 A.M.

Sign up with your friends!
Boys and girls will enjoy this league
play format for 6 weeks.
\$139 includes t-shirt



West Bloomfield School District Community Education
Register online at www.wbsd.org
Click on Departments, click Community Education use
search code 6560 or call (248) 865-6462

Student Name: _____ M ☐ F ☐
Grade: _____ Parent Name: _____ School: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Emergency Phone: _____ Parent Email: _____
Checks made payable to West Bloomfield School District
Permission to photograph Yes ☐ No ☐ Tween Time Yes ☐ No ☐



BOXTOP SAVING TIPS

Earning money for your school has never been easier. Simply download the app, choose your school and snap a picture of your receipts! Encourage your friends and family to download the app as well! Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles, Cousins, literally anyone who grocery shops and has a receipt can help Gretchko earn and it adds up quickly!

https://www.boxtops4education.com/-/media/GMI/boxtops4youreducation/CRC-Downloads/June_19/BTFE_Overview.ashx?la=en We still accept boxtops cut from products you purchase. We have a boxtop container in the front lobby.

FIT WITH FAMILY PHOTOS

Stop by to see the many pictures on display showing how our Gretchko Stars spend time getting fit with their family. Ms. Hubbard has on display many "Fit With Family" pictures outside the gymnasium. We want students to take action and be active outside of school with their families! We would like you to share your family's "being fit" photos. What type of pictures do we want on the wall? A group running picture, playing a sport as a family, dancing, or any other type of physical activity! Who should be in the picture? Your student and one or more family members. Have your student bring the picture in to class on their P.E. day, they will share with the class what physical activity they did with their family, and Ms. Hubbard will put the photo

up on the Fit With Family Wall. If you have any questions feel free to email her - emily.hubbard@wbsd.org

WB DISTRICT MEDICATION POLICY

The WBSD Medication policy prohibits students from carrying any medication with them at school. All medication, both over-the-counter and prescribed, must be brought to the school office by a parent or guardian and will be administered from the main office only. In order for us to administer medication (over-the-counter and prescribed) the **WBSD Medication Forms, completed and signed by your students' physician, must be on file**. Please remember that all prescription medications must be in the original prescription container with your student's name and physician's instructions.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January 6 - Return to School

January 8 - PTO Meeting 7:00 p.m.

January 10 - Spirit Day - "College Team" and Bagel Sale

January 13 - Early Release

January 15 and 16 Winterfest - Weather permitting

January 19, 2020, 2:30 p.m. at WBHS Join us!
for our [United We Walk Event](#)

January 20 - MLK Day - No School

January 23 - Half-Day of school - Dismissal 12:17 p.m.

January 24 - Half-Day of school - Dismissal 12:17 p.m.

January 28 - First Grade Concert - session 1

January 20 - First Grade Concert - session 2

January 31 - Spirit Day (Tie Dye Day)/Bagel sale \$1.00

February 3 - Early Release

February 10 - Early Release

February 13 - Classroom Valentine Parties 10:30 - First Grade

1:30 - Second Grade

2:45 - Kindergarten

February 17 - 18 MID-WINTER BREAK

February - 24 Early Release

February 25 - Kindergarten Music Concert Session 1

February 26 - Kindergarten Music Concert Session 2

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Office phone Phone - 248-865-6570

Sally Drummond-principal email - sally.drummond@wbsd.org

Kitrina Van Meter-principal's secretary email - kitrina.van-meter@wbsd.org
Suzanne Pokley-building secretary - email - suzanne.pokley@wbsd.org

School answering machine - safeline - 248 - 865-6572 -

GRETCHKO STARS

 5300 Greer Road, West Bloomfield Township, MI, U...

 (248)865-6570

 wbsd.org/Domain/12

CODE OF CONDUCT

Below is the link for parents to have the opportunity to review the West Bloomfield School District's Code of Conduct. Please go to the following link to review

[WBSD Code of Conduct](#)

PTO BOARD MEMBERS -2019-2020

PTO Board for 2019-2020 School Year

Co-President: Katie Palazzolo / Ashleigh Davis

Co-Vice President: Amy Risius/Stephanie Reynolds

Co-Treasurer: Ufuoma Kaplan/Vanity Koop

Recording Secretary: Heather Aldrich

Co-Corresponding Secretary: Juliet Jozwick /Erica Daenzer

Board Advisor: Kelly Robrahn