

GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 - IS GRETCHKO SPIRIT DAY

Join the fun! Our PTO is sponsoring special "Gretchko" spirit day once a month. On Gretchko Spirit Days, all students who participate will have their name entered into a drawing to win a small prize in their classroom. One student from each A.M. class and P.M. class. Good luck! We hope to see lots of school spirit!



VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Dear Parents,

West Bloomfield School District has provided several avenues for our students to receive a quality education. We are teaching in person, through zoom meetings, and online classes. We have organized zoom classes for Media, Art, Physical Education, and Music. We have provided

home computers for each student and technological support for parents. In the future we will continue to provide take home bags of "work from home" items for students learning from home the 1/2 day they are not in person at school.

It is our hope that each and every student uses the resources provided to the fullest extent possible. We are here to support parents and students as they maneuver through their new learning environment. Never before has it been more evident that education is a team experience and the successful student is one that participates regularly, has teacher encouragement and parental support. We are finding even in such challenging circumstances, students that participate regularly are learning and making good progress. That being said, when students don't participate regularly, steady progress is in jeopardy.

Oakland County monitors student attendance regularly. Two times a year a snapshot of attendance is taken and school funding is tied to those snapshots along with additional attendance data provided by the school district. Oakland County's first count date is scheduled for Wednesday, October 6th.

We would like to remind parents student attendance is recorded daily. Attendance includes participation in **ALL** zoom sessions. **The State of Michigan requires attendance to be taken** for remote learning during the daily "Live Zoom Sessions". **It is imperative that your child attend the entire Art, Music, Physical Education and I Center classes to be counted present for that portion of the day.**

Attendance will be recorded when students:

- * **Attend Zoom classes through your district issued account (stu.wbsd.org).**
- * **Use your W.B. district issued Chromebook.**
- * **Use the zoom link on the Classroom Teacher and Specials Teachers Canvas page**
- * **Students should attend their scheduled zoom.**

Sincerely,
Sally Drummond, Ed.S.
Principal,

REQUEST BY PARENTS

When making a left turn into Gretchko, please pass Gretchko, continue to the first subdivision street, make the left turn and come back up the hill. You will be able to make the turn easier, safer, cut down on traffic back ups and improve safety of everyone in the traffic pattern
Thank you, for thinking of others and helping improve traffic back ups!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH - SPECIAL COUNT DAY

This is the first of 2 Count Days determined by Oakland County to assess funding to schools. Each district's funding amount is determined by attendance on this day. Although, we will have remote, virtual school, our attendance will still be monitored. We ask that parents please sign in and have students attend so the county can have an accurate assessment of our student population.

HEALTH SCREENINGS - ATTENTION FAMILIES!

Health Screenings - Attention Families!

In order to protect everyone within our buildings and continue to provide outstanding in-person instruction for our K-8 students, we need our families to partner with us.

We need families to be honest with us when monitoring their own student's health each day. If your student is feeling under the weather for any reason, please do the responsible thing and keep your student home from school that day. When keeping students home, please continue to monitor their symptoms throughout the day and reevaluate the next day.

We will work with families to ensure any students remaining at home due to health precautions have the necessary time and resources to stay up to do in their classes without falling behind. We'd rather families take the necessary precautions instead of worrying about class assignments or grades when dealing with potentially ill students.

As we head into cold, flu and allergy season, this honest accounting of our students' symptoms each day will help us keep all who learn, work and play within our buildings safe.

Please reach out to your building principal if you have any questions or concerns.

THE BOOK BUS COMES TO GRETCHKO

We are so excited to be able to announce that our ICENTER will be making special arrangements for our students to be able to check out books at our new "Book Bus". Beginning in October our Book Bus will travel to the classroom at designated times.

- * Students will have their book for a one week check out.
- * Each class will have a designated checkout day.
- * Each student will be allowed to privately check their book out.
- * Books will be an assortment of titles chosen to enhance relevant topics
- * We ask that students store their book in their personal backpack.

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BEEP! BEEP!!!

The Gretchko iCenter's

BOOK BUS

will begin driving routes soon!



The newest stop on the BOOK BUS route is Gretchko Elementary! We are so thankful in the iCenter to have purchased over 600 new titles that have been added to our shelves. These new books are just waiting to be devoured by our readers! The Book Bus will load up new books from the iCenter and visit classrooms throughout the week. The Book Bus will be loaded with books pertaining to the curriculum taught in your child's classroom. Various reading levels of relevant topics from science and social studies, along with texts to support our reading and writing units will be chosen to enhance the curriculum. Please see the schedule below to know when the Book Bus will arrive at your child's classroom door. Book Bus routes will begin the week of October 5, 2020.

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Barker	Sizemore	Smith	Risden
Allen	Pace	Reed	Wild
Ayar	Costello	Kirk	Williams
			Pawlaczyk
			Hans

During iCenter lessons on October 1st and 2nd, readers will learn how to be a good library citizen. It is important that teachers, parents, siblings, and friends model how to treat and care for our iCenter books. I appreciate these good library values carrying over in all of our homes. When students bring home their new iCenter book, please keep it in a safe place at home or in your child's backpack. Students are only allowed to check out ONE iCenter book at a time. If your child forgets to bring back an iCenter book on the class's scheduled day, s/he will have to wait until the following week to check out a new book. The entire staff at Gretchko is excited for our readers to share our iCenter collections with our families and we appreciate your excitement too! BEEP! BEEP!!

Mrs. Hammerick

Information & Technology Specialist



JOIN MATH PENTATHLON

Math Pentathlon helps your child:

Strengthen Math Skills, Encourage Creative Thinking and Develop Problem Solving Techniques

WBSD Parents! Join us for a ***Parent Info Meeting*** via Zoom on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7 p.m.

We will cover:

What is Math Pentathlon? Is this a good fit for my child? How will Zoom meetings work while playing math games? When will we practice? Hear student and volunteer testimonials

Division 1: K-1st

Division 2: 2-3rd

Division 3: 4-5th

Division 4: 6-7th

Cost: \$25, includes t-shirt

Division 1&3 begins November 11-Spring 2021, one hour every other Wednesday

Division 2&4 begins November 4-Spring 2021, one hour every other Wednesday

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkde-hpjsiEtK3XVmhHC9SCFzHke-gZPmA>

Questions? Contact West Bloomfield School District Community Education
andrea.foglietta@wbsd.org

[Flyer](#)

EVENING ART THERAPY FOR FAMILIES

Hi! I have attached a flyer about one of our upcoming events-Fun Coping Skills for the Family. This one is art therapy - its for parents and kids to work together!

Register in advance at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltf-2rqTMiHNbGjkfg2lvBPpe8DJ3VuCMYf>

We hope you enjoy!

DROP OFF AND PICK-UP STREAMLINED

It has been a great start this school year and our drop-off and pick-up seem to be running smoothly. Most of our parents and students are getting the routine down and the lines are diminishing. We would like to thank everyone for helping us be efficient. **It is great to see so many students being responsible for themselves!**

The efficiency in the car line allows us to tighten our time frame for drop-off and pick-up so we can claim additional minutes for teaching in the classroom. **Starting Tuesday, September 29, we would like parents to use the adjusted schedule below** for dropping off and picking up students. It is very important for teachers to be able to have students in the classroom and ready to learn at the start of their day.

Please review the adjusted times for the Drop-Off and Pick-up lines.

9:05 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. - Cohort A - Drop Off

12:05 p.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Cohort A Pick-Up

1:20 p.m. - 1:32 p.m. - Cohort B Drop-Off

4:12 p.m. - 4:22 p.m. - Cohort B Pick-Up

We ask that everyone be courteous and follow the guidelines below

- * Have students **prepared to exit** your vehicle.
- * Say good-byes beforehand.
- * Students should have their **mask on** when staff approach the car and be ready to exit.
- * Student should be on the **passenger side** of the car.
- * Students should be able to **unbuckle by themselves**.
- * Student should be able to **open the door and climb out**.
- * Please **do not pass other parents** in the car line.

* Please **drop students at designated drop-off areas**. (see map below)

Parents are not allowed to get out of vehicles while in the car line.

FOOD SERVICE UPDATE - 2020 - 21 SCHOOL YEAR

Food Service Update - 2020-21 School Year

[Food service](#) will be available to all West Bloomfield School District students during the 2020-21 school year. Please see the letter linked below with options for each student learning model.

- [Food Service Update for Families - 2020-21 School Year](#)

Please contact Anne Stevens with Nutrition Services questions at anne.stevens@wbsd.org or (248) 865-6733.

DEAR PARENTS,

We are so happy to inform you that we are continuing to use *Scholastic News* in the classroom each month. This publication is a very good resource for our teachers to teach about current events. Each year the PTO collects funds to pay for the publication and also collects for party funds. Even though parties will look different this year, the PTO will be planning 2 special activities for our students. They are asking parents for financial support in the amount of \$12.00 each student. Please see the information below from our PTO.

Sally Drummond, Principal

PTO INFORMATION

Our students have already begun using their **Scholastic News** to enhance their learning! In order to be able to continue utilizing these educational enhancements, we are asking for a \$6 donation to help cover the cost to the PTO.

The PTO is also planning **2 special crafts** for students this year! One will be for Halloween and the other for Valentine's Day. We are also asking for a \$6 to the PTO to help pay for these crafts.

Donations can only be accepted via CHECK this year, made payable to Gretchko PTO. One check submitted with a **total of \$12** is appreciated!

***Please send the check in an envelope to school in your child's school folder. Please write your CHILD'S NAME, TEACHER, and SCHOLASTIC/CRAFTS on the front of the envelope. Thank you for your support!

Your PTO Executive Board

GREAT NEWS! GRETCHKO SPIRITWEAR IS NOW READY FOR ORDERING

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DOW_Kf1bTIVDwu43aSbF2R2aZ0v25FUL/view?usp=sharing






Gretchko Spirit Wear

We want to see our Gretchko Stars SHINE in their spirit wear! Special raffles will occur on Gretchko Spirit wear days for anyone wearing their spirit wear!

To order, please:

1. Click this [link](#).
2. Once we receive your order, we will send you an INVOICE to your email address.
3. You will pay the invoice.
4. We will get the items to your child's teacher to send home.

*** ONLY SELECT ITEMS PICTURED BELOW, MORE OPTIONS AVAILABLE ON FORM***

Youth & Adult T-Shirt 	Youth Hoodie (no zipper) 	
Womens Black Jersey jacket 	Heavy camo zip 	Lightweight Camo zip 

GRETCHKO PIZZA FUNDRAISER - ONLINE ORDERS AT MARCOS.COM

FOOD ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The USDA has generously provided funding which allows the West Bloomfield School District to provide meals free of charge until December 31 or until funds expire to any child 18 or under or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program that is recognized by a state or local public educational agency. Each child is eligible to receive seven breakfast and lunch meals each week.

The meal options for Gretchko families are take-home meals curbside pick-up of 7 breakfast and lunch meals at Roosevelt Elementary or West Bloomfield High School on Wednesdays.

Pre-order is required for Wednesday pick up. The order link is on the Food Service page on the district web page or click here <https://www.wbsd.org/departments/food-service>.

Thank you!

Anne Stevens

Food Service Director
West Bloomfield School District
4925 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Ph 248.865.6733

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

West West Bloomfield School District issued each student a new computer for educational access. It is essential that students use the computers issued for their classwork and zoom meetings. Updates and software changes are pushed to the district computers, and students not using district issued computers may not have access to the same information and programming.

Please monitor your children on the computer especially during zoom classes and meetings. We often see other individuals in the audience. Please help teachers by monitoring background noise and other interruptions of "non" class happenings.

Sometimes families forget that the computers the children are learning from, also have cameras that share whatever is in the background of the computer screen. Also, if there are conversations happening in the area, the voices and conversations are shared throughout the rest of the class. Please teach your student how and why we use the mute button.

Please join our "Special's teachers" zoom meetings through the Special's Teachers Canvas page. If you are having difficulty getting onto your Specials zoom, please follow the directions below.

- * After you click on the Specials Teacher's zoom link, close the pop up box.
- * Log in with your child's gmail account.
- * If the zoom says "connecting" please go back to the teacher's link.
- * Start again.
- * Your child's name should appear to log into zoom.
- * It should now allow you to enter the meeting.

We are sharing some good resources below that may assist parents resolving common technology issues.

Help with Canvas: www.wbsd.org/academics/classroom-to-cloud/canvas or canvashelp@wbsd.org

Help with Chromebook: www.wbsd.org/departments/technology

Help with PowerSchool: www.wbsd.org/parents/powerschool

GREAT NEWS FOR CLOUD CARE PARENTS

Parents will be able to contact Cloud Care staff directly. They now have a direct line.

Cloud Care direct line 248-865-6585

WELCOME TO OUR PTO BOARD FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Here are this year's board members:

President: Jen Amato

Co-Vice President: Ashleigh Davis/Stephanie Reynolds

Treasurer: Vanity Koop

Recording Secretary: Heather Aldrich

Co-Corresponding Secretary: Ufuoma Kaplan /Erica Daenzer

PTO LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Sign up to be a Virtual

Head Room Parent!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084EACAD2CA7FA7-virtual>

COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES AVAILABLE

Looking for something fun this fall? Check out the fall catalog for online enrichment! [Click here](#) to view.

Youth Empowerment, Movement and Enrichment

Yoga, Drama, Karate, Drawing and more!

Adult Movement, Professional Development, Speciality and Enrichment

Registration questions and to teach a class, please contact andrea.foglietta@wbsd.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Important Dates coming up!

October 2 - Gretchko School Spirit Day

October 9 - Workout Gear/Athletic Spirit Day

October 16 - College wear Spirit Day

October 23 - Crazy Hair Spirit Day

October 28 - Marco's Pizza night

October 30 - Costume day (No WEAPONS and NO SCARY MASKS)

November 3 - NO SCHOOL - ELECTION DAY

November 6 - Gretchko School Spirit Day

November - 13 Rock and Roll Day

November 18 - Marco's Pizza Night

November 20 - Formal/Dress Up Day

November 25-27 Thanksgiving Break

December 4 - Gretchko Spirit Day

December 11 - Pajama Day

December 16 - Marco's Pizza Night

December 18 - Holiday Attire Day

December 21 - Jan. 1 - Winter Break

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

West Bloomfield School District

WEST BLOOMFIELD/KEEGO HARBOR

Dear Parents of Doherty, Gretchko, Roosevelt, Scotch, and Sheiko Elementary,

If your child qualified for the Free and Reduced Meal Program last year or this year, s/he can also participate in the **Blessings in a Backpack** program. This program sends six non-perishable meals home each Friday of the school year in your child's backpack. Its goal is to make sure that no child goes hungry on the weekend. Run by volunteers, there is **NO cost** to you.

To enroll in this program, please fill out the two sections below. The first section gives the West Bloomfield School District's Nutrition Department permission to release your name to **Blessings in a Backpack**, so that they can add your child/ren to their roster. The second section registers your child/ren in the Blessings program and alerts them to any allergies they might have.

Please return this to your school office as soon as possible, or email it to kathernesheiko@hotmail.com. The first backpack of food will be sent home the first week of October. If your child is enrolled in Lakers On Line, you can pick up your child's bag at WBHS from 6:30-7:30 am, 11:30 am-12:30 pm or from 4:00-5:00 pm on Wednesday of each week.

Yes, my child's/children's name may be released by the Nutrition Department to the **Blessings in a Backpack** Program.

Yes, I would like my child/children to participate in the **Blessings in a Backpack** program.

Child's
Name_____Grade_____Teacher_____School_____

Child's
Name_____Grade_____Teacher_____School_____

Parent's Signature_____

Food Allergies_____

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Sheiko at katherinesheiko@hotmail.com or at 248 521 0074. For more information on Blessings in a Backpack go to blessingsinabackpackmi.org.