

WHSPFA Newsletter

September 25, 2023



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Good Morning WHS Families,

WOW, what a week and weekend! Back to School Night was a packed house and it was great to see so many friends and new faces. We hope you were able to get outside and enjoy the amazing events in town this past weekend! We are SO proud of the WHS student involvement in Winchester Spirit Night and the 11th annual Glen Doherty Road Race! The WHS Super Fans came out full force for Friday Night Lights! We've got Spirit, yes we do! The pictures say it all-look below for more!!

Please take a moment and donate to our **WHS Direct Appeal**. To make it easy, you can just click one of the links for [PAYPAL](#) or [VENMO](#). Any amount is appreciated! Remember that we are a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3), so each dollar is tax deductible. While the bulk of our DA budget goes to fund teacher/staff-specific educational grant requests, which is vital, we also fund many other things, including grants for student clubs, a "Welcome Back Luncheon" for teachers/staff in September and improvements or snazzy updates for the school. Click on the "PFA Grants Tab" on the [WHSPFA Website](#) and see where past donations have helped the school.

Our next **PFA Meeting** is **TONIGHT, September 25th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Library**. Come catch up on what is happening at the school, hear an update from committees, get some face time with Principal Mahoney and Superintendent Hackett may even be there!

As always, please reach out with questions, concerns, or just to say "hi."

Very Fondly,
Adrienne Spignesi & Mai Harrison
WHS Co-Presidents

whspfa@gmail.com

** to enlarge pictures in collages on computer -just click on them :)*



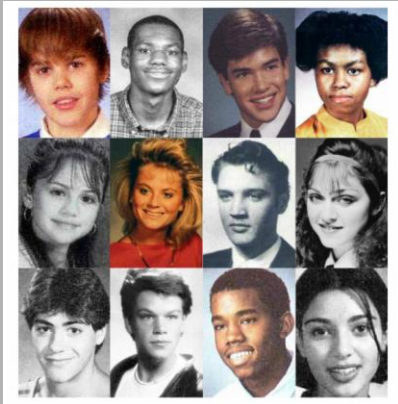
Our Annual GLEN DOHERTY Memorial Foundation Race! Our

community comes together every year to support and pay tribute!





PIC·COLLAGE



Let's start off Monday with some
FUN!

Thank you for all who participated! The lucky winner is **BETH LEPORE!** Great job figuring out all these celebrities! Your prize will be sent to you in the mail!

Look out for little fun games like this and you could be a winner too!

Q1: September 7 - November 9

[Click Here for 2023-2024 District School Calendar](#)

MON 9/25 - First PFA Meeting, 7pm Library

WED 9/27 - College Application Info night, 6:30 pm Auditorium

MON 10/9 - No School

SPANISH EXCHANGE STUDENTS DEPART

On Saturday, the Spanish Exchange students departed after two busy weeks of exploring New England, NYC, and living in Winchester.

A big thank you to the host families and many others who made their stay special!



AUTHOR ALERT!

WHS is happy to welcome award winning graphic novelist Gareth Hinds to school on October 4th. Hinds is coming to WHS as part of WFEE's annual Authorfest. He will be working with 9th graders who are studying *The Odyssey* using his graphic illustration of the classic poem. WFEE will be selling copies of Hinds' books at noon in the dining commons. Students other than 9th graders who are free last period are welcome to hear Hinds' presentations, please let Mrs. Plosky know you are coming. Elementary and middle school students will celebrate Authorfest on October 26th.

WHSPFA DIRECT APPEAL

Let's get the 2023-2024 school year off to a great start!

WHAT? Direct Appeal is WHSPFA's only fundraiser. Monies raised support our WHS faculty and staff with their extra needs during the school year. Your donation will help them enhance students' learning, teaching, and counseling experiences.

WHY? It's an investment in our kids' educations. Direct Appeal funds are used to support programs and activities beyond what is covered in the regular school budget. By contributing, you will be helping to fund valuable in-school enrichment programs, teacher grants, and more!

For example, previous fundraising efforts have purchased:

- a new sound system at Knowlton Stadium
- bought art materials for specialized art classes
 - risers for the music department
- a human skeleton for the science program
 - new student events
- materials for the Cooking for Life program
- AED trainers, laptops, books, software programs
- social/emotional programming, and more!

WHEN? Now!

HOW? Click the link below. Any amount is appreciated! Keep in mind that we're a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) so each dollar is tax deductible.

DONATE NOW via [PAYPAL](#) or [VENMO](#)





WinchesterHS ParentFacul...
@whspfa



or mail a check payable to: WHSPFA 10 Cranston Road,
Winchester, MA 01890

Don't forget Corporate Matching Gift programs offered by your
employers.

You could double your impact to WHS.

NOTE FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

Sports bags are not allowed to be stored in the main office during the day. If you are dropping a sport bags during the day, please text your student to come pick it up and bring it to the locker room.

NEWS FROM THE CAFETERIA

Breakfast is served for free to all students in the dining commons every school day from 7:30 to 8:30 and again between 9:35-9:45. Menu options are viewable [here](#).

PSAT

PSAT/NMSQT exam is on **Saturday, October 14th 2023** at Winchester High School. The PSAT is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship. All Juniors take this test. There are limited seats for Sophomores to take the test as practice.

This will be a Digital test.

Forms are available outside Room B208. Completed forms with check should be handed to Mrs. Chakladar (Room B208) only to get a registration ticket.

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Any JUNIORS interested in being a main office student assistant, please fill out [this form](#). Please see Ms. Conis with any questions. There are a very limited number of spots available, so please be aware that not all interested students will get a spot.

UPDATE FROM GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The Fall newsletter is available [here](#) and will also be available for download on the WHS website. Please see your child's guidance counselor directly with any questions.

COLLEGE VISITS

The following colleges will be visiting WHS in the Guidance Department from 8-8:30am unless otherwise noted.

Monday, September 25th

Tulane University & Hofstra University

University of New Hampshire during WIN in the Auditorium

Tuesday, September 26th

University of Southern California & Loyola University
Chicago

Wednesday, September 27th

Tufts University & Villanova University

Thursday, September 28th

Carleton College & Kenyon College

UPDATES FROM THE WHS NURSE'S OFFICE

11th grade Physical Forms

If you have not submitted your 11th grade student's required updated physical form, please do so immediately. You may submit a paper copy directly to the WHS health office, have the health care provider fax the form to us or send it via email.

Our WHS Health Office Fax number is: 781-756-0972

WHS Nurse email: whsnurses@winchesterps.org

EpiPens

Please remember that if your student has a Life Threatening Allergy, we require an EpiPen on hand in the health office in case of an accidental exposure to the allergen during the school day.

With the EpiPen, please submit:

- A signed Emergency Action Plan (EAP) - signed by health care provider

FAAP

- A signed Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP)-signed by parent guardian

IHCP

Inhalers:

If your student(s) has asthma and may need to use their inhaler during the school day please be sure to drop off an inhaler to the

health office.

With the inhaler please submit:

- an Asthma Action Plan- signed the health care provider

Medications:

Students are not permitted to carry medications (prescription or OTC's) with them in their backpack. If your student needs medication during the school day, we are happy to keep it in the health office. Please fill out this [Medication Form](#) and provide us with a medication order (for prescribed medications) from the doctor.

If you have not already done so, please use this link [Aspen Family Portal](#) to complete our new annual student health update form. *You must complete this form if you want the nurses to have permission to administer over the counter medications such as Ibuprofen (Motrin) or Acetaminophen (Tylenol) during the school.

Important dates:

Winchester Health Department student flu clinic at WHS is on October 25th. If you would like to have your student receive their flu shot during the school day, please be sure to sign them up ASAP. Registration closes on September 27th. (See below for more information on the flu clinic).

MA DPH health screenings for 9th grade postural screenings and 10th grade hearing/vision & BMI- Dates will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

Covid update

If a student/staff tests positive, MA [DPH COVID Guidance](#) must be followed:

- Stay home (isolate) for a minimum of 5 days. (5 days from developing first symptom(s) or, if no symptoms, 5 days from positive test). Ex: Day of first symptoms is Day 0.
- Notify the school nurse of the illness via the absentee phone

message or email.

- Return to school is allowed on Day 6 if symptoms are largely improved (greatly diminished cough, congestion, and runny nose, 24 hours fever-free) .
 - Students/Staff must mask through Day 10.

If student was exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID (e.g., someone in the household):

- If no symptoms: student may attend school. It is recommended to test on Day 6 after exposure. Those who can mask must do so until Day 10.
- If symptoms develop, mask up immediately if around others, stay home and test right away.

Contact Jen Markham and Lauren Vaccari

whsnurses@winchesterps.org

781-721-7020 ext 4011 & ext 4012

WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FLU CLINIC REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN Now Open!

The Winchester Health Department in collaboration with the Winchester Public Schools/School Nurses will be offering a voluntary FluMist and Flu Shot clinic in all public schools. Registration is online and is required for your child to participate. This year, the Health Department will be utilizing a new online registration platform, so things may look different than in past years. To register go to: www.winchester.us and click the "School Flu Clinic" button.

Clinics will be held during school hours in your child's school in October and early November. Please keep in mind that parents cannot be present at the school clinic. If you feel that your child

would be more comfortable with you in attendance, we urge you to go to one of the Health Department's public clinics that will be listed soon at www.winchester.us.

Registration closes Wednesday, September 27 at 11:59 PM.

PARKING PASSES

Seniors and Juniors* (*who have had their license for 3 months) can obtain a parking pass by filling out [this form](#) . Even if you had a parking pass last year you must fill out this form for a NEW parking pass each year. Once the form is complete they can pick up their pass at the main office with Mrs. Hanlon or Officer Chiuccariello in Room A102. Students must have their license with them to pick up the parking pass. You must have a parking pass (from 9/11/23 on) to park in the student lot or designated street spots on Skillings Road, failure to do so will result in a ticket or possible tow.

THE RED & BLACK

Winchester High School's student newspaper, the Red & Black will publish its 85th volume this year. You and your family can now subscribe to the newspaper for just \$30 annually! The newspaper covers a diverse range of topics including local and global news, student life, sports, entertainment, and more! As the paper is entirely student-led, the ability of WHS's talented journalists to continue to write for the Red & Black is largely thanks to the paper's supporters, especially parent subscribers. With a subscription, you will receive physical and/or digital copies of the newspaper each month mailed to your door as well as access to former editions on the Red & Black's website (whsredandblack.com). To subscribe, fill out this [form](#). Payments should be mailed to Winchester High School at 80 Skillings Rd, Winchester, MA 01890. Checks should be made payable to "Winchester High School, attn: The Red & Black". Thank you for your support!

CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

COLLEGE APPLICATION INFO NIGHT

Wednesday, September 27th

WHS Auditorium

6:30-7:30pm

Parents & guardians of seniors are invited to join members of the WHS Guidance team to hear highlights from the recent student workshops and a general outline of the college application process at WHS. This in-person presentation is for parents & guardians only which will cover information shared with seniors during their upcoming workshops. The presentation will be shared on the WHS Guidance website the following day for those unable to attend.

More details to follow from your class officers but keep these important dates for the Class of 2024 on your calendar!

10/11 - Class Dinner

11/18 - Parent Fundraising Event

12/1 - Semi-Formal Dance

CLASS OF 2025 NEWS

Check back here for updates

CLASS OF 2026 NEWS

Check back here for updates

CLASS OF 2027 NEWS

Check back here for updates

WHS SPORTS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have scores from games and pictures of WHS athletes in action **[please email them to us!](#)**

All team schedules can be found at **[WHS Team Schedules](#)**

BOYS LACROSSE BAGS FUNDRAISER

Need a new Lacrosse bag?

Order your personalized WHS lacrosse bags online from LaxGear in Red and Black!

<https://laxgear.com/products/winchester>

password: winchester





THIS WEEK'S SPORTS COVERAGE

CHEERING

[Please email us photos and updates!](#)

CROSS COUNTRY



Girls XC Team at Reading Meet

FIELD HOCKEY

[Please email us photos and updates!](#)

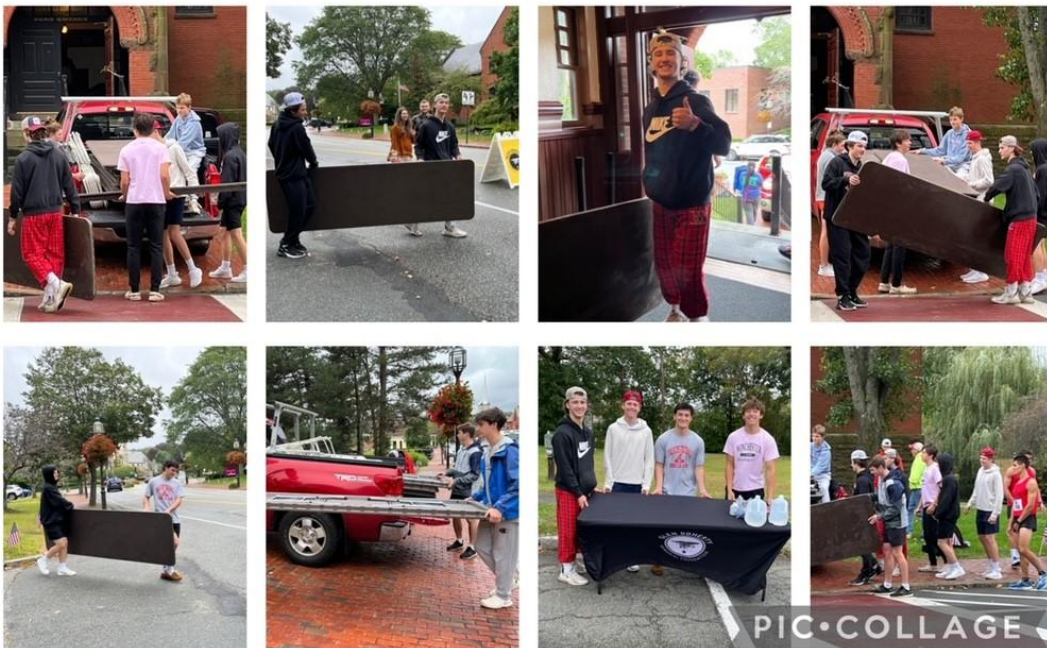
FOOTBALL

Another amazing win for the team against Masconomet, bringing their record to 3-0!





After playing hard on Friday, our football players (and Coach!) volunteered at the Glen Doherty Race on Sunday! Players helped through out the day setting up, providing water, running and cleaning up! We wish we could catch them all in action!



BOYS SOCCER

The Boys Varsity Soccer team had an exciting week and remains undefeated! They had two tough games against Belmont (2-0) and

Arlington (1-0). Come to their next game and cheer them on!





The Boys JV soccer team had two games this week. They beat Belmont 2-0 and lost to Arlington 0-1.



GIRLS SOCCER

[Please email us photos and updates!](#)

GOLF

The WHS Varsity Golf Team is off to a great start! To help raise funds, the team is selling a limited supply of our best-selling umbrellas, string backpacks, shirts, and hats! To order, please go to the WHS Golf team's website [here](#). These sell out fast, so please order soon!

SWIMMING

The WHS Swim and Dive team had two swim meets this week. On Tuesday it was a close race against Wakefield but the girls pulled out a victory 84-82!! Then on Saturday their second meet was against Reading where they were also victorious with a score of 92-74! The team continues to be undefeated!! Next meet is on Wednesday, 9/27 against Belmont!





VOLLEYBALL

Please email us photos and updates!

WHS ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have updates or pictures of WHS Arts, Music & Theater students please email them to us!

WHS CLUBS & GROUPS

Click here for a [list](#) of WHS Clubs and Organizations
Check this section for current club news, meetings & events

ASIAN AMERICAN CLUB

Looking to get involved in the Asian American community? Come [join](#) the [Asian American Club](#) (AAC)! From participating in service projects to chilling and playing fun games, we have it all! We'll be having our **FIRST** meeting on **9/25** in the library from 3:30-4:30! We will go over our plans for the year, play games, and have food!

BATTLEBOTS CLUB

Join our school's BattleBots Club! Not to be confused with competitive robotics (botball, which you should join too), Battlebots is where you experience the thrill of engineering, strategy, and adrenaline-pumping combat! We'll teach you everything you need to know so you can unleash your creativity as you design and build formidable robots, then put your skills to the test in exciting competitions. It's a chance to learn teamwork, problem-solving, and STEAM principles while having a blast! - don't miss out on the opportunity to become a true robot warrior! Come join us every Wednesday from 3:07 - 4:30 in the CAD Lab which is E102 (the computer lab right below the gym). Our first meeting is on the **27th of September**, hope to see you there!

Feel free to email 2506092@wpsstudent.com or 25080018@wpsstudent.com if you have any questions.

BOTBALL

Are you passionate about the creative design and programming of robots? Are you itching to compete against others in a fun environment, all while using the simplicity of Legos and metal pieces? Come be a part of Botball (also the Competitive Robotics class), where you'll have the freedom to unleash your imagination, designing and programming your very own robots to complete tasks and score points against others! Join us on Mondays from 3:15 - 5:00 PM in E102 through [this form!](#)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLUB

*Are you interested in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice Field? Have you considered becoming a police officer, lawyer, crime scene specialist, or federal agent? Well, then the Criminal Justice Club is for you! We partake in many hands-on experiences and community service opportunities to help you get insight into the field and figure out *your* path. By joining, you'll learn how to pull over a motor vehicle, search buildings, negotiate hostage situations, handle a firearm, and MUCH more. Later, you'll get to apply these skills at Law Enforcement Explorer Day, field trips to the Woburn District Courthouse and Police Academies, and the Massachusetts Law Enforcement Explorer Competition! Email SRO Chiuccariello at mchiuccariello@winchesterps.org or 2406001@wpsstudent.com for further information and/or to join!*

DEBATE CLUB

Hey all! Are you passionate about debate, seeking to improve your public speaking skills, or looking to compete and further your debating experience? If so, then debate club is the perfect place for you! Please fill out [this form](#) if you are interested in joining. We meet every Monday from 3:15 - 4:15 in A107.

GEMS

Genuine, Empowering, Meaningful Support

You're Invited To GEMS Annual "Milk & Cookie Meet & Greet"

We are looking for new GEMS members to join our group! GEMS is a female empowerment group that gets together to embrace confidence, build new friendships, and have fun! We love meeting new people and can't wait to meet you there!

SIGN UP & Show up- See Ms.Haines in Guidance for details! Sign up in MyFlexLearning

JOIN US: in back of Dining Commons (Cafeteria)

~Have questions? See [Ms.Haines](#) in Guidance ahaines@winchesterps.org

MATH TEAM

Join Math Team! Whether you like winning or simply like math, we have what you're looking for. Hone your problem solving skills while collaborating with friends on practice problems, learn new strategies and concepts for solving problems, and compete against other schools! We meet every **Tuesday & Wednesday from 3:30 - 5:00 PM**. Fill out [this form](#) here if you're interested in joining us!

MODEL UN

Are you interested in joining one of the biggest clubs at WHS? Want to try out debate and public speaking while having fun and learning more about governments across the world?

Email 2405001889@wpsstudent.com if you have any questions! (Follow us at @thewinmun and join our Google Classroom [kuvxjzk](#))

ORNITHOLOGY CLUB

Calling all nature enthusiasts and bird lovers! Do you want to know what bird you just saw fly across the street? What about the one in your backyard chortling at unholy hours of the night? Join Ornithology Club to find out! We'll teach you how to identify the birds around you and seek them out together on our weekly birding walks! It's like finding a new rare Pokemon you don't have yet. Ready to spread your wings? Meet us in LG 2 every Thursday from 3:30 - 5:00!

PONGMINTON

Elevate your school experience by joining the PONGMINTON (ping pong + badminton) Club today! Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner looking to try something new, our club offers FREE lessons and a fun, inclusive environment for all. Improve your fitness, develop your skills, and make lasting friendships while enjoying the fast-paced action of badminton – join us and smash your way to success on the court! Sign up for training held in the gym every WIN block using MyFlex Learning. Feel free to email 10449@wpsstudent.com if you have any questions.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Do you like science? Then join Science Olympiad today! Compete with teammates in biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering events against other schools in Massachusetts! Explore your interests while also having fun! Meetings will be on Fridays from 5:00 - 7:15 PM in B208 (Ms. Chakladar's room). Fill out this form if you're interested in joining!

STUDENT DIVERSITY BOOK CLUB

Are you interested in making recommendations of diverse books for potential use in English class, summer reading, or student lists? Please consider applying to join a student book club that

meets regularly to propose and review books. If you are interested, complete this [form](#) by **Tuesday, September 26**. If you have questions, please email Mrs. Plosky at cplosky@winchesterps.org.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

The WHS PFA does not specifically endorse events and organizations and shares information on events and activities that may be of interest to the WHS community as a courtesy for informational purposes.



WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INCLUSION • SERVICE • INNOVATION

Winchester School Committee

Tom Hopcroft, *Chair*

Shamus Brady

Michelle Bergstrom, *Vice Chair*

Christian Nixon

Karen Maruyama Bolognese, *Recording Secretary*

Winchester School Committee Meeting

September 26, 2023: 6:00 PM

Winchester High School - Room LG1 (B118)

80 Skillings Road, Winchester MA

[Click Here For Agenda and ZOOM link](#)

JOIN US FOR THE

THE WFEE
*Fall
Flamingle*



AUCTION
ONLINE ONLY

OPENS 9/25

CLOSES 10/2 AT 8PM

BID ON GREAT ITEMS AND EVENTS

TO BID GO TO:

[HTTPS://AUCTRIA.EVENTS/FALLFLAMINGLE](https://auctria.events/fallflamingle)



HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS NEEDED

The Network for Social Justice is seeking high school interns for our fall cohort!

Come join us as we explore social justice through the arts, social service and organizing cultural events! Open to all Winchester based high school students; the deadline to apply is **Friday, September 30.**



**Applications for fall 2023
NFSJ internships are open!**

Seeking Winchester high school students (rising grade 9-12) who care deeply about social justice and youth mental health!

**MS4
MH** MIDDLESEX 4
MENTAL HEALTH

**NETWORK
for SOCIAL JUSTICE**
Educate Engage Activate

[APPLY HERE](#)



Get Ready to Walk & Roll for the Planet!

Mark your calendars for **Sept. 25-29** and let's add some fun to our journey to school! Instead of the regular drive, let's lace up our shoes, strap on our helmets, and Walk & Roll our way to some fun-filled mornings!

Why, you ask? Because it's **Climate Solutions Week in Winchester.** Not only will we get to flex those muscles and enjoy the outdoors, but we'll also be doing our part to keep our air clean and streets less congested.

So, whether you're a walker, a roller, or a rider, let's come together and make this week a memorable one for our school!

Read more details here about the **Walk & Roll to School** movement. Cheers to saving the planet, one step (or roll!) at a time!



In-Person Events

9/23 @9:30am WHS students talk climate solutions at Farmers Market

9/24 @3pm EV Showcase at WHS

9/26 @7pm Legislator Panel at Jenks Center

9/28 @6:30pm Clothing Mending Workshop at Library

9/30 @10am Transfer Station Tour



WINCHESTER
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS
WEEK

Details and more events





QPR Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention

Jon Mattleman

September 26, 2023 @ noon

**Town Hall, Winchester Room
(near Town Clerk's office)**



"QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer. QPR Gatekeeper Training provides instruction on these three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. The goal of QPR Gatekeeper Training is to reduce suicidal behaviors and save lives by providing innovative, practical, and proven suicide prevention training. The signs of crisis are all around us. QPR Gatekeeper Training reinforces that quality education empowers all people, regardless of their background, to make a positive difference in the life of someone they know.

After completion of QPR Training, participants will gain the following knowledge:

- How to get help for yourself or learn more about preventing suicide.
- The common causes of suicidal behavior.
- The warning signs of suicide.
- How to Question, Persuade, and Refer someone who may be suicidal.
- How to get help for someone in crisis.

QPR Gatekeeper Training meets the requirements for listing in the National Registry of Evidence-based Practices and Policies (NREPP), which is required training for educators and health and social service professionals in many states.

**SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH
LET'S RAISE AWARENESS AND LEARN HOW TO HELP**

RSVP winchestercoalition@gmail.com so we can plan for food.



SCHOOL THE WORLD INFORMATION SESSION

Date/time: Thursday, 10/26 6pm-7pm

Location: Winchester Public Library (Large Meeting Room)

Description:

Join us to learn about School the World's 2024 high school service trips! STW's Student Service Program provides an inspiring service experience for High School Students. While traveling to Guatemala, Panama, or Honduras, they will get to experience a new culture, make new friends, fulfill service hours and create lasting relationships with the kids in the community! All while supporting our infrastructure growth by building a school and/or a playground! Join us on October 26 to hear from past Winchester student travelers about their experiences, and ask questions about our 2024 programs!



SECOND ANNUAL WINCHESTER WIFFLE FEST

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



YOU ARE INVITED

FUNDRAISER FOR RARE DISEASE RESEARCH

FEATURING DUNK TANK, HOME RUN DERBY, GAMING TRUCK,
FOOD TRUCKS AND OTHER GAMES
TEAMS OF 4-8 PEOPLE

KIDS AND ADULTS DIVISIONS

REGISTRATION: 9 AM. FIRST PITCH 10 AM, HR DERBY AT NOON



VENUE: NUTILE FIELD, WINCHESTER MASSACHUSETTS
TO REGISTER, GO TO: [HTTP://PSMCS.ORG/FUNDRAISER/WIFFLEBALL/](http://psmcs.org/fundraiser/wiffleball/)



SCAN ME





Eat, Drink and Flamingle with WFEE!

Shake your tail feather on the dance floor,
win your wings at the Black Jack tables,
and help raise funds to support innovative and creative
projects at all Winchester Public Schools.

Tickets are \$175 each and sell out fast.
Order today at www.wfee.org or scan the code below.

Come party like a flock star!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 at 7:30PM
WINCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB



Thanks to our
Platinum Sponsors

Buy your
tickets early!



Living Alcohol-Free

WHSPFA | 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890