

**Winchester High School
Parent Faculty Association Newsletter
January 30, 2023**



PRESIDENT'S NOTE



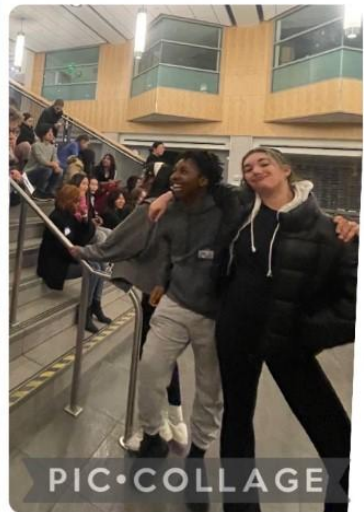
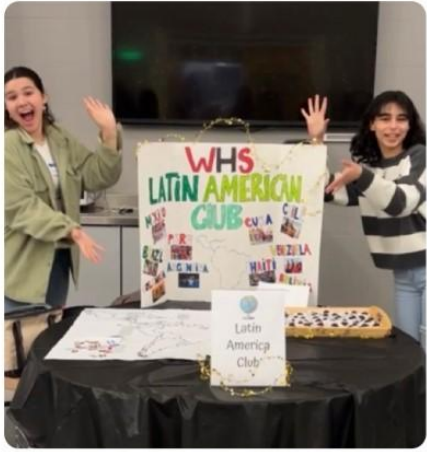
Student Council presents:

WHS Multicultural Night

Friday January 27th 6-8 pm in the WHS Dining Commons
All ages are welcome!



PIC·COLLAGE



Good Morning WHS Families,

Congratulations to our WHS Student Council's first Multicultural

Night! It was a wonderful night learning about so many different cultures through food, music and dance! Can't wait for next year!

We are sorry we were unable to have our scheduled PFA Meeting last week and are working on a time and date to reschedule it. Please stay tuned.

Just a reminder that tomorrow (Tuesday, January 31st) is a half day for your student. For your convenience, here is [Tuesday's schedule](#).

It may not be February yet, but the PFA Social Committee is already busy planning some "Sweet Treats" in this year's [Teacher and Staff Cupid Café](#). This is an annual tradition to provide a little fun for the WHS Staff on Valentine's Day. We are hoping you will donate your favorite sweet to the candy bar. Please take a peek at the [Sign Up](#) if you wish to contribute. Thank you in advance for your never-ending generosity.

Second quarter grades will be coming to your [Aspen](#) accounts soon and we wish your student much success. As always, please reach out with any questions, concerns or just to say "Hi".

Very fondly,
Brenda Mandile & Adrienne Spignesi
WHSPFA Co-Chairs
whspfa@gmail.com



WHS IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2022-2023 District School Calendar

Q3: January 23- April 7

Mid quarter: Friday, March 3

Q4: April 10- June 14 (with no snow days)

Mid quarter: Monday, May 15

Seniors' last day of classes: Friday, May 26

TUE 1/31 - Early Release; Freshman Movie Night, 6:00 pm WHS

WED 2/1 - Instrumental Bookends Concert, WHS Auditorium, 6:30 pm

THURS 2/2 - Winter Instrumental Concert, WHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm

ATTENDANCE REFRESHER

Parents and Guardians of WHS Students:

We have reached the halfway point of the school year! As we did at

the beginning of the school year, we like to take this opportunity to review the school attendance policy.

Students' attendance is a significant factor in their success in school. Clear communication between school and home regarding a student's attendance helps support students. The complete WHS attendance policy can be viewed in the student handbook available on our website.

Specific questions you may have about attendance can be directed to your student's assistant principal: [Paula Conis](#) for Classes of 2023 and 2025; [John Dupuis](#) for Classes of 2024 and 2026.

If you would like to receive email notifications when your student is marked absent or late to class or school, you must enable this option in enable this option in [Aspen](#).

Absence Procedures

- The student's parent/guardian should email the school (from the parent's email) using whsabsentline@winchesterps.org. The email should provide the student's full name, grade, and reason for the absence each day that the student is absent. This is the preferred form of communication, as it is the quickest and clearest.
- Parents/guardians may also call the absent telephone line with the same information at 781-721-7020 option #1, although email is the preferred form of communication. If you need to call, we ask that you keep the message brief with all the important details and spell the student's name if you think necessary.
- Please be specific. Let us know if they are sick so we can mark their attendance correctly. If for a medical appointment, please have them bring a note from the appointment, you can also email this. You can see a list of all excused absences above at the link to the handbook
- If your child is going to be out for an extended period of time (4+ days) for non-medical reasons, they need to pick up an "extended absence form" from the main office. They will bring this around to their teachers to sign off on and to a parent to

sign and include a note regarding the time out and return it to the main office.

Tardiness to School

- Students who are tardy to school are to report immediately upon their arrival to the desk in the main foyer and scan their ID card to sign in. Students who neglect to sign in will automatically be given an unexcused absence and an office detention.
- Families should send an email to whsabsentline@winchesterps.org, write a note, or call 781-721-7020 to report the tardy. Reporting the tardy does not mean that the tardy is excused. Excusable reasons for tardy follow the same guidelines as excused absences.

Dismissal from School

- Students who are to be dismissed from school must be excused with an explanatory note, email, or telephone call from a parent/guardian to the main office prior to the dismissal. A note after the fact will not be accepted.
- Students who are to be dismissed must report to the main office to pick up their yellow dismissal pass first thing in the morning. This pass will allow them to leave class and be dismissed from school.
- If a student is returning to school, they must sign back into the main office.
- Students who fall ill or are feeling unwell and need to be dismissed must do so through the nurse's office. Students should see the nurse to be dismissed and not contact parents on their own.

Illnesses, injuries or other medical concerns

For the safety of the student(s) please communicate with the **WHS Nurse Team** if your student is required to be out of school for three or more days due to illness (*with the exception of COVID), injury or

other medical concerns. Please provide a doctor's note to the health office that the student is medically cleared to return to school and any information that would help facilitate a smoother transition back to school.

We appreciate your support as we work together to ensure students' success. We look forward to a wonderful second half of the year.

Thank you,
Paula Conis and John Dupuis

STANDARDIZED TESTING INFO FROM GUIDANCE

The recording of the Guidance department's Standardized Testing Information Night presentation and presenters slides are now available on the [Guidance website](#).

COVID REPORTING

WPS COVID-19 Reporting Form: If your student tests positive for COVID-19, please fill out this [reporting form](#) to receive important isolation and return to school information.

CLASS OF 2023 NEWS

CAP AND GOWN TIME! ORDER NOW!

Order **by January 31!** Please log on to highschool.herffjones.com to place your order. Click on login and set up your account. Type Winchester in the "find your school" box, click on Winchester High School and place your order. The cost is \$23.00, this includes cap, gown and a 2023 red and black tassel.

FUTURE DATES FOR PLANNING

Friday, May 26 ~ Seniors' last day of classes

Wednesday, May 31st ~ Prom at the Fairmont Copley Plaza

Friday, June 2nd ~ Graduation & All Night Graduation Party

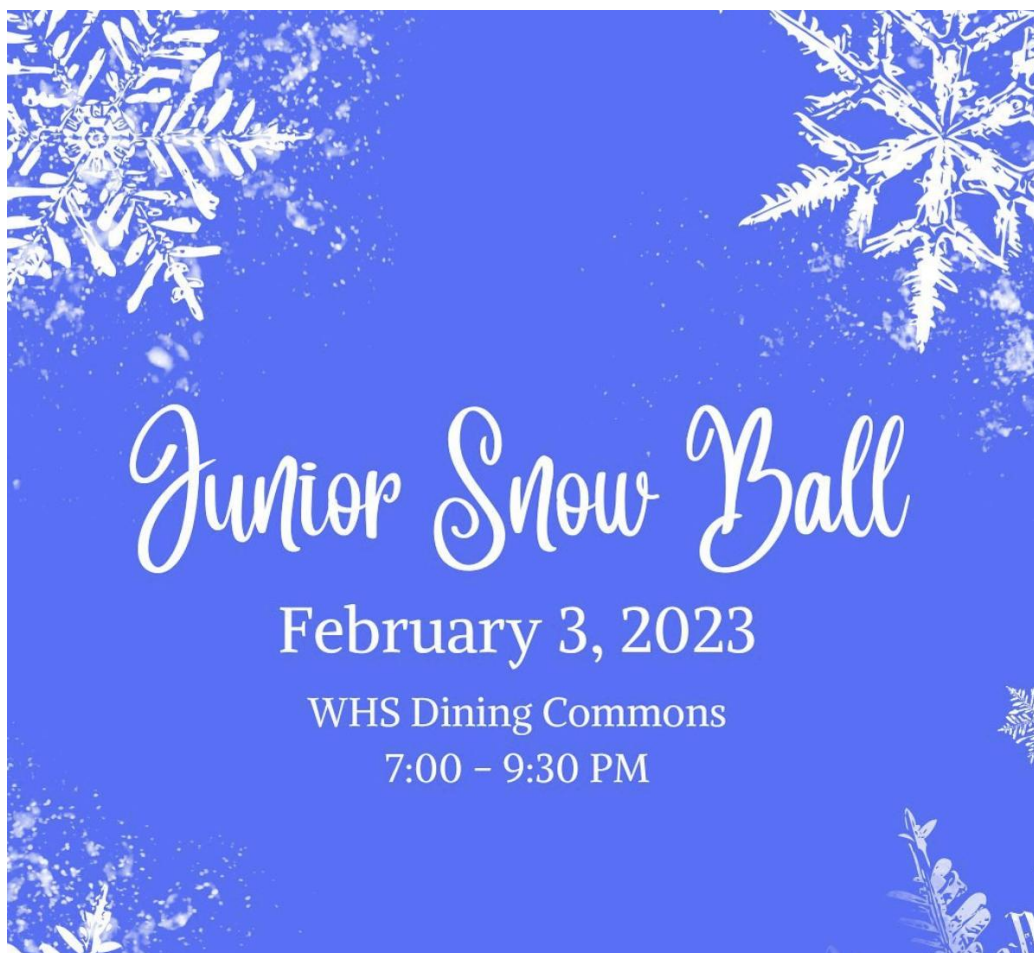
More details in Spring.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN

Applications for the Christopher Mitropoulos Memorial Scholarship are due **April 8th** for the Class of 2023. Please see the guidance office and Naviance program for more information.

Applications for the Rotary Club of Winchester Scholarship are available in the guidance office.

CLASS OF 2024 NEWS



DETAILS

- The doors open at 7:00pm and close promptly at 7:30pm
- All students must be signed into the dance by their own parent/guardian
- If you are unable to sign in your own child, you must request special permission for your child to be checked in by another parent by emailing Mr. Mahoney or Ms. Conis by noon on Friday, February 3rd.
- WHS Students only will be allowed to attend the dance unless the student has gotten special permission to bring a guest from another school from Mr. Mahoney or Ms. Conis. The guest must be signed in by the WHS students' parent/guardian.

- The dance ends at 9:30pm, and students can leave starting at 9:00pm. Students will not be allowed to leave before 9:00 without permission from their parent/guardian.
- Signed dance contracts will be collected starting on Monday, January 30th - Thursday, February 2nd - students can bring their payment and signed contract to the Class Advisors (Ms. Costas or Ms. Kean), turn in to the office, or at lunches to any of the class officers.
- We cannot sell any tickets after Thursday, February 2nd.

Lastly, if any parents/guardians are willing to donate any snacks/water for the dance, we would greatly appreciate it. Below is a link to the SignUp Genius. We appreciate your generosity and support of the Class of 2024!

SIGN UP TO DONATE ITEMS FOR SNOWBALL

DANCE CONTRACT

SAT/ACT PRACTICE

Once again the Class of 2024 is partnering with Revolution Prep to offer a practice SAT and ACT to our students. See below:

SAT Practice Exam: Saturday, February 11th, 2023 | 9:00am - 1:00pm EST | Live Online!

ACT Practice Exam: Saturday, February 11th, 2023 | 9:00am - 1:00pm EST | Live Online!

*\$20 proceeds go to Winchester High School

Step 1: Register [here](#).

Step 2: Schedule a free 30-minute score report review with a Revolution Prep testing expert to help you interpret the results and develop a customized plan to prepare. Please schedule this

appointment for the few days after the exam. You can pre-schedule this Score Report Review [here](#).

Step 3: Attend the mock exam and get your results immediately with Revolution Prep's mobile scoring app!

NOTE: THIS IS AN ONLINE TEST - take a practice SAT or ACT from the comfort of your own home.

Questions? If you have questions or want to learn more about Revolution Prep, you can reach out to David Zimbalist at (617) 640-0744 or by email at david.zimbalist@revolutionprep.com.

CLASS OF 2025 NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

SOPHOMORES, make sure to fill out [this form](#) to fill your March calendar with fun class activities, mainly....YOUR CLASS DANCE!! All funds go to your SENIOR PROM!!! We are excited to hear back from you all!

CLASS OF 2026 NEWS



Freshman Movie Night

Date: Tuesday, January 31st

Location: Winchester High School Auditorium

Time: 6:00-8:30pm

(6-6:30pm snacks in the café followed by the movie in the auditorium)

Movie: Knives Out 2: The Glass Onion

Calling Freshmen Families! We would love help with concession snacks – please consider...

[SIGN UP HERE!](#)

Thank you!

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](#)



ALPINE SKI

Congratulations to the Girls and Boys Alpine Ski Teams for starting their season off STRONG with 3-1 records! GO Winchester!





BOYS BASKETBALL

Please send us updates!

BOYS HOCKEY

Please send us updates!

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Boston Herald had a nice writeup on the girls basketball team's this weekend....[check it out!](#)

GIRLS HOCKEY



GYMNASTICS

Please send us updates!

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

The boys and girls followed up the State Relays with the final dual meet this past Thursday

NEW QUALIFIERS:

@_lucca.ventura qualified for states in the 300m

@tessa_geddes and @kuzeyalkankaya both qualified for Nationals
in the long jump

@gabewatson_tf qualifies for states in his first 2 mile of the year

@leo_arone8 qualified for states in the 600m

@_k.kumaran qualified for states in the 55 Hurdles

@masterofey qualified for states in the Mile

With so many of our qualified athletes improving their times and
distances, championship season can't come soon enough!





NORDIC SKI

In their fourth race of the year at the Weston Ski Track, WHS girls

came in 3rd out of 7 teams. Top finishers were Alta Oswald (13th place), Emily Houllahan (14th), Coco Arnet (17th), Jordana Eichel (20th), and Lauren Corr (27th). WHS boys came in 4th out of 7 teams. Top finishers were Andrew Buck (23rd place), Jonathan Gilmer (25th), Michael Lanz (38th), Thomas Mourier (40th), and Mason Casebeer (42nd).

In the photo below are Coco Arnet (left) and Emily Houllahan (right).



SWIMMING

Please send us updates!

GIRLS TENNIS

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in playing Girls Tennis this Spring on **Tuesday, January 31st** at 7:55am in the auditorium.

WRESTLING

Please send us updates!

WHS ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER



Check this section for updates about Arts, Music & Theater events and opportunities at WHS.

If you have pictures or updates about WHS student performances and work **[please email them to us!](#)**

WHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT INVITES YOU TO THE
Instrumental “Bookends” Concert

February 1, 2023 6:30 PM

Winchester High School Auditorium

FEATURING THE

WHS CONCERT BAND

AND

WHS JAZZ BAND

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

WINCHESTER ALL-TOWN FIFTH GRADE BAND!

MCCALL MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

Playing works by Berlin, Sweeney, Van Heusen, Ellis and more!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

A background image of a musical score with yellowed, aged paper and various musical notations including notes, stems, and clefs.

WHS Music Department invites you to its
Winter Instrumental Concert

February 2, 2023 7:00 PM
Winchester High School Auditorium

featuring the

WHS CONCERT BAND
WHS ORCHESTRA
WHS SYMPHONY

playing works by Holst, Dvorak, Vaughan Williams, Vivaldi, Wagner and more!

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

WHS CLUBS & GROUPS

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

ESPORTS CLUB

The Esports Club is actively recruiting members for Rocket League, League of Legends, Hearthstone, and more for the winter season. Interested in competing for WHS against other schools? See Dr. Glenwerks in room B205 or Ms. Pellegrini in room B201 for more information.

CARING CLUB

The Winchester Caring Club is making gift bags for members of our community who could use a pick-me-up in collaboration with the Interact and Rotary Clubs. We are currently still in need of a few items on our donation list, so if you're able to help us, please purchase some items to help fill our bags. We already have some sign-ups, but we will need more to make sure everyone gets goodies in their bags! If you have any questions, please [reach out](#).

INTERACT CLUB

Interact Club is taking part in a belt and sleeping bag drive with Quincy C.O.P.E Community for the homeless. We are taking belts 34+, and you can drop any used or new belts and sleeping bags in the box marked 'Belts and Bags' in the main office. You can also donate at this [link](#).

FINANCE CLUB

Are you interested in learning more about the world of finance? Join the WHS Finance Club and expand your knowledge on investing, budgeting, and more! We meet every WIN Red in the cafe to discuss current financial events and topics, as well as explore career opportunities in finance and related fields. Through guest speakers, activities, and presentations, you will gain valuable financial knowledge that is applicable in the real world.

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.

Make Your January Appointment Today!



**Food Pantry Hours
by Appointment Only
Sundays & Mondays**

**Text, Email, or Call
781- 369-5844
enkapantry@gmail.com**



**1037 Main Street
Winchester, MA 01890**
Same location as the En Ka Exchange

Open to Winchester Residents

- Providing non-perishable food and personal care items to individuals and families living in Winchester who do not have adequate financial resources to meet basic needs.
- Use of the En Ka Pantry is limited to one time per month and does not prohibit individuals or families also visiting the Woburn pantry.
- The En Ka Pantry is open to all households, through pre-arranged appointments.

Transportation available upon request.

Email EnKa Pantry

SATURDAY NIGHT HOOPS

It's BACK -- Saturday Night Hoops Registration is now Open!
Music, Pizza, Friends, Fun & Hoops!!

Registration is NOW open for Saturday Night Hoops, a fun, recreational basketball program at Winchester High School (WHS) that is open to all Winchester residents (boys and girls) in grades 9 through 12 regardless of where they attend high school.

The program will be held Saturdays from 8:00 pm -10:00 pm, starting January 14, 2023 and ending on March 4, 2023. The program provides friendly competition with games each week and playoffs on the last night.

Players can either join as a team with friends and/or players will be divided into evenly matched teams that will play together. All players will receive Saturday Night Hoop T-shirts and enjoy music and pizza each Saturday. You can register online and get more information at: www.winchesterbasketball.org

Youth Mental Health First Aid

A skills-based training course



"It really gives you the skills you need to identify — and ultimately help — someone in need. Because you never know when these kinds of skills might be useful."

Michelle Obama

**January 31 & February 2
10:00 to 12:30pm (2 sessions)**
Town Hall, Winchester Room**

**If you live or work in Winchester [CLICK HERE](#) to register
(deadline 1/27/23)**

Learn how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance-use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. Instructors will discuss trauma, self-care, and the impact of social media and bullying. You'll build skills and the confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling.

**Individuals must complete both days of the in-person instruction and approximately 1.5 to 2 hours of online pre and post course work to be certified in Youth Mental Health First Aid.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered.

Questions? winchestercoalition@gmail.com



**Sometimes first aid isn't a bandage
or CPR or calling 911.
Sometimes first aid is **YOU**.**

Click Here to Register

Email Questions



WINCHESTER INFO SESSION!

Learn about our
APRIL + JULY TRIPS!



January 31 @ 7PM
Winchester Public Library.



- BUILD A SCHOOL
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS
- FULFILL SERVICE HOURS
- CHANGE LIVES!



Learn more at schooltheworld.org

Click here for School the World Website



Have you heard about **Winchester ABC** but aren't really sure what it is? Are you already a supporter of **WABC** but want to get more involved?

We will be holding an information session on
Wednesday February 1st at 7pm
in the large meeting room at the Winchester Public Library.
We will share more about our mission to support
educational opportunities for young men of color and various
volunteer opportunities – including our much needed host family role.

Please come by and meet us!
For more information, check out our website: www.winchesterabc.org
For questions contact us at info@winchesterabc.org

Teen Depression: What Parents, Schools, & Communities Can Do

Winchester High School Library
February 7, 2023
7pm



Dr. Nancy Rappaport is a graduate of Princeton University and Tufts University School of Medicine. A board certified child and adolescent psychiatrist, Rappaport is associate professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School where she teaches undergraduates, medical students, and residents about child development and supervises child psychiatry fellows in local schools. Her research, teaching, and clinical expertise focus on the collaboration between education and psychiatry.

Join us for a discussion on how depression presents in children and teens at home, at school, and in the community. Through an interactive discussion, Dr. Rappaport will offer guidance on how to best support youth with depression and what to do when concerned that a student may be suicidal.



RSVP
winchestercoalition@gmail.com

[RSVP Here](#)

PLAN YOUR TEEN'S PERFECT SUMMER

The annual Teen Summer Expo at Lexington High School will be Tuesday, February 7 from 5:30--8:00pm in the cafeteria.

Meet with directors of a curated group of meaningful summer enrichment programs for kids ages 12-18. Options for every interest and budget. FREE and OPEN TO ALL. Pre-Register at www.TeenSummerExpos.com .

THE BUZZ BUILDS!



With only weeks to go, slots are quickly filling up for the WFE Trivia Bee on **Feb. 8th**. Sign up your team of three now at www.wfee.org, the fun starts at 7pm with 7 rounds of trivia plus a Championship Round. Winners of each round advance to the Championship Round plus this year there will be one wild card team. Even if you don't win your round your time might be chosen at random to participate in the Championship Round. It is a fun excuse to get out of the house when February is seeming a little glum. All funds raise support Winchester's teachers and students through WFE Grants.

[Sign up your team](#) for the Bee.



educate • encourage • empower

An Evening with the Superintendent

Dr. Frank Hackett

Thursday, February 9

7:30 PM

Zoom Webinar



Winchester Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Frank Hackett, will provide an informal forum for parents and caregivers to hear about a wide range of topics and issues in the schools.

REGISTER HERE

SUBMIT QUESTIONS HERE



Attention teen community organizers and social justice advocates!

**Applications are live for
the Spring 2023 Network
for Social Justice
Internship!**

NFSJ interns will work on:
-PRIDEfest 2023
**-Youth mental health
advocacy**
-Art and social justice
**-And will learn important
community organizing
skills!**



Apply Here!



**Apply to be a part of our
Spring 2023 Internship by
Friday February 10th at 6 PM.**

Visit our Website



EN KA SEEKS GRANT REQUESTS DEADLINE MARCH 1st

The En Ka Society is a non-profit charitable organization comprised of over 200 women volunteers. Our mission is to aid various non-profit organizations and initiatives that serve the people of Winchester, its residents in need, and our town for public purposes. We provide both monetary assistance and direct service programs in the community through grants, social service outlays and community outreach initiatives. Funding for these services is raised primarily through our annual town-wide fair, grants, other fundraising events, activities and donations. Since 2000, En Ka has given over \$2 million back to the community.

Local non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply for En Ka grants, which are awarded quarterly. The deadline for this quarter's grant requests is March 1, 2023. Applications are available at <https://enkasociety.org/grants/>. Please note that requests to fund salaries or fixed operating expenses cannot be considered. A project budget and organization financial statement must be included with the requests for funding. Since 2000, En Ka has awarded over \$1,000,000 through more than 400 grants to local organizations that address the needs of students and youth, the elderly, the physically challenged, and non-profit organizations devoted to providing enrichment and/or health and social services to the Winchester community.

For more information, refer to enkasociety.org (Grants

Guidelines) or contact grants@enkasociety.org.

LIFEGUARDS NEEDED

Mass DCR is looking for Lifeguards

Become a Lifeguard! Learn CPR-Learn First Aid- Learn Water Rescue Skills! Free Training- Qualifies lifeguard candidates that work for DCR do not have to pay to take certification classes. All you need is to be at least 16 years old and be a strong swimmer. For more info go to mass.gov/guides/dcr-lifeguarding.

ALUMNI NEWS



Are you a WHS Senior?

Are you a parent of a WHS student or alumni?

Are you a staff member of Winchester Public Schools?

**You are invited to join the Winchester Alumni Association
Become a member [HERE](#)**

Winchester Alumni Association was launched in 2018 to support WHS alumni, staff and families in the many transitions of their lives after the 01890.

Alumni who register through our [database](#) may receive information on upcoming Winchester events and volunteer opportunities, search for classmates, share news, and support current students and young alumni through networking and mentoring activities.

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for our Alumni Spotlight Series that celebrates past WHS students now around the world or check out our website [HERE](#).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have any pictures, news, updates, we want to hear from you. [Please email us](#). We would love to share with the WHS Community!

If you NO longer wish to receive the newsletter or you wish to change or add a new email address to your account, [please email us](#) or [click on this link](#).

To make a newsletter or a news blast submission, [please email us](#) NO LATER than 12:00 PM on Friday.