

**Subject:** WHS PFA Newsletter 3/22/21

**From:** WHS Parent Faculty Association <whspfanewsletter@gmail.com>

**Date:** 3/22/2021, 5:30 AM

**To:** lauren.lesperance@verizon.net

# Winchester High School Parent Faculty Association Newsletter March 22, 2021

To ensure continued delivery of the WHSPFA Communications, please set-up our [email address](#) as a contact/safe sender.



## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

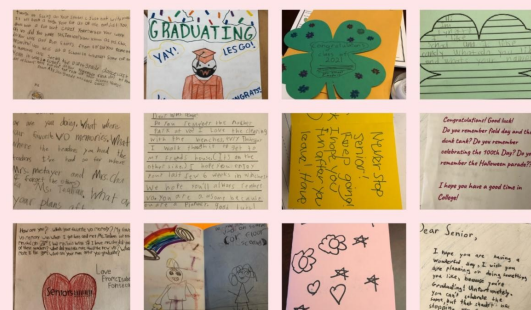
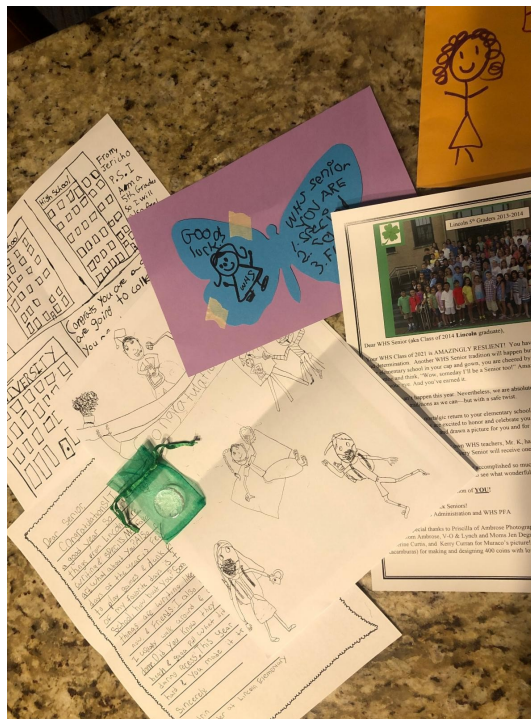
Happy Monday WHS Families, Staff, Alumni and Friends!

This year has been definitely different, to say the least! All of our students, especially our seniors, have made it this far with such resilience and determination.

Each month we have celebrated our seniors in fun little ways, maintaining many WHS senior traditions with a safe twist! One special tradition is when seniors go back to visit their elementary schools and walk the halls wearing their graduation gowns; we can't do that exact event this year but, our elementary schools are cheering our seniors on and wishing them "GOOD LUCK"!

Please click on this [video](#) made with love especially for them!

On St Patrick's Day, each senior also received a package in the mail! The package had drawings and letters from current Winchester elementary students (from the school they went to) wishing our seniors well and giving advice for their next chapter after graduation. There was also a special letter with their 5<sup>th</sup> grade



graduation photo and a custom WHS Class of 2021 “good luck” coin that was designed and created by our fabulous teacher, Mr K! The appreciation from the seniors was PRICELESS - We’re all in this together!

Our WHS staff continues to appreciate and enjoy their holiday inspired treats!

March is full of special days! Do you know what today is!? It’s **Crossing Guard Appreciation Day!** Our elementary and middle schools are celebrating these special people in town. If you’re out and about in Winchester today show them your love too!

**WHS PFA Meeting TONIGHT!** Please plan to **Zoom** with us at 7pm! We are welcoming the 4 School Committee candidates who are running for the 2 open positions. Each candidate will speak for 5 minutes and then will answer questions. (Meeting ID: 993 4182 0147 Passcode: 434355)

**WHS Covid Pooled Testing for Grades 9-12!** Please encourage your students to participate! WHS Gym - Tuesday, Cohort A: 8:30am-9:15am and Thursday, Cohort B: 8:30am – 9:15am. The process takes less than 5 minutes.

Warmly,  
**Mai Harrison & Abbie DiMatteo**  
Your WHS PFA Co-Presidents



*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*  
**--Margaret Mead**



### The WHS Masked Staffer Week 24

**What high school did you go to?** Malden Catholic, MA  
**What was your favorite subject in high school?** History-1960s & Psychology  
**What sport and/or extracurricular were you involved in high school?** Golf, Basketball, Track & Field  
**What is one of your hidden talents?** I am a good cook.



### **Favorite Movie/Book/Band/Food?**

The Godfather/The Outsiders/The Beatles/Raw Oysters

**Is there a quote or saying that you live your life by?** Hope is a good

thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies. - Andy Dufresne

*\*\*Remember to read through the end of the newsletter and find out the identity of our WHS Masked Staffer! \*\**

## **WHS IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**MON 3/22** - PFA Meeting 7 PM on [Zoom](#) (Meeting ID: 993 4182 0147 Passcode: 434355) Meet the School Committee Candidates!

**THU 4/29** - WHS Student Blood Drive 10 AM - 3 PM - more details below

### **WHS School Calendar**

The Winchester School Committee approved the [monthly calendars](#) for February through June 2021

Winchester is planning and preparing for a full in-person return to school in the fall, here is the approved [2021-2022 Calendar](#) for planning purposes.

### **Letter from the WPS Nurses**

Spring is right around the corner and for many of us, with spring, comes allergy season. Prevention is key for being sent home for questionable COVID versus Allergy symptoms. See the attached letter for more information:

[Seasonal allergies or COVID-19? | WPS Nurses Letter to Families](#)

### **WHS COVID-19 Pool Testing Sign -Up**

Dear WHS students and families,

Thank you for your continued partnership during this most challenging school year. We are excited to continue the **free voluntary COVID-19 pooled testing program for students and staff at Winchester High School**. Participants have the opportunity to be tested each week. We will be testing **Grades 9-12** again this week. We have been working closely with the Massachusetts



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Winchester Health Department to make this happen.

### What is pooled testing and why is it important?

- Pooled testing combines multiple nasal test swabs from individuals into a “pool” group, then the pool is tested for COVID-19 in a laboratory setting. This approach increases the number of swabs that can be tested at one time and significantly brings down the cost of testing.
- Pooled testing is one more layer of protection that helps quickly detect, trace, and isolate COVID-19 positive individuals, ultimately helping lower the risk of transmission in our community.

**This program is voluntary but your participation is encouraged! The more people who participate, the more effective this program will be.**

### How will it work at WHS?

- Participants will take a non-invasive shallow nasal swab and nurses will be available to provide support if needed. This will take place on Tuesdays for Cohort A and Thursdays for Cohort B.
- This is not for symptomatic testing. If your student has any of these COVID-19 symptoms they should not attend school or participate in pooled testing.
- Test results will be confidential and will only be seen by WHS nurses. Individual positive cases will be managed by the Winchester Health Department and are required to be reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
  - **If the result of the pool is negative:** all individuals are presumed to not have COVID-19, and you will not be contacted.
  - **If the result of the pool is positive:** all individuals in the pool will be notified by the Winchester High School Health Office and **they must be retested individually**. Individual follow up testing will be offered at the High School expeditiously after results are received. Students in a positive pool cannot return to school until the follow up testing is complete and we have identified a positive individual. The way the pooled testing days are scheduled, hybrid students should not miss any in-person days. **Details on this process can be found here**

### How can your student participate?

To be included in the Pooled Testing Program, your student must have a profile created in "Project Beacon", which includes signing an electronic consent form, covering both the pooled testing and retesting if needed.

### **[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)**

Note: Students may not participate if they have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days

At Winchester High School we are extremely grateful to our committed staff and families that continue to show great flexibility, compassion and resilience

as we navigate through this school year. While we may be in different boats, we are all still in the same storm together.

If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 Pooled Testing Program not answered [here](#) , please [email us](#).

Thank you,  
Principal Dennis Mahoney and the WHS Covid-19 Pool Testing Team

**\*\* PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Please sign up here:  
[WHS Families: WHS Covid 19 Pooling Test Parent Volunteers](#)

## WHS Blood Drive

We are currently gathering information as we prepare for a WHS-only blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross for  
**Thursday, April 29th from 10 AM - 3 PM.**

If your child is 16 + and is interested, please have them [complete this form](#) to help us identify the number of students interested.

## Winchester Mutual Aid

Winchester High school students have launched a community mutual aid network with the goal of creating a neighbor-helping-neighbor organization.

The idea is you tell us what you can provide or what you need.

Please fill out our [form to participate](#)  
(it includes parts for both giving and receiving support and resources).

Visit [our website](#) or [email us](#)

## Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Students will be completing the YRBS on **March 31st** during their regularly scheduled math block. More information about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, including the option to opt out, can be found [here](#).

## Election Day is Coming Up!

After facilitating input and questions from the student body and interviewing all four School Committee candidates, the WHS Senate has issued its endorsement for the **March 30, 2021 election!**

You can read the Senate's endorsement using [this link](#) to learn more about all four candidates and see whose views align best with your own!

## One Wish Project Drive

I'm hosting a toy drive for the One Wish Project during the months of **February and March**. The toys collected during this drive will be given as birthday gifts to homeless children living in the area.

I would love it if you could donate any unused/unopened toys for kids of any age. There will be a box to drop off toys in front of the main office.

If you would prefer to have your toys picked up at your home [please email me](#)

# WHS SPORTS

## We Want to Hear From You!

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

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



### Feature Heading

The **WHS Track team** held their first meet on Saturday.



Daniel M, Harry McAuliffe, Mason Casebeer, Gabe Watson, Jack Hamilton, Jay Kensicki,

Burke Peters



Cameron Menninger, Isabella Ryan, Lauren Spina



Caitlin Wiseman and Amanda Harrison



Noah White and Evan Edler

The **Girls Swim & Dive** team had another great 5:30 AM meet this week. They virtually swam against Reading, but we're still waiting on the final score to know which team won.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following swimmers on making their Sectional and State Cuts!

**SECTIONALS:**

- So. Morgan Landry** - 200 Free Relay
- Sr./Captain Abby Luthern** - 200 Free Relay
- So. Annie Xing** - 200 Free Relay
- Fr. Julia Valcourt** - 200 Free Relay

**STATES:**

- Fr. Elle Michaud** - 200 Medley Relay, 200 IM, 100 Breast, 400 Free Relay
- So. Morgan Landry** - 400 Free Relay
- Jr. Charlotte Kaduson** - 200 Medley Relay, 200 Free, 500 Free, 400 Free Relay
- Sr. Sherry You** - 200 Medley Relay, 100 Fly
- Sr./Captain Audra Salvietti** - 200 Medley Relay, 400 Free Relay



Correction to last week's newsletter:

Congratulations to the **WHS Girls Volleyball Teams** for dominating against Reading last week!! The Varsity Team **won 3-0**; JV Team **won 2-0** and the Freshman Team **won 2-0**

The girls continued their winning streak against Belmont this week:

Girls Varsity Team **won 3-0**  
Girls JV Team **won 2-0**  
Girls Freshman Team **won 2-0**



**The WHS Football team** lost a tough game against Reading, 34-0, at their first game of the season on Saturday



There will be a quick [Zoom meeting](#) next Tuesday March 23rd at 4:00 for any students interested in playing **WHS Softball**. If you plan to attend, please fill out [this form](#).

Athletic registration for the **WHS Sailing Team** is now open:  
<https://www.familyid.com/organizations/winchester-hs-athletics>

## WHS ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER



Check out these awesome WHS student performances  
in **the WHS Tri-M Music Society's** Black History Month  
February 2021 Concert

[Link](#) to Winchester Tri M Youtube Channel

### Calling All WHS Artists!

**Student Council** is looking for all types of artwork! Your submission can be a painting, drawings, photographs, sculptures, digital art, a live performance, and many other art forms. Physical art will be displayed around town and virtual work will be shown on the Student Council website. Physical art will be collected on April 5th. To submit a piece of art, please fill out [this form](#) by April 3rd.

## WHS CLUBS & GROUPS

Click here for a [list](#) of WHS Clubs and Organizations  
See below for current club news, upcoming meetings & events

Support **Winchester UNICEF Club** Saturday, March 27th between 4 and 8pm at the Burlington Chipotle! 33% of proceeds go to UNICEF. Make sure to show the flyer or tell the cashier you are here for Winchester UNICEF club. Use the code: THTF7PA to order online. Click [here](#) for the flyer.

Click [here](#) to subscribe to Winchester High's student-produced newspaper **the Red & Black**.

## CLASS OF 2021 NEWS

The end of the school year is in sight!

We are hard at work planning a safe graduation for you, but we need you to do your part. About **1/4** of you have **NOT** yet ordered a cap and gown.

It can be done online fairly quickly. The cost is **\$15.50** and all students will be wearing red. The order comes with one 2021 tassel.

Go online and [order now](#)

### Scholarship Information

The **Winchester Scholarship Foundation** applications for the

academic year 2021-2022 are currently available in the Guidance Department as well as online in Naviance.

Seniors interested in applying for the **Rotary scholarship** should click [here](#) for more information.

The 2021 **Christopher N. Mitropoulos** Scholarship application is available in the guidance office and on Naviance.

Applications for the **Joseph M. Murphy III Scholarship** are now available in the Athletic Office, the guidance office and on Naviance. They can be picked up during school hours any day during the week.

## CLASS OF 2022 NEWS

Check this section for updates about the Class of 2022

## CLASS OF 2023 NEWS

Class of 2023 is selling Winchester "W" flags.

Grab one now while supplies last!

Order [HERE](#).

## CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

Check this section for updates about the Class of 2024

## 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.

### **From The Winchester Health Department:**

Winchester is part of the Mystic Valley Public Health Coalition with Melrose, Malden, Medford, Wakefield, and Stoneham.

ELIGIBLE Winchester residents may receive their vaccine at clinics listed in those towns and at other designated sites throughout the state **NOW** by going to [this site](#).

If you have a parent, family friend or neighbor, please help them register.  
If they need additional assistance, have them  
call the Jenks Center at **(781) 721-7136**.

The Winchester Health Department plans to vaccinate the most vulnerable  
and home bound residents when supply is available.

[Click here](#) for more information

**TOGETHER** WE CAN MAKE COVID HISTORY!

**#STOP ASIAN HATE**  
ASIAN IS NOT A VIRUS,  
RACISM IS.

In Solidarity with our Asian American friends and neighbors — A Winchester Community Vigil to honor the Victims in Atlanta

Join us for a lantern ceremony, community candle lighting & remarks by Winchester town leaders

When:  
**Tuesday 3/23 at 7pm**

Where:  
**Mill Pond (Behind Library)**

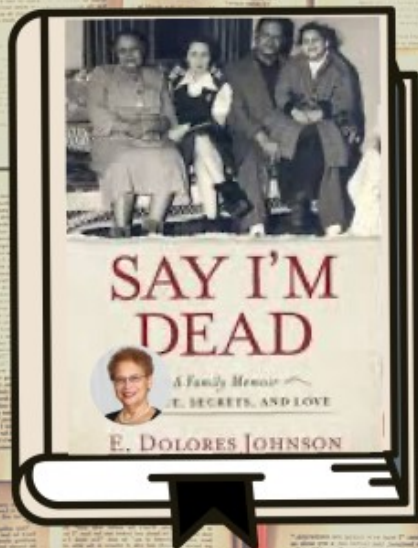
Co-sponsored by:  
The Chinese American Network of Winchester  
The Network for Social Justice  
The Town of Winchester

This event is in accordance with social distancing regulations, participants are encouraged to maintain 6 ft at all times. If possible, please bring a candle.

The Network for Social Justice  
proudly presents...

# BOOK TALK

with E. Dolores Johnson



**A memoir of secrets,  
separation, and  
transformation that  
chronicles four generations  
who overturned forbidden  
race-mixing norms amidst  
America's persistent  
bigotry**

Wednesday, March 24

7:30PM

Register [here!](#)



Pick up your copy at BookEnds or  
Winchester Public Library

Register Here for Book Talk





## Virtual Open Mic – Thursday, March 25th at 7:00 PM

In February, WCMS hosted its first Virtual Open Mic in partnership with the [Winchester Unitarian Society](#) and music director John Kramer. We had a great time and many wonderful performers, so let's do it again!

This program was developed in conjunction with Winchester Together, a community-based initiative of public events and acts of kindness to address isolation and pandemic fatigue. All ages are welcome to perform.

[Sign up online](#) and watch the event live on the WCMS [YouTube channel](#).  
Call 781-721-2950 for more information.

## Coping with (COVID) Stress: Helping Our Youth LIVE and THRIVE in a Pandemic -- One Year Later!



**Wednesday, March 31  
7pm  
Zoom Meeting**

*Artwork by Katie Lew, WHS'21*

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**Join us for a one-hour presentation and Q&A with  
Amber Haines, LICSW, WHS Adjustment Counselor**

***We will cover:***

- **What to know and how to help your teen/child**
- **Identifying the current stressors**
- **Typical vs. atypical adolescent development**
- **Warning signs and when to seek help**
- **Strategies for COVID stress and beyond**
- **Quick tips & resources**



[winchestercoalition@gmail.com](mailto:winchestercoalition@gmail.com)



Email with Questions

Register for the Webinar



Just like that, it is time for the 2nd round of the WFEE Academy. [Register now](#), on line classes start next week.

Learn about Pop Art, take another deep dive into the world of sharks or practice some animal tai chi. There are 8 different options, open to remote and hybrid students.

[Find out more](#). The [WFEE Academy](#) is filled with free classes that are both fun and educational. Only two weeks of classes left!

Spring has Sprung!

Help our schools and support a local business as you start thinking about your garden. A portion of all sales made on **Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**, at **Mahoney's Garden Center in Winchester**, excluding landscaping services, will be donated to Winchester's education foundation, **WFEE**.

Buy yourself a gift certificate to cover the cost of spring plantings. When it is time to put in the garden, you will have already paid the bill! Pick up gardening tools, mulch and everything else you will need in a few short weeks. If you are looking for Easter lilies, cut flowers or pansies, Mahoney's is the place to go!

Proceeds from sales on **Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**, will be turned into WFEE grants that support all educators and students in WPS.

## **Winchester Soccer Club Spring 2021 Registration is Open!**

Join Winchester Soccer Club for spring soccer!

Winchester Soccer Club Spring 2021 Registration is open for the WSC In-Town high school program. This is a fun league with games on the weekends in Winchester -- **ALL girls and boys, ALL grades, and ALL levels are welcome!** For more information on

the high school program and to register, go to [www.winchestersoccer.net](http://www.winchestersoccer.net). Register today and join us for spring soccer!



Kids' Corner has a few openings in our popular and adventurous **KC Xtreme Summer Program** for grades 6-8. The program runs weekly beginning the week of August 2nd and ends the week of August 23rd. KC Xtreme students get to take local, fun and exciting field trips as a group every day of the week! Don't miss out! See more information and register [here](#).

## MARCH ON OVER TO EN KA PANTRY!



### SPECIAL THIS MONTH Protein & Produce Baskets

Plus our usual selection of personal items and non-perishable food

Make your appointment today!

Food Pantry Hours  
by Appointment Only  
Sundays, Tuesdays & Fridays

Text, Email, or Call  
781- 369-5844  
[enkanpantry@gmail.com](mailto:enkanpantry@gmail.com)



#### 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

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

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.

Email the Enka Pantry

## WINCHESTER YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2021

Winchester Youth Baseball and Softball (WYBS) is pleased to announce that registration is now open for all spring programs. We offer fun, age-based instruction and games for kids from 6-15 and we have a dedicated group of parents and volunteers who are ready to make this the best season ever!

To register please visit our [new website](#) and click on the Registration tab.

### 13-15U BABE RUTH DIVISION

13-15U players will compete against neighboring towns in a competitive, fun, Babe Ruth league. Two games per week will be held on Monday, Wednesday or Friday evenings. Games will be played on 90foot diamonds, with practices scheduled for non-game nights.

All registered players will receive a roster spot. Teams will be organized based on age and skill once Spring registration is complete.

If you have questions about Babe Ruth baseball, please contact:

[Mike Creane](#) (781-983-0934) or [Chris Centurelli](#) (617-256-1084)

### 13-14U MIDDLE SCHOOL EMIB DIVISION

13-14U (as of April 30, 2021) players will be selected after a try-out to play on one of two McCall Middle School EMIBL teams. These teams will compete against other Eastern Massachusetts Independent Middle School Baseball teams ("EMIB"), [visit the website](#). EMIBL teams play two 90 foot diamond games per week on Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday evenings and one practice. Players must be 13 or 14 as of April 30, 2021, [registered](#), attend a zoom meeting, attend a try out, and be selected by the coaches to receive a roster spot. Middle School players are encouraged to play on a Babe Ruth team too, at their interest.

WYBS plans to host informational zoom meetings on **Tuesday March 16th** and **Tuesday March 23rd**, at **7 PM**, to further explain the EMIB Middle School commitment and selection process. These zoom meetings will run for 15 to 30 minutes, depending upon interest. Players who are interested in trying out for the Middle School division should attend one of these meetings. Parents are also welcomed and encouraged to attend.



Interested player names, email, and family phone numbers will be collected on these zooms and tryout information will be provided.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

Meeting ID: 762 7591 9021

Passcode: 6a9ZUE

If you have questions about the Middle School division, please contact:

**Philip Michienzi** (617-803-5576)

**WYBS JUNIOR JOURNALIST PROGRAM**

WYBS would like to recruit a pool of “reporters” to cover games and publish game summaries this spring. Candidates interested in developing their writing skills while providing content for publication on our website and in the local news, please **email Janine Kutyllo**. Students (middle and high school) will be trained on keeping a score book and given a template to guide them in developing the summaries. Students will also receive a small stipend for each story submitted.

**WYBS JUNIOR UMPIRE PROGRAM**

WYBS is seeking **boys and girls ages 13 and up** to work as Junior Umpires for boys AA and AAA leagues, and girls Intermediate Softball games during the spring 2021 season. Junior Umpires earn **\$20** per game.

All new aspiring umpires and those who have umped in the past must contact our Umpire-In-Chief by **April 1**, preferably **by email**. This program includes basic training and tips for calling the game, along with a unique perspective and great way to help your community.

**WYBS SPONSORSHIP**

We would like to take the opportunity to thank those who have supported WYBS in the past and who continue to be there for our boys and girls.

Each year, WYBS relies on its local partners to help deliver the best product possible and we always have new opportunities for organizations or individuals who want to support our programs.

To learn more about how you can help, **please email us** or **visit** for a quick, easy and secure transaction!



**The WSF Annual Charity Golf Event 2021**

## Registration is now open!

The event will be held on **Monday, May 17th** at the beautiful Winchester Country Club. This is our signature fundraising event, and we hope you will join us to help support the WHS student-athlete program through the Tournament, Corporate, Gold and Hole sponsorships. Please consider a level of sponsorship available on the golf registration page.

Please note, the 2021 event will be slightly different due to COVID 19 restrictions. The 18 hole round of golf will be the same, but limited to 100 participants. Lunch and dinner are also planned to be held, but the entire event will be subject to the guidance of government officials, public health authorities and the most recent Governor's Order available on May 17th, 2021.

Thanks to all who supported the 30 for 30 tournament in 2019, WSF was able to fund the lacrosse practice wall and batting cages at the Ciarcia Field Complex adjacent to Winchester High School!



[Please register here](#)

For any questions about the event, please [email Kirsten May](#) or by phone 781-424-7934.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you in May!  
The Winchester Sports Foundation

## ALUMNI NEWS

 **WINCHESTER**  

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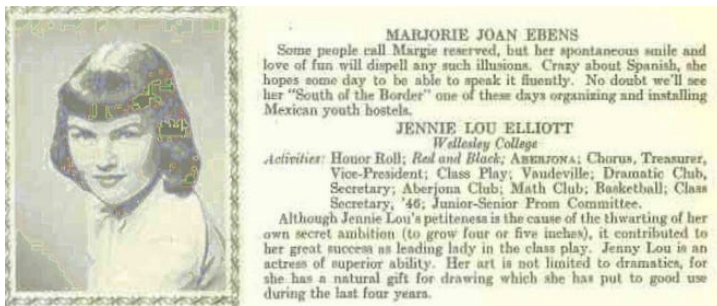
**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**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](#).



**Check out our  
latest  
alumni spotlight!**

**[Jennie Lou Elliot](#)  
Class of 1946**



**UNMASKED: Our AWESOME Athletics' Director Marc Arria!**

Thank you **Mr. Arria** for participating and helping us get to know you better!

## 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!

## WHS PFA Direct Appeal



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.**

To make a newsletter or a news blast submission, **please email us**  
NO LATER than 12:00 PM on Friday.

WHSPFA | 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890

[Unsubscribe lauren.lesperance@verizon.net](mailto:lauren.lesperance@verizon.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

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