

**Winchester High School
Parent Faculty Association Newsletter
December 12, 2022**



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Good Morning WHS Family,

We had a busy week last week and hopefully you were able to catch some of the highlights. The choral concert was beautiful and brought everyone some holiday spirit and cheer. The juniors had their Blue Ribbon Barbecue class dinner. The seniors had their Masquerade themed dance on Friday as well. See below for pictures.

Thank you to all who generously contributed to "**Winchester Gives Back**". We are excited to tell you that we collected just under 15K!! On Tuesday, 176 parents or guardians will be receiving gift cards to Target to holiday shop for their children. 100% of the funds collected goes towards this program! Thank you again for making this possible.

Also, thank you to everyone who signed up for the teacher and staff luncheon to be held this Wednesday. For the first time ever all slots were filled. Make sure you open next week's Newsletter to see some snapshots of your generous bounty and pictures from the big day!

As always, please reach out to us for anything at all.

Warmly,
Brenda Mandile & Adrienne Spignesi

Co-Chairs
whspfa@gmail.com



WHS IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2022-2023 District School Calendar

FRI 12/23 - Early Release Day

MON 12/25 - MON 1/2 - No School

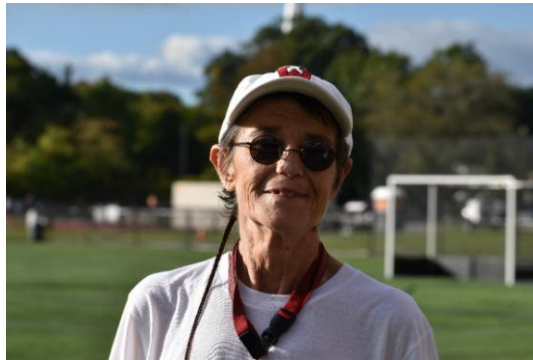
LYNCH ELEMENTARY PROJECT

For those interested in gaining more information about the possible **Lynch Elementary Project** and neighborhood traffic

plans, there will be a tour at the school at **5:30 PM** tonight, December 12th, followed by a presentation at **6 PM**.

All are welcome to attend, learn more about the project and ask questions.

DONATE IN MEMORY OF DONNA GILDERSLEEVE



Please donate to the Donna Gildersleeve Scholarship fund.
[Support | Winchester Scholarship Foundation | Massachusetts \(winchestersf.org\)](https://www.winchestersf.org)

Donna Gildersleeve passed away this summer after a hard fought battle with cancer. Donna was a PE and Health Teacher at Lynch and McCall for 45 years. She was the Athletic Trainer at WHS for over 30 years and for the last 4 years, she was an Assistant Athletic Director. Donna's love for the Winchester Community and students was immeasurable. Donna would do anything and everything for "her kids". If you got the chance to stand with Donna while watching a game, you could witness the number of people that would come over to say hello to her.

An important charity to Donna was the Winchester Scholarship Foundation (WSF). A unified tribute in Donna's name is underway. Please consider donating to the Donna Gildersleeve Scholarship fund, no amount is too small and will go a long way. All scholarships given out by the WSF go to WHS graduates. To dedicate a WSF scholarship in Donna's memory, a minimum

of \$10,000 has to be raised.

[DONATE HERE](#)

A NOTE FROM THE WHS NURSES: Mandated Health Screenings

Hello WHS grade 9 and 10 families,

We have a busy month of mandated health screenings. Please read carefully and let your student(s) know about the important health screenings during the month of December.

Attention 10th grade Parents & Guardians:

As a reminder we are holding our MA DPH mandated SBIRT screenings *next* Tuesday 12/6, Wednesday 12/7 and Thursday 12/8. Please refer to Principal Mahoney's email in Parent Square from November 15th if you missed it or would like to review detailed information regarding this screening: SBIRT Screening information for 10th grade Parents & Guardians

In addition, on Wednesday 12/21 and Thursday 12/22 the WHS nurses and PE/Wellness faculty members are holding mandated Hearing/Vision, as well as, Height & Weight screenings for 10th graders enrolled in PE this semester during the students PE classes.

Attention 9th grade Parents & Guardians:

On Monday 12/19 and Tuesday 12/20 the WHS nurses and PE/Wellness staff are holding the mandatory postural/scoliosis screenings for 9th graders enrolled in PE this semester during PE classes.

If you wish to opt your student out of the hearing/vision or postural screenings please [email the WHS nurse](#) by **Thursday, December 15th.**

Thank you,

Jennifer Markham and Lauren Vaccari

STAYING HEALTHY THIS SEASON

Dear WPS Families,

As we approach the colder weather and winter season please take a few minutes to review our district COVID/Illness protocols. Our collective district goal is to limit the spread of the COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses in our school community and protect our students, teachers and staff.

Helpful tips on keeping your student healthy this season!

Please read this informative article:

[Staying Healthy this Season from DPH and MA Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

Stay Home When Sick:

You must keep your student home if they are actively ill.

Please do not assume your student has a common cold.

We strongly encourage you to test your symptomatic student for COVID-19 prior to coming to school. We recommend at least one negative self antigen test (two negative self antigen tests 24-48 hours apart and/or a PCR test is best practice) **AND** significant improvement in symptoms before returning to school.

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.

[Positive COVID-19 Test Reporting Form](#)

COVID-19 Update:

Covid-19 is still circulating in our community. We are in a better place than this time last year due to the high vaccination rate of our WPS student and staff population. Vaccination remains our best

defense against COVID as it helps reduce spread and protects against severe illness. If your student is not up-to-date (two doses plus one booster) with the COVID-19 vaccine, please speak with your student's health care provider.

Symptomatic Testing Program on ParentSquare:

We encourage students to participate in the symptomatic testing program. Please click [here](#) for the logon instructions for the consent form located on the HOME PAGE under PARTICIPATE tab on left and then click on forms/participation. ***School nurses can not test a student in school without a completed consent form.***

Free Home Self Antigen Test Still Available:

Please send your student to pick up home tests in their school health offices. Free home self antigen tests are also available at the Winchester Public Library and Winchester Health Department (located downstairs at town hall).

Thank you for your partnership as we work together to minimize the spread of illness in our community and in our schools.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and stay well!

Stephanie Blass, COVID-19 Response Coordinator
and WPS Nurses

BREAK ROOM SIGN UPS

Just a reminder that students who are signing up to use the break room MUST check in with Ms. Hanlon before going in to the break room. Failure to do so may result in class cuts and detention.

LOST & FOUND

The WHS lost and found is overrun with found clothing and water bottles and other items. Please come by to claim your

items. Anything left after December break will be donated.



CLASS OF 2023 NEWS

The Senior Class celebrated there much anticipated Masquerade Dance last Friday!
They celebrated a few birthdays too-- Class Treasurer Regan Miller and the one and only Dot Butler!



CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

We had a great turnout for the Junior Class Southern BBQ Dinner last Tuesday! Thanks to all of you who came! The Class Officers can't wait to have more events!





The class of 2024 will be selling the Winchester W flags for **\$60** so get yours to show your town spirit!

If you would like to pre-order you can Venmo @danielle-adams-7



CLASS OF 2025 NEWS

SOPHOMORES!! We want to hear from YOU!

Please take a moment to fill out [this brief survey](#) by Monday so that we can better understand what class events/activities interest you and we will get planning!

Save the date for our CLASS DINNER/TRIVIA NIGHT on **Tuesday Jan 10th** coming up after vacation!

Please follow our class Instagram account [@winchclassof2025!!!](#)
Thank you for your help!

Do you like looking stylish?
Support the Class of 2025 and buy our [merch here](#).



CLASS OF 2026 NEWS

The Class of 2026 is collecting winter clothes for the people of Ukraine! Please bring any new/used (gently worn) winter clothes to WHS by December break so we can ship it out and help keep them warm. Things we are collecting: coats, gloves, mittens, scarfs, hats, and socks. You can drop things off in the main office of WHS or bring them to room A312 before or after school.

CLASS OF '26 WINTER CLOTHING COLLECTION

HELP DONATE TO THE
UKRAINIAN AMERICAN
EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF
BOSTON!

WHAT ARE WE COLLECTING?

- HATS
- GLOVES/MITTENS
- COATS
- SCARFS
- SOCKS



WHEN CAN YOU DONATE?

PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR
WINTER ITEMS IN THE
LABELED BIN NEAR THE MAIN
OFFICE FROM 11/28 - 12/23

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](#)



WINTER SPORTS

User Fee payments are now being accepted on [Unipay](#) for Winter Sports. DO NOT pay through WHS Student Activities.

You can also send a check made out to Winchester Athletics into the Athletic Office.

Please send us pictures and updates for the following Winter Sports!

GIRLS BASKETBALL

On Friday the Girls Varsity team beat Waltham High School 54 to 37

WRESTLING

The wrestling team opened the season on Saturday at the 30th Annual Souhegan-Milford Invitational Tournament, taking 2nd

overall.

Three wrestlers placed first - **Elias Kourafalos**,
Anthony Donlon and **Finn Paragas**.

Joey Testa and **George Jia** placed 2nd, with **Jack Allen** taking 3rd
at their respective weights.

CONGRATS Boys!



GIRLS SPRING LACROSSE

Mandatory brief meeting in the auditorium at 3:15 on Tuesday,
December 13th for any girls planning to play lacrosse in the spring.

GIRLS FALL SOCCER

The Winchester Comfy quickly sold out at the Spirit Fair but we
have been able to place another order which should come in before
Christmas. Let us know if you would like one! They are **\$50 each**.
Email [Laurel Murphy](#) or [Kiersten Christensen](#) if you're interested.



GIRLS SPRING SOFTBALL

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in playing Softball this Spring on **Tuesday, 12/13** immediately after school in the LG Room.

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's Spring Musical Will be *Guys and Dolls!*

The performances will be on **March 17th, 18th and 19th, 2023**. If you are interested in simply learning more about this wonderful experience, auditioning for a speaking part in the musical, be part of the ensemble, or get involved with the many aspects of the production (props, costumes, set, tech crew, pit, advertisement, program and poster design, choreography, stage management etc.) come to the informational meeting on **Monday, December 12th** during WIN block. Don't forget to sign up in Aspen to be able to leave your WIN block.

Auditions will be on **Thursday, December 15th and Friday, December 16th** right after school.

Callbacks (if needed) on **Monday, December 19th**.

First rehearsal on **Wednesday, December 21st - 3:30 to 5:50 PM**.

Please note that there will be a voluntary audition workshop on **Tuesday, December 13th**, with Mrs. Goldberg to review the music for the audition.

Sign up for an audition slot here. Material for the audition will be distributed at the informational meeting and also posted on the Musical Google Classroom. Join the Google Classroom by using the **class code b4xo72y**.

If you have any questions prior to the informational meeting, please see Mrs. Cella after school (B103) or [email her](#)

WHS CLUBS & GROUPS

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

ART CLUB

Join the Art Club as we celebrate the winter season by making snowflakes and enjoying apple cider on Thursday 12/15 from 3:30 to 4:30 in room C309.

COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB

Want to hear about what it's like working in tech? The Computer Science Club will host a panel of Google employees who are prepared to discuss their careers and experiences in the technology industry. The event is open to all interested students, and will take place WIN Black, **December 12th (Monday)** in the auditorium.

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.

FIGURE SKATING CLUB

If you are a figure skater and participate in group and/or private skating lessons, you should join the WHS Figure Skating Club!

If you are interested in joining or would like more information about the club, please [send us an email](#).

NEWSPAPER CLUB

Need advice? [Ask the newspaper club!](#) Every month, one or more questions from YOU will be answered in the paper! In the wise words of Vanilla Ice, "If you got a problem, yo, I'll solve it."

Read the latest edition of the The Red & Black [here!](#)

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.



TIME TO MAKE YOUR DECEMBER APPOINTMENT !



Please Note December Pantry Dates: Sunday (Dec. 11th & 18th) and Monday (Dec. 12th & 19th)!

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.

DECEMBER AT EN KA PANTRY

Make your appointment today!
Pantry Hours by Appointment Only Sundays & Mondays.
Text, [Email](#), or Call 781-369-5844

Open to Winchester Residents - providing non-perishable, fresh, and frozen food and personal care items to individuals and families living in Winchester who require extra assistance in meeting these basic needs. Use of the En Ka Pantry is limited to one time per month and does not prohibit individuals or families from also visiting the Woburn pantry.

Transportation is available.

En Ka Pantry is located at 1037 Main Street, Winchester, MA 01890 (in the same location as the En Ka Exchange)

Generously Sponsored by Winchester Realtors & Businesses
Thank You for Supporting Us Since 2016!



Liz Darby
Berkshire Hathaway
HomeServices
Commonwealth



Kate Maloney Albiani
Kate Maloney
Interior Design



Philip J. Vita
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Carolyn Nolan
The Nolan Group
Ameriprise Financial
Services, LLC



Deb DePeter
Bryant Park
Designs



Becky Tellefsen
Bryant Park
Designs



Julie Wile Fish
Peter Pirani
Leading Edge
Real Estate



Let's Make 01890 Shine Like A Diamond



Spectacular Diamond Jewelry Drawing to
Benefit The Winchester Chamber of Commerce
Town Beautification



Tickets on Sale Nov. 14 - Dec. 18
\$20/ticket | \$100/6 tickets | \$200/12 tickets
winchesterchamber.com • BookEnds (cash or check)



Drawing



Dec. 19

The Winchester Chamber of Commerce
Needs Your Help to Make Our Town Beautiful!

Winchester Chamber of Commerce
38 Church Street, Winchester, Massachusetts 01890 | 781-729-8870
info@winchesterchamber.com | winchesterchamber.com

Buy tickets here

REVIEWED

By Winchester Town Clerk at 10:38 am, Nov 28, 2022

TOWN OF WINCHESTER



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Board/Committee: Unit C Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting

Date: December 12, 2022 at 3:15-5:15 pm

Place: Parkhurst School - School Committee Room, 40 Samoset Road,
Winchester MA 01890

Agenda:

Executive Session Agenda

1. Discussion of strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to engage in bargaining with the Winchester Education Association: Unit C

Open Session Agenda

1. Motion and vote to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purposes:
 - (a) Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and Purpose (2) to engage in collective bargaining with the Winchester Education Association Unit C.

Submitted by: Jessica Palino
Email address: jpalino@winchesterps.org
Date Submitted to Clerk's Office: November 25, 2022

Postings must be filed with the Town Clerk's Office not later than 48 hours prior to meeting.



WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INCLUSION • SERVICE • INNOVATION

Winchester School Committee

Michelle Bergstrom, *Chair*

Karen Maruyama Bolognese

Tom Hopcroft, *Vice Chair*

Christian Nixon

Shamus Brady, *Recording Secretary*

RECEIVED

By Winchester Town Clerk at 11:11 am, Dec 09, 2022

Winchester School Committee Meeting

December 13, 2022: 6:00 PM

Parkhurst School, 40 Samoset Road, Winchester MA 01890

- I. Call to Order (6:00 PM)
- II. Public Comment (around 6:00 PM)
- III. Superintendent, Chair, Student Remarks (around 6:15 PM)
- IV. Consent Agenda (around 6:25 PM)
- V. Report, Update & Action Items (around 6:30 PM)
 - A. Lynch Elementary School Project Update, Charles Hay, Tappe Architects
 - B. Policy Subcommittee Update
- VI. Anticipated Agenda Items for Next Meeting (around 7:15 PM)
- VII. Future Meeting Dates: January 10, 2023
- VIII. Executive Session: (around 7:30 PM)

Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Winchester Education Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee.

- IX. Adjournment (around 8:00 PM)

*The above topics represent what the Chair of the Winchester School Committee reasonably anticipates will be discussed at this meeting at the time this meeting was posted.
Agenda times are approximate.*



Did you know...?

Winchester residents will vote on a debt exclusion to fund the construction of a new Lynch Elementary school on **Saturday, Jan 7th**. Voting takes place at WHS; residents can also [request vote-by-mail ballots](#) from the Town Clerk.

If Winchester voters pass the debt exclusion on January 7th, the new Lynch:

- 🍏 will house the town-wide integrated preschool program (7 classrooms);
- 🍏 will contain community spaces (e.g., a regulation-size gym and performing arts space) that residents can use outside of school hours;
- 🍏 will have space for 500+ Kindergarten-5th grade students; and
- 🍏 will be partially funded (up to \$17.3 million) by the Massachusetts School Building Authority, which partnered with Winchester on VO and WHS.

The next public informational session by the Lynch Project Team will be held at Lynch on December 12th at 6pm.

For more information, visit www.lynch2025.com

[Click Here For More Information](#)

THE WINCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

**The ANNUAL
HOLIDAY HOUSE
TOUR**

**Sunday, December 18th
12-4 pm**



Tickets are \$30, on sale at BookEnds
(cash and check only)



EN KA SEEKS GRANT REQUESTS - DEADLINE January 2nd

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 quarters grant requests is **January 2, 2023**.

Applications are available at [here](#).

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 gifts@enkasociety.org

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL EXPLORATORY PROGRAM

Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School will again be offering a free [Saturday Exploratory program](#) open to all students in participating towns.

The 4-week program is offered in 3 sessions (January, February and March) and students have the option of participating in all 3. Programs include automotive technology, carpentry, cosmetology, culinary arts, dental assisting, CAD, design, electrical, fabrication, plumbing and robotics. Sessions begin **Jan 14th and Feb 11th**.

Students must complete and return this [application](#) directly to NE Metro Tech.

Contact [Joe O'Brien](#) at NE Metro Tech with questions.

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Students must complete and return this [application](#) directly to NE Metro Tech.

Contact [Joe O'Brien](#) at NE Metro Tech with questions.



JANUARY 28TH 2023

The Winton Club is proud to announce [Viva Las Winton](#), happening January 28, 2023. Sure to be the hottest ticket in town, so get yours while they are still available!

Click [Winton Casino Night](#) to order your tickets online.

A fabulous evening filled with chances to win great prizes and silent auctions, while socializing over snacks and drinks with friends. Loads of fun even if you're not a gambler! All proceeds go to A Caring Place and the Paxman Scalp Cooling program at Winchester Center for Cancer Care. This system allows cancer patients the opportunity to preserve their hair as they undergo chemotherapy.

Can't make it but want to contribute to the cause?

Consider donating to our fundraising efforts by clicking [here](#)!

Sponsorship opportunities available for the evening event.

Contact [Mary Ducharme](#), Casino Chairperson for details.

ALUMNI NEWS



WINCHESTER

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](#).

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.

WHSPFA | 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890