

**Winchester High School
Parent Faculty Association Newsletter
December 19, 2022**



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Good Morning WHS Family,

Tis the Season! Kleenex needed for school~

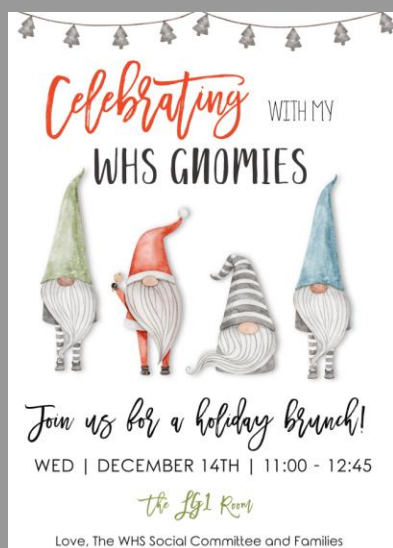
If anyone is looking for something nice to do for the school, please send in a box of Kleenex to WHS with your student. They can leave in the front office or give to a teacher. Thx! All classrooms, study halls, library, etc. would appreciate it!

Happy Holidays!

See the students back at WHS on Tuesday, Jan 3rd.

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

Warmly,
Brenda Mandile & Adrienne Spignesi
Co-Chairs
whspfa@gmail.com



WHS PFA Social Committee

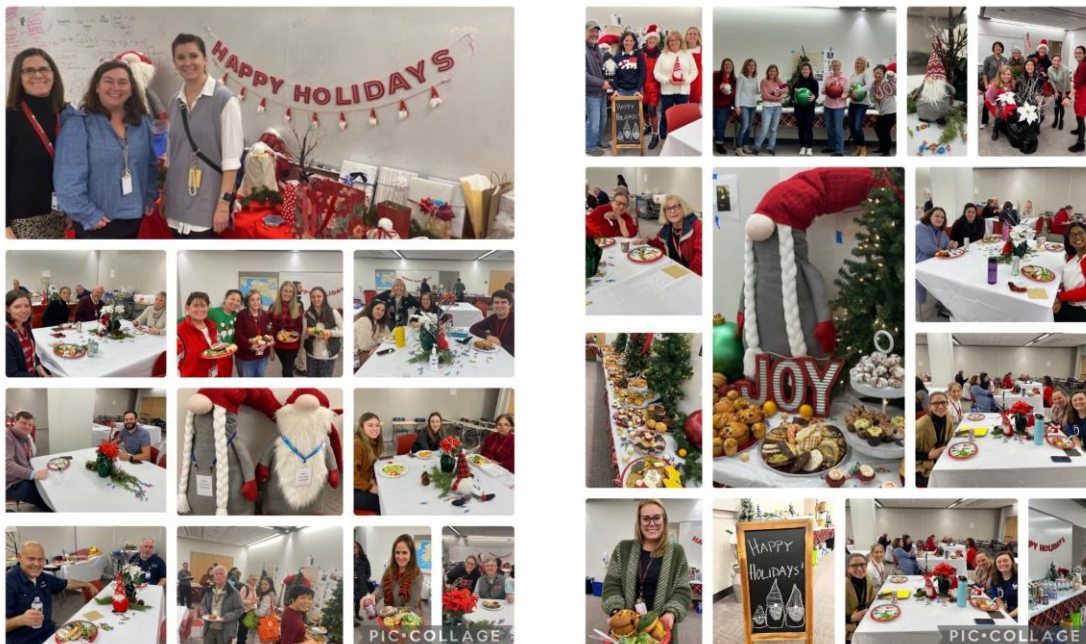
Thank you to all our WHS Families who contributed to our annual WHS Teachers and Staff Holiday Brunch! We were blown away when we saw the Sign UP Genius filled completely! Hundreds of families donated awesome raffle items, delicious food, sweet desserts, quenching drinks and time! We had the set-up crew come and transform one of the class rooms to a fun Gnome themed Holiday scene, then the next day the prep crew unwrapped and staged the treats, parent greeters who welcomed the teachers and staff as they came in and then a well-oiled clean-up crew who swept in efficiently with care!

We could not have done it without you nor would we want to! Please see below—pictures capture many happy and grateful teachers and staff! They came in and were so touched by the generosity of all our families! Thank you again to all who donated and help make this yet another very SPECIAL and MEMORABLE event for all! Thank you to fellow parent Stacey Meyers for great pics!

Stay tuned for our next fun event --- Valentine's Day! Until then, HAPPY HOLIDAYS fellow WHS Friends and Families!

Warmly,

Your WHS PFA Social Committee ☐



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

SAT PRACTICE

With all the test-optional buzz in the industry, many parents have questioned whether their child should take and submit the SAT and/or ACT. What we've learned over the last two years is that students who submit good test scores are twice as likely to be admitted to selective colleges.

Studies have shown that taking a practice test is the best way for students to preview what's ahead and to help inform their decisions about submitting a test score in their college application.

On January 7th, the Class of 2024 will be offering a mock SAT that will serve two purposes - to raise money for the Class of 2024 and to allow students an opportunity to take an additional practice test with feedback before they take a higher stakes test in March.

We have partnered with Revolution Prep to provide this opportunity

SAT Practice Exam: Saturday, January 7th 2023

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST

Location: Live Online from the comfort of your home or in the LG rooms at WHS

Cost: \$20 - proceeds go to Winchester HS Class of 2024

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!

Questions? If you have questions or want to learn more about Revolution Prep, you can **[reach out to David Zimbalist](#)** or at (617) 640-0744

Additionally, Revolution Prep is excited to help you ignite your child's love of learning this holiday season by gifting you a \$200 gift card toward tutoring if you sign up by December 31st!

From tackling a tough subject, to improving grades and GPA, or even helping your student prepare for high-stakes exams like the SAT/ACT— Revolution Prep tutors are known to inspire progress. If you are interested in seeking outside resources in support of your student's learning success, this may be an excellent option for you.

*To learn more about Revolution Prep's tutoring services, please review the flyer attached. If you're ready to claim your \$200 gift card, **[simply click here](#)**, and give your child the gift of confidence as we head into the new year!*

*Warm wishes,
The Officers and Advisors of the Class of 2024*

CONGRATULATIONS!

On Thursday, December 1st, members of the Latin Club attended Classics Day at Boston University. This exciting annual event for all students of Latin in MA featured workshops, meetings and a skit competition in which WHS students placed 3rd with an original parody of "The Office."

DONATE IN MEMORY OF DONNA GILDERSLEEVE



Please donate to the Donna Gildersleeve Scholarship fund.
Support | Winchester Scholarship Foundation | Massachusetts
(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:

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.

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

Check back here for class updates

CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

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



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

Please follow our class Instagram account [@winclassof2025!!!](https://www.instagram.com/winclassof2025!!!)
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.

BOYS BASKETBALL

The varsity boys team beat Belmont 55-54!
The JV and Freshman teams both beat Belmont as well!

The varsity and freshman teams lost to Burlington,
but the JV team won!

BOYS HOCKEY

The varsity boys team had a tough game and lost to Burlington 1-2

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The varsity girls team beat Belmont 45-42 and they beat Burlington 56-43!

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 HOCKEY

Girls Hockey lost to Burlington 1-4



GOLF

Just in time for the Holidays!

The 2022 WHS Varsity Golf Team is currently selling a limited supply of our best-selling umbrellas and golf hats!

To order, please go to our team's website [here](#).

SWIMMING

On Wednesday the boys lost to Belmont HS, but there were still some amazing swims!

The 200 Medley relay made up of **Ethan Guo** swimming the backstroke, **Captain Kaden Salvietti** swimming the breaststroke, **Seamus Sullivan** swimming the butterfly and **Captain Allen Huseinovic** swimming the freestyle, came in 1st!

Ethan Guo then went on to win the 200 IM - 50 yards of each stroke

Benny Chen got 2nd in the 50 free

Captain Allen Huseinovic won the 100 fly and qualified for Sectionals!

Nathan Liu got 2nd in the 100 free

Captain Allen Huseinovic also won the 500 free - 20 laps of freestyle!

Ethan Guo got 2nd in the 100 back

Captain Kaden Salvietti got 2nd in the 100 breast

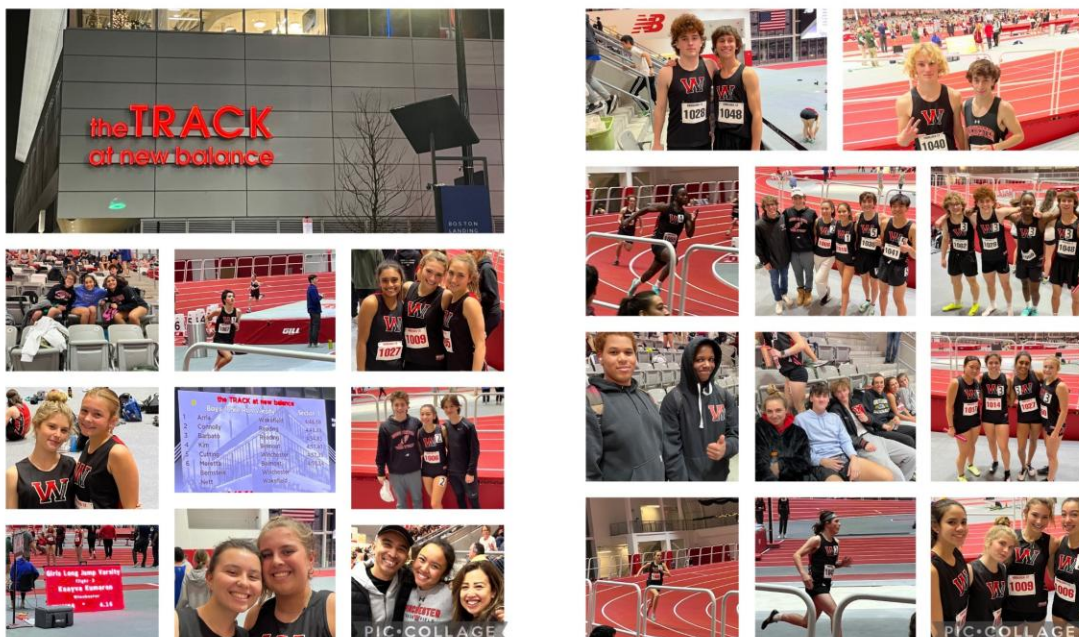
The meet ended with the Winchester A team taking 2nd in the 400 free relay (each swimmer swims 4 laps free) **Ethan Guo**, **Seamus Sullivan**, **Captain Kaden Salvietti** and **Captain Allen Huseinovic**.



TRACK & FIELD

The boys and girls teams came out victorious against Belmont HS at their first meet at the awesome new "the TRACK at new balance" in Boston! GREAT job-way to start the Season! G-O Red & Black!





WRESTLING

Winchester Wrestling beat Xaverian Brothers High School at their dual meet on Wednesday.

The final score was 42-37 with pins by **Jack Allen**, **Chris Von Hall**, **Jihun Kang**, **Elias Kourafalos**, **Joe Testa** and **George Gia**.

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

Attention Advisors and Officers of Country/Culture Clubs!

The Student Council is planning to host a Multicultural Event tentatively on **January 27th** at night. This event hopes to highlight the diversity of our community through performances, food, games/activities, and booths.

As representatives of a country/culture club, your goal is to create a booth to showcase your country/culture (ex. tri-fold posters).

If you are interested in this opportunity, **please email Aden Huang** to confirm your participation.

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.

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.

FARMERS MARKET CLUB

The Farmers Market Club is hosting a meeting **Tuesday, 12/20**, during WIN Block in the cafeteria. Poster-making and a discussion about an upcoming bake sale will take place so please be there if you are interested in helping out!

To sign up for passes, use Aspen the night before under the club category. Thank you!

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](#).

FRENCH & SPANISH CLUBS

The French and Spanish Clubs are hosting a Paint Night on **Tuesday, 12/20**, from 6-8 PM in the art room.

Please fill out [this form](#) and bring \$5 if you are interested!

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!](#)

WHS INTERACT CLUB

The WHS Interact Club is hosting a virtual toy drive to help support Shayne's Shining Stars! This is a really amazing cause and we all hope you consider donating!

You can use [this link](#) to contribute

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)

[Register Here](#)



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



Lynch School today



Rendering of Lynch Replacement

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

[Visit our Website](http://www.lynch2025.com)

PARENT TO PARENT WEBINAR



Social Media, Skills and Relationships: Digital Wellness in a Post Pandemic World with Dr Elizabeth Englander



Please join us for a Zoom Webinar with Dr. Englander, founder and director of the Massachusetts Center for Aggression Reduction Center, and a nationally recognized expert on cyberbullying, as she shares her research on teenage cell phone use.

Learn how to:

- provide guidelines for healthy cell phone use
- respond to cyberbullying
- talk to your child about sexting

She will also discuss the pandemic's impact on children's mental health and social relationships as well as the consequences of increased screen time.

Please Register at: parenttoparentwinchester.org

Tuesday, January 10th
7:30pm

All Programs Are Free and Open to the Public

**educate
encourage
empower**

parenttoparentwinchester.org

[Register Here](#)

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.



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.

CATCH THE BUZZ!



Bee still my heart! The WFE Trivia Bee is back in person on **February 8th** at Winchester Town Hall. For two years we sent the Bee home to you in the form of the Bee in a Bag. But it is time to gather the hive together to celebrate WFE's 20th anniversary of creating a fun, community event. First it was a Spelling Bee, but for many years Trivia has reigned. Catch up on all things trivial over the winter break then [sign up your team](#) for the Bee. Teams of three compete for the coveted Bee trophy plus bragging rights for a year. The Bee is a great way to spend a

February night with friends and family.

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.

WHSPFA | 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890