

Winchester High School
Parent Faculty Association Newsletter
December 5, 2022



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Happy December WHS Family,

Today is last day for "**Winchester Gives Back**", WHS's very own charitable holiday giving program. **Contributions of any size greatly appreciated!** Last year over 153 children in **Winchester Public Schools** benefited from your generosity. Gifts are tax deductible. [Click here for PayPal link](#) or you may VENMO using @whspfa (Winchester HS Parent Faculty). If using VENMO, please note "WGB" in memo. We thank you for any contribution you can give.

Also, please consider purchasing new hats and gloves/mittens of any size that will be distributed with the gift cards. Collection boxes for these items will be available at the front of the school through December 12th.

A Holiday Brunch for Teachers and Staff will be held **Wednesday, December 14th**. This is an annual holiday treat from WHS Parents to our hard working and well deserving faculty. Would you please help make it a success by donating a food or raffle item? We know it's a busy time of year and we thank you in advance for your generosity!! [Click here for Sign Up Options](#).
(Teachers, no peeking!)

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

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



Winchester High School Presents

NEIL SIMON'S
RUMORS

A Curtain & Cue Production
 WHS AUDITORIUM

DEC	DEC	DEC
2nd	3rd	4th
7 pm	7 pm	2 pm

\$15 GENERAL ADMISSION
\$10 STUDENT ADMISSION
TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR



BRAVO to the WHS cast and crew of this weekend's Curtain and Cues play!!!

Our wonderful WHS Student Council and fantastic Freshmen Class of 2026 teamed up to help Winchester Chamber of Commerce last Friday night at the annual Tree Lighting! WHS students happily served hot cocoa, popcorn, chocolate covered marshmallow and other treats to hundreds gathered for the exciting night! BONUS for all -- picture with OLAF!!!

WHS IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2022-2023 District School Calendar

THU 12/8 - Winter Chorus Concert - 7 PM - WHS Auditorium

FRI 12/23 - Early Release Day

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

DONATE IN MEMORY OF DONNA GILDERSLEEVE



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

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.



MESSAGE FROM WHS STUDENT COUNCIL

Hi everyone! Student Council's website will now be updated regularly with relevant information useful to all students. Check it out [here!](#)

CLASS OF 2023 NEWS



ATTENTION!

**CLASS OF 2023 WILL BE SELLING
MASQUERADE BALL TICKETS ON
THESE DATES DURING LUNCH:**

DECEMBER 6TH AND 7TH

***PLEASE TURN IN YOUR PAYMENT AND
CONTRACTS NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE
SCHOOL DAY ON 12/7***

**MAKE SURE TO TURN IN YOUR
TICKETS AND CONTRACTS
TOGETHER!**

Attention Seniors! Just a reminder that our Masquerade Ball will take place on **December 9th** from 7:30-10:00 PM in the WHS Dining Commons.

If you had already made your payment, it has carried over to this dance. If you did not, just a reminder that dance contracts will still be in the main office and that tickets are \$30.

CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

Juniors! Get excited for the first ever class of 2024 dinner!

The dinner will be at 6:00 PM on **12/6** in the WHS Dining Commons, and will be catered by Blue Ribbon BBQ. All students attending must pay \$15 by Friday either through Unipay or check, which can be made out to Winchester High School Class of 2024 and delivered to A301 or B112.

Join us for a night of delicious food, music, and spending fun time with our class! Hope to see you there!

[Sign up here.](#)

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!!!](https://www.instagram.com/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!

ALPINE SKIING

BOYS BASKETBALL

BOYS HOCKEY

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

GIRLS BASKETBALL

GIRLS HOCKEY

GYMNASTICS

INDOOR TRACK

SWIMMING

WRESTLING

LACROSSE

**WHS (Boys and Girls) On-line Store
for Lacrosse gear available for Christmas gifts!**

[LINK HERE](#)

PASSWORD: winchester

**Winchester colors with logo and player name free of charge!
Order by Dec. 9th for delivery by Christmas**

**UPS ground shipping*

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!](#)**

Join us **Thursday, December 8th** for our annual winter Chorus concert, *Your Way Home*. THE Winchester Concert Choir, Bella Voce, Chamber Singers, and Octets are proud to present our concert with the theme of finding your home. The concert starts at **7 PM in the auditorium** and tickets are free.

Winchester Friends of Music will be selling Winchester Music Sweatshirts -- think of sizes now --great holiday gifts!

Hope to see you there!

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 8th and 15th 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.

WHS LITERARY MAGAZINE

Attention writers and artists! The WHS Literary Magazine is now accepting submissions! Students have a chance to publish their creative work—writing and visual art—in a schoolwide publication.

Find more info about how and where to submit on our FAQ document.

[Email](#) with further questions!

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
Compass
Vita Realty Group



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



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 Town Clerk's Office at 1:01 pm, Nov 30, 2022

Winchester School Committee Meeting

Winchester High School - Media Center

80 Skillings Rd.

December 6, 2022: 5:30 PM

- I. Call to Order (5:30 PM)
- II. Public Comment (around 5:30 PM)
- III. Superintendent, Chair, Student Remarks (around 5:40 PM)
- IV. Consent Agenda (around 5:45 PM)
 - A. WFEE Grant
- V. Report, Update & Action Items (around 5:47 PM)
 - A. Finance Subcommittee: FY24 Budget Development
- VI. Anticipated Agenda Items for Next Meeting (around 5:55 PM)
- VII. Future Meeting Dates: December 13, 2022
- VIII. Executive Session: (around 6:00 PM)
- IX. Adjournment (around 6:30 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.*



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 Town Clerk's Office at 1:06 pm, Nov 30, 2022

Winchester School Committee Workshop

Winchester High School - Media Center

80 Skillings Rd.

December 6, 2022: 7:00 PM

- I. Call to Order (7:00 PM)

- II. Strategic Planning/Goal Workshop (7:00PM)

- III. Adjournment (around 9:00 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.*



Phyllis L. Fagell

*Licensed Clinical Professional
Counselor, Certified Professional School
Counselor, Author and Journalist*

Author of [Middle School Matters](#)



Helping Kids Manage Friendship & Academic Ups and Downs with Resilience

Wednesday, December 7 @ 7pm

[ZOOM LINK](#)

Join us for a virtual conversation about how we can help our kids develop a coping toolbox to allow them to handle frustration with friendships, academics and life in general!



[ZOOM LINK](#)

4th ANNUAL UNITE WITH LIGHT

Sunday, December 11th at 5:00 PM

Rain date of Monday December 12th



There's just under a month to go until Winchester "unites with light" once again during our 4th annual town-wide luminaria night fundraiser.

All proceeds will benefit the incredible efforts of Winchester Got Lunch and the Make-A-Wish foundation of MA and RI. Each kit is **\$20** and contains everything needed to make 10 luminarias.

[Click here](#) for more information and to place your orders online.

Kits can also be purchased in person at Sweet SurpriZe at 12 Thompson Street until **December 10th**.

We hope you will join us when we light up Winchester and rally our community around the volunteer army of "children helping children", without whom this project would not be possible!

All orders placed online by **Tuesday December 6th** will be delivered to your doorstep by Saturday, December 10th.

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.

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.



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



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.