

Winchester High School
Parent Faculty Association Newsletter
February 7, 2022

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

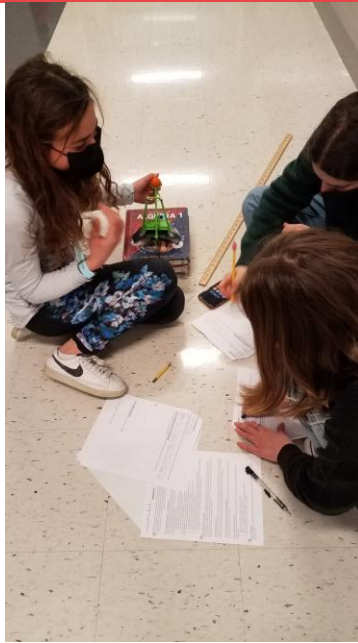


PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear WHS Families,

We always love hearing from teachers and what goes on in the classroom! Mrs. Simeone shared these action-packed pictures of her students in Honors Stag 10 using catapults! The students were able to “collect data and model the motion of the launched projectile” while having FUN! These great tools were funded by all the families who kindly contributed to the WHS **Direct Appeal**. We wanted to share just one of the many great things that are accomplished through your donations and say THANK YOU again for your support!

~It was a lot of fun and some great math happened too!! Thanks again :) – Mrs. Simeone



On Friday, February 11th we will be giving the teachers and staff a little Valentine's Love. Please be part of the fun by signing up for one (or more!) items. [**CLICK HERE FOR SIGN UP.**](#)



LAST CALL FOR 2022 YEARBOOKS!

Visit <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/> and enter 13780 as your code. Sales will close on Friday February 18th or sooner if we sell out.

Last Call for BEE Bags! Proceeds go to support Winchester Public Schools. The WFFE Trivia Bee is always something "sunny" to look forward to in February! This year the event will "bee" happening in the comfort of your own home as a "Bee Bag" stuffed with goodies, 4 levels of trivia questions, snacks and more will "bee" delivered to your doorstep on **February 9th**. Join the hive, don't miss the fun! [**Buy your bag now!**](#)

Lastly, we wanted to give a big shout out to our wonderful WHS Facilities Coordinator Chris Conway, Custodial staff and DPW! Friday's storm left a lot of snow and ice BUT lucky for us Mr. Conway and all of our custodians worked around the clock to shovel clear our school grounds so that our kids and staff can arrive safely the very next day to attend practice, games and meetings! If you see them around, please thank them for their hard work! (Pictured With great

smiles -- "WHS MEN At WORK!")



Look below to learn about other interesting things going on around town!

Best,

Abbie DiMatteo & Brenda Mandile, Co-Chairs

whspfa@gmail.com

whspfa.org

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead

IMPORTANT SCHEDULE UPDATE

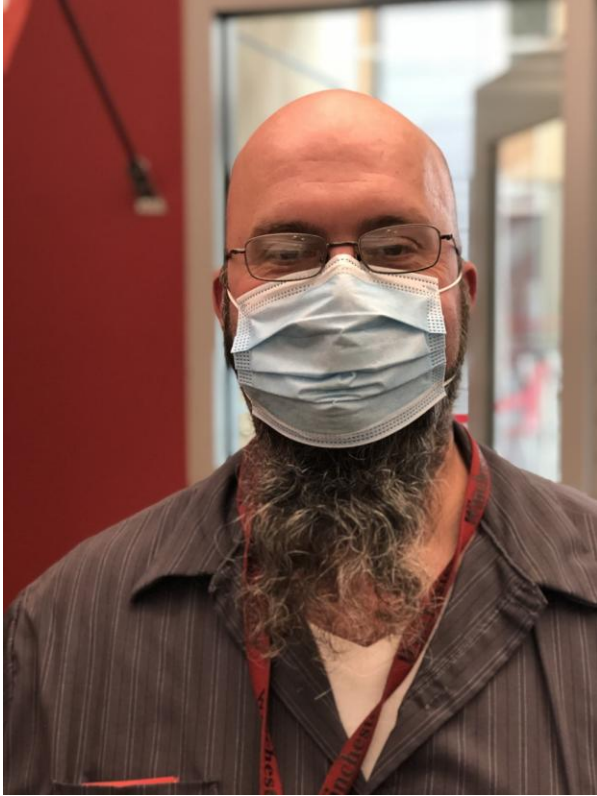
With the snow day on Friday 2/4, please note the following schedule updates for the beginning of your week:

Monday 2/7 will be day 4

(We skip day 5)

Tuesday 2/8 will be day 6

THE MASKED WHS STAFFER Week #22!



1. What high school did you go to?
Woburn High School
2. What was your favorite subject in high school?
Machining and Cabinet Making
3. What sport and/or extracurricular were you involved in high school?
Baseball/Boy Scouts
4. What is one of your hidden talents?
I'm a pretty good Pinball Player and I enjoy playing the ones I have, especially when the weather gets cold.
5. Favorite Movie/Book/Band/Food?
Blues Brothers or Beyond the Law/ Drop Kick Murphys/Oatmeal Raisin Cookies
6. Is there a quote or saying that you live your life by?
"The road is always the place to find the answers or ignore the questions"

*Don't forget to scroll all the way down to find out who this is!

WHS IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

[Click here for District School Calendar](#)

FRI 2/11 - Winter Instrumental Concert, 7:45 PM in the WHS Gym

WED 2/16 - Class of '23 College Night, WHS Auditorium, 7-8:30 PM

MON 2/21 - FRI 2/25 - February Vacation

LAST CALL FOR 2022 YEARBOOKS!

Last call to order yearbooks for the 2022 school

year. Visit <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/> and enter 13780 as your code.

Sales will close on **Friday February 18th** or sooner if we sell out.

LOST AND FOUND

The WHS Lost and Found is OVERFLOWING! We have lonely jackets and sweatshirts and water bottles and more waiting to be reunited with their owners. Students, please swing by the rack at the back of the cafeteria to find your things! Ms. Hanlon also has quite the stash of found earrings, rings, necklaces and more small items in the main office. If you are missing one of these items, please see her.



SAVE THE DATE

MUSICAL BINGO

is back!

*all proceeds
to benefit
the class of
2023*



Friday, April 8

SONS OF ITALY * 7 PM-11 PM

SAVE THE DATE - MUSICAL BINGO

Sponsorship opportunities are available for **\$250** which includes two tickets and business/family name prominently displayed. One or two families can go in together to sponsor--you don't need to have a business to be a sponsor!

[Sign Up Here if interested in a sponsorship](#)

ALL PROCEEDS OF THE EVENT GO TOWARDS THE SENIOR
FESTIVITIES FOR THE CLASS OF 2023!

PARKING REMINDERS

Students are reminded that they may **ONLY** park in the student lot. Students parked in other places (visitor parking, staff spots, unauthorized spots on Skillings Road) are subject to ticketing. Repeated offenders may have their parking pass revoked.

Students are **ALSO** reminded to use the trash receptacles in the parking lot. Please do not just leave your trash on the ground.

Winchester School Committee Meeting

**February 8, 2022: 6:00 p.m.
Parkhurst School, 40 Samoset Rd., Winchester, MA**

If you would like to make a public comment but are not able to attend in person, please fill out the registration form 24 hours in advance of meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yct8Hu_hQp2E5BsZ4g8Qhg

Live streaming via Wincam: <https://wincam.org/watch/education>

- I. Call to Order (6:00 PM)
- II. Communications from School Committee and Administration (6:05PM)
- III. Student Representatives Report (6:15 PM)
- IV. Public Comment (6:25PM)
- V. Reports and Discussion Items (around 6:40PM)
 - A. Curriculum Subcommittee Update
 - B. Lynch School Project Update
- VI. Action Items (around 7:00PM)
 - A. Consideration of Approval of 2022 Update of Bullying Intervention and Response Plan
 - B. Consideration of Approval of Recommended 2022-23 School Year Calendar
 - C. Consideration of Approval of WHS Tech Crew / WHS Student Innovation Grant
- VII. Chair Report (7:15PM)
- VIII. Interim Superintendent Report (7:20PM)
- IX. Future Agenda Items: Building / Facility Update; Food Service Contract Update; Interim Superintendent Formative Assessment
- X. Next Meetings: Mar. 8th (6:00PM); Mar. 22nd (6:00PM); Apr. 12th (6:00PM)
- XI. Adjournment (around 7:30 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.

[Register For Public Comment](#)

[Watch Live Stream on WinCam](#)

WPS COVID-19

NEW: ALL positive COVID-19 test results should now be submitted via [this form](#) (regardless of whether the test was taken at home or through a clinic). This is required to determine your student's clearance date for returning to school.

- You do not need to contact your school nurse
- Please remember to report your student absent as you normally would
- While isolation guidance for COVID-19 has been shortened to 5 days if you never had symptoms or if symptoms have resolved, it is your responsibility to monitor your students and keep them home longer to recover, if needed

Available Information: Please Check First Before you Call:

It is hard to keep track of the ever-changing guidelines issued by the CDC and the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE). We understand the need for parents to contact our nursing and administrative staff with questions; however, as cases have risen, our team is even more pressed for time, so we encourage you first to check the information we provide on our website:

- Please **DO NOT** send your child to school if they are not feeling well. They will not be tested and will be sent home. This is a key mitigation strategy of reducing transmission in our schools. If your student feels ill in the morning, please keep them home.
- Please refer to the [Daily Symptom Checker](#)
- [WPS COVID-19 Protocols](#)
- [WPS Testing Program](#)
- [Email us](#) for resources for students in isolation or quarantine
- [Town of Winchester COVID Page](#) (includes guidance on what to do if test positive or if have been exposed to someone with COVID-19)

CLASS OF 2022 NEWS

Attention Class of 2022!

It's Cap and Gown Time!

Please log on to highschool.herffjones.com to place your order. Click on login and set up your account. Type Winchester in the "find your school" box, click on Winchester High School and place your order. The website is now active so place your order as soon as possible! The cost is **\$16.00**, this includes cap, gown and a 2022 red and black tassel.

CLASS OF 2023 NEWS

CLASS OF 2023 COLLEGE NIGHT

Wednesday, February 16th, 2022

WHS Auditorium 7-8:30 PM

In early February, Counselors will be meeting with all juniors to review post-secondary options and outline the college search process. The Guidance Department's College Planning Night for juniors features local admissions professionals who will describe the admissions process from the colleges' perspective. The panel will include Admissions representatives for three area schools. Guidance Coordinator Suzanne Ontso will discuss how to get started on the college selection process and provide an overview of how to use Naviance. The College Planning Night is the first in a series of workshops designed to equip parents and students with as much information as possible about the college process. Students should attend this with their parents/guardians. Counselors invite students and families to make individual appointments to discuss their specific post-secondary plans **AFTER** the workshops have concluded.



[Sign up here to provide bake goods](#)

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2023 PARENTS! MUSICAL BINGO IS BACK!

There is a small committee of volunteers that is working on the planning and we need more help!
CAN YOU VOLUNTEER? CLICK [MY SIGN UP](#) FOR FOOD, AUCTION COMMITTEE, SET UP, AND MORE!

Sponsorship opportunities are also available for **\$250** which includes two tickets and business/family name prominently displayed. One or two families can go in together to sponsor--you don't need to have a business to be a sponsor!

[Sign Up Here if Interested in a Sponsorship](#)

ALL PROCEEDS OF THE EVENT GO TOWARDS THE SENIOR FESTIVITIES FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

CLASS OF 2024 NEWS

[Check here for the latest 2024 class news](#)

CLASS OF 2025 NEWS

Dear 9th Grade Parents and Guardians,

Every year, Spectrum, Winchester High School's Gay-Straight Alliance, has sponsored student assemblies to bring awareness of LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer, and more) issues to the school community.

On **Monday, February 7th**, Spectrum's annual Day of Dialogue will again take place during WIN Block. There will be a short slideshow followed by four students speaking to the 9th graders about their lived WHS experiences. Following the assembly, there will be class discussions held during the 9th grade History classes with Spectrum students leading the 9th graders in a sensitive discussion on topics that were addressed by the speakers.

Our hope is that this type of discussion and assembly will continue to lead to a more accepting and safe school community for all members and follow up on the work previously done in this area at the middle school. We also hope that this event will reinforce that the Winchester community supports all LGBTQ+ members -- students, staff, and parents.

WHS SPORTS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Winter Sports started this week!

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](#)**



Watch games live on the public channel,

and streamed [live online](#)

Please [email us](#) pictures and updates for Winter Sports!

(whspfnewsletter@gmail.com)

Please send us pictures and team updates!

whspfnewsletter@gmail.com

**GIRLS BASKETBALL
GYMNASTICS
NORDIC SKI
SWIMMING
WRESTLING**

ALPINE SKI





BOYS BASKETBALL





BOYS HOCKEY

Congratulations to Boys Hockey Seniors!



Boys JV Hockey Team



GIRLS ICE HOCKEY





~Girls JV Ice Hockey~



INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Each athlete finished the season strong at the Middlesex League Meet last Thursday at the Reggie Lewis Sports Center. Along with that, multiple athletes qualified for the Division 2 Championships on February 20th! Congratulations!



WRESTLING

Atmospheric match under the light Wednesday night at Reading Memorial HS.

36-48 win by Winchester.

Pins by Obadiah Cao, Noah Cafferky, Jihyun Kang, Joey Testa, Ethan Cobbold & Paul Reid.





GIRLS TENNIS

There will be a meeting on **Monday, February 7th at 8 AM** in the auditorium for anyone interested in Girls Tennis this Spring.

SOFTBALL

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in playing Softball this spring on **Monday, February 7th at 3:15 PM** in room LG2.

WHS ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND PERFORMERS!

Student Council is now accepting **submissions for Night of the Arts**, which will take place at the high school on **March 9th**.

Please remember we are looking for disciplines of art (ex. film, paintings, performances, and sculptures). There will be another opportunity, however, to submit art in late February.

Please either turn in your completed form to Mrs. Ledoux's mailbox in the main office or email it to **Camille Clarke**.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing everyone's impressive work!

WHS WINTER INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT

The WHS Winter Instrumental Concert will feature the WHS Concert Band, Jazz Band, and select ensembles and will take place on **Friday, February 11th at 7:45 PM in the WHS Gym.**

WHS CLUBS & GROUPS

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

The **Winchester High School Food Bank Club** is hosting a winter food drive from February 1st - 15th! A donation box will be set up at the school, so you can drop off food. All food will be brought to the EnKa food pantry to help families in need this winter. Examples of food to bring are non-perishable foods, such as canned fruits or vegetables, soup, uncooked pasta, etc. Please contact 2307065@wpsstudent.com with any questions. Thank you!

The **Art Club** is now meeting every **Thursday, 3:15 - 4:30**, in room C109. The Art Club is a great opportunity for students to be creative in one of the art classrooms, whether or not they are in, or have taken, any art classes.

JSA Debate is every **Wednesday** from **5-6** in B209! Come join us this week and join our Google Classroom, Instagram, email list, and weekly political debates!

Help **WIT** and the **WHS INTERACT CLUB** fill 100 "[Gift Bags of Love](#)" to be distributed to our neighbors in need!

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.



Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community Presents:

MINDING YOUR MIND

Just Talk About It

This 90-minute program opens with a Minding Your Mind clinician discussing the signs and symptoms of the mental health issues most prevalent in adolescents through young adulthood, and how to know the difference from typical teenage behavior. The young adult speaker adds a real-life story that illustrates the information from our clinician, transforming it all into relatable experiences. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and get concrete answers for practical steps they can take in real time—who has time to wait?

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 9TH
7:00-8:30 PM**

Webinar hosted by Minding Your Mind

To Register:

bit.ly/winchesterJTAI

Jon Mattleman
New England Clinical Director



Wes Woodsen
Young Adult Speaker



Register for 2/9 Event Here



Peggy Orenstein: Author of *Girls & Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape*



Inspired by her *New York Times* best seller, Orenstein will focus on her work with high school and college girls to reveal how they understand and negotiate the new rules of physical and emotional intimacy.

Through wit, research and powerful stories, she will explore:

- the impact of the hookup culture on girls;
- how pop culture and pornography put undue pressure on girls to look and act sexy;
- how girls navigate between being called a “prude” or a “slut”;
- and how parents can talk to girls (and boys) about sex authentically.

Good information for parents of either boys or girls.

Books available at Bookends.

Thank you for the generous support from:

The John and Mary Murphy Educational Foundation and
The EnKa Society

Register for this webinar at parenttoparentwinchester.org,

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G7tj7iwiSFqy2qSlaxvDg

Wednesday, February 16th
7:00PM
Zoom Webinar

All Programs Are Free and Open to the Public

**educate
encourage
empower**

parenttoparentwinchester.org

Register for 2/16 Webinar

SPORTS AROUND TOWN



BOYS YOUTH LACROSSE

Winchester Lax Parents! Spring Lax registration is OPEN. We cannot wait to be back out there with the boys. Our success on the field is determined by how the boys improve and how much fun they have. We love the wins, but Town Lax is about friendship, fun and improvement.

[Registration link](#)

Important Dates to Remember:

Our season opens on **April 4th**. House League parents we will have Friday afternoon practices, and Saturday afternoon games. We will not conflict with Sandlot games.

We will have a WYL “assembly” on **April 3rd**. Location will be weather dependent. This is a K-8th grade event, and we will have skill competitions (not all skills will be “lax” skills) for prizes.

Pre-Season – We will plan to secure some pre-season turf under the lights for our league teams to get some skills and drill work in before April 4th.

Equipment – US Lacrosse has recently passed a rule that all shoulder pads have a chest protector that meets NOCSAE standards ND200. WYL will enforce this for 3rd-8th grade. All of the lacrosse stores and sites now have this gear fully stocked – you will have a hard time finding gear that does not meet these new standards. [More info here](#)

Cost – For 2022, we have slightly increased the cost of 3rd - 8th grade

lacrosse. WYL lost money in 2020 (COVID), and was slightly in the red in 2021 as we made investments and recovered from the effects of Covid.

Please email us if you would like us to consider a scholarship.

Please do not sign up and not pay without reaching out to us.

Local College Lax – There is a lot of great local college lax. We will plan a couple “All-Program” field trips to watch some of our program friends play. We will head to Tufts on **March 29th** to watch a few WYL and WHS alum (Jake Mabardy, Ryan McCarthy, Andrew Murray) take on the elephants. We will also head over to Harvard to watch WYL alum Collin Bergstrom play and may have some behind the scene access.

Register up! Think warm thoughts. Let's go!

2022 REGISTRATION FOR BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Hello friends, Spring is around the corner and it's time to get ready for softball & baseball! Registration is open for all kids who want to play this spring. We are excited about the work the Board has put in during the off season to enhance our programs and we're eager to get the season rolling.

Please [visit our website](#) to sign up today!
March 15th is the registration deadline!

Babe Ruth Baseball (13-15U)

We are excited to announce that the WYBS 13-15U baseball program is now offering an in-town only Babe Ruth league to foster more participation in the game for this age group.

Starting with the Spring 2022 season, the league will be comprised of 6 teams that will play 12-14 games on weeknights followed by the playoffs at the conclusion of the regular season. Our goal in establishing this new program, is to provide a fun, competitive and instructional baseball experience for players age 13-15 so those players may continue to have the ability to participate in a recreational baseball program.

The teams will play on the full size 90ft diamond as part of the Babe Ruth program and games will be held at Skillings, McDonald and Lynch fields. Teams will be organized based on age and skill once registration is complete and all registered players will receive

a roster spot. The registration fee of \$350 covers the cost of umpires, equipment and field rentals.

A decision regarding the future of the program's continued participation in the middle school baseball program will be made in January.

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](#).

THE WHS MASKED STAFFER UNMASKED!



UNMASKED:
Our awesome and super hardworking
WHS Facilities Coordinator **Chris
Conway!**

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

Stay tuned folks for our next mystery
WHS Masked Contestant! :-)

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.**

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)

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