

Winchester High School Parent Faculty Association Newsletter January 24, 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,

Hope you had a wonderful weekend! We love it when we can get the inside scoop on what our students are doing in school!

Last week our WHS National Honor Society students and Fashion Design students kindly volunteered to help make scarves and assemble special Snow Bee kits for our very own WFEE Bee in a Bag fundraiser! They helped make 250 scarves and kits! It was such team effort-- they worked hard and had fun doing it! Thank you Mrs. Turney (Fashion Design teacher), Mrs. Chakladar (NHS Advisor), Ms. Conis (Assistant Principal) and students for all your help and support! If you would like to help support WFEE and have fun too-- buy a **TRIVIA BEE Bag** now (and you can see for yourself what the students help create!).

A Few friendly reminders:

- **PFA Meeting** Tonight, Mon 1/24~ 7pm,

(Large Group Instruction), All are Welcome!

- **Also Tonight: LYNCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - EFPBC MEETING.** The EFPBC will be developing a Preferred Schematic option for submission to MSBA by March 8 on potential design for remodeling the Lynch Elementary School ~ the public's input is welcome! Visit **www.Lynch2025.com** for more info.

Monday, January 24, 2022

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

[Zoom Webinar \(link\)](#)

Webinar ID: 840 4065 8371

Passcode: 857119

Also, lots of great webinars coming up this week like "**Understanding Friendships... and all its Complexities**" sponsored by the Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community and Parent to Parent, on Wednesday, 1/26th at 7pm.

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

Best,

Abbie DiMatteo & Brenda Mandile, Co-Chairs

"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

THE MASKED WHS STAFFER Week #20!



1. What high school did you go to? **Sacred Heart Convent School, Jamshedpur, India**
2. What was your favorite subject in high school? **Biology (I adored my teacher , Sister Doris)**
3. What sport and/or extracurricular were you involved in high school? **No sports, Reading and organizing school events**
4. What is one of your hidden talents? **I have 2 master degrees in Kathak (Indian classical dance form)**
5. Favorite Movie/Book/Band/Food?
Favorite Movie- **Shawshank Redemption**
Favorite Book- **Bhagavad Gita , Bhagavad Gita is not just a book with loads of text but provides solutions and guidance to human's life problems and equips you in improving horizon of knowledge and build a courage to live in any part of the world with confidence.**
Favorite Band- **Cannot decide – I love all music-no boundaries**
Favorite Food- **Chana Kulcha (North India dish)**
6. Is there a quote or saying that you live your life by? **From the Gita's chapter-2 verse-47.**

"Karmanye vadhikaraste Ma Phaleshu Kadachana, Ma Karma Phala Hetur Bhur Ma Te Sango Stv Akarmani"

Meaning: You have every right to work but not expecting the fruits out of it. Let the focus be not on the fruit and never be inactive.

*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](#)

MON 1/24 - Quarter 3 begins, PFA Meeting - 7PM @ WHS

TUE 1/25 - Early Release

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

WPS COVID-19

Very Important updates and safety reminders:

- **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.
- Please take advantage of our free and convenient weekly safety check testing available to ALL students and staff. These are PCR tests. This process is different from standard pooled testing because retesting happens immediately if needed without the collection of another sample. Parents/Caregivers must enroll their student(s). More details [here](#)
 - Individuals that participate in our WPS COVID-19 Safety Checks will receive an email directly from CIC or Veritas if they have tested positive. Please check your emails often if your child is participating in the testing program.
 - **THIS IS SURVEILLANCE TESTING - IF YOUR STUDENT IS SICK AND NEEDS A TEST, PLEASE DO NOT SEND THEM TO SCHOOL. CALL YOUR DOCTOR OR GO TO [winchester.us/testing](https://www.winchester.us/testing)**

The primary focus of our school nurses must be on attending to the daily medical needs of our students and moving COVID-positive students into isolation at home as quickly as possible. The immediate short-term impact of this is on our capacity to notify close contacts promptly.

While we are working to notify close contacts to the extent feasible, it is currently not possible to complete at the middle and high school. Everyone needs to be vigilant and self-monitor for symptoms. Getting vaccinated/boosted and participating in the free Weekly Safety Check program is more important than ever before.

We greatly appreciate the additional steps parents and students are taking to reach out to close friends from school with who they may have had lunch or spent extra time during the school day. It is incumbent upon all positive students to also notify anyone they have been in close contact with outside of school.

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:

- [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)

Bus Transportation:

With COVID-19 cases continuing to rise, we are seeing an effect on bus transportation for our district. As drivers test positive, we require a substitute driver in their place, which can cause delays in pickups/drop-offs as they learn the routes. If families see consistent delays or issues with their transportation, don't hesitate to contact our transportation office at 781-721-7000, extension 1001.

Keeping WPS Schools Safe & Open: A Collective Responsibility:

Our goal is to keep our students and staff safe and keep our schools open, and we are collectively responsible for making that happen. The motto of "personal responsibility" only works for our schools if taking personal responsibility means protecting those around us. Please note that DESE is not allowing structured remote learning programs: if we are faced with staffing shortages and/or extraordinarily high case counts, our only option will be to cancel school in the same way we do for snow days - any days canceled will

be added to the end of the school year to meet the state-required 180 student days.

As always, we appreciate your patience, support, & understanding.

**MLK & STRUGGLE FOR BLACK VOTING:
A CASE STUDY IN EXPANDING DEMOCRACY**

JANUARY 26, 2022, 7PM (ZOOM)

Please join Ms. Edenhofner and Mr. Kurhajetz as they facilitate a conversation with members of the local League of Women Voters on MLK & Struggle for Black Voting: A Case Study in Expanding Democracy.

Presented by the League of Women Voters of Winchester and
The Case Method Institute for Education & Democracy at Harvard
Co-sponsored by: Harvard Club of Boston, Winchester Historical Society,
and Winchester Public Library

Please RSVP to register and receive the link.

ENKA FAIR THEME & DIGITAL POSTER CONTEST



Be a part of our Enka Fair Theme and Digital Poster Contest
This contest is open to ALL WHS Students

Design a Digital Poster and include a Theme/Hash Tag for the 2022
Enka Fair

Contest date: January 7th, 2022 - midnight of January 28th, 2022

Please send submissions to ALL three emails:

pmichienzi1@winchesterps.org

kgrace@winchesterps.org

jlevatino@winchesterps.org

The winning poster/theme will be used in advertisements, on buttons
and in Social Media

Poster Requirements:

Size 14" W x 21" H

Add dates: Friday 5/20 5pm-11pm

Saturday 5/21 10am-10pm

Add: New Enka Logo (details below)

Add location: Downtown Winchester Center

Include: Rockwell Amusements

To view other posters/new logo visit www.enkasociety.org click on
Enka Fair and scroll to bottom: Enka Fair Posters over the Years

The winner will be announced in February.

WHSPFA | 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890

[Unsubscribe lauren.lesperance@verizon.net](#)

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

Sent by whspfaneewsletter@gmail.com powered by

