

GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 - IS TEAM ATHLETIC SPIRIT DAY



STATUS QUO FOR OUR DISTRICT'S SAFETY PROTOCOL

Dear West Bloomfield families,

You may have heard news reports about the latest decision of the Michigan Supreme Court stating, for a number of legal reasons, that the issuance by the Governor of executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic is no longer valid on a continuing basis.

I am writing to you for the purpose of letting you know that, over the past few months, we have worked with educational leaders and stakeholders at numerous levels in government, the fields of health, psychology and epidemiology, and experts in education. While that collaboration occurred under the auspices of the various executive orders whose validity the

Michigan Supreme Court has called into question, there has thus far not been an order entered in any court invalidating the executive orders related to COVID-19. Also, the product of our collaboration was adopted by our Board of Education as policy for our school district. That policy survives any judicial action.

As a school district we have the responsibility to maintain safety for all of our students and staff, as well as their families. We likewise have the ability to adopt policies to keep these stakeholders safe.

After careful consideration, and unless or until we receive additional or other guidance from lawful authority, ***we will be maintaining our safety protocols for the 2020-21 school year as articulated in our Return to School plan adopted under the legislatively required MI Safe Schools Roadmap***, as well as those procedures incorporated into our preparedness and response plan as it relates to COVID-19.

YEAH! YEARBOOKS FROM LAST YEAR ARE HERE

Due to the Covid outbreak the production of yearbooks was halted until recently. We have now received last year's yearbook. Name tags have been attached and yearbooks should come home today or tomorrow for all those who ordered yearbooks last year. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

PTO MEETING COMING UP

We will have a Zoom PTO meeting on **Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m.** Hope you are able to join us! Here is the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86441287101>

PTO REQUEST

Each year the PTO collects **funds to pay for our Scholastic publication** and also collects for party funds. Even though parties will look different this year, the PTO will be planning **2 special activities for our students**. They are asking parents for financial support in the amount of **\$12.00 each student**. Please see the information below from our PTO.

Sally Drummond, Principal


Donations can only be accepted via CHECK this year, made payable to Gretchko PTO. One check submitted with a **total of \$12** is very much appreciated!

***Please send the check in an envelope to school in your child's school folder. Please write your CHILD'S NAME, TEACHER, and SCHOLASTIC/CRAFTS on the front of the envelope. Thank you for your support!

Your PTO Executive Board

Hello Gretchko Families!



Beginning next week, all students will be receiving information and activities about:  **RULER**
<https://www.rulerapproach.org/>

RULER is an evidence-based approach from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence to teach kids about:

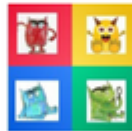
- R**ecognizing emotions in self and others
- U**nderstanding the causes and consequences of emotions
- L**abeling emotions accurately
- E**xpressing emotions appropriately
- R**egulating emotions effectively

HOW: Students will virtually receive stories and activities to help learn about emotions from "Fun with Feelings and Mrs. DeSana."

WHEN: Every other Wednesday, as part of each classroom's Cloud Learning experience.

Through **RULER**, students will be introduced to the **Mood Meter**.

The **Mood Meter** is a picture of 4 colors that helps kids recognize and label feelings. This, as well as our activities, will be referred to during in-person learning.



Please look forward to more information and resources about **RULER**!
You may also reach out to me for more information!

Lindsey DeSana, LMSW
School Social Worker
Lindsey.desana@wbsd.org; 248-865-6570

PTO NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE

Please click here

https://drive.google.com/file/d/16nBs_EvnoVfFcjzMPqD998y-d2ti4lws/view?usp=sharing
to review the Gretchko PTO monthly newsletter.

VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Dear Parents,

West Bloomfield School District has provided several avenues for our students to receive a quality education. We are teaching in person, through zoom meetings, and online classes. We have organized zoom classes for Media, Art, Physical Education, and Music. We have provided home computers for each student and technological support for parents. In the future we will continue to provide take home bags of "work from home" items for students learning from home the 1/2 day they are not in person at school.

It is our hope that each and every student uses the resources provided to the fullest extent possible. We are here to support parents and students as they maneuver through their new

learning environment. Never before has it been more evident that education is a team experience and the successful student is one that participates regularly, has teacher encouragement and parental support. We are finding even in such challenging circumstances, students that participate regularly are learning and making good progress. That being said, when students don't participate regularly, steady progress is in jeopardy.

Oakland County monitors student attendance regularly. Two times a year a snapshot of attendance is taken and school funding is tied to those snapshots along with additional attendance data provided by the school district. Oakland County's first count date is scheduled for Wednesday, October 6th.

We would like to remind parents student attendance is recorded daily. Attendance includes participation in **ALL** zoom sessions. **The State of Michigan requires attendance to be taken** for remote learning during the daily "Live Zoom Sessions". **It is imperative that your child attend the entire Art, Music, Physical Education and I Center classes to be counted present for that portion of the day.**

Attendance will be recorded when students:

- * **Attend Zoom classes through your district issued account (stu.wbsd.org).**
- * **Use your W.B. district issued Chromebook.**
- * **Use the zoom link on the Classroom Teacher and Specials Teachers Canvas page**
- * **Students should attend their scheduled zoom.**

Sincerely,
Sally Drummond, Ed.S.
Principal,



WEST BLOOMFIELD/KEEGO HARBOR

WEST BLOOMFIELD/KEEGO HARBOR

The first Blessings in a Backpack food bags were passed out this week.

If your children are going to school Face to Face, they will get their bags at their home schools by Friday.

If your children are doing on-line school in Lakers On Line or remotely for West Bloomfield High School students, their bags were passed out on Wednesday in the School District's Food Service Curb Side Pick Up Line at West Bloomfield School High from 11:30 am-12:30 pm and from 3:30-4:30 pm.

If you registered for Blessings in a Backpack and did not receive or pick up your bags, or if you are interested in signing up for Blessings in a Backpack, please email katherinesheiko@hotmail.com or call 248 521 0074. Go to www.blessingsinabackpackmi.org for more information on this program.

MORE MINUTES GAINED FOR EDUCATION

The efficiency in the car line allows us to tighten our time frame for drop-off and pick-up so we can claim additional minutes for teaching in the classroom. **Starting Monday, October 5th, we would like PM Cohort parents to use the adjusted schedule below** for dropping off and picking up students. It is very important for teachers to be able to have students in the classroom and ready to learn at the start of their day.

Please review the adjusted times for the Drop-Off and Pick-up lines.

9:05 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. - Cohort A - Drop Off

12:05 p.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Cohort A Pick-Up

1:20 p.m. - 1:32 p.m. - Cohort B Drop-Off

4:17 p.m. - 4:22 p.m. - Cohort B Pick-Up (gained 5 minutes)

We ask that everyone be courteous and follow the guidelines below

- * Have students **prepared to exit** your vehicle.
- * Say good-byes beforehand.
- * Students should have their **mask on** when staff approach the car and be ready to exit.
- * Student should be on the **passenger side** of the car.
- * Students should be able to **unbuckle by themselves**.
- * Student should be able to **open the door and climb out**.
- * Please **do not pass other parents** in the car line.
- * Please **drop students at designated drop-off areas**. (see map below)

Parents are not allowed to get out of vehicles while in the car line.

FUNDRAISING FOR GRETCHKO

If you enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards and designate our PTO, Gretchko can receive money based on your purchases. You can link your Kroger Plus shoppers card online. Please

keep in mind your card has to be renewed yearly. Go to <http://krogercommunityrewards.com> for particulars.

REQUEST BY PARENTS

When making a left turn into Gretchko, please pass Gretchko, continue to the first subdivision street, make the left turn and come back up the hill. You will be able to make the turn easier, safer, cut down on traffic back ups and improve safety of everyone in the traffic pattern
Thank you, for thinking of others and helping improve traffic back ups!

HEALTH SCREENINGS - ATTENTION FAMILIES!

Health Screenings - Attention Families!

In order to protect everyone within our buildings and continue to provide outstanding in-person instruction for our K-8 students, we need our families to partner with us.

We need families to be honest with us when monitoring their own student's health each day. If your student is feeling under the weather for any reason, please do the responsible thing and keep your student home from school that day. When keeping students home, please continue to monitor their symptoms throughout the day and reevaluate the next day.

We will work with families to ensure any students remaining at home due to health precautions have the necessary time and resources to stay up to do in their classes without falling behind. We'd rather families take the necessary precautions instead of worrying about class assignments or grades when dealing with potentially ill students.

As we head into cold, flu and allergy season, this honest accounting of our students' symptoms each day will help us keep all who learn, work and play within our buildings safe.

Please reach out to your building principal if you have any questions or concerns.

EVENING ART THERAPY FOR FAMILIES

Hi! I have attached a flyer about one of our upcoming events-Fun Coping Skills for the Family. This one is art therapy - its for parents and kids to work together!

Register in advance at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltf-2rqTMiHNbGjkfg2lvBP8DJ3VuCMYf>

We hope you enjoy!

CHROMEBOOK ACCIDENT AND LOSS PROTECTION

Accident and loss protection for the 2020-2021 school year is available to West Bloomfield School District families for the district provided HP 11 G8 Chromebooks.

Two options are available- **Opting in** (selecting accident and loss protection) or **opting out** (full cost responsibility). REGARDLESS OF YOUR CHOICE, YOU MUST GO THROUGH THE ENROLLMENT STEPS BELOW TO SELECT IF YOU ARE OPTING IN OR OUT OF THE ACCIDENT AND LOSS PROTECTION. ANYONE RECEIVING A DISTRICT CHROMEBOOK PRIOR TO OCTOBER 7, 2020 MUST MAKE THIS CHOICE BY OCTOBER 30, 2020. IF YOU HAVE NOT MADE A CHOICE BY THEN, YOU WILL BE DEFAULTED TO THE FULL PRICE OPTION.

Any Chromebook requests after **OCTOBER 6, 2020** must be an Oakland Schools Service Desk ticket request by the parent/guardian.

IMPORTANT

Regardless of your selection, please submit an Oakland Schools Service Desk ticket FIRST when you have a Chromebook damage issue, the Chromebook is lost, or the Chromebook is stolen. This way we can ensure the proper steps are being taken in a prompt and timely manner.

OPTION 1- ACCIDENT AND LOSS PROTECTION

This is a yearly opt in. There is no refund opportunities if you do not use the accident and loss protection for the year.

1. Please read [INFORMATION ON ACCIDENT AND LOSS PROTECTION](#).
2. Please complete [ENROLLMENT STEPS](#).

OPTION 2- FULL COST RESPONSIBILITY

You are responsible for the full cost of any repair and replacement if the device is lost. If the device is stolen, a police report will be required to waive being charged full cost of the device.

1. Please review the [INACOMP PRICING SHEET](#).
2. Please complete [ENROLLMENT STEPS](#) , selecting you ARE NOT participating in the accident loss protection program.

If you have any questions, please email Allyson Dewar at allyson.dewar@oakland.k12.mi.us

FOOD SERVICE UPDATE - 2020 - 21 SCHOOL YEAR

Food Service Update - 2020-21 School Year

[Food service](#) will be available to all West Bloomfield School District students during the 2020-21 school year. Please see the letter linked below with options for each student learning model.

- [Food Service Update for Families - 2020-21 School Year](#)

Please contact Anne Stevens with Nutrition Services questions at anne.stevens@wbsd.org or (248) 865-6733.

GREAT NEWS! GRETCHKO SPIRITWEAR IS NOW READY FOR ORDERING

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DOW_Kf1bTIVDwu43aSbF2R2aZ0v25FUI/view?usp=sharing

Gretchko Spirit Wear

We want to see our Gretchko Stars SHINE in their spirit wear! Special raffles will occur on Gretchko Spirit wear days for anyone wearing their spirit wear!

To order, please:

1. Click this [link](#).
2. Once we receive your order, we will send you an INVOICE to your email address.
3. You will pay the invoice.
4. We will get the items to your child's teacher to send home.

*** ONLY SELECT ITEMS PICTURED BELOW, MORE OPTIONS AVAILABLE ON FORM ***

Youth & Adult T-Shirt



Youth Hoodie (no zipper)



Womens Black Jersey jacket



Heavy camo zip



Lightweight Camo zip



GRETCHKO PIZZA FUNDRAISER - ONLINE ORDERS AT MARCOS.COM

FOOD ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The USDA has generously provided funding which allows the West Bloomfield School District to provide meals free of charge until December 31 or until funds expire to any child 18 or under or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program that is recognized by a state or local public educational agency. Each child is eligible to receive seven breakfast and lunch meals each week.

The meal options for Gretchko families are take-home meals curbside pick-up of 7 breakfast and lunch meals at Roosevelt Elementary or West Bloomfield High School on Wednesdays. Pre-order is required for Wednesday pick up. The order link is on the Food Service page on the district web page or click here <https://www.wbsd.org/departments/food-service>.

Thank you!

Anna Stevens

Food Service Director
West Bloomfield School District
4925 Orchard Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Ph 248.865.6733

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

West West Bloomfield School District issued each student a new computer for educational access. It is essential that students use the computers issued for their classwork and zoom meetings. Updates and software changes are pushed to the district computers, and students not using district issued computers may not have access to the same information and programming.

Please monitor your children on the computer especially during zoom classes and meetings. We often see other individuals in the audience. Please help teachers by monitoring background noise and other interruptions of "non" class happenings.

Sometimes families forget that the computers the children are learning from, also have cameras that share whatever is in the background of the computer screen. Also, if there are conversations happening in the area, the voices and conversations are shared throughout the rest of the class. Please teach your student how and why we use the mute button.

Please join our "Special's teachers" zoom meetings through the Special's Teachers Canvas page. If you are having difficulty getting onto your Specials zoom, please follow the directions below.

- * After you click on the Specials Teacher's zoom link, close the pop up box.
- * Log in with your child's gmail account.
- * If the zoom says "connecting" please go back to the teacher's link.
- * Start again.
- * Your child's name should appear to log into zoom.
- * It should now allow you to enter the meeting.

We are sharing some good resources below that may assist parents resolving common technology issues.

Help with Canvas: www.wbsd.org/academics/classroom-to-cloud/canvas or canvashelp@wbsd.org

Help with Chromebook: www.wbsd.org/departments/technology

Help with PowerSchool: www.wbsd.org/parents/powerschool

GREAT NEWS FOR CLOUD CARE PARENTS

Parents will be able to contact Cloud Care staff directly. They now have a direct line.

Cloud Care direct line 248-865-6585

WELCOME TO OUR PTO BOARD FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Here are this year's board members:

President: Jen Amato

Co-Vice President: Ashleigh Davis/Stephanie Reynolds

Treasurer: Vanity Koop

Recording Secretary: Heather Aldrich

Co-Corresponding Secretary: Ufuoma Kaplan /Erica Daenzer

PTO LOOKING FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Sign up to be a Virtual

Head Room Parent!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084EACAD2CA7FA7-virtual>

COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES AVAILABLE

Looking for something fun this fall? Check out the fall catalog for online enrichment! [Click here](#) to view.

Youth Empowerment, Movement and Enrichment

Yoga, Drama, Karate, Drawing and more!

Adult Movement, Professional Development, Speciality and Enrichment

Registration questions and to teach a class, please contact andrea.foglietta@wbsd.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Important Dates coming up!

October 9 - Workout Gear/Athletic Spirit Day

October 16 - College wear Spirit Day

October 23 - Crazy Hair Spirit Day

October 28 - Marco's Pizza night

October 30 - Costume day (No WEAPONS and NO SCARY MASKS)

November 3 - NO SCHOOL - ELECTION DAY

November 6 - Gretchko School Spirit Day

November - 13 Rock and Roll Day

November 18 - Marco's Pizza Night

November 20 - Formal/Dress Up Day

November 25-27 Thanksgiving Break

December 4 - Gretchko Spirit Day

December 11 - Pajama Day

December 16 - Marco's Pizza Night

December 18 - Holiday Attire Day

December 21 - Jan. 1 - Winter Break

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

West Bloomfield School District

WEST BLOOMFIELD/KEEGO HARBOR

Dear Parents of Doherty, Gretchko, Roosevelt, Scotch, and Sheiko Elementary,

If your child qualified for the Free and Reduced Meal Program last year or this year, s/he can also participate in the **Blessings in a Backpack** program. This program sends six non-perishable meals home each Friday of the school year in your child's backpack. Its goal is to make sure that no child goes hungry on the weekend. Run by volunteers, there is **NO cost** to you.

To enroll in this program, please fill out the two sections below. The first section gives the West Bloomfield School District's Nutrition Department permission to release your name to **Blessings in a Backpack**, so that they can add your child/ren to their roster. The second section registers your child/ren in the Blessings program and alerts them to any allergies they might have.

Please return this to your school office as soon as possible, or email it to kathernesheiko@hotmail.com. The first backpack of food will be sent home the first week of October. If your child is enrolled in Lakers On Line, you can pick up your child's bag at WBHS from 6:30-7:30 am, 11:30 am-12:30 pm or from 4:00-5:00 pm on Wednesday of each week.

Yes, my child's/children's name may be released by the Nutrition Department to the **Blessings in a Backpack** Program.

Yes, I would like my child/children to participate in the **Blessings in a Backpack** program.

Child's

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____ School _____

Child's

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____ School _____

Parent's Signature _____

Food Allergies _____

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Sheiko at katherinesheiko@hotmail.com or at 248 521 0074. For more information on Blessings in a Backpack go to blessingsinabackpackmi.org.

