

# GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 20, 2020

**NO IN-PERSON SCHOOL, VIRTUAL ONLY UNTIL  
NOVEMBER 30TH.**



## **GRETCHKO HAD A GREAT DRIVE AND DROP FOOD DRIVE!**

We would like to thank all the families that drove to Gretchko on Wednesday, November 18 to make a difference and help the Lighthouse out with Thanksgiving food and financial donations. Also, a special thank you goes to the teachers and paras that made a special effort to greet everyone and carry, stack or deliver food items.

It was a beautiful day, the sun was out, it was brisk, we social distanced, wore masks and are proud to say our Gretchko families are awesome! We received a truckload of food items, and \$140.00 to donate for turkeys.

If there is anyone that missed this opportunity and may like to see what they can do to help, please see below for 2 great organizations that could use your support.

Thank you all for your continuing support! It is truly an amazing community we have!

### ONLINE LINK FOR DONATIONS

LIGHTHOUSE OF OAKLAND COUNTY-link for donations:

<https://lighthousemi.org/thanksgiving2020/>

OUR CHILDREN'S FUND donations Mail to:

West Bloomfield School District

5810 COMMERCE ROAD WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI 48324

Phone: (248) 865-6420

As always, we thank you for your care and support.

Respectfully,

Sally Drummond

Principal

[sally.drummond@wbsd.org](mailto:sally.drummond@wbsd.org)

## IMPORTANT DISTRICT AND BUILDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS-PLEASE SEE DEADLINES INCLUDED

*Earlier this week, we hosted a [C2C Return to Learn webinar](#) regarding instruction during the second semester through the end of the 2020-21 school year. This webinar featured important information from our building and district Classroom to Cloud instructional teams as we look ahead to 2021 and beyond. Resources from the night's presentation are listed below:*

- [C2C Return to Learn Second Semester webinar - Nov. 17](#)
- [C2C Return to Learn presentation slides - Nov. 17](#)

*Please take time to review the information linked above and review what options are best for your family. All families will need to complete a [Second Semester Commitment form](#) so we can plan and staff for the remainder of the school year. The deadline to respond to this form will be **Monday, November 30 at 12 p.m.** That form is linked below:*

- [C2C Return to Learn Second Semester Commitment form - Due Nov. 30](#)

*For more information, visit our district Classroom to Cloud webpage, [www.wbsd.org/c2c](http://www.wbsd.org/c2c).*

## GREAT FREE RESOURCE FOR PARENTS - SEE INFORMATION BELOW



You are invited to attend, and receive valuable information on how to keep our children safe with all the time they are spending online.

Thank you!

Lisa Berkey

Executive Director

Greater West Bloomfield Community Coalition

[www.gwbcoalition.org](http://www.gwbcoalition.org)

248-321-8642

**YOUR  
DIGITAL  
GUARDIAN**

**DATE: Monday, November 23, 2020**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/90RsYpBH4-Qsfz>

**TIME: 6:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Parenting Digital Natives**

**Raising Digitally Smart Kids**



Julie Fisher, M.Ed., is an educational consultant/coach and technology parenting expert. She is the founder of *Your Digital Guardian* and *Echo70*. She is the creator of *The Resiliency Puzzle*, a book and curriculum for parents and educators, and was the founder of The Social U. For 10 years, she served as the executive director of BBFA (Building Better Families through Action), a nonprofit parent education organization, and is also a former high school teacher.

Julie is a sought-after speaker and educator with 25 years of experience speaking to and working with thousands of parents, educators, school officials, kids, and teens on topics related to twenty-first-century parenting, with a focus on technology and mental health.

**Topics Covered**

- Parental responsibility, parental controls, oversight of technology use
- Mobile device usage, etiquette, and age-appropriate rules
- Online safety
- Your child's digital footprint
- Social media and kids
- Sharenting
- Tech & mental health
- Managing tech as a family
- Parenting challenges due to online learning

**Sponsored by:**

**GREATER  
WEST BLOOMFIELD  
COMMUNITY COALITION**

**ALLIANCE  
OF COALITIONS  
for Healthy Communities**

**Oakland Community  
Health Network**  
Developmental Disabilities • Mental Health • Substance Recovery

Federal, State, and/or County funding have been provided through the Oakland Community Health Network - Substance Use Disorder Services to support the project costs.

## *Fun with Feelings and Mrs. DeSana*

### What are sensations and why do they matter?



Students are learning about **sensations**:

The physiological feelings our bodies get when we experience an emotion!

Sensations give us **clues** about the ways we feel! If we listen to our bodies, these clues can help us figure out what we need!

This can help us go from feeling **red/blue** to **green** in the Mood Meter!



Can you match any of these sensations to your feelings?

#### **Sensations**

Breathless  
Goosebumps  
Sweaty  
Stomach growl  
Tense fists  
Squirmy  
Pounding chest  
Butterflies in stomach

#### **Feelings**

Angry  
Hungry  
Sad  
Nervous  
Scared  
Tired  
Cold  
Excited

### Help your child identify his/her sensations and feelings!

#### **Make noticings:**

"I see that your body is (sensation), how are you feeling?"

#### **Refer to the Mood Meter:**

"I see that your body is (sensation), what color are you right now?"

#### **Make suggestions:**

"I noticed when you felt (feeling ex: mad) that you (sensation ex: clenched your fists).

Maybe next time you can (helpful suggestion ex: squeeze a ball to feel better)."



Contact Lindsey DeSana, School Social Worker, for more information

## THIRD GRADE READING LAW

Dear Elementary Families,

In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed "**Read by Grade Three**" legislation in an effort to ensure that students exit 3rd grade reading at or above grade level. The legislation requires that districts administer reading assessments for students in Kindergarten Plus through third grade to identify students who may be in need of additional help to reach grade level benchmarks. The law also states that third graders may repeat third grade if they are more than one grade level behind on the English Language Arts M-STEP assessment in the spring of third grade. Please the letter linked below for answers to commonly asked questions related to Michigan's "**Read by Grade Three**" legislation.

- [2020-2021 3rd Grade Reading Law Letter to Parents.pdf](#)

Sincerely,

**Deanna Barash**, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Assessment, & Instruction

## I CENTER UPDATE

In iCenter, students learned how to be a good digital citizen and how to stay safe in their online neighborhood. Just like there are rules to stay safe when we visit new places in our real



neighborhood...there are rules to follow to keep us safe in our digital neighborhood. There are THREE rules we follow when going on the internet...

1. Ask a parent or teacher for permission
2. Only talk to people we know
3. Stick to website that are safe and appropriate

GRADE 1: DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP FAMILY ACTIVITY

## Pause & Think Online


👍 There are lots of things to think about when it comes to being a responsible digital citizen. At school your kid is learning all about it, and now they can show you what they know! They're learning to ...

- Pause and think before searching, clicking, or sharing.
- Be kind online.
- Find balance using media and tech.
- Pay attention to their feelings to make sure they feel safe and know when to stop.
- Stand up to online bullies.
- Carefully choose the digital footprints — like posts, pictures, and comments — they leave behind.


👥 Check out the music video featuring our favorite digital citizenship friends! Watch it together (turn on captions so you can see the lyrics), and sing along!  
<https://www.common sense.org/education/videos/pause-think-online>

**Now talk about this together:**

1. What was your favorite part of the song? Why?
2. What's your favorite character? Why?
3. What are some ways you can do what your favorite character does?
4. What could be hard about it, and how would you keep going anyway?



Text the word **kids** to the phone number **21555** to get free weekly tips on healthy media habits.

 **common sense** education

common sense.org/education

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## ART - WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22

This will be a special cartooning week I will be demonstrating techniques to create special cartooning characters. For instance, we will be using letters of the alphabet to create cartoon dinosaurs. Then we will see where our student's imagination takes us. I am looking forward to seeing what we are able to create. Mrs. Takata, art teacher for Gretchko Elementary

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION IS OFFERING THE FOLLOWING CLASSES FOR STUDENTS

SUNSET THEATRE  
COMPANY presents

# Virtual musical theatre



Learn musical theatre, acting, singing, dance and more! Students will have so much fun taking a break from their "new normal" and join kids from all over to play theatre games, become characters, sing and dance!

**Students will be cast in multiple scenes and get to play multiple characters!**

**Excellent for both boys and girls of all levels!**

ACTING, VOICE AND DANCE EACH CLASS WITH OUR  
SPECIALIZED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS

<b>FROZEN</b> Greatest Hits AGES 6-10 YEARS \$80 for 5 weeks	<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> or <b>THURSDAYS</b> 5:00 - 6:00 pm NOV 11 - DEC 16, 2020 NO CLASS 11-25	6:30 - 7:30 pm NOV 12 - DEC 17, 2020 NO CLASS 11-26
<b>elf</b> The Broadway Musical Ages 7-8 years \$80 for 5 weeks	<b>MON</b> 5:30 - 6:30 pm NOV 16 - DEC 14, 2020 Ages 8-15 yrs! Thurs 8:40-9:40 pm 11/12 - 12/11 NO CLASS 8-26	<b>OR WED</b> 6:30 - 7:30 pm NOV 11 - DEC 16, 2020 NO CLASS 11-25
<b>THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS</b> \$80 for 5 weeks	<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> 7:35 - 8:35 pm NOV 11 - DEC 16, 2020 NO CLASS 11-25	<b>OR SAT</b> 12:30 - 1:30 pm NOV 21 - DEC 19, 2020

Classes will meet online through Zoom Meetings.

*Our classes are password protected and can only be accessed by the instructors and class participants.*

ALL CLASSES CAP AT 15 STUDENTS.

**Register Online  
Today!**



WEST BLOOMFIELD SCHOOLS  
**PORTRAIT of a GRADUATE**  
Community Education

[sunsettheatrecompany.com/virtual-classes-fall-2020](https://sunsettheatrecompany.com/virtual-classes-fall-2020)

BE SURE TO INCLUDE IN THE NOTES SECTION: **WBSD**

**Community Education**

**Chess Wizards**  
Strategies for Life

**Chess Class Has Moved Online!**

Same exciting curriculum, now available online

**Have Fun!**

**Sample Class Structure**

WEST BLOOMFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT PORTRAIT of a GRADUATE	
<b>15 minutes before class:</b>	
Login, homework review	10 Min
<b>1 hour class:</b>	
Concept of the day	10 Min
Reinforcing puzzles	10 Min
Game play, with instructor	20 Min
Variation games and fun activities	15 Min
Assign and explain homework	5 Min

**1 Hour  
64 Squares  
Infinite Possibilities**

Pick classes that match your child's interest and skill level, and our amazing Chess Wizards staff will take care of the rest.\*  
Group classes (up to 6 children), private lessons, and themed classes are just a few examples of the great experiences our online classes have to offer.  
\*You still have to show up online at scheduled time and place, of course!

**5% off**

**For West Bloomfield Schools**  
Apply **BPSMAY** code at check out

Code valid until **June 1, 2021**

**Sign Up Today!**

Call Us: 1-866-949-4386  
Visit Our Website: chesswizards.jumbula.com  
Mail Us: office@chesswizards.com

## UNITED WE WALK 2021 VIRTUAL BUTTON DESIGN CONTEST

Do you enjoy drawing? Your artwork could be the inspiration for the [Annual United We Walk Celebration on Sunday, January 17, 2021](#).

You must include the following:

THEME: Everyone Can Be Great Because ANYONE Can Serve

- \*A graphic or photo
- \*Artwork must be 3 inches in diameter (see the back for actual size)
- \*Consider contrast, balance, and value
- \*Artwork must be original, hand-drawn or digital
- \*Eligible contestants K-12th graders

DEADLINE: Friday, December 6, 2020

SUBMIT TO: Jennifer Graham - [Jennifer.Graham@wbsd.org](mailto:Jennifer.Graham@wbsd.org)

## GRETCHKO'S MISSION



"Our Mission at Gretchko Elementary, in cooperation with our community, is to foster curiosity, creativity, and the joy of learning. By providing opportunities and challenges, we will expand children's knowledge and enable them to be resilient, lifelong learners within an ever-changing global society."

## PTO NEWS

The Gretchko PTO has halted spiritwear sales and directory orders for the time being. We will restart sales after we return to in person learning.

## ZOOM MEETING HELP GETTING IN

Parents if you are struggling to get your student onto zoom meetings, please make sure they follow these steps.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gx2jrtLw0d4Ns2Bv40YxdCyzHLoZfF1k2i2WHsbwp8/edit>

## DO YOU NEED TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE

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](http://www.wbsd.org/academics/classroom-to-cloud/canvas) or [canvashelp@wbsd.org](mailto:canvashelp@wbsd.org)

Help with Chromebook: [www.wbsd.org/departments/technology](http://www.wbsd.org/departments/technology)

Help with PowerSchool: [www.wbsd.org/parents/powerschool](http://www.wbsd.org/parents/powerschool)

## NO COST SCHOOL MEALS

No cost meals are available for curbside pick-up to all children 18 or younger in the community. Each child will receive 7 breakfast and lunch meals. Children do not have to attend West Bloomfield School District.

- Please pre-order meals on the West Bloomfield School District Food Service page or click here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1wVbzmc8iJQHZ10KLSwyS6MjptKEgKccMvdC06RtACY/edit>

- Pick up sites:

1. West Bloomfield HS main entrance

1. Pick-up day: Wednesday or by special arrangement

2. Times: 11:30am-12:30pm or 3:30pm-4:30pm or by special arrangement

2. Roosevelt Elementary main entrance



1. Pick-up day: Wednesday
  2. Time: 1100am-1:00pm
- Please contact Nutrition Services for special arrangements or questions at (248)865-6733 or email [anne.stevens@wbsd.org](mailto:anne.stevens@wbsd.org).
  - Blessings in a Backpack will also be distributed at both sites during these times. Please contact Kathy Sheiko with questions at [katherinesheiko@hotmail.com](mailto:katherinesheiko@hotmail.com) or (248)521-0074

## WBSD CHROMEBOOK ACCIDENT AND LOSS PROTECTION

Please click [HERE](#) for information on accident and loss protection for district issued Chromebooks. Please contact Allyson Dewar at [allyson.dewar@oakland.k12.mi.us](mailto:allyson.dewar@oakland.k12.mi.us) for more information or if you have questions.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

November 26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING

November 30 - In Person school Resumes

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

## WATCH LIVE LAKERS ATHLETICS THROUGH THE NFHS NETWORK

Watch Live Lakers Athletics Through the NFHS Network

Please see the attached flyer below for information on how to watch live action of Lakers Athletics for events in our Gymnasium and Stadium. Here is the link for our school page for the NFHS Network:

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/schools/west-bloomfield-high-school-west-bloomfield-mi>

## 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 [katherinesheiko@hotmail.com](mailto:katherinesheiko@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](mailto:katherinesheiko@hotmail.com) or at 248 521 0074. For more information on Blessings in a Backpack go to [blessingsinabackpackmi.org](http://blessingsinabackpackmi.org).

**CONTINUE LEARNING ABOUT FEELINGS AND THE SENSATIONS THAT COME WITH THEM FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER, LINDSEY DESANA**

Take a look to see how you can be a part of your child's social-emotional learning with RULER!



If there is anything I can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact me at [lindsey.desana@wbsd.org](mailto:lindsey.desana@wbsd.org)

