

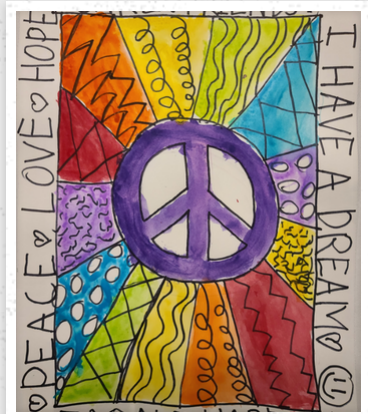
GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 15, 2021



**NO SCHOOL MONDAY, JANUARY 18 - MARTIN LUTHER
KING HOLIDAY**

MLK ARTWORK BY GRETCHKO STUDENTS



HYBRID IN PERSON SCHOOL RESUMES FOR ALL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN WB SCHOOL DISTRICT TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to WBSD hybrid education. We are pleased to be able provide the start of a new semester with our in person school model. Students that attended last fall will return to classes on the **Tuesday, the 19th of January**. Most students will have the same teacher, same cohort, same time as the start of school in August. If there has been a change in your teacher or cohort you will be notified.

If there has been a change in your cohort and you need bus transportation, you need to contact transportation as soon as possible and relay the information back to your classroom teacher.

It has been some time since we were able to offer in person learning and we would like you to review the following information about school procedures for hybrid learning.

SCHOOL CALENDAR THROUGH JANUARY

Please review the calendar for the next two weeks of school

Tuesday, January 19 - Resume hybrid learning - 1/2 day each cohort

Wednesday, January 20 - Remote learning at home

Thursday, January 21 - Continue hybrid learning - 1/2 day each cohort

Friday, January 22 - **NO SCHOOL** - Records day

Monday, January 25 - Friday, January 29 - 1/2 day each cohort - Hybrid learning

DISTRICT-WIDE KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP - JAN. 20 AT 6:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM

The West Bloomfield School District is pleased to welcome future kindergarten students and their families to our 2021 Virtual Kindergarten Roundup event on **Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**. Join our virtual presentation at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84956418868>

During this presentation, we will cover the following items:

- How & When to Enroll Your Child for 2021-22
- Kindergarten Curriculum
- A Kindergarten Day in the Life
- Information about Kindergarten Plus
- Information about Future Building-Specific Presentations

More information, resources and meeting links will be posted to the [WBSD Kindergarten Webpage](#).

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Please remember currently all students attend Gretchko for 1/2 day sessions only.

*No breakfast or lunch is served at school.

* Students are in school for such a short time, we will not have snacks.

*Students should bring their own water bottle, as the drinking fountains are temporarily closed.

COHORT A - School Time 9:25 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

COHORT B - School Time 1:37 p.m. - 4:17 p.m.

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

4:12 p.m. - 4:22 p.m. - Cohort B Pick-Up

We ask that everyone be courteous and follow the guidelines below

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

Student drop off and pick up

- 1.) On the **West/left** side of the school - Ayar, Wild, Sizemore, Pace, Allen, Hans, Williams, Jamison, Costello
- 2.) At the **North/back** end of the school - Cloud Care
- 3.) On the **East/right** side of the school - Smith, Barker, Geottes/Kirk, Reed, Risdén

- All cars enter the left (West) circle.
- Remain in the car line through drop-offs - 1, 2, 3.
- Drop your student at their designated drop off location (see above).
- All parents and students remain in vehicles.
- Students unhook their seat belt and open car doors to exit the car.
- Students will be assisted by staff when exiting or entering vehicles.
- Teachers will be present to greet and direct students
- All cars continue following the car line through all drop off areas.
- Follow the car line around the building.
- Loop around at station 3 to exit.
- Exit the same way you enter through the West circle.
- Please follow arrows and directions from our staff.

Please refer to this document throughout our school start for procedures and schedules.

TIPS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

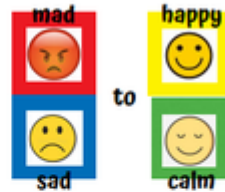
Please take time to review the following information to assist your child's concentration and feeling of importance of their education.

- * Support your child with positive feedback
- * Have your child at class on time and ready to learn.
- * Student's should be dressed just like a normal school day.
- * Prepare early, check technology, screen background, etc.
- * Supplies -pencils, eraser, paper, workbooks available at your child's workstation.
- * Students should not be eating during Zoom sessions.
- * Remove other distractions from the student's work area. (Toys, pets, siblings)
- * Headphones may be helpful, especially if your student is distracted easily.
- * Help your child understand their workstation is their school.
- * Provide support, not the answers. Student need to learn to be able to "do" assignments for themselves.

All of the above learning requirements provide an environment of value to your student's education. Students need to see, hear and understand just how important you view their education. To assist your student's classmates, please use the mute option and remember everyone in the class sees what is happening behind your student's screen.

Fun with Feelings and Mrs. DeSana

During the months of December and January, students will be learning strategies to help their feelings go from:



Students will learn about taking deep breaths, using mindfulness, and doing things that they enjoy in order to feel calm and happy.



You can help your child build a "feelings toolbox" by:

- Helping to practice deep breathing when feeling mad
- Have your child identify enjoyable activities
- Create your own toolbox or strategy wall/poster
- Choose a strategy from the toolbox to use when having a red or blue feeling
- Choose a feeling on the **Mood Meter** before and after a strategy to see how feelings change!



Contact Lindsey DeSana, School Social Worker, for more information

PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER - EMILY HUBBARD SHARES A LINK WITH PARENT TIPS

SHAPE America has **101** helpful tips for family health and fitness! Click on this [link](#) to learn more about being intentionally active and healthy with your family!

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK UPDATE

As we return to face to face instruction in our schools , **Preschool -5th grade** students and **Transition Center** students registered for Blessings in a Backpack will receive their bags of food for the weekend each Friday in their classrooms.

Middle School students can pick up their bags in the School Office .

All **Lakers On Line** and **West Bloomfield High School** Students / Parents can pick up their bags in the front circle drive of West Bloomfield High School every Wednesday from 11:30 am -12:30 pm and from 3:30-4:30 pm.

It is not too late to sign up for Blessings in a Backpack!! If you are interested in receiving six

non perishable meals each weekend of the school year, please email Kathetinesheiko@hotmail.com.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION - GRETCHKO STILL PARTICIPATES

Earning money for your school has never been easier. Simply download the app, choose your school and snap a picture of your receipts! Encourage your friends and family to download the app as well! Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles, Cousins, literally anyone who grocery shops and has a receipt can help Gretchko earn and it adds up quickly!

https://www.boxtops4education.com/-/media/GMI/boxtops4youreducation/CRC-Downloads/June_19/BTFE_Overview.ashx?la=en We still accept boxtops cut from products you purchase. We have a boxtop container in the front lobby.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION CORNER

WBSD COMMUNITY EDUCATION
YOUTH MOVEMENT & ENRICHMENT ONLINE CLASSES



Kids Karate
Instructor: True Martial Arts
Fridays 1/8-2/5
[More Info Here](#)



Drama Kids
INTERNATIONAL®
The difference is *dramatic!*®

LINKS TO DRAMA KIDS AND TUMBLE BUNNIES

Chess Wizards

K-6th

[More Info Here](#)

Drawing

On-Demand & Live

[More Info Here](#)

Tumble Bunnies

Video class link will be emailed, [click here](#) to register
Ballet, Music, Zumba, Cheer, Gymnastics and Hip Hop

West Bloomfield School District

[Community Education Department](#)

(248) 865-6467



Drawing
On-Demand & Live
[More Info Here](#)



CHESS WIZARDS®
Strategies for Life

Chess Wizards
K-6th
[More Info Here](#)




Tumble Bunnies


FOLLOW UP FOR MEDIA LESSON FROM MRS. HAMMERICK

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.commonsense.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® commonsense.org/education

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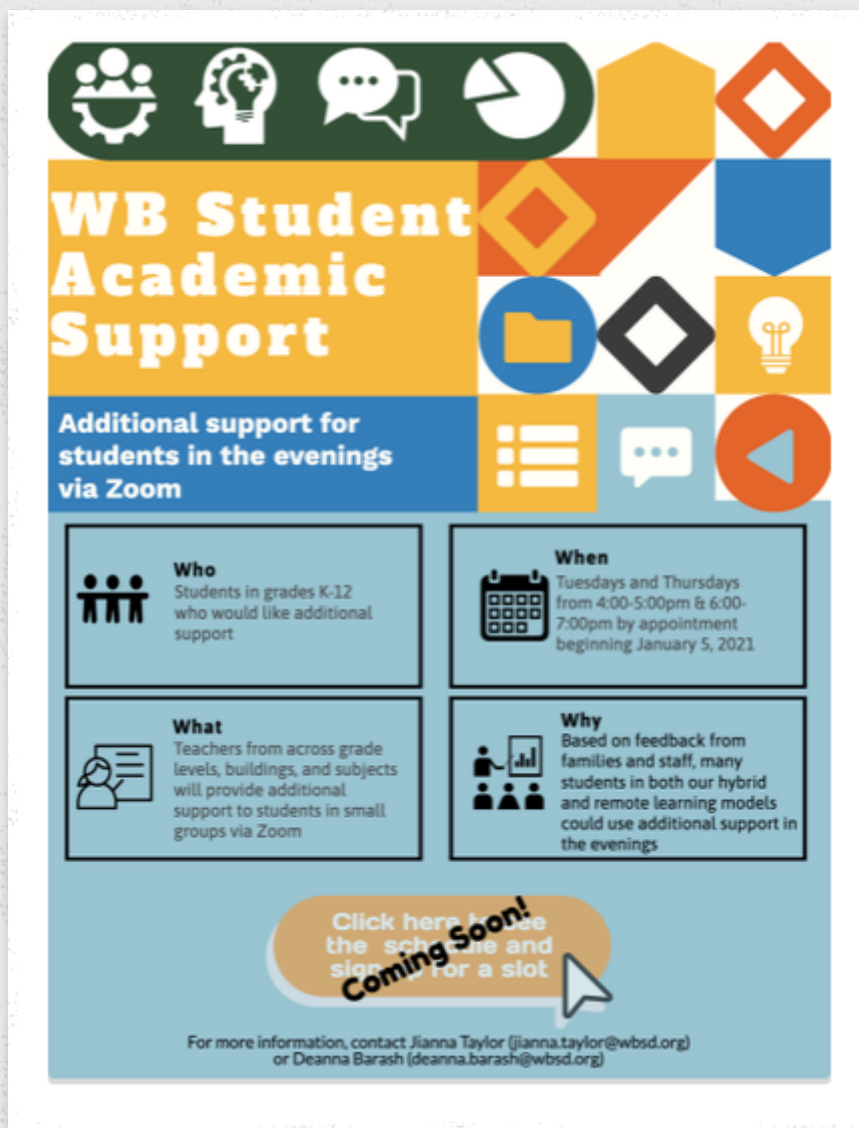
WBSD SMS TEXT ALERTS - SIGN UP TODAY!

As you may already know, our district utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. This resource is on top of the emails and phone messages you already receive from SchoolMessenger.

You can participate in this service just by sending a text message of **"Y"** or **"Yes"** to our district's short code number, **67587**.

You can also opt-out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with **"Stop"**.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



The poster features a header with icons representing various academic and social concepts: a group of people, a lightbulb, a speech bubble, a pie chart, a hexagon, and a diamond. Below the header, the title "WB Student Academic Support" is prominently displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the title, a subtitle reads "Additional support for students in the evenings via Zoom". The main body of the poster is divided into four quadrants, each with an icon and a heading: "Who" (people icon), "When" (calendar icon), "What" (document icon), and "Why" (person at a computer icon). Each quadrant contains descriptive text. At the bottom, there is a call-to-action button that says "Click here to use the scheduler and sign up for a slot" with a mouse cursor icon. Below the button, contact information for Jianna Taylor and Deanna Barash is provided. The entire poster is set against a background of colorful geometric shapes and patterns.

WB Student Academic Support

Additional support for students in the evenings via Zoom

Who Students in grades K-12 who would like additional support	When Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:00pm & 6:00-7:00pm by appointment beginning January 5, 2021
What Teachers from across grade levels, buildings, and subjects will provide additional support to students in small groups via Zoom	Why Based on feedback from families and staff, many students in both our hybrid and remote learning models could use additional support in the evenings

Click here to use the scheduler and sign up for a slot **Coming Soon!**

For more information, contact Jianna Taylor (jianna.taylor@wbsd.org) or Deanna Barash (deanna.barash@wbsd.org)

WBSD SCHOOL NUTRITION

WBSD SCHOOL NUTRITION UPDATE

Since the start of this very unusual school year our Food Service Department has done an outstanding job continuing meal distribution to all of our West Bloomfield families. We have set up a meal distribution system to safely and effectively provide those meals from two main locations, the **West Bloomfield High School** and **Roosevelt Elementary**.

Each Wednesday, seven days worth of breakfasts and lunches are available for pick up. For those families who have difficulty making it to our distribution times we have set up special delivery accommodations to better serve our community.

Since the start of this school year, our Food Service Department has served nearly **100,000 meals** and will continue to provide this valuable service as this school year continues.

We'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of our dedicated food service staff members, without whom, this would not be possible.

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."

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/1gx2jrtllw0d4Ns2Bv40YxdCyzHLoZfF1k2i2WHsbwp8/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 or canvashelp@wbsd.org

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

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

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 for more information or if you have questions.