

GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 20, 2021



**NO SCHOOL TOMORROW - FRIDAY, JANUARY 21 -
RECORDS DAY**

**REPORT CARDS POSTED AND AVAILABLE MONDAY
MORNING, FEBRUARY 1ST.**

Report cards will be posted and ready for viewing.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE-ABSENCES

Thank you for being the great parents you are and being proactive with your student's education. It is a great feeling to have so much support behind our efforts. A good education truly takes an effort by all.

About this time of year, Oakland County reviews student school attendance, and follows up with family's that have a student with absences or tardies considered excessive. Oakland County considers any student with 20 or more absences or tardies excessive. In the eyes of the county, truancy can be considered neglect and is very serious.

As a courtesy, if your student has more than 12 absences, you will receive a letter from our office. The information is to assist you in evaluating your student's absences and tardies to improve for the future. Next week we will be sending those updated letters to parents.

Please keep in mind, all absences are listed. We realize there are illnesses and circumstances beyond your control and there may be a valid reason for your student's absences. Our social worker, Lindsey Desana will contact you if we feel your student will be considered truant by Oakland County.

REMINDER LINK TO POWERSCHOOL HAS CHANGED

WBSD updated their connection to powerschool and shared that information before the new year. Since it is getting close to report card time we wanted to make sure that parents had the new website address. Go to <https://westbloomfield.powerschool.com/public>

Report cards will be posted and ready for viewing by Monday morning, February 1st.



**SUPPORT THIS
FLAVORFUL FUNDRAISER!**

Wednesday, January 27th

Dear Gretchko Star Supporters,
Order from Marco's Pizza® on this day and Marco's will give a percentage of the sales generated by you back to Gretchko Elementary PTO.

20% of your Online total or
10% of your Phone total will be donated back to your school.

***Please be sure to mention Gretchko when ordering for our school to receive funds!



Order Online
Place your order as normal then click "Fundraisers" under the menu. Follow the prompts to completion!

Waterford
5570 Cooley Lake Rd.
248-682-9700
DINE IN / CARRYOUT / DELIVERY

Order Online at **MARCOS.COM**

EVERY STORE. EVERY DAY. THE ITALIAN WAY.

© 2019 Marco's Pizzeria, LLC. 000000000000

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If you have a **resident** student that will be attending kindergarten next year, our district has requested that you **register your child by February 17th**. Please go to the West Bloomfield School District website (wbsd.org) and enter through enrollment to find the Gateway registration program.

If you have a **SOC (school of choice)** student to enter kindergarten **you must first apply for SOC lottery to attend WB schools**. Please remember if you have a SOC student that currently attends WB schools any and **all new siblings wishing to enter WB schools still need apply for SOC acceptance**.

WB school of choice application window will close on February 2nd. Go to wbsd.org to apply.

New kindergarten students must be 5 on or before September 1st, 2021 or have a parent signed waiver on file and be 5 on or before December 1, 2021.

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, Riden

- 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.

I CENTER NEWS

Dear Parents,

Pine Cone is a District-wide reading incentive program in partnership with the **West Bloomfield Township Public Library**, for students enrolled in first or second grade. This dynamic program features a variety of books carefully selected by district librarians. The list encompasses a large variety of genres, diverse topics, and high interest subject matter.

Our Pine Cone program will run from **January 25th through March 31st 2021**.

NEW this year... student's will be invited to a Canvas Course where they will have the opportunity to earn Badges for reading and responding to a book review about the books they choose to read! The Canvas Course is created & managed by the school iCenter teachers. Please direct any questions to your iCenter Teacher.

Due to varying reading abilities, the books may be read to, with, or by your child. Your student will also have access to ebooks both from the West Bloomfield Library and SORA. Each student will set his/her own goal to earn badges. We encourage all first and second grade students to participate in Pine Cone, as this is part of the iCenter Curriculum & Programming.

Please keep in mind, the goal is to READ, READ, and READ some more!

All WB Students are eligible to have a WBTPL Card. If you need to renew or establish your child's West Bloomfield Township Library Card [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) to go to the library website & begin the process. Specific information & details are listed on the site.

It is the recommendation of the district librarians that parents and teachers work with students to find books that will peak their interest. The main goal of this program is to encourage a ***love of reading***. The books are available for checkout from the **West Bloomfield Township Public Library** and the school iCenter.

In conjunction with the West Bloomfield Township Public Library, one unique feature of the Pine Cone program is the opportunity for students to meet an author. Details about this experience will be shared as we get closer to the start of the program! Watch for more details, coming soon. The Canvas Course will be activated on January 25th. All reading logs & book reviews are due March 31st.

Together in Reading,
WBSD Information and Technology Specialists
West Bloomfield Township Public Library Librari

BOOK BUS SCHEDULE



Monday
Barker, Allen, Ayar

Tuesday
Sizemore, Pace, Costello

Thursday
Risden, Smith, Kirk

Friday
Hans, Wild, Williams, Jamison

Stops begin Monday, Jan. 25th!

I CENTER OVERDUE BOOKS

Please take a quick review at home to see if you have any I center books that need to be returned. Thank you!

2019-20 YEARBOOKS

We still have several yearbooks available from the last school year (2019-20). If you are in need of one, please call the office at 248-865-6570.

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:

mad 	to	happy
sad 		calm

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!

RULER Contact Lindsey DeSana, School Social Worker, for more information

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please review the calendar for the next few weeks of school

January 22, Friday - NO SCHOOL - Records day

January 22 - Marking Period Ends

January 27, Wednesday - Marco's Pizza day

January 25 -Tuesday, January 26-Hybrid learning model

January 27, Wednesday - Hybrid learning remote
January, 28, Thursday- Hybrid learning- cohort - A, B
Friday, January 29 - Cohort A, B - Hybrid learning
Monday, February 1 - **REPORT CARDS POSTED FOR PARENTS**
February 1 - 5 - Hybrid learning model all week (A,B)
February 8-12 -Hybrid learning model all week (A,B)
February 15 - 16 - **NO SCHOOL - Mid-Winter Break**
February 17 - Wednesday - Remote learning
February 18 - **Thursday** - Hybrid learning model - Cohort A, B
February 19 - Friday - Hybrid learning model - Cohort A, B

We will continue hybrid learning model until further notice.

March 29 - April 2 - Spring Break

FEBRUARY 15 -16 - WINTER BREAK WBSD MEAL SERVICE PICK UP INFORMATION

No cost meals are available for curbside pick up to all children in the community.

Each child will receive:

- 7 breakfast and lunch meals.
- Please pre-order meals on the West Bloomfield School District Food Service page or at the [linked order form](#).

Pick up sites:

- **West Bloomfield HS main entrance** (4925 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield)
 - Pick-up day: Wednesday or by special arrangement
 - Times: 11:30am-12:30pm or 3:30pm-4:30pm or by special arrangement
- **Roosevelt Elementary main entrance** (2065 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor)
 - Pick-up day: Wednesday
 - Time: 11:00am-1:00pm

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!

The pandemic has brought on a lot of emotions that can be hard to handle. Sometimes, children will use behaviors to express/communicate what they are feeling. Remember that feelings are feelings, NOT facts. If your child is having an outburst, they are trying to communicate something, don't take their emotions personally. Allow for open communication to better understand what your child is trying to tell you. Are they hungry? Hot? Tired?

Overwhelmed? Here is a [link](#) for some at home tips to help you handle these emotions and create a less stressful environment at home in these trying times :)

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](#)



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



Tumble Bunnies

**FOLLOW UP FOR MEDIA LESSON FROM MRS.
HAMMERICK**

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!

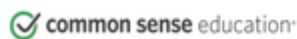
<https://www.common sense.org/education/videos/pause-think-online>

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.org/education](https://www.common sense.org/education)

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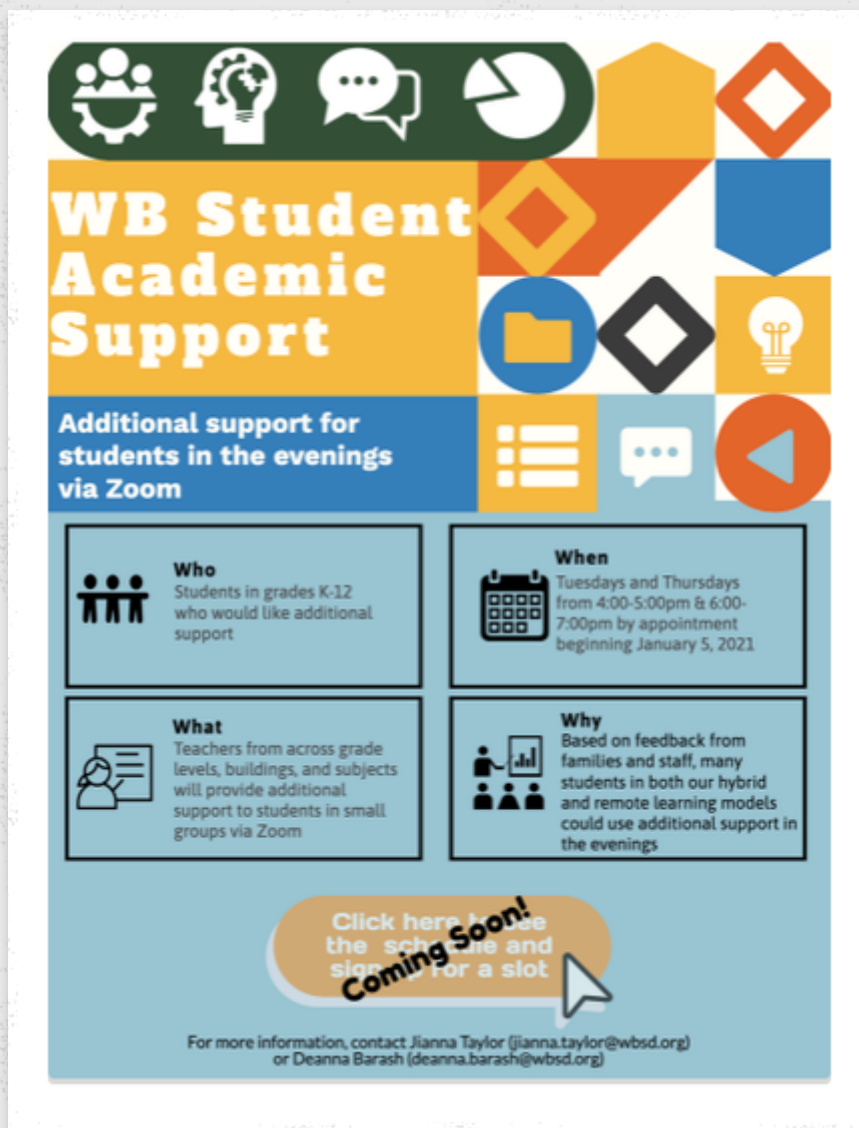
WBSD SMS TEXT ALERTS - SIGN UP TODAY!

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 support themes: 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 states "Additional support for students in the evenings via Zoom". The main body of the poster is organized 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). A large orange button with a white mouse cursor icon and the text "Click here to see the schedule and sign up for a slot" is positioned at the bottom center. A diagonal banner across the button reads "Coming Soon!". At the very bottom, contact information for Jianna Taylor and Deanna Barash is provided.

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 see the schedule 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

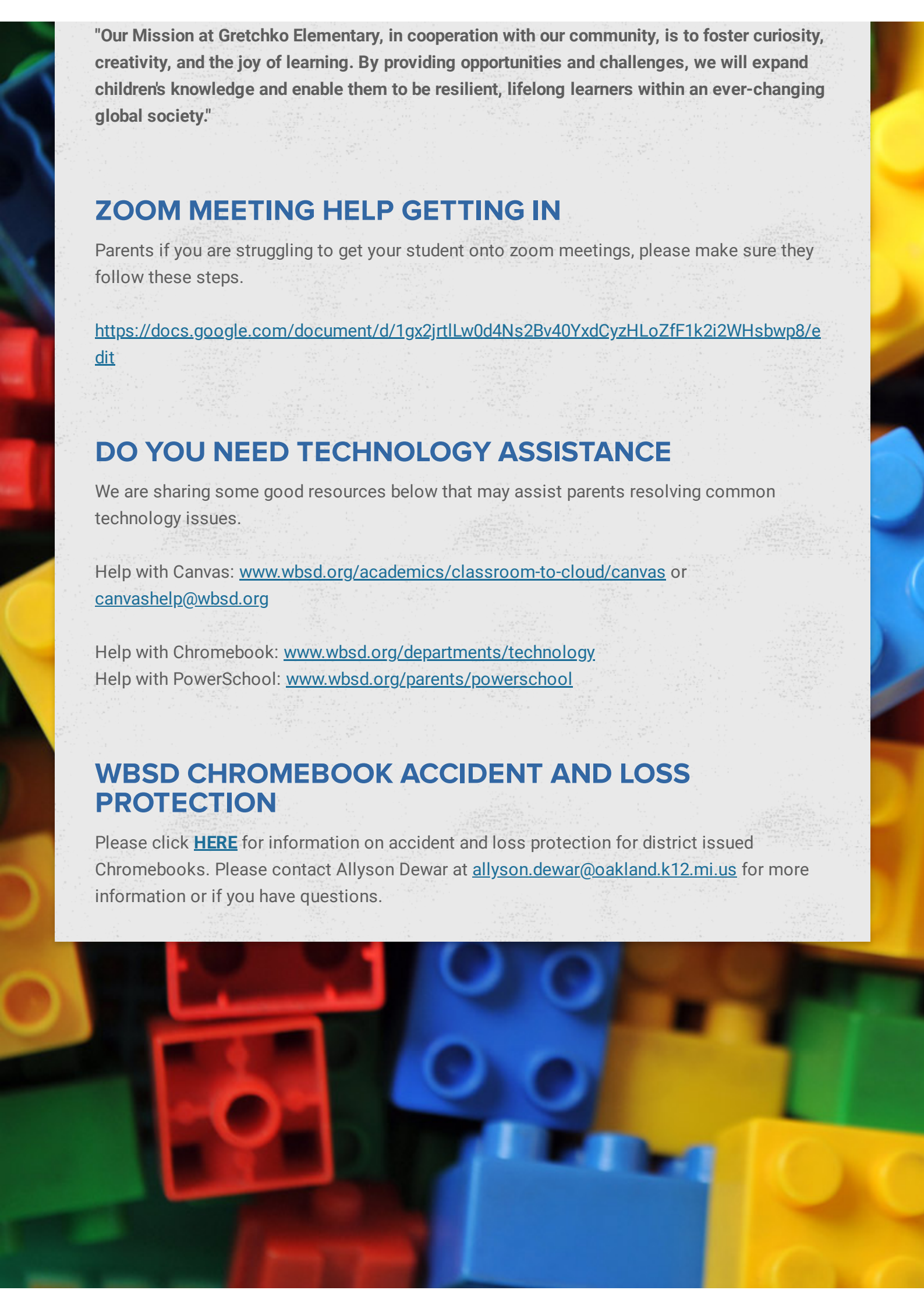
Since the start of this very unusual school year our Food Service Department has done an outstanding job continuing meal distribution to all of our West Bloomfield families. We have set up a meal distribution system to safely and effectively provide those meals from two main locations, the **West Bloomfield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