

# GRETCHKO NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 29, 2021



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE-CAR LOOP

Student safety is a primary concern at Gretchko. We have developed several protocols to protect students throughout the building, as well as while they are entering and leaving the building. It is imperative that we are able to count on the parents and other adults follow safety guidelines. We have been receiving complaints from parents that are concerned about vehicle drivers jumping the line during the drop off and pick up times. Drivers in the cars are not waiting for their turn, and putting student safety in jeopardy. Please be patient, wait your turn and understand all parents want to move on just as much as you do. **Stay in line, and please do not pass the cars ahead of you.**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST - REPORT CARDS ARE  
POSTED ON POWERSCHOOL FOR PARENTS**

## 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.

## VALENTINE CARD PROTOCOL

Please do not send Valentine's to school. Due to the pandemic we will not be exchanging Valentine's cards. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## FEBRUARY 10 COUNT DAY

**Wednesday, February 10** Oakland County will be counting our students to determine funding for the rest of this school year. Since we are remote on Wednesday, students must be **signed in and have their attendance recorded by 3:00 p.m.** on February 10th.

## 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](http://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](http://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.

## GRETCHKO PTO

It's been awhile so as a reminder here are this year's PTO board members:

**President:** Jen Amato

**Co-Vice President:** Ashleigh Davis/Stephanie Reynolds

**Treasurer:** Vanity Koop

**Recording Secretary:** Heather Aldrich

**Co-Corresponding Secretary:** Ufume Karlan /Erica Deeney



## 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

## PINE CONE UPDATE

Pine Cone reading launched this week! Pine Cone books will be available for book checkout from the Book Bus. Be sure to visit the WBTPPL to sign up your reader for a library card. When your reader checks out Pine Cone books from the WBTPPL, s/he can turn in the receipt to Mrs. Hammerick and receive a special prize!! Happy reading!



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.

## HUBBARD'S HEALTHY HINTS

Physical Education is a crucial part of a child's social, emotional, and physical development. They learn motor skills that assist in their academic development! Did you know a child's ability to skip can positively impact their reading proficiency? Skipping is a rhythmic activity, so is reading. The more proficient they are in skipping it allows for them to be more proficient in reading! Make sure your child is attending physical education each week to be a well rounded student :) Here is a great [article](#) on the benefits of physical education and how as a parent you can help build your child's foundational locomotor and non locomotor sk

## COMMUNITY ED. OFFERS SPECIAL EVENT FOR FAMILIES



## 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.

## **TIPS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS**

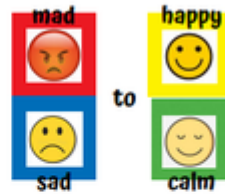
Please take time to review the following information to assist your child's concentration and feeling of importance of their education.

- \* 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

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please review the calendar for the next few weeks of school

### **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 - 19** - Hybrid learning model - Cohort A, B

**February 22 - 23** - Hybrid learning model - Cohort A, B

**February 24 - Wednesday - Remote Learning - Marco's Pizza Day**

**February 25-26** - Hybrid learning model - Cohort A,B

We will continue hybrid learning model until further notice.

**March 29 - April 2 - Spring Break**

**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](mailto: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/boxtopsforyoureducation/CRC-Downloads/June\\_19/BTFE\\_Overview.ashx?la=en](https://www.boxtops4education.com/-/media/GMI/boxtopsforyoureducation/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.

## **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."

## **WBSD SMS TEXT ALERTS - SIGN UP TODAY!**

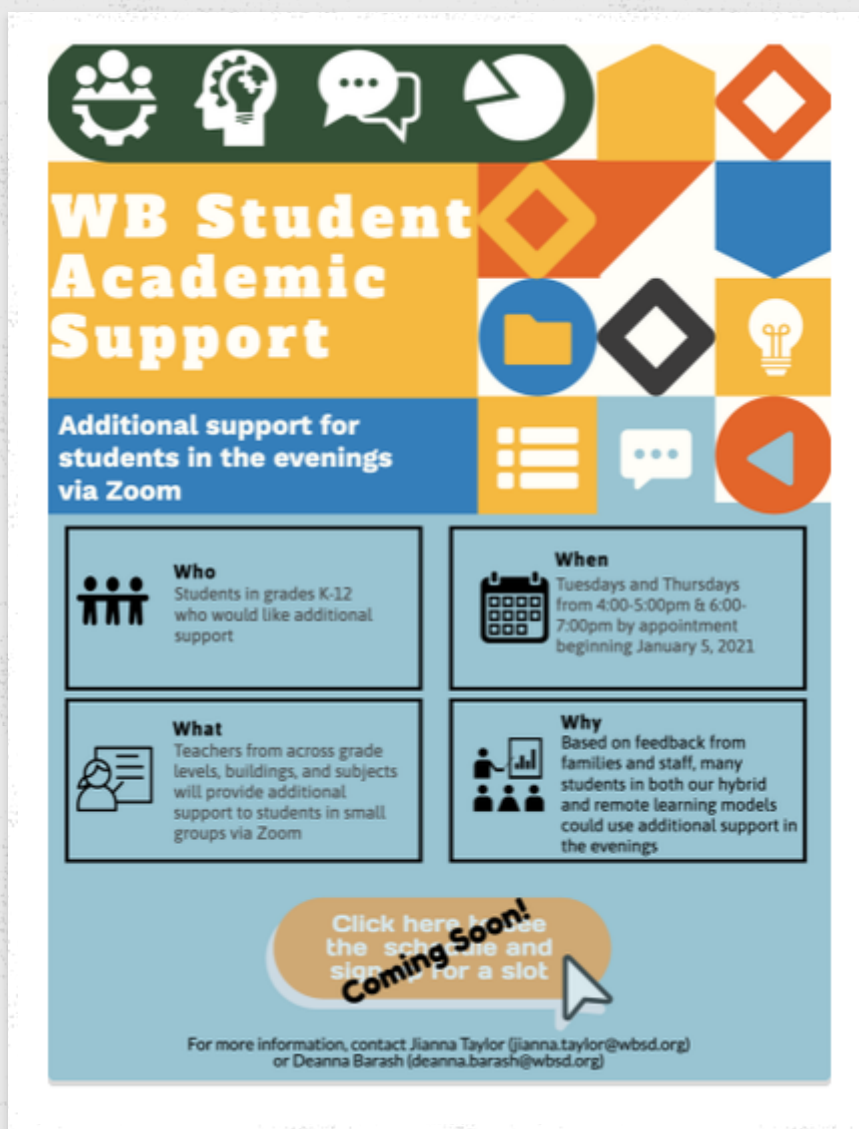
As you may already know, our district utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. This resource is on top of the emails and phone messages you already receive from SchoolMessenger.

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 is titled "WB Student Academic Support" in large, bold, white letters on an orange background. Below the title, it says "Additional support for students in the evenings via Zoom" in white text on a blue background. The poster is decorated with various icons: a group of people, a lightbulb, a speech bubble, a pie chart, a folder, a lightbulb, a calendar, a speech bubble, and a play button. The poster is divided into four sections: "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), and "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). At the bottom, there is a call to action: "Click here to see the schedule and sign up for a slot" with a mouse cursor icon. Below this, it says "Coming Soon!". At the very bottom, it provides contact information: "For more information, contact Jianna Taylor (jianna.taylor@wbsd.org) or Deanna Barash (deanna.barash@wbsd.org)".

**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.

## **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)

## **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.