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Mt. Ascutney School District Vision

To honor, encourage, and celebrate the excellence, diversity, and aspirations of each learner through creative and motivating challenges.

September 2, 2022

Dear Windsor Parents, Guardians, & Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2022/2023 school year. It was great to see familiar and new faces back in our building this week. The beautiful weather contributed to our top notch start. We are very thankful to the PTO and Booster club for the first-day-of-school cheery decorations lining the walkways and entrances.

Three cheers for our 6th grade ELA teacher and literacy interventionist, Destiny Lawyer! Check out this feature in [Publisher's Weekly](#).

FYI, Frazer's Place has free ice cream for kids until 8 pm today.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Colleen, Kate, & Sergio

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 5, 2022 - No School, Labor Day
September 12, 2022 - MASD Board Meeting
September 22, 2022 - Community BBQ 5:00 pm
September 23, 2022 - Homecoming Weekend
September 27, 2022 - K-6 Pictures
September 28, 2022 - 7-12 Pictures

NEWS:

Parent Handbook: Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union reviews and adopts policies throughout the year. When policies are updated or added in the handbook, the additions and/or changes will be noted in blue.

Collaborative Problem Solving: Just a reminder about CPS, you may hear your student come home and talk about PLAN B. *Plan B is the heart of CPS when adults work together with kids to solve problems in mutually satisfactory and realistic ways.*

Plan B involves three basic steps:

- Step 1 – Identify and understand the child’s concern about the problem to be solved and reassure him or her that imposition of adult will is not how the problem will be resolved.
- Step 2 – Identify and share the adults’ concerns about the same issue.
- Step 3 – The child and adult work to brainstorm solutions together to assess potential solutions and choose one that is both realistic and mutually satisfactory.

Most problems aren’t solved in a single Plan B discussion, and Plan B usually feels like slogging through mud in the beginning, but the continuous use of Plan B helps solve problems that are precipitating challenging behavior in a durable way while building helping relationships, thinking skills, intrinsic motivation and confidence.

Attendance expectations: Our school day begins at 7:55 am in the HS and MS. Elementary students begin at 8am on the playground with their teachers. We recommend students arrive between 7:30am and 7:50am in order to be in their classes on time and not considered tardy. Tardies and early dismissals each equal 1/10 of an absence under the new protocol. Ten tardies or early dismissals shall be considered one absence.

Our school protocol requires us to track absences and to notify you even if you have already contacted and discussed the situation with school personnel. We send notices to parents or guardians at the following intervals:

- The student has a combination of 5 or more absences in a 12-month period or a pattern of absences that result in significant gaps in attendance. Please call, text, or email to learn more.
- The student has a combination of 10 or more absences in a 12-month period or if the student or parent failed to respond to earlier interventions. A coordinated service plan meeting may be called.

- The student has a combination of 15 or more days absent in a 12-month period or if no corrective action has taken place as a result of prior notifications, a Coordinated Service Plan meeting will be held with DCF.
- The student has 20 or more unexcused absences, the Windsor School staff will make a report to the local DCF office and may complete a Truancy Affidavit to file with the State's Attorney office.

After 10 excused absences (ex: a parent calls in to excuse their child for a minor sickness) families will be asked to share documentation of the reason for a student's excused absence, such as a doctor's note or court appearance notice.

Our intent and the intent of Vermont state law is to ensure students have every opportunity to be successful in their education. National research indicates that regular attendance is fundamental to successful school performance.

Employment - The WSESU is still looking for Support Staff to work with our students. Please contact Katie Ahern if you are interested. katie.ahern@wsesu.net

PK-5 NEWS:

The school year has been off to a great start! Classrooms are settling into routines, building skills, and setting goals for the year. Many of our students begin this process by making *Mission Statements* for their room that coincide with our school wide *Leader in Me* initiative. More on these soon!

We are encouraging all our students to share their experiences of the first week of school including how they will be leading this year! All have much to be proud of and are an important part of our successful start to the school year.

If you are interested in supporting our PTO we need you! Please contact Elizabeth Holzwarth for more information. (elizabeth.holzwarth@comcast.net)

6-8 NEWS:

Our middle school students, teachers and staff rocked the first three days of school. The team has developed a strong introduction to our MS advisory program that includes themed activities and events for each day. Students had a lot of positive comments this week!

All of our MS students have a locker this year. If students prefer to have a school combination lock we will be sure to get one to students on Tuesday. The cost is \$5.00 per lock.

Finally, please save the date for the MS Farm & Wilderness place-based learning experience happening on September 15th (6th graders) & 16th (7th & 8th graders both days with overnight). Permission slips and more information coming next week.

9-12 NEWS:

Chromebooks: We still have a dozen or so Chromebooks in the IT Suite (219) that haven't been picked up yet. If students would like to pick up their Chromebooks they can swing by during first period or last period.

Merch Store: <https://shop.game-one.com/.../windsor/windsor-yellow-jackets>

Athletics: Please follow Windsor School Athletics on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Field Hockey and Football are away this weekend. Girls Soccer home opener is today at 4:30.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Soccer ShootOut: Annual Elks Soccer Shoot Out Wednesday September 14th, 2022 at the Windsor Fairgrounds. Pre- Registration at the Rec appreciated. On-Site Register 4:00 PM, Shoot begins at 5:00 PM.

Fall Basketball Opportunity:

Rockwood Training 's Fall Tune Up at The Rec

Dates: 9/18, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23

Times (Boys and Girls):

4th through 6th grade 2-3:30pm

7th and 8th grade 3:45-5:15pm

HS 5:30-7pm

Price: \$40/session or \$120 for all 4

Register at <https://rockwoodbasketballtraining.com/book-now/> Any questions please contact

Kabray Rockwood at rockwoodtraining@gmail.com

Windsor Rec: Yearly membership is due now.

Wellwood Orchards: Donuts are available starting this weekend.

Helpful Links

[Vermont Department of Health \(VDH\) Parent Information](#)

[Leader in Me](#)