

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Last Friday night there were some fantastic acts in our talent show. Congratulations to all of our students for taking the risk of being on stage in front of a packed audience. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to support our students.

We are looking for feedback pertaining to the communication and events we provide for middle school families. We have created a survey to gather that information and hope that you will take some time to fill out a survey. [Please click HERE to access the survey.](#) We will keep it open until Monday, April 8. Thank you in advance for your feedback.

We want to share the dates for our MCAS testing this spring. It is helpful if students are in attendance and on time to school on the days when MCAS testing occurs to avoid the need for making up the test and missing class time. Here are the dates for the testing:

- Tuesday, April 2 - ELA Session 1 for all grades
- Wednesday, April 3 - ELA Session 2 for all grades
- Friday, May 10 - Science Sessions 1 and 2 for 8th grade only
- Monday, May 13 - Math Session 1 for all grades
- Tuesday, May 14 - Math Session 2 for all grades
- Wednesday, May 30 - Civics Sessions 1 and 2 for 8th grade only

Next Wednesday, March 27, is an early release for students so that staff can participate in professional development. We will be holding out spring Panthermonium games during the school day as well. On Friday, March 29, there will be an early release in observance of Good Friday. Breakfast will be served on both days and there will not be any lunch served. The dismissal for both days will be 11:00 am.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Sincerely,  
Allison and Rick

**Below is important information for families:**

**Annual Town Meeting is Tomorrow, Saturday, March 23 at 9 AM**

Westford's Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Westford Academy starting at 9:00 am. More information regarding logistics, the timeline of the day, as well as the articles on the warrant can be found on this webpage: <https://www.westfordma.gov/393/Town-Meeting> The Recreation Department will once again be providing childcare for families who register in advance using this link: [TM Childcare Signup](#)

**Cradles to Crayons - Project 351 Fundraiser**

Our Project 351 Ambassador, Addie Hale, is leading a collection of clothing for children in sizes newborn to adult medium starting on Monday. The clothing drive will last through April 5th and there will be a collection

box in the main lobby starting on Monday. If you have clothing that you can donate for this cause, please send it in with your child. Here is the [link to the flyer](#) with details.

**A Few Notes from Mrs. O'Donnell, RN, the School Nurse:**

Spring sports registration is coming soon! Any student that wants to participate in sports with Stony Brook must have an up-to-date physical handed in to the nurse office. Physicals are good for 13 months. If you know your child's physical has expired, please send me an updated one as soon as possible. If you're not sure, please email me and I'll be happy to look for you. Students WILL NOT be allowed to participate until they have an updated physical handed in to the nurse office—there are no exceptions to this rule.

**To all grade 6-8 parents regarding postural screening:**

The state used to mandate scoliosis checks on every student in grades 5-9. With most children seen on a yearly basis with their pediatrician, scoliosis screenings are no longer mandated. It is opt in only. Email me at [sodonnell@westfordk12.us](mailto:sodonnell@westfordk12.us) if you would like me to screen your child for scoliosis.

**To grade 6 parents:**

Please send in your child's physical and immunization records as you take them for physicals. We require up to date physicals and immunization records **prior** to your child's 7th grade year. Physicals dated September 1, 2023 or after are what I'm looking for. The required immunizations for 7th graders are the Tdap and Menactra.

**WEF March Madness Raffle Fundraiser**

Feeling Lucky? The Westford Education Foundation March Madness Raffle for Education fundraiser is here! Follow WEF on Facebook and check out [www.westford.org/wef/march-madness/](http://www.westford.org/wef/march-madness/) to purchase your tickets. Don't miss out - the raffle includes a WA Junior Parking Pass, a Ride to School in a Police Cruiser, and a Ride to School with the Fire Department! Winners will be announced on April 1! Click [HERE](#) for more information.

**Fundraiser for American Foundation for Suicide Prevention**

Brighter Place, a club for students at Westford Academy, is raising money through food sales for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on March 23, from 4-9 PM at Bamboo. Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

**Annual SEPAC Parent/Caregiver Survey**

The Westford SEPAC, in collaboration with Westford Public Schools Office of Special Education and SEL is interested in your feedback as it relates to special education. Our annual survey allows both the SEPAC and the district to self-reflect on current practices, make improvements, and plan for meaningful SEPAC activities.

If you have a child on a 504/IEP, please take a moment to fill out this brief survey, we expect the survey should take less than 10 minutes to fill out. You can access the survey here: [SURVEY](#).

**Poetry Contest Celebrating Earth Day through Roudenbush**

There is a [MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL AGE POEM CONTEST](#) celebrating Earth Day between March 24 and April 6. The winner will be chosen April 7 and will be featured in their catalog, on their website, on their social media pages, and in their newsletters, and they will receive a \$50 gift certificate. Click [HERE](#) for their flyer.

### **First Annual Tri-Town ELPAC Event - May 22, 6-7:30 pm**

Join the towns of Chelmsford and Tyngsborough for a Tri-Town ELPAC event. The goal is to create a greater sense of community and belonging in order to share information about social services, financial services, and schooling in the US. Come for food, friendships, services, prizes, and more at the McCarthy Middle School at 250 North Road in Chelmsford. If you are interested in participating or contributing in any way, please complete this [google form](#).

### **Westford Health and Wellness Fair-Saturday, April 6, 10-2**

Please join us for a fun filled day presented by the Westford Health Department. It is open and free to the public. This event will take place rain or shine! Click here to view flyer details: [Westford Health and Wellness Flyer](#)

Date: April 6, 2024

Time: 10:00AM-2:00PM

Location: Stony Brook School, 9 Farmer way Westford, MA 01886

### **Video Webinars and Recordings to Assist Families**

This year WA has a partnership with an organization called Cartwheel, which includes the ability for free attendance at monthly webinars and access to the recordings of those webinars after the initial presentation. The topics include information that many families may find helpful.

Below are links to the recordings of past webinars:

[Five Keys to Parenting Children with ADHD](#)

[Raising Healthy Kids in a Digital World](#)

[Addressing School-Related Anxiety and School Avoidance \(English\)](#)

[How and when to seek mental health support for your child or teen](#)

[Understanding OCD and tic disorders in children and adolescents](#)

[Breaking generational cycles: Rewriting parenting patterns](#)

Here are the topics for upcoming webinars. As registration links and the recorded webinars become available, we will share them with families.

**April 3 at 7 pm:** "Demystifying Teens: Helping preteens and teens thrive"

**May 7 at 7:30 pm:** Finding the words: How to effectively speak with kids and teens about suicide and mental health

### **Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth - Free Resources for Families**

Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth (MPY) is pleased to announce its new [MPY Parenting Solutions Library](#). The MPY Parenting Solutions Library is offered at no charge, in partnership with Peace At Home Parenting Solutions, a non-profit located in Mansfield, Connecticut. Peace At Home Parenting Solutions specializes in empowering parents with evidence-based strategies to foster nurturing connections that safeguard their children's mental well-being. These trainings present easy-to-use strategies for long-lasting change. You can also access this through the district website by clicking [HERE](#). The 24 library presentations focus on the topics below. Each presentation includes 10-minute videos and handouts.

\*\*Inspire School Success for Elementary, Middle and High School Students

\*\*Parenting Principles for Progress Not Perfection

\*\*Mental Health Knowledge and Skills

\*\*Support Your Anxious Child Library

\*\*ADHD and Autism: How to Help Your Child Thrive

### **Attendance - Reporting Absences, Early Dismissals, and Tardies**

\*\*If your child will be **absent** from school, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the absence.

\*\*If you need to **dismiss your child early** from school, please send in a note with your child on the morning of the dismissal to bring to the main office so they can receive a dismissal slip. A parent/guardian will need to sign the child out at the main office when they pick them up.

\*\*If your child arrives at school **after 7:35 am**, they need to report to the office to sign in and receive a pass to their class. If your child will arrive **tardy to school after 8:30 am**, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the tardy.

### **Stony Brook Events Calendar**

Throughout the school year we post important events and information on the [Stony Brook Events Calendar](#). This includes holidays and no school days, evening events for families, and after school activities.

### **Stony Brook's Instagram**

If you would like to follow us on Instagram to see what is happening at Stony Brook, please follow us at @sbpanthers.