

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Despite the temperatures, we had a great week at Stony Brook. Our students are beginning to learn the new routines, sports have begun, and there are already very exciting lessons and activities happening in classrooms throughout the school. Our students have demonstrated their friendliness and openness to meeting new classmates and teachers. It has been wonderful to see students helping one another out and working with peers they might not have met before this year. We are very proud of our students as they embrace and demonstrate our core values each and every day.

The district is looking for substitute teachers. If you are interested in being a substitute at any of the schools in Westford, please click on this [Substitute Teacher Application](#), which has options for all of the schools in town. We would love to have you join us as a substitute and we do our best to ensure you are not subbing in your child's classroom.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,  
Allison and Rick

**Below is important information for families:**

**Yearbook**

You can get a 10% discount if you purchase a 2023-2024 yearbook until October 31, 2023. Students will bring home fliers as well. Click on this link: <https://www.treering.com/purchase?PassCode=1015224146213733>

**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.

**Arrival and Dismissal From School**

We continue to be impressed with the timely arrival of our students. There is not usually a line of cars in the morning and we not had many students who are tardy to school. Thank you for your attention to the following information about arrival and dismissal.

School begins at 7:35, so it is important that students arrive with enough time to enter the building, get to their lockers, and get to their Advisory by 7:35. If they enter the building at 7:25 they should have plenty of time to do all that they need to do before the school day officially begins.

Each day our buses drop students off and pick students up in the back of the building. They line up in the same order each day, so students will quickly recognize where their bus will be at dismissal. Buses let students off at 7:25 when we open the doors to the building.

If you drop your child off in the morning, please be sure to pull all the way to the flagpole and/or up to the car in front of you to let your child out. The line of cars begins to get long and back up around 7:20 each morning, so it is important that students exit the car as soon as you stop along the sidewalk to avoid adding to unnecessary traffic. It is important that cars do not remain in the line once students leave the vehicle. Students wait on the blacktop and on the benches outside the front of the school until we open the doors at 7:25. If it is actively raining, snowing, or it is extremely cold, students can wait in the outer lobby of the building.

If you pick up your child at the end of the day, please pull as close to the flagpole as possible and line up along the sidewalk so that more students can get to their cars.

### **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.

### **Supply Lists**

Click [HERE](#) for a link to all supply lists. If you need financial assistance with any items on the list, please contact your child's counselor.

### **Chromebook Insurance**

Damages to Chromebooks can be quite costly. Chromebook Insurance is highly recommended for all grades. Click on this link for [Chromebook Insurance Information](#) about how to purchase this. Here are links to the insurance forms for all three grades: [8th Grade](#) [7th Grade](#) [6th Grade](#)

### **PTO "No Fuss" Fundraiser**

The Stony Brook School PTO's [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#) is now underway. Since the PTO is entirely funded by parent donations we hope that you will consider contributing to help us reach our goal of **\$15,000**. All donations are tax-deductible and collected funds go toward sponsoring events and items that benefit the students of Stony Brook School. The suggested donation is **\$60 PER STUDENT** or **\$100 PER FAMILY**, but any amount is greatly appreciated. See what your generous donations [funded](#) in the 2022-23 school year. Please click on the link to donate [HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. The deadline to contribute is **September 30**. Don't forget to submit your **matching gift request** to your employer after donating. Matching gifts are a great source of additional revenue for the PTO at no additional cost to you. Get the information needed for filling out the Matching Gift request [HERE](#).

### **WestFest on 9/24, 12-4**

Westford Education Foundation is gearing up for their annual Family Fun Food Truck Festival! Sunday September 24th 12-4 at Stony Brook Middle School.

**VOLUNTEERS:** We are in need of volunteers. Please consider joining us to support our community together on this great event!

**FUNFEST:** Local clubs, sports teams, organizations and other non-profits are welcome to fundraise with us by hosting a carnival game or activity

**SHOPFEST:** We still have spots for crafters and vendors to sell their goods at our event.

**SPONSORS:** Work for a local business, consider one of our awesome sponsorship opportunities

For all information about Westford Education Foundation and WESTFEST 2023 please check out [westford.org/wef](http://westford.org/wef) We could not do this community event without you! Thank you for all your support!  
Sarah Bischoff [wef@westford.org](mailto:wef@westford.org)

### **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.

### **Emergency Reunification Information**

In the unlikely event of an emergency that requires all families to pick up their children from school during the school day, this document has been created for information about the process. Please click [HERE](#) to access that document.

### **Good Pickin' Farm**

There is a lot of [Weekend Fun](#) at Good Pickin' Farm:

PYO Pumpkins, Hayrides, Apple Cider Pressing, Pony Rides, Private Tours, Goat Hikes, Pony Rides & more!  
Visit our [website](#) for more info.

### **Family-Friendly Events:**

- [Harvest Fest](#)
- [Oktoberfest](#)
- [Not-So-Haunted Halloween Family Farm Day](#) (tickets coming soon!)

### **Destination Imagination**

Please click on this link to learn more about [Destination Imagination](#), which is a great way for students to participate on challenges with a team of peers. The deadline to register is September 24.

### **HEROES LEAGUE 2023**

The 2023 registration for the Heroes League division is now open! This Division is a program for children and young adults with disabilities of all ages. Our Heroes will participate in a program designed for them and is focused on having fun while they develop self-esteem, socializing skills and teamwork. This is a non profit league and will give players the chance to play ball at zero cost to the families. We are actively seeking new athletes. Come join the fun.

Registration will only be open until September 11th. We ask that you register as soon as possible so that we can place your Hero Player on a team. Games will begin on September 16th at 10:30am and will last 1 hour of baseball fun! The season will go through at least October 21st with extra games weather permitting.

**VOLUNTEERS:** The WYBSL Heroes League gives disabled and special needs children of all ages the opportunity to join a team and play baseball and softball. The Heroes players participate in a program

designed for them with the focus on having fun while developing self-esteem, socializing skills and teamwork. The Heroes League is looking for volunteers to help with this program.

- **Youth Buddies:** Assist and support all of the Heroes players - this includes assisting with fielding and running the bases with your Hero if needed. Providing moral support and being enthusiastic is a must. If you sign up as a Buddy you must be able to attend most if not all of the games. Ages 13 and older
- **Pitchers:** Be able to deliver a wide variety of pitches (by variety, we mean just overhand *and* underhand). It's okay if your pitching range is a little short, we will allow you to pitch any distance from home plate needed. Pitchers will be using 11" extra soft softie balls. High school or older.
- **Catchers:** No catchers gear needed here. Retrieve the passed balls and get them back to the pitcher or throw them around the infield if there is a hit (everyone gets to field!). Ages 13 and older.
- **Announcer:** Are you a TikTok star? Do you love public speaking and theater? Do you think Bob Uecker was the best baseball announcer ever? Then this could be your big break! We need an energized and fun baseball sportscaster to narrate the game as seen through a Hero's eyes. That ball wasn't a hit to the infield, it was a grand slam and boy did that Hero speed around the bases like greased lightning! Any and all plays will need to be turned into an exciting narrative to make our Heroes feel extra special! Ages 13 and older.
- **Float:** The "Float" is the GOAT! You are the most versatile of the volunteers and what you do depends on the needs of the day. This option is best for volunteers who cannot commit to weekly attendance.

Volunteers will need to be present on Saturdays from 10:15am to 11:45am Mid-September through Mid-October. Volunteer hours will count as community service. All volunteers will be required to wear masks while attending the Heroes games. Heroes Players and Volunteers can register at:

<https://wybsl.sportngin.com/register/form/660289989>

### **Information about the Community Wellness Coordinator for the Town of Westford**

They will offer Mental Health First Aid Training at the end of the month and Community Assistance office hours at the library. Click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) for more information.