

Dear Stony Brook Families,

We hope that you are enjoying the weather as it begins to really feel like fall in New England. The learning is in full gear at Stony Brook! Students are showing excellent engagement in their classes and are showing their Panther PRIDE throughout their days. Students have been demonstrating their commitment to helping everyone belong through kind acts, such as helping one another, opening up seats at lunch for someone, getting to know students who are new to the grade, and saying 'hello' to others in the hallway. Our sports and theater arts auditions have extended the school day for many of our students and it is great to see the excitement and interest they are showing about these activities.

We look forward to seeing you Thursday at our Back to School Night (details below). Have a great weekend!

Allison and Rick

Here is some important information for families:

Back to School Night

Please join us on Thursday, September 22, from 6:00 pm to 7:45 pm for our Back to School Night. Parents/Guardians will have the opportunity to attend all four team-based classes, as well as hear from Integrated Arts (IA) and World Language (WL) teachers and the building administrators.

Next week each student will bring home a schedule on colored paper for families to follow. The evening will begin and end in the Auditorium. Here is a link to a [blank schedule document](#) in case your child forgets to bring it home.

If you would like to complete your CORI form, please stop by the main office during the evening to complete the paperwork with Mrs. DeTolla. You will need your license for the CORI process.

The PTO will have a table outside of the Auditorium, so please be sure to stop by to get some information or to participate in the fundraiser in person. They will have the QR code available and will also accept cash or a check.

Grades 6 and 8 Health Classes

If your child is in grade 6 or grade 8, please read the linked letters regarding units of study in Health class and about opting out of certain aspects of the curriculum.

**Click here for the [Grade 6 Letter](#).

**Click here for the [Grade 8 Letter](#).

Health Office News

Here are some important updates from Shannon O'Donnell, our School Nurse:

**Emergency cards - If you have not turned them in yet, please do as soon as possible!

**7th graders- An updated physical with immunizations is mandated by the state. Please email or send in a copy of your child's physical. If you're unsure if your child's physical is up to date, please email sodonnell@westfordk12.us so we can check.

*****Student's with life threatening allergies and asthma-*** We are required to have new updated doctors orders and forms every year. Even if your child is carrying their epipen or inhaler, please renew the paperwork and let me know they are carrying it on them.

**Please submit the [FORM FOR LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES](#). This needs to be signed by a doctor or sent in with a doctor's note.

**Please submit the [FORM FOR ASTHMA](#). This needs to be signed by a doctor or sent in with a doctor's note.

Thank you for your help in keeping your children safe and healthy while in school this year.

Chromebook Safety

The Children's Internet Protection Act requires schools to implement technology protection measures and monitor the activity of minors online to detect potential inappropriate use. The software used to control access to inappropriate material on district Chromebooks also detects troubling content created or searched by students. Content in Emails, Chats, Docs, Sheets, Slides, images, and searches are scanned for things that might indicate cyberbullying, threats, toxicity, self-harm, adult images, or images of violence. When detected, an alert is sent to school administration to assess whether there is cause for concern and need for follow up. Please remind your student that the Chromebook is a learning tool that should be used for school purposes only, and this system is in place to help keep them safe. Thank you for reinforcing safe technology use at home.

Virtual Internet Safety Presentation for Parents-Tuesday, 9/20 6:30-7:30

The United States Attorney's Office is hosting a virtual Internet safety presentation for parents the evening of Tuesday, September 20th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. The presentation, entitled *Keeping Kids Safe and Secure Online: A Project Safe Childhood Presentation for Parents* will bring awareness to the dangers of the internet, including gaming and social media platforms that predators use to groom children with the intent of exploiting them sexually online or for an in person meeting. The presentation will focus on prevention by educating parents and community members how to help keep children safe online. We will be covering the following topics:

- **Social Media 101 & Digital Footprint
- **Cyberbullying
- **Sexting
- **Gaming
- **Victim Support
- **Protecting Against Online Predation

The presentation is free. Registration is required. The link to register is on the flyer—please click [HERE](#).

Emergency Contact Information

The district needs to collect Student Emergency Contact information for PowerSchool, as well as student biographical updates (phone numbers, emails and sometimes addresses). EVERY STUDENT in the district needs their emergency contact information to be added.

Please click on this [Google Form Link](#) to add emergency contact information and to update any biographical information for your child. If you have not already completed this form, please do so today! Thank you!

Yearbook Sales - 10% discount if purchased by September 30

The Yearbook Club will be up and running soon and they want families to know that there is a 10% discount for pre-ordering a yearbook that lasts until the end of September. Please click [HERE](#) for a flyer about how to pre-order the yearbook and receive a 10% discount.

Westford Education Foundation Event and Fundraiser

Westford Education Foundation is excited to host their annual fundraiser and family fun event. WESTFEST will be held on **Saturday, September 24, from 12-4** at Stony Brook Middle School. There will be food trucks, a DJ, face painting, pie-in-the-face, a trackless train, carnival games, shopping and much more. Please check out westford.org/wef. Please consider volunteering for this fun event! Sign up for volunteering, sponsors or if you are part of a club or organization you can fundraise at this event too as part of

the funfest! All profits go to Westford Education Foundation and back into our public schools as grants for innovation in education!

If you want to see the new principal getting some pie in the face, stop by PieFest between 2:00 and 2:20 to see how Ms. Hammer does!

Destination Imagination Information Night for Parents

Sign up your student(s) and yourself for the fun of Destination Imagination (DI) this year, where small teams solve a [big challenge](#) while learning STEAM skills and teamwork. Visit <http://Westford.org/DI> to register by Sept. 30, 2022.

Learn more at Parents DI Information Night on Sept. 27th from 7-8 pm at the [Roudenbush Center](#), room 105 (at 65 Main Street). You'll get hands-on information about volunteering to manage a DI team, because teams can be formed ONLY if there's an adult to guide them. Using science, drama, stories, building, art, and project-management skills, it's 100% kid-powered fun!

Please consider helping our students have another year of STEAM skills and creative silliness, which will help them in school and throughout life. For more information, contact Jodie K. Holway (Jkholway@gmail.com) the town coordinator for [DI in Westford](#). Click on this [LINK](#) for a flyer with more information.

Stony Brook PTO

Thank you to the generous parents who have already donated to the [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#), the PTO's primary source of funds.

We urge you to please consider contributing to help us reach our goal of \$12,000. Without your help the PTO cannot fulfill its annual commitments to the school, which include [Academic Enrichment Programs](#) for the students, [Mini Grants](#) for teachers, Gr.8 Celebration Event, etc.

Here is an update on our fundraising efforts so far:

**Participation is less than 15%

**Collections are only 40% of the goal

**DONATE [HERE](#) (No PayPal account needed).

**The suggested donation is \$50 PER STUDENT or \$80 PER FAMILY, but any amount is greatly appreciated.

**Deadline: September 30, 2022

If you prefer to donate by check, you can send it in to the Main Office or drop it off at the PTO table at Back to School Night on September 22. Checks should be made payable to 'WEPTO-Stony Brook School'. Kindly put it in an envelope addressed to SBSPTO and include your email address in it.

All donations are tax-deductible and almost all collected funds go toward sponsoring events and items that benefit the students of Stony Brook School. See what your generous donations were used for in the [2021-22](#) school year.

Don't forget to check out our [online apparel store](#). All items on the website can be customized with the Stony Brook logo & shipped directly to your home.

Please like us on [Facebook](#) to receive PTO information.

Learn more about [SBSPTO HERE](#) & send questions or comments to stonybrookschoolpto@gmail.com

Twitter

Please follow @SBSPanthers on Twitter to see what is happening at Stony Brook throughout the school year.

Here are some helpful links from previous newsletters:

[Stony Brook Events Calendar](#)

[District Calendar](#)

[Middle School Handbook](#)