

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Back to School Night last night. We appreciate your understanding about the unexpected traffic on Rte. 40 that caused some families to be late. We were not aware of how backed up the traffic was until our program was already underway. We hope that you had a good evening with our staff and that it was informative about your child's experience at Stony Brook each day.

Thank you to our PTO for providing breakfast treats and coffee this morning. Our staff was pleasantly surprised by the kind gesture and enjoyed the food.

There is no school on Monday, September 25, in observance of Yom Kippur.

Have a wonderful long weekend!

Sincerely,
Allison and Rick

Below is important information for families:

Health Forms

There are a number of required health forms that we are currently collecting:

**Please be sure to return your emergency card as soon as possible.

**The online forms for life threatening allergies and asthma can be found on the website and by clicking [HERE](#).

**All 7th graders need an updated physical with immunizations. Please email or send in a copy of your child's physical to sodonnell@westfordk12.us

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](#).

8th Grade Baby Photos for Yearbook

If you would like to include a baby photo of your 8th grader in the Stony Brook Yearbook, please upload your photo [HERE](#)! Deadline is 10/18. Yearbooks can be [purchased for a 10% discount](#) until 10/31.

Conference Date / Calendar Change

The School Committee approved a change to the district calendar, which impacts the dates for the middle school conferences. Here are the changes that impact the calendar at Stony Brook:

****The first two days of the week of Thanksgiving (11/20 and 11/21) will be full days** and there will not be conferences on either of those

days. 11/22 will still be an early release since it is the day before Thanksgiving.

****Middle school conferences will be on Wednesday, January 10, and Thursday, January 11, and both of these days will be early**

release days. Conferences will be held from 11:45-4:15.

We wanted to bring your attention to this change in the calendar as soon as possible. By holding the conferences after the December break families will have received the first trimester report cards and comments before signing up and meeting with teachers. Here is the link to the [updated District Calendar](#).

Communication with Teachers

Throughout a typical school day, teachers received multiple emails and messages from families, colleagues, the office, and students. Please understand that teachers do their best to reply to communications within 24 hours of receiving them, but it will not necessarily be an immediate response during the same school day. We encourage all staff to allow themselves to separate from school-related communication in the evenings and over the weekend. All of our staff have different commitments that take up their non-school time, including families, other jobs, and other responsibilities. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

Westford SEPAC News

Please join the Westford SEPAC for our first general meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. All are welcome to attend. You will have an opportunity to meet with the SEPAC Board of Directors, the SEPAC School Committee Liaison and Westford's new Director of Special Education and Social Emotional Learning. Additionally, we will be discussing upcoming SEPAC events, goals and initiatives for the year, and opportunities for volunteering and getting involved.

Here is the [Agenda](#).

RSVP is not necessary, but is very helpful for planning purposes. Please register to attend: [HERE](#).

When: Sept 28th @7pm

Where: Millennium Building (behind Abbot School) at 23 Depot Street in Conference Room B

If you have any questions, please reach out to the SEPAC at sepacwestford@gmail.com

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.

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.

PTO Information and “No Fuss” Fundraiser

The first SBSPTO Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26th at 3:30 pm (Virtual). All Stony Brook School parents & teachers are welcome to attend. *We are looking for a backup secretary if anyone is interested in getting more involved with the PTO and is interested in taking minutes at our monthly meetings.* [Fill out this form](#) to be added to our email list for the meeting link & agenda. Check out our [Facebook](#) page to stay up to date on meetings and events.

Are you Interested in getting to know who we are and what we do to see if you are interested in joining our meetings? Get to Know the Stony PTO (in person @ an off site location) Thursday 10/12 at 6:45pm. Add your name to our email list for more details.

[PTO Meeting Dates](#)

The SBSPTO thanks the families who have already donated to the [PTO's ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#). Deadline: September 30, 2023 We currently have 10% of families donating and are at 25% of our Goal! Only 7 more Days to get us to \$15,000!

This fundraiser is our Primary Source of Funds, All donations are tax-deductible and all 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.

If you prefer to donate by check you can send it into the Main Office 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.



Learn More about SBSPTO [HERE](#)

WestFest is Tomorrow, 9/24, 12-4 –RAIN OR SHINE

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 We could not do this community event without you! Thank you for all your support!

Sarah Bischoff wef@westford.org

Destination Imagination

DI Parents Info Night: Destination Imagination!

Sign up your kid(s) and yourself for the fun of DI this year, the STEAM activity where small teams solve a big challenge while learning skills and teamwork. Learn more at <http://westford.org/DI> and register to come to Parents Info Night on Sept 27, from 7-8 pm at the Fletcher Library. With science, drama, stories, engineering, art, and project skills, it's 100% kid-powered fun! Please click on this link to learn more about [Destination Imagination](#).

Trunk or Treat - 10/27

The event will take place on October 27th from 5-7pm at the Westford Academy Senior Parking Lot. Elementary and middle school students will be trick-or-treating out of car trunks that are set up and hosted by various Westford Academy student organizations. There will be candy and treats in the trunks! The students who participate in this event are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes.