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Dear Stony Brook Families,

Today we celebrated '20 years of Panther PRIDE' with a staff spirit day celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Stony Brook School. Pounce visited classes and greeted students as they arrived, and our staff wore new anniversary t-shirts. Our 6th graders celebrated their victory in the Penny Wars to the National Cancer Society with an extended recess time this afternoon and the weather for it was perfect!

Next Tuesday is Halloween Spirit Day and students are welcome to dress up in costumes. We ask that costumes do not include any weapons, blood, masks, or face paint that covers their entire face.

The deadline for contributing to the PTO's No Fuss Fundraiser is next Tuesday. Thank you to all of the families who have already contributed to support our students and staff. If you have not had a chance to contribute, please click and [DONATE HERE](#). There is more information about the fundraising below. We appreciate your support.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Allison and Rick

Below is important information for families:

Happy Halloween Party - 10/27 from 7-9 pm at Roudenbush

Roudenbush is holding the annual Happy Halloween Party for the middle schools! The party is on October 27, from 7pm to 9pm. Tickets are \$10 and are limited! They will have a DJ and all kinds of fun! Please click [HERE](#) for more information. They are also in need of parent volunteers. Here is their [sign-up genius](#).

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.

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>

PTO Fundraising Update–We're in the Final Stretch

We're coming to the end of the Stony Brook Parent Teacher Organization's [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#).

With 4 days left, ONLY 25% of families have donated and we are at 66% of our \$15,000.00 goal. We would love to see over 50% of families participating to support the PTO- we know we can reach our goal if we can achieve this!

The suggested donation is \$60 PER STUDENT or \$100 PER FAMILY, *but any amount is greatly appreciated.*

Please click on this link to [DONATE HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. **If you prefer to donate by check** you can send it to 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 name and email address in it. The PTO is entirely funded by parent donations. All donations are tax-deductible and collected funds go toward sponsoring events and items that benefit the students of Stony Brook School.

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](#).

Basketball season is almost here!

Westford Youth Basketball Association's programs are open for registration.

Programs available for students in grades K-12th.

But don't delay! The early bird discount ends on October 31st!

Please click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS, NAMI ENDING THE SILENCE PRESENTATION

NAMI Ending the Silence: Learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions and what steps to take if you or a loved one are showing symptoms of a mental health condition. This presentation is designed for parents/guardians and family members of K-12 students. Presentations include two leaders: one who shares an informative presentation and a young adult with a mental health condition who shares their journey of recovery. Audience members can ask questions and gain an understanding of an often-misunderstood topic. Through dialogue, we can help grow the movement to end stigma.

Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM-8:15 PM

Location: J.V. Fletcher Library 50 Main Street, Westford MA, Main Meeting Room

Register by emailing Brittany Nash, bnash@westfordma.gov

Westford Middle School Junior Ghosts Hockey

Registration for Westford Middle School Junior Ghosts Hockey is open!

Key details:

*Open to boys and girls who reside in Westford or attend Westford schools

*Open to boys and girls in 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade

*Teams will be formed in early November and entered in the Valley Middle School Hockey League.

*Teams will be assembled based on the number of players at each level. Some grades may be partially or completely combined with others.

*There will be no body-checking at any level.

Included in tuition are the following: jersey, socks, games and any practices. Note: Middle school hockey typically only has one pre-season practice. The remainder of the season is games-only. The VMSHL is a "supplemental league," meaning that they are aware that your child already plays on another team. VMSHL

tries to schedule games at non-peak times, usually on Sunday or Saturday evenings. If your child's other team is a regular VHL team, they know this, and they also try to specifically avoid scheduling MS games that conflict with your regular VHL games.

Season description:

The season typically begins with a "parity jamboree" in November to set initial parity seedings for the season. There are usually 3-4 parity groupings for each level in VMSHL. Adjustments do get made during the season. There is typically a scheduled practice for each team before the jamboree to hand out uniforms and get the team up and running.

Games are anticipated to begin in mid-December and run up to Feb vacation. All teams make the playoffs, which are single-elimination and run over February vacation.

ATTENTION: Child Find Obligation

It is the responsibility of Westford Public Schools to identify any child who may have a disability who is either a resident of Westford or who attends a private school within the geographic boundaries of Westford even if the student is not a resident of Westford. This also includes students who are homeschooled.

Westford Public Schools is also responsible for the evaluation of those students to determine if they are eligible for special education or related services under Federal law, IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) or, Massachusetts State Law, 603 CMR 28 (Massachusetts Special Education Regulations).

Westford Public Schools is also committed to identifying children before their third birthday in order to provide early intervention services for three and four year-olds with disabilities. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's development and would like to have them screened, please contact Gerard Coughlin, Director of Special Education & Social Emotional Learning, at gcoughlin@westfordk12.us

If you suspect that your child may need an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services, you may request an evaluation, at no cost, through Westford Public Schools, Office of Special Education & Social Emotional Learning.

Please contact us at the following:

Westford Public Schools
Office of Special Education & Social Emotional Learning
23 Depot Street
Westford, MA 01886
gcoughlin@westfordk12.us

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.