

Dear Stony Brook Families,

Thank you to all of the families and students who contributed toys to our toy drive. We ended up with two overflowing boxes of toys to contribute to 'For the Love of Erika' to distribute to children and these will directly go to children who are in the care of DCF. We appreciate your generosity!

If you ordered Westford gear as part of our recent PTO fundraiser, thank you! Any clothing orders that have not already been picked up will be sent home with students today or Monday. They are all wrapped in plastic bags and labeled with student names. There is more information below.

At the bottom of this email we are sharing pictures of lost items that have been found at school. We hope that you are able to identify a sweatshirt, coat, or other item that belongs to your child. The items folded on the table are in the gym and those hanging are on the rack in the main lobby and being shown to students at lunch time. The smaller items (lots of jewelry and glasses) are in the main office. Your child can come claim what is theirs any time. We will be donating all remaining items in mid-January.

Early next week we will be sending home two Covid tests with all students so that families have them as a resource over the school break if needed. There is more information about this below.

As a reminder, next Friday, December 23, we will have an early release at 11:00 and no breakfast or lunch will be served. School will be closed through Monday, January 2, and we will return to school on Tuesday, January 3, which will be a Day 3 in the schedule.

We hope you enjoy the weekend!

Allison and Rick

Here is some important information for families:

Deadline for Requests for Financial Aid for the 8th Grade Washington DC Trip is 12/20

In order to make informed decisions about how much financial assistance we can provide to individual students based on need, we must have all requests before the December vacation. Tuesday, December 20, is the last day to request financial assistance for the 8th grade Washington DC trip. The form is available on the Stony Brook website under the "For Parents" tab at the top of the page. The forms should be returned in a sealed envelope to Laurie DeTolla in the main office.

Report Cards are In PowerSchool Today

Report cards will be available in PowerSchool to view at 2:00 pm today. Teachers have included comments specific to effort and conduct, in lieu of a 1, 2, 3, or 4 rating. The reason for this is so that more detailed information will be conveyed to families and students through the specificity of the comments related to each student's effort and conduct in classes.

An email with information about accessing report cards will be sent out today at 2:00 pm. If you would like to view the report card on your phone, you will need to log into PowerSchool using a browser. The URL is:

<https://westford.powerschool.com/public>

Once logged in via the browser, you can access the report card by clicking on 'Student Reports' on the left hand navigation panel. Once you do this, you should see the report card listed under 'Archived Reports.'

If there are any questions concerning grades, please contact the teacher directly.

Emergency Contact Sheets–Please return ASAP

We distributed contact sheets to all students in Advisory last Tuesday, 12/6/2022. We asked them to bring it home and give it to you to review. If you have not yet seen this, please ask your child for it. Please add up to four trusted, local emergency contacts that we can contact in the event you are not reachable when we need to get in touch with you. It is important that the contacts be local since the need for contacting them often has to do with a child being sick and needing to go home.

If you have not already done so, please return this contact sheet with your child to give to their Advisory teacher on Monday. We ask that everyone return these sheets even if you have no changes to make. If you did not see this contact sheet, please email cmucci@westfordk12.us to ask for another copy to be given to your child.

COVID-19 Tests Provided to All Students Next Week

To support a safe and healthy return to school after the winter break, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Public Health have worked with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to provide at-home COVID-19 tests at **no cost** to school districts across Massachusetts.

Westford schools will distribute two COVID tests to all students and staff prior to the December break. Tests are not mandatory, but a resource for individuals to use, at their discretion, should there be concerns about exposure over the school break.

PTO Holiday Apparel Orders

Thank you to the families who ordered Holiday Apparel. All earnings from this sale will be used to fund PTO initiatives that benefit the students. If you haven't yet picked up your order from the Main Office it will be sent home with your child today or on Mon, Dec 19. Please email us promptly at stonbrookschoollpto@gmail.com if you do not receive your items.

A Message from WEF about a Fundraiser–Honor a Teacher or Special Staff Member

Give the gift that keeps on giving! Can't find just the right gift to show your appreciation for the wonderful job your child's teacher or special staff member has done? Consider sending a WEF note to your favorite teacher, counselor, teacher's aide, school nurse, office staff member, or administrator. It's the perfect way to say thank you and support innovation at Nashoba Valley Technical High School and in Westford Public Schools at the same time! Proceeds from these notes will be used to fund grants for innovative educational programs for NVTHS and WPS.

Just make a tax-deductible donation (minimum of \$10 per honoree) to the Westford Education Foundation and we will send your honoree an email from WEF with a personalized note. The email will state your name and your message, but will not disclose the amount of your gift. *Note: Donations made to WEF in honor of NVTHS and WPS staff members comply with the state ethical regulations for gift-giving and acceptance. The Westford Education Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization that promotes excellence in education. We fund grants to teachers, staff, and the community for innovative educational initiatives, professional development, and life-long learning ventures.*

Visit our website at <https://www.westford.org/wef> for more information on the programs we have funded in your school. All of this would not be possible without the support of our community and people like you. Please visit https://www.westford.org/wef/thank-a-teacher_winter/ to complete your donation. You can complete your donation using your PayPal account or credit card. You will receive a confirmation email when your note is delivered. Questions? Contact WEF at wef@westford.org. Please check to see if your company has a matching gift program. Your gift may be doubled, or even tripled! Check with your human resources office for a matching gift form to submit with your donation. Thank you!

Opportunity for Middle Schoolers at J.V. Fletcher Library

The Young Adult Librarian at the J.V. Fletcher Library is starting up the Young Adult Advisory Board. This is a great opportunity for middle school and high school students to gain volunteer experience and get involved in their community. If you think your child might be interested, please click on this link to the page on the library's website: <https://westfordlibrary.org/teens/ya-advisory-board/>

Holiday Drive Run by A Student in the Class of 2026

W.A. student, Prakruti Kottani, Class of 2026, invites you to join in their fundraising effort to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital – all proceeds go directly to St. Jude! You can HELP by making monetary donations to help reach their \$2000 Fundraising Goal! Click [HERE](#) for more information or scan the QR code to donate:



Lost and Found–We hope you recognize items that belong to your child:











