

Dear Stony Brook Families,

If you have not had a chance to see *Rock of Ages*, we hope you'll have a chance to see it tonight or this weekend! What a show! Congratulations to the cast and crew for a fabulous performance last night!

We have extended our toy drive to support For the Love of Erika (more details below) through Friday, December 16. We are collecting new, unopened, and unwrapped toys for children of all ages. There is a box in the main lobby and we have put a box in the lobby outside the auditorium so that you can easily drop off toys if you are coming to the play this weekend.

All students were given an emergency contact sheet (details below) to bring home for review by families. Please ask your child for this form and add any local emergency contact information that is incorrect or missing. If everything is correct please send the sheet back into school so that we know it is correct. Thank you for your help with this effort to have accurate information in our system.

Stony Brook has a new Instagram account that you can follow to see some pictures of what goes on at school, in addition to our Twitter account. Please follow @sbpanthers on Instagram and @SBSPanthers on Twitter.

Our fabulous PTO has been busy at work over the past couple of weeks between providing snacks for conference days for our teachers, funding mini grants for much appreciated classroom materials, and funding an academic enrichment program for our 7th graders this morning. Please see below for more details about these efforts. We thank the PTO and all of you for your generous support of our students and staff.

You may have heard about our Friday spirit days this December. Students have been showing their spirit by wearing their choice of hat to show their team, school, and/or holiday spirit on Fridays. We'll have another spirit hat day next Friday and then on 12/23 there will be a special spirit day organized by our Student Leadership Council. More details will be shared with students and families as we get closer.

We hope everyone enjoys the weekend!

Allison and Rick

### **Here is some important information for families:**

#### **Emergency Contact Sheets Sent Home 12/6 With All Students**

We distributed contact sheets to all students in Advisory on 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 them. 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 to pick up your child. 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.

Please return this contact sheet with your child to give to their Advisory teacher no later than **Monday, 12/12/2022**. We ask that everyone return these sheets even if you have no changes to make.

#### **Stony Brook Theatre Arts presents *Rock of Ages: Youth Edition* - Tonight and Tomorrow!**

The Broadway hit musical *Rock of Ages* has had audiences dancing in the aisles the world over. Now our SBTA students have become the biggest rock stars in the school! *Rock of Ages: Youth Edition* has all the 80s rock

anthems you know and love, with a fun-filled story of romance, fame, and always believin'! Last night's show was amazing! You do not want to miss this event!

Tickets are available for shows on the following dates:

Friday, 12/9 - 7:00 pm

Saturday, 12/10 - 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Tickets can be purchased for all shows through this link: <https://stonybrook.boottix.com/>

### **For the Love of Erika Toy Drive EXTENDED through Friday, 12/16**

Stony Brook is participating in a toy drive in memory of a Westford resident, Erika Gould, who passed away from cancer at the age of 7. Contributions of toys help children through DCF and who are at local hospitals or shelters. We will be collecting new, unopened, and unwrapped toys through 12/16. There are two boxes in the main lobby that were decorated by some of our art students. Please click [HERE](#) for more specific information about the ways you can contribute to the toy drive.

If you are coming to the play and would like to bring your toy donation, we will have one box in the lobby outside the auditorium.

### **Stony Brook PTO Update**

Don't forget to ask your 7th grader about the PTO-sponsored Academic Enrichment Program [Ancient Egypt: Pyramids & Pharaohs](#) they enjoyed this morning.

The PTO is pleased to let you know that over the past few weeks we have funded several [Mini-Grant](#) requests from SBS staff. See details of the items funded [HERE](#).

We also provided a **Snacks & Drinks Buffet** on every floor of the school for the staff to enjoy during the Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 21 and 22. See pictures [HERE](#).

All Enrichment Programs, Mini-Grants, & Teacher-Appreciation events are funded entirely by parent donations to our annual 'No-Fuss' fundraiser so we thank all of our donors once again for their generous contributions this year. **If you donated to the PTO please don't forget to submit your matching gift request to your employer before December 31, 2022.** 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](#).

Get more PTO information [HERE](#). If you have questions or comments please email us at [stonybrookschoolpto@gmail.com](mailto:stonybrookschoolpto@gmail.com)

### **December ELPAC Meeting - Wednesday, 12/14**

The WPS English Learner Parent Advisory Council is for caregivers, parents, and guardians of students currently or formerly enrolled in the ELL program. The December ELPAC meeting is coming up on Wednesday, December 14th from 6:30-7:30 PM on Google Meet. We will be discussing ACCESS testing, grading, and report cards. Click on the flyer for the meeting link. Please email Amy Bailey ([abailey@westfordk12.us](mailto:abailey@westfordk12.us)) if you would like translation or interpretation. Here is the [December ELPAC flyer](#) for more information.

### **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/](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](mailto: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 Class of 2026**

The 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:

