

Dear Stony Brook Families,

We had an exciting week at Stony Brook with Panthermonium, a visit from Michael Page of WCVB, and the Stony-Blanchard volleyball game, as well as lots of end of 2nd trimester activities.

On Tuesday, our Spring Panthermonium Games were a great day of team building and friendly competition with Scattergories, logic puzzles, relay races, and brain teasers/riddles. The students collaborated and used their problem solving skills throughout the competition. Mrs. Phair's and Mrs. Oehly's Advisory was victorious, and it was a close contest.

On Wednesday, our 6th graders had a visit from Michael Page, a meteorologist from WCVB. The students really enjoyed the interactive presentation and had fantastic questions. At the end, we videotaped a short introduction to the Eyeopener, which will air on Wednesday, 3/15 at approximately 5:15 AM and 6:15 AM, on Channel 5 (WCVB). We hope you'll be able to catch it! They were very excited to be a part of it. We expect to get a link to the video they use that we can share in case you miss it.

Yesterday afternoon Stony Brook and Blanchard 8th graders and staff competed in a nail biter of a volleyball game. The 8th graders and staff who competed were committed through the end and did not let a loss in the first game throw them off. We brought the trophy back home to Stony Brook with two wins. It was great to see so many Stony Brook students and families in the stands. We look forward to continuing this tradition in future years.

Today is the last day of Trimester 2, which means that the third trimester rotation for STEAM, Art, and Health will start Monday.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Allison and Rick

Here are pictures of our winning advisory and our volleyball champions:



Here is some important information for families:

Talent Show Try Outs Thursday, 3/16 2 pm; Talent Show Friday, 3/24 7 pm

Calling all Stony Brook students and staff! Get ready to show off your talents! The Annual Stony Brook Talent Show will be held on March 24, at 7:00 pm. Call time will be at 5:30 pm. Performances can be groups or individuals and acts need to be under 3 minutes. Some talents last year included singing, magic, dancing, instruments, and some clever comedic performances. Auditions will be held Thursday, March 16, in the auditorium starting at 2:00. If your child would like to audition, they should join the SBTA Google Classroom

using code xmjd3cj. A Google Form will be posted in the Google Classroom to be filled out before auditions. Tickets will be sold at the door for the performance and all proceeds will go to Boston Children's Hospital. There will be a surprise guest at the end of the show!

SEPAC - 3rd Annual Parent and Caregiver Survey Opens Today - March 10

The Westford SEPAC, in collaboration with Westford Public Schools Office of Pupil Services, is interested in your feedback as it relates to special education. Our 3rd annual survey allows both the SEPAC and the district to self-reflect on current practices, make improvements, and plan for meaningful SEPAC activities.

If you have a child on a 504/IEP, please take a moment to fill out this brief survey, we expect the survey should take less than 10 minutes to fill out. You can access the survey here: <https://forms.gle/wqRs1B2TdfJHo9pr8>

Last year's survey helped us gain some insight into the successes and concerns, and we're looking forward to comparing this year's results to last year to see improvements and additional areas we need to focus on. If you want to see last year's survey findings, check out Survey 2021-2022 School Year results here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YPJ-a-PohwskRYZvb7ebj5LeQyEEq8MH/view?usp=sharing>

Spring Sports Sign Ups Begin 3/20, MS Boys Volleyball Clinic

If your child is interested in playing spring sports, please make sure their physical is up to date. Here is information about signing up and other opportunities for your child to get involved.

Sign-Ups will take place for Baseball, Softball, Volleyball & Track on Monday, March 20 during morning Advisory. Go to the [Stony Brook Sports Page](#) for specifics.

There will be a Middle School Boys Volleyball Clinic in the spring as well. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer and registration information.

Registration for spring sports and MS Boys Volleyball Clinic are on [Family ID](#). The link is also on the SB Sports Page.

If you have any questions, reach out to Roberta Oehley at roehley@westfordk12.us.

SBIRT Screening for All 8th Graders

On March 20, 21, and 22, 2023, all 8th graders will participate in SBIRT (Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) screenings. The intent of this screening is to help prevent students from beginning the use of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs, along with providing assistance to students if they are currently using such substances. There is a letter from Dr. Chew including additional information about this screening. If you would like to opt your child out of this screening, the opt out form attached to the letter from Dr. Chew included in this message should be returned to school by Friday, March 3. Click [HERE](#) for the SBIRT letter and opt out form from Dr. Chew.

PTO News

SBS-BMS Volleyball Game: The PTO-organized volleyball game last evening was a huge success. Thank you to everyone involved in planning and supporting this event, especially the two PE teachers, Mr. Morgan (BMS) and Ms. Craig (SBS), and our two WA senior referees! It was a wonderful opportunity for the BMS and SBS school communities to connect: students, teachers, and parents all had a great time. The singing of the National Anthem at the beginning of the event was an especially

nice gesture by Blanchard's student singers (Thank you!). An added bonus for Stony Brook School was that we won the trophy for 2023. Looking forward to next year's rematch! See pics [HERE](#)

Mini-Grants: Thanks to your generous donations to the 'No-Fuss' Fundraiser the PTO continues to fund Mini-Grant requests from teachers. Click [HERE](#) to see pics of Mini-Grant items funded by your donations.

Matching Gift: If you donated to the PTO's "No-Fuss" Fundraiser in the Fall, we request you kindly check if your employer participates in a Matching Gift Program. There's still time to submit a request for the PTO to receive a matching donation. See details [HERE](#).

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training—April 3, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Please join us for this upcoming free Youth Mental Health First Aid training. Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer with more information.

WHO SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

- *Teachers and school staff
- *Coaches, camp counselors, and youth group leaders
- *Parents and adults who work with youth

WHAT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COVERS:

- *Common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges in this age group, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- *Common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges
- *How to interact with a child or adolescent in crisis
- *How to connect the youth with help
- *Expanded content on trauma, substance use, self-care, and the impact of social media and bullying

DATE: April 3, 2023

TIME: 9AM-4 PM

LOCATION: Westford Fire Department, 65 Boston Road, Westford, MA 01886

EMAIL: bnash@westfordma.gov To Register

Two Upcoming SEPAC Virtual Events

In partnership with the Federation for Children with Special Needs, the Westford Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) will be offering two (2) virtual events:

- March 30, 2023 at 7:00pm - **Evaluation and Eligibility**
<https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuiqqDojEt2bfqhmOXFJya9Nuu3-zPmX>
- May 9, 2023 at 7:00pm - **Turning Three Essentials**
https://fcsn-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUld-quqz8pGNJ3_gRvFidCtieuSkB5uIVw

If these topics are of interest to you, please click on the link and sign up for the event.

Westford Summer Music Program Registration Open

Come join the fun for a week-long program where band and orchestra ensembles will rehearse daily from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm at the Stony Brook School! During the week students will learn new music while building community, friendships, and improving their individual musicianship. We will conclude the program with a free performance on Friday, July 14, at 11 a.m. This program is open for band and orchestra students entering grades 5 through 9 in September, 2023.

****Summer Band** directed by Mr. Adam Shekleton

****Summer Orchestra** directed by Mr. Todd Hamelin

For more information and registration please visit: www.westfordk12.us/summermusic

For questions, please contact: Julie Ottesen - jottesen@westfordk12.us

Invitation to Middle Schoolers to Attend National Honor Society Information Night

On Thursday, March 16, from 5-7 pm, they will hold a casual soup dinner at Westford Academy where guests pay \$5 for a bowl of soup and eat while listening to musical performances and slide presentations by National Honor Society kids as they describe the service projects they have completed. Their goal is to share the service and community values at Westford Academy so that the next generation can join in and continue to build the community. Please click [HERE](#) for a slideshow with more information about this event.