



# WPS DISTRICT UPDATES

January 2024

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Members of Our WPS Community,  
Each year town departments are asked to provide a 'year-in review' report for the previous fiscal year that is included in the report distributed at the annual town meeting. While often a daunting task to think back to what took place a year and a half ago, it has emerged as a wonderful opportunity for our school community to reflect upon our accomplishments, hard work and success.

As your Superintendent I have the pleasure and privilege in helping support the operations of our eight (8) schools, numerous programs and services and almost 500 staff as we strive to provide the very best educational experience, we can for our close to 2,800 students.

I am pleased to be able to share with you our report for the 2022-23 school year that will soon be distributed to our entire community. I welcome you to take a few moments and browse through the pages that follow. I hope you share the same level of pride that I do in the amazing work that our staff and students have accomplished.

### [22/23 WPS Annual Report](#)

Regards,  
Glenn Brand, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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## FAMILY LITERACY PAJAMA PARTY

January 31st, 6 to 7:30pm at Wilmington Middle School

Come join us for a fun-filled PreK to Grade 5 Family Literacy Pajama Party full of learning activities and crafts. Dress in warm pajamas (optional for adults) and bring your favorite stuffed animal.

Note: all students must be accompanied by an adult.

Preregistration is strongly encouraged so we can plan for student prizes and giveaways.

Please pre-register at <https://forms.gle/xpFGHru95cCLHBeH7>



## WILDWOOD / MSBA PROJECT UPDATE

Please Join Us for a Virtual Community Forum #2

FEBRUARY 1, 2024 | 6:30 P.M.- 8:00 P.M.

VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

The forum will include:

- Overview of Educational Visioning and Guiding Principles
- Space Summary Review
- Conceptual Options Under Consideration

ZOOM:

<https://wpsk12.zoom.us/j/85038842473?pwd=RWgrK3RFZ2tRMXY0YnlrUkZsM2MwUT09>

Passcode: 991914

PLEASE JOIN US



## THANK YOU TO THE TEWKSBURY / WILMINGTON ELKS!

Recently the Elks members presented all third grade students and staff with their very own dictionaries.



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## WPS PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

### Online Registration for the 2024-2025 school year opens: March 1st - 31st, 2024

Please visit the district website registration page at [https://www.wpsk12.com/families\\_and\\_community/registration](https://www.wpsk12.com/families_and_community/registration) for more information.

For those who are unable to complete the registration online, please contact your child's home school. An appointment can be made to obtain the 2024-2025 registration packet, required documents, and provide assistance if required.

### Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration



Sarah Atwater  
Administrative Assistant  
**Boutwell Early Childhood Center**  
978-694-6070

Justine Marquard  
Administrative Assistant  
**Wildwood Early Childhood Center**  
978-694-6010

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## CLUB/SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Wilmington Robotics Teams (MS & HS)

The Wilmington Robotics Teams did amazingly on Saturday, 1/13/2024 at our 2nd competition. Our teams finished 2, 4 and 5th out of 21 total teams. They played well, overcame challenges and had fun practicing STEM skills!

In addition to the 3 teams making it to the semi-finals, the HS team (Wired Wildcats) got the "Connect Award" and the MS team (Apollo) got the Control Award (see below).

#### Highlights of the competition:

1. Challenges of weather, mechanical failures and software issues were overcome
2. Our teams were the top middle school teams in the competition, finishing 2nd and 4th in qualifying matches.
3. Both middle school teams made the semifinals for the second straight time and were able to invite the High School Robotics Team to compete cooperatively in the playoffs.
4. The middle school achieved the highest score of the day, with 163 points.
5. The middle school won the Control Award for innovative autonomous design features using sensors!

The Robotics Team's energy and perseverance truly reflected positively on the character of the students here in Wilmington. They exemplified what hard work and determination can achieve!





## WILMINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

### WMS Drama Club

"The Little Mermaid Jr." presented by the WMS Drama Club. On 1/18/2024 our hard working drama team put on a fantastic production of The Little Mermaid Jr. Thursday's opening show was a great success! Take a look at some of the photos from the show. It is not too late to buy your tickets for the Friday night and Saturday matinee show.



## Project 351

Grace LaMonica represented the town of Wilmington at the Project 351 Launch Day Event. Project 351 is a statewide, student lead, community service organization.

On Saturday, 1/13/2024, we kicked off a year of service by having ambassadors from all 351 towns and cities in MA join together to do a full day of community service in Boston.

Grace participated in Cradles to Crayons which directly impacted 2,500 lives with their service projects. Statewide, ambassadors impacted the lives of 27,194 lives statewide across three service sites.

With much laughter, dancing and gratitude, the Project 351 ambassadors positively impacted thousands of lives with our one day of service. Project 351 has positively impacted over 1 million lives since its inception.



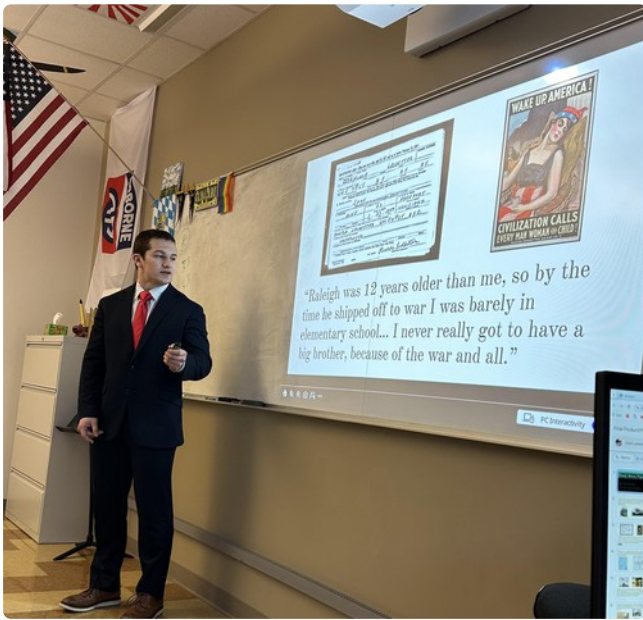
**WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**





### **Social Studies Department**

Students in Mr. Jones' World War II Europe class spent the second quarter researching their family's experiences during the Second World War. Upon completion of their research, student's presented on the numerous and varied experiences their families experiences during this historic time. This project has opened students to their family's past while encouraging discussions with current members of their family. Hopefully, students are able to preserve these stories and pass them on to future generations.



And during midyear exams, the school had two teachers do very cool real world assessments. Mike Maloney did a mock Supreme Court hearing for AP Government & Politics and Kevin Riley did a mock trial for Criminal Justice.

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# SUMMER

## Wilmington Public Schools Summer 2024 Enrichment Courses

Course options include:

Introduction to FTC Regulation



- Experienced FTC Robotics
- Robotics Programming
- Computer-Aided Design (CAD)
- Elementary STEM Exploration
- Python Programming
- High School Drama Workshop
- Middle School Drama Workshop
- Elementary School Drama Workshop
- Introduction to BBQ & Grilling (BBQ Ribs)
- Introduction to BBQ & Grilling (BBQ Chicken)
- Chess
- Music & Movement
- Music & Dance
- Music & Drumming

Check out the [flyer here for details](#) on each course.

**To Register:** [Click Here](#) or Scan the QR Code

**All Courses will be held at Wilmington High School**

For Questions, Contact: Mike Jones ([michael.jones@wpsk12.com](mailto:michael.jones@wpsk12.com)) or Matt Hackett ([matthew.hackett@wpsk12.com](mailto:matthew.hackett@wpsk12.com))

## OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



### Mindfulness Workshop

Please join us as we explore easy, everyday mindfulness practices. Mindfulness is our ability to be fully present and aware of where we are and what we are doing. It allows us to be less reactive and overwhelmed in our everyday lives.

When we integrate mindful moments into the school day, we are fostering an environment of calm and focus, which leads to improved concentration and more effective learning.

Mindfulness techniques can help students:

- Manage stress
- Develop emotional resilience
- Enhance self awareness

**When:** January 30, 2024, from 6 to 7 pm

**Where:** In person in the Large Group Instruction Room at Wilmington High School

This presentation will be hosted by our district Social Emotional Learning and Family Engagement Specialists, Erin Dunham and Sara-Jean Phillips

**LGBTQIA+ discussion group (in-person & virtual)**

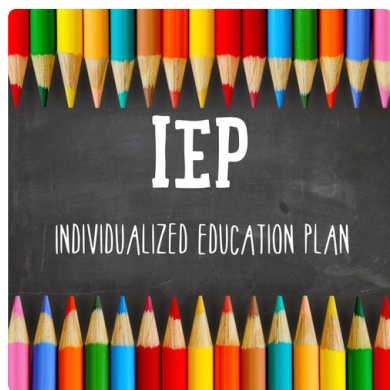


The District Social Emotional Learning and Family Engagement Specialists invite you to a facilitated discussion to support LGBTIA + students and families. We will provide an introduction and overview of terms and definitions related to gender identity. In addition, there will open Q&A and sharing of resources. We hope you can join us!



**When:** February 13, 2024 from 6-7 pm

**Where:** Simultaneously in person at the WHS Large Group Instruction Room **and** Via Zoom: [HTTPS://WPSK12.ZOOM.US/J/81771493904?PWD=BTDPUU92STVXT1DCCVJLD2JMD0CYDZ09](https://wpsk12.zoom.us/j/81771493904?pwd=BTDPUU92STVXT1DCCVJLD2JMD0CYDZ09)).



## Two Virtual Orientation Session Options about the New IEP

The Wilmington Public School District has participated in state level training beginning this year and in addition has welcomed [Allan Blume](#) to provide additional training. Allan is an educational consultant, former special educator, and professor who works with schools across Massachusetts regarding various topics in education.

Please join us for one of the sessions at the link below.

**Topic:** New IEP Parent Introduction

**Dates:** February 1, 2024 **or** February 29, 2024

**Times:** Virtual 6:30-8:00pm

**Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88657377331?pwd=TjdvRGVrMWlrQFVtSmhBUzE2M1M2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 886 5737 7331

Passcode: 987099

## Introducing MPY's New Parenting Solutions Library

Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth (MPY) is pleased to announce its new [MPY Parenting Solutions Library](#). The MPY Parenting Solutions Library is offered at no charge, in partnership with Peace At Home Parenting Solutions, a non-profit located in Mansfield, Connecticut. Peace At Home Parenting Solutions is a dynamic hub of trusted knowledge and compassionate support that inspires parents to create positive change for their children, their families and themselves. Through this new partnership, MPY is pleased to offer proven resources to help students' families thrive.



Peace At Home Parenting Solutions specializes in empowering parents with evidence-based strategies to foster nurturing connections that safeguard their children's mental well-being. The trainings are presented by experts with advanced degrees and the trainings focus on child and adolescent development, including difficulties in school, mental health challenges, neurodiversity, LGBTQ+ identity formation, racism, and grief. These trainings present easy-to-use strategies for long-lasting change.

## DESE Tiered Focused Monitoring

During the week of February 5, 2024, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) will conduct a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review of the



Wilmington Public Schools.

The Office of Public School Monitoring visits each district and charter school every three years to monitor compliance with federal and state special education and civil rights regulations. Areas of review related to special education include student assessments, determination of eligibility, the Individualized

Education Program (IEP) Team process, and IEP development and implementation. Areas of review related to civil rights include bullying, student discipline, physical restraint, and equal access to school programs for all students. In addition to the onsite visit, parent outreach is an important part of the review process. The review chairperson from the Office of Public School Monitoring will send all parents of students with disabilities an online survey that focuses on key areas of their child's special education program. Survey results will contribute to the development of a report. During the onsite review, the Office of Public School Monitoring will interview a member of the district's Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). Other onsite activities may include interviews of district staff and administrators, reviews of student records, and onsite observations.

Parents and other individuals may contact Jill Lange, Public School Monitoring Chairperson, at [gillian.e.lange@mass.gov](mailto:gillian.e.lange@mass.gov) to request a telephone interview. If an individual requires accommodation, such as translation, to participate in an interview, the Department will make the necessary arrangements. Within approximately sixty (60) business days after the onsite visit, the review chairperson will provide the district with a report with information about areas in which the district meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and areas in which the district requires assistance to correct or improve practices. The public will be able to access the report at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/psm/tfm/reports/>

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## OTHER UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### Leaders in Youth Mental Health Series (virtual) hosted by McLean Hospital

Upcoming Topics in the Series:

- 3/8/2024, 9-10am, **Understanding Transgender and Non-Binary Youth** presented by [Mills Smith-Millman, Ph.D.](#)
- 3/22/2024, 9-10am, **Understanding Pediatric Anxiety Disorders and OCD**
- 4/5/2024, 9-10am, **Partnering with Schools for Services and Supports**

To learn more about the workshops, watch upcoming series live or past series on demand, please visit [https://healthcare.partners.org/streaming/Live/McLean/McLean\\_SCS.html](https://healthcare.partners.org/streaming/Live/McLean/McLean_SCS.html)

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# WE ARE HIRING SUBSTITUTE STAFF



Help Change the World... Inspire a Student Today

**Apply Now:** <https://www.schoolspring.com/jobdetail?jobId=4406751>

**Some details:**

- Once a person has been added to our substitute staff list, they are welcome to work as many days a week as they are able
- We also welcome substitute staff members to work partial days (e.g. a half day)
- We welcome parents/guardians and community members with students enrolled in WPS to apply to become a substitute staff member

Additionally, the district has a Substitute Incentive Program that extends up to \$200 based on number of days worked as well as incentives for working Mondays and Fridays.

If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining us as a substitute staff member, please reach out to Andrea Stern Armstrong ([andrea.armstrong@wpsk12.com](mailto:andrea.armstrong@wpsk12.com)) for any details regarding substitute work, as well as joining our substitute staff pool.

**Wilmington Public Schools,  
161 Church Street, Wilmington, MA  
[www.wpsk12.com](http://www.wpsk12.com)**



JANUARY 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Printable Calendars From 123Calendars.Com

District Calendar



Town of Wilmington



School Committee



WILMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Office of the Superintendent**

Email: [glenn.brand@wpsk12.com](mailto:glenn.brand@wpsk12.com)

Website: [www.wpsk12.com](http://www.wpsk12.com)

Location: [161 Church Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, USA](https://www.google.com/maps/place/161+Church+Street,+Wilmington,+MA+01887)

Phone: [978-694-6000](tel:978-694-6000)





**Office of the Superintendent**

[https://www.wpsk12.com/our\\_district/superintendent\\_s\\_office](https://www.wpsk12.com/our_district/superintendent_s_office)