

December 15, 2017

Wednesday, December 20th is an early dismissal Wednesday. Students will be dismissed at 12:45. Parent/Teacher conferences will occur before school and after dismissal. Friday, December 22nd is an early dismissal as well.

Below please find information from Dr. Kate Carter, Superintendent of Schools regarding a new transportation option for students in grades 1 and 2.

Recently the board of education revised its transportation policy to include language that will increase bus stop safety. As you know, all kindergarten students are required to have an adult present at the bus stop in order to be released from the bus. We will now extend this practice to first and second graders, but only for those parents who elect for this requirement to apply to their first and second grade students. This provides for parent choice rather than a requirement for all. We understand that each bus stop is unique and each student and family dynamic is different. For example, the mother with a newborn who can see her first grader and his bus stop from her kitchen window may find this added layer of required supervision an unnecessary burden, while another family may find this option a welcomed change. Attached is the "opt in" form. If you wish to require that an adult be present at the stop for your first or second grader please fill out the form and return it to school by January 15. It will then be sent to the transportation office for processing. We expect this practice to begin on February 1. As a reminder, it is best practice for an adult to be present to greet children of all ages, but we recognize that this is not always practical for families. If you opt in to this practice and you fail to have an adult present at the bus stop, your child will be returned to school until an authorized adult is able to arrive at the school. Please note that the policy requiring an adult to be present for all kindergarteners remains in effect and the optional component is only applied to first and second graders.

Kate Carter, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

South Windsor Public Schools

Attached you will find a December reminder letter from Sheryl Mortensen, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction about school hours and full/early dismissal Wednesdays.

Bay State Textiles has placed a box at the end of the lower parking lot by the field. During the months of September through December 31st the SW school district is trying to collect 14,000 pounds of textiles. There is a \$500. prize for the school with the largest collected volume per student capita. This is on top of the monthly rebate of 100. per ton. Now's the time to clean out the old textiles to make room for the new ones!!

The Student Leadership Team is sponsoring our annual Clothing Drive to benefit the Cornerstone Clothing Bank in Rockville. The Cornerstone is in need of any cold weather clothing for people of any age. New or gently used clothing items, for indoor and outdoor wear, can be dropped off in the PRS lobby between now and January 5, 2018.

Thank you for your kind support of our annual Pajama Day to benefit CCMC. We raised \$471.40!

Hour of Code...Your child can show you what they learned, as well as explore further at home via the following *Hour of Code* link:

<https://hourofcode.com/us/learn>

This link can also be found under the *Student* section of our school's website.

Reminder...we do go out for recess when the "feels like" temperature is above 20 degrees. In addition, once snow falls students are allowed to go in the snow if they have snowpants and boots!

Here are the Tiger Time dates/times for the 2017-2018 school year. Tuesday, December 19th at 2:30, Tuesday, January 23rd at 9:00, Monday, February 26th at 2:30, Monday, March 19th at 9:00, Tuesday, April 24th at 2:30, Tuesday, May 22nd at 9:00 and Friday, June 8th at 2:30.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Upcoming Dates...

December 22nd dismissal at 12:45

December 25th through January 1st Holiday Break