



## Learning is our Mission



Dear Woodstown-Pilesgrove Students Parents, Guardians, Colleagues, Alumni and Friends:

Have you seen any gift lists lately? I have! A Chocolate Calculator (looks like a chocolate bar and smells like chocolate), steppers, a microgravity ant farm (based on a NASA Space Shuttle experiment) the Perplexus brain teaser, a flying saucer kit...(video games are conspicuously absent from this gift list!) December is a season of gifts. Generosity abounds!

Winter Break begins with an early dismissal day on Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. School re-opens, weather permitting, with a full day of school on January 2, 2018. This holiday season, consider adding some new traditions for your family that will make meaningful memories and strengthen foundations for reading and learning success.

During our time off, help keep learning alive by visiting the Woodstown Library. Consider having the family read and discuss the same book. Keep a family journal of winter break activities, in which all family members make a written contribution to the journal. Take time to plan special, or holiday, meals by reading cookbooks together, writing the shopping lists, and then finding the needed items at the grocery store by

reading signs and labels. Read the recipe, do the measurements mathematically, and cook together. Children can write and decorate menus or place cards for special meals. Have your children create and write thank you notes for gifts to relatives and friends, too.

For our younger students, consider hosting a play-date with a toy-rotation, where children bring over their favorite toys and rotate them through the play group. Remind your children about the, "oldies but goodies" such as board games, cards, construction toys, trains, and puzzles. These toys promote thinking and can keep kids engaged for hours.

With all of the holiday spirit around us, we must not forget the most precious gift of all...education. Nelson Mandela, the first democratically elected South African President was a figurehead for freedom and political truth who wrote, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Jean Jacques Rousseau was one of the great philosophers of the French enlightenment. In support of education, Rousseau wrote, "All that we lack at birth, all that we need when we come to man's estate, is the gift of education."

Thank you all for supporting the gift of education for our children. I wish all of you a wonderful winter break and all the best in the New Year.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Virginia M. Grossman".

Virginia M. Grossman, Superintendent



## Upcoming Events/Dates

Early Dismissal	12/22/17
Winter Break	12/23/17 – 01/1/18
School Opens	01/02/18

## Moving on to New Chapters

Our Board of Education accepted the following retirement(s).

First Name	Date
Karen Lindenmuth	7/1/18

## Welcome New Staff!

District		
Custodian; part-time	Mei	Corbin
Custodian; part-time	Luke	Hansen
Custodian; part-time	Marvonna	Holmes
Custodian; part-time	Robert	Sample
Custodian; part-time	Tony	Tindley

## Board of Education Agenda

The December 13, 2017 was the last board meeting for Floyd Pennal and Valerie Spence-Lacy as elected board members. We will miss them both and wish them well in their next endeavors.

On January 4, 2018, the Board will hold its annual reorganization meeting. This is a special meeting held annually.

Not sure when the BOE meetings are or what is on the agenda? Meetings are held once a month usually on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. They start at 7:00 pm and are generally held in the Mary Shoemaker Library.

Can't make the meeting but want to keep up with what is happening? All board agendas are listed on our website. [Click here](#) to go and check them out!

## Next Wolverine Den Meeting!!

Just a reminder for everyone that the Superintendent will be holding another Wolverine Den meeting on 01/31/18 at 7:00 pm in the Board of Education Conference room. The topic of this meeting is Fiscal Responsibility. This is an open forum held with the Superintendent and all are welcome!

## Upcoming BOE Meeting Dates

Thursday	01/04/18	7:00 pm	Shoemaker
Thursday	01/25/18	7:00 pm	Shoemaker

(this is a tentative date until after 01/04/18)

## Wolverine of the Month!

### High School

Lily Morris	December 2017
Cody Wolfe	December 2017

### Middle School – Junior Wolverine

Gavianne Waugh	December 2017
Patrick Clemente	December 2017

### Mary Shoemaker – Young Wolverine

Julianna Lindenmuth	December 2017
Adrian Ibarra	December 2017

