

GETTING CONNECTED AND STAYING CONNECTED TO THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As part of our District's continuing efforts to save money, conserve natural resources and increase overall efficiency, the Washington Township Public Schools have changed the way we think about paper and printing. We are utilizing technology as a tool to **increase** our parental involvement and awareness while simultaneously **decreasing** costs.

It is widely recognized that student achievement is positively affected by strong family involvement. We are actively adding resources to utilize available tools to improve the school-home connection.

Below are some of the tools parents can use to get connected and stay connected with our schools and their children's education:

Get Connected with Alert Solutions



- Alert Solutions, a messaging system that is an affiliate of PowerSchool, provides a portal that enables parents to log in and provide additional phone numbers and email addresses to the District. Given our District's focus to rely on email communication, providing updated email addresses is critical.
- Parents also can provide the District with mobile phone numbers so we can send text messages through Alert Solutions. This will be used as an **additional** method of communication for important matters, such as emergencies, school closings and other changes to the school calendar.
- Log into your PowerSchool account and click on the Alert Solutions tab on the left-hand side. From there, using the "Preference by Message Category" section, you can select which types of messages you wish to receive via text. Your personal text messaging rates **will** apply.



Stay Connected with PowerSchool

PowerSchool

- The PowerSchool student information system enables parents to access their child's schedules and homerooms (grades 6-12), report cards (grades 3-12) and progress reports (grades 3-12). This information is available online only and will not be mailed home unless parents opt out of the paperless option.
- View our PowerSchool FAQ/Help page for instructions on how to use the PowerSchool system. This can be found by clicking on the "Help" link in the top right-hand corner of your screen after logging into PowerSchool.
- If you misplace your PowerSchool login (also needed for Alert Solutions) or need to reset it, contact your child's individual school. Be prepared to provide your full name, your child's name, your address, phone number, and the child's student ID number.
- ***Families who do not have Internet access should contact the office at your child's school to receive correspondence via another method.***



Keep up to Date with Weekly TWP Backpack Visits

- Check out the District- and school-level TWP Backpacks weekly on the District website (www.wtps.org) for important information about District, school and parent-teacher group events, as well as Township, Parks & Recreation and Community Organization announcements.

Teacher Webpages and School and District Websites

- Our District and individual school websites are key locations to watch for announcements and information. In addition, many of our teachers utilize their personal webpages to post important class information like lesson plans and homework assignments.

In addition, the WTPS website (www.wtps.org) now features improved and updated graphic design, organization, calendar synching, RSS feed capabilities, and social media connections to assist with navigation and interaction. There is even a mobile app available for use with your smartphone and tablet.

“Like” us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter 

- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep abreast of the vibrancy and success of our schools.



Check Out Our Information and Programming on WT-TV

- Located on Channel 9 (Comcast) and Channel 36 (Verizon FiOS), tune into WT-TV to receive important information, including current job postings and upcoming events. In addition to bulletin board announcements, the channel also features original programming highlighting achievements, innovative classroom projects and District-wide activities of interest. Messages of extreme importance, including school closing information, will be streamed across a ticker at the bottom of the screen.