

# 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 Swift K12

- Swift K12/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. The District will use these phone numbers and email addresses to disseminate information such as emergencies, school closings, important events and other changes to the school calendar.



## Stay Connected with PowerSchool Unified Classroom PowerSchool

- The PowerSchool Unified Classroom 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/Unified Classroom login (also needed for Swift K12) 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](#) 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](#) 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.

## Keep up with Your Child's Classwork Using Schoology



Washington Township has adopted the [Schoology learning management system](#) to support students' virtual learning and to streamline student, parent and staff interactions into an all-in-one virtual environment. Students can submit assignments digitally, review teacher feedback, track progress, take part in interactive discussions and more. Parents can view their children's activity, check grades, and communicate with teachers on the same platform. More information can be found on our [Schoology Resources for Families](#) webpage.

## "Like" us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram



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

## Check Out Our Information and Programming on WT-TV and YouTube



■ 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. The District's newly established [YouTube channel](#) also includes archived programming that has been shown on WT-TV.