

**WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**80 Skillings Road**  
**Winchester, Ma 01890 – 2853**  
**Telephone 781-721-7020**

**PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ JANUARY 2010**  
**For up to date info visit our website at [www.whspfa.org](http://www.whspfa.org)**

**FROM THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN**

Happy New Year! I hope that 2010 brings the best to all of you. The school year continues to fly along as the first semester ends, and mid year exams will take place during the week of January 18th. Exams will be given from Tuesday, January 19th to Friday, January 22nd (see the midyear exam schedule below). Students will be dismissed at the end of the last exam each day.

Although it's only January, the high school is in the midst of planning for next year. For starters, we're at the height of the budget season. The budget process for the high school begins in November when department directors submit their initial FY11 requests to me. Those requests would be for curriculum related expenses, equipment, and additional staffing. These requests are combined to develop the high school budget proposal which is then submitted to the superintendent and director of finance. They then formulate the district's initial budget proposal. During the months of December and January the principals and central office administrators work in conjunction with the school committee to review and prioritize items in the initial proposal. Invariable reductions will be made so the final budget approved by the school committee will be more in line with what the town can actually afford to pay.

In November and December, directors also submit new curriculum proposals (new courses, course modifications, curriculum level changes) to me and we meet to determine which of these proposals actual will be included in our 2010-2011 course selection book. The directors then revise their sections of the course selections book which goes to press in February. The registration process for the next school year then begins in March. If we can work out the necessary details, we're hoping to do course registration online with Edline. At the moment some of the new courses include World Music, Mandarin Chinese, and 21st Century Competencies for Real World Applications, Biotechnology, a senior seminar: The Modern Middle East, Drawing and Painting, AP Psychology, AP Economics, and a second year sculpture course. Of course, what ultimately ends up being offered depends on the final budget. **Principal Drop-in: This month, principal drop-in will take place on Wednesday, January 6th (5:30-7 pm), the same night as the PFA meeting.**

**Mid-Year Exam Schedule**

Tuesday, January 19:	7:45-8:40	C Block class	8:45-9:40	D Block class	9:45-11:15	A Block Exam
Wednesday, January 20:	7:45-9:15	B Block Exam	9:30-11:00	C Block Exam		
Thursday, January 21:	7:45-9:15	D Block Exam	9:30-11:00	E Block Exam		
Friday, January 22:	7:45-9:15	F block Exam	9:30-11:00	G Block Exam		

**Communication with Parents/Guardians ~ The following methods have been developed to provide the best communications possible in our school.**

- Edline ~ Edline is an electronic communication between the school, teachers, students and parents with any school related information.
- Parent Contact ~ Parents should contact teachers by email. A teacher's email address consists of the teacher's first initial and last name (one word) plus winchester.k12.ma.us. For example, John Smith's address is [<mailto:jmith@winchester.k12.ma.us>]jmith@winchester.k12.ma.us
- Public Address ~ Announcements are made to the entire school during a designated period only. Check the high school website for daily announcements at [www.winchester.k12.ma.us](http://www.winchester.k12.ma.us).
- The Red and Black ~ The student newspaper is published throughout the year. This publication reports news and sports and contains features and editorials.
- The Electronic Bulletin Boards ~ The Electronic Bulletin Boards have write-ups of announcements and notices of up-coming events, meetings and events. The bulletin boards are located in the cafeteria and the main office hallway.
- The Parent/Faculty (PFA) Newsletter ~ is a monthly electronic mailing. The PFA also send out periodic email "blasts" including events announced after the monthly newsletters have been distributed, reminders of events previously announced, and other news.
- WHS Student /Parent Handbook ~ This publication is distributed at the beginning of the school year to each student.
- WHS Course Catalog ~ is distributed to students each spring when signing up for courses the following year and is on the school website.
- Report Cards ~ Report cards contain course grades, attendance records, a summary of course credits, teacher comments, and course levels. All report cards are emailed home.

**WHS PFA DIRECT APPEAL / 2009-2010**

The Board of the WHS Parent Faculty Association would like to thank all those WHS families who have contributed to the Direct Appeal thus far. If you have not yet contributed please consider doing so now!

The Direct Appeal is the sole source of funding for the PFA, and your generous contributions will be used to continue to cover the cost of many important programs and supplies for WHS students and teachers not included in the WHS budget. The Direct Appeal funds grants to academic departments and the school library, and supports many extracurricular, enrichment, and support programs for your students. Your contribution is an important source of funding and benefits your children!

Although a contribution of any amount is truly appreciated, the PFA asks that each family consider making a one-time donation for this school year of \$75.00 or more. For your convenience, the PFA now offers two methods of making a contribution to the Direct Appeal:

For additional information, please contact Joanne O'Donnell at [pfodonnell@verizon.net](mailto:pfodonnell@verizon.net). **Thank your consideration, and your donation!** Please make checks payable to the WHS PFA and send to **Joanne O'Donnell, 9 Pierrepont Road, Winchester, MA 01890. Thank you!**

Name of WHS Student(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Contribution \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## PFA NEWS From the PFA President, Caren Connelly

The days are shorter, the air is colder and winter is settling in. Leaving the house at night doesn't sound appealing. But there are some good reasons to venture out in the coming months.

- There is a "hands on" drivers' education class that will teach your kids how to handle "real world" emergencies. You can learn all about it at next month's PFA meeting!
- By providing HUGE spaces and expert drivers In Control teaches things like panic stops, turning into the skid, and emergency lanes changes. This supplemental training fills in the gaps that could not be legally covered within the Drivers Ed curriculum. Come find out what you didn't know you didn't know with In Control!
- Another evening event worth your time – the WFEE Trivia BEE, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Town Hall. The WHS PFA still needs a team to represent us! If you are interested please email WFEE at [info@wfee.org](mailto:info@wfee.org)

Best wishes for good health and happiness in 2010!

**The next PFA meeting is January 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 :30pm in the school library. Please be sure to join us!**

## CLASS NEWS

**Student Directories Available on Edline** We are saving paper for this year's Student Directories by putting them on line!!! The Student Directories can now be found on Edline. When you log in to Edline, look at the folders on the far right side of the screen. Click on the PFA Directory folder and you will find the listings grouped by class. Contact Kathy Czeck [kczeck@gmail.com](mailto:kczeck@gmail.com) (781-721-2620 ) or Heidi Star [heidi@stardev.com](mailto:heidi@stardev.com) with any questions.

**REMINDER: SAT (Practice) TEST sponsored by the Class of 2011 - Saturday, January 30th from 9:00AM- 1:00PM- \$10 fee collected at the door.** ALL WHS STUDENTS (juniors, sophomores and freshmen) are invited to attend this SAT Practice Test fundraiser. How would you score if you took the SAT today? Find out by taking an SAT proctored exam under fully simulated test day conditions! You'll receive computer-analyzed feedback identifying your test-taking strengths and weaknesses. Pre-registering is recommended but not required. You can register by calling 1-800-KAP-TEST (press 4) or go to their website at [www.kaptest.com/sat](http://www.kaptest.com/sat) (select School Programs, Bring Kaplan to Your School, Click "find out how", on left side of page click SAT, enter zipcode.) If you don't pre-register, you will need to come early and register at the door. Wednesday, **February 10th from 7:00PM- 8:00PM- Parents & Students Free SAT Test Strategies Workshop and test return at Winchester High School Auditorium.** ALL Parents and Students are strongly encouraged to attend Kaplan's free SAT Workshop. Topics will include the college admissions process, the role of the SAT in college admissions, SAT scoring and test strategies, and how to improve your SAT test score. ALL Students who participate in the Kaplan SAT Practice Test will receive their score results and learn how to interpret them at this workshop! Please contact Kate Wendell at [kate.wendell@gmail.com](mailto:kate.wendell@gmail.com) if you have further questions.

## Connect and Commit Service Club Meets Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm in the WHS Library

You can sign up for the opportunities listed below at the weekly meetings or in the Connect and Commit office, which is in the library of the high school. If you have questions about Connect and Commit, visit Kristen Ritchie, Program Director, in the Connect and Commit Office or contact Kristen via email [kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us](mailto:kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us) or phone 781-721-7020 x1999.

This year, each month will have a theme. Each meeting that month as well as the additional service activities and events will relate to that specific topic. For the month of January, we will be focusing on Mental Health. Below are events and other activities that the students have planned around these issues.

### January: Mental Health

**Tuesday Jan. 5th-** At the Connect & Commit Club meeting, students will kick off the month's mental health focus with a special guest speaker. The event will be from 6:30-7:30pm in the WHS Library.

**Tuesday Jan. 12th-** The Connect & Commit Club will be hosting a night devoted to stress relief. As we get closer to mid year exams, we will be sharing different stress management and relaxation techniques as well as engaging in some relaxing activities including yoga, meditation and lots of laughter. All students are welcome from 6:30-7:30 in the WHS Library.

**Tuesday Jan. 19th-** Join Connect & Commit for a relaxing night of movies, games and fun from 6:30-7:30 in the WHS Library.

**Tuesday Jan 26th-** The Connect & Commit Club will be hosting a guest speaker Student will engage in a discussion on mental health and other issues raised through his presentation. The meeting will be in the WHS Library from 6:30-7:30pm.

\* There will be community service opportunities on weekends in January related to the mental health theme, more specifics will be available through the Connect & Commit office in the coming week

## Upcoming Service

### Muraco Tutoring, Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 January 6<sup>th</sup>- April 14<sup>th</sup>

Be a tutor and mentor to a student at the Muraco Elementary School. Students who participate must commit to coming every week as they will be paired up to work one-on-one with an elementary school student. High School volunteers will help the students with their homework or read together.

### TOP Hoops, Sundays 2:30-3:30 at Ambrose January 3<sup>rd</sup>- February 7<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers will work with boys and girls with mental or physical disabilities on basketball skills. The program emphasizes both basketball skills and socialization. Volunteers will provide guidance and support to the players as they work on skills and practice techniques.

### Blood Drive, Thursday January 14th, 9am-2:15pm

Connect & Commit and the Winchester Youth Center will be hosting a Blood Drive. Students 16 and older are eligible to participate. A signup sheet and waivers will be available in the Connect & Commit office.

# The Guide



*A Monthly Newsletter from the  
WHS Guidance Department*

## **Junior Parent Night Scheduled For January 12, 2010**

The Guidance Department's Early College Planning Night for parents of juniors has been scheduled for Tuesday evening, January 12, 2010, at 7:00 P.M. The program will be held in the auditorium and will feature speakers David Hautanen, Director of Admissions and Recruitment, Northeastern University, and Walker Coppedge, Associate Director of Enrollment, Tufts University. The admissions professionals will describe the admissions process from the colleges' perspective. Guidance Director Sherri Lewis-Sholler will discuss how to get started on the college selection process, with an emphasis on how to begin the college search, what to look for when visiting colleges, and a suggested schedule for college admissions testing. The Early College Planning Night is the first in a series of workshops designed to equip parents with as much information as possible about the college process. Juniors are encouraged to attend this workshop with their parents.

## **College Selection Process**

At the end of January, Guidance Counselors will be meeting with all eleventh grade students to review post secondary options and the college process. Students are also encouraged to attend the Junior Parent Night with their parents.

## **Sophomores**

During the month of January, Guidance Counselors will be meeting with all tenth grade students. Students will receive passwords for Naviance and can begin utilizing career exploration tools available through Naviance.

## **SENIORS WHO APPLIED EARLY ACTION/EARLY DECISION**

**As you receive decision letters from colleges, please inform your guidance counselor of your status at schools to which you applied.**

## **Phillips Andover Academy Summer Opportunities Fair Sunday, February 7, 2010**

The 19th annual 2009 Summer Opportunities Annual Fair will take place on Sunday, February 8, 2009 in the Case Memorial Cage, located off Route 28 near the intersection of Salem Street on the Phillips Academy campus in Andover, Massachusetts. The fair will be open to the public from noon to 2 p.m. Admission is free and the facility is wheelchair-accessible. This event is sponsored by the Phillips Academy Summer Opportunities Office and the Parents of Students of Phillips Academy (PSPA). Representatives from more than 80 local, national and international summer opportunities programs, as well as interim year programs, will be available to talk with interested students and their families. This unique fair offers a wide range of programs that focus on interim year, academic enrichment, outdoor adventure, international homestay, travel, internships, community service, camps, arts, sports and more for middle school and high school students. For more information, call the Summer Opportunities Office at 978-749-4480 or visit [www.andover.edu/summerops/fair](http://www.andover.edu/summerops/fair).

## **PSAT Results**

PSAT scores were mailed home in mid-December. The Guidance Department has each student's original PSAT test booklet. Students or parents should pick up this test booklet in the Guidance Office.

Students who took the PSAT in October 2009 are able to use **MyRoad** free of charge for the duration of their high school careers. **MyRoad** is the College Board's online tool for career, major, and college exploration that also includes a personality assessment.

For additional information regarding the interpretation of the PSAT scores please refer to the WHS Guidance Website, under the 2011 Class Link. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's guidance counselor with any questions you may have about your child's scores.

## **COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY JANUARY 31, 2010**

College Goal Sunday is a volunteer-driven effort to provide free assistance to students and families in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA). The program is supported and administered by a volunteer committee comprised of members of the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA). College Goal Sunday workshops will be held at 17 locations across the state. Students and their parents should bring completed 2009 or 2008 Federal tax returns, W2 statements and other 2009 or 2008 income and benefits information, current bank statements, untaxed income (Social Security, Welfare, Veterans Benefits records, etc.), drivers license and alien registration card, if applicable. This information is helpful, but not required. For additional information, or to register for one of the locations, call (877) 4-CGS-MAS or go to: [www.masscollegegoalsunday.org](http://www.masscollegegoalsunday.org).

## **Joint Admissions Programs at Middlesex Community College**

The Joint Admissions Program at Middlesex Community College allows students to earn their Associate Degree at Middlesex in one of the 25 possible Joint Admissions majors. Students who graduate with a 2.5 cumulative grade point average are guaranteed admission to a participating Massachusetts state college, the University of Massachusetts or Suffolk University. (Massachusetts College of Art and Massachusetts Maritime Academy do not participate at this time.) Participation in the Joint Admissions Program simplifies the transfer process, since there is no need to fill out another

application or pay an application fee. This allows a smooth transition into the bachelor's degree program. Students may decide not to participate in Joint Admissions as there are many other transfer options available, but if they fulfill the Joint Admissions requirements, they know there will be a space waiting for them at their choice of a participating state college, UMass campus, or Suffolk University. To learn more about Joint Admissions, call: 1-800-818-3434, or go to [www.middlesex.mass.edu](http://www.middlesex.mass.edu).

#### **Tufts University Adventures in Veterinary Medicine Summer Program**

Applications for admission to the Summer 2010 Adventures in Veterinary Medicine (AVM) program are now being accepted. Two-week sessions for high school students are offered in July and August. The program includes lectures, demonstrations, panel discussions, admissions advice, case studies and rotations through various clinics at Tufts University's Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, North Grafton, Massachusetts, located about 40 minutes west of Boston. AVM offers a unique, close-up exploration of the realities and opportunities of a career in veterinary medicine. Interested students may learn more about the program at the program's website [www.tufts.edu/vet/AVM](http://www.tufts.edu/vet/AVM). Applications may be submitted online or printed out and mailed in. For questions, call 508-839-7962.

#### **IMPORTANT: Notice to College-bound Seniors and their Parents:**

**If a college notifies you that something is missing from your admissions file, check with the Guidance Office about the date the materials were sent. Remember, colleges manage thousands of pieces of information. Recording and filing them can take weeks. Ask someone to physically check your file, not just the computerized database.**

#### **REMINDER for Parents of Seniors**

During senior year, when a student requests that his/her transcript be sent to a college, the transcript of the first three years is sent to colleges. In February, after mid-year report cards have been issued, a copy of the semester report card is automatically sent to all colleges to which a senior has applied.

#### **ATTENTION JUNIORS & SENIORS**

Naviance is updating Family Connection. Changes will go into effect in January. Please note it will have the same functions and you should find it to be more user friendly. Please see your guidance counselor if you have any questions.

#### **Best Wishes for 2010!**

### ***Anti-Idling Campaign Seeks to Educate Drivers* WINCHESTER SCHOOLS LAUNCH EFFORT TO REDUCE STUDENTS' EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL VEHICLE EXHAUST**

Idling bus and other vehicle engines unnecessarily while parked on school property not only increases children's exposure to harmful air pollution, but it is also against the law. That's according to officials in Winchester who have begun a campaign to educate drivers about the importance of turning their engines off while waiting to pick up or drop off children at local schools.

State law limits most engine idling to five minutes or less. The restriction applies to both gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles. The law provides exemptions for vehicles that are being serviced, making deliveries of refrigerated goods, operating power accessories such as hydraulic or wheelchair lifts, or running emergency or safety lights or equipment that require more than auxiliary power.

However, in August 2009, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, under the Registry of Motor Vehicles, passed a new regulation that further restricts idling on school grounds specifically.

The purpose of Regulation 540 CMR 27.00, adopted by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 90, s. 16B, is to restrict unnecessary idling of all motor vehicles on school grounds.

1. No motor vehicle operator shall cause or allow the engine of any motor vehicle operated by him or her on school grounds to idle unnecessarily, except under the conditions described in 540 CMR 27.04 ("Exemptions").
2. A motor vehicle operator shall not idle a motor vehicle within 100 feet from a known and active school air intake system, unless the school has determined that alternative locations block traffic, impair student safety or are not cost effective. Reasonable efforts should be made by schools to identify by signage all such known and active air intake systems.

School grounds is defined as in, on or within 100 feet of the real property comprising a public or private accredited preschool, accredited Head Start facility, elementary, vocational or secondary school whether or not in session, and shall include any athletic field or facility and any playground used for school purposes or functions which are owned by a municipality or school district, regardless of proximity to a school building, as well as any parking lot appurtenant to such school athletic field, facility, or playground.

"Whether you are behind the wheel of a school bus, a delivery truck, an SUV or a car, you should turn off the engine as soon as you pull into a school driveway or parking lot and are waiting to pick up your child" said Winchester Superintendent of Schools William McAlduff. "Excessive engine idling needlessly exposes our children to air pollution that can lead to serious health problems over time."

Diesel exhaust contains fine particles that can penetrate deeply into the lungs and cause breathing difficulties, respiratory infections, and attacks of asthma and chronic bronchitis. Gasoline exhaust contains toxic carbon monoxide and a range of pollutants that contribute to smog and make breathing difficult for everyone.

Children are particularly at risk because their lungs are still developing and pound for pound, they breathe 50 percent more air than adults do.

Students and bus drivers can be exposed to diesel fumes when getting in and out of school buses and passenger vehicles, and even inside them when the engines are running. Exhaust from idling buses, trucks, SUVs and cars accumulates in and around schoolyards, and even inside school buildings when air intake vents are located near bus stops — so teachers, staff and parents can be exposed, too.

"This is why Winchester schools are serious about letting drivers know how important it is for them turn off their engines, particularly when waiting for student dismissal times," Superintendent McAlduff said.

In their effort to reduce air pollution from school buses and private passenger vehicles, Winchester school officials in collaboration with the Department of Public Works will Post "no idling" signs wherever school buses and private passenger vehicles linger.

**The prohibitions of M.G.L. c.90, s. 16B are enforceable by state or local law enforcement agencies with penalties of \$100 for first offense and \$500 for second and subsequent offenses.**



Winchester Youth Center, 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890, 781-721-0906, [www.wincyc.com](http://www.wincyc.com)

**All of the WYC leadership programs, special events, and service-learning projects are open to all WHS students. Anyone who is interested in doing something good in the community, being a role model for others, working and hanging out with other great kids, and making good decisions should check out the WYC!**

### LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

#### Peer Leadership Program

The WYC Peer Leaders are a group of Winchester High School students who are committed to their community and serving as role models for all Winchester teens. The Peer Leaders meet on Monday evenings to work on further developing their leadership, communication, interpersonal, and decision-making skills; plan for upcoming projects; and have a lot of fun. They staff the Drop-in Center after school and serve as Project Leaders for all of the WYC's service-learning projects including all of our special events and community service projects. This group is open to any WHS student who has natural leadership skills and the desire to further develop them. Anyone interested in joining this awesome group is welcome to contact the WYC for more information.

#### Join SSA, the WYC's Peer Education group!

We meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:00. In January we will meet on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. We are currently focusing our attention on the issues of body image, drinking & driving, hunger & homelessness, and sexual health. Come to a meeting to learn more and find out how you can help spread awareness about these important issues.

### SERVICE PROJECTS

**Throughout the year the WYC Peer Leaders coordinate and participate in a huge variety of community service projects. The Peer Leaders are committed to making a positive difference in the world and encouraging others to do the same. If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved.**

**WYC Jewels** - Original creations all designed by the Peer Leaders, made from recycled materials, glass and metal beads, pearls, turquoise, and more. Our earrings, bracelets, and necklaces make great holiday presents. Stop by the WYC to see what we've created or come to an upcoming jewelry party. All proceeds benefit our youth development programs

**Woburn Food Pantry, Lowell Wish Project, Animal Rescue League** - The Peer Leaders are collecting donations for these local charities. Please stop by the WYC any day from 2:00-5:00 to drop off any of the following items: Non-perishable foods, Lightly used pots & pans, jeans & sweatshirts, winter jackets & outerwear, and baby gear, clean cotton bath towels, laundry detergent, and new dog & cat toys.

#### SUPPORT THE WYC PEER LEADERS' APRIL VACATION HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TRIP

During April vacation 15 of the WYC Peer Leaders will be participating in our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Habitat for Humanity trip. We will be traveling to Erie Pennsylvania to complete a week-long service-learning experience building homes for families in need.

We are currently working toward fundraising 100% of the expenses for our trip including a \$2250 donation to the Habitat affiliate.

Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

Proceeds from all of the following fundraising efforts will benefit our trip:

**Dump Runs** - Let us take care of your trash on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. We are currently selling \$10 dump run vouchers. Contact the WYC for more information.

**Raffle tickets** - Buy your \$20 tickets for the chance to win: iPod Touch, GPS Navigation System, \$100 Simon Mall Gift Card, Drawing: April 9<sup>th</sup>. Contact the WYC for more information.

**WYC COFFEE HOUSE** - Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 8:00-11:00 Featuring live music, delicious homemade desserts, frappes, and coffee drinks. \$5 admission. High school students only. As with all WYC events, there is no re-entry and outside drinks are not allowed. Proceeds will benefit the WYC Peer Leaders' April vacation Habitat for Humanity trip.

### COMMUNITY NEWS - JANUARY 2010

**The Winchester ABC Program will hold its next Bottle Drive on Saturday, January 9, 2010, from 8 AM to 3 PM in the parking lot behind the Sons of Italy Hall at the entrance to the transfer station.** Your returnable bottles and cans help to finance the ABC Program. As always, volunteers are needed the day of the drive to help sort the bottles and cans. If you have an hour or two and can help, please know that you are welcome. For more information, please call Brian Sergenian at 781-721-0242.

#### WFEE News

Thanks to a grant from the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence, some social studies teachers at WHS are re-thinking their approach in the classroom. Director Marge Harvey, Katy Rees and Chris Marques recently participated in the National Council for Social Studies conference, "Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools." "Totally exhilarating" is how Mrs. Harvey described the conference, noting it was also an excellent resource as she considers the purchase of new textbooks for WHS. Both Ms. Rees and Mr. Marques said the conference introduced them to new ways of teaching and interesting classroom materials. According to Ms. Rees, "I came away from the event with a lot of excitement for some changes I'd like to make in our curriculum and in my classroom, along with the tools I needed to do this effectively." If you would like to support programs like these please consider a gift to WFEE either through our website at [www.wfee.org](http://www.wfee.org) or by mail to PO Box 1005, Winchester, MA 01890. It is with strong community backing that WFEE is able to support innovation and excellence in Winchester's public schools.

**WFEE Trivia Bee: Wednesday, February 3, 7:00pm at the Winchester Town Hall.** More information can be found at [www.wfee.org](http://www.wfee.org).

**Parent to Parent presents:**

**Parent to Parent will be hosting its annual "Evening With the Superintendent" on Thursday, January 21, 2010, 7:30 to 9pm at Winchester High School.** Please join us for a "state of our schools" report and open dialogue with Superintendent William McAlduff. Topics may include the school budget, curriculum, new programs, school building maintenance, sports and fields, and more. To submit your questions ahead of time to the superintendent, please send them to [info@parenttoparentwinchester.org](mailto:info@parenttoparentwinchester.org).

**Parenting Book Group discussion of "Mom, Jason's Breathing on Me!" The Solutions to Sibling Bickering by Anthony Wolf, Ph.D.**  
**Join us on Thursday, February 25, 2010 from 7 to 9pm at the Winchester Public Library.** This insightful book explores one of the greatest banes of parenting--sibling bickering. The author, using anecdotes from his own life, gives parents ammunition through tried-and-true tactics. Wolf addresses many other aspects of childrearing including how parents can teach fairness to children while remaining above the fray. Books will be available at the circulation desk of the library and on sale at BookEnds. You do not have to have read the book to participate.

Looking for something to keep the winter blues away? The Network invites you to enjoy a festive winter evening of music, fun, and food, in collaboration with the Winchester Public Library, The Winchester Seniors Association, the Griffin Museum and the Winchester Community Music School.

**Saturday Night at the Movies, Saturday, January 9, 2010, 5:30 to 10 PM, a progressive dinner party, Locations: Winchester Community Music School, Jenks Center, and Griffin Museum.** Tickets: \$55 per person, available at the Jenks Center, BookEnds, and the Winchester Public Library. Are we going to a movie? No, but the evening's theme revolves around movies and the controversy in Winchester in the '20s and '30s when the prospect of a movie theater being built in town caused quite a commotion. You'll start with a shuttle bus ride from the Jenks parking lot to the Music School where wine, beer, and sparkling water, along with hors d'oeuvres, will be served while you listen to performances of movie music themes and test your trivia knowledge. Then you return to the Jenks Center for dinner and a performance by Robert Hallisey and Ellen Knight as they present a semi-staged Readers' Theater "Say 'No' to Movies". After that, it's off to the Griffin Museum of Photography for dessert and coffee. Is this event a fundraiser? No, but all of our organizations are joining to encourage our members and friends to connect with one another in the spirit of building and nurturing community. We hope you will join us! For more information, call the Multicultural Network office at 781-729-7100 or email [office@wmcn.org](mailto:office@wmcn.org).

**The Multicultural Network will sponsor a three-part workshop facilitated by the Rev. Eric Dupee entitled "Building Inclusive Community" on Wednesday evenings January 20, 27, and February 3 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Winchester Public Library.** Participants will look at cultural norms, how a community maintains its boundaries, and specific ways a community can become more inclusive. Rev. Dupee will draw from resources both within the Christian tradition and secular culture and the meetings are open to anyone with a desire to build inclusive community in any context. For more information or to register, email [office@wmcn.org](mailto:office@wmcn.org) or call 781-729-8063.

**The Winchester High School Marching Band and Band Director Priscilla Miller** would like to *thank* the WHS PFA for their generous donation to the WHS Marching Band Uniform Fund. We were able to purchase garment bags for the new uniforms and raincoats with the donation. We would also like to *thank* the Friends of Music, the EnKa Society, Winchester Cooperative Theater for Children, Winchester Cooperative Bank, Cummings Foundation, VFW, Sons of Italy and the Rotary Foundation for their various grants and gifts. A special *thank you* to the former and current band members and their families and the Winchester community who graciously contributed to the uniform fund. The band displayed their new uniforms at the Thanksgiving Day game for all to see and they look forward to wearing them again for the EnKa Day and Memorial Day parades next year. While the bulk of the fundraising has been completed, our work is not done, as additional uniforms are needed to accommodate future band members with the increased enrollment in the Winchester Public Schools. If you have not already done so, please consider making a contribution to Winchester Friends of Music, 4 Magnolia Way, Winchester, MA 01890. Checks should be made payable to: "Friends of Music." For more information, email our Treasurer, Anne Marie Hill at [hill.davis@comcast.net](mailto:hill.davis@comcast.net).

Yes, I would like to help the WHS Marching Band!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your generosity and your continued support of the WHS Marching Band.*

**The Winchester Public School Preschool is sponsoring an Open House**  
Winchester Preschool, Lynch Elementary School, Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 9:30 - 10:30AM and 7:00-8:00 PM. Please call 781-721-7015 to reserve your space.



**ANNOUNCING...TOPS for Hoops Bringing the joy and excitement of basketball to young athletes with disabilities**  
A new program offered by the Winchester Youth Basketball Association, this program follows a similar format as the TOPSoccer Program and provides an opportunity for all children with disabilities to play basketball through rule and equipment adaptation. Athletes between the ages of 6 and 16 are invited to participate in a modified game of basketball once a week. A volunteer group of "junior coaches" serve as one-on-one buddies with TOPS athletes.  
**Schedule:** Beginning in January, the Program runs six Sundays from Jan 3rd to Feb 7th Location is Ambrose School in Winchester, Time is 2:30-3:30 p.m. Everyone from anywhere is welcome. If you are interested in Winchester's TOPS for Hoops program as either an athlete or junior coach, please contact Jeff Calnan, TOPS for Hoops Director, at [jfcalnan@yahoo.com](mailto:jfcalnan@yahoo.com). No prior basketball experience necessary.

FANSplash is pleased to announce that the Arthur Griffin Foundation for Winchester has pledged a grant of \$15,000 towards the construction of the splash park at Borggaard Beach. The Foundation will match on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to a maximum of \$15,000, any contributions of cash received by or pledged in support of the project from December 15, 2009 through April 1, 2010. FANSplash is grateful for their generosity, and for their continual support of beautification projects in Winchester. FAN is also grateful to Ed Grant, Jay Gill and their wonderful team at Winchester's Department of Public Works, and to Mr. Whitehead of the Conservation Commission.

FANSplash's goal is to create a community gathering place that is accessible and welcoming to all ages by maximizing the site's existing assets and adding several new features. FANSplash has a little over \$100,000 left to raise for the splash park and this grant will help to make a major impact and increase our chances to have the splash pad installed by this summer!

You can learn more about the FANSplash project and make a secure tax deductible donation online at [www.fansplash.org](http://www.fansplash.org). You can also go to [www.winrec.com](http://www.winrec.com) or call 781.721.7126 to learn about their major fundraiser - a tile making opportunity where you can decorate a tile that will be installed on the bathhouse and will become part of the lasting legacy. More than 90% of the proceeds from each tile will go directly towards the Revitalization Project. All donations are tax deductible and go directly towards creating a wonderful, inclusive, water-based recreational gathering place for all to enjoy!

**BACKPACKS FOR KIDS AT SIXSEEDS VIDEO** During this season of joy, but also of "gimme gimme" and "can you get me \_\_\_\_\_?", sometimes it's nice for a family to be reminded of their blessings and get together to help those who are less fortunate. If you're looking for something in that vein to do, SixSeeds Video (600 Main Street) has a Seed Pack-It project going on at the store ([SeedPackIt@SixSeeds.org](mailto:SeedPackIt@SixSeeds.org) or 781-721-1422). Families, groups and individuals can come to the store, pack a backpack full of school supplies and basic care items (notebooks, crayons, pencils, blanket, toothbrush and much more), write a letter and ship the pack to children living in a squatter community in Mexico - all for only \$25 (you also have the option of taking the supplies home and doing the packing there). The Kingston family (Caitlin - Grade 11, Annalise - Grade 9, Christopher - Grade 5 and William - Grade 1) along with their parents, have visited these kids living on the hillsides of Tijuana for the last four years and know they could use the help of our wonderful community! **SIXSEEDS LAUNCHES A NEW WEBSITE - [SixSeeds.tv](http://SixSeeds.tv)**. The Kingston Family who founded the organization SixSeeds, has just launched a brand new website to help busy parents navigate this increasingly intricate world of popular culture. "In today's world, we're constantly surrounded by stories. SixSeeds.tv is an entertaining prism for parents who are plugged in and looking for the good in movies, television, sports, books, music, gaming, civic affairs, and fun family service opportunities." Please see [www.SixSeeds.tv](http://www.SixSeeds.tv) for more!!

#### Let Troop 507 Help Recycle Your Christmas Tree

The Boy Scouts of Troop 507 will collect old holiday trees from Winchester residents again this year. On Saturday, January 9, 2010, the Scouts will collect trees from those residents who have pre-registered with a \$10 fee and bring the trees to the Transfer Station. This is sixteenth year that this successful fundraiser has helped Winchester residents dispose of their old trees, while helping the troop raise money for equipment and trips. The deadline for paid pre-registrations is Monday, January 4, 2010. Please send your orders with name, address, and telephone number and a check for \$10 per tree to the order of Troop 507, c/o Douglas Benedict, 5 Tufts Road, Winchester, MA 01890. Email your questions to [boyscout507trees@gmail.com](mailto:boyscout507trees@gmail.com) or call 781-820-2141 for more information. All trees must be curbside by 7AM on Saturday January 9, 2010. Please make sure that you remove all wiring, ornaments and plastics. The boys thank you for your support!

#### January's Hottest Ticket in Town

The Winton Club is holding its 89th annual Cabaret to benefit Winchester Hospital. The show runs from January 26-30, 2010 at Winchester Town Hall. This year's theme is "*Celebration of Life*". This year's cabaret will portray in song and dance the various stages of life: birth, youth, adult, and senior along with the celebrations associated with the milestones in each of these stages. Also incorporated in the theme is the constant presence of Winchester Hospital as an integral part of enhancing our well being to ensure that each of life's celebration can be enjoyed to the fullest. Winton Cabaret is a fun evening out for everyone. Best of all, you will be supporting a great cause as all show proceeds benefit Winchester Hospital. Get a group together and join the fun at "*Celebration of Life*". For ticket information call - 781-729-5307 or go to <http://cabaret.wintonclub.org>.

