

WHS PFA DIRECT APPEAL
Monthly Update
January 28, 2012

Collections currently stand at \$25,904.26 from 269 donations for a 29% participation rate, requiring another roughly \$1,100 in order to meet the budget set for the year of \$27,000. Only one donation (of \$100.00) was received in the month of January, from a new dental practice making donations to the local PFA for each new patient. Of note, we once again have generously received a donation from Sandy Thompson, who is on the School Counsel, but has no children in the high school.

Collection efforts continue. A Direct Mail postcard will be sent out over the coming week to those WHS families that have not yet contributed, in conjunction with an e-mail blast seeking more donations.

Of note, below is comparative donation history over the past 3 years. As previously presented, donation trends have been on the decline, likely largely reflective of the economic times we are in. The amount (\$ and #) of donations by generally Oct. 1 of each year, are a key indicator of the likely success each year, with the bulk of donations collected at each year's Open House. I suspect this year's collections are impacted by two primary factors: 1) The early start of school this year may have altered the early collections of donations that we have previously benefitted from, and 2) competition for "attention" at the Open House for people's attention.

A key issue to note is the drop in the participation rate YTD, and finding ways to increase that is key.

	\$ Collected YTD	# Families YTD / Participation Rate	\$ Collected by Prior Oct.	# Families by Oct.
January, 2012	\$25,904.26	268 / 29%	\$19,819	210
January, 2011	\$30,846.06	327 / 35%	\$25,075	267
January, 2010	\$32,288.85	351 / 38%	\$27,022	293

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne O'Donnell

CLASS NEWS

SENIOR CLASS

We held a meeting for Senior Parents interested in volunteering to help with end of year activities. This was well attended and we began to create sub-committees for events. Any interested parents may contact me (lynn.bailey@comcast.net) to volunteer to help. We will also put a call out for Junior Parents to help staff Senior events.

EOY Dates to know:

May 30, 2012 Senior Prom @ The Seaport Hotel
May 31, 2012 Luau @ Borggaard Beach
June 1, 2012 Senior Luncheon
June 3, 2012 Graduation

The senior class also announced its candidates for Mr. WHS which will be held on Sunday, March 25th. They are Kristof Vajda, Keegan Delurey, Eddie Schneider, Thomas Yokum, Phil Michienzi and Brendan Kelley.

JUNIOR CLASS

The Junior Class officers have been very busy planning the "**Return of the Junior Prom.**" The Junior Prom will be held on April 27th, the Friday after vacation, at the Lincoln School. Like their successful fall fundraising sweatshirt, the **theme is RETRO**--the decor, photo backdrops, and *some* music will harken back to the 50s, 60s 70s and 80s. So, we encourage students to talk to their parents and grandparents, pull out those old yearbooks and take a look at what the fashions were way back when, and start planning your own version of a Junior Prom. Committees for decorations, entertainment/photo, food and beverage, and set-up/strike have been formed. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact either the class officers or the teacher advisors. Class Officers: Kenzie Koss, Mike Marotta, Dan Boulanger and Alex George. Teacher Advisors: Krystin Morin and Stephanie Kudlate

FRESHMAN CLASS

Plans are underway for the "Semi" which will be held at Town Hall on Friday, March 2nd. The Class of 2015 has a new faculty advisor, Ms. Reese, and the officers are considering "bonding" activities for the class over the winter months along with charitable fundraisers.

Submitted by Marie Sabatino

GRANTS

John McCann submitted a grant request in January for \$250 to buy 5 pay-as-you-go cell phones to be used during the Humanities trip to Rome 2/15-2/22. They will pay for actual usage from trip funds and then turn the phones over to Tom Gwin for use by other groups in the future. We will ask for a vote of approval at the February meeting.

Submitted by Brenda Reishus and Carol Savage

1/26/12