

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

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER 2009

For up to date info visit our website at www.whspfa.org

From the Office of Principal Tom Gwin

Welcome to the 2009-2010 academic year! School begins Tuesday, September 1st. Ninth graders should report to the high school auditorium at 7:45 a.m. and will be dismissed at 11:15 a.m. Tenth graders should report to the auditorium and eleventh and twelfth graders should report to homeroom at 11:30 pm. Check the opening day schedule found later in the newsletter for further details.

The PAL (Peer Alliance Link) program will again ease the transition of the incoming ninth graders. About 100 PALs (10th, 11th and 12th graders) will serve as mentors to the freshmen, helping them out in homeroom and providing a tour of the school, on the first day. Each PAL will serve as a mentor to three ninth graders. After homeroom, ninth graders will run through an abbreviated schedule and then attend the club fair in the cafeteria. All clubs will have booths set up and provide information to the freshmen.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors will attend homeroom and run through an abbreviated schedule in the afternoon.

Assistant principals Jerry Chapman and Sue Mochrie have been working with me through the summer planning the upcoming year. Jerry will oversee the 10th and 12th grades, while Sue will supervise the 9th and 11th grades. Student schedules were emailed and snail mailed to parents and students at the end of July. If you have not received a schedule, please email whsemail@winchester.k12.ma.us. If there is any kind of issue with the schedule, an email describing the problem should be sent to the same email address.

Increasingly we are using electronic resources to communicate with the school community. I primarily will use email to communicate to parents and students. For up to date information regarding WHS, please log on to www.edline.net/pages/Winchester_High_School

Many of you have activated your Edline accounts and created your screen names and passwords. If you are a new parent/guardian to WHS, please email whsemail@winchester.k12.ma.us to receive your activation code.

Please contact the school whenever you have questions or concerns. Your son's or daughter's guidance counselor is an excellent first source of information. Directly contacting teachers and administrators is also effective. The names of the teachers and the assigned guidance counselor will be printed on the schedule that your son or daughter will receive on the first day of school. Teachers and counselors are available via e-mail and voice mail—e-mail is your best bet.

After this issue, the remainder of the newsletters will be sent via email. However you may request a paper copy to be mailed. Instructions for receiving a paper copy are found later in this newsletter or check the WHS PFA website www.whspfa.org.

I am looking forward to a super school year. Enjoy these last days of the summer and see you in September.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS: Every student, at the beginning of this school year, will be issued their own identification card. It is imperative that every student carry their card, it is now used for library book access, the cafeteria and attendance. If the card has been lost or misplaced, the student may purchase another card at the cost of five dollars. Please see Mrs. Gustin in the main office for details.

OFF CAMPUS: Parents are reminded that Senior and Junior privileges (open ends and lunch) are as follows: Seniors who have open end privileges are only allowed to arrive at school or leave school for one period at the beginning or the end of the day~NOT BOTH. Additionally, lunch privileges are limited to the lunch period that the student is assigned. They do not include any class or assigned academic block (study hall) during the lunch periods.

Junior lunch privileges are only for the lunch period that they are assigned and not the entire lunch block from 11:21 ~ 1:03. Juniors must attend assigned classes or study halls during the lunch block. Failure to follow school policy for these privileges could result in forfeiture of these privileges. Any student who leaves campus without permission will be suspended.

MESSAGE FROM SRO PALMER

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND VALUABLES: The High School Administration strongly discourages students from bringing excess money or valuable items to school. Likewise excess money or valuable items should not be stored in the lockers. Under NO circumstances does the Town of Winchester, Winchester High School, the Administration, or its staff assume any liability for personal possessions brought to school.

ARE YOU NEW TO WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Please join us for an Information Meeting For High School Students and Parents Monday, August 31, 2009 1:00 p.m. WHS Library

There will be an orientation program for all students and parents who are new residents of Winchester. Members of the National Honor Society will facilitate the activities. The program for new students includes a tour of the building, an explanation of the schedule and review of materials that will help you get a better understanding of WHS expectations and answer any questions you might have. The new parents will be meeting with the WHS Administration and have the opportunity to take a tour and discuss curriculum and expectations.

PARENTS: Messages to Students Frequently, parents call asking the Administrative Staff to get messages to students. Example, a parent may call asking the Main Office to locate a student and remind him or her about a music lesson, appointment, etc. Principal Gwin is requesting that parents make these kinds of requests only in **emergency situations**. The office staff is short handed and does not have the time to handle these individual requests. Thank you for your understanding.

FACULTY EMAIL All staff and faculty may be reached by email using the first initial plus last name @ winchester.k12.ma.us Example: tgwin@winchester.k12.ma.us

VOICE MAIL Parents may leave voice mail for all staff and faculty starting in September. Please be aware that the faculty has limited access to telephones. Your best way to communicate is by sending an email.

STUDENT PARKING Student parking is limited to the lots adjacent to the physical education building, the music wing (excluding the numbered and staff parking spaces), the large lot to the right of the front of the main building and the Skillings Athletic Field parking lot. The small lot, which abuts private property on the east side of the building and the lot behind the cafeteria are reserved for staff. Students should not park in the Town Hall lot by the Jenks Senior Center, this lot is reserved for senior citizens. Students who do not park in designated areas and/or do not use good judgment in operating their vehicles, will be denied the privilege of parking on school property. Violators of the parking regulations will be ticketed and/or towed. While parked on school property, a student's car can be searched by the administration at any time if there is concern about illegal substances or safety issues.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORMS On the first day of school, all students will be given a cherry colored emergency information sheet to bring home. Please verify all information. **Please remember to ask your student about the sheet, make any changes necessary and return it to school the next day.** We need to have the contacts, as well as important medical information on file for your student's safety. Please assist us by checking the sheet and returning it back to school on the following day.

AGENDA/HANDBOOKS The high school will provide planners for every student. These planners contain the student handbook and other school calendar information. We hope the planners will help the students keep their busy schedules and assignments organized.

The planner contains a great deal of information about the high school and a complete list of the school's rules. Please familiarize yourself with the material and point out information that you find particularly pertinent to your son/daughter. As a point of information, it might be helpful to be aware of the rules that students most often "bump up against". They are:

The Attendance Policy; Policies Concerning Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco; Computer Use and Internet Access: Acceptable Use Policy; Student Parking; Test/Home work make-up policy; Field Trip/Exchange Trip Policy; Dance Rules; Hall Passes; and Personal Appearance.

ATTENDANCE If your child needs to stay home because of illness, will be arriving late, or needs to be dismissed early, please call the attendance line prior to 10:00 a.m. The telephone number is 781-721-7020; attendance is the first item on our voice mail tree ~ press "1" and leave your information. Please be sure to give the date, name, grade and most importantly the student identification number.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM The free and reduced lunch program applications will be available to everyone. Please stop by the main office and pick up a copy. If your student does not have a copy, please call Mrs. Gustin at the school number, extension 1120 and one will be mailed to you.

OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 7:00 ~ 9:00

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Parents will meet with the High School Administration in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. You will visit each of your student's classes for a ten minute presentation. The evening is expected to end at 9:00 p.m.

DROP IN WITH PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN On the first Wednesday of the month, Mr. Gwin will set aside a block of time from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for a "Parent Drop-In Session". Parents are invited to speak with Mr. Gwin without an appointment. The first "Drop-In" will be Wednesday, September 09, 2009.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ~ SEPTEMBER 03, 2009 All students (Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12) will have their photographs taken by Burlington Studios. All students will receive a photo identification card which will be needed for attendance purposes, library and cafeteria use.

ATTENTION SENIORS Cap and Gown Measurements will take place on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, during both lunches. Measurements will be in the "RED" stairwell by the student parking lot. The cost will be \$17.00 dollars, checks should be made payable to Winchester High School with the student's name and the words Cap & Gown notated on the memo line. All outfits come with a souvenir tassel in June. Extra tassels will be available to purchase on that day for an additional \$4.00 dollars. Students will also be asked to verify their name for the printing of their diplomas. They should check the spelling and the set up ~ i.e. John J. Smith vs. John James Smith. Students will be asked to initial their name or make the change on the sheet.

SCHOOL NEWS

WHS Humanities, Senior Honors Art, and Orchestras trip to London has been approved by the school committee! We will leave in the evening of November 6 and return the afternoon of November 11. More details will be shared in class, but it will be helpful for us to know early on if families have frequent flyer miles they'd like to use so we can try to include those airlines. submitted by John McCann

September PFA President's Letter

Writing this on one of the most beautiful days of the summer, sunny, low humidity and no threat of rain, it seems a little premature to be thinking of school. But, as we all know, those last days of August melt away quickly. Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter to get ready for the 200-2010 school year.

The upcoming year promises to be busy, filled with lots of exciting events. Reading the PFA newsletter and checking the website (www.whspfa.org) is a great way to stay in touch with Winchester High School. For example, did you know former Secretary of State Madeline Albright will be speaking in Winchester October 2nd in support of the Connect and Commit program? Look for details in this newsletter and in upcoming email blasts. If you aren't receiving information from the PFA through email you can easily update our records. Please go to www.whspfa.org, type your email address in the "Join Our Mailing List" box, click on "Go," and follow the instructions.

Attending monthly PFA meetings is another important way to stay in touch with your child's school. Principal Tom Gwin always provides an update at our meeting about everything from curriculum to discipline to the town's budget. Parents decide how the PFA will spend its budget and speakers address a variety of topics. The September PFA meeting will feature Athletic Director Brian Carroll. Mr. Carroll will join us to talk about this year's program plus ways of ensuring our student athletes handle social situations appropriately. Karen Cosgrove is the PFA Vice President this year and is setting up programs for the meetings. If you have any suggestions don't hesitate to contact her at whspfa@gmail.com, you can also use that address to get in touch with me or other PFA Board Members.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer and I look forward to seeing you at the first PFA meeting on September 9th at 7:30pm in the WHS library. Meetings are preceded by Principal Gwin's drop in at 5:30pm and generally occur on the first Wednesday of the month. I promise to run the meetings with a healthy respect for your time!

Caren Connelly, PFA President

ATTENTION!

THIS MAY BE THE LAST WHS/PFA NEWSLETTER THAT WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR HOME THIS SCHOOL YEAR, UNLESS YOU RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 17, 2009

The WHS/PFA monthly newsletters can be sent to you via email. This has saved the Parent-Faculty Association thousands of dollars over the past few years and allows us to keep you informed in a much more timely fashion. In addition to the monthly newsletter, we also send out periodic email updates, so **email is the best way to stay up-to-date**. Please go to www.whspfa.org, type your email address in the "Join Our Mailing List" box, click on "Go," and follow the instructions. Please provide the name and grade of your youngest student at WHS. You will be able to designate what kinds of notices you wish to receive (for example, newsletters, Music Department news, community news or class-specific mailings). If you need any help with this process, please contact us at whspfaneewsletter@gmail.com.

The PFA is an important and active part of Winchester High School, and **we want our communications to reach all WHS families**. If you do not have Internet access or if you need to have the newsletter mailed to your home for any reason, please complete the following and return it to Robin Wolf, Winchester High School PFA, 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890. **Thank you very much, and Happy Reading!**

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Youngest WHS Student's Name: _____

Youngest WHS Student's Grade: _____

The WHS PFA 2009-2010 Direct Appeal

The WHS Parent Faculty Association's Direct Appeal is now underway for the 2009-2010 school year!

Funds raised through the Direct Appeal will enable the PFA to benefit all students and teachers at WHS by covering the cost of many important programs and supplies not included in the high school budget. In recent years, Direct Appeal funds have been used to provide grants to all WHS academic departments, the school library, and many extracurricular, enrichment, and support programs for students.

The PFA's goal is to raise Direct Appeal funds through the contributions of 100% of WHS families. Although a contribution of any amount is very much appreciated, we ask that each family consider making a one-time contribution for this school year of \$75.00 or more, which includes PFA dues.

Early contributions are encouraged to help us plan for this year's needs!

Name of WHS Student(s)

Grade(s) _____

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

Checks made payable to WHS PFA may be sent to **Joanne O'Donnell, 9 Pierrepont Road, Winchester, MA 01890**. You may also make your contribution at the September meeting of the PFA or the WHS Open House in September.

Thank you for your consideration!

The Guide

A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department



September 2009

2009-2010 Guidance Counselor Assignments

Below are listed the counselor assignments, by grade, for the 2009-10 school year. While every effort is made to keep the same counselor assignment throughout the four years of high school, occasionally changes must be made to insure an equitable distribution of students among the counselors. Please contact Sherri Lewis-Sholler, Director of Guidance, if you have any questions regarding your son or daughter's counselor assignment.

Grade 12: Class of 2010

A – Curran:	Mrs. Roberts
D'Abbraccio - Giacchino:	Ms. Lewis-Sholler
Gillis - Howard:	Mrs. Smith
Jarnigin – Michalski:	Mrs. Raneri
Miller - Senko:	Mrs. Johnson
Serrano – Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 10: Class of 2012

A – Cosgrove:	Mrs. Roberts
Covino - Gootkind:	Ms. Lewis-Sholler
Grassi - Huff:	Mrs. Smith
Hughes – M. Miller:	Mrs. Raneri
P. Miller - Seigel:	Mrs. Johnson
Silverman – Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 11: Class of 2011

A - Colton:	Mrs. Roberts
Conley - Farrell:	Ms. Lewis-Sholler
Fay - Graffeo:	Mrs. Smith
Greaves - Mullane:	Mrs. Raneri
Murray - Schmidt:	Mrs. Johnson
Schwalbert – Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 9: Class of 2013

A – Cleary:	Mrs. Roberts
Clemson - Foley:	Ms. Lewis-Sholler
Franco - Holland:	Mrs. Smith
Hopp – Mel:	Mrs. Raneri
Mer - San:	Mrs. Johnson
Sav – Z:	Mr. Burke

Senior Parent College Workshops September 29 at 7 PM in the auditorium

The workshop is a follow-up to the Early College Planning Workshop offered in January 2009 that began the college search process. The senior parent workshop outlines the specifics of the college application process. Seniors are invited to accompany their parents to this informative evening presentation.

Senior Parent Financial Aid Night October 7 at 7:00 pm

A representative from MEFA will be presenting information on financial aid for senior parents. This information session is designed to help plan and assist in the decision making process as students are completing their college applications. Seniors are invited to accompany their parents to this informative evening presentation.

2009 PSAT Date is Saturday, October 17

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be administered at WHS on Saturday, October 17. **This is the only date the test will be given at WHS.** To register for the PSAT, students may sign up in the **Math Department, before and after school and during the lunch periods**, beginning Monday, September 28 through Friday, October 9. The cost of the exam is \$25.00. The fee must be paid the morning of the exam. Students should bring the EXACT AMOUNT in cash, or a check payable to “Winchester High School”.

Why take the PSAT/NMSQT? The PSAT is the qualifying test that students (usually juniors) must take to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) competitions for college scholarships that will be awarded in 2009. Information about NMSC programs, entry requirements, and scholarships can be found in the 2008 PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin that will be provided to them when they register for the test. Other reasons sophomores and juniors may want to take the PSAT are:

- To get feedback about critical academic skills.
- To seek information from colleges.

For the latest information about the PSAT/NMSQT and the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.com.

NOTE: Students with a documented disability who have an IEP or a 504 Plan that allows them extended time or other accommodations on school-based tests, and who would like to apply for approval from the College Board to receive those accommodations on the PSAT, must complete the required SSD Form immediately, if they have not already done so. The form may be obtained from the Guidance Department, completed and signed by parent and student and returned to the school for certification. Without receipt of written approval from the College Board, these students will not be allowed accommodations on the PSAT.

SAT Fee Waiver Service

During the 2009 – 2010 academic year, the College Board will again offer a fee waiver service to assist students for whom the payment of fees for the SAT Reasoning Test and the SAT Subject Tests presents a serious barrier to testing and applying for college admission. To be eligible for a fee waiver, a student must apply through his/her guidance counselor and must meet financial eligibility guidelines such as participation in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program or household income eligibility guidelines which your guidance counselor will share with you. Only students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible for fee waivers. Eligible students may receive up to a total of four fee waivers (two for the SAT, two for Subject Tests). The fee waivers do not cover standby or late fees and may be used in online or mail-in registrations. Students who qualify for fee waivers may also qualify for up to four college application fee waivers. Parents who would like to learn more about fee waivers are encouraged to contact their child's guidance counselor.

Fall College Fair Dates

NEACAC (New England Association for College Admission Counseling) College Fair: Sunday, October 4, 2009 at Northern Essex CC, Haverhill, MA, 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

Keep up with the latest information: Visit the Updated and Enhanced WHS Guidance Website!



Connect & Commit

Welcome back to the school year! I am looking forward to seeing new faces and old this fall. There are great plans underway for service-learning in the classroom and for community service opportunities open to any students interested.

The first Connect & Commit club meeting will be held at 6:30 Tuesday evening, September 8th. We'll be starting off the new year strong with our new team of student leaders, community service opportunities to get involved with and opportunities for students to get to know each other.

If you are interested in chaperoning a community service event or volunteering during a Connect & Commit event at the school, please contact me. Being a parent volunteer with Connect & Commit is a great way to help those in need, to model engaged service for youth, and to enable a larger body of students to take part in community service. We couldn't offer a lot of what we do without the help of parents!

If you'd like to receive Connect & Commit email updates with upcoming service opportunities, please contact me and I will add you to my email list. It's a great way to stay informed about ways that you and your students can make a difference in Winchester, the greater Boston area and beyond.

Check the Current Events page of the Connect & Commit website once school is underway for September and other fall service opportunities, or find out about them through Open House night or the Connect & Commit club meetings.

Current Events page: http://www.winchester.k12.ma.us/HomePage/WHS_2000/CnC/index.html

Best, **Kristen Ritchie, Program Director, 781-721-7020 x1999, kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us**

Hold the Date!

Former Secretary of State Madeline Albright is coming to Winchester on October 2nd. Her visit will be one of the first stops on a book tour in support of her newest work, *Read My Pins: Stories from a Diplomat's Jewel box*. The evening is a fundraiser for the Connect and Commit program, the service learning program that operates in the Winchester Public School system. Click here <http://cepheus.websrvcs.com/clientimages/39852/albright.pdf> for more information and check the WHS website for updates on purchasing tickets.



Winchester Youth Center, 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890, 781-721-0906, www.wynec.com

The Winchester Youth Center (WYC) is committed to fostering leadership skills and a long-term commitment to community service through healthy social and experiential-learning activities for teens.

The goals of the WYC are to:

- Provide Winchester teens with their own space that will foster healthy, safe, and enriching alternative activities outside of school hours. This is a place for Winchester teens to engage in substance-free activities and develop healthy social skills.
- Supply valuable work and service-learning opportunities in the community that enhance leadership development through real life experiences.
- Strengthen the relationship between teens and the community and instill a commitment to civic responsibility and community involvement.
- Promote positive and healthy youth development.

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.

SSA: Students Spreading Awareness

SSA is the WYC's peer education group for Winchester High School students. The mission of this group is "to inspire positive change in our world and provide opportunities for students to become active in the community. We identify issues of concern that we feel our peers are uninformed about and spread awareness in unique and interactive ways." Throughout this school year we'll be focusing our efforts on issues as diverse as the war in Iraq, drinking and driving, local and world hunger, AIDS, sexual health, and the genocide in Darfur. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact the WYC.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year the WYC runs a ton of different special events in an effort to provide WHS students with great alcohol & drug-free alternatives. It's all part of the Peer Leaders' commitment to help their peers make good decisions! Check out our website to learn about all of our special events and mark your calendars for all the things you won't want to miss.

Haunted House

On Saturday, October 24th and Sunday, October 25th the WYC Peer Leaders will run our second annual super-spooky Haunted House! The Haunted House will take place at the Winchester Recreation Department, 263 Main Street from 7:30-10:00pm. Admission is \$5. All proceeds will benefit the Peer Leaders' April vacation Habitat for Humanity trip.

WYC Halloween Costume Party Coffee House

On Friday, October 30th from 8:30-11:00pm the Peer Leaders will transform the WYC into a Halloween-themed Coffee House. All attendees are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and get into the Halloween spirit! There will be a contest for the best costumes and prizes will be awarded to the winners. As always, the Coffee House will feature live music and delicious homemade treats, frappes, and coffee drinks. The Coffee House is open to high school students only. Admission is \$5. All proceeds will benefit the Peer Leaders' April vacation Habitat for Humanity trip.

Rock for Youth

Each year the WYC sponsors a Battle of the Bands for local high school rock stars. The first of three rounds will take place on Friday, November 20th from 6:30-11:00pm in the Winchester Town Hall Auditorium. If you are interested in registering your band, contact the WYC or email us at rock4youth@gmail.com. If you have friends in a band or just like to listen to great, live music be there to select the bands that will move on to Round 2. Admission is \$10 and each audience member receives one ballot to vote for their favorite bands. As with all WYC events, no outside drinks are allowed and students are not allowed to re-enter. Proceeds from Rock for Youth benefit the Harrison Chadwick Youth Service Award Scholarships.

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. Please check out our website for a complete description of our service efforts.

WYC Jewels

The WYC's first entrepreneurial endeavor is our jewelry business. The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of fresh water pearls, glass beads, turquoise, and more. All of our hand-crafted jewelry is on display in the WYC and can be purchased Monday-Friday from 2:00-5:00 pm. The proceeds from all jewelry sales go to benefit the WYC and our youth development programs. Please check our website to find dates of upcoming jewelry parties.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

The Peer Leaders are organizing a team to participate in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Boston on October 4th. Please check out our website or contact us at the WYC to find out how you can make a donation to this tremendous cause for the American Cancer Society.

Halloween Window Painting

The WYC sponsors and organizes this town-wide annual event for children in collaboration with the Winchester Recreation Department. Participants are given the opportunity to paint the the windows of participating downtown businesses with a Halloween theme on Saturday, October 24th. The Peer Leaders set it all up and will be in their Halloween costumes to encourage the children and present medals to all participants.

Lowell Wish Project

The Lowell Wish Project provides emergency, basic, and seasonal goods to low income families in the Merrimack Valley. The Peer Leaders volunteer several times throughout the year sorting and organizing donated items. Currently we are collecting a wide variety of greatly needed items including new/lightly used pots & pans, jeans for school-aged children, clothing and other gear for babies. We respectfully request that all items be in new/lightly used condition. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-5:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

Animal Rescue League

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is a non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing domesticated animals and wildlife from suffering, cruelty, abandonment, and neglect. The Peer Leaders are collecting clean cotton bath towels, laundry detergent, and new dog & cat toys to donate to their 3 local shelters. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-5:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

Woburn Food Pantry

Each month the Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters go door-to-door in Winchester neighborhoods to collect food for the Woburn Council of Social Concern's food pantry. On Sunday, October 18th we will be all over town trick-or-treating for non-perishable items. Please contact the WYC if you have food items that you would like to donate and be on the lookout for flyers saying that we're coming to your neighborhood. We will also be out in November and December collecting for the holiday season.

Habitat for Humanity

For 4 years the Peer Leaders have participated in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for needy families. During April vacation we will travel to a different area of the country to participate in our fifth annual week-long service trip. Throughout the fall and winter, the Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip in April. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

SCHOOL RELATED NEWS AND EVENTS

Winchester ABC Program Bottle Drive

The Winchester ABC Program will hold its next Bottle Drive on Saturday, September 12, 2009, 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 would be appreciated.

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.

If you need more information, please give me a call or call Mary D. Jordan at 781-729-8397. Again, thank you for your continued help.

PARENTING BOOK GROUP STARTS IN THE FALL

Parent to Parent and the Winchester Public Library are offering four parenting book group sessions again this year! Our first session will meet on Tuesday, October 6th, 7-9pm in the meeting room of the library. Just send a child off to college? Starting to think about college? We will discuss issues raised in the book Letting Go: A Parents Guide to Understanding the College Years by Karen Coburn and Madge Treeger. This indispensable guide provides parents with insights, information, comfort, and guidance throughout the emotional and social changes that take place during this important transition in life. Based on real-life experience and recommended by colleges and universities around the country, it has been updated and revised, offering even more compassionate, practical, and up-to-the-minute information and answering questions such as:

When should parents encourage independence?

When should they intervene?

What issues of identity and intimacy await students?

What are normal feelings of disorientation and loneliness for students—and for parents?

What is different about today's college environment?

What new concerns about safety, health and wellness, and stress will affect incoming classes?

Books will be on sale at Book Ends with a 20% discount when you mention this book group and also available at the circulation desk at the library. It is not required to have read to book to participate in this supportive discussion.

Visit us at www.parenttoparentwinchester.org for more information.

Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence News:

Thanks to the generosity of WFEE's donors and the creativity of Winchester's teachers, WHS students will have a number of new experiences this year. WFEE grants have:

- Purchased Kindles (electronic book readers) to facilitate reading skills across several disciplines;
- Allowed Physics teachers to buy software and a digital camcorder to help students analyze the motion of everyday objects;
- Continued funding for the electric vehicle conversion project;
- Funded an experiment to find cost effective alternatives to interactive whiteboards;
- Engaged a consultant for a second year to continue developing leadership skills among WHS students and to help both students and teachers make WHS a welcoming and accepting school.

WFEE has also continued funding of the nationally known and highly regarded Teachers as Scholars program which allows teachers to return to the classroom, experiencing courses at universities such as Harvard and Wellesley. To learn more about WFEE and its mission please visit the website, www.wfee.org or call our office at (781) 756-0019.

COMMUNITY NEWS



MEDIA ADVISORY

WHAT: Griffin Museum of Photography 2009 Annual Gala Fundraiser *"You Ought to be in Pictures!"* Highlights include a silent auction, balloon raffle, live music, and photos with "celebrity" guests Hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and open bar featuring "Griffinis"
WHEN: Friday, September 25, 2009 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. **WHERE:** Griffin Museum of Photography, 67 Shore Road, Winchester, MA
TICKETS: \$75 per person – space is limited **CONTACT:** 781-729-1158 OR photos@griffinmuseum.org

Arthur Griffin and the Griffin Museum of Photography

Arthur Griffin was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts on September 12, 1903. Originally trained to be an illustrator, in 1929 he picked up his first camera—a second-hand folding Brownie—and thus began a passion that would last a lifetime. By the mid-1930's, Arthur Griffin had become the exclusive photographer for the newly created Boston Globe Rotogravure Magazine and the New England photojournalist for Life and Time magazines. He went on to become a pioneer in the use of color film and provided the first color photographs to appear in the Saturday Evening Post—a two-page layout on New England.

Opened in 1992, the Griffin Museum is the embodiment of founder Arthur Griffin's passion—to promote an appreciation of photographic art and a broader understanding of its visual, emotional, and social impact. Arthur's goal was to share with visitors his enthusiasm for a medium that is diverse, imaginative, and informative. We are committed to continuing to encourage Arthur's vision through the works we exhibit, the programs we offer, the artists we encourage, and through Arthur's own work which we proudly display. The Griffin Museum houses three galleries dedicated solely to the exhibition of photographic arts.

Visit www.griffinmuseum.org

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 01, 2009 ~ OPENING DAY SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

Winchester High School's schedule for the 2009 ~ 2010 school year will begin on September 01st. As indicated below, the special schedule for the day includes homerooms, student assemblies and class periods of different lengths.

9th Graders

7:45-8:00 Welcome in auditorium

8:00-9:35 Meet in homerooms/work with mentors

9:35 First class bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grade 9

A 9:35 – 9:40

B 9:45 – 9:50

C 9:55 – 10:00

D 10:05 -10:10

E 10:15 –10:20

F 10:25 –10:30

G 10:35 –10:40

10:45 –11:15 Club Fair in cafeteria – **left side** – 9th graders dismissed from cafeteria

10th Graders

11:30 ~ 11:55 Auditorium

12:00 ~ 1:05 Meet in homerooms

1:10 ~ 2:15 First class-follow bell schedule below

11th Graders

11:30 ~ 11:55 Meet in homerooms

12:00 ~ 12:25 Auditorium

12:30 ~ 1:05 Meet in homerooms

1:10 ~ 2:15 First class-follow bell schedule below

12th Graders

11:30 ~ 12:30 Homerooms

12:35 ~ 1:05 Auditorium

1:10 ~ 2:15 First class-follow bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grades 10, 11 and 12

A 1:10 ~ 1:15

B 1:20 ~ 1:25

C 1:30 ~ 1:35

D 1:40 ~ 1:45

E 1:50 ~ 1:55

F 2:00 ~ 2:05

G 2:10 ~ 2:15

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 03 & 04, 2009 SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

A Block 7:45 ~ 8:25
Homeroom 8:30 ~ 8:35
B Block 8:40 ~ 9:20
C Block 9:25 ~ 10:10
D Block 10:15 ~ 11:00

First Lunch 11:05 ~ 11:40 ~ E Block 11:45 ~ 12:35

Second Lunch 12:00 ~ 12:35 ~ E Block 11:05 ~ 11:55

F Block 12:40 ~ 1:25
G Block 1:30 ~ 2:15

No School ~ Friday, September 04, 2009 and Monday, September 07, 2009. Tuesday, September 08th will be Day 1

SCHOOL PHOTOS FOR ALL CLASSES WILL BE TAKEN ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 03RD.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2009 ~ 2010

Monday	August 31	All Teachers Report
Tuesday	September 01	All Students Report
Thursday	September 03	Student Photographs
Friday	September 04	No School
Monday	September 07	No School~Labor Day
Saturday	September 12	ACT Test
Monday	September 21	No School~Professional Day
Thursday	September 24	Open House
Tuesday	September 29	Senior Parents Nights
Monday	October 05	Progress Reports 1 st Quarter
Saturday	October 10	SAT's
Monday	October 12	No School~Columbus Day
Saturday	October 17	PSAT's 7:30 WHS
Saturday	October 24	ACT Test
Friday	November 06	End 1 st Quarter
Saturday	November 07	SAT's WHS <u>not</u> a test site
Wednesday	November 11	No School~Veterans Day
Wednesday	November 25	Release Day/Pep Rally
Thursday ~ Friday	November 26 & 27	Thanksgiving Break
Saturday	December 05	SAT's WHS <u>not</u> a test site
Tuesday	December 08	Financial Aid Evening
Saturday	December 12	ACT Test
Wednesday ~ Friday	December 24 ~ January 01	Holiday Vacation
Tuesday	January 12	Junior Parents Night
Friday	January 15	End 2 nd Quarter
Monday	January 18	No School ~M.L. King Day
Tuesday ~ Friday	January 19 ~ 22	Mid-Year Exams
Saturday	January 23	SAT's WHS <u>not</u> a test site
Saturday	February 06	ACT Test
Monday ~ Friday	February 15 ~ 19	Winter Vacation
Monday	March 01	Progress Reports
Saturday	March 13	SAT 1 Only ~WHS <u>not</u> a site
Friday	March 26	End 3 rd Quarter
Tuesday~Thursday	March 23, 24 & 25	MCAS ~ Testing
Friday	April 02	No School~Good Friday
Saturday	April 10	ACT Test
Monday ~ Friday	April 19 ~ 23	Spring Break
Thursday	April 29	Senior Parents Night
Saturday	May 01	SAT's
Monday	May 10	Progress Reports
Tuesday	May 17 ~ 18	MCAS ~ Testing
Wednesday	May 19	Senior Awards Night
Wednesday	May 26	Junior Awards Night
Monday ~ Friday	May 24 ~ 28	Senior Exams
Monday	May 31	No School ~ Memorial Day
Wednesday	June 02	Senior Prom
Wednesday ~ Thursday	June 02 ~ 03	MCAS Testing
Thursday	June 03	Senior Luau
Friday	June 04	Graduation Rehearsal
Friday	June 04	Senior Luncheon
Saturday	June 05	SAT's
Sunday	June 06	Graduation
Saturday	June 12	ACT Test
Wednesday	June 16	Schools Close