

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

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER 2010
For up to date info visit our website at www.whspfa.org

FROM THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN

Welcome to the 2010-2011 academic year! School begins Wednesday, September 8th. 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, 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 9th and 11th grades, while Sue will supervise the 10th and 12th grades. Student schedules were emailed or snail mailed to parents and students mid 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. Each week I will email a WHS Weekly Update for parents and students. For up to date information regarding WHS, please log on to www.edline.net. Many of you have activated your Edline accounts and created your screen names and passwords. Activation codes have been mailed to freshmen parents. 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 an outstanding school year. This Fall we will be working on the *Focus on the Future* project, the development of a strategic plan for the high school. Focus groups for community members, parents, and students will be scheduled in September and October. Stay tuned for more information. Enjoy these last days of the summer and see you in September.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

ARE YOU NEW TO WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Please join us for an Information Meeting for high school students and parents who are new to Winchester Public Schools on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the WHS Library. 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.

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. 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.

MESSAGES FOR 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**. 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.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORMS

On the first day of school, all students will be given a BLUE colored emergency information sheet to bring home. Please verify all information and sign. 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. Please check that your email information is correct, as we will be sending important daily announcements via email.

AGENDA/HANDBOOKS

The high school will provide planners for every student. These planners contain the student handbook and other school calendar information. 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
- 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, or download a copy from the District web site (www.winchester.k12.ma.us, click on Business Office in the upper right corner.)

OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010 7:00 ~ 9:00

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 approximately 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 15, 2010.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ~ SEPTEMBER 09, 2010

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, cafeteria use, etc.

ATTENTION SENIORS

Cap and Gown Measurements will take place on Thursday, October 28, 2010, 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.

MESSAGES FROM SRO PALMER

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.

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.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The WHS Library will be open to 21st Century Learning this Fall. Thanks to WFEE and the PFA, we will have a Global News Center set up in the old Reference Area. There will be a large screen TV and hook up to computer for classes and individual students to keep up with global and national News. The Library will be the center for news and information. We will also have 6 new laptops for students to check out and use in the library in our new Global News Center or any other group table. Freshman Library Orientation will take place in the Library near the beginning of school. They will experience the new Global News Center and all the other learning experiences we have for them. Please come to the Library to visit and see the new Global News Center during Winchester High School Open House on September 23. Karen Miller, Librarian

NEWS FROM THE WELLNESS DEPARTMENT

Andria Belanger- Wellness Educator- Physical Education and Health
Jason Cacciapuoti- Wellness Educator- Physical Education and Health
Janet Daniels- Wellness Educator- Health and Family Consumer Sciences
Karen Murphy- Wellness Educator- Health and Family Consumer Sciences
Geoff Quarles- Wellness Educator- Physical Education and Health

Welcome Back!!!

The Wellness Department is excited for the 2010-2011 school year! Members have been working during the summer to continue building a strong program. There are many new things happening this year in the Wellness Department.

The year 2 physical education curriculum will be implemented this year for students in grades 9 & 10. Students will participate in a variety of activities such as archery, badminton, volleyball, cooperative games, fitness and ultimate games.

Grade 9 Health will focus on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs (TAOD) and mental health. A portion of the mental health unit will include the *S.O.S Suicide Prevention Program*. This program focuses on recognizing the

signs of depression and suicide and provides students with strategies and resources on how to deal with it.

Grade 10 Health will focus on healthy and responsible relationships and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Grade 11 & 12 WORKOUT- Students will have an opportunity to workout all semester! They will learn how to create and follow an individualized workout plan while recording their performance and making modifications as needed to reach their individual goals.

Grade 11 & 12 LIFETIME ACTIVITIES- This course is designed for students who prefer to be active in individual and small team activities that promote lifelong fitness. Some activities include archery, golf, yoga, fitness, badminton and volleyball.

Grade 11 & 12 TEAM SPORTS- This course is designed for students who prefer to participate in team-based activities. Some activities may include floor hockey, basketball, team handball, ultimate games and baseball/softball.

Some reminders!!

Grade 11 & 12 ALTERNATIVE- Students who have received approval to use an outside activity to fulfill their physical education requirement must meet with Mr. Carroll to review the criteria that will have to be completed in order to receive credit for the experience. The criteria includes: keeping a daily log of participation; regular meetings with Mr. Carroll and submission of an essay describing the activity and how it supported the five health components of fitness. A meeting will be scheduled by Mr. Carroll in early September to review the process and receive the daily log. Students who intend to use a school sport to fulfill their physical education requirement must successfully complete the season and receive a certificate upon completion. Successful completion will be determined by practice / game attendance and effort.

CLASS NEWS

NEWS FROM THE CLASS OF 2011

It is finally here, Senior year! What better way to show class spirit than to purchase the “apocalypse” t-shirt for your Seniors’ last year at WHS? The winner of the design contest that was hosted on Facebook is Candace Mullane. Order forms will be distributed the first week of school and also available for purchase at the Open House, Thursday, September 23.

We look forward to sharing all the news that makes Senior year so memorable including activities, fundraising, and the many deadlines you won’t want to miss!

~ Parent Advisors, Class of 2011

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2010 ~ OPENING DAY SPECIAL SCHEDULE

Winchester High School's schedule for the 2010 ~ 20011 school year will begin on September 08. **Ninth graders should report directly to the auditorium at 7:45 am** and will be dismissed at 11:15 am. **All other students should report to homeroom at 11:30 am** and will be dismissed at 2:15. Lunch will not be served on Wednesday.

9th Graders

7:45-8:00 Welcome in auditorium

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

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, 11th, and 12th Graders

11:30-11:55 Meet in homerooms

Bell Schedule for Grades 10, 11 and 12

A 12:00-12:15

B 12:20-12:35

C 12:40-12:55

D 1:00- 1:15

E 1:20- 1:35

F 1:40- 1:55

G 2:00- 2:15

SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

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

**SCHOOL PHOTOS FOR ALL CLASSES WILL BE TAKEN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 .
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 WILL BE DAY 1 OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULE.**

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2010 ~ 2011

Tuesday	September 07	All Teachers Report
Wednesday	September 08	All Students Report
Thursday	September 09	Student Photographs
Saturday	September 11	ACT Test
Thursday	September 23	Open House
Tuesday	September 28	Senior Parents Night
Tuesday	October 05	Sr Financial Aid Night
Saturday	October 09	SAT's
Monday	October 11	No School~Columbus Day
Saturday	October 16	PSAT's 7:30 WHS
Saturday	October 23	ACT Test
Tuesday	November 02	No School~ Professional Day
Saturday	November 06	SAT's WHS <u>not</u> a test site
Thursday	November 11	No School~Veterans Day
Friday	November 12	End of First Quarter
Wednesday	November 24	Early Release/Pep Rally
Thursday	November 25	Thanksgiving Break
Saturday	December 04	SAT's WHS <u>not</u> a test site
Thursday	December 24 ~ January 02	Holiday Vacation
Friday	January 14	End of Second Quarter
Monday	January 17	No School ~ M.L. King Day
Tuesday ~ Friday	January 18 ~ 21	Mid Year Exams
Tuesday	February 01	Junior Parents Night
Saturday	February 12	ACT Test
Monday ~ Friday	February 21 ~ 25	Winter Vacation
Saturday	March 12	SAT 1 Only~WHS <u>not</u> a site
Tuesday ~ Thursday	March 22 ~ 24	MCAS ~ Testing
Friday	April 01	End of Third Quarter
Saturday	April 09	ACT Test
Monday ~ Friday	April 18 ~ 22	No School~Spring Break
Wednesday	April 27	Senior Parents Night
Saturday	May 07	SAT's
Tuesday ~ Wednesday	May 17 ~ 18	MCAS ~ Testing
Wednesday	May 18	Senior Awards Night
Monday ~ Tuesday	May 23 ~ 24	MCAS ~ Testing
Monday ~ Thursday	May 23 ~ 26	Senior Exams
Wednesday	May 25	Jr. Awards Night
Monday	May 30	No School~Memorial Day
Wednesday	June 01	Senior Prom
Wednesday ~ Thursday	June 01 ~ 02	MCAS Testing
Thursday	June 02	Senior Luau
Friday	June 03	Graduation Rehearsal
Saturday	June 04	SAT's
Sunday	June 05	Graduation
Saturday	June 11	ACT Test
Friday	June 17	Schools Close

PFA NEWS

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Ann Hibbard and Martha Sampson

As I write this, the summer-long heat-wave that has gripped the area seems to have finally broken. I'm not quite ready for fall, but the nights are cool and the days are getting shorter, which means fall is coming whether I'm ready or not! So, it's time to get organized.

This year, once again, we have a busy year ahead of us. Several town-wide initiatives, including the Focus on the Future development of a strategic plan for WHS and the Coalition for a Safer Community's Anti-bullying project, will directly impact Winchester High School. Reading the PFA newsletter and checking the website (www.whspfa.org) is a great way to stay in touch with the school and keeping abreast of these issues. If you aren't currently receiving information from the PFA through email, it's easy to update our records. Please go to www.whspfa.org, scroll down to the "Join Our Mailing List" box, type in your email address and click on "Go."

Another easy way to stay in touch with the school is by attending monthly PFA meetings. Principal Tom Gwin always provides an update at our meeting about everything from curriculum to discipline to the town's budget. We will also have the opportunity to discuss the PFA budget and how we plan to spend the money we anticipate raising this year. And finally, each meeting will feature a particular program or speaker. At September's meeting, Principal Gwin, as chairman of the Focus on the Future Steering Committee, will discuss the development of a strategic plan for WHS. This initiative is looking ahead to what teaching and learning will look like in 2015 and is a great opportunity for us, as WHS parents, to provide input on the final plan. Karen Cosgrove is the PFA Vice President again this year and is setting up programs for future meetings. If you have any suggestions, please contact her at whspfa@gmail.com. You can also use that address to get in touch with us or other PFA Board Members.

Please enjoy the last few weeks of summer, and we look forward to seeing you at the first PFA meeting on **September 15th at 7:30pm in the WHS library**. The meeting will be preceded by Principal Gwin's drop in at 5:30pm. Future PFA meetings will be on the first Wednesday of each month, again at 7:30 in the WHS library.

WHS PFA Direct Appeal / 2010-2011

The WHS Parent Faculty Association's Direct Appeal is now underway for the 2010-2011 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. Recent grants have been provided to update textbooks, upgrade technology tools, and fund extra-curricular student activities. Your contribution is an important source of funding for WHS, and benefits your children! 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. **Early contributions are encouraged to help us plan for this year's needs; please consider a contribution to the Direct Appeal today!** For additional information, please contact Joanne O'Donnell at pfodonnell@verizon.net.

Thank you for your consideration, and your donation!

Name of WHS Student(s) _____

Grade(s) _____

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

Please make checks payable to the WHS PFA and send to Joanne O'Donnell, 9 Pierrepont Road, Winchester, MA 01890. Thank you!

The Guide



A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department September 2010

2010-2011

Guidance Counselor Assignments

Listed below are the counselor assignments, by grade, for the 2010-11 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 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 11: 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 10: 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

GRADE 09: Class of 2014

A - Cung:	Mrs. Roberts
Currie - Gotham:	Ms. Lewis-Sholler
Gr - Kirk:	Mrs. Smith
Klein - Nvule:	Mrs. Raneri
O - Silva:	Mrs. Johnson
Sk - Z:	Mr. Burke

Senior Parent College Workshops September 28 at 7 PM in the auditorium

The workshop is a follow-up to the Early College Planning Workshop offered in February 2010 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 5 at 7:00 pm

A representative from MEFA will be presenting information on financial aid for senior parents and students. 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.

2010 PSAT Date is Saturday, October 16

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be administered at WHS on Saturday, October 16. This is the only date the test will be given at WHS. The cost of the exam is \$25.00. Registration information will be posted by September 13.

Fall College Fair Dates

Please note the **OFFICIAL** College Board PSAT is only given once a year.

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 2011. Information about NMSC programs, entry requirements, and scholarships can be found in the 2010 PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin that will be provided to students 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, 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. Please contact your guidance counselor for additional information. Without receipt of written approval from the College Board, students will not be allowed accommodations on the PSAT.

SAT Fee Waiver Service

During the 2010– 2011 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.

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

Fall College Representatives' Visits to the WHS Guidance Office

WHS guidance counselors believe it is an essential part of the college search process for senior and junior students to meet with college representatives. In an effort to promote this contact between students and college admissions personnel, colleges have been invited to come to the Guidance Office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons at 2:15 p.m. The number of colleges on these afternoons will be limited to three. Please check the list on Naviance for days and times colleges will visit WHS. These visits allow for a great deal of personal interaction between admissions personnel and students.

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

GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

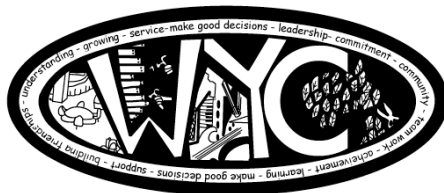
WFEE

- Did you know **WHS teachers received nearly \$40,000 in direct grants** for the coming school year?
- Thanks to WFEE donors and the Arthur Griffin Foundation, **WHS has a new arts MAC lab**. With 18 new Apple laptops, large screen monitors plus updated software, students now have cutting-edge tools to learn moviemaking, Photoshop, animation and more. Teachers Terry Lannon and Robert Gillis hope all WHS students will drop in and see what the lab has to offer. Says Gillis, "I have a vision of kids walking by the lab and saying "Ah!"
- **The WHS library has a completely new look** thanks to WFEE. Librarian Karen Miller received a \$9,700 grant to make the library a more user-friendly resource to help students access real time information from cable news, the web and then process that information with teachers. The WFEE grant funded the purchase of 6 wireless lap top computers, an LCD projector and HDTV. Thanks to the WHS PFA, the library also has chairs and hi-top tables meant to make student collaboration easier.

CONNECT AND COMMIT

Connect & Commit is Winchester High School's Community Service-Learning Program. The Program's goal is to engage Winchester High School students and faculty in the challenges and rewards of community service-learning. Community service-learning is a form of experiential learning which can enhance student learning and engagement, address a variety of social and community needs, build character and civic responsibility, and enrich both the school and the community.

Through the support of the Winchester Community Service Foundation, the High School has a full-time Program Director, Kristen Ritchie. Watch your email and the daily announcements for information on the date of the first meeting, community service opportunities, and opportunities for students to get to know each other. You can also find out about Connect and Commit at Open House. Contact Kristen Ritchie at 781-721-7020 x1999, or email her at kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us



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

It's our 10th anniversary
The WYC has been in its current space at McCall for 10 years
Come celebrate with us!

If you are a teenager who wants: to do something good for others... something fun to do after school... cool events and activities to attend... to spread the word about important issues... to be a role model to others... to give something back to the community... to learn more about yourself and what you're capable of... ..then the WYC is the place for you! The WYC offers something for everyone, come check us out and find out how you can get involved.

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 both middle school and high school issues including body image, alcohol and drug abuse, stress, bullying, and more. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact the WYC for more information.

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.

Scavenger Hunt

We are organizing a town-wide scavenger hunt in October. Select 3-5 of your quickest, smartest, stealthiest, most adventurous friends and enter your team in this super fun challenge. Teams must have a team name, costumes, and a digital camera. Trophies, medals, and other prizes will be awarded to the most cunning, most creative, and best teams. Check out our website to find out more or stop by the WYC to enter.

WYC Halloween Costume Party Coffee House

On Friday, October 29th from 8:30-11:00 pm 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' 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 19th from 6:30-11:00 pm 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.

Winchester Youth Service Day

On Saturday, September 25th the WYC & Connect and Commit will co-sponsor the seventh town-wide Youth Service Day in Winchester. Hundreds of teens will be given the opportunity to participate in service projects all over town including park clean-ups, planting and beautification projects, Aberjona clean-up, and more. This amazing community service event is open to all middle and high school students. Students can register at the WYC and in the WHS Connect & Commit office. We are also searching for adults who are interested in volunteering with the students and additional service projects that we can put on our list. Please contact us at 781-721-0906 if you would like to get involved.

WYC Jewels

The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of glass beads, hemp, recycled materials 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. Check out our website for upcoming jewelry party dates.

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 3rd. Please check out our website or contact us at the WYC to find out how you can join our team and/or 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 23rd. The Peer Leaders set it all up and will be in their Halloween costumes to encourage the children and present medals to all participants.

Halloween Horribles Parade

The WYC, Winchester Recreation Department, and Family Action Network are co-sponsoring the second annual Halloween Horribles Parade and Party for kids on Saturday, October 30th. Children of all ages are invited to meet behind the Public Library at 10am for a costume parade to Winchester Common and then go trick-or-treating at many downtown businesses. Next we will head over to the Town Hall Auditorium for a Halloween Party featuring games, crafts, and music. WYC Peer Leaders will be in their costumes to help lead the parade and then organize games and crafts for everyone at the party!

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 during the week of October 4-8.

Habitat for Humanity

For 5 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 sixth 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WINCHESTER A BETTER CHANCE BOTTLE DRIVE

The Winchester ABC Program will hold its next Bottle Drive on **Saturday, September 11, 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, or Mary D. Jordan at 781-729-8397. Again, thank you for your continued help!

FIRST ANNUAL WINCHESTER AWARENESS RECREATIONAL EVENT

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 25th** (rain date Sunday, September 26th) for the first Annual Winchester Awareness Recreation Event (AWARE) where special needs youth (ages six to sixteen) participate in a recreational "field day" focusing on organized sports activities, including soccer and track (races) events. AWARE will benefit special needs youth and their outreach programs, such as The Outreach Program for Soccer (TOPS), Hoops, Best Buddies, MA Special Olympics and other current Winchester programs. In addition, AWARE will strive to bring the entire community together by promoting the need to support programs serving those with disabilities. Athletes, coaches, faculty, parents, and other youth are invited to engage in this unique opportunity promoting awareness of the outreach programs available in the Winchester community. Youth and adults will be assigned to age-appropriate positions of responsibility while other trained professionals will also be available to insure a safe and successful environment. This event will take place from **10 AM to 1 PM at McCall Middle School's Manchester Field**. To find out how you can participate, or if you have questions, please contact Tim de Redon, Boy Scout Troop 507, at 781-721-1942 or by email: deredon@comcast.net.

PARENT TO PARENT PRESENTS

Parent to Parent presents an important talk for parents of 11 - 18 year olds, "Adolescent Psychology – The Parent Version" presented by Joani Geltman, MSW, an expert in child development and parent-teen relationships. Her talk will cover the physical, cognitive, and social/emotional changes that occur in adolescence and how they affect relationships with parent and friends as well as school life. Please join us on **Wednesday, September 29th, 7:00-9:00 pm**. Location to be announced; watch your email for details.

Learn how to:

- Identify your teen's "lightning rod, imaginary audience, and personal fables"
- Set appropriate limits so your teen will want to follow them
- Develop effective tools for identifying and dealing with your teen's experimentation with sex, drugs, and alcohol
- Separate high expectations from unrealistic expectations and their consequences for your teen's emotional well-being.

Ms. Geltman has been working as a therapist, parenting consultant, and coach for more than 30 years. As a member of the adjunct faculty of Curry College, and Lesley University, she designs curriculum and teaches Child and Adolescent development. For more information please visit: www.parenttoparentwinchester.org

PARENT TO PARENT BOOK GROUP

Ever wonder if your kids have too much of a good thing...cell phones, credit cards, computers, cars? Ever worry whether things are too easy for them or whether they understand the expectations and responsibilities necessary to develop strong character? Come explore these issues with other parents as we discuss the book, "Too Much of a Good Thing: Raising Children of Character in an Indulgent Age" by local author Dan Kindlon,

Ph.D. Using both empirical and anecdotal evidence, Dr. Kindlon sounds a wake-up call for parents raising children in a self-indulgent world. He explains how to be a good parent first and good friend second, and offers concrete advice on raising children of conscience and character. Join us on **Tuesday, October 19th, at 7:30 pm** in the Library Meeting Room for a lively and informative discussion. Books are available through the library and through Book Ends. Books will also be available for purchase the night of the meeting. This will be the first of three book groups organized by Parent to Parent this year. Please visit our website for information on additional programs: www.parenttoparentwinchester.org

WINCHESTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

As campaign signs sprout up on neighborhood lawns and we look ahead to the November 2nd state election -- as well as a potential town election on a Prop. 2 1/2 override for Vinson-Owen Elementary School -- please consider the important role the League of Women Voters plays in Winchester.

Our town has had a local LWV for over 90 years. Our members are grandmothers, mothers, voters of all ages across Winchester. Like any organization, we always need new members and new ideas! From the traditional "Day at the Races" candidates' question & answer session, to new voter registration efforts at the high school, the LWV is a non-partisan, voter education organization dedicated to ensuring that Winchester voters get the facts they need to understand the issues and to participate in the many critical decisions facing our town and state.

For more information, or to join the LWV, please visit <http://www.lwvwinchester.org/> or contact Susan Verdicchio at s.verdicchio@gmail.com. Help us make Winchester the town where everyone votes!

WINCHESTER MULTICULTURAL NETWORK

Winchester Reads has chosen **Hope's Boy** as this fall's community read. The book, by Andrew Bridge, is a memoir of his childhood years spent in foster care.

The first WMCN program of the fall will be an evening with WBZ's Jack Williams, who will discuss "Wednesday's Child" on Thursday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pond Room at the Jenks Center, 109 Skillings Road. Williams has received many awards for his weekly program, created in 1981, which features a special needs child who is need of a permanent home. The program is free and all are welcome.

WINCHESTER RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MAXIMIZE YOUR COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID

Instructor: Don Anderson, College Funding Advisor

This one night workshop is a must for all parents of college-bound high school students, especially freshmen and sophomores. The college financial aid process will be demystified as well as how to access the more than \$90 billion in financial aid dollars, monies that are even available to "high income" families and business owners.. Strategies will be presented that will help you protect your assets by maximizing your eligibility for aid, effectively lowering your college costs. You will learn the optimum time to set the strategies in place (Hint, best before junior year) and why if you wait until the financial aid deadline to file your forms, you may miss out on the full amount of aid you qualify for. You will also learn how to minimize the equity in your home. A free comprehensive analysis will be provided for those attending the class. One session.

104-PD-07A	Mon. Oct.4	\$21/single
104-PD-07B	Mon. Oct.4	\$29/couple
Winchester High School	Skillings Rd.	7-9 pm

COLLEGE ESSAY BOOT CAMP

Instructor: John Halbrooks

College Essay Boot Camp is just what it sounds like: A course for Juniors who want a leg-up on the college admissions process. (Seniors staring at deadlines are also welcome.) In College Essay Boot Camp, we will work through a process of self-discovery that will free you up to write a clear, meaningful, perhaps even passionate essay that will give college admissions officers a very good sense of just who you are. In this course, we will discuss and dissect a variety of creative approaches that will prepare you to tackle this writing project with confidence. We will meet twice as a class for two-hour sessions, once to brainstorm and later to critique student work, with follow-up critiques by e-mail. Two sessions

104-BF-03A	Mon. Oct. 4 & 18	\$99
Winchester High School	Skillings Rd.	7-9pm

KAPLAN Complete Classroom Course for the SAT

\$499 or 3 installments of \$166!

Prepare for the October 9th or November 6th SAT with Kaplan's 10-session course, including 18 hours of instruction, 4 full-length practice tests, and Kaplan's print and online study materials. Tests are 4 hours long and instructional sessions are 3 hours long

For the October 9th SAT

SABS10635: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8/26 to 9/30
Test sessions at 5:30 pm and instructional sessions at 6:00pm

For the November 6th SAT

SABS10636: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9/27 to 11/1
Test sessions at 5:30 pm and instructional sessions at 6:00pm

To enroll in a Kaplan program or event or for more information please visit www.kaptest.com or call 1-800-KAPTEST and press "4".

REVOLUTION PREP

GETTING READY FOR COLLEGE? Trying to make the most of all those SAT preparation options?

Revolution Prep: a better course.....half the price. Call 1-877-REV-PREP or go to www.revolutionprep.com to enroll or for more information.

GROUP SAT CLASS: \$499 at Winchester High School (and our Hybrid private tutoring option is \$799).

Need-based scholarships are available. Contact Revolution Prep for details. **STARTING Tuesday, August 31**
Courses include: 200-point satisfaction guarantee (250 for the Hybrid); 6-three hour classroom lectures and 5 full-length practice exams – an intensive 38-hour program; Engaging, knowledgeable instructors; Customized homework assignments; Personalized feedback on your essays, and Online access to test scores and detailed analysis.

PRIVATE TUTORING is a great option for students with extremely busy schedules and those who prefer 1-on-1 preparation. Revolution Prep offers several tutoring packages for the SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests, and AP exams. All tutoring packages include: customized package based on individual academic needs, schedule, and personality; 250-point score improvement guarantee; Satisfaction guarantee-if you're not 100% satisfied with your tutor we'll match you with a new one, and the first session is free; online progress reports after each tutoring session, and proctored testing.