

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

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER 2012

Visit our website at www.whspfa.org

FROM THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN

Welcome to the 2012-2013 academic year! With a June 12th school closing and an opening after Labor Day, students have had a long summer vacation. I am looking forward to having the students and teachers back in school. Enrollment is hovering near 1,175, students an increase of about 80 students. WHS is beginning to see the enrollment bubble.

Summer News

WHS has been very busy this summer. Symmes, Maini & McKee Architect Associates (SMMA) continued work on the Preliminary Design Program (PDP) for the WHS Feasibility Study. This work included collaborating with the School Department to develop the educational plan and the educational space summary for the WHS building project. This plan will include the number of classrooms and types of spaces needed for each department and the school in general, whether the project is a new building or renovation of the current building. SMMA studied 12 alternative sites in town and only Ciarcia (Skillings) Field is still on the table as a potential site for a new building. In all likelihood WHS will be renovated. SMMA also completed a thorough examination of the existing conditions of WHS and surrounding grounds. On Wednesday, September 12 at 7 pm the project team will host a community forum in the WHS auditorium to present all project details to date and answer any questions or concerns pertaining to the WHS project. Project details can also be found at the Skanska USA website:

<https://partners.myskanska.com/usa/clients/TOW/WHS/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Skanska is the project manager for the project. The PDP will be completed this fall with the development of and analysis of alternative designs. A preferred solution will be identified later in the fall. You can be sure that there will be ample opportunities for community, faculty, parent and student feedback before a final design is chosen.

This summer the district's administrative staff received training in the new state education evaluation system. The new program radically changes the teacher evaluation process. Evaluation procedures now include features like multiple unannounced classroom observations by administrators, evidence of student achievement in a teacher's classroom, and analysis of teacher assessments, lesson plans, and other work. Teachers will be rated as exemplary, proficient, needs improvement or unsatisfactory in 33 different elements of teaching. You will be hearing more about teacher evaluation as the year goes on.

There were also faculty changes during the summer. Director of Guidance Sherri Lewis-Sholler has taken a job as guidance director in the Manchester-Essex School District and the district is currently in the process of filling her position. Social Studies Director Margie Harvey has retired and social studies teacher Christopher Kurhajetz has been hired as the new director. Our School Resource Officer, Stephen Palmer will be moving back to fulltime duty with the Winchester Police Department. He will be replaced by Officer Phil Coss. Sherrie, Margie, and Stephen are outstanding professionals and they will be missed.

Focus on the Future Strategic Plan

During the 2012-13 school year, WHS will continue work on the Focus on the Future Strategic Plan. Work this year will include implementation of the new teacher evaluation system, expansion of the student advisory program, developing a 1:1 (one laptop or electronic device per student) plan, implementing a senior service learning pilot, beginning the 10 year accreditation self-study, and completing a guidance department review. During the year WHS will also survey parents, students and faculty regarding progress on the plan.

Opening Week Information

School begins on Wednesday, September 5th. Ninth graders should report to the high school auditorium at 7:45 a.m. and will be dismissed at 11:15 a.m. Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders should report to homerooms at 11:30 am. Check the opening day schedule found later in this newsletter for further details. Thursday and Friday will be full days for all students.

After the auditorium meeting on Wednesday, ninth graders will report to their advisories. 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 their advisories and providing a tour of the school. Each PAL will serve as a mentor to three ninth graders. After the advisory period, 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.

Each week, I will email a WHS 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 have not received an activation code, please email mderrouche@winchester.k12.ma.us

Please contact the school whenever you have questions or concerns. You son's or daughter's guidance counselors are an excellent first source of information. 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 should be your first choice.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**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.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 - OPENING DAY SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

Winchester High School's schedule for the 2012 - 2013 school year will begin on Wednesday, September 5th. **Ninth graders should report directly to the auditorium at 7:45 am and will be dismissed at 11:15 am from the cafeteria after the Club Fair. 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.**

The **Club Fair** will be held from 10:45 to 11:15 in the cafeteria—left side.

9th Graders

7:45-8:00 Welcome in auditorium

8:00-9:35 Meet in homerooms/work with advisors and Pals

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

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 AND FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 AND 7

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	11:00 -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 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 DURING ENGLISH. IN ADDITION, CAP AND GOWN MEASUREMENTS FOR SENIORS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AUDITORIUM.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th WILL BE DAY 1 OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULE.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

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](tel: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 information 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 Ms. Gustin at the high school number, extension 1120 and one will be mailed to you.

OPEN HOUSE ~ THURSDAY ~ SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

Parents will visit each of your student's classes for a ten minute presentation by our teachers. The Student Activities Fair will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the field house. The evening should run until approximately 9:00 p.m.

"DROP IN" WITH PRINCIPAL GWIN

On the first Wednesday of every month, Principal Gwin has set aside a block of time from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm for a "Parent Drop In Session". Parents are invited to speak with Principal Gwin without an appointment. The first "Drop In" will be Wednesday, October 03rd.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ~ SEPTEMBER 07, 2012

All students (Grade 9, 10, 11 and 12) will have their photographs taken by Burlington Studios. All students will receive a photo identification card. This card should be carried by the student and will be needed for attendance purposes, library, cafeteria etc. The five digit student identification number will also be imprinted on the card. Please use this number when calling the attendance line.

WELCOME FROM THE WELLNESS DEPARTMENT!!

On behalf of the Wellness Department I would like to welcome students and parents to the 2012-13 school year. We are excited, as the Wellness Department offers many different programs for your sons and daughters. The Wellness program is made up of Health, Physical Education, Culinary Arts, Clothing and Textile, and Early Childhood classes. We have a variety of interesting classes to meet the needs of your sons and daughters.

The staff members that will be teaching Health and Physical Education this year are Andria Belanger, Jason Cacciapuoti, and Walter Dembowski. Those teaching the Culinary Arts, Clothing and Textile and Early Childhood programs are Janet Daniels and Karen Murphy.

We are looking forward to working with the students this year and want you to know that if you have any questions, feel free to contact any of the above teachers at the High School or myself. I can be reached at Muraco Elementary School (781-721-7030 ext 221) or psaba@winchester.k12.ma.us.

I hope you and your sons and daughters have a fabulous year.

Pamela Saba
Director of Wellness

PFA NEWS

From the PFA Co-Presidents

Jody Collins Skinner and Audrey Loria

Welcome to the 2012-2013 WHS school year. The PFA will be very busy this year keeping everyone informed about all that is occurring at WHS. We are very excited about the feasibility study moving forward. In order for everyone to be involved in that process, we will not be holding our regular September PFA meeting on Wednesday, September 12th. Instead, we encourage everyone to attend the feasibility study meeting that evening in the auditorium. Please join us in the WHS Library on Wednesday, October 3rd at 7:30 pm for our first PFA meeting of the year.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or ideas before our meetings and throughout the year. We can be reached at WHSPFA@gmail.com

WHS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The PFA invites all parents and guardians to volunteer to participate in the School Council. School Councils are mandated in every public school by the Education Reform Act of 1993, and are composed of parents and guardians, faculty and student representatives. The Council meets with Principal Tom Gwin the first Wednesday of the month at 6:45 am to discuss what is happening in the school. This year the PFA will hold an election for two 2-year positions. Interested parents and guardians can obtain the form from the PFA website.

This promises to be an exciting year with many opportunities to be involved! We look forward to working with all of you.

Save the Date for the WHS Open House!

September 20, 2012

6:00—8:50 PM

6:00pm-7:00 pm NEW!!! - Student Activities Fair in the WHS Gymnasium – NEW!!!

Come learn about all the great things our students are doing outside of class at WHS as members of clubs, teams and student groups. See demonstrations, view displays about activities, buy Sachem spirit wear and gear to support our teams and clubs. There is so much going on at WHS that we have outgrown the cafeteria!

All parents are encouraged to browse the Fair at the beginning of the evening and are invited to return to the gym after 7:00 pm during their students' free periods. To sign up for a table at the fair, parents working with teams or student groups should email Carol Cashion: cjcashion@mac.com. Faculty and students can sign up in the main office with Mrs. Branley.

7:00pm – 8:50pm

Parents and guardians follow student class schedules, which will include a 9th and 10th grade Advisory/11th and 12th grade Homeroom period for the first time. Please note that this year there will *not* be a presentation by Dr. Gwin in the auditorium at the beginning of the evening.

Dr. Gwin and the PFA are excited about trying out this new format for Open House, one that gives parents a better window on student life at WHS within and outside the classroom. We look forward to your feedback – and to seeing you there!

WHS Direct Appeal/2012-2013
Parent-Faculty Association (PFA) Grants Program
Funded entirely by your contributions
Please Donate Today!

There is a Russian proverb that says, "education is light, lack of it darkness." To help our students find the light more efficiently, the PFA grants program awards money to enhance the educational experience at WHS. With ever increasing budgetary constraints, we anticipate additional grant requests from all areas. In the past, we have funded programs in art, music, languages, robotics, sciences, history, special education, English, as well as the beloved cocoa in the library. Grants cover the costs of innovative initiatives as well as supplies not covered by the WHS budget. *These grants touch virtually every student at WHS.*

Each year the PFA conducts the Direct Appeal effort which is its *sole* fundraising activity for the school year. We cannot do this without everyone's help. **Please consider participating in the Direct Appeal effort! Help support our dedicated teachers and give our children the additional learning resources they need.**

Cheryl Myers and Lia Borrelli, Direct Appeal Co-Chairs
Brenda Reishus and Kathy Czeck, Grants Co-Chairs

Donating is simple!

Mail a check made payable to the "WHS PFA" to Cheryl Myers, P. O. Box 550, Winchester. MA 01890
If possible write your child's name and grade in the memo section.

PayPal - You can also contribute by making a quick and easy online transaction through a PayPal account that the PFA has set up for the Direct Appeal. If you wish to make your contribution through the PayPal account, please go to www.whspfa.org and look for the Direct Appeal section on the right-hand side of the page. Click on "more" and look for the yellow "Donate" button at the bottom left. On the check at the top of the page, please enter the amount of your donation in the field under "Donation Amount" and then click "Update Total." This will bring you to the bottom of the page where you can either log into your PayPal account (on the lower right hand side) or pay by credit card (on the left hand side.) If you don't have a PayPal account, you don't need to open one to pay by credit card.

For additional information, please contact whspfadirectappeal@gmail.com. **Thank you for your consideration, and your donation!**

CLASS NEWS

ATTENTION SENIORS: CAPS AND GOWNS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH!

Cap and gown measurements will take place on Friday, September 07th. Measurements will be held in the auditorium. The cost is \$17.00 and all checks should be made payable to: Winchester High School. The student's name and the words, "cap and gown" should be written on the memo line. Each outfit comes with a tassel, which students will receive in June. Additional tassels may be purchased at the cost of four dollars on the day of ordering. You must have your check or cash to be measured! You will also be asked to verify your name, spelling, etc. for your diploma.

SOPHOMORE CLASS BACK TO SCHOOL BARBEQUE!

There is going to be a sophomore class Back to School barbeque on **THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6th** from

6:00-8:00 pm at Winchester High School. Admission will be \$5 and we will be serving hot dogs. We do need volunteers for grilling and donations for the following:

- Drinks
- Snacks
- Desserts

We would love your help! If you would like to donate or volunteer please let us know at: sachems2015@gmail.com

Thank You!

The Class Officers:

Claudia Bacon

Julia Sabatino

Sayak Chatterjee

Divya Mathew

SCHOOL NEWS

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE/WHS FEASIBILITY STUDY

For a longer version of this article, please click here:

www.whspfa.org/clientimages/39852/focusonthefuture/focus_on_the_future_september_12.pdf

As the Class of 2013 readies for their final year and the 300+ Winchester kindergarteners prepare to start their public school career, many in town are considering what and where the high school may be for the 10 graduating classes in between and beyond.

Since last fall, the Town of Winchester has been working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) on a feasibility study of the existing Winchester High School. The study will help the Town develop the most cost-effective and educationally appropriate solution for a new or renovated Winchester High School. The project will take time to complete, but planning today has focused primarily on what future students will need when they enter the building this year and beyond.

Website is up & Next Public Hearing scheduled for September 12

As town leaders move forward on high school design discussions, continued community engagement and input is vital. Residents are requested to please submit their ideas, stay informed, and attend regularly held public conversations.

- The EFPBC meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays every month at Town Hall to discuss the high school project. School Committee and Board of Selectmen meetings will also include this important topic in their discussions in the upcoming months. **These gatherings are always open to the public and subcommittee updates are posted on the project website after each meeting.**
- The **next public hearing is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday, September 12 at the High School.** This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the project's community considerations, process, and schedule, as well as to ask questions and make suggestions of the project team and offer input.
- Updates can be found and ideas can be submitted at the town's project website: **www.winchesterhsproject.com**.

A+ SCHOOL REWARDS!

Welcome to the start of a new school year and another year of A+ School Rewards. Starting October 5, 2012 through March 28, 2013, Winchester High School will have the opportunity to earn cash through Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program. All you have to do is log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online OR dial [1-877-275-2758](tel:1-877-275-2758) to register your card over the phone

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop & Shop Card earns cash for our school! Each month, the amount of cash awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at www.stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

Even if you registered your card last year, **you must re-register this year** for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support. Please be sure to register your card to benefit Winchester High School using ID # 09331 or scroll down to Massachusetts, Winchester and click on the Winchester High School listing. Please sign up right away so we will be ready to earn money the minute the program takes officially begins.

As always, thank you for your support.

WFEE NEWS

What do Shakespeare, iPads and android tablets have in common? All will be center stage at WHS this year thanks to more than \$11,000 in grants to high school teachers from the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence. WFEE is funding \$136,000 in innovative grants for Winchester schools this year. Here at WHS the grants will:

- Provide iPads to students with disabilities to help increase academic achievement and enhance independence,
- Update the WHS library with iBooks, educational aps and an iPad,
- Fund a Winchester visit by a professional theater company that will bring the works of William Shakespeare alive for all WHS students. This grant was made possible thanks to a generous donation to WFEE from the WHS Class of 2011;
- Allow WHS teacher Eric Lister to determine if android tablets or laptop computers are more effective in the classroom.

WFEE has been an integral part of the Winchester schools for 20 years. Thanks to the support of our community, WFEE has given out more than \$3 million dollars in teacher grants. Visit the WFEE website, www.wfee.org, for more information on our grants and how you can support Winchester's educators.

The Guide



A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department September 2012

News

Our Director of Guidance, Sherri Lewis-Sholler, has accepted the position of Director of Guidance in the Manchester-Essex school district. We are currently in the process of a job search for a new director. We expect to have a director in place by the opening of school.

Cono – Fak
Fal– Gou
Gov – Mars
Mart – Ric
Rid – Z

TBD
Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Raneri
Mrs. Johnson
Mr. Burke

2012-2013

Guidance Counselor Assignments

Listed below are the counselor assignments, by grade, for the 2012-13 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.

GRADE 09: Class of 2016

A – Ci	Ms.Roberts
Cl – D	TBD
E– Kul	Mrs. Smith
Kur – Ni	Mrs. Raneri
No – Sm	Mrs. Johnson
Sn – Z	Mr. Burke

Senior Parent College Workshops September 27 at 7 PM in the auditorium

The workshop is a follow-up to the Early College Planning Workshop offered in January 2012 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.

Grade 12: Class of 2013

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

GRADE 11: Class of 2014

A – Cung:	Mrs. Roberts
Cunh – Gotham:	TBD
Gr – Kirk:	Mrs. Smith
Klein – Nvule:	Mrs. Raneri
O – Silva:	Mrs. Johnson
Sk – Z:	Mr. Burke

GRADE 10: Class of 2015

A – Conn	Ms.Roberts
----------	------------

Senior Parent Financial Aid Night October 4 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.

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.

SAT Fee Waiver Service

During the 2012 – 2013 academic year, CollegeBoard 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.

2012 PSAT Date is Saturday, October 20th

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be administered at WHS on Saturday, October 20. **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 19.

Please note the *OFFICIAL* CollegeBoard 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 2013. Information about NMSC programs, entry requirements, and scholarships can be found in the 2012 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.

*Keep up with the latest
information. Visit the WHS
Guidance Website !*



Winchester Youth Center

458R Main Street

Winchester MA 01890

781-721-0906

www.winyc.com

winchesteryouthcenter@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Winchester-Youth-Center

The WYC offers a wide range of leadership, service-learning, and good-decision-making activities for WHS students. Please join us at our open meeting on Thursday, September 13th at 6:00pm to learn more about our amazing youth groups, awesome special events, and fabulous service projects.

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

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

*The WYC has several youth groups for WHS students that focus on responsibility, respect for others, trust, commitment, teamwork, support, and community service. Through these groups students are given many opportunities to develop their skills in the areas of communication, organization, decision-making, and leadership. They also build confidence and self-esteem by serving as role models for their peers and making a difference in their community. **Please join us at our open meeting on Thursday, September 13th at 6:00pm** to learn more about any of these programs.*

PEER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Do you have what it takes to be a peer leader?

If you have natural leadership skills, want to have a positive impact on the community, like to have fun and make good decisions; then the answer is yes!

The WYC peer leadership program is a youth group for Winchester High School students who are committed to their community and serving as role models for their peers. The Peer Leaders have weekly youth group meetings 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.

SSA: STUDENTS SPREADING AWARENESS

SSA is a 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 under-informed about and spread awareness in unique and interactive ways." Please come join us to help identify the issues that are of most concern to Winchester teens and develop plans to spread awareness.

THE 84

The WYC Peer Leaders have created our own chapter of the 84: a youth-led movement fighting for a tobacco-free generation in Massachusetts. The 84 represents the 84% of Massachusetts teens who choose not to smoke. As a chapter of the 84 we look forward to working with peer leaders in nearly 100 other chapters across the state who are fighting Big Tobacco in our schools and communities through interactive projects and awareness campaigns. Please check out our website or www.the84.org to learn more.

SERVICE PROJECTS and SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year the WYC coordinates and participate in a huge variety of community service projects. Members of the WYC 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 and special events and mark your calendars for all the things you won't want to miss.

**ALS COMMUNITY OF HOPE: Haley's Comets
North Shore Walk to Defeat ALS
Saturday, October 13th**

Please support our efforts to defeat ALS a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's Disease. Please join our team at the North Shore Walk to Defeat ALS in Wakefield on Saturday, October 13th. Contact us at the WYC to learn more about how you can get involved.

**WINCHESTER COMMUNITY LANTERN WALK
Sunday, November 11th
4:00pm****Winchester Town Common**

Bringing community members together to shed light on the issue of stress and its negative impacts on the youth and families in our community. The Lantern Walk represents a peaceful and beautiful statement of support, awareness, prevention, and change. The goal of the Lantern Walk is to raise awareness of the negative impacts of stress and the resources available in our community for dealing with stress. We are inviting families with school-age children to take one night off from stress-inducing activities and to gather on the Common for a lantern-lighted walk through downtown. Walkers will return to the Common where we will hang lanterns of hope that have been created by students during art class. There will be information regarding community resources and a pledge board where all participants can write one thing that they each plan to do to reduce stress in their lives. Please check our website at www.winchesterlanternwalk.org for more information, resources, and lantern-making instructions.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
April vacation**

For the past 7 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 return to

West Virginia to participate in our 8th annual week-long service trip. The Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events throughout the fall and winter in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

WYC HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY COFFEE HOUSE
Friday, October 26th
@ the WYC

The Peer Leaders will transform the WYC into a spooky Halloween-themed Coffee House. All attendees are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and get into the Halloween spirit! 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.

HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE
Saturday, October 27th

The Peer Leaders will create a spooky, scary house of horrors for your entertainment. Location to be determined, please check our website for more details in October. Admission to the Haunted House is \$5 and all proceeds will benefit WYC Habitat for Humanity trip.

ROCK FOR YOUTH
Battle of the Bands
Friday, November 30th
7:00pm
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 WYC's Youth Service Award Scholarships.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF WINCHESTER
June 22nd-23rd

Form your teams, start your fundraising, and plan to join us for the second annual Relay For Life of Winchester on June 22-23! At the first annual Winchester Relay nearly 300 people participated in more than 30 teams and raised over \$60,000! Relay For Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. It unites communities across the globe to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against this disease. The Winchester Youth Center and Connect & Commit will again be forming the Leadership Committee for the second annual Relay For Life of Winchester. Our goal is to bring community members of all ages together to raise money for the American Cancer Society, raise awareness of cancer, and honor all of the Winchester residents who have battled this disease. Go to www.relayforlife.org/winchesterma to register your team, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter @winrelayforlife.

Please contact the Winchester Youth Center 781-721-0906 for more information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

PLAYGROUNDS FOR PAKISTAN

Winchester High School senior Aliya Moreira is spearheading a project called Playgrounds For Pakistan. Their mission is to build playgrounds for seven schools being renovated by Oxfam and Project GEM (Girls Education Matters). We only need \$11,200 to achieve this goal, and hope to have the funds necessary to start construction by the end of Summer 2012.

Please check out our website for more information and/or DONATE to our cause at www.playgrounds4pakistan.wix.com/home.

SUPPORT TEAM DIANE!

On Sunday, September 9th, Team Diane will walk the 26.2 miles from Hopkinton to Boston as part of the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. For the second year, we walk in honor and in memory of Diane Brewster, whom we lost to ovarian cancer in October, 2010. In her lifetime, Diane contributed to the Winchester community in innumerable ways, including serving for several years as President and then Vice President of the WHS PFA.

Will you consider making a donation to Team Diane? We are a group of twenty Winchester women, each a current or former WHS mother, and include in our ranks every WHS student's second mother, Karen Branley. All the funds we raise go directly to Diane's Fund, established this spring by the Brewster family to support the cutting-edge ovarian cancer research being done at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

Diane gave so much to us, to this school, and to this community. This is our small way of giving back and trying to help realize her vision that more effective treatments and earlier detection would make other women's outcomes better than her own. We are doing this for our mothers, our sisters, our friends and our daughters. And for Diane.

If you would like to support us, it is easy to donate to Team Diane online. Just go to: <http://www.jimmyfundwalk.org/2012/teamdiane>

Thank you so much!!

NEWS FROM WINCHESTER COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

Auditions for Classical Chamber Ensembles for Kids, Teens & Adults

Winchester Community Music School, 407 Highland Avenue, will hold placement auditions for its chamber ensemble program on Saturday, September 15, 1-4 PM and Monday, September 17, 4-8 PM. Strings, woodwinds, brass, and guitar players wanted. You do not need to be private lesson students at WCMS to participate. All ages welcome. Call WCMS at 781-721-2950 to make an appointment or visit the school's website at www.winchestermusic.org for more information.

Auditions for Beatles, Motown, and Jazz Ensembles for Kids, Teens & Adults

WCMS will also hold placement auditions for its Beatles, Motown, and Jazz ensemble programs on Sunday, September 9, 2-4 PM. Woodwinds, brass, guitar, and rhythm section players wanted. You do not need to be a private lesson student at WCMS to participate. All ages welcome. Call WCMS at 781-721-2950 to make an appointment or visit the school's website at www.winchestermusic.org for more information.

PARENT TO PARENT PRESENTS:

Balanced for Success: Foundations for Excellence in Sports and Life with Dr. Adam Naylor
Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:30 to 9:00 pm
McCall Middle School Auditorium,

Dr. Adam Naylor, leader of Telos Sport Psychology Consulting and faculty member at Boston University will talk about how to make sports a lifelong adventure. Dr. Naylor's talk is geared toward parents of children of all ages involved in a sport or multiple sports. He will outline the developmentally appropriate goals for children at the various stages of their involvement in sports. Issues such as nurturing confident student-athletes, preventing burnout, and improving communication and trust within sports communities will be discussed. Tips on how to talk to your child so that the focus is on attitude rather than simply winning and losing will also be included. In addition, Dr. Naylor will address how parents can manage their own emotions regarding competition, and how to help their children keep things in perspective.

Dr. Naylor brings over a decade and a half of applied sport psychology experience (Olympic, professional, collegiate and elite junior). He is the leader of Telos Sport Psychology Coaching, a Clinical Assistant Professor at Boston University and the Column Editor of Sport Psychology and Counseling for *The International Journal of Athletic Therapy and Training*.

Funding for this program has been made possible by generous donations to Parent to Parent's Direct Appeal. For more information, please visit: www.parenttoparentwinchester.org

NEWS FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

KAPLAN Complete Classroom Course for the SAT

Regularly \$599

Winchester Students pay \$539 or 3 easy installments of \$180!

Simply enter the promo code COMPLETE10 on check out for the discount.

Prepare for the October or November 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 in length and instructional sessions are 3 hours long.

CLASSES AT WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

For the October SAT

SAKA12270: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8/30 to 10/2

Test sessions at 5:30pm and instructional sessions at 6:00pm

For the November SAT

SAKA12369: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9/24 to 10/31

Test sessions at 5:30pm and instructional sessions at 6:00pm

To enroll in a Kaplan program or event or for more information please visitwww.kaplanatschool.com/winchester or call 1-800-KAPTEST and press "4".**Revolution Prep: a better course..... half the price****GETTING READY FOR COLLEGE?**

Trying to make the most of all those SAT preparation options?

50 HOUR GROUP SAT CLASS: \$599 at Winchester High School (and our Hybrid private tutoring option is \$899). Need-based scholarships are available.Contact Revolution Prep for details. www.revolutionprep.com. Courses include:

- 200-point satisfaction guarantee (250 for the Hybrid)
- 6-three hour classroom lectures and 5 full-length practice exams – an intensive 50-hour program
- engaging, knowledgeable instructors
- customized homework assignments
- personalized feedback on your essays
- online access to test scores and detailed analysis

NEW! PREPFEST! Prepfest offers students up to 170+ hours of live online group micro courses.

Taught by Revolution's top instructors, each 80 minute micro-course targets a specific section of the exam and is designed to help students address their specific, individualized needs.

Preparation for October SAT**Winchester High School:** Tuesdays 5PM-9PM and Thursdays 6PM-9PM

First Session August 28th

Preparation for November SAT**Winchester High School:** Mondays 5PM-9PM and Wednesdays 6PM-9PMFirst Session September 24th**SEWING IS AWESOME!****Instructor: Jen Flores**

Learn to sew or improve your skills under the guidance of a local designer. Creating your look and gain a skill that lasts a lifetime! Some of the projects will be making something old into something new, simple tops and the project of your choice. You'll learn basics that will set you on the path to and create your own unique outfits! Before first class try to learn to thread your machine and fill a bobbin (it is all in the booklets). You'll also learn to use my serger sewing machine. A \$10 fee is paid to the teacher the first night of class. (I will have on hand spare zippers/ fabric/ trim etc.) Ten sessions

124-HG-06A

Th. Sept. 27

6:30-8:30pm

Winchester High School Skillings Rd.

\$109

BRING to first class, portable sewing machine, seam ripper, scissors, pins with ball heads, 2 old T- shirt or sweater (go to Goodwill or Salvation Army - get a larger size so it can reused in to a new clothing item--the bigger the better.) See instructor's work at her website www.jenflores.com/

JENKS LEARNING CONNECTION: FALL CLASSES

Expand your mind! Interesting and informative classes are in store for you at in the 8 week fall session which begins Wednesday, September 19. WHS's own Loren Maloney will teach HISTORY OF MODERN CHINA which is sure to fill up quickly. You can also brush up on your BRIDGE, watch full length classic films and learn about FILM NOIR, or develop your sketching skills with Donna Rhae Marder in PICTURE THIS...AND THAT (4 weeks starting October 24). Music lovers will relish the genius of TCHAIKOVSKY: RUSSIAN ENIGMA and FOUR WOMEN COMPOSERS (4 weeks each). For cost and further information see www.jenkscenter.org or pick up a registration form at the Jenks reception desk. Classes meet on Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 pm and adults of all ages are welcome.

WINCHESTER TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Annual Winchester Tennis Tournament Championship

The tournament is open to all Winchester residents and town employees. It is a pre-fall classic covering two weekends starting Saturday September 8th. The finals will be held on Sunday September 16th. Go to <http://www.wtawinchester.com/falltournament2012.html> for an application form.

A Night to Honor Vincent Palumbo

Thursday September 13th 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Lucia's Restaurant 13 Mount Vernon Street Winchester, MA

Please join the Winchester Recreation Department & Winchester Tennis Association as we honor Vinnie Palumbo for his many years of service to our community with "A Night to Honor Vincent Palumbo"

Admission is \$10.00. Pre-registration is required. For additional information go to <http://www.wtawinchester.com/home.html>

ABC BOTTLE DRIVE

The Winchester ABC Program will hold its next Bottle Drive on Saturday, October 6, 2012, 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 Derek Stone at [781-729-4380](tel:781-729-4380).

GIRL SCOUT NEWS

Town-wide Girl Scout kickoff event - September 23th from 3 - 4 PM at Crawford Memorial Church

Calling all girls in grades K-12 to see what Winchester Girl Scouts did in the past year! Hang out with old friends while getting to know new ones and learn about the great activity, travel, learning, and outreach opportunities available. A slideshow and light refreshments will be included. If you have questions or to learn more, please contact winchestergirlscouts@gmail.com

FAN babysitter meet n' greet - September 24th from 7 - 8 PM in the Large Meeting Room of the

Public Library

Interested to meeting new potential clients? Excited to work with children? Come to the Family Action Network babysitter meet n' greet. FAN parents will be present to interview and chat the new potential babysitters and mother's helpers. Girls may want to bring cards / flyers with them that include their name & contact information -- inclusion of grade, what area of town they live in, qualifications, general hours available, type of position looking for would also be appropriate. If you have questions or to learn more, please contact winchestergirlscouts@gmail.com

High School Trail Work weekend (September 28-30th) & informational meeting (September 24th, 6 - 7 PM)

Like to hike and spend time in the out-of-doors? Interested in how trails are maintained and what efforts can be made to reduce erosion? Come spend the weekend with the Chatham Trails Association in Evan's Notch learning how to brush trails, clear water bars, remove blowdowns, and update blazing. All girls in grades 9-12 are welcome. Transportation to New Hampshire, lodging, and meals (Friday dinner - Sunday lunch) are included for \$5 (\$17 for non-registered Girl Scouts). To participate, girls must attend an informational pizza meeting on Monday, September 24th, from 6 - 7 PM at the Winchester First Baptist Church, which is at 90 Mt. Vernon St -- enter in the back door on the corner of Mt Vernon and Elm St. Please RSVP by September 23th to winchestergirlscouts@gmail.com -- questions or comments are also welcome.

A "Wicked" Girls Weekend in NYC - February 1-3, 2013

Come join us on a weekend getaway to New York City to see a special Saturday matinee performance of Wicked at the Gershwin Theater on February 2, 2013. The trip will include an interactive workshop with the cast of the musical, visits to the Metropolitan and Guggenheim Museums, and a chance to visit FAO Schwarz, Dylan's Candy Bar, and Bloomingdales. The trip is open to all girls ages 12-18 as of February 1, 2013 who reside or attend school in Winchester, MA. Trip cost of \$400.00 (\$412 for non-registered Girl Scouts) includes two nights at HI-New York; all travel on Amtrak, MBTA & MTA; B,L,D both Saturday and Sunday; admission to museums; and ticket to Wicked & workshop. A deposit of \$150.00 is due at registration to guarantee a girl's ticket to the show and is non-refundable. The remainder of the cost will be due December 15, 2012. Deposits are due by September 15, 2012. Trip sponsored by Girl Scout Troop 77025. To register, for the detailed trip itinerary, and all other information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/L0jMXW> or email winchestergirlscouts@gmail.com

Inside the College Admissions Office

Winchester Public Library

Monday September 10, 6:30-8:00 pm

Zach Keating, a 2009 graduate of Winchester High School and a senior at Emory University, worked this summer with AcceptU to help guide current high school students (and their parents) through the college application and admissions process.

Zach, with a former Ivy League admissions officer, is hosting a free "back to school" information session from 6:30-8:00 pm on Monday, September 10th at the Winchester Public Library (large meeting room). The title of the session will be "Inside the College Admissions Office." Parents and students in all grades are encouraged to attend this free information session. It is open to all.

AcceptU is a Boston-based counseling group of former college admissions officers. Founded by Marc Zawel (CEO) and Stephen Friedfeld (COO), AcceptU has helped hundreds of students, including many from Winchester, get admitted to 175+ colleges. AcceptU's counselors help students with academic, extracurricular and standardized testing planning as well as the college list, admissions strategy, essays,

interview prep and financial aid. Catherine Valegas, a financial planning expert, will also be in attendance to answer questions on saving for college.

ATTENTION! THE WHS PFA NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE MAILED TO YOUR HOME UNLESS YOU REQUEST IT!

The WHS/PFA monthly newsletter is normally sent 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 electronic 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. Be sure to sign up for the class mailing list which corresponds to the class(es) your student(s) are in. 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 Newsletter Team, Winchester High School PFA, 80 Skillings Road, Winchester, MA 01890. Thank you very much, and Happy Reading!

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Class(es) of _____