

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

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER, 2007
For up to date info visit our website at www.whspfa.org

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS THE ONLY EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER THAT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE MAILED TO EVERYONE IN THE WHS COMMUNITY. In subsequent months, you will receive the newsletter and other schools news via email, and you can view continually updated news and information at the PFA website.

HOW DO I RECEIVE THE E-NEWSLETTER? If you received an email version of this newsletter in late August you do not need to do anything; you are registered in our email system. **If you have not received anything in your inbox from the PFA, you need to subscribe.** Please go to the PFA website at <http://www.whspfa.org>. Enter your email address in the box, click “Go”, then follow the directions to complete the update. You will be asked to provide student information, which will allow us to know if we are reaching the entire school community. Then you can select the categories of information you would like to receive via email. If you have more than one child at WHS, you do not need to register twice; just enter the youngest child’s information and check the “Class Of” categories for each child to receive grade-specific email notices.

WHAT IF I DON’T HAVE ACCESS TO EMAIL? No problem! Please let us know and we will mail you a printed version of the newsletter each month. Send your request along with your regular mailing address and your student’s name and grade to Patty Shepard, 14 West Chardon Road, Winchester, 781-729-9762.

From The Office of Principal Thomas E. Gwin

I hope all of your families have enjoyed a terrific summer and are gearing up for the 2007-08 school year. As I write this in mid-August, the WHS office staff is preparing for the opening days of school, the Yankees are chasing the Red Sox, we all have high hopes for the Patriots, and everyone wonders where the summer went. Do things ever change?

After two and one half years of faculty discussion and preparation, WHS is finally moving to the extended block schedule. WHS is joining the dramatically increasing numbers of high schools adopting a longer block schedule. As we open the school year, I would like to remind the high school community about the rationale and benefits of moving to the new schedule.

What is extended block scheduling?

In contrast with the traditional seven or eight period bell schedule, an extended block schedule consists of four or five daily longer periods. The WHS model consists of five 67 minute blocks per day over a seven day schedule cycle. Each course will meet five days in the seven day cycle.

Why are high schools moving to longer block schedules?

Educational researchers cite a variety of reasons for moving to longer periods of teaching time:

- Instruction can become very fragmented when students attend all of their classes each day in seven relatively short classes. In extended blocks, teachers have the time necessary to engage students in more student-centered learning activities and forms of active learning rather than teacher-directed lecturing. The 2004 NEASC Report of WHS cited issues with our former schedule because it “prevented students and teachers from engaging in instructional practices that develop critical and integrative thinking which are the basis for the school’s stated expectations for student learning”.
- Research on extended blocks shows that teachers spend less time on classroom administrative matters (i.e. attendance) is decreased, discipline referrals are reduced, suspensions and aggressive behavior decline, tardies are reduced, and failure rates decline
- Fewer class changes can slow down the pace of the day leading to more "reflective teaching and learning" and a calmer more manageable building.
- In longer blocks, teachers have greater opportunities to work with students individually.
- The home environment should be less stressful as students will have homework in fewer subjects per night.

What was wrong with the old WHS schedule?

Besides the issues with traditional schedules described above, over 200 students in electives/foreign language missed one block of class per cycle to do the second block of a double lab block. Over the course of the year, these students missed approximately 30 classes (about 24 hours) of a course to do the lab block. This was a serious flaw in the former schedule. Also, when students needed to drop down a level in science or change their science class because of a level change in another subject, the schedule change was much more difficult as sciences class use two blocks of the schedule.

What are benefits of moving to the new schedule specific to WHS?

- Teachers prepare for and instruct 3 or 4 classes per day rather than 5.
- Foreign language and elective classes will not be missing students doing science labs.
- Total instructional time is the same as it was in the former schedule.
- Class sizes in science are significantly decreased as science teachers will teach 5 classes in the new schedule (the same as all of the other departments) rather than 4 with double lab blocks.
- Class sizes in the sections within a course are better balanced because the double lab block is not present to skew class size.

What are the disadvantages of the new schedule?

Because science classes lose the extra period per schedule cycle, instructional time in science classes is reduced by 15%; Advanced Placement science classes lose even more time. While the loss of time in science is unfortunate, the overall benefits to the entire school community would seem to outweigh this loss.

Have the predicted benefits been realized in the 2007-08 master schedule?

Yes- with the schedule change and the addition of extra staffing, class sizes have been reduced. In the coming year, 82% of C1 classes are 25 or under as opposed to 59% last year. Seventy-four % of honors classes will be 25 or under as opposed to 66% last year. Ninety-six % of C2 classes are 20 or under as opposed to 86% last year. In addition, more students are fully scheduled and the percentage of time students will spend in study halls is reduced.

During the course of the year, we will be evaluating the new and reporting back to the school community. Stay tuned!

New to Winchester High School?

Meeting for students and parents
Tuesday, September 04, 2007
1:00 p.m. WHS LIBRARY

There will be an orientation program for all students and parents who are new to Winchester. Members of the National Honor Society will facilitate the activities. The program for new students including 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 answers to questions you may have. The new parents will be meeting with the current WHS parents and have the opportunity to take a tour and discuss curriculum and expectations.

PARENTS: Messages to students

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

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Principal, Tom Gwin is pleased to announce to the Winchester High School community that Mrs. Mia Gustin, formerly the Registrar of WHS, has assumed the position of Secretary to the Principal and Office Manager. Mrs. Gustin served as Registrar for many years and the superb organizational and interpersonal skills that made her so valuable in her previous position will undoubtedly serve her well as she starts her new job!

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 Email is the best way to communicate to faculty and staff.

VOICE MAIL

Parents may leave voice mail for staff and faculty starting in September. Please be aware that the faculty has limited access to telephones. Your best way to communicate is to send an email with your phone number and the times you are available.

STUDENT PARKING

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

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORMS

On the first day of school, students will be given a peach colored emergency information sheet to bring home and have you fill out and sign. Please remember to ask your student about the sheet, fill it out completely that evening, and return it to the 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 completing the sheet and returning it back to school on the following day. **This form takes the place of the three cards.**

AGENDA/HANDBOOK

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

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

- The Attendance Policy
- Policies Concerning Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
- Computer Use and Internet Access: Acceptable Use Policy
- Student Parking
- 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; attendances 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

Free and reduced lunch program application will be available to everyone. If your student doesn’t have a copy, please call Mrs. Gustin at the school number, extension 1120 and one will be mailed to you.

**Thursday, September 27, 2007
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Parents will meet with the High School Administration in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. You will visit each of your student’s classes for ten-minute presentations. Your student will bring home a copy of their schedule. The evening is expected to end at 9:00 p.m.

DROP IN WITH THE PRINCIPAL, TOM GWIN

I would like to remind parents that usually, on the first Wednesday of the month, I 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 19, 2007.

SCHOOL PHOTOS ~ THURSDAY & FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6 & 07

All underclassmen (Grades 09, 10 and 11) photographs will be taken by Burlington Studios ~ you should have received the forms from them through the mail. Senior identification photos will be taken on the same days.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH RETAKES ~ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2007

ATTENTION SENIORS

Cap and Gown Measurements will take place on Thursday, November 01, 2007 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 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.

ATHLETIC PHYSICALS

On Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at 3:30 p.m. at Excel Orthopedics, located on 150 Presidential Way, Suite 110 in Woburn, Ma will conduct physicals for a donation of ten dollars, which will be given back to the WHS Athletic Program. Reminder: All student athletes must have a current student physical before playing any sport.

From the PFA President, Carol Cashion, cjcashion@mac.com

The arrival of the PFA newsletter in your mailbox means that the opening days of the school year are just around the corner, much as we would all like summer to last just a little bit longer. We hope the information on these pages will not only help you and your WHS student or students make a “soft landing” back into the rhythms of the school year but will help you feel connected and stay connected to the broader school community.

Communications between WHS and families is one of the best services the WHS PFA provides, and we urge you to take advantage of it. At our **monthly meetings**, which are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm, we receive an update from our Principal, Tom Gwin, review PFA business and the activities we help sponsor, host program speakers about issues and opportunities affecting our children and, most importantly, have an opportunity to discuss and address any school-wide issues on which parents wish to have their voices heard. In addition to the monthly meetings, the PFA also publishes its **monthly newsletter**, which after this mailing will arrive at your home or office via email rather than on paper. If you have any question about whether or not you are already registered to receive our electronic newsletter and e-notices, please go to www.whspfpa.org, our website, and type your email address in the “Join Our Mailing List” box. You will be able to designate what kinds of notices you wish to receive. In addition, thanks to a parent volunteer, you can also sign up for a service that will deliver the daily announcements and Principal Gwin’s weekly update to your mailbox. This is a separate mailing list that you can join by scrolling farther down on the webpage and clicking on “Mailing List.” The **PFA website** is a helpful resource and is frequently updated with information about school events, news from the Guidance office, and links to athletics schedules.

We urge you to keep this newsletter on file at home. In addition to the school calendar and other vital information, it includes a listing of members of this year’s PFA Board. Please feel free to contact any of us, as needed and as appropriate, with your questions or concerns. It is easy to feel less connected to school once your child enters high school and becomes more independent; parent engagement and parent volunteer roles are quite different than they were when our children were in elementary school, and even middle school. But both are still vital to the health of our school community and the children in it. We invite you to stay involved!

Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 19th at 7:30pm in the WHS Library, preceded by the Principal’s Drop-In at 5:30. Subsequent meetings will take place on the first Wednesday of each month. We look forward to seeing you there!

Winchester High School PFA Board: 2007-2008				
Please note to substitute @ for "at" in the email addresses listed (no spaces.)				
Position:	Name:	Address:	Phone:	Email:
President	Carol Cashion	7 Gardner Place	721-0170	cjcashion at mac.com
Vice President	Diane Brewster	8 Prospect St.	729-6296	dgbrewster at comcast.net
Treasurer	Fran McCarthy	4 Copley Street	729-4519	mccartf at aol.com
Recording Secretaries	Caren Connelly	19 Bacon St.	756-0019	caren.connelly at gmail.com
	Sally Quinn	33 Grove Street	729-4417	sally.quinn at comcast.net
Budget/Grants	Maureen McElhinney	64 North Border Road	729-7405	gannonmce1 at verizon.net
Direct Appeal	Laura Henry	86 Lawson Road	729-9719	DLJSHenry at comcast.net
Enrichment	Mary Doherty	11 Town Way	721-7887	olsen_philip at hotmail.com
	Nancy Schwalbert Pallotta	348 Washington St.	729-5713	fabianocomm at comcast.net
Gifts	Maria Shepherd	16 Reservoir Street	721-4875	mandmshepherd at comcast.net
Newsletter	Andrea Anglin	8 Pilgrim Drive	729-7877	apanglin at verizon.net
	Patty Shepard	14 West Chardon Road	729-9762	shepard.patty at gmail.com
Nominating	Karen Erikson	1 Alden Lane	729-7249	Karenerikson at comcast.net
Parent to Parent	Donna Campbell	8 Parker Road	721-2593	ciaodondon at verizon.net
Programs	Anmarie Galli	33 Glen Green Road	721-4577	anngalli at comcast.net
Publicity	Jill Shay	15 Sheffield Road	710-9247	jill.shay at gmail.com
Social	Karen Demasco	72 Wedgemere Ave.	721-6782	kdemasco at catharticstudios.org
	Rachael Phillips	10 Manchester Road	729-5010	rcpbonjour at comcast.net
	Elizabeth Primerano	4 Alden Lane	729-7807	eprimerano.bhc at comcast.net
Special Needs	Michelle Grady	21 Town Way	721-2649	michelleygrady at hotmail.com
	Patty Shepard	14 West Chardon Road	729-9762	shepard.patty at gmail.com
Student Directory	Pam Gaither	7 Winslow Road	721-5683	phgaither at comcast.net
Class Representatives:				
Senior Class 2008	Karen Erikson	1 Alden Lane	729-7249	karenerikson at comcast.net (no "c")
	Susan Novicki	15 North Gateway	721-4533	snovicki at aol.com
Junior Class 2009	Anmarie Galli	33 Glen Green Road	721-4557	anngalli at comcast.net
	Marney Grimes	21 Stone Ave.	729-1636	marneyg at comcast.net
	Anne Sharp	31 Brooks Street	729-7543	sharp0508 at hotmail.com
Sophomore Class 2010	Cindy DeRosa	8 Wagon Wheel Road	729-0138	CinDeR58 at aol.com
	Anna Frattaroli	3 Azalea Road	721-2263	annfilippo at aol.com
	Cindy Hale	208 Ridge Street	721-2458	cindy at otwadv.com
Freshman Class 2011	Ann Muir	92 Church Street	729-0792	themuir at verizon.net
	Tracy Troiano	11 Squire Road	729-4334	tracytroiano at aol.com

PARENT CONVERSATIONS IS BACK!! September 17th, 9am. - Parent Conversations is back again this year on the 3rd Monday of each month. Meet us in the conference room of the main office for great conversation on topics such as Teenage Depression and Internet Safety. These meetings are a wonderful source of information and camaraderie. Join us, and look for our booth at Open House. Questions? Maria Shepherd, mandmshepherd@comcast.net Gina Kurban, ginakurban@comcast.net

Connect & Commit, Community Service-Learning

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer – I’m excited for students to share with each other the amazing educational and service experiences that I know some students had over the break.

Be on the lookout for information about the community report back from the WHS students who participated in the Dandelion School Exchange & China Tour in June – as one of the chaperones, I can assure you it was an experience that you’ll want to hear about.

This year is bound to be an exciting one in community service-learning with many classrooms continuing to put students at the center of addressing problems through new and existing service-learning projects, as well as a growing number of students enthusiastic about serving through extra-curricular projects and service trips.

High school and middle school classrooms will take on issues from energy conservation and environmental pollution to human health and hunger. This year elementary schools are beginning to use service-learning; to start, plans are underway for student-led projects in Muraco and Lincoln Elementary classrooms concerning nutrition, aging and the elderly, and bullying prevention.

The WHS Connect & Commit club begins its activities with a table at the freshman club fair, and the first club meeting is **Tuesday, September 11 at 6:30 pm** in the library – all are welcome! Come and meet other students, learn about upcoming service opportunities and lend your voice in brainstorming what the club wants to accomplish this year and how they want to do it.

Parents are encouraged to chaperone one or more service events or trips this year, including the **Saturday, September 29 trip to Cradles to Crayons** from 9:30 – 11:30 am and the **Rosie’s Place trip on Saturday, October 13** from 4 – 7:30 pm. Please contact me to sign up or to receive updates via the Connect & Commit email list.

Students: make a note of the presentation about volunteering for the **iSafe project at the Tuesday, September 18 club meeting**. Also, **volunteers are needed during the district’s professional development conference on Global Education on Monday, September 24** – lend a hand while your teachers work to make your education the best it can be! Students who have a free block during the fall semester should consider being a **Connect & Commit student assistant** – please email me ASAP to find out more.

Contact me anytime with questions or for information about the service-related resources available to students, parents and teachers online and in the Connect & Commit office (in the WHS library).

Best wishes for the new school year!

Amanda Gordon, Program Director, agordon@winchester.k12.ma.us 781-721-7020 x1999

WHS PFA Direct Appeal 2007-08

The WHS Parent Faculty Association’s Direct Appeal is now underway for the 2007-08 school year. Funds raised through the Direct Appeal will enable the PFA to benefit all students and teachers at WHS by covering the cost of many important programs and supplies not included in the high school budget. In recent years, Direct Appeal funds have been used to provide grants to all WHS academic departments, the school library, and many extracurricular, enrichment, and support programs for students.

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

Name of WHS Student(s) _____

Grade(s) _____

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

Checks made payable to **WHS PFA** may be sent directly to **Laura Henry, 86 Lawson Road, Winchester, MA 01890**. You may also make your contribution at the September meeting of the PFA or the WHS Open House.

Thank you!

The Guide

A Monthly Newsletter from the



WHS Guidance Department September 2007 2007-2008 Guidance Counselor Assignments

Below are listed the counselor assignments, by grade, for the 2007-08 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. This year, in particular, the hiring of an additional guidance counselor created a need to reassign students at all grade levels. Please contact Alice Schellhorn, Director of Guidance, if you have any questions regarding your son or daughter's counselor assignment.

Grade 12: Class of 2008

A – D'Abbraccio:	Ms. Green
Dang - Goodman:	Ms. Schellhorn
Gotsell – Ingala:	Mrs. Montgomery
Ioselevich - Merenda:	Mrs. Raneri
Mesiti - Schleicher:	Mrs. Johnson
Scioli - Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 11: Class of 2009

A – Connelly:	Ms. Green
Connolly - Glacken:	Ms. Schellhorn
Goehring - Holland:	Mrs. Montgomery
Hsieh – Miller:	Mrs. Raneri
Mistretta - Sands:	Mrs. Johnson
Santini – Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 10: Class of 2010

A - Curran:	Ms. Green
D'Abbraccio - Giacchino:	Ms. Schellhorn
Gillis - Howard:	Mrs. Montgomery
Jarnagin - Michalski:	Mrs. Raneri
Miller - Senko:	Mrs. Johnson
Serrano – Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 9: Class of 2011

A – Colton:	Ms. Green
Conley - Farrell:	Ms. Schellhorn
Fay - Graffeo:	Mrs. Montgomery
Greaves - Mullane:	Mrs. Raneri
Murray - Schmidt:	Mrs. Johnson
Schwalbert – Z:	Mr. Burke

Introducing Guidance Counselor Kristen Montgomery

The Guidance Department is pleased to welcome Kristen Montgomery as a member of our professional staff. Increased enrollment at WHS made the hiring of an additional counselor essential. Mrs. Montgomery, who was hired after an extensive search process, received her B.A. in Psychology from Assumption College, and went on to earn her M.A. and C.A.G.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling and Guidance Counseling also from Assumption College. She worked as a guidance counselor in the Worcester Public Schools, before relocating to California where she was employed for several years as a counselor for students in grades 9-12 at Valencia High School. Most recently, Mrs. Montgomery has been working as a guidance counselor at Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford, Massachusetts. She is extremely enthusiastic about meeting and working with WHS students and parents when school begins. Mrs. Montgomery's extensive knowledge of West Coast colleges is certain to be an asset to the Guidance Department!

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**Two Senior Parent College Workshops
Set for October 2: 8 AM and 7 PM**

Class of 2000:	178
Class of 2004:	221
Class of 2008:	297

As the figures above dramatically illustrate, the number of students in our graduating classes has steadily increased over the past few years. The Guidance Department's Senior Parent College Night has always been very well attended. Last year, however, it became clear that the counselors could no longer separate the large audience into smaller "breakout sessions", since even the smaller groups were too large to allow for the interpersonal exchange so valued by counselors and parents alike. In an effort to address this situation, the Senior Parent College Workshop will be offered at two separate times on Tuesday, October 2, 2007.

The **morning workshop** has been scheduled for **8:00 – 9:30 AM** in the WHS auditorium, and the **evening workshop** will be offered from **7:00 – 8:30 PM**, also in the auditorium. The workshop is a follow-up to the Early College Planning Workshop offered in January 2007 that began the college search process. The senior parent workshop outlines the specifics of the college application process.

Parents are encouraged to attend the morning workshop if their schedule permits, to avoid overcrowding at the evening session. This will allow more time for questions after the presentation.

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2007 PSAT Date is Saturday, October 20

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.** To register for the PSAT, students may sign up in the **Math Department, before and after school and during the lunch periods,** beginning Wednesday, September 26 through Friday, October 12. The cost of the exam is \$25.00. The fee must be paid the morning of the exam. Students should bring the EXACT AMOUNT in cash, or a check payable to "Winchester High School".

Why take the PSAT/NMSQT? The PSAT is the qualifying test that students (usually juniors) must take to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) competitions for college scholarships that will be awarded in 2009. Information about NMSC programs, entry requirements, and scholarships can be found in the 2007 PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin that will be provided to them when they register for the test. Other reasons sophomores and juniors may want to take the PSAT are:

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

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

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

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SAT Fee Waiver Service

During the 2007 – 2008 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.

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Fall College Fair Dates

NEACAC (New England Association for College Admission Counseling) College Fair: Sunday, September 30 @ Northern Essex CC, Haverhill, MA, Sport & Fitness Center, 1:00 – 3:30 PM.

Middlesex Guidance League College Fair: Monday, October 29 @ Shriners Auditorium, Fordham Road, Wilmington, 6:30 – 8:30 PM.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Winchester District Technology Committee is looking for anyone who would be interested in serving on the committee. We do ask that you commit for a 2 year term. The first meeting of the school year is September 17 at 7 pm at the Lynch Elementary School Library. This group has been instrumental in building an awareness for the need to support the 21st century learning environment for both the students and teachers in the district. Please join us on September 17 for a brief informational session. If you have any questions please contact Annamaria Schrimpf, Director of Educational Technology at 781-721-7007 or aschrimpf@winchester.k12.ma.us.

September Special Education Pac Coffee: The PAC holds informal, monthly coffees for parents and guardians of Children on IEPs or 504 plans. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and share knowledge, advice and concerns. There's no need to rsvp, just drop in. September's coffee will be held on Wednesday, September 19th, 9:30-11:30 am, at the home of Carolyn Hintlian, 25 Calumet Rd. Questions? Call 781-729-3264, or contact winspedpac@yahoo.com. Also see the PAC website, www.winchesterspedpac.org.

Parent to Parent Presents: "An Evening with Superintendent William McAlduff"

Please come and meet Winchester's new School Superintendent William McAlduff. Mr. McAlduff comes to Winchester from Wilmington, MA, where he was Superintendent of their public schools for four years. Mr. McAlduff will engage in an open dialogue with parents of elementary, middle and high school students regarding a wide range of concerns, and will discuss his short and long term goals as the new head of the Winchester Public Schools. You may contact us at our website www.parenttoparentwinchester.org if you would like to identify specific questions in advance for Mr. McAlduff to address that evening.

Please join us on **Monday September 17th from 7:30- 9 PM in the Social Studies Open Area at Winchester High School**

Small group studio classes in drawing and painting in Winchester are being offered by former Winchester High School art teacher and Director of Art, David Ardito. There will be three separate sessions that will meet twice a week for 10-weeks for a total of 20 classes per session. Students can enroll in one, two or three sessions. The session dates are: Fall 9/11/07 to 11/15/07; Winter 12/4/07 to 2/28/08; and Spring 3/11/08 to 5/22/08. There will be a total of 20 class meetings in each session and classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Class size will be limited to 6 students. Instruction will include life drawing and painting with an emphasis on the development of Observational drawing and painting skills and also on expressive drawing and painting techniques. There will also be opportunities for students to develop their creative portfolios for college admission and instruction will include portfolio assessment and counseling. Classes are offered on a first come, first serve basis and juniors and seniors will receive priority over underclassmen. A partial scholarship will be offered to one eligible student. David Ardito is an artist with thirty-five years art teaching experience at the secondary level, most recently for nineteen years at Winchester High School. He was the K-12 Director of Art for Winchester Public Schools for nineteen years and is currently on the faculty at Mass College of Art. For David Ardito's resume, a registration form and for more information about fees and curriculum please email David at ydpa@yaho.com

International parents are invited to the **Multicultural Network's annual open house** at the Winchester Public Library on Saturday, September 29 from 10:00-12:00 noon. Stop in and see what activities and events are available this fall. There will be walks in the Fells and around Horn Pond in October and an International Pot Luck Supper in November. International residents who would like to practice and improve their English skills are invited to sign up for one of the English Conversation Groups offered (either Monday or Tuesday mornings or Wednesday evening).

On October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Anne Copeland, founder of the Interchange Institute and editor of the Newcomers Almanac, will help international parents understand how American schools work. The program will be held in the meeting room of the Winchester Public Library and is free and open to anyone. For more information call the Multicultural Network at 781-729-7100 or email office@wmcn.org.

The Winchester Friends of Art present their annual student art exhibit at the Winchester Public Library during the month of September. The exhibit includes a variety of art work done by students in the Winchester Public Schools. The Winchester Friends of Art is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that supports the art program in the Winchester Public schools. If you are interested in the organization, please contact marygrassi@verizon.net.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 ~ OPENING DAY SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

Winchester High School's schedule for the 2007 ~ 2008 school year will begin on September 05th. As indicated below, the schedule for the day includes homerooms, student assemblies and class periods of different lengths.

9th Graders

7:45-8:15 Welcome in auditorium
8:20-9:30 Meet in homerooms/work with mentors
9:35 First class bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grade 9

A 9:35 – 9:40
B 9:45 – 9:50
C 9:55 – 10:00
D 10:05 – 10:10
E 10:15 – 10:20
F 10:25 – 10:30
G 10:35 – 10:40
10:45 – Club Fair in cafeteria – 9th graders
dismissed from cafeteria

10th Graders

11:30-11:55 Auditorium
11:59-12:53 Homeroom
12:58 First class-follow bell schedule below

11th Graders

11:30-11:55 Homeroom
11:59-12:24 Auditorium
12:28-12:53 Return to homeroom
12:58 First class-follow bell schedule below

12th Graders

11:30-12:24 Homeroom
12:28-12:53 Auditorium
12:58 First class-follow bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grades 10, 11 and 12

A 12:58 ~ 1:05
B 1:09 ~ 1:16
C 1:20 - 1:27
D 1:31 - 1:38
E 1:42 - 1:49
F 1:53 - 2:00
G 2:04 - 2:15

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2007 SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

DAY 1

7:45 ~ 7:55 Homeroom
7:59 ~ 8:52 A Block
8:57 ~ 10:04 B Block
10:09 ~ 11:16 C Block
11:21 ~ 1:03 F Block
1:08 ~ 2:15 G Block

First Lunch

11:21 ~ 11:51 Lunch
11:56 ~ 1:03 Class

Second Lunch

11:21 ~ 12:28 Class
12:33 ~ 1:03 Lunch

RELEASED TIME DAYS 2007 ~ 2008

Student lunches will not be served on released time days. The tentative schedule for release days is 7:45 to 11:16 a.m.

Friday, September 7th, will be a regular Day 2 at Winchester High School. The blocks will be: B,C,D, G and F.

0708 ROTATION

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7
7:45 to 8:52 a.m.	A	<u>B</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>A</u>
8:57 to 10:04 a.m.	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	C	<u>C</u>
10:09 to 11:16 a.m.	<u>E</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>C</u>	D	<u>D</u>
11:21 to 1:03 p.m.	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>G</u>	F	<u>G</u>
1:08 to 2:15 p.m.	<u>G</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>F</u>	E	<u>E</u>

<u>1st LUNCH</u>	<u>2ND LUNCH</u>
11:21-11:51 Lunch	11:21-12:28 Class
11:56-1:03 Class	12:33-1:03 Lunch

HOMEROOMS 07-08

GRADE	TEACHER	HOMEROOM	ALPHA SEPARATION
9	Mr. Shay	C302	A - Bra
9	Ms. Sisco	C202	Bre - Ch
9	Mrs. Manoogian	C308	Cl - De
9	Ms. Maserian	Art	Di - Fe
9	Mrs. Martin	C306	Fi - Ha
9	Ms. Town	C305	He - L
9	Mrs. Palma	C208	M - Mp
9	Mrs. Newton	B303	Mu - O
9	Ms. Kangas	A201	P - Ri
9	Mrs. Brooks	B204	Ro - Sl
9	Ms. Donovan	C304	Sm - T
9	Mrs. DeCamp	C206	U - Z
10	Mr. Chase	A205	A - Br
10	Mrs. Laramie	C301	Bu - Cr
10	Mrs. Needham	A210	Cu - E
10	Ms. Perretta	C210	F - G
10	Mrs. Texin	C310	H - K
10	Ms. Angus	A304	L - Maro
10	Ms. Goldstien	C204	Mart - Mz
10	Mr. Waddell	B202	N - Pi
10	Ms. Kean	C207	Po - Shed
10	Ms. Betcher	C312	Shee - Ta
10	Mr. Rhatigan	B210	Te - Z
11	Mr. Trakimas	C307	A - Bre
11	Ms. Chakladar	B308	Bry - Col
11	Ms. Chipman	B311	Con - E
11	Mr. Kacamburas	CafeL	F - G
11	Mr. Franciosi	B302	H - Ki
11	Mr. Smith	A303	Ko - Mah
11	Mrs. Anderson	C212	Mal - Muk
11	Mr. Carlson	B306	Mul - Pi
11	Ms. Hillstrom	B205	Po - She
11	Mrs. Letterie	A202	Shi - Tri
11	Mr. Benedetto	B301	Tro - Z
12	Ms. Petrucci	C209	A - Bur
12	Mr. Marques	A208	But - C
12	Ms. Cronin	A302	D - Fi
12	Mr. Cacciapouti	A204	Fl - Hal
12	Mr. Fusco	E104 (Tech PC Lab)	Har - J
12	Mr. Kurhajetz	A206	K - Li
12	Mr. Miles	B208	Lo - Mee
12	Ms. White	B307	Mei - N
12	Mr. Lister	B212	O - Re
12	Mr. Miller	B201	Ri - Sh
12	Mrs. Daniels	B102	Si - T
12	Ms. O'Brien	B207	U - Z
	Mr. Norris	A301	LINC
	Mrs. Wilcox	A105	ALC

Updated calendars are issued each month in the Newsletter. Please check each month for changes and additional information.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2007 ~ 2008

Tuesday	September 4	All Teachers Report
Wednesday	September 5	All Students Report
Monday	September 24	No School Professional Development Day
Thursday	September 27	Open House
Friday	September 28	Senior Semi
Saturday	October 6	College Boards
Monday	October 8	No School-Columbus Day
Tuesday	October 9	Progress Reports 1st Quarter
Saturday	October 20	PSAT's
Friday	November 2	End 1st Quarter
Saturday	November 3	College Boards-WHS <u>not</u> test site
Monday	November 12	No School-Veterans' Day
Wednesday	November 21	Release Day/Pep Rally
Thursday & Friday	November 22 & 23	Thanksgiving Break
Saturday	December 1	College Boards-WHS <u>not</u> test site
Monday	December 03	Progress Reports 2nd Quarter
Thursday	December 13	Release Time Day
Monday ~ Tuesday	December 24 ~ January 1	Holiday Vacation
Friday	January 18	End 2nd Quarter
Monday	January 21	No School-Martin Luther King Day
Tuesday ~ Friday	January 22, 23, 24, 25	Mid-Year Exams
Saturday	January 26	College Boards-WHS <u>not</u> test site
Wednesday	January 30	Release Time Day
Monday-Friday	February 18 ~ 22	Winter Vacation
Saturday	March 1	SAT 1 Only-WHS <u>not</u> test site
Monday	March 3	Progress Reports 3 rd Quarter
Tuesday	March 25, 26 & 27	MCAS testing
Monday	March 31	End 3rd Quarter
Monday-Friday	April 21 ~ 25	Spring Vacation
Wednesday	April 30	Senior Parents Night
Saturday	May 3	College Boards
Monday	May 5	Progress Reports 4 th Quarter
Monday-Friday	May 5 ~ 16	AP Exams
Monday	May 5	Release Time Day
Wednesday	May 21	Senior Academic Awards
Wednesday Thursday	May 21 & 22	MCAS testing
Monday	May 26	No School-Memorial Day
Tuesday ~ Wednesday	June 3 & 4	MCAS testing
Saturday	June 7	College Boards
Sunday	June 8	Graduation
Tuesday	June 10	Junior Academic Awards
Thursday ~ Tuesday	June 12, 13, 16 & 17	Final Exams
Wednesday	June 18	Schools Close

NO SCHOOL SIGNALS

Fire Alarm - 2-2 repeated four times at 6:45 a.m.
Radio and Television Announcements - by 6:00 a.m.
WBZ, WCVB, WHDH, WFXT, WLVI, WEZE, WBUR, cancellations.com
Television Channels 4, 5, 7 and Fox
Comcast ~ Channel 8
High School Telephone 721-7020
HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE LINE 721-7020