

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

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER ~ SEPT. 2008

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

This newsletter was funded entirely by the Winchester Parent Faculty Association. No public funds were expended for the cost of its production or distribution.

From the Office of Principal Tom Gwin

Welcome to the 2008-2009 academic year! I hope you all had a terrific summer and are rested and ready for the new school year. It certainly has been an interesting summer with the excitement of the Beijing Olympics, the saga of Clark Rockefeller, and more summer rain than I've ever seen. For the first time ever my lawn is green in August. Watching gymnast Alicia Sacramone, WHS '06, compete in the Olympics has been absolutely thrilling. All of us at the high school are extremely proud of her. For me, having been to Beijing in 2005 as part of a principal exchange project, the Olympics have been especially fascinating.

School begins on Wednesday, September 3. Ninth graders should report to the high school auditorium at 7:45 a.m. and will be dismissed at 11:00 a.m. Tenth graders should report to the auditorium and eleventh and twelfth graders should report to homeroom at 11:30 a.m. Attached in this newsletter is the opening day schedule. Grades 10, 11 and 12 will attend homeroom and run through an abbreviated schedule in the afternoon.

Photographs of ninth, tenth and eleventh graders will take place on the first day of school in the right side of the cafeteria.

The PAL (Peer Alliance Link) program will again ease the transition of the incoming ninth graders. About 90 PALs (10th, 11th and 12th graders) will serve as mentors to the freshmen, helping them out in homeroom and providing a tour of the school on the first day. Each PAL will serve as a mentor to three ninth graders. After homeroom, ninth graders will run through an abbreviated schedule and then attend the club fair in the cafeteria. All clubs will have booths set up and provide information to the freshmen.

10th, 11th and 12 graders will attend homeroom and run through an abbreviated schedule in the afternoon.

The coming year will also bring many new faces to the faculty, as over twenty-five new staff members have been hired. The directors and coordinators have done an excellent job bringing in high quality teachers. We are especially pleased to welcome two new members to the administrative team. Sherri Lewis-Sholler is the new Director of Guidance replacing Alice Schellhorn who will retire in September. Sherri has been the Director of Guidance in Scituate and served as a high school and middle school guidance counselor in Virginia. Brian Carroll is the new Athletic Director, replacing Tom Murray, who has retired. Brian, WHS '85, has most recently served as head football coach and history teacher at Lawrence Academy. He also has extensive coaching experience at both the high school and college levels.

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.

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

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

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

ARE YOU NEW TO WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Please join us in an Information Meeting
For High School
Students and Parents
Tuesday
September 02, 2008
1:00 p.m.
WHS Library

There will be an orientation program for all students and parents who are new residents of Winchester. Members of the National Honor Society will facilitate the activities. The program for new students includes a tour of the building, an explanation of the schedule and review of materials that will help you get a better understanding of WHS expectations and may answer any questions you might 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 to locate a student and remind him or her about a music lesson, appointment, etc. Dr. Gwin is requesting that parents make these kinds of requests only in **emergency situations**. The office staff is short handed and does not have the time to handle these individual requests. Thank you for your understanding.

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

VOICE MAIL Parents may leave voice mail for all staff and faculty starting in September. Please be aware that the faculty has limited access to telephones. Your best way to communicate is 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 staff parking spaces), the large lot to the right of the front of the main building and the Skillings Athletic Field parking lot. The small lot, which abuts private property on the east side of the building and the lot behind the cafeteria are reserved for staff. Students should not park in the Town Hall lot by the Jenks Senior Center, this lot is reserved for senior citizens. Students who do not park in designated areas and/or do not use good judgment in operating their vehicles, will be denied the privilege of parking on school property. Violators of the parking regulations will be ticketed and/or towed. While parked on school property, a student's car can be searched by the administration at any time if there is concern about illegal substances or safety issues.

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

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

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

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

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

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM Free and reduced lunch program applications will be available to everyone. If your student does not have a copy, please call Mrs. Gustin at the school number, extension 1120 and one will be mailed to you.

OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 7:00 P.M. ~ 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 a ten minute presentation. Your student will bring home a copy of their schedule. The evening is expected to end at 9:00 p.m.

DROP IN WITH PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN On the first Wednesday of the month, Dr. Gwin will set aside a block of time from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for a "Parent Drop-In Session". Parents are invited to speak with Dr. Gwin without an appointment. The first "Drop-In" will be Wednesday, September 10, 2008.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ~ SEPTEMBER 03, 2008 All students (Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12) will have their photographs taken by Burlington Studios. All students will receive a photo identification card which will be needed for attendance purposes.

ATTENTION SENIORS Cap and Gown Measurements will take place on Thursday, October 23, 2008, during both lunches. Measurements will be in the "RED" stairwell by the student parking lot. The cost will be \$17.00 dollars, checks should be made payable to Winchester High School with the student's name and the words Cap & Gown notated on the memo line. All outfits come with a souvenir tassel in June. Extra tassels will be available to purchase on that day for an additional \$4.00 dollars. Students will also be asked to verify their name for the printing of their diplomas. They should check the spelling and the set up ~ i.e. John J. Smith vs. John James Smith. Students will be asked to initial their name or make the change on the sheet.

CLASS NEWS

Attention Juniors!

At the end of last year, the Class of 2010 participated in a Town Day fundraiser to raise money for the new Oncology Center at Winchester Hospital. With much success, we were able to personally present the check to Dale Lodge, President & CEO of Winchester Hospital, and Dr. Arlan Fuller, Clinical Vice President of Winchester Hospital. This program has been our community service focus, and the class will have many fundraisers in the future for this cause.

We have many events planned for this year, including our annual Valentines Day Bake Sale, our Junior Class Dinner, as well as a class trip to play Laser Tag. We look forward to seeing you at each of these events!

Finally, we would like to invite **everyone** to our class cabinet. If you want to help out, the cabinet plays a vital role in all class planning and activities. New members are always welcome!

Matt Marotta
Class President

Neil Erikson
Vice President

Nina Krane
Treasurer

Michael Kalfopoulos
Secretary

From the PFA Co-Presidents, Carol Cashion, cjcashion@mac.com , and Caren Connelly, caren.connelly@gmail.com

The last days of summer can be the sweetest – the best produce, slightly warmer New England ocean waters and even the anticipation of the new school year. The arrival of the PFA newsletter is a sure sign that the opening day of school is not far behind. We hope you find this newsletter and the PFA website, www.whspfa.org , valuable sources of information and good ways of staying connected to WHS.

This year please come to monthly PFA meetings where Principal Tom Gwin updates us on a variety of issues, speakers present programs tied to student challenges and opportunities and parents make decisions regarding school activities and programs. Meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 7:30pm, and are run with a healthy respect for people's time.

The PFA monthly newsletter will be sent you via email after this issue.

If you don't know if you are registered to receive our electronic newsletter and e-notices, please go to www.whspfa.org 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. 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. You may request that paper copies of the monthly newsletters be mailed to you by sending your regular mailing address and your youngest WHS student's name and grade to Patty Shepard, 14 West Chardon Road.

This newsletter includes a listing of the PFA board. Please don't hesitate to use that list to contact people if you have questions or concerns about WHS issues. As we have probably all told our children at least once, good communication is the first step to solving or avoiding most problems!

Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10th 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!

WHS PFA Direct Appeal 2008-2009

The WHS Parent Faculty Association's Direct Appeal is now underway for the 2008-2009 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 to **Joanne O'Donnell, 9 Pierrpont 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 2008

A Message from WHS's
New Director of Guidance, Sherri Lewis

Welcome back! I am looking forward to beginning my first school year in Winchester. I have spent the past several years serving as Director of Guidance in Scituate, MA. Prior to my move to Massachusetts, I worked in Fairfax County, Virginia as a middle school science and social studies teacher and then served as a guidance counselor at the middle school and high school levels. I am excited about the educational opportunities offered by the Winchester Public School system and look forward to meeting the students and families of the Winchester community.

* * * * *

2008-2009 Guidance Counselor Assignments

Below are listed the counselor assignments, by grade, for the 2008-09 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 retirement of guidance director Alice Schellhorn and the resignation of guidance counselor Kristen Montgomery has created a need to reassign students at all grade levels. Please contact Sherri Lewis, Director of Guidance, if you have any questions regarding your son or daughter's counselor assignment.

Grade 12: Class of 2009

A - Connelly:	Mrs. Roberts
Connolly - Glacken:	Ms. Lewis
Goehring - Holland:	TBA
Hsieh - Miller:	Mrs. Raneri
Mistretta - Sands:	Mrs. Johnson
Santini - Z:	Mr. Burke

Grade 11: Class of 2010

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

Grade 10: Class of 2011

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

Grade 9: Class of 2012

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

* * * * *

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

Class of 2000:	178
Class of 2004:	221
Class of 2008:	266

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 7, 2008.

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 2008 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.

* * * * *

2008 PSAT Date is Saturday, October 18

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) will be administered at WHS on Saturday, October 18. **This is the only date the test will be given at WHS.** To register for the PSAT, students may sign up in the **Math Department, before and after school and during the lunch periods,** beginning Monday, September 29 through Friday, October 10. The cost of the exam is \$25.00. The fee must be paid the morning of the exam. Students should bring the EXACT AMOUNT in cash, or a check payable to "Winchester High School".

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

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

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

NOTE: Students with a documented disability who have an IEP or a 504 Plan that allows them extended time or other accommodations on school-based tests, and who would like to apply for approval from the College Board to receive those accommodations on the PSAT, must complete the required SSD Form immediately, if they have not already done so. The form may be obtained from the Guidance Department, completed and signed by parent and student and returned to

the school for certification. Without receipt of written approval from the College Board, these students will not be allowed accommodations on the PSAT.

* * * * *

SAT Fee Waiver Service

During the 2008 – 2009 academic year, the College Board will again offer a fee waiver service to assist students for whom the payment of fees for the SAT Reasoning Test and the SAT Subject Tests presents a serious barrier to testing and applying for college admission. To be eligible for a fee waiver, a student must apply through his/her guidance counselor and must meet financial eligibility guidelines such as participation in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program or household income eligibility guidelines which your guidance counselor will share with you. Only students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible for fee waivers. Eligible students may receive up to a total of four fee waivers (two for the SAT, two for Subject Tests). The fee waivers do not cover standby or late fees and may be used in online or mail-in registrations. Students who qualify for fee waivers may also qualify for up to four college application fee waivers. Parents who would like to learn more about fee waivers are encouraged to contact their child's guidance counselor.

* * * * *

Fall College Fair Dates

NEACAC (New England Association for College Admission Counseling) College Fair: Sunday, Sept. 28, 2008 @ Northern Essex CC, Haverhill, MA, 1:00 – 3:30 PM.
Middlesex Guidance League College Fair: Monday, Oct. 27, 2008 @ Shriners Auditorium, Fordham Road, Wilmington, 6:30 – 8:30 PM.

* * * * *

WPI Offers New Environmental Studies Major with Focus on Sustainability

WPI will offer a new Environmental Studies degree to provide students with technological and social policy training to understand not only the technical aspects of environmental decision-making, but also the social aspect of those decisions.

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

WHS CHORAL PROGRAM

If you like to sing and are interested in joining one of our fantastic choirs at WHS, please come by the choir room and meet our new director, Mrs. Miller. She would love to talk to about joining choir and get to know more students and faces at WHS. Now is the time to join! Also, all orchestra and band students who have not been able to find room in your class schedules for choir are eligible to sign up for After School Chorus! Come by and see Mrs. Miller if interested. 2008-2009 is going to be our best year yet – don't miss it!

Connect and Commit Kick Off Meeting

Tuesday, September 9th from 6:30-7:30pm in the WHS Library

Anyone who is interested in participating in community service this year is invited to attend. We will share our summer service experiences, brainstorm service ideas for the upcoming year, discuss the role of student project leaders, identify students interested in project leadership, and begin planning for the High School Open House. There will be signup sheets both at the meeting and available outside the Connect and Commit Office if you are interested in signing up for any of the service opportunities detailed below:

Volunteer Opportunities for September

Saturday, September 13th

ABC Bottle Drive

8:00am-3:00pm

Meet in the Sons of Italy Parking Lot, Transfer Station

Help raise money to support the ABC Program, by sorting recyclable bottles and cans. Help is needed whenever you are able to come, but especially toward the end of the day when donations pour in and energy flags. (*No advance sign up -- just go.*)

Sunday, September 21st

**Stewardship Project
Mary Cummings Park, Woburn**

**2:00-4:00pm
(1:30-4:30pm with travel)**

Learn about this 200 acre park on the Burlington-Woburn border while helping the Friends of Mary Cummings Park to ready areas for recreational use, clean up trails and maintain the protection of wildlife. (www.cummingspark.org)

Submit signed C&C permission slip to the Connect and Commit office by Tuesday, September 16th.

Saturday, September 27thth

Mission of Deeds

9:15-11:45am

6 Chapin Avenue, Reading (9:00am-12:00noon with travel)

Volunteers deliver donations of furniture and household items to families in need. Some heavy lifting of furniture, but also can carry lighter stuff such as lamps and linens. *Submit signed C&C permission slip to the Connect and Commit office by Tuesday, September 23rd.*



Winchester Youth Center

458R Main Street
Winchester MA 01890
781-721-0906
www.winyc.com

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

The goals of the WYC are to:

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

WYC OPEN HOUSE

On Wednesday, September 10th at from 6:30-8:00pm the WYC will be open for everyone to come see our space, meet our staff, and learn about all of our amazing youth groups, daily activities, and service-learning projects! The Peer Leaders and Winchester's Youth Coordinator will be available to provide answers to all of your questions and information about everything you might want to know about the WYC.

The WYC will also have a table at the WHS Open House on September 25th. We'll be selling some of our hand-crafted jewelry and bags, WYC t-shirts and tank tops, delicious baked goods and more! We'll also have information about all of our amazing programs including our leadership programs, community service projects, and special events. Make sure to stop by and check us out!

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Peer Leadership Program

The WYC Peer Leaders are a group of Winchester High School students who are committed to their community and serving as role models for all Winchester teens. The Peer Leaders meet on Monday evenings to work on further developing their leadership, communication, interpersonal, and decision-making skills; plan for upcoming projects; and have a lot of fun. They staff the Drop-in Center after school and serve as Project Leaders for all of the WYC's service-learning projects including all of our special events and community service projects. This group is open to any WHS student who has natural leadership skills and the desire to further develop them. Anyone interested in joining this awesome group is welcome to come talk to Rebecca at the WYC.

SSA: Students Spreading Awareness

SSA is the WYC's peer education group for Winchester High School students. The mission of this group is "to inspire positive change in our world and provide opportunities for students to become active in the community. We identify issues of concern that we feel our peers are uninformed about and spread awareness in unique and interactive ways." Throughout this school year we'll be focusing our efforts on issues as diverse as the war in Iraq, drinking and driving, local and world hunger, AIDS, sexual health, and the genocide in Darfur. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact the WYC. We meet on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm beginning September 9th.

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

1st Annual Town-Wide Scavenger Hunt

Attention all WHS students: are you looking for something fun to do on that teacher development day in September? The WYC is running the 1st annual town-wide Scavenger Hunt on Monday, September 29th. Identify 3-5 of your quickest, smartest, stealthiest, most adventurous friends and enter your team in this super fun challenge. Trophies, medals, and other prizes will be awarded to the most cunning, most creative,

and best teams. Check out our website to find out more and to learn how to enter.

WYC Halloween Costume Party Coffee House

On Friday, October 24th from 8:30-11:00pm 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! There will be a contest for the best costumes and prizes will be awarded to the winners. As always, the Coffee House will feature live music and delicious homemade treats, frappes, and coffee drinks.

The Coffee House is open to high school students only. Admission is \$5. All proceeds will benefit the Peer Leaders' April vacation Habitat for Humanity trip.

Rock for Youth

Each year the WYC sponsors a Battle of the Bands for local high school rock stars. The first of three rounds will take place on Friday, November 21st from 6:30-11:00pm in the Winchester Town Hall Auditorium. If you are interested in registering your band, contact the WYC or email us at rock4youth@gmail.com. If you have friends in a band or just like to listen to great, live music be there to select the bands that will move on to Round 2.

Admission is \$8, each audience member receives one ballot to vote for their 3 favorite bands. As with all WYC events, no outside drinks are allowed and students are not allowed to re-enter.

Proceeds from Rock for Youth benefit the Harrison Chadwick Youth Service Award Scholarships.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Throughout the year the WYC Peer Leaders coordinate and participate in a huge variety of community service projects. The Peer Leaders are committed to making a positive difference in the world and encouraging others to do the same. If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved. Please check out our website for a complete description of our service efforts.

WYC Jewels

The WYC's first entrepreneurial endeavor is our jewelry business. The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of fresh water pearls, glass beads, turquoise, and more. All of our hand-crafted jewelry is on display in the WYC and can be purchased Monday-Friday from 2:00-6:00 pm. The proceeds from all jewelry sales go to benefit the WYC and our youth development programs. Please check our website to find dates of upcoming jewelry parties.

SCHOOL RELATED NEWS AND EVENTS

The **WHS Auto Club** is going to be converting a 1992 Chevy S10 Pick Up Truck from Gas to Electric Power. Anyone interested in the mechanical, electrical or design aspects (car painting, detailing etc) of this project is welcome. First meeting is Monday September 8 at 6pm in the Auto Shop in the Technology Wing. Questions call Debe Holland 781 729-3917

Parent Conversations at WHS Resume!

Lowell Wish Project: Collection of Pots & Pans, Jeans, and Baby Items

The Lowell Wish Project provides emergency, basic, and seasonal goods to low income families in the Merrimack Valley. The Peer Leaders volunteer several times throughout the year sorting and organizing donated items are collecting a wide variety of greatly needed items including new/lightly used pots & pans, jeans for school-aged children, clothing and other gear for babies. We respectfully request that all items be in new/lightly used condition. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-6:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

Animal Rescue League: Collection of Dog & Cat Toys and Cotton Towels

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is a non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing domesticated animals and wildlife from suffering, cruelty, abandonment, and neglect. The Peer Leaders are collecting clean cotton bath towels and new dog & cat toys to donate to their 3 local shelters. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-6:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

The Peer Leaders are organizing a team to participate in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Boston on October 5th. Please check out our website or contact us at the WYC to find out how you can make a donation to this tremendous cause for the American Cancer Society.

Woburn Food Pantry: Non-Perishable Food Collections

Each month the Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters go door-to-door in Winchester neighborhoods to collect food for the Woburn Council of Social Concern's food pantry. On Sunday, October 19th we will be all over town trick-or-treating for non-perishable items. Please contact the WYC if you have food items that you would like to donate and be on the lookout for flyers saying that we're coming to your neighborhood. We will also be out in November and December collecting for the holiday season.

Habitat for Humanity

For 3 years the Peer Leaders have participated in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for needy families. Throughout this school year we are going to work with Habitat for Humanity Boston and work to make a difference in our local communities. During April vacation we will travel to a different area of the country to participate in our fourth annual week-long service trip. Throughout the fall and winter, the Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise donations to Habitat for Humanity Boston and to cover 100% of the expenses for our trip in April. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

Join us, especially Freshman Parents, for Parent Conversations the 3rd Monday morning of each month as we talk informally about everything from Teenage Drug Use to My Space and Facebook. First Meeting: **Monday, September 15th, 9am, Conference Room, Main Office** (date subject to change, so check your email for reminders) Coffee served!

Parent to Parent Presents: Who Are You Voting For, Mom? Talking to Children about Power, Leadership, and the Presidential Election

Dr. Petra Hesse will answer questions such as: How do children understand power, political leadership and government? What do they know about their own and other countries? How do they make sense of personal and political conflict? Dr. Hesse will provide an overview of the development of children's political understanding from early childhood to adolescence, and will make some recommendations for political discussions and how to deal with the emotions that come up with children and youth during this election season.

Dr. Petra Hesse is an associate professor of human development at Wheelock College. She holds graduate degrees in child development and international relations, has done research on children's understanding of the enemy and war, and teaches a class on children's political lives at Wheelock College.

Please join us **Thursday, October 2, 7:30 - 9:30pm at Winchester High School, Social Studies Open Area.**

For more information: www.parenttoparentwinchester.org

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

Please join us for a talk with Winchester's School Superintendent William McAlduff. Mr. McAlduff will engage in an open dialogue with parents of elementary, middle, and high school students regarding a wide range of concerns. He will discuss the current state of the school district after his first year here and the progress of his short and long term goals for 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.

Thursday, October 16th from 7:30- 9 PM in the Social Studies Open Area at Winchester High School

WFEE News:

Grants from the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence are supporting several exciting initiatives at WHS this year:

- The marriage of technology and art through the development of a solar electric car;
- Expansion of the robotics program through WHS outreach to McCall Middle School;
- Continued exploration of ways students can make WHS more supportive and welcoming of all individuals.

Watch this space each month for updates on the progress of all WFEE grants and review our website, www.wfee.org, for more information on the Foundation and our programs. Questions or comments should be sent to info@wfee.org

The District Technology Committee would like to extend an invitation for parents and community members interested in joining the committee to an **informational session on October 8, 2008, at the Lynch Elementary School Library from 7-9 pm**. The District Technology Committee has been instrumental in creating the Winchester Technology Plan and guiding the district conversation relating to technology. New comers are welcome. The District Technology Plan is located at <http://www.winchester.k12.ma.us/technology/technologyinfo.htm> If you have any further questions please contact Annamaria Schrimpf, Director of Educational Technology at 781-721-7007 or email [\[mailto:jaschrimpf@winchester.k12.ma.us\]](mailto:jaschrimpf@winchester.k12.ma.us)

Rotary Club Grants

The Rotary Club of Winchester provides strong support to the school system through its funding of clubs, extracurricular activities and many other specific events, groups and causes. The Rotary Club continues to value the importance education plays in our community. As a charitable organization we also recognize that, as much as we would like to, we simply cannot meet the request of every grant applicant. Therefore, in an effort to provide fairness to all concerned we have established a new policy regarding the Winchester Public Schools.

Rotary will accept grant applications from the Winchester Public Schools, extracurricular organizations, specific departments or education- based groups within the window of September 1st through November 30th of each year. Decisions for all grant requests will be made in early December and the grant applicants will be notified soon thereafter of our ability to fund the various requests. Grant applications received outside of this 3-month window will be returned. Thank you for your understanding and we welcome your participation in the grant proposal process. Grant guidelines can be reviewed and applications can be submitted through our website, www.winchesterrotary.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

International Peace Day Celebration

International residents are invited to sign up for fall activities, including English Conversation groups, at the Winchester Public Library's celebration on International Peace Day on Saturday, September 20, 2008 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in Town Hall and the Library's Meeting Room. Representatives from the International Connections Committee of the Multicultural Network will have a table with information and sign-up sheets.

The Library's celebration will include international entertainment from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Town Hall auditorium with international snacks, and from noon to 2:00 p.m. there will be international craft activities in the Library Meeting Room. This is free and all are welcome! If you have friends or neighbors from other countries, be sure to bring them. This is part of our library's welcoming outreach to international families and the Multicultural Network will be part of this wonderful event.

Studio Art Classes

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. The Fall term of art classes at the Sanborn Cultural Center on High Street in Winchester will start September 30, 2008 and will run through November, 2008. There will also be Winter and Spring terms to be announced at a later date. There will be a total of 10 class meetings in each term and classes are held on Tuesdays from 6:00 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. 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 art education 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 or david.ardito@massart.edu or call 781 910 7119.

**Save the Date: Saturday, September 20 for
"Celebrate! International Day of Peace"**

Celebrate International Day of Peace—Saturday, September 20—with dances, food and crafts from several countries at the Town Hall from 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Sponsored by the Winchester Public Library, this family-centered event will feature colorful dancers, a sampling of international cuisines and both do-it-yourself crafts and craft demonstrations from different cultures. Throughout the morning and into the early afternoon parents and children are encouraged to visit the library where there will be library catalog demonstrations on searching for foreign language items, lists of items owned in different languages and a general welcome to all, newcomers and old. There will be a raffle.

This celebration kicks off a three-year initiative by the Library to reach out to the growing numbers of new international residents in Winchester. In cooperation with International Connections and funded by the John and Mary Murphy Educational Foundation, the Library will provide a variety of new materials and programs focused on helping these new residents get acquainted with our town and find the support and information they need as they adjust to and enrich their new home.

So mark your calendars for September 20 to "Celebrate! International Day of Peace."

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2008 ~ OPENING DAY SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

Winchester High School's schedule for the 2008 ~ 2009 school year will begin on September 03rd. As indicated below, the schedule for the day includes homerooms, student assemblies, student photographs and class periods of different lengths.

9th Graders

7:45-8:00 Welcome in auditorium

8:00-9:35 Meet in homerooms/work with mentors/student photos in right side of cafeteria

9:35 First class bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grade 9

A 9:35 – 9:40

B 9:45 – 9:50

C 9:55 – 10:00

D 10:05 -10:10

E 10:15 -10:20

F 10:25 -10:30

G 10:35 -10:40

10:45 -11:00 Club Fair in cafeteria – **left side** – 9th graders dismissed from cafeteria

10th Graders

11:30 ~ 1:05 Meet in homerooms/student photos in right side of cafeteria

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

11th Graders

11:30 ~ 1:05 Meet in homerooms/student photos in right side of cafeteria

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

12th Graders

11:30 ~ 12:24 Homeroom

12:28 ~ 12:53 Auditorium

12:58 ~ 1:10 First class-follow bell schedule below

Bell Schedule for Grades 10, 11 and 12

A 1:10 ~ 1:15

B 1:20 ~ 1:25

C 1:30 ~ 1:35

D 1:40 ~ 1:45

E 1:50 ~ 1:55

F 2:00 ~ 2:05

G 2:10 ~ 2:15

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 04, 2008 SCHEDULE FOR ALL STUDENTS

DAY 1

7:45 ~ 7:55 Homerooms

7:59 ~ 8:52 A Block (Brief 10th Grade Assembly)

8:57 ~ 10:04 B Block (Brief 11th Grade Assembly)

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

Friday, September 05, 2008 will be a regular Day 2 at Winchester High School. The blocks will be: B,C,D, G and F.

HOMEROOMS 08~09
GRADE TEACHER HOMEROOM ALPHA SEPARATION

9	Ms. Petrucci	C 209	A ~ Brau
9	Mr. Marques	A 208	Bre ~ Cl
9	Mr. James	A 302	Co ~ Dit
9	Mr. Cacciapouti	A 204	Div ~ Gil
9	Mr. Kurhajetz	A 206	Go ~ Ke
9	Mr. Miles	B 208	Kn ~ Mart
9	Ms. White	B 307	Marx ~ Ni
9	Mr. Lister	B 212	No ~ Ra
9	Mr. Rutenbeck	B 209	Re ~ Sm
9	Mrs. Daniels	B 102	So ~ Wa
9	Ms. O'Brien	B 201	We ~ Z
10	Mr. Rollins	C 302	A ~ Bra
10	Ms. Sisco	C 202	Bre ~ Ch
10	Mrs. Manoogian	C 308	Cl ~ De
10	Ms. Maserian	Art	Di ~ Fe
10	Mrs. Martin	C 306	Fi ~ Ha
10	Ms. Town	C 305	He ~ L
10	Ms. Palma	C 208	M ~ Mp
10	Ms. Duke	B 303	Mu ~ O
10	Ms. Kangas	A 201	P ~ Ri
10	Mrs. Brooks	B 204	Ro ~ Si
10	Ms. Donovan	C 304	Sm ~ T
10	Mrs. DeCamp	C 206	U ~ Z
11	Mr. Chase	A 205	A ~ Br
11	Mrs. Laramie	C 301	Bu ~ Cr
11	Mrs. Needham	A 210	Cu ~ E
11	Ms. Steele	C 210	F ~ G
11	Mrs. Texin	C 310	H ~ K
11	Ms. Angus	A 304	L ~ Maro
11	Ms. Goldstein	C 204	Mart ~ Mz
11	Mr. Waddell	B 202	N ~ Pi
11	Ms. Morin	C 207	Po ~ Shed
11	Ms. Betcher	C 312	Shee ~ Ta
11	Mr. Rhatigan	B 210	Te ~ Z
12	Mr. Trakimas	C 307	A ~ Bre

12	Ms. Chakladar	B 308	Bry ~ Col
12	Ms. Chipman	B 311	Con ~ E
12	Mr. Kacamburas	Café ~ L	F ~ G
12	Ms. Zhou	B 302	H ~ Ki
12	Mr. Roth	A 303	Ko ~ Mah
12	Mrs. Anderson	C 212	Mal ~ Muk
12	Mr Carlson	B 306	Mul ~ Pi
12	Ms. Hillstrom	B 205	Po ~ She
12	Mrs. Letterie	A 202	Shi ~ Tri
12	Mr. Benedetto	B 301	Tro ~ Z
LC 3	Mr. Norris	A 301	
ALC	Mrs. Wilcox	A 105	

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

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2008 ~ 2009

Tuesday	September 02	All Teachers Report
Wednesday	September 03	All Students Report
Thursday	September 25	Open House
Monday	September 29	Professional Day~No School
Saturday	October 04	SAT
Monday	October 06	Progress Reports 1 st Quarter
Monday	October 13	No School~Columbus Day
Saturday	October 18	PSAT's
Friday	October 31	End 1 st Quarter
Saturday	November 01	SAT's WHS not a test site
Tuesday	November 04	Voting Day~No School
Tuesday	November 11	Veterans Day~No School
Wednesday	November 26	Release Day/Pep Rally
Thursday & Friday	November 27 & 28	Thanksgiving Break
Saturday	December 06	SAT WHS not a test site
Thursday	December 11	Early Release
Saturday	December 13	ACT's
Monday	December 15	Progress Reports
Wednesday ~ Friday	December 24 ~ January 02	Holiday Vacation
Friday	January 16	End 2 nd Quarter
Monday	January 19	Martin Luther King Day
Tuesday	January 20	Junior Parents Night
Tuesday ~ Friday	January 20 ~ 23	Mid-Year Exams
Saturday	January 24	SAT's WHS not a test site
Wednesday	January 28	Early Release
Monday ~ Friday	February 16 ~ 20	Winter Vacation
Monday	March 02	Progress Reports
Saturday	March 14	SAT 1 Only ~WHS not a site
Friday	March 27	End 3 rd Quarter
Tuesday	March 31 ~ April 02	MCAS ~ Testing
Saturday	April 04	ACT's
Friday	April 10	Good Friday ~ No School
Monday ~ Friday	April 20 ~ 24	Spring Break
Thursday	April 30	Senior Parents Night
Saturday	May 02	SAT's
Monday	May 04	Release Day
Monday	May 11	Progress Reports
Tuesday	May 19 ~ 21	MCAS ~ Testing
Wednesday	May 20	Senior Awards Night
Monday	May 25	No School ~ Memorial Day

Wednesday	May 27	Junior Awards Night
Wednesday	June 03	Senior Prom
Thursday ~ Friday	June 04 ~ 05	MCAS Testing
Thursday	June 04	Senior Luau
Friday	June 05	Graduation Rehearsal
Friday	June 05	Senior Luncheon
Saturday	June 06	SAT's
Sunday	June 07	Graduation
Friday ~ Wednesday	June 12 ~ 17	Final Exams
Thursday	June 18	Schools Close