

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

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

FROM THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL TOM GWIN

I hope you had the opportunity to see the film *Race to Nowhere* when it was shown at McCall Middle School on November 22. First-time filmmaker Vicki Abeles decided to make the movie after she saw the stress and pressure of modern teenage life lead to serious medical and emotional problems in her own children. The movie's premise is that the pressure-packed life of our students has to lead to a significant increase in stress related diseases (eating disorders, chronic migraines, anxiety, and depression) and cheating. High achieving students are more concerned with getting the A than genuine learning. In one telling moment in the film, a senior who has just completed the French AP exam is relieved because she never has to speak French again. While the film has been criticized for its lack of objectivity, the movie gives the Winchester community a great deal to think about.

Race to Nowhere could have been made at Winchester High. I recently read through some of National Honor Society applications and I do not know how students do what they do. We have students taking six honors/AP courses, participating in athletics, doing community service and playing major roles in clubs and other outside activities. I hear about the students who are up until 2 a.m. doing homework. In Support Staff meetings, we discuss the students who have been hospitalized due to anxiety, depression or migraines and most of the time they are our highest achieving students. We see more and more students taking six major courses rather than five. Kids are feeling the pressure to get into the best possible colleges.

I wish there was an easy remedy, but I don't see it. If anything, the issue gets worse every passing year. WHS has a faculty committee looking at school culture with the thought of turning down the pressure on our end. However a great deal of this pressure comes from the colleges, the parents, and the students themselves. If you didn't see *Race to Nowhere* at McCall, I'm sure the DVD will be out soon. Watching and discussing the film with your children would probably be a good thing.

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Family Vacations/Personal Trips ~ Parents and students are reminded that Massachusetts law requires compulsory attendance for students. We strongly discourage family vacations when school is in session. In addition to compromising the attendance law, family vacations/personal trips interrupt the education process of each course in ways that make-up work cannot reverse.

If family vacations/personal trips for longer than two (2) days are planned, the Family/Personal Trip Absence Form must be filled out at least one (1) week in advance to afford students the opportunity to obtain make-up work. These forms are available from the Registrar's Office. The form must be signed by the parent/guardian and each teacher, and returned to the office prior to the trip.

It is the student's responsibility to initiate a meeting with each of his/her teachers to arrange for make-up

work. Teachers are not required to provide make-up work unless the family/personal trip form has been filed in a timely manner. Note: All vacations and personal days count toward the absence policy.

Field Trips ~ Students are accountable for all missed work. It is the student's responsibility to see the teacher prior to the field trip for make-up work. Students may not have any behavioral issues including cuts and tardies. Students must be passing all courses. Students may not attend any more than (2) two field trips per quarter. If a student plans to go on an exchange trip, he/she may not go on any other field trips that semester.

CLASS NEWS

NEWS FROM THE CLASS OF 2011

The month of December will be a flurry of activity for our Seniors with college deadlines looming! In the meantime our students enjoyed themselves at the annual Semiformal held on October 29 at Town Hall. Our Class Officers spearheaded the Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser and finalized ideas for the Class Gift. They are also planning the annual Family Dinner. More details to follow!

PFA NEWS

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Ann Hibbard and Martha Sampson

I can't believe we are preparing for a December meeting already! The PFA is in the thick of things, with three good meetings under our belts. At our first meeting in September, Principal Tom Gwin gave an update on the strategic planning process for the high school (Focus on the Future) and we'll continue to hear more about that as the year progresses. In October, Athletic Director Brian Carroll came and gave an inspiring talk about the athletic program and the ways that interscholastic athletics can improve the life of the entire school community. In November's meeting the grants were approved. Thanks to Carol Savage and Brenda Reishus for their hard work on this.

It is a busy time with lots going on including two potential school projects; the Strategic Plan; and upcoming programs from Parent to Parent on stress and pressure felt by students. There will also be an evening Parent Conversations Monday, December 6th. At our next meeting on December 8th, we will have Kristen Richie from Connect and Commit to discuss what they do.

Lastly, we would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the Direct Appeal so far. All of your contributions go back to the school so we encourage anyone who hasn't made a donation yet to strongly consider doing so. A contribution of any amount is welcome, particularly in these days of increasingly tight budgets.

We look forward to seeing you on December 8th in the WHS Library.

SCHOOL NEWS

RACE TO NOWHERE

Follow-up Parent Conversations will be held on December 6th at 7:00 PM in the WHS English Open Area (there will be signs to guide you!) and December 7th at 9:00 AM in the McCall Library. These Parent Conversations will be open to ALL parents regardless of the ages of their children or what school they attend.

In anticipation of the Parent Conversations, please consider the following “food for thought” questions from Elizabeth Silva, Director of the Winchester Coalition For A Safer Community.

- a. What ideas do you have for ways to combat student stress?
- b. How are things today similar or different from when you were in school?
- c. Which topics from the film affect you and/or your family?
- d. Have you found ways to help your child manage stress? What has been helpful? Would you like more strategies to help your family manage stress?
- e. What are ways that you would like to see the issues raised by the film addressed in your school and/or community?
- f. What are the guiding principles you would like to see for education on the local, state and national levels?

Coming soon: February 15th, Parent To Parent will host Rick Irving, an independent licensed social worker, who will discuss ways to minimize and manage student stress.

DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

On December 20, 2010, from 7-9 pm, the District Technology Committee will be meeting in the library at Winchester High School. If you might be interested in joining this committee, please join us for this informational session. Topics for discussion will include an update of the state of technology within our schools, and the committees work over the years to move the District Tech Plan forward. Any questions please contact Annamaria Schrimpf, Director of Educational Technology at 781-721-7007 or aschrimpf@winchester.k12.ma.us.

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Technology Integration started this year at Winchester High School almost beginning with the first day of school. So many teachers armed with knowledge gained over the summer began incorporating technology and 21st Century Skills into their curriculum. Seta Kaleshian, Instructional Technology Specialist, is always ready to co-teach, facilitate, and assist teachers as they use technology to enhance learning in all subject areas.

During the months of September and October, we used all computer labs throughout the High School, five labs with desktop computers, and five portable labs. It is worthy to note several of the projects. Ms. Milner's French class learned opposite verbs by making a song and students acted the verbs. This was videotaped, then showed to the parents during parents night. They also used Google Docs to work together and produce an assignment. Another project was Ms. Baker's Social Studies class where students

were instructed to prepare and videotape campaign ads using Enlightenment thinkers such as Voltaire, John Locke, Denis Diderot, etc. Students were divided into groups of three with specific roles. They were taught by Ms. Kaleshian how to videotape using 6 new cameras bought by the Tech Department. Students collaborated, downloaded the video clips to Windows Movie Maker, edited it, completed, and presented in class. Ms. Morin's and Ms. Kean's Spanish classes did a project using Voicethread on line to present their favorite Spanish artist. Ms. Steel's Italian class used Voicethread to teach verbs. Each student created a slide and the entire class worked together and created one slide show. Everyone could log onto their account, see the slideshow and comment on each other's slide using voice or text in Voicethread.

For the first time this year we have Chinese class at Winchester High School. Since the sound of Chinese is very different from any Romance Languages, students learned to use Google Voice to do their homework assignments using their phones.

The English department utilizes the computer labs all the time. It is very exciting that there are several members of the English Department, such as Mr. Lister, and Mr. Rhatigan, who aim to conduct their classes in a paperless classroom. They use Ning Accounts on line, and blogs to communicate with their students, teach, and exchange their writings, comments and grades. Most of the other English teachers also use blogs to post homework. They all use the computer labs to produce student writing.

Mrs. Kaleshian has done group and individual teacher training on Edline/GradeQuick. The first session took place on September 16 after school with the new teachers. Everyone at the High School has an Edline account to connect with their teachers, students and parents. Mr. Cacciapouti takes advantage of doing on line testing using Edline. Recently all teachers posted progress reports on Edline for all students and parents to see.

Looking forward to continue integrating technology and help build project based learning at the High School.

Seta Kaleshian

Instructional Technology Specialist

COMPUTER EDUCATION

The students in the Computer Education Web Design I course taught by Daniel Downs are currently working on their Ethnic/Heritage Website Design in which they choose a ethnicity or heritage and develop websites which reflect their choice with content related to history, culture, language and economics. Students have learned how to use CSS & HTML code to create and design their pages.

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING CLASS

Students in Sports & Entertainment Marketing have recently finished their PowerPoint presenting their Innovative Sports Product Design Marketing Plan. Students will then apply their knowledge of product marketing to the development of a commercial which will use green screen technology and marketing vocabulary. The Sports & Entertainment Marketing course provides students at the high school a course in which they apply their interest in the sports/entertainment field to a business curriculum using concepts such as entrepreneurship, marketing plans and business technology development.

SACHEM STOCK EXCHANGE

The recently formed Sachus Stock Exchange formed by Matt Patalano and advised by Computer Education teacher Daniel Downs has taken off in popularity. Students are gaining a real world experience of developing and maintaining a stock portfolio with the VSE Marketwatch website.

HARVARD MODEL CONGRESS

The Harvard Model Congress participants have all recently received their roles for their conference in February. Harvard Model Congress presents an opportunity for students to debate politics and learn more about government policies. The group meets monthly at the high school and is advised by Computer Education teacher Daniel Downs.

CONNECT AND COMMIT

The Connect and Commit Service Club meets Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm in the WHS Library You can sign up for the opportunities listed below at the weekly meetings or in the Connect and Commit office, which is in the High School library. If you have questions about Connect and Commit, visit Kristen Ritchie, Program Director, in the Connect and Commit Office or contact Kristen via email kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us or phone 781-721-7020 x1999.

Volunteer Opportunities & Events

Date TBD- Winchester Community Service Fair--The Winchester Youth Center and Connect & Commit will be teaming up to bring together local organizations who have opportunities for young people to volunteer. Students will be able to come to the high school cafeteria and talk to representatives from a variety of different organizations and school clubs.

Additional volunteer opportunities will also be available through the Connect & Commit office. If you are looking for a place to volunteer on a regular basis, please see Ms. Ritchie. She can point you toward some great organizations to contact based around your interests.

Ongoing Service

World Challenge Expedition Trip to Ecuador--In the summer of 2011, a group of students from Winchester will be traveling to Ecuador for three weeks of hiking, service, leadership development and overall adventure. If you are interested in becoming a part of this expedition, please contact Ms. Ritchie or Mr. Fleming. kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us, jfleming@winchester.k12.ma.us or visit www.wcexpeditions.com for more information. It's not too late to join the team!

GINN Playground Restoration Project--the group organizing the fundraising for this project would like help selling custom Winchester Sachems Vineyard Vines totes and Ties, likely at sporting events and other town events and gatherings. Two Volunteers will be needed at each event. More information to come, contact Miss Ritchie if you are interested in helping.



We are devoted parents, artists and businesses working together with Terry Lannon, Art Director, and the dedicated art teachers in the Winchester Public Schools. We need your help in order to keep the visual arts an exciting part of our children’s lives. We currently need volunteers for the following positions:

ARTS COORDINATOR

Be our liaison for the art department and local businesses. Coordinate with elementary school liaisons for monthly art display installations at local businesses.

SCHOOL COORDINATOR(s)

Be our liaison(s) at your local elementary school. Help distribute event flyers and informational materials in early September and early February. Work directly with the art teacher to design art exhibit boards for downtown business displays and Town Day Art show panels.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Photograph classes and events for marketing materials.

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR

Help us distribute FOA Event and General Informational Materials to local libraries and community facilities.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Help us develop a comprehensive website for FOA. Make updates and changes to pages on FOA’s website, periodically design new pages as required by program changes. Experienced website developer preferred with solid understanding of HTML coding and .JPG image manipulation (Photoshop).

Please sign me up as a Volunteer for

I can not commit to a Volunteer Position right now but would like to assist with an event. Please check all that interest you:

Party for the Arts Fundraiser:

- ___ Decorating on Fri 3/25 from 3PM - 7PM
- ___ Hosting at the Party for the Arts Afternoon Family Reception 2 - 4 PM
- ___ Evening Event 8 - 11 PM ___ Reception ___ Silent Auction ___ Cashier
- ___ Clean up on Sunday morning 10 - 12:30

___ Town Day Exhibit ___ Friday 6/3 ___ Saturday 6/4 ___ 10-12 ___ 12-2 ___ 2-4 ___ 4-6(clean up)

___ Annual Student Art Exhibit at the Library

___ I am unable to volunteer this year, but would like to make a contribution to Friends of Art
Enclosed is my tax-exempt donation of _____

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO FRIENDS OF ART, PO Box 722, WINCHESTER, MA 01890

The Guide



A Monthly Newsletter from the WHS Guidance Department December 2010

NEW!! Available Now!

WHS is pleased to offer SAT preparation support to its 11th -12th grade students through our college counseling web site, *Naviance Family Connection*. **SAT Method Prep** provides every student with online resources to prepare students for the rigorous college admissions tests and offer support to help students elevate their scores. **SAT Method Prep** is available online through students' current *Naviance Family Connection* accounts. Students can access the program from any web-enabled computer at any time, allowing them to study when it's most convenient for them.

With **SAT Method Prep**, students can:

- Hear audio explanations of test questions
- Access strategy guides for each test
- Complete full-length, timed practice tests
- Receive hundreds of practice questions
- Read easy explanations to every question
- Track their strengths on each test
- Receive valuable test-taking tips
- Take practice quizzes to boost their knowledge
- Build their vocabulary
- Access their courses on an unlimited, 24/7 basis, from any web-enabled computer

To access **SAT Method Prep**, students simply sign onto their current *Naviance Family Connection* page and under the *Colleges Tab*, click on the words "**Test Preparation**" found on the left side of the screen. If students need assistance or have misplaced their *Naviance Family*

Connection passwords, they should contact their Guidance Counselor.

This program will be available to students in the tenth grade in the Spring 2011.

PSAT/NMSQT Score Reports to be Mailed in December

The Guidance Department will be mailing PSAT/NMSQT score reports to students and parents in December, as soon as they are received from the College Board. Due to the high cost of mailing, however, **students' individual test booklets must be picked up in the Guidance Office.** By using the test booklet along with the score report, students will be able to identify areas of weakness to review and practice for the SAT. All high school students who took the 2010 PSAT/NMSQT will receive access to *My College QuickStart*, without charge. *My College QuickStart* will provide students with the opportunity for projecting their SAT score ranges, customizing an SAT study plan, and other college planning features. Directions for accessing *My College QuickStart* will be included with the PSAT Score Reports.

Freshman Parents

Guidance Counselors were delighted to meet with ninth grade students mid-November. An electronic copy of the handout given to ninth students is available in the Guidance Website. An informative coffee for ninth grade parents will be scheduled during the month of January. Please refer to the January Newsletter or the Guidance website after December 15th for more information.

Sophomore Parents

During the month of January, Guidance Counselors will be meeting with all tenth grade students. Students will receive passwords for Naviance and can begin utilizing career exploration tools available through Naviance. An informative coffee for tenth grade parents will be scheduled during the month of January. Please refer to the January Newsletter or the Guidance

Junior Parent Night Scheduled For February 1, 2011

The Guidance Department's Early College Planning Night for parents of juniors has been scheduled for Tuesday evening, February 1, 2011, at 7:00 P.M. The program will be held in the auditorium and will feature speakers David Hautanen, Director of Admissions and Recruitment, Northeastern University, and Walker Coppedge, Associate Director of Enrollment, Tufts University. The admissions professionals will describe the admissions process from the colleges' perspective. Guidance Director Sherri Lewis-Sholler will discuss how to get started on the college selection process, with an emphasis on how to begin the college search, what to look for when visiting colleges, and a suggested schedule for college admissions testing. The Early College Planning Night is the first in a series of workshops designed to equip parents with as much information as possible about the college process. Juniors are encouraged to attend this workshop with their parents.

Juniors

In February Guidance Counselors will be meeting with all eleventh grade students to review post secondary options and the college process. Students are also encouraged to attend the Junior Parent Night with their parents.

Important Information for Parents of Seniors

During the senior year, when a student requests that his/her transcript be sent to a college, the transcript of the first three years is sent to colleges. In February, after mid-year report cards have been issued, a copy of

the mid-year report card is automatically sent to all colleges to which a senior has applied. The mid-year report sent to the colleges reflects only the students mid-year grades in each course. Quarter grades, mid-year exam grades, and teacher comments are not included in the mid-year report. If a college requests to see the first quarter report card prior to mid-year reports, please see Mrs. Volpe in Guidance.

Plan Now for Free College Goal Sunday, January 30, 2011

College Goal Sunday is a volunteer-driven effort to provide free assistance to students and families in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA). The program is supported and administered by a volunteer committee comprised of members of the Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA). College Goal Sunday workshops will be held at various locations across the state. To learn more or to register go to: www.FAFSADay.org

Financial Aid ...Get Your PIN Now!

Although the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) cannot be filed until after January 1, 2011, seniors and their parents planning to apply for financial aid can get a **PIN** (Personal Identification Number) now which will be used to electronically sign the **FAFSA** when completing and filing the application online. Applying for a **PIN** now will avoid holding up the process of filing the **FAFSA** online after January 1. To obtain a **PIN**, students will need to supply their name, social security number, date of birth and mailing address and submit the **PIN** request. Parents of a dependent student must also request a **PIN**, since both parent and student must sign the **FAFSA**. To obtain the **PIN**, go to: www.pin.ed.gov.

Out-of-State Tuition Break Through RSP

The New England Board of Higher Education's (NEBHE) Regional Student Program (RSP) gives thousands of New England college students a significant out-of-state tuition break each year when they enroll in approved degree programs at out-of-state public colleges and universities in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Through the RSP, the New England states cooperate to share academic programs offered by their public higher education institutions and provide eligible New England residents with a tuition break when they pursue approved programs not offered by their home-state public colleges and universities. The NEBHE website www.nebhe.org features comprehensive RSP information.

be downloaded from the web at: www.extension.harvard.edu. To obtain further information about the program, call (617) 495-3192.

Scholarships

Winchester Scholarship Foundation applications will be available in January 2011 in the Guidance Office.

Additional scholarship information can be found under the *Scholarship* tab in Naviance.

College Financing Tool

The U.S. Department of Education has announced a new online tool to help students and families financially prepare for college before a student's senior year of high school. The **FAFSA4caster** provides parents with an early estimate of their eligibility for federal student aid, including grants, reduces the time it will take to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) and clarifies the financial aid process for students and parents. To use the **FAFSA4caster**, go to: www.fafsa.ed.gov and click on the link to **FAFSA4caster**.

Harvard Offers Lowell Scholarship**Program for Courses at Extension School**

Each year Harvard Extension School has offered Lowell Scholarships to qualified high school students to enable them to take one course per term at half tuition, provided the course is taken for credit and the student meets the course prerequisites. Forms may



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

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

If you are a teenager who wants: to do something good for others...something fun to do after school...cool events and activities to attend...to spread the word about important issues...to be a role model to others...to give something back to the community...to learn more about yourself and what you're capable of...then the WYC is the place for you

The WYC offers something for everyone, come check us out and find out how you can get involved. Go to www.winyc.com for more information.

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! Anyone interested in joining this awesome group should stop by the WYC for more information.

SSA: STUDENTS SPREADING AWARENESS

Want to really make a difference in the lives of your peers? Then join SSA, meeting Thursday evenings, December 2nd & 16th at 6:00pm in the WYC SSA is a peer education group for WHS students. Throughout the year we'll be focusing our efforts on issues facing Winchester teens including academic pressure, body image, eating disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, stress, depression, and bullying. We hope to help build a stronger and more supportive community environment for all youth. All WHS students are invited to join us!

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.

ALS COMMUNITY OF HOPE

Please support our efforts to defeat ALS a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's Disease. We have created "Haley's Comets", a Community of Hope Fund at www.alsa.org. Please check our website www.winyc.com for more information or go to www.alsa.org/goto/haleyscomets. Our goal is to raise money to support people in our community with ALS and to spread awareness of the urgency to find treatment and a cure for this disease. Please also check our website for upcoming fundraising events to benefit the ALS Association.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

For the past five 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 are traveling to South Carolina to participate in our sixth annual week-long service trip.

The Peer Leaders are running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip in April. Please read below to learn of upcoming fundraisers or contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

LET US DO YOUR HOLIDAY PRESENT WRAPPING

Midnite Madness @ Book Ends
559 Main Street
Monday, November 29th 6:30-10:00pm

Come buy all of your holiday gifts at the shops in downtown Winchester, then stop by Book Ends for a cup of hot cider and a cookie. We will wrap up each of your gifts to complete this wonderful evening. Special thanks to Book Ends and Sotheby's.

Wednesday evenings 5:30-7:00 pm December 1st, 8th, 15th @ the WYC

Bring your holiday presents to the WYC and our skilled wrappers a.k.a. Peer Leaders will make sure your gifts are beautifully wrapped and tied with a bow!

COMMUNITY NEWS

WINCHESTER COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

Saturday, December 4 2:30-4PM **In the Spotlight: Stage Performance Workshop** with singer/songwriter Mike Verge. You've been hard at work practicing...the spotlight is on and the audience is waiting. Are you ready to have some fun while performing? Let us show you how. All ages and ability levels welcome. Open to the public! \$15 at the door. More info: <http://winchestermusic.org/the-underground/workshops.aspx>

Wednesday, December 8 7:30-9PM **Broadway on Highland**, If you love Broadway, come over to WCMS and sing your favorite Broadway hit or join the crowd during our sing-a-long numbers. All ages and ability levels are welcome! Free. More info:

<http://winchestermusic.org/PDFs/Broadway%20on%20Highland%20Dec%202010.pdf>

Tuesday, December 14 7:30-9PM **Blues Jam Session**, come play or sing with the Underground House Band. Open to the community, all ages. \$7 at the door. For complete list of this month's songs, visit <http://winchestermusic.org/the-underground/jam.aspx>

THE NUTCRACKER

Winchester Ballet Conservatory proudly presents the Nutcracker on Saturday December 4th 1:00 pm at Winchester High School. Tickets are available for purchase at Winchester Ballet Conservatory 9 Mt. Vernon St. Winchester. Hours 2:00pm-6:00pm. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call 781 721 4808.

GINN PLAYGROUND BENEFIT

Holiday House Tour 12/5 Please join us on a Holiday House Tour in the Flats to benefit Ginn Playground taking place on Sunday December 5th from 2:00-6:00. Get inspired by the four beautiful homes within walking distance from each other. Tickets are \$20 in advance at BookEnds, An Elegant Affair, and www.beGINNagain.com and \$25 on day of event at 37 Calumet.

PARENT TO PARENT PRESENTS:

“Your Child's Cyber World: Instilling Safe/Healthy Online Habits” Tuesday, November 30, 7:30-9:30, McCall Middle School auditorium. This timely and engaging program will address the challenges of parenting in today's digital age. Dr. Elizabeth Englander will discuss how parents can help their children navigate the internet productively and safely, and how to maximize their online success. The latest trends in internet safety and cyberbullying will be presented. Parents will be given practical tips for dealing with these issues spanning the elementary to high school years.

Elizabeth Englander, PhD, is the Director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center, a bullying prevention program based at Bridgewater State University. She has done extensive research and writing on issues related to bullying and cyberbullying, and is a much sought-after speaker on these subjects. More info at www.marccenter.org. Jointly sponsored with the Parents Inter-School Council, whose generous financial support made this program possible. For additional information go to www.parenttoparentwinchester.org

BOOK GROUP

Parent to Parent presents a book group discussion on *Loving Without Spoiling, and 100 Other Timeless Tips for Raising Terrific Kids* by Nancy Samalin. In this easy-to-read book, Ms. Samalin helps parents find effective ways to set loving limits without spoiling or indulging children. She outlines 100 topics that focus on actual situations that occur in families. For each situation, she provides suggestions for what to do right now to resolve the conflict. In short, the book may be considered a daily guide to skillful parenting - the instruction manual all parents wish came with their children. Widely recognized and respected as a parenting authority, Ms. Samalin focuses on showing parents how to balance discipline, love and humor, by presenting practical, guilt-free, and parent-tested ways to handle any parenting issue that may be thrown at you. Come join other parents on Monday, January 31, at 7:00 pm in the Winchester Library meeting room as we discuss these “timeless tips.” Books will be available ahead of time through the Library (ask at the Circulation Desk), and at Book Ends. You do not need to have read the book to join in the discussion. For a full calendar of Parent to Parent events, please visit www.parenttoparentwinchester.org.

WINTON CLUB CABARET AUDITIONS

Where: Winchester Town Hall, 71 Mount Vernon St.

When: December 6 and 7, 2010, 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM (You only need to come on 1 of these 2 nights)

Come join us! Wincentennial is looking for local hoofers and crooners to join our cast. Whether you've been performing for years, want to dust off your dancing shoes, or you've secretly wanted to give the stage a try, this is the show for you. Please be prepared to sing up to 16 bars of a song of your choice; bring dance shoes if you have them and please wear comfortable clothes for movement. Cabaret raises funds for Winchester Hospital. **EVERYONE WHO AUDITIONS IS INCLUDED IN OUR CAST. Please note: you must be 18 years of age and out of high school to be eligible to audition and perform.**

We will rehearse for the month of January and our show will be February 1-5, 2011. The tradition and history of the Winton Club Cabaret make it a unique and fun performance opportunity. We hope you will consider joining us this year, as we celebrate 100 years of Winton.

Questions? Contact Talent Committee Chair: Jean Coss (Jean.coss@yahoo.com) by email and she will be happy to answer them for you.

ARLINGTON CHILDREN’S THEATRE

On December 2-4, four Winchester High School teen actors will perform in the Arlington Children’s Theatre production of The Laramie Project at the Arlington Center for the Arts at 41 Foster Street in Arlington on Thursday, December 2, and Friday, December 3 at 7:00 PM and on Saturday, December 4 at 2:00 PM. This award-winning 1998 play chronicles the reaction of the citizens of Laramie, Wyoming, to the murder of a gay college student. In the months following the murder and during the trial of the young men accused of the killing, playwright Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project made six trips to Laramie. They conducted more than 200 interviews with the people of the town, some of whom were directly connected to the case. The breadth of their reactions makes for fascinating, provocative, and moving theatre. ACT will also raise funds during the show for "Safe Schools," a project of the Greater Boston Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. The show is aimed at mature audiences and is not appropriate for young children. Tickets are \$10.00/show and will be available at the door.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 507 CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP

Saturday, January 8, 2011
\$10.00 per Tree (Donation)

Let Boy Scout Troop 507 help recycle your Christmas tree. The Boy Scouts will collect old holiday trees from Winchester residents **on Saturday, January 8, 2011 starting at 7:00 am**. The Scouts will collect trees and bring them to the Transfer Station from those residents who have pre-registered with a \$10 donation. This is the seventeenth year that this successful fundraiser has helped Winchester residents dispose of their old trees, while helping the troop raise money for equipment and trips. Send coupon below and check, payable to BSA Troop 507, to BSA Troop 507, c/o Tom Eid, 28 Maxwell Road, Winchester, MA 01890. Order deadline is Monday, January 3, 2011. Or, you can sign-up with a Boy Scout from Troop 507 at the Transfer Station on Saturdays in December. *Please remove all ornaments, lights, plastic and trim from the tree.* Please have your tree curbside **by 7 am on Saturday, January 8, 2011**. If you have any questions, email us at boyscout507trees@gmail.com or call 781-820-2141 for more information.

Your Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

of Trees @ \$10 _____ Additional Donation _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Thank you for supporting Boy Scout Troop 507!
