



March 2011  
edition

## Westfield HS PTSA e-Bulldog Newsletter

*Home of the Bulldogs*

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### Upcoming Events

[\(view more online\)](#)

Sat Mar 05 @  
9:30AM -  
11:00AM  
[BITS \(Tutoring\)](#)  
Thu Mar 17 @  
7:00PM -  
PTSA "Saturday  
Night in the  
Suburbs"  
Fri Mar 18  
[Newsletter  
Deadline  
Submission for  
Next Month](#)  
Tue Mar 22 @  
7:00PM -  
[Parent Coffee-  
Minority  
Achievement  
Committee](#)  
Thu Mar 24 @  
7:00AM -  
[Senior Less than  
85 days Meeting](#)  
Sat Apr 02 @  
9:30AM -  
11:00AM  
[BITS\(Tutoring\)](#)  
Mon Apr 04  
[Teacher  
Workday](#)  
Sat Apr 09  
[Mulch  
Day\(ANGC\)](#)  
Thu Apr 14 @  
7:00PM -  
[PTSA Meeting](#)  
Mon Apr 18  
[Spring Break](#)  
Tue Apr 26 @  
7:00PM -  
[Minority  
Achievement  
Committee  
Meeting](#)  
Sat Apr 30 @  
9:30AM -  
11:00AM  
[BITS\(Tutoring\)](#)

### Board Officers

**President**  
[Jennifer  
Campbell](#)  
**1st VP:**  
[Mary  
Coleman](#)  
**2nd VP:**

## President's Message

### News from our President, Mary Coleman February 2012

[View Archived Messages](#)

It doesn't seem possible but we are already at the end of the first semester of the school year! **Report cards will be distributed via 3rd period classes during Bulldog Block on Monday, February 6th.** Please ask your student to review it with you. Remember if your student is having problems with a subject, it is not too late to improve their performance for the remainder of the year. **There is free tutoring** available through the PTSA BITS tutoring program. Go to [http://www.fcps.edu/WestfieldHS/student\\_services/bits.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/WestfieldHS/student_services/bits.htm) for more details. BITS takes place on Saturday mornings and all of our students are welcome.

Please join us for our **next PTSA meeting at 7 PM in the library on Thursday, February 16th.** Kathy Smith, FCPS School Board member will speak to us about issues that matter to us regarding our children's education. We will hold a brief business meeting before we open the floor to Kathy. I encourage you to attend.

[Read More](#)

### PTSA Tidbits and FCPS News

#### Volunteer service hours for Honor Societies

[A list of Westfield Honor Societies that require volunteer hours](#) is available online under "Did You Know"

It is hoped that, by compiling a list in one place, parents and students can plan ahead for and encourage volunteer activities. Please note that these are guidelines and may be subject to change. Read more information online.

#### Informational budget meeting for FY 2012 Learn About County and School FY 2012 Budget.

Fairfax County Supervisor Michael Frey and School Board Chairman Kathy Smith will be holding an informational meeting about the county and school FY 2012 budgets. This is a subject of great importance to all as it will affect your children, their education, and your

#### Mulch Sale to support ANGP

Sales have now begun for the Westfield High School Mulch Sale, with delivery day scheduled for April 9th. This year, there will be a limit on the total number of bags the volunteers will be able to deliver. If you order early, you'll be assured delivery of your high-quality, double-shredded mulch for only \$4.95 per bag (with \$2.70 per bag tax-deductible! Minimum order for delivery is 15 bags). Spreading options are available too, for only \$2.00 per bag extra, with limited orders accepted so please order early! [Order online.](#)

Questions? Contact

[bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org](mailto:bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org).

Don't wait. Order today! Thanks for helping to keep our high school and our community students safe.

#### Volunteers and Trucks Needed for Mulch

Marjorie  
Willard  
**Recording  
Secretary:**  
Kimberly  
Gilbert  
**Treasurer:**  
Jenni Aiello

[View more board  
members](#)

## Links of Interest

[More Resource  
Links Online](#)

[Fairfax  
County  
Public  
School  
Fairfax  
County  
Council of  
PTAs](#)  
[Northern  
Virginia  
District PTA](#)  
[Virginia  
PTA](#)  
[National  
PTA](#)

## Reminder

Items to be included in the April 2011 Bulldog Bulletin must be [submitted to newsletter@westfieldhs.org](mailto:newsletter@westfieldhs.org) on or before **March 28, 2011**

Your feedback is important to us. Send to [newsletter@westfieldhs.org](mailto:newsletter@westfieldhs.org) comments or suggestions to make your PTSA better

community. This is an opportunity to hear about budget challenges facing the county and the schools and learn about the budget process and important dates in the process. Ask questions! Learn how you can have a voice in the process and impact decisions. Budget staff members from the Board of Supervisors and FCPS Chief Financial Officer Susan Quinn will be in attendance.

## Keep In Touch

New Phone Number or E-mail Address? [Make Sure to Update Your Emergency Contact Information](#). Fairfax County Public Schools uses the Keep in Touch (KIT) mass notification system to send emergency, attendance, and outreach messages to parents by e-mail and sometimes by phone. Parents of Fairfax County Public Schools students and employees of the school system are automatically enrolled in the KIT Basic service.

Parents and legal guardians of students may view and update their student's contact information using their Parent View account in weCare@School, a feature of FCPS 24-7 Learning (Blackboard). If you do not have a Parent View account, you can create an account. Please note, you may be required to go to your child's school to verify your identification when setting up a new account. If you need assistance with Parent View, call 1-866-434-8880.

**Day...**The ANGP Mulch sale is the only major fundraiser to support this important event. Volunteers are needed at all levels. Join in the fun! We need students AND parents from EVERY grade level to drive trucks, navigate, operate and guide forklifts, distribute food for volunteers, and help in the parking lot at school and.... deliver mulch. We REALLY need help from students and parents on delivery day, April 9, and it REALLY is a lot of fun! Plus, students can win some great prizes for volunteering! [Sign up online now](#).

**We need Trucks!**...pickups, flat beds, dump trucks, landscaping trucks...please let us borrow them! Contact [bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org](mailto:bulldogmulch@westfieldhs.org) if you can help!

## Unified Prevention Coalition

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, April 2, 2011! The Unified Prevention Coalition (UPC) of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) will present its 2011 Prevention Conference "**Life in the Middle: What Students and Parents Face in the Middle School Years**" at Lake Braddock Secondary School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Topics to be highlighted include: Bullying/Cyber-bullying, Substance Abuse Hot-Button Issues, and Youth/Parent Communication. Community service hours will be offered to middle school students who attend the conference. [Information and registration is available online](#).

## Committee News

### Minority Achievement Committee (MAC)

Save the Date! Please mark your calendar for the upcoming Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) Parent Coffee on March 22, 2011, at 7 pm at Stone Middle School, 5500 Sully Park Drive, Centreville, VA 20120. We will reach out to rising freshman parents and students to help prepare them for the switch to high school. We will have an open discussion about classes, grades, and expectations of students for high school.

We look forward to seeing you at the Parent Coffee! For more information on the MAC, contact co-chairs Milan Coleman and/or Deanna McRae King at [mac@westfieldhs.org](mailto:mac@westfieldhs.org).

### Academic Celebration of Excellence (ACE)

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education Conference will take place on March 19th. This year there are classes especially for teachers, parents, and middle/high school students. More information is [available online](#).

### All Night Grad Party ANGP)

Parents of Seniors – have you bought their ticket yet? This graduation celebration at Fast Eddie's is the safest, most fun way your Senior can celebrate their big accomplishment. Don't wait till the price goes up. Keep them safe on graduation night and [purchase their ticket online now](#).

The information and applications for the 2011 PTSA Scholarships will be in the career center and on the PTSA web site in March. These scholarships will be open to current PTSA members (parent or student).

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## Booster News

### Music Boosters Need Your Help!

### Bandbooster Logo

The Westfield High School music program is one of the best in the state. Our music groups, as well as individual students have earned hundreds of awards over the past 10 years. This does not happen without a good support system that allows the music directors to focus on their jobs - teaching students.

This support systems consists of 4 individual booster groups - Band, Choral, Orchestra and Guitar, as well as an umbrella group, the Music Boosters. Each group elects a board of directors to "drive" their group to provide volunteer and fundraising support. The Music Boosters functions as a means for all 4 individual groups to work together on projects that benefit the entire department. Tag Day is one example.

If you have a child in the Westfield music program your help is needed. All of the boards are looking to fill positions for next year. The Music Boosters will have a 100% turnover in their board and the individual groups will each have multiple positions open. Time commitment varies with each position, but all are important to the continuing success of our music programs.

**The Music Boosters are looking for a President, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Tag Day Coordinator.** Meeting time is minimal (approximately 4 per year, plus Tag Day). A Treasurer is needed NOW to shadow the current Treasurer for a seamless transition to next year. A Tag Day Coordinator is needed now, as well in order to have time to meet with last year's coordinator and begin the planning process for next year. If you think you might be interested, please contact Kym Sunday at [baseballmm9@verizon.net](mailto:baseballmm9@verizon.net)

Please consider stepping up and serving on a music booster board. You will gain a lot of insight into the programs, have the opportunity to offer your input, meet and work with a lot of fun people, and more. To find out more about positions for the individual groups please contact the presidents at:

Band - [president@westfieldband.org](mailto:president@westfieldband.org)

Chorus - [president@westfieldchorus.org](mailto:president@westfieldchorus.org)

Orchestra - [president@westfieldorchestra.org](mailto:president@westfieldorchestra.org)

Guitar - [president@westfieldguitar.org](mailto:president@westfieldguitar.org)