



October
2011 Edition

Westfield HS PTSA e-Bulldog Newsletter

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Upcoming Events

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Sat Oct 01
[SAT testing](#)
Sat Oct 01 @
9:00AM -
10:30PM
[BITS](#)
[Informational](#)
[Meeting](#)
Wed Oct 05 @
6:30PM -
08:00PM
[Teen Volunteer](#)
[Fair](#)
Sat Oct 08 @
9:30AM -
11:00AM
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08:00PM
[Teen Volunteer](#)
[Fair](#)
Wed Oct 12
[PSAT](#)
Wed Oct 12 @
7:00PM -
[Powder Puff](#)
[Game](#)

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Links of Interest

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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 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

PTSA Membership

All parents, teachers, students and students are invited and encouraged to support Westfield High School by joining the PTSA.

Memberships are good for one academic year. If you joined the PTSA last year, you will need to renew your membership. You can do this two ways:

[Renew online using Secure PayPal](#)

or,

Download the [Membership Form](#) to mail in with a check.

If you are new to the Westfield High School community, we invite you to apply for your membership as early as possible. This will enable your child's school to start with available funds to support academics and other activities throughout the year.

Our membership fees are modest, yet we

FCPS Online Textbooks: by Nicole Trifone, Fairfax City Patch

Fairfax County Public Schools announced in July its plan to expand the pilot program for online social studies textbooks to all students in middle and high school this academic year. For every 100 online subscriptions, FCPS will receive 30 hard copies of the textbook. Online textbooks in core social studies courses- Advanced Placement and elective courses will use printed textbooks until online versions become available- were tested through a pilot program in the 2010-11 school year. Eighteen schools- eight middle, eight high schools including Chantilly and two alternative schools outside of Fairfax City- participated in the pilot.

Peter Noonan, FCPS' assistant superintendent for instructional services, said a switch to online textbooks is inevitable as schools must respond to students being "digital natives" who are more and more

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 November 2011 Bulldog Bulletin must be

**submitted to
newsletter@
westfieldhs.org
on or before
Oct 25, 2011**

Your feedback is important to us.

Send to
**newsletter@
westfieldhs.org**
comments or
suggestions to
make your PTSA
better

accomplish a great deal with your membership contributions.

PSAT INFORMATION

There will be an early dismissal on October 12 so that the PSAT can be administered. For more information, please visit: http://www.fcps.edu/WestfieldHS/student_services/testing_tam/psat_flyer.pdf

WHS PTSA 5K Race for Scholarships

The annual WHS PTSA 5K Race for Scholarships was held on Saturday, September 17th. Once again, the weather cooperated—rainclouds threatened, but the rain held off and the cloud cover kept the temperature in the comfortable range for runners.

Race results are posted on the 5K website: [5K Scholarship Run Homepage](#)

In addition to thanking the local businesses that provided raffle prizes for race participants and \$2,400 in sponsorships, the 5K Committee would also like to thank the following: Tim Thomas for making pre-race announcements and running in the race; Ray Clements and the marshals provided by the Athletic Boosters and the local police officers who volunteer their time every year to help with this event; local boy scouts and girl scouts for providing volunteers; Superior Paving for use of their cones; WHS seniors: Michaela Reardon for singing the National Anthem, Corinne Holland for post-race announcements, and Katie Johnson and Jessica Royal for soliciting sponsors and raffle prizes; and the Class of 2012 and SGA for their support and providing volunteers.

infrequently gaining information from traditional books.

FCPS will begin to encourage students to bring their own laptops and technology to school. Currently, FCPS does not have a policy against it, but it is often discouraged. For students who do not have their own laptops, the school will provide them with one. There is no set plan on how providing technology will work. FCPS is looking at other checkout systems in place- for musical instruments or calculators- as a model.

FCPS is confident 100 percent of students will have access to technology and the Internet during the school day. FCPS discovered through the pilot that 92 percent of middle school students have computer access at home, .3 percent have not access and 73 percent say they can have access whenever they want it. For high school, the results are 88 percent with access at home, 1.5 percent have no access and 82 percent have access whenever they want it. As for access away from school, FCPS is still working on a solution that would reach every student. "Those students who don't have the access, we'll work very closely with their families privately to ensure they have the access necessary to get to a level playing field."

Students will have their own login and will be able to mark up the pages using highlighting and notes tools. They can zoom in on a map and calculate the distance between two cities through a few clicks of the mouse. They can use an audio feature to have the book read to them or click on a keyword to pull up it's definition. The online textbook also provides ancillary materials that have typically been available to teachers only.

Committee News**HOMECOMING 2011 INFORMATION**

The theme for the Homecoming events this year is: **"BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY"**

Schedule of Events:

Hypnotist Show- October 4 at 7pm in the Auditorium.
Spirit Week- October 7-14.
Powder Puff game- Juniors vs. Seniors

SGA SPIRIT WEEK OCTOBER 7-14

Friday, Oct 7- Support Your Troops Day.
Wear red, white & blue, a yellow ribbon or camouflage clothing.
Tuesday, Oct 11- Pajama Day
Thursday, Oct 13- NYC Broadway Day
Freshman- "Grease". wear 50's style apparel.
Sophomores- "South Pacific"- wear

October 12 at 7pm.

Homecoming Parade- October 14 at 5pm in the Cub Run Neighborhood.

Homecoming Dance- October 15 from 8:30-11:45 pm. Tickets will be on sale in the cafeteria.

Ticket Price information:

10/3-10/7 \$15

10/11 \$20

10/13 \$25

Parents, interested in volunteering? Please email diane.underwood@fcps.edu

REFLECTIONS

This year's theme is "Diversity means..." Encourage your student to try his/her hand at the arts this year! Three of last year's entries received top awards in the Northern VA District.

Entries must be submitted to the Main Office by 2:30pm on Friday 10/21. For more information or to enter please visit the [Reflections Program](#).

DOG DISH CAFE

The Dog Dish Café was open again this year in the cafeteria to serve both the staff and teachers and parents and students during this year's two Back to School Nights (BTSN). It offered subs, pizza, drinks and chips. The PTSA is pleased to offer this in conjunction with our administration so no one goes hungry while participating in BTSN and will offer it again next year.

The café was a success in large part because of the help of our volunteers. Thank you to everyone who worked at this year's Dog Dish Café. Finally we want to thank you the Franklin Farm Subway and South Riding Dominos Pizza for their continued partnership with WHS for this event.

Colleen Nicoll and Kerrie Peterson, Dog Dish Café Co-Chairs

Hawaiian apparel.

Juniors- "Lion King"- wear animal prints.

Seniors- "Okalahoma"- wear Western wear.

Friday, Oct 14- Black and Gold Day- wear Westfield apparel.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who has given time to Westfield already this school year, helping ensure the success of the start of the year! Several hundred volunteer hours have already been logged thanks to you giving of your time so generously! We've had volunteers for kiss and ride, Bulldog Café, Bulldog BBQ, picture day, paper sorting, parking pass distribution and more! Please continue to watch <http://signupgenius.com/go/whsbulldog> as this will be our tool for volunteer sign-ups for the year. Currently listed upcoming volunteer opportunities involve helping with 10th grade vision and hearing screening on October 17th and 18th. Thank you!

ACE

The Academic Letter Ceremony will be held the morning of Tuesday, November 22nd. Invitations will be mailed to the families of students who earned an Academic Letter during the 2010-2011 school year. Congratulations to all who earned the Academic Letter!

YEARBOOK

If you would like to purchase a full color senior ad in the yearbook, send an email to westfielddyearbook@gmail.com.

If you have not purchased your 2011-12 yearbook, it is not too late. The price is \$65 until November 1, 2011. After that, the price goes up \$15. To order your yearbook, go to: www.yearbookordercenter.com and enter code 5577. Checks, credit cards, and e-checks are accepted.

Booster News

Upcoming Music Performance Dates

October 19- Choir Fall Concert 7:30pm

October 27-Orchestra Fall Concert

December 8-Band Holiday Concert

December 11- Band Holiday Concert

December 13- Winter Guitar Concert at 7pm

December 16- Candlelight Carols Concert feat. Stone Middle School Chorus at 7:30pm

December 20- Orchestra Winter Concert

Bandbooster Logo

Theater Boosters

Back To School Cabaret-On Friday, September 23, the Theatre Department showcased the talents of Westfield HS students in the Back To School Cabaret, the first performance of the 2011-2012 year. Singing, comedy acts, monologues, dancing and music made for a very fun and entertaining evening.

New Theatre Parent Welcome: Wednesday, October 12 at 6 pm. Theatre Boosters welcome all new Westfield Theatre families to the Black Box to meet other theatre families, take a back stage tour of the theatre and hear Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Westfield Theatre but Were Afraid to Ask. The general booster membership meeting follows at 7 pm. If you would like to become a member of the boosters, the registration form can be found on our website: www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

Homecoming Parade & Tailgate Party: Friday October 14. The Theatre Department participates in the Homecoming parade showcasing our Fall Main Stage cast. Theatre students can join the parade and enjoy getting involved with community. Theatre Boosters host a tailgate party after the parade for our Theatre students and families. This is a great time to meet other families and have fun.

Annual Haunted House/Wax Museum: Friday & Saturday, October 21, 22. The annual Haunted House and Wax Museum will be on Friday & Saturday, October 21-22. Students build a Haunted House in the Blackbox for a Halloween thrill. We will also have a wax museum tour showing how creative our students can be. Enjoy an evening of Halloween excitement and treats.

Virginia Theatre Association (VTA) Conference: Friday-Sunday, October 28, 29, 30. The Theatre Department will also be participating in the annual Virginia Theatre Association (VTA) One Act Showcase. VTA is a conference held at the Marriott in Reston Fri-Sun, October 28, 29, 30. All students are eligible to attend. There are workshops and one-act play performances by schools all over Virginia. Westfield will be presenting a two-person production of Oleanna by David Mammet, directed by Joey Biagini and performed by Madeleine Bloxam and Mitchell Buckley.

Westfield's Fall Main Stage: Shakespeare's Richard III November 18-19. Monday and Tuesday, September 19 & 20 auditions were held for William Shakespeare's Richard III, our first main stage production of the year. Mr. Dan Crane, a teaching artist at the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. will guest direct this production. This is a great opportunity for our students to work with a professional artist in this field. This production will be an exciting rendition to entertain not just Shakespeare fans, but those who love to be entertained.

For more information visit our website www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com or email us at westfieldtheatreboosters@gmail.com.