



WESTPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSNOTES

May 14, 2010

Soar With Excellence

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

On May 11, 2010, the Board of Education conducted the Budget Hearing for the 2010-2011 budget. The spending plan for 2010-2011 is \$5,200,000. Each household/taxpayer should have received a budget card which lists the budget by category. The 2010-2011 budget represents a 2.45% (approximately \$125,000) increase in spending and a 4.45% increase in the tax levy (approximately .575 cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value). In addition to the budget proposition, the purchase of a passenger van and an expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$35,000 from the Bus Reserve Fund to pay for the van in full, and the election of one board member to a five year term will be presented to the voters for approval on **Tuesday, May 18, 2010**. Mrs. Alice LaRock has submitted a petition to be placed on the ballot for the Board Member position. We have prepared a list of questions that have been asked frequently and the answers to those questions. That listing and the proposed budget is available at the District Office along with the Property Tax Report Card and a report on administrative salaries.

I encourage any individual or group that wants me to answer specific questions on the budget to call me for answers or set a time when we can meet. As always let's continue to work together to make Westport Central School the best it can be. Please come out and vote on Tuesday, May 18. Thank you for your support!

ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION & BUDGET VOTE

The Westport Central School's Annual Meeting, Election and Budget Vote will be held on Tuesday, 5/18 from 12-9 p.m. outside the Bulles Auditorium. We urge all community members to come out and vote.

LOST & FOUND SPRING CLEANING

The lost & found is currently located outside the Bulles Auditorium through **Friday, May 21, 2010**. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity. Please stop by and look through the lost and found.

FANTASTIC FAMILY NIGHT!

A special **thank you** to all who made last night's Family Involvement Night the best ever! We had nearly 100 family members and students participate in our Family Involvement Night!! Special thanks to the Westport Fire Department, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Commission, ACAP, 4H, Families First, STOP Domestic Violence, and WEA for providing valuable information to our Westport Families. And additional thanks to the members of the Character Education Committee and Shared Decision Making Committee as well as Mr. Deso for making the event a "Bucket Filling" evening.

GRADE 3-6 HOMEWORK CLUB

The Homework Club will be held next week from 3-4:10 p.m. The Homework Club is intended to provide students in grades 3-6 an opportunity to complete homework assignments and to provide assistance, if needed, before heading to afterschool extra-curricular activities or heading home. Students must have written permission to attend Homework Club. Parents will need to specify the days that the student has permission to attend and the transportation arrangements for participating students. A late bus is available Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:10 p.m. Students must have written permission to ride the late bus.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FAIR

Be prepared to be AMAZED! The Science and Technology Fair is coming Monday, May 17th. Westport's scientists and engineers will be demonstrating and displaying a dizzying array of projects to educate, inform and entertain the whole family. Come see robots exploring the surface of Mars, wind turbines that generate electricity, the effects of rap music on plants, the science of a nuclear power plant and CO2 car races. You'll be able to see inside the human body, how to make ice cream, a hydroelectric power demonstration and rubber band powered boat races. Do you know if a cat or dog has a cleaner mouth, how to clean up an oil spill or the effect of a video game on your heart rate? Come to the Fair and find out. **Monday, May 17th from 4:00 until 7:00.**

STUDENT ART SHOW & BAND CONCERT

The Student Art Show will be held in the school cafeteria on 5/17 from 4-7 p.m. and on 5/18 during the concert. Please take time to come see our student's creations. The annual John F. Geyer Concert will be held on Tuesday, 5/18 in the Bulles Auditorium beginning at 7 p.m. Please join us for an evening of fabulous music!

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Blood Drive on Tuesday, 5/18 in Room 007 from 2-6 p.m.

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Kindergarten Screening will be held on Wednesday, 5/19. If you haven't already done so, please call to register your child. Information regarding appointment times will be sent to you. For any further information or any questions, please call the school at 962-8244.

MAY FITNESS ROOM SCHEDULE

The Fitness Room is open every Tuesday & Thursday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. during the month of May.

JUNIOR PROM 2010 – "Empire State of Mind"

The Class of 2011 will be having their Junior Prom on Saturday, 5/22 from 7:30 p.m. to 12:00 midnight. The theme this year – **"Empire State of Mind"**. Don't miss it! Coronation will begin at 11:15 p.m. – tickets are \$5.

NYS TESTING DATES FOR GRADES 3-8

• Science: Grade 8 Performance Test: Tuesday, May 25, 2010; Grade 4 Performance Test: Thursday, May 27, 2010; Grade 4 & 8 Written Test: Monday, June 7, 2010 • Grade 8 Social Studies: Monday, June 14 & Tuesday, June 15, 2010.

CSEA SCHOLARSHIPS

Seven CSEA Local 816 Scholarships are available to graduating high school children or step-children of union members, who are furthering their education. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2010. If you need an application or more information, please call Brian LaRose at 873-3555.

3RD ANNUAL K-2 BOTTLE DRIVE

The 3rd Annual K-2 bottle and can drive is underway! As part of our community service, these grades are collecting CLEANED, returnable NY cans and bottles until June 11th. The proceeds will be split between the Westport Food Shelf and the SPCA. Pick-ups can be arranged by leaving a message at 962-8244.

WPTO BOOK FAIR

Volunteers are needed for the book fair beginning Monday, May 24 and ending Thursday, May 27. There are two shifts a day, the first beginning at 8:00 am until 11:30. The second shift begins at 11:30 am until the end of the day at 3:00 pm. Volunteers will dictate how often the book fair can be open. Please consider volunteering and support the efforts of the WPTO at Westport Central School. Call Laura Sells-Doyle at 962-4049 to volunteer. We need your help and participation.

END OF MARKING PERIOD/FIVE WEEK REPORTS

Friday, 5/28 is the end of the last 5 week marking period. Five Week Reports will be distributed to grades K-6 and mailed home for grades 7-12 on Friday, 6/4.

UNUSED SNOW DAY / MEMORIAL DAY

Please make note that pending no further need for snow/emergency days, school will be closed on Friday, May 28th. In the event a snow/emergency day is needed prior to that day, school will be in session. School will be closed for all staff and students on Monday, 5/31 for Memorial Day.



YOUTH COMMISSION NEWS

Biddy Baseball news:

Practice for T-ball (grades K-3) will continue on Tuesdays immediately following school at 3:15-4:00 PM. T-ball players need to be picked up by 4:00 PM. Practice for Majors (grades 4-6) will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:30 PM. Practices are held at the fairgrounds. All Major players need to be picked up at 4:30 PM. All players must have a current health form on file with the Youth Commission before participating. A schedule of games is available from the coaches. Games will be for Majors only.

Youth Commission Board openings: Anyone interested in joining the WYC Board, please feel free to join our open to the public meetings. The next scheduled meeting is June 7th at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Hiking Club news:

Our next scheduled hike is this Sunday, May 16th. We will meet at WCS at 8:30 AM to caravan to Round Mountain in Keene Valley. Questions, call Holly at 546-8255.

Free Fishing Weekend:

Each year, the last full weekend in June is designated as Free Fishing Days in New York State. During those two days, anyone can fish New York State waters, and no fishing license is required. This event started in 1991 to allow all people the opportunity to sample the incredible fishing New York State has to offer. Since no license is required, it is the perfect time to take a friend or relative fishing. In 2010, New York State's Free Fishing Days are Saturday, June 26th and Sunday, June 27th. The Westport Youth Commission in partnership with the Ballard Park Foundation would like to encourage and invite youth and their parents to come fish for free on June 26th & 27th.

K -12 PARENT LUNCHEONS

Parent Luncheons will be held throughout the school year on the last Friday of the month, with a few exceptions due to vacations. On Parent Luncheon Day we encourage you to eat lunch with your child in the Westport Central School Cafeteria. We love having parents join us for lunch! Parent Luncheon Dates: **May 21st** & June 11th. Please join your students for lunch on Friday, May 21st. As a reminder, all parents/visitors need to sign in at the main office.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Sports Physicals for student in grades 6-11 have been schedule for Thursday, May 27, Thursday, June 3, & Thursday, June 10, 2010 from 9 am – 12 Noon. If your child plans on playing any sport during the 2010-2011 school year, a physical needs to be on file in the nurse's office dated within one year prior to the start of the scheduled sport for which your child will be participating. If you prefer for your child to see your Primary Care Physician, please don't forget to request a copy of the physical for the school. All other students need to sign up for this physical with the school nurse. In addition, a health history form should be completed and signed by parents prior to the scheduled physical. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Schwoebel at 962-8244.

Medication Recall: There has been a recent recall of **name brand Tylenol infant drops, Children's Tylenol suspensions, Motrin infant drops, Children's Motrin suspensions, Children's Motrin cold suspensions, Children's Zyrtec and Children's Benadryl allergy liquids in bottles.**

This voluntary recall is because some of these products may not meet required quality standards. This recall is not being undertaken on the basis of adverse medical events. However, as a precautionary measure, parents and caregivers should not administer these products to their children. Some of the products included in the recall may contain a higher concentration of active ingredient than is specified; others may contain inactive ingredients that may not meet internal testing requirements; and others may contain tiny particles. While the potential for serious medical events is remote, **the company advises consumers who have purchased these recalled products to discontinue use.** For more information, consumers can contact the company at 1-888-222-6036 and also at www.mcneilproductrecall.com.

HOW FULL IS YOUR BUCKET?

WCS students, faculty and staff have been participating in trainings and assemblies outlined in the books: *How Full Is Your Bucket?*, by Tom Rath, and *Have You Filled A Bucket Today?*, by Carol McCloud & David Messing. Join us in our efforts to be a Bucket Filling School! For more information: www.bucketbook.com and <https://www.bucketfillers101.com/home.html> .

PULL TABS FOR MOLLY UPDATE

We have collected over 440 lbs. of pull tabs. A special thank you to all who have contributed. Keep up the good work.

Upcoming Events

May

- 5/17 Science & Technology Fair
4-7 pm in the Auditorium
- 5/17-18 Art Show in the Cafeteria
- 5/18 **Annual Meeting, Election & Budget Vote: 12-9pm**
Science & Technology Fair from 8-10 am in the Auditorium
Blood Drive 2-6 pm in room 007
John F. Geyer Concert in the Auditorium at 7pm
- 5/19 Kindergarten Screening
- 5/21 Parent Luncheon
- 5/22 Class of 2011 Prom 7:30pm-12am
- 5/25 Grades 8 State Performance Test: Science
- 5/27 Grades 4 State Performance Test: Science
- 5/28 End of 5 week marking period
Unused Snow Day: **No School**
- 5/31 Memorial Day Holiday: **No School**



June

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| 6/1 | Superintendent's Coffee Hour
6 th Grade Band Recital | 6/11 | Parent Luncheon |
| 6/2 | Essex County Academic Awards Night
7 p.m. in Willsboro | 6/12 | ACTs |
| 6/3 | Academic Awards Evening | 6/14-15 | Grade 8 State Social Studies Test |
| 6/4 | 5 Week Report distribution | 6/15-24 | Regents Exams |
| 6/5 | SATs | 6/17 | BOE Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in library |
| 6/7 | Grades 4 & 8 Written Science Test | 6/19 | Galley Gig |
| 6/8 | Senior Banquet / Westport Country Club 6pm | 6/24 | Last day of school for students |
| 6/10 | Elementary & Gr. 7 Vocal Ensemble / Auditorium 7pm | 6/25 | Superintendent's Conference Day |
| | | 6/26 | Graduation of Class of 2010 at 10 a.m. |