



WESTPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSNOTES November 18, 2011

Soar With Excellence

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Fall and Winter holiday seasons are creeping up on us quickly. Eleven weeks of the 2011-2012 school year have flown by. On Wednesday, November 16th the first set of report cards were distributed. It was great to see many parents having conferences with classroom teachers. The system of two short days for elementary students seems to have worked well. The turnout at the Fall Sports Recognition Night was fabulous. Our students manage to balance co-curricular activities and academics well. Our Senior Play is being performed this weekend. I hope you have a chance to come and watch and support our Senior Class. They have presented their plans for a trip to Orlando, Florida during Spring Break.

Academics at Westport Central School still garner attention. We have again been named as a Bronze Medal Award winner in *U.S News and World Report*, and were recently ranked first among Essex County schools and third overall among schools in the Plattsburgh area by the Buffalo News.

Budget season is upon us. At the December Board of Education meeting we have asked that Ron Clamser, CVES Business Administrator, present information on the tax cap legislation. Last year's external audit will also be presented that night. Because these presentations require some time, the meeting will begin at 5:30 pm. The tax cap presentation will be first, followed by the audit. The regular meeting will follow. You may find these presentations to be of interest. We encourage you to attend.

Please have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

CLASS OF 2012 SENIOR PLAY

The Class of 2012 presents *Boy Meets Girl*, a young love story based on a sketch written by Sam Wolfson and Richie Keen – and *Campsite Chaos*, a frantically romantic love story by Ken Preuss. Come join us for a night of humor on Friday, 11/18 and Saturday, 11/19 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students & senior citizens.

HELP WCS WIN AN OUTDOOR FACELIFT!

Westport Central School is a nominee in The Clorox Company's *Power a Bright Future* grant program. We **NEED** you to help us win much needed funding to provide a safe and community-friendly outdoor recreational area. With the tennis program being put on hold due to lack of funds, a grant would allow it to be re-introduced and the courts would be open to public use. A set of stairs, as well as a new backstop and scoreboard for athletic teams would be constructed with additional funding. The grant would also enable us to rejuvenate the aging outdoor basketball court. Finally, both students and community members would be able to enjoy a newly-constructed, Adirondack-style lean-to and a re-groomed nature trail.

From Oct. 24, 2011 through Dec. 9, 2011, you will have the opportunity to vote online at www.PowerABrightFuture.com or via text once a day for our program. **The program that receives the highest number of votes** will be awarded the \$50,000 grand-prize grant, and the next top vote-getters in the *Play, Create and Explore* categories respectively will each be awarded a \$25,000 grant. One additional lucky school will be selected to receive a \$25,000 judge's choice grant. Visit www.PowerABrightFuture.com for official rules.

Vote online

- Log on to <http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=1188>
- Vote one time every day!
- Spread the word!

Please pass along and invite your family, friends and colleagues to spread the word and help bring new resources to WCS.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

~ 2012 TFCU Scholarship opportunities are now published and applications are available through the guidance office and online at: www.tfcunow.com Deadline is 1/20/12

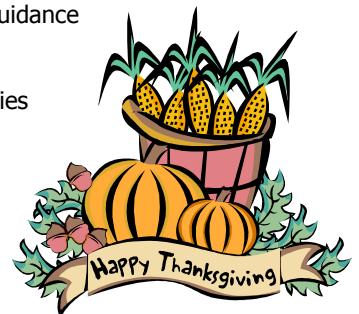
~ Elks Applications (NYSEA) are also available Deadline is 12/2/11

~ The Foundation for Rural Education and Development (FRED) has a variety of scholarship opportunities check them out at www.fred.org Deadlines vary by program.

~ 12/19 College Panel Presentation for 12th Grade – 5:30-7 p.m.

GO HOME EARLY DRILL / THANKSGIVING BREAK

The school will have an emergency go home early drill on Tuesday, 11/22; students will be released at 12:30 p.m. School will be closed Wednesday, 11/23 – Friday 11/25 for Thanksgiving Break.



6th ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Please donate to the 6th Annual Food Drive to benefit the Food Pantry!! You can help by bringing in canned or boxed food items to your WCS homeroom/classroom. Donations will be accepted until Friday, 12/16/11.

WPTO BOOKFAIR

You can make a difference! Volunteers are needed for the book fair. The book fair begins on Monday, 12/12 and ends Wednesday, 12/14. There are two shifts a day, the first beginning at 8:00 am until 11:30 am. The second shift begins at 11:30 am until the end of the day at 3:00 pm. This year we would like to have a family night Tuesday, December 13, adding two evening shifts. The first shift will run from 3-5pm and the second shift from 5-7pm. As always volunteers will dictate how often the book fair can be open. Please consider volunteering and supporting the efforts of the WPTO at Westport Central School. Call Laura Sells-Doyle at 962-4049 to volunteer. We need your help and participation.

This year is a unique year for the WPTO. In order to take the profit from the book fair as cash to be used to fund such events as the SAT Review session or money towards helping support other school events, the book fair totals must exceed a designated amount. For the last few years the book fair has not surpassed that minimum amount and had to take the profit from the book fair as Scholastic dollars. There is still a great benefit for Westport Central School in that the WPTO provides these Scholastic dollars to teachers and the library to purchase books. Last year the WPTO was able to provide the English Department with up to \$1000.00 for new books. This year the WPTO needs cash to continue to support the SAT Review program. This established program is very beneficial to the students at Westport Central School. This December consider making a purchase at the Book Fair to help us reach our goal. If there are enough available volunteers we will be open this year for a family night Tuesday, 12/13 from 3- 7pm. Thank you as always for supporting the efforts of the WPTO.

WESTPORT YOUTH COMMISSION

WYC News: Please go to westportyouth.org for more information on all programs listed this week. There are lots of important details!

Dance and Movement classes have started on Monday afternoons at WADA. Ages 4-6 meet from 3:30-4:30. Ages 7 and over meet from 4:30-5:30.

Biddy Basketball will begin on December 6 for grades K-2 and December 7 for Grades 3-4 and 5-6. Practice times, coach information and game schedules are posted on the website.

Skiing and Riding at Whiteface: Students in grades 3-12 can sign up for our Skiing/Riding program by reading the information on our website and turning in forms, photos and payments to the Town Office or to Bridgette Blemel. Funding assistance is available by requesting an application from westportyouthprogram@gmail.com. **Scholarship applications are due on NOVEMBER 30. Final date for all registration material is DECEMBER 7. Download forms now and turn them in early!**

YEARBOOK ORDERS

The 2012 Yearbooks are now on sale. If ordered by 12/15, the cost is \$40 – after 12/15 the cost is \$45. See Mr. Thompson or any Yearbook Club member to order your Yearbook!

PARENT LUNCHEON

Parents are invited to join their child(ren) for lunch on Friday, **12/2/11**. Please remember to sign in at the main office before going to the cafeteria. Lunch times are as follows:

K-2 10:45-11:20 **Gr. 3-6** 11:54-12:24 **Gr. 7-8** 11:24-11:54 **Gr. 9-12** 12:24-12:54

Please continue to collect Pull Tabs, Campbell Soup Labels, Box Tops for Education and help WCS earn Tools for Schools credit!



Upcoming dates to remember

- 12/2 Parent Luncheon
- 12/13 Elementary & Choral Concerts @ 6 p.m. in the auditorium
Board of Education Meeting @ **5:30 p.m.** in Library
- 12/14 Early Release @ 12:30 p.m.
- 12/15 Winter Instrumental Concert @ 7 p.m. in the auditorium
- 12/16 End of Five Week Marking Period
- 12/21 College Panel Presentation @ 5:30 p.m. in band room
- 12/22 Five Week Report distribution
- 12/23-1/2 Holiday Break
- 12/26 & 1/2 Christmas & New Year Holiday observed for all staff