

Westlake Warriors

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA NEWSLETTER

12th District
California State PTA
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Si usted desea una traducción al español de alguna parte de este periódico, favor de llamar Conejo Valley School District a: (805) 497-9511, ext. 296.

WINTER 2009

<http://www.whswarriors.com>

Issue 2

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From Our PRINCIPAL, Ron Lipari

That Was Inconsiderate

As the new school year began, I went out to my lunch duty – watching the line of students as they waited to buy their lunches from the lunch cart. Lots of healthier choices are now available at the lunch cart. As I watch the line many students walk up and talk to their friends who are waiting and then they leave. Some walk up to their friends, talk awhile, stay and then attempt to purchase food without having started at the end of the line.

This particular day a student walked up to a friend, and stayed. She then attempted to purchase her food without having waited from the end of the line like everyone else. I directed her to the end of the line, and she stood there aghast. Finally she left, and then told me, "That was inconsiderate, why didn't you tell me when I cut in line?" My

response was, "What was inconsiderate is when you decided to cut in line in front of 10 of your waiting classmates." It seems that she was unable to recognize that cutting in line was a self centered act, and says volumes about her character. She went on to continue to argue her point with me, to which I stated that we could add a Saturday Work Study to the list of consequences if she wished, and at that point she stopped and began to argue her point to 3 of her classmates sitting nearby.

My initial reaction was how could this student's parents tolerate 1) her behavior, 2) her argumentative nature, and 3) her blatant selfishness? However, generally these kinds of behaviors are modeled quite well by whatever parenting techniques this student's parents employ. You see, it is the small things that make us who we are. The virtues we wish our students to demonstrate need to be emulated by us!! I always wonder what this student's life will be like 5, 10 or 15 years from now – and, who will be stuck with her. They will indeed have the biggest challenge and heartache.

Every man has three characters – that which he exhibits, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has. *Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr, French critic, novelist (1808-1890)*

Ronald A. Lipari

PTSA PRESIDENTS' REPORT

Dear Friends and Family of PTSA:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Author unknown

It has been a great fall at Westlake High School, thanks to that small, very dedicated group of people known as the Westlake High School PTSA. Numerous hours have been spent by a very few to accomplish amazing things. These volunteers work tirelessly and it is truly amazing to recap what they have accomplished so far.

Since the start of the school year Westlake High School PTSA has logged numerous volunteer hours assisting with school BBQ's, printing and delivering new family directories, working at back to school night and finding ways to make life at Westlake High School better.

Recently, the Warrior Wishes committee met with Ron Lipari and donated through Warrior Wishes, funds for items including document cameras, CD players, a Mobile Mini Lab, scanners and much more. These are items that the teachers would have had to do without due to the numerous budget constraints.

Operation Red Stocking, which supports our troops overseas, saw record donations thanks to the very hard work of our Student PTSA. The Toys for Tots Drive is now underway, please see what you can do to support the effort. This year more than ever there will be many families in need.

Finally, as one year closes and another quickly begins we must not forget just how fortunate we are to be surrounded by such an amazing group of people. Our principal, Ron Lipari, his administration, our teachers and our volunteers all work together to continue to make Westlake High School the Best Possible Place it can be for our Children.

Please do what you can, when you can.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Sue Doyle
President PTSA

The PTSA sponsored their annual Thanksgiving Day Luncheon for all Westlake High staff members on November 18th. A special thanks to all those who provided the delicious baked goods and beverages for the event. We are thankful for the incredible educational experience that our teachers provide to our students. The PTSA wishes all faculty, staff, students and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Student PTSA REPORT

Bring Your Toys For Tots From December 7th to 11th

Every year the Student PTSA runs various community service projects, which include, but are not limited to, Operation Red Stocking, Toys for Tots, and the Manna Food Drive. So far, the Student PTSA ran an exceptionally successful Operation Red Stocking, in which all of the donated goods, brought by Westlake High School's generous students, are given to our nation's heroic troops overseas. Coming up in less than a month, the Student PTSA will run another event called Toys for Tots. This event will donate all of the presents to children in our area. Toys for Tots runs from December 7th to the 11th. Lastly, if anyone is interested in joining the Student PTSA meetings will be held on 1/8 and, 2/5 in room 12F.

Jordan Rosenthal, Student PTSA President

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director's REPORT

Warrior Teams Off to a Great Start!

Way to go Warriors! The Westlake High School Athletic Department is very pleased with the start to the 2009 - 2010 school year as our student-athletes are working hard in the classroom and on the field to continue the great Warrior tradition. As we are wrapping up the Fall sports season, we are seeing success in all of our programs including our Girls Golf being undefeated and in 1st place, Football being undefeated and tied for 1st place, Boys Water Polo and Girls Volleyball working hard to make a playoff push, Girls Tennis looking to move up to 1st place and solidifying their playoff position, and Cross Country looking to run toward the playoffs.

As the Winter sports season draws closer, we are looking forward to a successful campaign in all of our sports and we expect all of our athletes to continue their hard work, dedication, and good sportsmanship. Be reminded that all athletes must have current paperwork including a physical on file in the Athletics office and if you need assistance with an Athletic matter please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Ellen Hellman, our athletics secretary, at 805 497-6711 X1013 or ehellman@conejo.k12.ca.us or e-mail me at jasonbranham@conejo.k12.ca.us.

Thank you again for your continued support of WHS Athletics and we look forward to seeing you at the next Westlake High School Athletic event!

*Jason Branham,
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director*

Dean of Attendance REPORT

Attendance Policy Reminders

We have been pleased with a great 1st semester of the 2009/2010 school year. As we begin the 2nd semester, we would like to remind you of a few important attendance procedures. **Regular and on time attendance is an important part of student success.** As always, we appreciate when you are careful to schedule appointments, vacations, etc. so the impact on your child's attendance is minimal.

IN ORDER TO CLEAR AN ABSENCE OR TARDY, YOU MUST CALL THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE WITHIN THREE (3) SCHOOL DAYS. AFTER THIS TIME, AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL BECOME A TRUANT.

Lastly, please remember that there is a limited number of personal tardies that you can clear per semester. Please encourage your student to arrive to school on time.

Truancies:

Third Truancy in one class - Saturday Work Study, Truancy Contract, Letter sent to parents

Fourth or Fifth Truancy - another Saturday Work Student may be assigned

Sixth Truancy - Student will be dropped from class with a grade of "Fail" and placed in Study Hall for the remainder of the semester, parent will be contacted by phone

Tardies:

Fifth Tardy in one class - Saturday Work Study, Tardy Contract

Eighth Tardy - another Saturday Work Study may be assigned

Tenth Tardy - Student will be dropped from class with a grade of "Fail" and placed in Study Hall for the remainder of the semester, parent will be contacted by phone

Leaving School Early:

If your student must leave school during the day, please call the Attendance Office as soon as possible **BEFORE** the student is to leave. It is then the Student's Responsibility to pick up a pass in the office prior to leaving.

No message will be sent to remind the student of his/her appointment (delivering messages to student's interrupts instruction time in the classroom).

The Student must not leave campus without a pass. If he/she does so, the absence will be posted as unexcused with no credit allowed for work missed.

If you are making an appointment for your student that requires him/her to leave, please remind your student to check-out through the attendance office prior to leaving.

Continued on page 5

Ways and Means REPORT

Support Our Ongoing Fundraisers

Thank you to all the WHS families that supported PTSA by purchasing the required English reading books at registration. Between the book sales and the generous donations made so far to the Warrior Wishes fund, our students will once again be able to have the needed supplies that keep WHS students at the top. We have had a great start, so please continue your support with the on going fundraisers.

◆ Catalyst SAT Prep Bootcamps will be held:

January, 16th & 17th & March 6th & 7th from 9:00am to 1:00pm in the WHS library. Please call Jared @ Catalyst 800 235 0056 or email JaredF@catalystprep.com

◆ The Princeton Reviews next SAT tutoring session starts January 30, 2010 and runs through March 4, 2010. Please contact Princeton Review @ 818 784 3300.

- ◆ Also, If you have a teen ready for online classes or behind the wheel training please think of Drivers Ed Direct who generously donates to Westlake High School. Please contact Eric at Drivers Ed Direct 800 728-1048. Please mention WHS when calling.
- ◆ Lastly, PTSA will again have a Warrior Wishes fundraiser in the Spring. Remember 100% of your donations to Warrior Wishes goes into the classroom to directly benefit our students.

Happy Holidays and thank you for your continued support!

*Cristy Kaplan
Ways and Means*

Continued from page 4

Absences following lunch:

Students must remain on campus for lunch unless they have earned the privilege of an off-campus pass. Those who qualify for the pass accept full responsibility for any failure of transportation, personal accident, traffic citation, etc. Excessive unexcused tardies or trancies after lunch will result in the loss of the off-campus lunch privilege and/or serious disciplinary action including suspension.

Deliveries of personal items to school:

Parents: we request that you have an understanding with your student regarding items they have forgotten at home. Forgotten items may be dropped off at the Attendance Office and students may come to check for them. **We are not able to deliver items or send message about the items.** When your student forgets an item, they should check in the office to see if it has been delivered. (Please understand that this is a courtesy, we cannot be responsible for items that you have left – do not leave anything of value).

James Marshall, Dean of Attendance

Westlake High School Scholarship Foundation

The WHS Scholarship Foundation would like to thank ALL of our donors for their generous donations. We would like to recognize our Sustaining and Patron Members. Our Sustaining Members are those who made donations of \$100 or more and our Patron Members are those who made donations of \$50 - \$99.

Sustaining Members

Anita and Philip Ng
Benjamin and Anthy Price
The Ceylan Family
Cheri Blackburn
Daniel and Suzi Malouff
Darren and Patricia Schulman
Debbie Shankar
Diane Blackburn
Donna Isham
Donna Jessee
Eddy and Catherine Hartenstein
Fred and Lisa Wang
Heather and Kevin Beck
The Huffman Family
Isabelle Dussault and Raffi Manoukian
Jamey and Julie Power
Jennifer and Tad Dahlke
John and Debbie Levitt
John and Jennifer Johnson
Jonathan and Sonja Friedman
Kathleen and John Woodward
Lalith Jagannatham
Laney and David Ziv
Lori Mancuso
Mark Exler
Mark and Shelley Apelian
Maryann and Hossein Hajian
Maureen Hart
Ralph and Jill Smalling
Raouf and Julie Khalil
Richard and Krystn Davies
Rick and Monique McClung
Robert and Laura Greg
Shihui Xu
Stephen and Linda Wagner
Susan and Dan Kane
Susan and Marcus Ryle
Susan and Rich Wolff
Suzan Headley
Therese and Steven Rice
William and Bonnie McAfee
William and Suzi Hopkins
Stephanie Perry
Joseph Bentivegna
Mad Attic Thrift Shop

Patron Members

Alison Katz
Allen Freymuth and Claudia Petroski
Ann and Mark Buckingham
Arnold and Sandi Simon
Barbara Owens
Bruce and Mary Sand
Chiyi Jin and Hua Cao
Cliff and Doris Kotake
Cyndi and Bryan Shaw
Debbie and Ross Goldberg
Donna and Bill Callahan
Doug Marlin
Dragos and Cristina Teodorescu
Emmanuel Hadzipetros
Farhad and Lauren Marvasti
Gary and Kristin Fictum
Gary and Nancy Bowman
Ginny and Michael Huskins
Jenny Zheng
Jill Chiponglan
Joan Cicci
The Kagy Family
Karyn and Rick Hagy
Linda and Bruce Beckwith
Lisa Bernstein
Loretta and Todd Hess
Lynn and Eddie Franklin
Maritza Shaughnessy
Mardee and Mike Sowa
Patti Stroh
Paula and Charles Marshall
Gloria and Peter Gordon
Viki and Rick Jacobsen
Nanci and Ross Weaver
Sampath Palaniswamy
Seung Lee
Sheryl and Brent Meyer
The Sklavenitis Family
Steward and Patricia Akhoshi
Sue Doyle

Enroll your grocery cards NOW

Sign up now to start receiving 40% of the retailer contribution in your student account.

Vons/Pavilions - Register your card online at www.escrip.com You may bypass the initial Escrip screens and go directly to the first step of the signup procedure by clicking on the "sign up" link. Toward the bottom of the screen, click on Groups/Schools. Click on "select your location", from the pop-up menu, click on Southern California. The screen will say: "Identify your group by one of the following:" choose Group ID and enter in WHS Scholarship Foundation's Group ID#: 137627026.

Albertsons/Sav-On - Register your card online at www.albertsons.com.

1. At the bottom of the page (in blue) you will find *In the Community*, click here.
2. On the right side of the page find *Albertsons Community Partner*. Click here.
3. Click on *Shoppers login or register with your Preferred Saving Card first*.
4. Enter your card number and telephone number. Click *Login*.
5. Click on *Sign me Up* or *My Account*.
6. If you card has been previously registered with another school - Click *Update Partners* then *Remove All*. Then enter Organization ID Number - 49000104681 - click *Add a Partner*. The final step is to click *Update Now*. If you have not previously registered, click *Sign Me Up*. Enter Organization ID Number - 49000104681 - click *Update Partners*.

Ralph's - Register your card online at www.ralphs.com.

- 1) Log in to www.ralphs.com.
- 2) Click on *Sign In/Register*, and then click on *Sign Up Today*.
- 3) Sign up for a Ralphs Account by following these steps;
 - A) Select a preferred store by entering your zip code and clicking search.
 - B) Enter email address, confirm email address.
 - C) Enter password, confirm password.
 - D) Click on any email subscriptions you choose and click next
 - E) Enter your REWARDS card number and complete you information, click next.
 - F) Agree to the Terms & Conditions by clicking in the box.
 - G) Click on *Complete Registration*.
- 4) You will then get an email message from Ralphs. Click on the link within the body of the email. You will now see "Your Ralphs.com Account Has Been Activated".
- 5) Click on *Click Here* to login to your account.
 - A) If your session has expired, you will be directed to the sign-in page.
 - B) Enter your email address and password to access your account.
- 6) Scroll down until you see the Edit Community Contribution link.
- 7) Click on this link.
- 8) Enter our NPO number (80299) and click save changes.
- 9) To verify you are correctly enrolled, you will now see our organization's name (Westlake High School Sch. Fdn.) on your account page.
- 10) You have now completed your Online rewards card registration AND your Community Contributions registration.
- 11) Click on *Logout* at the top of the page.

FRUSTRATED?? CONTACT WHSSCRIP@HOTMAIL.COM AND WE WILL HELP!
CONTACT US WHEN YOU HAVE ENROLLED YOUR CARDS

NEED HOLIDAY GIFTS IDEAS?

Buy Gift Cards from the Scholarship Foundation and Earn Student Credit!

Buy gift cards from the Scholarship Foundation!
Some Gift Card Ideas are -

Restaurants

Baja Fresh
Sea Casa
Brents Deli
California Pizza Kitchen
Claimjumper
PF Changs
Outback Steakhouse
Chili's/Macaroni Grill
Cheesecake Factory
Buca de Beppo

Retail

Bath & Body Works
Bed, Bath & Beyond
Best Buy
Gap/Old Navy/Banana Republic
Home Goods/TJ Maxx/Marshalls
Kohls
Macy's
Williams Sonoma/Pottery Barn
Visa Gift Cards

Contact any one of the sellers listed on page 9.

NAME _____

STUDENT _____

YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
Gift Certificate/Scrip List - Fall 2009

| Merchant | \$'s Available | % to | Qty | Merchant | \$'s Available | % to | Qty | Merchant | \$'s Available | % to | Qty |
|---|-------------------|------|-----|----------------------|----------------|------|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------|-----|
| Grocery Stores & Drug Stores | | | | Restaurants | | | | Gas Companies | | | |
| Albertsons | \$25, \$100 | 1.6% | | Applebee's | \$25 | 3.2% | | ARCO | \$50 | 0.8% | |
| CVS Pharmacy | \$25 | 2.4% | | Baja Fresh | \$10 | 4.0% | | Chevron | \$50 | 0.8% | |
| Gelson's | \$50, \$100 | 2.0% | | Baskin & Robbins | \$2 | 3.6% | | Exxon/Mobil | \$50 | 0.6% | |
| Smart & Final | \$50, \$100 | 1.2% | | BJ's | \$10, \$25 | 4.0% | | Shell | \$25, \$100 | 0.6% | |
| Ralphs | Club Card Program | | | Breni's Deli | \$25 | 4.0% | | Sellers/Phone | <i>Pick a seller</i> | | |
| Von's/Pavilions/ | Escrip or | | | Buca de Beppo | \$25 | 6.0% | | Location | <i>conveniently</i> | | |
| Safeway | \$25, \$100 | 1.6% | | Burger King | \$10 | 2.0% | | Email Address | <i>located</i> | | |
| WholeFoods | \$50 | 2.0% | | California Pizza Kit | \$10 | 1.6% | | Sue King | 402-2964 | | |
| Retailers | | | | Carl's Jr. | \$10 | 3.6% | | Arboles/23 Fwy | | | |
| Barnes & Noble | \$10, \$25 | 3.6% | | Cheesecake Factory | \$10, \$25 | 3.6% | | sueking18@aol.com | | | |
| Bath & Body | \$10, \$25 | 7.2% | | Chili's/Macaroni | \$25 | 4.4% | | Christine Blatt | 778-0088 | | |
| Bed, Bath Beyond | \$25 | 2.8% | | Chiptole | \$10 | 4.0% | | Westlake Hills/North Ranch | | | |
| Best Buy | \$25 | 1.2% | | Claim Jumper | \$25 | 3.6% | | christine@blatfam.com | | | |
| Blockbuster | \$10 | 2.8% | | Coffee Bean/Tea L | \$25 | 2.4% | | Stefanie Rothbard | 494-9700 | | |
| Blkbuster-1 time use | \$4 | 6.0% | | Cold Stone | \$10 | 3.2% | | Westlake Blvd/Bridgegate | | | |
| Borders/Walden | \$10, \$25 | 3.6% | | Comer Bakery | \$25 | 3.6% | | radmks@roadrunner.com | | | |
| Disney(park/pkgs) | \$25 | 0.8% | | Del Taco | \$10 | 1.6% | | Shari Mark | 493-5803 | | |
| Gap/Old Navy/ | | | | Denny's | \$10 | 2.8% | | Lang Ranch Area | | | |
| Banana Republic | \$25 | 3.6% | | El Pollo Loco | \$10 | 2.4% | | cptnmom@gmail.com | | | |
| Home Depot | \$25 | 1.6% | | Golden Spoon | \$10 | 4.0% | | Cynthia Woodward | 777-3419 | | |
| Home Goods/ | | | | Habit, The | \$10 | 4.0% | | Village Homes/Westlake | | | |
| TJ Maxx/Marshalls | \$25 | 2.8% | | Islands | \$25 | 3.2% | | cwoodward2@gmail.com | | | |
| Itunes | \$15 | 1.6% | | Jack in the Box | \$15 | 1.6% | | Debbie Levitt | 207-6926 | | |
| JC Penney's | \$25 | 2.0% | | Jamba Juice | \$10 | 2.8% | | Colina/Redwood | 371-1233 | | |
| JoAnn Fabrics | \$20 | 2.4% | | KFC | \$5 | 3.2% | | djicj@netzero.net | | | |
| Kohl's CC | \$25 | 1.6% | | Mimi's Cafe | \$25 | 3.2% | | Jackie Blank | 492-9536 | | |
| Lowe's | \$25 | 1.6% | | Olive Garden/ | | | | Los Cerritos/Colina | | | |
| Macy's | \$25 | 4.0% | | Real Lobster | \$25 | 3.6% | | jackie@blank-family.com | | | |
| Michaels | \$25 | 1.6% | | Outback | \$25 | 2.0% | | Sheryl Meyer | 492-9785 | | |
| Office Depot | \$25 | 1.6% | | Panera Bread | \$10 | 3.6% | | Colina/Los Cerritos | | | |
| OSH/Sears | \$25 | 1.6% | | Papa John's Pizza | \$10 | 3.2% | | sherobyn@verizon.net | | | |
| PetSmart | \$25 | 1.6% | | Pinkberry | \$10 | 2.0% | | Robin Kaplan | 818-889-0095 | | |
| Ross | \$25 | 3.2% | | PF Chang's | \$25 | 2.8% | | North Ranch | | | |
| Sally's Beauty | \$25 | 4.8% | | Pick Up Stix | \$25 | 4.8% | | kaplan111@hotmail.com | | | |
| Sephora | \$20 | 1.6% | | Qdoba | \$25 | 2.8% | | Karen Meyer | 497-6711 | | |
| Sports Authority | \$25 | 3.2% | | Sea Casa | \$10 | 4.0% | | WHS Reception Area | | | |
| Staples | \$25 | 2.0% | | Sharky's | \$10 | 8.0% | | Donna Jessee | 496-2827 | | |
| Toys/Babies R Us | \$20 | 0.6% | | Shave It | \$5 | 4.0% | | Westlake Hills Area: Albertsons/Arco | | | |
| Wal Mart | \$25 | 0.8% | | Souplantation | \$25 | 3.2% | | | | | |
| Williams Sonoma/ | | | | Starbucks | \$10, \$25 | 2.8% | | | | | |
| Pottery Barn | \$25 | 3.2% | | Subway | \$10 | 1.2% | | Vons/Escrip: www.escrip.com | | | |
| Visa | \$50 | 0.8% | | Taco Bell | \$5 | 4.0% | | Ralphs: www.ralphs.com | | | |
| CC = credit card payments | | | | Wendy's | \$5 | 4.0% | | Albertsons: www.albertsons.com | | | |
| | | | | Western Bagel | \$10 | 1.6% | | | | | |

EMAIL US WITH QUESTIONS - WHSSCRIP@HOTMAIL.COM

To receive credit for eScrip, Ralphs and Albertsons, please email us your student information.

Denomination and percentages subject to change without notice.

Make checks payable to WHSSF with students name and year of graduation on memo line.

Crash-Text Dummies

Why texting and driving is starting to raise eyebrows (and insurance rates)

You like to think of yourself as a responsible driver, right? In today's world, most people agree that drinking and driving is definitely not responsible. In fact, given that each year an estimated 150 drunk drivers in California alone are convicted of vehicular manslaughter, you might say that drinking and driving is not only irresponsible, it is down right deadly. With society's increased awareness and negative attitude toward drinking and driving, the belief that driving while intoxicated is a destructive behavior is widely accepted. What society is just recently beginning to buy into is that distracted driving can be just as dangerous, if not more dangerous than driving under the influence.

Consider this:

- 80% of drivers use their phones while behind the wheel, and 66 percent of 18-24 year olds text or email while driving.
- Reaction times of drivers who text deteriorate by 35%, compared to a 12% deterioration of reaction time for drivers drinking alcohol at the legal limit, and 21% for those using marijuana.

When analyzing the two statistics above, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that texting and driving can be a lethal combination. Given the sheer number of drivers

using mobile devices while driving and their slowed reaction times, it's no surprise that in 2008, almost 6,000 people died and another 500,000 were injured in crashes involving dis-

Reaction times of drivers who text deteriorate by 35%, compared to a 12% deterioration of reaction time for drivers drinking alcohol at the legal limit, and 21% for those using marijuana.

traced drivers, including those texting.

One of the most revealing studies was done by The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute in July 2009, showing that drivers texting were 23 times more at risk of getting into a collision. Strikingly, texting drivers were almost 4 times more distracted than drivers dialing or talking on their cell phones who were 6 times more at risk of crashing than non-distracted drivers. The reasoning behind why texting and driving can be so distracting, even more distracting than talking on a cell phone, is two-fold. First and foremost, drivers need to look away from the road and use their hands when typing a message. Secondly, drivers often get so wrapped up in the

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School to Career – Job Shadow Registration is Now Open

Job Shadow registration is now open for all students in grades 10–12. Job Shadows take place at professional office buildings with local business partners. Students must be able to provide their own transportation. Job shadows may take place during the school day or after school and weekends. Parents are welcome to shadow with their child.

The job shadowing programs allows students to get a realistic view of the working world and talk with professionals in a variety of career pathways. Students interested in job shadowing should register on NAVIANCE.

Any business partners who would like to host students for a job shadow should contact Dr. Looker, School to Career coordinator, at llooker@conejo.k12.ca.us

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text message conversation they are having that their ability to fully concentrate on driving dwindles.

When it comes to teen drivers, texting while operating a vehicle is even more problematic. With inexperience and risk-taking tenden-

Even teens themselves confess that texting is their biggest driving distraction.

cies already plaguing younger drivers, adding texting into the mix only makes matters worse. Even teens themselves confess that texting is their biggest driving distraction; with 37% of those surveyed admitting that text mes-

saging was extremely distracting. With “teen driving texters”, you’ve got drivers who are not only inexperienced novices; but they aren’t fully paying attention to the road either.

In response to this growing nationwide problem, several states, like California, have already passed laws forbidding the use of hand held text-messaging devices by drivers, and additional states are expected to follow suit. In October 2009, the White House also joined the anti-texting-and-driving party, banning all 4.5 million federal employees from using messaging features on their phones while driving.

Sources:

www.iii.org
washingtonpost.com
www.timesonline.co.uk
tennessean.com

Fostering the Connection Between Home and School

Martha Aggazzotti, Robyn Britt,
John Lisowski, Susan Wilson, Moira Fagan-
Simpson

It is very important for parents to monitor their student's progress in high school and be proactive so they can provide extra support in subjects that may be more challenging and reward students for their diligence and good performance in classes where they are successful. Here are some tips for parents to monitor their child's progress so there are no surprises – good or otherwise – when grades are distributed or posted on Zangle:

- ⇒ **Monitor grades on Zangle.** If you need a Zangle password, please contact the counseling office. Quarter Progress Reports, Quarter grades, and Semester grades are posted on Zangle.
- ⇒ **Find out if the teacher uses Edline or Teacherweb.** If a teacher uses Edline, you may request a password by emailing Westlake's contact person, Ms. Lisa Ryder, at lryder@conejo.k12.ca.us. Some teachers use **Teacherweb** which does not require a password – just enter the location, school, the teacher's name and you will find postings about homework and upcoming tests. Teachers are not required to use these websites – they make the extra effort to help their students.

- ⇒ **Ask the teacher how school is progressing.** If you have concerns about how your student is progressing in a class, **contact the teacher directly by phone and/or email.** The email addresses may be found on the school website, www.whswarriors.com. **Please be considerate of your teacher's workload: most high school teachers have approximately 180 students.**

Monitor grades on Zangle. If you need a Zangle password, please contact the counseling office.

- ⇒ **Ask for individual help.** If your student is struggling, have your student speak directly with the teacher and ask how to improve. Find out if the teacher offers a time during the day for students to come in and ask for help and encourage your student to seek the help offered.
- ⇒ **Monitor work habits.** Be sure to check on homework, long term assignments, and test results periodically. It is best to go through the hard-copy corrected assignments to ensure the student is on track in all classes. If necessary, have your student write down every assignment for every class in a **planning notebook (available at the student**

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store). In cases where the student consistently states that there is no homework, have the teacher initial that there is “no homework” in the planner book. If there is truly none, your student should have some vocabulary or notes to review or engage in 30 minutes of academic reading catching up in a class or enjoying an enriching academic classic (ask your English teacher for the titles of good books to prepare for college).

⇒ **Set up a Study Schedule.** Make sure your boundaries regarding completing school work are firmly in place. *Eliminate television, computer games, and socializing on school nights until homework is complete, in the backpack and ready to be turned in.*

⇒ **Weekly Progress Checks.** If your child is not following through with assignments, have him/her circulate a Weekly Progress Check, available in the **Counseling Office**. Students pick one up before school, give it to each teacher at the beginning of each class, stop by the counseling office at the end of the day to show the counselor, then bring it home to the parent. It's recommended the family accord a privilege contingent upon the completion of the Weekly Progress Check.

These are just some suggestions that you can work into your family's plan for academic success. Making up failed classes is time consuming, costly, and summer school options become limited due to budget constraints. It is a better use of a family's time to be **pro-active** rather than **re-active** in your child's education. The WHS Counselors look forward to helping your student reach his/her full academic, social, and emotional potential.

For up to date information about Westlake High School, sign up for E-News Alerts. Just go to www.whswarriors.com, go to the PTSA tab and click on E-mail Mailing list. Just put in your information and you will receive E-News alerts throughout the year. You can also sign up as a volunteer, just click on the volunteer tab and enter your information.

Westlake High School - Testing Schedules for Spring, 2010

WHS will be administering the Advanced Placement Tests (AP), the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program, and the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) in March, April and May. Please review the schedule below and discuss with your student(s). **It is important that your child attend school during AP, STAR, & CAHSEE testing and give their best effort.**

AP Testing

AP testing will occur from May 3 – 14. Below are the dates and locations for all AP tests:

Week 1

Monday, May 3, 8 AM – US Gov't, GYM
 Noon – French Lang., LIBRARY
 Tuesday, May 4, 8 AM – Spanish Language, GYM
 Computer Sci., LIBRARY

Noon – Statistics, GYM

Wednesday, May 5, 8 AM – Calculus, GYM
 Thursday, May 6, 8 AM – English Literature, GYM
 Friday, May 7, 8 AM – US History, GYM
 Noon - Euro History, GYM
 AP Studio Art Portfolios

Week 2

Monday, May 10, 8 AM – Biology, GYM
 Noon – Physics, Gym
 Tuesday, May 11, 8 AM – Env. Science, GYM
 Chemistry, LIBRARY
 Noon – Psychology, GYM
 Wednesday, May 12, 8 AM – English Lang., GYM
 Friday, May 14, 8 AM – Spanish Literature,
 College & Career Center
 Human Geography, Library

CAHSEE – Entire Grade 10

Tuesday, March 16 – Language Arts, 8AM to Noon
 Wednesday, March 17 – Mathematics, 8AM to Noon

CAHSEE Make - Ups

Sophomores that did not take one or both portions of the CAHSEE given in March will take the test on:

Tuesday, May 11 – Language Arts, 8 AM to Noon *
 Wednesday, May 12 – Mathematics, 8 AM to Noon *

*Test is untimed. Dismissal times are estimates. Students will be released to class upon completion of exam.

STAR - Grades 9 – 11 participate except as noted (STAR TESTING TIMES TENTATIVE)

Tuesday, April 27, 2010 – Sr. Seminar in Gym by 9:00 a.m.

PTSA Sponsored Nutrition 7:30 to 8:09 am
 STAR English Language Arts 8:15 to 11:30 am
 Lunch (NO OFF-CAMPUS PASSES) 11:30 am to 12:10 pm
 STAR Science (EOC) Part I 12:15 to 1:15 pm
 DISMISSAL 1:15 pm

Wednesday, April 28, 2010 – Sr. Picnic in Stafflot @ 8:30 a.m.

PTSA Sponsored Nutrition 7:30 to 8:09 am
 STAR Science (EOC) Part II 8:15 to 9:15 am
 STAR Mathematics Part I 9:15 to 10:45 am
 Lunch (NO OFF-CAMPUS PASSES) 10:45 to 11:25 am
 STAR Mathematics Part II 11:31 to 1:15 pm
 DISMISSAL 1:15 pm

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Period 1* 7:15 to 7:45 am
 STAR History – 10th & 11th only 8:00 to 10:00 am
 Student Break/Materials Collection 10:00 to 10:15 am
 Period 2 10:20 to 10:50 am
 Period 3 10:56 to 11:26 am
 Period 4 11:32 am to 12:02 pm
 Period 5 12:08 to 12:38 pm
 Lunch 12:38 to 1:18 pm
 Period 6 1:24 to 1:54 pm
 Period 7 2:00 to 2:30 pm

Thursday, May 13, 2010

(Regular Schedule for all 9th, 11th and 12th graders)

Period 1* 7:00 to 7:54 am
 STAR Science – 10th graders only (Gym) 8:00 to 10:00 am
 Student Break/Materials Collection 10:00 to 10:15 am
 Period 2 8:00 to 8:54 am
 Period 3 9:01 to 9:55 am
 Nutrition 9:55 to 10:02 am
 Period 4 10:08 to 11:02 pm
 Period 5 11:09 am to 12:07 pm
 Lunch 12:07 to 12:47 pm
 Period 6 12:53 to 1:47 pm
 Period 7 1:54 to 2:48 pm
 * Seniors with period 1 will be dismissed and return at 10:00 am.
 * Freshmen with period 1 will report to the Library.

Final Exam Schedule Grades 9, 10 & 11

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Period 1 Final 7:00 to 9:00
 Period 2 9:07 to 9:51
 Period 3 9:58 to 10:42
 Period 4 10:49 to 11:33
 Period 5 11:40 to 12:24
 Lunch 12:24 to 1:04
 Period 6 1:10 to 1:54
 Period 7 2:01 to 2:45

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Period 2 Final 8:00 to 10:00
 Break 10:00 to 10:14
 Period 3 Final 10:20 to 12:20

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Period 4 Final 8:00 to 10:00
 Break 10:00 to 10:14
 Period 5 Final 10:20 to 12:20

Friday, June 11, 2010

Period 6 Final 8:00 to 10:00
 Break 10:00 to 10:14
 Period 7 Final 10:20 to 12:20

GRADUATION

Thursday, June 10th @ 5:00 PM

GRADUATION REHEARSAL

June 7, 8, & 9 at 8:30 a.m.
 MANDATORY!

(Failure to participate in mandatory graduation rehearsals will result in the student not participating in the graduation ceremony.)