

WHS PTSO Announces September 21 Minutes

WESTFIELD - Lisa Quakenbush called the meeting to order. She introduced the new board members of the PTSO for the 2005-2006 school year. She said that there were index cards available to write questions on for the guidance department to answer later on in the evening, and she thanked volunteers who responded to the interest sheets.

Thanks were also extended to Cindy Morgan for the hospitality table. Minutes of the meetings will now be sent over the e-mail. This meeting is being recorded and will be aired on Channel 36 at a later time. Last year's PTSO made the following gifts to the high school: two multimedia projectors and carts, three ceiling fans for room 121 (choral room), six benches in the courtyard and two defibrillators. Gifts were made possible from dues collected last year.

It was announced that \$24,640 had been collected for PTSO dues and \$8,220 for scholarships, with a total of 664 families participating. It was announced that the profit from the monies that had been collected for the bricks project would go towards technology. Westfield High School (WHS) Principal Dr. Robert Petix is working on a memorial for Greta Schoenemann, which should be completed by the spring.

Cindy Goldman announced that the directory is almost ready. The United Way school community, along with junior Adam Becker, announced that they are sponsoring a mini golf tournament to be held at Hyatt Hills in Clark on Oct. 15 from 2 to 8 p.m. with a rain date of Oct. 16. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds will go toward Hurricane Katrina Relief. Call Carolyn Fleder at (908) 232-3043 to volunteer for the hurricane relief.

Parent Teacher Council (PTC) President Mary Thompson gave an overview of the PTC—an umbrella organization that oversees the activities of all nine Westfield school's PTOs. Monthly meetings are held to review district-wide projects and hear an update from Superintendent of Schools William Foley and the Board of Education representatives on their activities. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend (the third Thursday of every month at 9:15 a.m. in the board room at Elm Street).

Kim Rhodes, the liaison for the Board of Education, indicated that the board had the following issues that they wanted to address this year: enrollment differences in the middle schools (more than 100 more students at Roosevelt Intermediate), kindergarten enrollments, reducing the achievement gap with special education, community engagement in the budget process and strengthening the curriculum.

TV-36 to Feature Program on Guidance

WESTFIELD - The role of the Westfield High School Guidance Department will be discussed on a taped segment aired on WHS Blue Devils TV beginning today at 2 and 10 p.m.

Joan Sullivan, acting director of guidance, introduced the guidance counselors at the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) meeting held at Westfield High School on Sept. 21. She reviewed the goals of the guidance program and described how the program is implemented for students and parents. Parents also had the opportunity to ask questions.

This meeting was taped and will be aired on TV-36 for two weeks on: Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursdays at 2 and 10 p.m. Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays at 4 p.m.

For a complete schedule of WHS Blue Devils TV programming, check the Westfield Public Schools website at www.westfieldnj12.org.

Ms. Rhodes extended thanks to the parents for the new field and track at Kehler Stadium. Dr. Petix said that there were 470 freshman, 468 sophomores, 466 juniors and 416 seniors currently at the WHS. He thanked the PTSO for their gifts. He reported the following: the high school has begun the process of the Middle States evaluation, sound and lighting systems are being worked on in the auditorium. He said the school year is off to a good beginning and he gave us some history of the guidance department. He then introduced Joan Sullivan, the assistant principal and acting head of guidance, as they continue a search for a head of guidance.

Ms. Sullivan indicated that the board lost three guidance counselors last year due to retirements and job changes and had hired four new counselors for this year. She spoke about the different activities taking place at each grade level with respect to guidance. She announced that there is a parent advisory committee that has been formed and is meeting monthly.

She spoke to parents' concerns about guidance issues and answered questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Oct. 19 and will be a volunteer fair.

Trailside To Host Teacher Training

MOUNTAINSIDE -The Trailside Nature and Science Center will host Project WET, a teacher-training workshop for adults ages 18 and older, next Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The workshop provides the necessary tools, resources and lessons for teachers to utilize in the classroom to teach future leaders about the importance of water in everyday life. More than 90 interdisciplinary activities and lessons, teacher-tested and classroom-ready for K-12 students, are included in the Project WET curriculum and activity guide. Lessons in the guide are correlated to New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Pre-registration is required and the fee for this program is \$25 per person. The fee includes Project WET's curriculum and activity guide. Light refreshments will be served during morning registration. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch.

Interested participants should call Trailside for a special registration form. For additional information on Project WET or for information on upcoming spring or summer programs and special events at Trailside, call (908) 789-3670. The Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside.



BLACK TIE...Georgetown University alumni and supporters gathered on Sept. 17 at the Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit for a black-tie gala to support the Georgetown Scholarship Program. Alumni and friends enjoyed evening cocktails on the terrace followed by dinner and dancing throughout the evening. Pictured, left to right, are: Camille Giuditta Sorensen of Westfield, Maren Dinsmore of Summit, and Michelle and Paul Macchia of Morristown.

Georgetown Alumni Enjoy Black-Tie Affair in Summit

WESTFIELD -Georgetown University Alumni from Springfield, Westfield and Summit attended a black-tie gala at Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit on Sept. 17, to support the Georgetown Scholarship Program, an initiative designed to give highly qualified students a full financial-aid package to the university.

Georgetown alumni of all ages enjoyed evening cocktails on the terrace, followed by dinner and dancing. Westfield residents in attendance included Camille Giuditta Sorensen, Joseph and Mary Aronds and Retta Riordan and Jack Clark.

University Dean of Students Todd Olson and Dean of Student Financial Services Patricia McWade traveled from Washington, DC to attend the event. The deans spoke about student life at Georgetown and the increased

efforts to offer competitive financial aid packages to deserving students.

The Georgetown Club of Northern New Jersey sponsored and planned the event. Club Vice President Camille Giuditta Sorensen, a Westfield resident, and Summit resident Maren Dinsmore co-chaired the event.

"We are delighted by New Jersey alumni's enthusiastic support of our inaugural gala for the benefit of the Georgetown Scholarship Program," said Ms. Sorensen. "The generosity of our club members and sponsors will go a long way in helping the university achieve its goal of providing an education to qualified students, regardless of financial position."

For more information, visit the club's Web site at alumni.Georgetown.edu/nnj or contact Anne Cooper, publicity chairman, at amcooper@comcast.net.



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE...Marjorie Williams of Verona and Bernadette Hoyer of Fanwood test the properties of water during the "Water Olympics," one of the many activities conducted at a Project WET workshop hosted by Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside last spring. Trailside is offering a second Project WET teacher training workshop next Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WF Schools Participate In Project Child Find

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Public School District recognizes the importance of providing services to children with special needs through its Project Child Find efforts, according to Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services Dr. Ted Kozlik.

"We provide screening and evaluation services for resident children three to 21 years of age who appear to have problems in communication, motor, social-emotional or learning areas," Dr. Kozlik said.

The screening and evaluation services are available to preschoolers (three to five), to highly mobile students with disabilities, such as migrant and homeless students, and to students who may be disabled even though they are advancing from grade to grade. Children found to be eligible for special education and related services are entitled to free and appropriate special education programming and related services.

Information is provided to parents of children from birth through three years of age regarding early

intervention services through Project Child Find at (800) 322-8174 or the County Supervisor of Child Study at (908) 654-9860.

If you know of children ages three to 21 years of age who appear to have signs, please ask their parent to contact Dr. Ted Kozlik at (908) 789-4442, via e-mail at tkozlik@westfieldnj12.org or fax at (908) 232-5415. All information about such reports will be kept confidential.

WF Student Makes Delaware Dean's List

WESTFIELD - Christopher Thayer of Westfield made the spring 2005 semester Dean's List at the University of Delaware.

Christopher, a junior, is a Management Information Systems major in the Lerner College of Business and Economics.

Full-time students are named to the Dean's List when they achieve grade point averages of 3.33 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester, with no temporary grades.



NATIONAL MERIT...Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains announced that Kazimierz Filus was named a National Merit Semi-Finalist. More than 1.3 million juniors in nearly 21,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2006 National Merit Program by taking the 2004 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Pictured, left to right, are: Sister Percylee Hart, principal, Kaz Filus and Christine McCoid, assistant principal for Student Services.

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