

The Viking Voice

Walt Whitman High School PTSA Newsletter

October 2009

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The Viking Voice is the quarterly newsletter of the Walt Whitman PTSA. Two issues (October and May) are mailed to all Whitman households and posted on the Whitman website; December and February are posted online only.

Deadline for submissions for the December issue is November 12, 2009. E-mail submissions to whitmanvikingvoice@yahoo.com.

—The Viking Voice Editor,
Pat Silver/Silver Marketing

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome the New School Year!

Welcome to the new school year! The staff is excited to be back, and they are working hard to engage your students in a meaningful school year. The following was written by one of Whitman's assistant principals, Ms. Jennifer Webster.

The 2009-10 school year is off to a smooth start. We welcome a record number of new enrollees this year, many of whom are from outside the United States. Our readiness for the start of the year is a result of the summer work of our school counseling department, secretaries, building service staff, support staff, teachers, and, of course, our parent volunteers. If you are currently a volunteer, thank you! If you are interested in volunteering, we welcome your involvement. Throughout the year, you will see numerous opportunities to participate in PTSA and school activities on Whitnet.

We'd like to welcome the following new staff members: Rachel Stender in Engineering, Anne Chiasson in Math, Jonathan Hunger in LFI, Rebecca Leef and Kelly Skupas in Spanish, Vince LoRusso in Music, Theresa Sammarco in ESOL, Lynn Chvotkin as our Speech Pathologist, Marie Bounds as a paraeducator in our SCB program, Melissa Lichter as a paraeducator in our Special Education program, and Shanita Watkins as one of our main office secretaries. Each of these staff members has stepped right in and made a great addition to our Whitman team.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PTSA CO-PRESIDENTS

Join the PTSA!



As we welcome 1,950 students to Whitman this year, it is more important and more challenging to find ways for students and parents to connect to the school. It's also more rewarding, as we build on our diverse strengths and interests. Here are some ways for you to begin making your connections.

First, join the PTSA. The PTSA funds classroom and technology improvements, teachers' professional development, staff appreciation, the Viking Voice newsletter, newcomer welcome activities, books for the Media Center and Career Information Center, and lots more. Membership dues and contributions fund our activities, so be sure to join today.

Our new online system – pay4schoolstuffonline.com - makes it easier than ever to join the PTSA – you can use your credit card to pay for your dues and contribution. The directions are on page 10 of this newsletter. It's quick and easy and saves paper too! If you prefer to

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Walt Whitman Choral Program Winter Concert

Wednesday December 16th
at 7:00 pm Daryl B. Shaw
Auditorium

All of the choral groups will
be performing:

- General Chorus
- Treble Chorale
- Advanced Women's Chorus
- Men's Chorus
- Chamber Choir
- Jazz Octets

Everyone is invited to a festive
reception in the cafeteria following
the concert.

Q: How do you get to Carnegie Hall?

A: Practice, practice, practice ... and board the Walt Whitman Music Trip buses!!!

The Music Department announces
with great enthusiasm that this
year's Music Trip will be to New
York City from April 23–25, 2010.

The participating music groups
are: Treble Chorale, Men's Chorus,
Advanced Women's Chorus,
Chamber Choir, Symphonic
Orchestra, Symphonic Band,
Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble
and Concert Orchestra.

Family and friends are invited to
see them perform at **CARNEGIE
HALL** on Saturday, April 24; details
to follow in the coming months.

2010 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists Named

*Congratulations to the 18 Whitman seniors who have been named Semifinalists
in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Competition:*

Surbhi Agrawal	Eileen Hu-Wang	Susannah Savage
Sarah Craig	Benjamin Lewis	Melissa Schnure
Jean-Claude De Sugny	Chelsea Lo	Dylan Symington
Itai Farhi	Emily Massey	Sawyer Symington
Perry Green	Michael O'Sullivan	Rachel Umans
Carolyn Heiman	Emily Savage	Yuqian Zheng

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE *from page 1*

The “team” concept is an important one
for us this year. During the summer leader-
ship week, Whitman's administration works
with parents, students, resource teachers,
and staff representatives to consider our
goals for the upcoming school year. This
summer, we agreed to put our emphasis on
the “Professional Learning Community”
concept. Our PLCs take the form of course
teams. We recognize that the day-to-day
progress with student learning takes place
with our teachers in the classroom. We
also recognize that our own teachers are
the experts at what they do. By emphasizing
course teams and sharing best practices
among our teachers, we feel instruction
will improve, and, as a result, students will
benefit. The teachers have embraced the
team concept and are working together to
create assessments and discuss how best to
teach their courses.

We are also committed to having more
information about courses on Edline this
year. In addition to viewing grades for a
course, teachers will be posting assign-
ments. We are not sure how the flu season
will impact student attendance, so having
assignments on Edline will help students
stay caught up with work if they are
out ill. You are encouraged to activate
your parent Edline account for a couple
of reasons. The obvious one is to check
periodically on your student's progress
in his/her courses. The other reason is to
help us improve communication between
the teachers and home. When you activate
your Edline account, you provide an email
address for teachers to contact you. You
will also have the teachers' email addresses
in case you have questions as well. While
we don't think email is the only avenue of

communication, it does provide another
method of sharing information about the
class. Our teachers will continue to call
home when there are serious concerns. To
receive information about activating your
Edline account, please email [whitmaned-
line@yahoo.com](mailto:whitmaned-line@yahoo.com).

Our upperclassmen may be thinking
about the PSAT/SAT/ACT or Accuplacer
as they consider their post-high school
plans. We will be giving the PSAT during
school on Wednesday, October 14th. The
test is practice for 9th graders, an oppor-
tunity for them to familiarize themselves
with the test. The county pays for all
10th graders to take an official PSAT on
that day. Juniors can sign up with Mrs.
Marmor in the CIC (Career Information
Center) and pay for the official PSAT
on that day as well. Seniors may use the
morning to prepare college applications.
We will publish a bell schedule closer to
the date so seniors know when classes
begin on that day. In addition to the PSAT,
many of our students may want to learn
more about the ACT. The sports boosters
will be giving a mock ACT at Whitman
on Saturday, October 31st. Information on
how to sign up will be on Whitnet and the
school website, or register using the form
on p. 11 of this newsletter. We have a new
resource this year for students to use at
home to prepare for the SAT or ACT—a
program called Triumph. Students will
learn about this resource through English
classes or they may ask their school
counselor for more information.

We are excited about this school year
and look forward to seeing you at PTSA
meetings and the grade level parent meetings
throughout the year!

send in a check, use the membership form on page 10 of this newsletter.

Next, join Whitnet, the official school listserv. You'll get the daily announcements, plus learn about coming events, volunteer activities, important Whitman cluster information – it's how we communicate in a cost-effective way. To join, send your name, email address, home phone number and student's name and grade to whitnetmoderator@gmail.com.

Then, volunteer! Just as your student needs to find a niche at a large school like Whitman, parents need to find a role too. You'll forge connections with other families and staff, and support your student without hovering too closely. If you stepped back a bit while your student was in middle school, now's the time to get back involved on a whole new level. When the word goes out on Whitnet or through your student's activities that we need you, step up and join in!

Finally, come to the PTSA meetings. We meet 6 times a year, on the third Tuesday evening in September,

October, November, January, March and May. We were delighted to have a large number of parents attending the Sept. 15 meeting. We hope to have another large turnout for the Oct. 20 meeting, at 6:45 pm in the Auditorium, which will be followed at 7:30 by a special presentation by WWHS 1991 graduate Katie Malachuk, author of *You're Accepted: Lose the Stress, Discover Yourself, Get Into the College that's Right for You*.

The Viking Voice is the PTSA's quarterly newsletter to parents. You receive this first issue and the last issue by mail. The other two issues will be posted on the school website—also a paper-saving effort! We are always on the lookout for articles and notices of interest to parents, so please look for periodic Whitnet postings asking for article submissions.

We look forward to working with you this year and strengthening your connections to Whitman.

Vicky Strella and Sue Kanter
PTSA Co-Presidents

Welcome To The Start Of A New School Year And Another Year Of Giant A+ Bonusbucks!

From October 9, 2009 through March 25, 2010, Walt Whitman High School will earn cash, but only if you designate or redesignate our school on your BonusCard account.

It is easy and fast to designate Whitman. Log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus to designate on-line. You need to enter your 12-digit BonusCard number from the back of the card, the first three letters of your last name and our school's ID# 00683.

After you designate Walt Whitman High School, each shopping trip at Giant using your BonusCard earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded to Whitman will be updated on the Giant website.

Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. Last year, Whitman earned over \$5000. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to designate Walt Whitman High School. You can designate up to three schools.

Remember, even if you designated last year, you must re-designate this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support.

If you need additional assistance, contact Kathy Ireland at kireland@comcast.net or call (301) 654-2446.

WWHS Speech and Debate Team Families:

- ◆ Please register for team communications via Yahoo. At least one parent or adult from each family must register so you stay up-to-date on team information.
 - Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wwdebateteam> and click Join this Group.
 - Also, to add your contact information:
go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wwdebateteam/app/addressbook/view/list>
Click "Add Entry" to enter your family's contact information.
- ◆ Sign up for the Autumn Team Potluck to be held on Sunday, October 11th:
<http://www.formspring.com/forms/?536143-Q78JKwoSZH> The potluck will take place at the Katz/Massey home, 7504 Oldchester Road, Bethesda, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- ◆ Also, sign up for the Parent Judges' Training Workshop at the Schifrin home, 8606 Beech Tree Road, Bethesda, Sunday, November 15th, 1–5pm <http://www.formspring.com/forms/?668513-8z5gCZV3zv>

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

ATTENTION SENIORS

The University of Maryland, College Park has a NEW DEADLINE OF NOVEMBER 1 for the priority application. Students must meet this deadline in order to be considered for invitations to special programs, financial aid and housing. Apply online at www.admissions.umd.edu/admissions.

Common Application

The COMMON APPLICATION is the recommended form of 392 selective colleges and universities for admission to their undergraduate programs. Many of these institutions use the form exclusively. All give equal consideration to the Common Application and the college's own form. Apply online at www.commonapp.org or pick up a "paper" copy in the CIC.

May, 2009 Advanced Placement Exam Summary

In May 2009, 977 students sat for 1,809 exams. 90% of the exams were awarded 3 or higher. We applaud our students, teachers, staff and parents for this commendable performance!

CIC College Visits

Juniors and seniors are welcome to meet with college representatives. They must pick up a pass in the CIC, 24 hours in advance, have it signed by their teacher, and bring it with them when they attend the meeting.

Visit connection.naviance.com/whitman for the most current list of colleges visiting the CIC.

Whitman's School Counselors Welcome Students For The 2009-2010 School Year!

Walt Whitman's Counseling Suite is located on the right side of the main entrance foyer. To arrange a counselor appointment, call or stop in and sign-up on the clipboards on the right wall, just inside the Counseling Suite.

Located past the Counselors' offices is the office of the Registrar. At the end of the hall is the Career Information Center, the office of the College/Career Coordinator and the office of the Senior Transcript Secretary. Offices are open year round 7:30-3:30 p.m.

COUNSELING SERVICES STAFF

Counselors — 301-320-6590

Frances Landau, *Resource Counselor*

Jamie Ahearn, *Counselor*

Jennifer Higgins, *Counselor*

William Kapner, *Counselor*

Molly McAllister, *Counselor*

Kenneth Putt, *Counselor*

Kelly Singleton, *Counselor*

Kari Wislar, *Counselor*

Pam Bobrow,

Guidance Secretary, 301-320-6590

Susan Katz,

Transcript Secretary, 301-320-6610

Shannon Steward,

Registrar, 301-320-6581

Jan Marmor,

College/Career Coordinator, 301-320-6611



Important Student Service Learning Deadlines and Changes

- Documentation of service performed during the first semester is due January 8, 2010.
- Documentation of service performed during the second semester for seniors only is due by Senior Exam Review Day, May 21, 2010.
- Documentation of service performed during the second semester for non-seniors is due June 4, 2010.
- The SSL reporting forms have been revised. The new form – 560-51, Student Service Learning Activity Verification – is on the MCPS Forms directory. (You can also navigate the Whitman website's SSL information to obtain the form, or pick one up outside the Transcript Office in Room A-119.) This revision asks students to reflect on how the SSL experience connected to something that was learned in a school course. This additional reflection item was included in response to feedback from the Maryland State Department of Education. For hours earned during the summer, the previous forms will be accepted, but students must begin to use and submit the revised form during this first semester.

Return SSL forms to Ms. Katz in the Transcript Office, A119. Be sure to have the activity pre-approved if it is not listed as such on the mcpsssl.org website. You must have the activity pre-approved every time, even if you know someone who has done it before, if it is not listed.

Check that hours appear on your report card at the end of the semester.

Register For Sat

Students can register early for the SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests. Despite the fact that Whitman has almost 500 spaces each test date, each year we fill spaces long before the deadlines for SAT and SAT Subject Test registration. If you would like to have Whitman as your test center, we suggest you register early. Whitman's CEEB code is 210271. For more information about early or regular registration online, visit the College Board Website at www.collegeboard.com.

TEST DATES	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
10/10/09	9/09/09
11/07/09	10/01/09
12/05/09	10/30/09
1/23/10	12/15/09
3/13/10 (SAT only)	2/04/10
5/01/10	3/25/10
6/05/10	4/29/10

PSAT Information

The PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test) will be administered on Wednesday, October 14 during school hours. In order to be considered for the National Merit Scholarship Program, the National Achievement Scholarship Program, and the National Hispanic Scholar Awards Program, the PSAT must be taken in the junior year. To register for the PSAT, juniors must bring a check for \$13 made out to Walt Whitman High School to the student's English teacher.

All tenth grade students will take the PSAT at no cost on Wednesday, October 14 during the school day through a partnership between MCPS and Montgomery College. This will help sophomores examine their academic strengths and weaknesses as they prepare for the 11th grade PSAT and future SATs. Tenth grade students do not need to register for the PSAT.

Ninth grade students will take a self-scored practice PSAT on October 14th.

We strongly advise all sophomores and juniors to take the PSAT test on Wednesday, October 14 at school. Seniors will have a late opening on October 14. Details for seniors will follow.

PSAT RESULTS WILL BE MAILED HOME IN MID-DECEMBER.

Students With Disabilities

The College Board Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) is requiring **ONE** common College Board Eligibility Form for PSAT/NSMQT, SAT, and AP programs. Students and parents will only need to complete the SSD Student Eligibility Form **ONCE** for all three programs while the student is attending high school. They should pick up and return the completed form to the counseling office. Eligibility Forms can be submitted early, preferably in the spring prior to the year in which the student will first test.

Any student who qualifies for extended time and needs extra time for the PSAT or SAT in October, should see their counselor for the new form if they have not already completed it.

Counselor Meetings With 9th Graders

On Oct. 3, counselors will meet with their ninth graders in small groups to give students the opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns and discuss their adjustment to a new, larger environment.

Family Connection/Succeed

Family Connection/Succeed is a comprehensive website that provides valuable data to help students in making decisions about colleges and careers. Junior and senior parents, please remind your student to pick up their personal registration code and instructions from Mrs. Marmor in the CIC. The website is <http://connection.naviance.com/whitman>.

Depression/Suicide Awareness

Counselors participated in Health Classes with Ms. Kristen Rudolph on Sept. 22-24 for the Red Flags Unit. The Red Flags Program is a teen depression/suicide awareness program.

Seniors Seniors Seniors

The "IT'S TIME" college packet was distributed to you in class early in September. Please learn the procedures for having your transcript materials sent to colleges in a correct and timely fashion. Drop by the Senior Transcript Office and meet the Senior Transcript Secretary, an important person in your life for the next several months.

Thoughtfully complete the "College and Career Self Evaluation Form" and return it to your counselor. Your counselor uses this form as background for your recommendation! Then, sign up for a college meeting with your counselor. This meeting should take place at least three weeks before your first application deadline.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

2009-2010 Whitman Counseling Advisory Committee Schedule

Chairs: Allison Gordon (gordon_family@mac.com) and Carley Lee (chlee3@mac.com)

The Counseling Advisory Committee (CAC – formerly known as Guidance Advisory Council or GAC) is a positive, constructive, working committee of parents, counselors, and SGA representatives who work together to assist the School Counseling Office in providing the best possible services for students and their families. Support provided may include but is not limited to: organization of parent informational meetings at each grade level, collaborating on ideas for improvements in the school environment, providing encouragement to the counseling staff, and building better communication between the school and families.

The following are grade level specific meetings sponsored by the CAC throughout the school year:

Date	Meeting	Location and time
Thursday, September 3, 2009	Meeting for Freshmen Parents: Navigating the High School Year	WWHS Auditorium at 7:30pm
Wednesday, September 16, 2009	Meeting for Seniors & their Parents: The College Application Process	WWHS Auditorium at 7:30pm
Thursday, January 28, 2010	Meeting for Juniors & their Parents: Nuts and Bolts of College Planning	WWHS Auditorium at 7:30pm
Thursday, February 4, 2010	Meeting for Sophomores & their Parents: Choosing the Junior Year Schedule	WWHS Auditorium at 7:30pm
April, 2010 (Date TBA)	Meeting for Juniors & their Parents: College Admission Panels	WWHS Auditorium at 7:00pm
Monday, May 24, 2010	Meeting for Seniors & their Parents: Transition to College	7:30pm (location TBA)

Monthly CAC Meetings (all parents are welcome)

Date	Meeting	Location and time
September 23	Meet the Counselors	9am, Cafeteria/Courtyard
October 22	Support for Freshmen	1:15pm (location TBA)
November 19	Summer Programs & Internships	1:15pm (location TBA)
January 28	Registration Considerations for Foreign Language and History	1:15pm, CIC
Feb. 25	Registration Considerations for Science and English	1:15pm, CIC
Mar. 25	Student Internship Opportunities	1:15pm, CIC
Apr. 22	Teen Mental Health Issues	1:15pm, CIC
May 20	End of Year CAC Luncheon	(time and place TBA)

Special Event Sponsored by Stressbusters

Date	Meeting	Location and time
Feb. 3	Colleges that Change Lives by Ms. Marty O'Connell	WWHS Auditorium at 7:30pm

On Cloud '09 A Great Success

In the early hours of May 30, over 400 seniors and their guests poured into the Gym for Post Prom. Climbing walls, food, music, raffles, and casinos were among the attractions that entertained the students in a safe, fun place. Post Prom is run by parent volunteers and funded through donations from parents, businesses and the Whitman community.

This year's new fundraiser, a performance by The Capitol Steps, along with the generosity of parents and other donors, allowed the Post Prom Committee to host a great event and still have some funds left over. After ensuring that the next Post Prom Committee would have adequate seed money to start its efforts, most of the remaining funds will go toward purchase of a new floor covering for the gym. This will benefit both future Post Proms and

the school as a whole by providing a safe protective surface for the gym during Post Prom and other events. If funds remain after the purchase of the floor covering, they will be used to buy LCD projectors which will be used during Post Prom to project raffle winners and other announcements, and will be available for classroom and other use during the school year.

In addition, our sister school, Wheaton High School, will receive \$2000 to support its Post Prom, allowing us to share our success and help Wheaton in its efforts to keep its students safe and entertained.

Congratulations to Post Prom Chairs Brenda Zimmerman and Shelley Dane and their hard-working team of parent volunteers for producing a wonderful, successful event.

All Sports Booster Club Fall Membership Drive

The Walt Whitman High School All Sports Booster Club Membership Drive is under way. Our goal is to have 100 percent of our athlete families join this year. To help our fall teams hit our goal, we are conducting a friendly contest. Fall teams with fewer than 20 members (Golf, Poms, Cheerleading, and Girl's Tennis) will vie against one another to see who can hit the 100% membership mark first. Fall teams that have over 20 but fewer than 50 team members (Field Hockey, Girl's Soccer and Boy's Soccer) will compete against each other. Last but not least, the brawny Viking football team (115 members) will compete against the fast and sure-footed Whitman Cross Country team (100 members) to see which team gets the most family participation. The first team in each size category to achieve our participation goals during our Fall Membership Drive will receive an award for the team for their effort. The Fall Membership Drive ends October 15, 2009.

The All Sports Booster Club was founded in 1995 to raise money to help support all Whitman varsity and junior varsity athletic teams. We encourage all Whitman families to join the All Sports Booster Club. Membership dues are \$40 per year per family.

Membership application forms are available from your Team Representative or at <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/whitmanhs/athletics/pdfs/Membership%20Form%202009-2010.pdf>. If you have any questions about membership or need help defraying the cost of membership, please contact Carri Bennet, Membership Committee Chair – All Sports Booster Club cbennet@bennetlaw.com. Go Vikings!



Intercultural Committee Coffee

8th October at 10:30am

New to Whitman?

A long-time community member with international ties?

Hosting an exchange student or interested in intercultural exchange?

You are cordially invited to attend the Whitman Intercultural Committee's first coffee of the school year, hosted by Chair Gloria Olimpio. Meet other parents, Principal Dr. Goodwin and other staff members who work with international students, and hear about plans for Intercultural Committee events later this year. To RSVP and get directions: gloriaolimpio@gmail.com.

ISO Internship Placements

The Walt Whitman Internship Program is looking for placements! Walt Whitman students are exemplary workers interested in work that will give them a challenge.

If you can sponsor a student during the school year please contact me. Most of our students are looking for about 10 hours of work a week. We also have some students looking for 15 or 5 hours of work a week. These may be paid or unpaid positions. I interview students all the time and your request might be exactly what we are looking for.

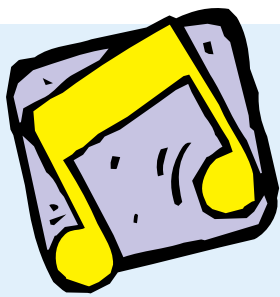
See list below for areas of interest. I am open to suggestions for other areas not on this list.

Demitra G. Marafatsos

Internship/CWE /Business Math Teacher

**301-320-6543 Office,
Demitra_G_Marafatsos@
mcpsmd.org**

- Marketing/PR
- Computers/Technology
- Engineering
- Law
- Medical
- Animal related- Zoo, Vet
- Sports Management
- Graphic Design
- Journalism
- Radio
- TV Productions
- Fashion Design
- Business Office Support
- Architecture
- Retail
- Restaurant /Food Industry



Support Whitman Music with Gift Cards

You can support Walt Whitman High School's exceptional Music Department every time you go grocery shopping at Giant by purchasing Giant Gift Cards. How does it work? You purchase and receive gift cards at full face value, while Giant donates \$5 to the Choral or Instrumental Program for every \$100 purchase made. THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU! Giant Food does the donating to the program – you just prepay for your groceries!

To participate, just go to the Music Department website <http://www.waltwhitmanmusic.org>, choose Choral or Instrumental, and navigate to the Booster Club page. There you will find the link to the Giant Form for ordering the gift cards. The first deadline for submitting your form to your child's music teacher was September 25th, and cards will be sold three more times during the school year.

Thank you for supporting Whitman's award winning Music Department!

The Whitman High School Education Foundation

Whitman parents founded the Whitman High School Education Foundation in 1995 to raise funds for those needs not fully covered by the county and state budgets. Since then, the WHSEF has supported numerous educational goals, including campus improvements and training and professional development for teachers and staff. Through these efforts the Foundation has helped to sustain the school's traditions of excellence.

We are very grateful to those who gave so generously to the Foundation during our spring fundraising campaign, and invite all Whitman families to consider making gifts to the Foundation this fall. Come October, events taking place in the Whitman auditorium will have the benefit of enhanced sound due to the total overhaul of the sound system. This central space, a hub of activity for our community, has been in deplorable shape, often requiring the school to rent equipment at great expense. The full cost of the project was \$35,000, which the Foundation paid for, in partnership with the Whitman Drama Boosters. With funding from MCPS, the electrical and lighting systems of the Auditorium were upgraded over the summer.

Past Whitman Foundation support has gone towards the energy saving, tinted film installed on the windows around the school building; state of the art software for the language learning lab; funding for the Learning

for Independence program; purchase of computers for the Media Center; replacement of antiquated exhibit panels for the Arts Festival; teachers grants for professional development (particularly for AP, special education and guidance), and more. Early on, the Foundation raised the funds to restore the inner Courtyard, which now serves as an open-air gathering spot during the school day and for special programs. With more budget cuts likely for MCPS, the role of the Foundation is all the more crucial and the Administration needs our support more than ever. Your continued support will help with similar achievements in the future.

My fellow board members join me in encouraging you to contact us for questions and ideas. The board includes new members Laurie Adams and Jay Kaufman, and Michael Bell, Laura Cecala, Rick Duffy, Abbie Eckland, Elisa Glazer, Alan Goodwin, Kathy Ireland, Sue Kanter (PTSA), Noelle McHugh, Kim Schiffrin and Vicky Strella (PTSA).

Please look for our fall campaign letter in the coming weeks. Also, please know that a gift at any level will be meaningful. Together we can continue to accomplish great things that contribute to the outstanding experience our children have attending Whitman.

*Bob Klepp
President,
Whitman High School Education Foundation*

Driving Program Information

Is your teenager going to be driving soon or has just received their Learner's Permit? Are you worried about your child taking on this responsibility? Do you question when you'll know when your child is mature enough to take on this huge responsibility? Do you know



what the new laws are regarding the minimum age for drivers in the State of Maryland?

A fabulous night is open to ALL Whitman parents and students to come out and hear our panel of experts on teenage drivers. The driving program will be held on Wednesday, October 28th, 2009 from 7-9pm at the Whitman Auditorium.

We will have representatives from GEICO insurance company and at least one of the local driving schools available who will clearly relate the steps to getting a license in Maryland, the new laws and how they impact the eligibility of our teen drivers. The panel will also have parents of recent drivers who will be able to answer questions concerning their experiences about their own teenager and driving. Questions from parents will be highly encouraged by the panel. "Student Driver" and "New Driver" or "Rookie Driver" magnetic car signs will also be available for sale at this meeting.

*Jodie Rasch and Joan Ishimoto,
Co-Chairs, 10th Grade Networking*

Thank You to the Spring 2009 Whitman Education Foundation Donors

John Adragna and Amy Edwards
Tom and Francine Barber
Richard and Mary Barth
Christian and Ana Bartholomew
Jesse Baumgold
Kirby Behre and Jody Curtis
H. Darr Beiser and Margo Warren
Juan Carlos Belausteguigoitia
Michael and Carolyn Bell
Jaime Beltrami
Caressa Bennett
(In Honor of the Class of 2011)
Richard Bertaut
Nader and Katayoon Biglari
Mary and Larry Bird
Marcelo Bisogno and Raquel Artecona
Giselle Bleecker
Kevin Bruns and Vicki Zagaria
Ronald and Lori Bubes
Nicholas Burnett and Miriam Schneidman
Kathleen Cahill
(In Honor of Peg Cothorn)
John Carlson and Mona Yacobian
Thomas Carothers and Laura Bocalandro
Rafael and Rosa Carrizo
Yenlang Chi
Dean and Susan Cinkala
Richard and Daryl Cline
Luiz and Rachel Coelho
Thomas and Pamela Cohn
Carolyn Craig and Ronald Gottlieb
Alan Davis
Brett Davis
Luis De La Puente
Patricia Eccker
Rhonda and Harry Eisenstein
Paul and Telly Ercarnacion
Marco Espinosa
David and Meredith Ficca
Carol and Randall Fiertz
Joanne Finley
Liz Fischmann
Sheryl and Ira Fishman
(In Honor of Sean and Conor Hyatt)
Bob Fleshner and Phyllis Aaronson
Robin and Scott Frankel
Stanley Freeman and Cecilia Parajon
Howard and Ellen Garrison
(In Honor of Katherine Johnson)

Tamara Gonzalez
William and Robin Graff
(In Honor of Jennie Graff)
David Greenbaum and Stacie Psaras
Mustafa and Aisha Haque
Randall and Heidi Henning
Peter Hobby and Anice Hoachlander
Kathy and Jay Ireland
(In Honor of Kim Schifrin)
Debra and Andrew Jacobson
Margaret Jobst
Alex and Hilary Joel
Sue and William Kanter
Sharon and Stewart Karr
Sudhakar and Aruna Kaveeshwar
Lawrence Kessner and Helen Thackray
Bob and Patti Klepp
(In Honor of Kim Schifrin)
Jerry and Susan Kluger
Gary and Ann Slivka Koritzinsky
Kara and Brent Kreutzberg
Nirmal Kumar
(In Honor of Jai Kumar's Teachers)
Paula and Felix Laboy
Nina Levine and Paul Bran
Douglas and Marie Liu
Paul Martin and Rebekah Liu
Jonathan Massey and Mandy Katz
Scott and Beth McConnell
Roger McCreery and Anne Hollander
Barbara and Jeffrey McCurdy
Melanie and Jeremy Mell
(In Memory of France Serra-Rogatti)
Kurt and Karen Miller
Carlos Molina and Kristina Malmquist
Linda and Richard Morelli
Randolph Moss
Richard Novak and Ruth Lozner
Sam and Debbie Olchyk
Deepa Ollapally and Anand Anandalingam
Michael and Elsa Papageorgiou
Richard and Janis Pappalardo
Lawrence Paul and Chiyo Kobayashi
Andi Pearl and Jerry Schwartz
Mario and Guimar Pessoa
Erik Peterson and Patricia Meduna
Steven Rebarber and Lily Gutmann
Gail Reizenstein Haven

Mark and Catherine Remijan
Robert and Melinda Robbins
Bennett and Alyson Ross
Lauren Rothfarb
(In Honor of Whitman AP NSL Teachers)
Brigitte Russell
(In Honor of Serena Russell)
Keith and Alice Sartain
Jerry and Marsha Scheinman
(In Honor of Danielle Scheinman)
Michael Schwartz and Sharon Scanlon
Kathryn Shafer and Charles Rankin
Steven Sharpe
Nathan Silver
(In Memory of Ida Lois Silver)
Todd Smith and Mary Woods
Karl and Beverly Snow
Martin Stern
Dr. Mona Tata
Robin and Bruce Taylor
The Eckland Family
(In Honor of Kim Schifrin, Phyllis Aaronson and Robyn Nietert)
The Polis Family
(In Honor of Mr. Chris Allen)
The Schifrin Foundation
Randy and Harriet Tritell
Carlos Vegh and Ratna Sahay
Camilo Villarino-Marzo and Susana De Funes Casellas
Hongshan Wang and Yan Tsau
Julie Watson
Alan and Helen Wayne
David Weiss and Mamie Kresses
Shauna and Ray Wertheim
(In Honor of Dedicated Whitman Faculty)
Sonja White
Bob Wise and Ginna Ingram
Andrew Wolfe and Joanna DeWolfe
John and Sherri Woodbury
Shunji Yoshida
Michael and Beth Zangwill

2009-2010 PTSA Officers

Co-Presidents

Sue Kanter
Vicky Strella

Membership Vice Presidents

Sharron Brossi
Debbie Flack

Volunteer Vice Presidents

Karen Finucan Clarkson
Susan Scholl

Treasurer

Sheila Duncan-Peters

Recording Secretaries

Rebecca Kahlenberg
Catherine McMullen

Corresponding Secretary/ Whitnet Moderator

Peter Hobby

Whitman Cluster Rep

Deb Lang

Copies of the new Whitman Directory will be available soon. This year's Directory, a project of the Senior Class, will include family e-mail addresses for the first time. Watch Whitnet for notices on how to purchase, or pick up your pre-ordered directory.

JOIN WALT WHITMAN PTSA for 2009-2010

NEW THIS YEAR - 2 Ways to Join and Contribute:

1. MAIL OR DROP THE FORM BELOW

with payment to:

**PTSA Membership, Walt Whitman High School
7100 Whittier Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20817**

2. Online – see instructions below

WHAT DOES THE PTSA FUND?

- Counseling Advisory Activities speakers and programs
- International Night & Other Special Events
- Grade Level Networking Meetings
- Technology Enhancements
- Special Needs Activities and Support
- Principal Requests for Special Initiatives
- Staff Appreciation and Recognition
- Media Center Collection Development
- Supplemental Teacher Training
- Viking Voice – the quarterly school newsletter
- Whitnet and Whitcom

I want to join the PTSA!

_____	_____	_____
Student Last Name	First Name	Grade
_____	_____	_____
Student Last Name	First Name	Grade
_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Last Name	First Name	Grade
_____	_____	_____
Street Address	City	Zip
_____	_____	_____
Telephone	<input type="checkbox"/> cell	<input type="checkbox"/> home
		<input type="checkbox"/> work

Check box for multiple households

For Office Use Only:		
Date: _____	Chk#: _____	Amt:\$ _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Membership @ \$25	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Membership @ \$5	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Membership @ \$5	\$ _____
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WALT WHITMAN PTSA	

Easy to navigate ONLINE directions!

1. Go to www.Pay4SchoolStuffOnline.com
2. Select "Click here to create a new account"
3. Sign your student(s) in as indicated—if you are a teacher or no longer have a student, sign up using your own name
4. Under "Pay for" column, click on "open" (if you have registered more than 1 student, click on "open" under any name)
5. Click on appropriate item: PTSA parent membership or Student membership
6. Make an additional donation the PTSA (tax deductible)—for amounts not listed you can use the quantity box and donate multiples of any amount

At checkout, you may use a credit card or your Pay Pal account. There is a modest additional charge (approx 3%) for credit card payments.

If you encounter any problems in registering, please send an email to whitmanmdptsa@yahoo.com

WHITMAN CREW



Whitman Crew Silent Auction and Buffet Reception

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday November 14, 2009 • 7:00pm

Jane E. Lawton Community Recreation Center
(formerly the Leland Center)
4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD)

Whitman Crew:

OVER TWENTY YEARS AND ROWING STRONG

Take an SAT and/or ACT Practice Test at Walt Whitman High School

Proctored like the actual tests, except your scores won't go on record!



- \$25 for each test and \$40 if you prepay to take both tests
- Open to all freshmen through juniors (including your non-Whitman friends)
- Registrations due no later than 7 days before the scheduled test date
- All proceeds benefit Walt Whitman High School All Sports Boosters Club

ACT	Saturday, October 31, 2009	8:30am – 12:30pm	Follow-Up Session with <i>Capital Educators</i> at Whitman on Nov. 12th, 7:30 – 8:30 pm
SAT	Saturday, December 19, 2009	8:30am – 12:30pm	Follow-Up Session with <i>Capital Educators</i> at Whitman on January 6th, 7:30 – 8:30 pm

Please fill out this form and return it along with cash or check preferably by 10/20 to
Hilary Joel: 13 Pepperell Court, Bethesda, MD 20817. Questions: hwjoel@verizon.net
All checks should be made payable to Walt Whitman All Sports Boosters.



TEST SELECTION: SAT (\$25) OR ACT (\$25) OR SAT and ACT (\$40)

Email address required for confirmation and test-day instructions (please write clearly).

NAME: _____

PARENT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Whitman Calendar of Events – October and November 2009

Oct. 1Battle of the Classes, 7 pm	Oct. 20PTSA Meeting, 6:45 pm, and Speaker, 7:30 pm	Nov. 11Report Cards Distributed
Oct. 2Early Release Day K-12	Oct. 21UMD Math Competition	Nov. 12ACT Interpretation Meeting, 7:30 pm
Oct. 2Homecoming Football Game, 6:30 pm	Oct. 22CAC meeting, 1:15 pm	Nov. 14Whitman Crew Team Silent Auction & Dinner
Oct. 3Homecoming Dance, 8:30 – 11:30 pm	Oct. 28New Driver and Parent Meeting, 7 pm	Nov. 19CAC Meeting, 1:15 pm
Oct. 5HSA Biology	Oct. 29Instrumental Fall Concert, 7 pm	Nov. 19-21Into the Woods Musical, 7:30 pm
Oct. 6HSA Algebra	Oct. 30First Marking Period Ends	Nov. 22Into the Woods Musical, 2 pm
Oct. 7HSA Government	Oct. 31Practice ACT, 8:30 am	Nov. 24Winter Sports Parent/Coach Meeting, 6:30 pm
Oct. 12School Visitation Day K-12	Nov. 2No school – Professional Day	Nov. 25Early Release Day K-12
Oct. 14PSAT Administered, Grades 9, 10, 11	Nov. 3Intercultural Parent Meeting, 7 pm	Nov. 26-27No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct. 16No School – MSTA Convention	Nov. 5Blood Drive	

For more details on events, go to Whitman Calendar Central: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/whitmanhs/general/calendar.shtml>

Walt Whitman High School
7100 Whittier Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20817-6199

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