

# Around the Schools

... a publication for and about Westlake City Schools employees

## Election experiences

In anticipation of the Nov. 4 general election, Westlake students are taking part in a variety of activities providing hands-on learning opportunities.

Parkside and LBMS students "registered" to vote in preparation for a Nov. 3 mock election. The 8th grade is organizing a mock debate for Oct. 30, which will be aired to students at both buildings.

All classes have been assigned specific states they will represent in the election. LBMS teachers will represent Alaska, while Parkside teachers will represent Hawaii. All other staff members at both schools will represent the District of Columbia.

At WHS, last week seniors participated in a League of women Voters Cuyahoga Area Q&A mock election forum with Cuyahoga County Commissioner candidates Peter Lawson-Jones and Deborah Sutherland. The students cast votes the next day and elected Lawson-Jones for commissioner and Barack Obama for President.

AP Government students also are volunteering on campaigns for a class project.

## Treasurer/CFO of the Year

Mark C. Pepera, CFO/Treasurer for the Westlake City School District, is the 2008 recipient of the Foundation for School Business management's Outstanding CFO/Treasurer of the Year award.

The award recognizes the accomplishments of Ohio's public school business officials. Award nominees were judged on three key criteria: service to the school system, service to the professional and service to the community.

In his nomination letter for Pepera, Westlake Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. said Pepera's "commitment to balancing the district's mission of excellence, protecting the children of Westlake and representing the taxpayers of this community is without question."

"Mr. Pepera works diligently to understand what is necessary to see students succeed and works equally as hard to show the community how this can be done responsibly within a budget representing the values of all district stakeholders," Dr. Keenan wrote. "Mr. Pepera continues to proactively address the district's fiscal needs and demonstrates a high level of professionalism that serves as a great example for all within the district."

Pepera has been with the Westlake Schools since 1999.

## Facilities resources online

Dr. Keenan is making the rounds to all buildings to better educate our staff about the state of the district's facilities and the process the district is going through to communicate our needs/wants to the community. There are several informational pieces available online at <http://www.westlake.k12.oh.us/facilities/>, including the PowerPoint used at the community forums, timeline of events, community form podcast and reports from Lesko Architecture' and the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission. The volunteer Vision 20/20 committee also continues meeting this week.

## 'You Can't Take It With You'

The WHS Drama club presents "You Can't Take It With You" by Kaufman and Hart as its fall show. The show will be held Nov. 13-15 at 7pm at the PAC. General admission is \$6 at the door. Bring three of any of the following items to donate to the Westlake Assistance Program and receive \$1 off admission: canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, canned meats, canned/package meals, baked beans, paper products, laundry detergent, Jell-o, hot chocolate mixes, canned ravioli/Spaghetti-O's or canned soups.

# WHS Choir Invitational

The WHS Vocal Music Department presents the 2008 Show Choir Invitational on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. at the PAC. The event will feature show choirs from Bay Village, North Royalton, Rocky River and Strongsville high schools, along with Westlake's own Company D. Special guest is the WHS Jazz Band. Tickets are \$6 at the door.



Staff Professional Development Day on Oct. 1 was a continuation of many of the ideas first introduced in September: projectors and online resources, value added data, autism strategies, united streaming, STEM integrated units, MAX Teaching. November's professional development day will be devoted to STEM units, formative assessments and repose to intervention, Max Teaching strategies, block scheduling and diversity experiences to prepare students for the 21st century marketplace.

## WCSD seeks translators

The WCSD is looking for volunteers who speak languages other than English and would be willing to translate school district forms in other languages.

If you are interested in volunteering, please forward your name, address, phone number, email and languages you can speak, read or translate to the Pupil Services office. Or email [HumphreyS@wlake.org](mailto:HumphreyS@wlake.org) or call (440) 250-1264.

Around the Schools is published weekly online by the Westlake City Schools communications department. Please forward information for publication to Communications Coordinator Kim Bonvissuto at the Administration Building, or call (440) 250-1258 or email [bonvissuto@wlake.org](mailto:bonvissuto@wlake.org). Deadline for submitting materials is Wednesday at Noon. The Westlake City School District is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, political affiliation or disability.

The WCSD is compiling a resource of volunteer surrogate parents to represent students with disabilities who don't have parents or legal guardians to represent their interests in school matters.

When parents of a child with disabilities are involved and informed, they are an extra assurance that the stu-

dent will receive needed educational services. But some students with disabilities don't have that parental representation and need surrogate parents.

A one-day training in the Surrogate Parent Training Program by the state is required of anyone who wants to become a

surrogate parent. Surrogate parents provide permission for certain special education procedures, review a child's assessment/evaluation data and educational places, take part in school meetings and is involved in the child's ongoing educational process. Contact the Pupil Service office at (440) 250-1264 for info.

## Surrogate parents needed

## Great Programming on WHBS

- Oct. 27 A: Varsity girls soccer playoff #2 (10/20)  
B: The Professional Series: Channel 3 Tom Beres (10/13)
- Oct. 28 A: WHS choir concert (10/20)  
B: League of Women Voters: Candidates Night (10/23)
- Oct. 29 A: Varsity boys soccer playoff #2 (10/22)  
B: Pregame & halftime v. Olmsted Falls (10/10)
- Oct. 30 A: League of Women Voters: Candidates's Night (10/23)  
B: Final Kickoff Cookout at Outback Steakhouse
- Oct. 31 A: Varsity football v. Brecksville (10/24)  
B: The Demon Zone: Episode #9
- Nov. 1 A: Varsity football v. Brecksville (10/24)  
B: The Demon Zone: Episode #9
- Nov. 2 A: Varsity football v. Brecksville (10/24)  
B: The Demon Zone: Episode #9

**Program A begins at: 8am, Noon, 4pm, 8pm, Midnight, 4am**  
**Program B begins at: 10:10am, 2:10pm, 6:10pm, 10:10pm, 2:10am, 6:10am**  
**WHBS sponsor credits begin at: 7:50am, 3:50pm, 7:50pm, 11:50pm, 3:50am**