



Wiregrass Ranch High School  
2909 Mansfield Boulevard  
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33543

## Newsletter-February 2015 From the Principal.....Robyn White

Congratulations to all students, parents, teachers and staff for WRHS earning the state's highest school grade ranking on an "A School" for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. With almost 700 Advanced Placement Exams scheduled for this school year, hundreds more of our students earning on campus and off campus PHCC Dual Enrollment college credit, many of our students earning Industry Certifications in our IT Academy and Academy of Medical Professionals and certificates in our very popular Culinary Arts program, our students are leaving WRHS college or career ready. Even though WRHS is over crowded, we continue to maximize student success every day.

As February and March activities are planned, please continue to check our very informative website for important events. Also, WRHS is connected with Facebook, Twitter and there is a downloadable App on our website for students and parents to access and stay connected 24/7 with WRHS information. The class of 2015 senior activities are posted on the website and seniors should visit Scholarship Information located on our Guidance Page. Seniors and senior parents should be completing the FAFSA process as they start receiving acceptance letters to colleges. Seniors should also make sure they are meeting all graduation requirements and continue to have good grades and attendance to be eligible to attend prom, Grad Bash and the Senior Lock-in. Remember, these activities are privileges earned with good grades, attendance and behavior (no OSS) to be able to attend graduation events. Registration for the 2015-2016 school year starts soon. Please visit our course directory information on the front page of our website for information on classes offered. College bound students should try to take the most rigorous courses offered at WRHS. WRHS offers 23 Advanced Placement courses on campus, plus many on campus Dual Enrollment classes through PHCC. College bound juniors should start scheduling ACT and SAT tests for the spring dates. WRHS offers several SAT and ACT tests on campus during the year.

We appreciate our parent support. Contact WRHS @ 813-346-6000 or visit our website @ <http://wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us>

Teacher hours - 7:00 - 2:30 pm

Classes in session - 7:25 - 1:56 pm

Student Services - 7:00 - 3:00 pm

Administration office hours - 7:00 - 4:00 pm

### Supervision of Students

Florida Statue 1003.31 (d)(2) states that students must be under the control and direction of the principal or designee no longer than 30 minutes before or after school hours while on our campuses or while participating in an authorized school-sponsored activity. Parents should not rely on school supervision outside the time limits of such policy.

### WRHS is an "A" School

#### WRHS is An "A" School, Again

Congratulations to our entire school community for the State's "A" school rating again this year (4th year in a row). We are all proud to call ourselves WRHS BULLS !

### Black History Month

As part of Wiregrass Ranch Black History Month events, A Cultural Diversity Expo will be held February 26th during all lunches and from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The Theme will be Wiregrass Ranch: A Passport to the World. There will be booths set-up representing different countries. Each booth will feature native food, cultural displays, and costumes.

### Stay connected to WRHS

Stay connected to Wiregrass Ranch High from anywhere in the world via our Twitter page, Facebook page, Google Plus page and our Schoolinfo App and our website. Now, you can get short reminders via Remind. To sign up, simply text the message @wrhschool to the number 81010. You will begin receiving reminder text messages from WRHS. Let us know if you have any questions.

### School Choice

School Choice Applications will be accepted from February 1st through March 1st only for the 2015/16 school year. An electronic version of the School Choice Open Enrollment form will be available on the district web site starting February 1 ([www.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us)). Out-of-county students must complete a new form annually. Wiregrass Ranch High School will be frozen for School Choice.

### Yearbooks

Yearbooks are still on sale for \$75. Place your order at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com), or visit Ms. Martin in room 4-104. We will not order extra copies this year. This means you will need to order a copy to receive a yearbook. Don't miss out! Order your copy today!

### Student Attendance and Testing

All children are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term. This becomes especially important in the next few months as we enter testing season. During the months of March, April and May there will be students testing daily. As we get closer to the test dates, you will be informed. All students should plan to be in school until the last day as district exams are required for all students. Please do your best to stay well and attend school. Parents should plan trips outside of required school days and plan appointments accordingly, as much as possible. Please check the website for further testing information as it becomes available.

### FBLA

WRHS FBLA is heading to the State Leadership Conference on March 19-22-Orlando Florida where students will compete with other students from the State of Florida.

Competitions students are entered in are: Business Ethics, Mobile App Development, Word Processing, Job Interview, Digital Design, and Game Programming. We wish to say thank you to our community, our business partners and the staff of Wiregrass High school for your support and encouragement

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. and join us for this wonderful evening! See you there!

### Art News

There is a 3D art exhibit in the school's media center. There are works created with a variety of materials, paper mache, wire and plaster. Congratulations to the following People's Choice Award winners! 1st Place- *Doodle Bob* by Roudayna Boudib 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-*Bright Idea* by Jason Teegarden 3<sup>rd</sup> Place winners *Under the Sea* by Laci West and *White Swans* by Kayla Delafield & Alexandra Desruisseaux. Honorable Mentions are *Bruce Lee* by Kaipo Freitas, *Moon and Stars* by Emily Cox, *Splash* by Amanda Komsky, *Spiderman* by Jason Teegarden, All are welcome to view the 3D art show.

In January, our 3D students displayed photographs and art works at the Suncoast Arts Fest held at the Shops at Wiregrass. Many of the National Art Honor Society students volunteered at the children's garden area, which was full of fun art activities or helped with the professional artist area. The Suncoast Art fest also sponsored a trip to Portfolio Day held at the Ringling School of art on January 25th. Advanced Placement art students and parents attended this.

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Art schools from all around the world were there to critique the students' portfolios. There was also information on art career opportunities and scholarships.

The art department is very thankful for the Suncoast Art Fest 2015 Classroom Grant that will bring Technology to the art room and to the Pasco Education Foundation for the Creative Teaching Grant, which will supply needed materials for student art learning stations. The students are excited to start using the items when they arrive to the art room.

## **Cheerleading News**

Wiregrass Ranch Cheerleading has been having a successful competition season. Both Junior Varsity and Varsity teams qualified for the National High School Cheerleading Championships for the second year in a row. Nationals will be held at ESPN Wide World of Sports on February 7, 2015. In addition, Junior Varsity placed 2nd at Best of Pasco Competition and Varsity placed 3rd. At Regionals, held at Flagler High School on January 17, Varsity was Regional Runner Up for Region 2. With that placement, Varsity has advanced directly to Finals at States on January 31, 2015. GO BULLS!!

## **FCCLA**

Wiregrass Ranch chapter of FCCLA (Family, Career, Community Leaders of America) is proud to announce winners at the District VI STAR Events Competition in December.

Culinary Team: 2nd Place Colin Hennessey, Dakota Brown, Austin Hill

Career Investigation: 1st Place Duaa Omari

Life Event Planning: 1st Place Terra Brown, Jennifer Roberts

First Place winners will move on to State Competition March 6 – 9, 2015 in Orlando, Florida.

## **Special Olympics**

Our InD classes are getting ready for this year's summer special Olympic games on 2/23/2015 @ Wesley Chapel. The students are excited. All we need now are uniforms and equipment for our soccer team.

## **9th Annual Long Run at the Ranch**

The Long Run at the Ranch 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run will be held on March 7th this year. This is the longest running 5K in the Wesley Chapel area, and has been conducted every year we have been open. The proceeds from the race benefit the athletic programs of both WRHS and JLMS. Go to [www.longrunattheranch.org](http://www.longrunattheranch.org) for more information and for a link to online registration or to print out an entry form. For more information call Don Howard at WRHS, 346-6000.

## **Mentors/Safety Proctors**

Wiregrass Ranch High School has been working non-stop to create and provide interventions to a population of our school that needs urgent attention. These are the students that are silent, not motivated and feel that life has pushed them aside. Many of them have no discipline issues at all but are failing classes.

I would like to call on the school community to offer help in volunteering for an one-on-one mentoring program. We are looking for adults that can serve as role models and that can commit to working with a student **to motivate, challenge and inspire them to do their best. They need someone that is going to believe in them and help them set goals.** Contact Ms. Vergne at 346-6000, if you would like to mentor a student.

In addition to mentors, our school is also looking for parents that would like to volunteer to become part of the supervision system on the grounds at WRHS. If you would like to be part of the safety proctor system, please contact Mrs. White at 813-346-6000. Safety proctors will conduct rounds every period at each of the proctor stations/areas and immediately report any risk and/or concerns to the appropriate officials. The safety proctors will work very closely with Discipline Instructional Assistants and administration. If interested in becoming a mentor and/or a safety proctor, please complete the volunteer application found at the Pasco County website and contact the school to express your interest.

## **Athletic Boosters**

The next General Membership Meeting of the WRHS Athletic Booster

is Wednesday, February 25th, 2015 at 7:00pm in the WRHS cafeteria. Hope to see you there.

## **PTSA News**

As the school year progresses, PTSA continues to work hard to bring programs and activities for our students, teachers and parents.

### **SAT PRINCETON REVIEW PRACTICE TEST AND STRATEGY SESSION:**

It is being held on **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10:30am to 5:30pm** in the Cafeteria. Lunch will be included. The fee for the entire day is \$15 pre-pay by February 20<sup>th</sup> and \$20 at the door. This is a great way to help prepare for the real SAT. Forms are located on our PTSA website, school's website and in Student Services. If you need further information please contact Angela Palmer at [ampalmer68@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:ampalmer68@tampabay.rr.com).

### **WRHS PTSA SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE!!!!**

Each year the PTSA awards scholarships to deserving graduating seniors. This year a total of eight scholarships in the amount of \$350 each are being offered. A high GPA is not necessarily required (3.0 Weighted GPA minimum). Applications are available on-line at [www.wiregrasspts.org](http://www.wiregrasspts.org), at our school's website and in Student Services. Applications **must be turned in no later than Friday April 3, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.**

### **WRHS PTSA SCHOOL WIDE RESOURCE GRANT RECIPIENTS AWARDED**

The WRHS PTSA was able to raise funds for its newly established School Wide Resource Grant program, where Wiregrass Ranch teachers and staff were able to apply for funds for activities and equipment that support innovative and enriched programs in which Wiregrass Ranch students may participate. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, at their General Assembly Meeting the PTSA awarded this year's grant recipients as follows:

**Mr. Patrick Duncan – Director of Band.** His grant was approved for \$1,500 to purchase Harmony Director. Harmony Director is a teaching tool that will be used to increase student awareness of chord structure and intonation. Our WRHS Band, Chorus and Orchestra will be benefiting from this grant.

**Mrs. Angela Jeschke- Digital Photography Teacher.** Her grant was approved for \$1,500 to purchase twenty one (21) Editing Like a Pro Tablets. These tablets will assist our WRHS students edit to a higher standard.

### **PTSA NATIONAL REFLECTIONS PROGRAM**

This year WRHS had 73 entries; 37 visual arts, 30 photography, four literature, one music and one film. This was the first year we received entries in the film and music categories. The winners are: Photography: Erin Brenner, first; Broc Fischer, second; Alejandro Lopez, third; and Gina Borbon, honorable mention. Visual Arts: Jacob Teegarden, first; Sara Sofia Rentas, second; Alyssa Cenicola, third; and Enita Lee, honorable mention. Literature: Vanessa Henry, first; Mackenzie Kubiak, second, Music Composition: Ryan DeVroeg, honorable mention. Film: Victoria Spaw, honorable mention. Winner entries at the school level are now currently being judged in the countywide competition. Winners will be notified in early February.

### **WRHS PTSA's WINTER CLOTHES/BLANKET/TOILETRIES DRIVE**

The Drive was a huge success! Thank you for all the donations. Before the winter break your PTSA delivered a van full of items to Pasco High School to distribute amongst its students and its feeder pattern schools. A HUGE thank you to the **Key Club** for helping collect deodorant and the **Drama Club** for helping with the winter/blanket drive. As always, thank you for your continuous support! Mari C. Blank, PTSA President



## **DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY**

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

School Board Members: Steve Luikart Joanne Hurley, Allen Altman, Cynthia Armstrong and Allison Crumbley  
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