



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

Newsletter-October 2014

From the Principal.....Robyn White

October looks to be a very busy month at the Ranch ending with Homecoming activities the week of October 27th. Homecoming is an exciting week of events for all students, staff and the community. Everything from dress-up days, competitions, parades, a Fall Festival and homecoming court, to a Saturday night dance; plus the Big football game! Check out the homecoming events on our website for all the information, dates and times. We also have two important tests on campus during this month: FCAT retakes, October 6th through 17th; the PSAT for all Sophomores, plus the Juniors who paid for the test is October 15th; Dates and times are included in this newsletter or contact Student Services for more details. Most recently, WRHS class of 2015 has Olivia Sunna as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist. She scored in the top 1% of all students who took the PSAT their Junior year. Congratulations to Olivia and all our students as they work hard to become successful. Finally, please remind your child that WRHS has 2356 students and they should always secure their expensive possessions such as cell phones, I-pods, wallets, etc. It is unfortunate that students leave expensive property unsecured in the lunchroom, classroom and locker room, allowing these items to come up missing. Students need to be responsible to prevent theft. We look forward to seeing everyone during Homecoming week.

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

Teacher hours - 7:00 - 2:30 pm

Student Services - 7:00 - 3:00 pm

Classes in session - 7:30 - 1:55 pm

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

School Advisory Council

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Wiregrass Ranch High School 2014/15 School Advisory Council. This group serves as a steering committee to enhance and improve our school and is composed of students, parents, faculty and staff, and the business community. All parents are invited to attend and participate in SAC meetings, which are held in the WRHS Administrative Conference Room. Check our website calendar for dates and times. Garrett Clifford, Amie Fraser, Alena Harding and Courtney Kim are the student representatives while Cari Bennett, Mari Blanc, Carol Brower, Sue Bucenell, Dyan Chitty, Terrie Hippely, Noel Martinez, Michelle Mudge, Althea Stewart, Dean Tindall, Carlos Vera, and Chuck Williamson will represent parents. Jackie Choo represents the District School Board and Jan Roberts and Tarek Yordi are our Business/Community representatives. Faculty and staff representatives are Robyn White, Alisa Cimino, Nicole Minott and Linda Sherwood.

Notification of Out-Of-Field Teachers

Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in at least one area and qualified to teach but, are required to take additional course work or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. The state also requires a teacher to take coursework/in-service towards an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement, when the teacher is the primary language arts provider and/or reading teacher for the ESOL student. The following teachers have agreed to work towards the ESOL endorsement: Patricia Bacon (English 1), Darby Harvey (Intensive Reading) Lawanda Hudson (Access Science, English, Social Studies, Math), Da'Ondra Martin (English 1, Yearbook), Carla McLeod (English 2), Alyssa Diaz (English 3), Heather Erridge (English 1 & 2) Kristina Hulbert-Porter (English 2 and ENC 1101/1102) and Rebecca Norman (Intensive Reading). (10/1/14)

Requisitos para la enseñanza "fuera de campo" Los maestros que enseñan fuera de su campo están certificados en por lo menos un área, y están calificados para enseñar, pero necesitan tomar cursos adicionales o pruebas para ampliar la cobertura/endorso de su certificado. Cuando el maestro es el proveedor primario de enseñanza de Artes del Lenguaje y/o el maestro de lectura de un estudiante ESOL, el estado también requiere que el maestro tome cursos/servicio interno para el endoso de Inglés para Personas que Hablan Otros Idiomas (ESOL). Los siguientes maestros han estado de acuerdo en trabajar para obtener el endoso de ESOL: Patricia Bacon (English 1), Darby Harvey (intensive Reading) Lawanda Hudson (Access Science, English, Social Studies, Math), Da'Ondra Martin (English 1, Yearbook), Carla McLeod (English 2), Alyssa Diaz (English 3), Heather Erridge (English 1 & 2) Kristina Hulbert-Porter (English 2 and ENC 1101/1102) and Rebecca Norman (Intensive Reading). (1 - Octubre 2014)

Calendar

District Planning Day-no school	10/20
Report Cards	10/27
Progress Reports	11/17
Thanksgiving Holidays-no school	11/24-11/28

October FCAT

October FCAT 2.0 Reading Retakes-FCAT, Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, retakes will be administered October 6th through October 17th. These test dates are for Juniors and Seniors who have moved to Florida and have not taken the FCAT, Juniors and Seniors who have not passed FCAT, and retained Sophomores who have not passed FCAT. All students who are scheduled for FCAT retakes will receive testing information, including precise dates and locations, from their teachers. Students are encouraged to get a good night's rest and eat breakfast before coming to school on testing days.

Athletic Passes

Wiregrass Ranch High School athletics will once again be selling season passes for all home contests for the 2014-15 school year. A family pass is \$100.00, an adult pass is \$50.00 and a student pass is \$25.00. The pass is good for admission to all regular season home athletic events excluding playoff events. Call Dave Wilson at 813-346-6052 for more information or just stop by school to purchase one.

Homecoming/Fall Festival Tailgate Party

Come one, come all! Wiregrass Ranch High School is having a Fall Festival, Friday October 31, 2014 from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM. There will be games, music and food. We are encouraging you to bring your children, grand-children, nieces, and nephews to a safe environment to trick or treat. Kids will be able to show off their costumes. There will be different booths for playing games and collecting candy. We will be selling tickets for games, pre-selling dinners or food from the a la carte booth. A dinner will cost \$7.00, which will include admittance in to the festival and your choice of a 1/4 lb. hamburger or 1/4 lb. hot dog, with three sides (potato salad, baked beans, and potato chips) a drink and dessert. If you would not like to pre-order a dinner, there are other items available for purchase. The cost to enter the festival will be \$2.00 a person or a donation of one canned food item per person. After the festival, join our WRHS Bulls football team for the homecoming game against Freedom High School. We look forward to seeing you at the Fall Festival at Wiregrass Ranch High School's Softball Field. Entrance to the football game is not included in the price of the festival.

Student Recognition

Wiregrass Ranch is happy to announce that Olivia Sunna is a semi finalist for the National Merit Scholarship Program. The scholarship is conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) and is an annual academic competition that can award qualifying students money for college. Students who take the PSAT in their junior year are entered into the competition. Students who score exceptionally well on the PSAT have a chance to earn one of the National Merit Scholarships. The NMSC is a non-profit organization that is privately financed by corporate organizations and colleges. Olivia is now entered into the next round of the National Merit Scholarship process and we're hoping that she can become a finalist and earn one of the scholarships.

SADD

News from the WRHS SADD Chapter

Our School has an opportunity to be awarded up to \$100,000 for making a commitment to safe driving. You can help by visiting celebratemydriving.com **daily** from October 15th thru October 24th and vote for our school. It only takes a minute. The WRHS SADD Chapter, PTSA, Faculty, and Administration appreciate your support and encourage all students, parents, staff and community members to vote **daily**. One commitment per person and per e-mail address is allowed per day. Drive safely and please don't text and drive.

ABC (Assist, Believe and Care)

The ABC committee is starting to prep for the upcoming holiday season and we'd like to share some information with our Wiregrass families. ABC stands for Assist, Believe, Care and the goal of our program is to try to address those barriers that may interfere with the educational success of a child. The program does this by providing support to students and their families that are experiencing economic hardship or in an immediate family crisis. This year we are hoping to get the community and local businesses involved to support these needs during the holidays and throughout the year. If you would like to participate, are looking for assistance, or would like further information please contact Matthew Felderman or Rod Jones at 813-346-6000.

Cold/Flu Season

Attention, Parents and Students: Cold and Flu season are approaching. Please keep your student home if they are showing symptoms of illness. Please follow the school district's policies when submitting an excuse for your student's absence due to illness. Please call the school attendance clerk immediately to report the absence or submit an excuse/doctor's note within 3 days of your student's return to school.

Yearbook information

Seniors – have your parents ordered your Senior ad in the yearbook yet? Ads are only on sale until December 1, 2014. Don't miss out on this great opportunity! These are the days you will want to remember forever. Remind your parents to buy your yearbook today! Yearbooks are on sale for \$70, and we will only order copies for students who purchase in advance. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Martin in room 4-104.

FNS News

New in the Cafeteria—Now taking debit cards during all lunches.

Art News

Students displayed works at the 9/11 Community Remembrance held at Sims Park in New Port Richey, FL. The presentation began at 7pm on September 11th. Artists that participated are Josh Anderson, Brittany Ruiz, Kaitlyn Merryman, Sashi Fuentes, Kathryn Shaw, Tiana Rodriguez, Joshua Solt, Kati Helton, Shane Bucenell, Bella Huffman, Nichole Heller, Sarah Murphy, Alyssa Cenicola, Elena Lee, Enita Lee, Erin Eybers, and Angelina Phongsy. The students will be given a certificate for participating. Art students are now working on the PTSA Reflections Program, which is a fun contest that allows students to express themselves through various works of art! The theme this year is "The world would be a better place if..." So far this year, the art department welcomed two informative speakers, a representative from the Ringling School of Art and Mr. Kurt Holyoke, an artist and PHSC art instructor.

A BIG thank you to all of the students and parents who brought in supplies to the art room and a special thanks to Mr. Ravenna and Mrs. Forsythe for

donating to the Donors Choose.org project "Working SAFE With Wire Like Calder & Giacometti". I also have another project on the site "Art Learning Stations".

Coming Soon... "We are Thankful for Art" Book Fair at Barnes & Noble, November 20th from 5pm to 8pm. Part of the sales that evening will go back to the Fine Arts Department. There will be "Artist In Action", Drama Improvisation, Music, Face Painting, Story Time and Free Gift Wrapping for the Holidays. We hope to see everyone there!

PSAT

PSAT will be administered on Wednesday October 15th, 2014 here at Wiregrass Ranch High School. This is the official pre-test given by CollegeBoard, it is offered once a year and is the only way for Juniors to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program. We have a limited amount of tickets for 9th and 11th grade students, so they will be sold on a first come-first serve basis. All 10th grade students will be tested for free. Tickets for 9th and 11th grade students are \$15.00 and can be purchased according to the following schedule:

Juniors only:

Sold on September 29th and 30th in cafeteria first 20 minutes of all lunches
October 1st-3rd, in student services

All 9th and 11th grade students:

October 6th and 7th, in cafeteria first 20 minutes of all lunches
October 8th-10th, student services

Upon registration, students will receive a review booklet. Please be sure they take some time to look at this information prior to the test.

PTSA

Your PTSA was very busy during last month's Open House. Thank you to all who stopped by our table to purchase WRHS spirit wear, PTSA membership, Princeton Review ACT Practice Test, pizza and beverages. Also, a special thank you to Little Caesar's Pizza for donating the pizza.

On September 27th we had a wonderful turnout at the Princeton Review Strategy and ACT Practice Test. Thank you to Hungry Howie's Pizza for providing the pizza for the students. If you missed this one or weren't able to attend, don't worry, we will be scheduling the Princeton Review Practice SAT in January 2015. For more information and as the date gets closer, please visit our website at www.wiregrassptsa.org.

Wiregrass Ranch High School PTSA is once again participating in the National PTA Reflections Program. We are very proud and happy with the results WRHS students received in previous years. The theme for this year is "The world would be a better place if...". We invite you to express yourself in any of the categories. Participating is easy! Reflect on the theme. Create an original work. Be recognized! **Deadline is Monday, October 6th!** Visit our website for entry forms and rules.

PTSA is teaming up with our school to bring you an anti-social media bullying program on **Tuesday, October 28th** at the Center of the Arts at Wesley Chapel which is located on the east side of Wesley Chapel High School Campus. We sure hope you can attend this very informative program.

Lastly, we would like to thank the following PTSA Sponsors: Plato's Closet, The Right Fit Foundation, Farina Orthodontics, Publix Supermarkets and Bonefish Grill.

As always, thank you for supporting your WRHS PTSA,

Mari C. Blank

PTSA President



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

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

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