



Wolcott High-Lights

Wolcott High School - 457 Bound Line Road - Wolcott, CT 06716

Dr. Robert E. Eberle, Principal ----- Volume XI
Mr. Walter J. Drewry, Assistant Principal ----- Issue 2
Mr. Steven K. LePage, Assistant Principal ----- November, '09

WHS MISSION STATEMENT: Wolcott High School provides a positive learning environment where students are engaged in meaningful learning that develops the intellectual, creative, social, technological and physical skills necessary to prepare them for the next phase of their lives.

Principal's Message

Again this year, the administration and faculty are meeting regularly in Professional Learning Communities (PLC). The purpose of these meetings is to enable administrators, faculty and staff to work collaboratively to create shared goals, assess student understanding and learning, and improve teaching practices. This year our primary focus is on developing Common Formative Assessments (CFA) to enhance student performance on both the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) and SAT. Common Formative Assessments (CFA) are periodic or interim assessments that are collaboratively designed by grade-level or course teams and administered to all students in the content area throughout the year. Student results are then analyzed by teachers in PLC Data Teams in order to guide instructional and better meet the learning needs of all students.

The benefits of developing and administering CFA are numerous. First and foremost, they enable regular and timely feedback regarding student attainment of the most critical standards. Second, the process encourages the deliberate alignment of classroom, school, district, and state assessments to better prepare students for success on both state and national assessments. Third, CFA results provide teachers with predictive data regarding how students are likely to do on each succeeding assessment in time for teachers to make instructional modifications. I am pleased that we continue to involve our entire faculty in this collaborative learning process and I will provide updates throughout the year as we implement our CFA.

Warm regards, Dr. Robert E. Eberle

Peer Helper News

The Wolcott High School Peer Helpers have started this school year off in full force. Currently, we have 30 peer helpers. Peer Helpers are students that assist fellow students' transition into the school, provide tutoring and serve as positive role models in the school.


The Peer Helpers have planned a number of activities this year to increase student awareness concerning significant events or topics that directly affect adolescents. Starting in October (October 23-30), the Peer Helpers kicked off Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. It is an opportunity for communities and individuals to be committed to being advocates for drug prevention and education. It also gives people the chance to be personally committed to living a drug free life. During this week we asked students to fill out Red Ribbons with positive drug free messages. We had an overwhelming response from students. Parents were also asked during parent night to write ribbons to students to remain drug and alcohol free. These ribbons were distributed to students and community members as a positive reminder Wolcott schools are committed to supporting a drug free environment. Thank you to our local community supporters Dunkin Donuts, Walsh's IGA and Mountain Top Liquors for allowing students to distribute these ribbons.

In addition the Peer Helpers visited the first graders at Wakelee Elementary School to educate students on Halloween safety. Campaign funded by Naugatuck Savings Bank Foundation.



Should you have questions regarding Peer Helpers, please feel free to contact Jill Fontanella, School Social Worker or Kristin Sweeney-Bizier, School Psychologist at 879-8157.

WHS Helps Coat Drive

Once again this year, WHS will be assisting Brownie Troop 64126 with their annual "One Warm Coat" Drive. There will be a box for collecting gently used or new coats in the WHS lobby during the week of  November 16-20. All coats will be picked-up on Nov. 20 and distributed to those in need through the Acts 4 Ministry in Waterbury. Thank you for any donations you can provide.

Important Attendance Reminder

The Parent/Guardian must call the school's Attendance Office on the day the student is absent. In the absence of a phone call, a note signed by the parent must be delivered to the Attendance Office within **two (2) days** of the student's absence; otherwise the absence shall be considered **unexcused**.

The Parent/Guardian should submit a copy of a doctor's medical excuse in the event of a student's extended illness.

Policy for Making up Work After Absences

As stated in the WHS Handbook, **"Students should realize that the responsibility and initiative in making up missed work must rest primarily with the student."** In the case of a student being out of school for an extended illness, work can be collected through the Main Office by calling 879-8164, ext. 12. However, this is for students who are out for **3 or more days** in a row. The student can get the missed work more quickly once they return if they are out for only 1 or 2 days. Once homework has been requested through the


Main Office it will take between 1-3 days for all the work to be collected. Students/parents can email the teachers directly for work in the case of a 1-2 day absence.

Please keep in mind that teachers have only the beginning or end of the day to put together make-up work. The rest of their day is spent teaching or preparing for classes. If there are any further questions on this policy, please call the above number for clarification.

Parent Action Council Fundraiser

The WHS Parent Action Council is sponsoring a fundraising event at Wendy's on Wolcott Road in Waterbury, Tuesday, December 15, 2009 from 5-7 p.m. PAC will receive 20% of all the sales during this time, so please encourage everyone you know to go out for dinner that night!

Save the Date!

- Nov. 20: Powder Puff Football Game sponsored by Student Council, 6:30 p.m. 
- Nov. 23: Board of Ed. Meeting - WHS Resource Center, 7:30 p.m.,
- Nov. 25: Early Dismissal at 12:00 noon.
- Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving Recess
- Nov. 27: Victory Dance - Chippanee Golf Club
- Dec. 1&2: Parent Nights for ordering Sophomore Class Rings, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 3: 8th Grade Curriculum & Activities Night, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 7: Spring Musical song & lines auditions - 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- Dec. 8: PAC Meeting, WHS Resource Center, 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 8: Fall Sports Banquet - Aqua Turf
- Dec. 10: Music Dept. Holiday Concert, 7:00 p.m. - WHS auditorium, (snow date 12/17)
- Dec. 13: Spring Musical dance auditions, 5-8 p.m., auditorium/stage
- Dec. 14: Board of Ed. Meeting, WHS Resource Center, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 15: NHS Holiday Party for Special Ed. students in the district - all day, WHS Resource Center (snow date 12/17)
- Dec. 15: PAC Fundraiser at Wendy's, 5-7 p.m.
- Dec. 23: Early Dismissal at 12:00 noon
- Dec. 24-Jan. 3: Holiday Recess-return 1/4/10

