

WACO

PARENT LETTER

22 October 2009 — Volume 41, Number 8

"The mission of the WACO Community School District is to develop responsible, productive citizens who view learning as a lifelong process. WACO's educational environment encourages continuous improvement, problem-solving, measurable outcomes, and community involvement."

FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS:

LINK TO WACO CLASSES, TEACHERS, GRADES, ASSIGNMENTS, MORE:
<http://powerschool.wacohs.com>

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents of students in the secondary building will have two opportunities to meet with teachers during Parent-Teacher Conferences. The first conference date is **Thursday, October 29**, from 3:40 to 7:40 pm. The second date is **Thursday, November 5**, from 1:40 to 7:40 pm.

Although fall conferences are not scheduled at specific times, parents have two options for seeing their student's teachers. One, parents may arrange a specific conference time with teachers. A telephone call or email to the teacher a few days ahead of time will be the easiest way to schedule specific times. Or, parents may choose to come during the scheduled block of time on either day and meet with teachers as available.

Please contact the secondary office or the counselor's office if there are questions.

RED RIBBON WEEK

WACO High School students will celebrate Red Ribbon Week October 26-30. The purpose of Red Ribbon Week is to encourage students to take a stand against using harmful substances, especially alcohol and tobacco.

Activities for the week include:

Monday, Oct. 26: Wear Red contest. Lunch reading groups will compete to see which group wears the most red.

Tuesday, Oct. 27: Wear Green contest. Lunch reading groups will compete to see which group has the most green.

Wednesday, Oct. 28: Wear Blue Day. Students will receive a glow-in-the-dark bracelet to wear to the ball game that night.

Thursday, Oct. 29: A presentation by the Dale Torpey family will be at 10:15 for grades 9-12 and at 11:10 for students in grades 7-8.

Friday, Oct. 30: Costume Day. Again, students will compete for the most costumes in a reading group. Costume guidelines include no masks, no hats, and appropriate for school and class.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 23

7:00PM: Boys Varsity Football @ Lone Tree

Saturday, October 24

All State Music Auditions @ Fairfield

ACT Test Date

Monday, October 26

10:45AM: Neff Letter Jacket Fitting

Tuesday, October 27

TBA: Girls Varsity Volleyball - Regional - Semi Finals

7:00PM: JH Fall Concert (Vocal and Band)

Wednesday, October 28

End of 1st Quarter

1:40PM: School Event Early Dismissal

7:00PM: Boys Varsity Football - Substate Football Game

Thursday, October 29

4:00PM: High School PT Conferences

6:45PM: Financial Aid Night

Friday, October 30

TBA: Girls Varsity Volleyball - Regional Finals

Saturday, October 31

TBA: Boys/Girls Varsity Cross Country
State Cross Country Meet

ORCHESTRA NEWS:

Just a reminder: The Southeast Iowa Symphony Concert is this **Sunday, October 25th** at 7:30 p.m. at the Iowa Wesleyan College Chapel Auditorium in Mt. Pleasant. Also, for Parent/Teacher conferences, I will be at the high school on Thursday, October 29th and at the elementary school on Thursday, November 5th. Feel free to contact me another time if those times do not work for you. Thanks, Denise Freyenberger

JUNIOR HIGH GROUPS TO GIVE FIRST PERFORMANCES

This coming **Tuesday, October 27th** the WACO Junior High Chorus and Concert Band will present their annual Fall Concert at 7:00 pm in the Wayland Gym. Both ensembles will be giving their debut performances of the 2009-2010 concert season. The WACO High School Jazz Choir will also be performing on this program. This concert is free and open to the public. Directors of the ensembles are: Tom McNamar, Band and Millie Youngquist, Vocal.

WACO HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

Thanks to everyone who helped with the High School Vocal Festival held on Tuesday, October 20th in Wayland. The students gave an outstanding musical performance and I really appreciated the donated food items, student and parent workers and the enthusiastic audience members! I hope to see you at our next concert too!

Sincerely,

Millie Youngquist, WACO Vocal Music Director 7-12

LIBRARY BOOK FAIR

The WACO Libraries will be holding their annual Book Fair Fund Raiser Nov. 2-5. The Fair will be open during regular school hours and in the evening during parent teacher conferences. There will be a wide selection of new books for all ages at both the Wayland and Crawfordsville Centers. This will be an excellent opportunity to purchase educational gifts for the upcoming holidays. Proceeds from the Book Fair will be used to purchase new materials for the library. Hope to see you there!



ATTENTION THE CLASS OF 2010

Students and their parents are invited to a college financial aid presentation at 6:45 p.m. on Thursday, October 29. A representative from the College Planning Center will have information regarding student loans, scholarships, work study and other types of financial aid. Please contact the counselor's office if there are any questions.

BIG THANKS GOES OUT FROM THE MUSIC BOOSTERS

The officers of the WACO Music Boosters and the music teachers would like to thank students in the music program and their parents for their support of the WACO Music programs.

This summer many parents and students worked together in the concession stand at the baseball and softball fields to provide food and drink for the teams and their fans. Their efforts were rewarded with a profit of almost \$4000! The Boosters have set a goal of setting aside \$4000 each year to be saved to help pay for another weekend trip for the high school students, so this goal was already met for this school year with profits from the summer. Last spring high school band and chorus students traveled to Kansas City for a long weekend of performing, learning and fun. It is hoped that another trip can occur in 2013 for the next group of high school students to enjoy. A special thank you goes to Amy Langr, Chris Poe and Shelli Brose for many hours of organizing, purchasing and money counting to make the stand possible.

The Music Boosters also provided hot chocolate to all the band students at the Band Extravaganza on October 16. The students did a wonderful job of showing how their talents progress from the beginners in fifth grade to the high school marching band. Half-time at a football game just wouldn't be the same without a band! Thank you to each parent for providing the encouragement and the instrument for your student to play to continue to keep our WACO band program strong!

The high school chorus and Mrs. Youngquist hosted a vocal festival on Tuesday, October 21 for our choir and choirs from Winfield-Mt. Union, Harmony, Pekin and VanBuren. The students spent the afternoon rehearsing, then stayed for supper served by the Music Boosters, and finished with a concert that included six large group songs and songs performed by each individual choir. Our WACO choir looked and sounded strong, but several of the other choirs were much smaller this year than in the past. Please encourage your students to stay in choir or to give it a try if they enjoy singing. We have a very talented director, but the success of our choir depends on the efforts and attitude of the students. Hopefully our choir felt some well-deserved

pride when they compared themselves to the other groups.

I would also like to thank all the parents who provided food and baked goods to feed the groups, and the students and parents who helped with the meal. Parents helpers were Chris Poe, Jeanne Davis, Tammy Gibbs, Bonnie Kennelly, Greg Stacy, myself, and WACO custodian, Tim McConnell who helped us in many ways.

We also want to express appreciation to those who helped with the fall fundraiser. About \$3000 was raised this year. This money will be used to provide some new string instruments since we now have more students than instruments. Having an such a large orchestra program at our school is really special! We also hope to use some to help with the spring musical, provide rewards and music letters and pins for students, and pay for expenses for contests.

The WACO Music Boosters group was formed over thirty years ago to support the music teachers and programs at WACO. Interested parents of students in the music groups are encouraged to be a part of the group to provide ideas and make decisions about the best ways to spend the money that is raised. The next meeting will be held in the elementary music room on Tuesday, November 10 at 3:45 p.m. If you have ideas or would like to offer to help with the group in the future, please attend if possible, or contact me at 256-3421 or rwfusey@farmtel.net.

Thank you, Wendy Pusey for the WACO Music Boosters

Elementary News

RED RIBBON WEEK

WACO Elementary will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week next week, 10/26-30. Along with receiving an appropriate item each day, we will follow this optional schedule:

Mon., 10/26: "Red Ribbon Day." Wear red.

Tues., 10/27: "Orange You Glad to be Drug Free?" Wear orange.

Wed., 10/28: "Brown Bag Drugs!" Wear brown. Each student will be creating their own slogans, etc. on a brown grocery bag. The bags will be used at Fareway in the future.

Thurs., 10/29: "Grass is Greener on the Drug Free Side." Wear green.

Fri., 10/30: "Drugs Give You the Blues." Wear school colors--blue and white.

Also, on 10/29 at 1:30 fifth and sixth graders only will be hearing from Dale Torpey and his family who will tell about their challenges with substance abuse. Any parents who wish to attend are also invited to the presentation called "We Believe in You" at the elementary school.

LEGION HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

The American Legion Post 593 will be hosting a Halloween Costume Party at the Elementary building in Crawfordsville on Saturday, October 31. It will start at 5:00 PM. Preschoolers through adults are invited to this party. There will be costume class for the Preschool through Sixth grade and Seventh grade through Adult. Coffee, milk and donuts will be served afterwards. Crawfordsville city wide Trick or Treat time will follow the party. While you are out trick or treating, please put safety first.

ABSENTEE/TARDY CALLS TO ELEMENTARY

Parents, please remember to call the school each morning that your child will be gone or late. There is someone in the Elementary office by 7:30 AM to answer the phones. If it is a bus situation, please call Ranee at Central Office (256-6200 option#2).