

WestWord

Wauwatosa West High School
11400 W. Center Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53222
414-773-3000
west.wauwatosa.k12.wi.us

November, 2011

Dear Tosa West Families,

Can you believe we are starting the 2nd quarter already? The month of October was filled with fun and spirit as we celebrated Homecoming. This was truly a community event as students and staff dressed up every day at school. This year was extra special as we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Tosa West. Many alumni and former West teachers attended the game and formal ceremony on Saturday.

On to the month of November, that has many events scheduled as well. We started off the month with WKCE testing for our 10th graders. Just a reminder that we have a late start for all of the other grades on the following days: November 8th at 10:25 am, and November 10th at 9:10 am.

As I write this article, we have the opening of the musical "Footloose". Many of the cast members have expressed to me how well the rehearsals are going. Please try to make it to one of the performances this weekend or next. November also brings about the end of our 1st quarter of school on the 4th. Reports cards will be mailed out on Friday, November 10th, which also happens to be an early release day where students are finished at 11:30am. Staff will remain at school to do professional development.

I want to make everyone aware of a couple important topics that will create substantial changes in the future. First of all, there is a committee of teachers, parents, and administrators looking at possible changes to the secondary schedules. This committee has been charged with the task of creating schedules at the middle and high school that allows students to have more choices in the classes they want to take. There were many other priorities as well including a need for extension/remediation blocks during the school day. The second change has to deal with how we grade students. This fall, every staff member had the opportunity to listen to Dr. Thomas Guskey. Dr. Guskey is a national researcher on grading policies as well as a professor at the University of Kentucky. Some of the topics we are looking at piloting at Tosa West include: not using zeros, grading homework differently, and separating participation and attendance from students' actual grades. Whatever we decide to do we will make sure to communicate to parents.

My best wishes for a healthy and safe month of November.

Sincerely,

Frank Calarco

Frank Calarco
Principal



WKCE Testing for Sophomores

On November 1st, 3rd, 8th and 10th, sophomores will be taking nearly seven hours of tests as part of the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations (WKCE). Many of you are familiar with these state-mandated tests, because your child(ren) took them as eighth or fourth graders. To provide the best possible testing environment, we have adjusted the schedule for Tuesday, November 1st; Thursday, November 3rd; Tuesday, November 8th; and Thursday, November 10th. Please review the following schedule carefully.

SOPHOMORES:

Breakfast can be purchased in the cafeteria at 7:15 a.m. each day. Free and reduced meal eligibility also applies to breakfast. Testing **begins promptly at 8:00 a.m.** The WKCE includes assessments in the areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies, as well as a writing assessment.

FRESHMEN, JUNIORS and SENIORS:

No school-wide testing is scheduled for freshmen, juniors and seniors. Therefore, freshmen, juniors and seniors will report **no later than 10:25 a.m.** on Tuesday, November 1st; Thursday, November 3rd, and Tuesday, November 8th.

Report time for Thursday, November 10th, is **no later than 9:10 a.m.** Please contact your principal if your child will need accommodations due to an adjusted schedule.

Parents can contribute to their child's success by ensuring good attendance throughout the year, and it is equally important that students be in attendance on the days the tests are administered. Please avoid scheduling doctor's appointments and vacations during testing times. Be sure your child gets adequate rest and has a good breakfast every day in order to be alert, concentrate and think critically. Finally, encourage your child to do his/her best and to talk with you about the exams. Your interest and support will show you value his or her effort. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call your child's guidance counselor or one of the administrators.

WKCE Testing Schedule

The 10th grade WKCE testing is scheduled for November 1, November 3, November 8, and November 10.

All sophomores will be in school for the entire day during these test dates. Sophomores will be tested as follows:

Tuesday, November 1

Breakfast 7:15 - 7:50 AM
Testing 8:00 - 10:25 AM

Thursday, November 3

Breakfast 7:15 - 7:50 AM
Testing 8:00 - 10:25 AM

Tuesday, November 8

Breakfast 7:15 - 7:50 AM
Testing 8:00 - 10:25 AM

Thursday, November 10

Breakfast 7:15 - 7:50 AM
Testing 8:00 - 9:10 AM

Freshmen, Juniors and Seniors begin at 10:25 AM on November 1, 3 and 8 and at 9:10 AM on November 10.

If you have any further questions, please contact Lena Patton at 773-3012.



1st Quarter Report Cards

The first quarter of the school year ends on November 4. Grade sheets will be processed and proof read before report cards are printed and mailed on November 9th.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Remember to change your clocks on Sunday, November 6. We "fall back" at 2 a.m. by setting our clock back one hour and thus returning to Standard Time.



EARLY RELEASE DAY NOVEMBER 11

As a reminder, November 11th is an early release day. Students will be released at 11:30 a.m.

ART GALLERY 114

This month in Gallery 114, "The Art of the Prairie". Showing November 3rd through December 3rd, please come to see the collaboration between the National Art Honor Society and Tosa West's Green Team. "The Art of the Prairie" was an open call for entries to all West students to submit art or writing inspired by the Tosa West prairie or nature. On display will be 25 student works related to this topic plus a display that teaches West about the Green Team and how to get involved. Gallery 114 is located in the Tosa West library on the East walls of the Steiner Center. Gallery hours are 8am-4pm. Please come to see this student designed exhibit!



WAUWATOSA WEST HIGH SCHOOL
TROJAN PLAYERS PRESENT

Footloose!

WHEN: 7 P.M. NOV. 4, 5, 11 AND 12
2 P.M. SUNDAY MATINEE, NOV. 6

WHERE: WAUWATOSA WEST HIGH SCHOOL
11400 W. CENTER ST. WAUWATOSA

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WILL OPEN 60 MINUTES PRIOR TO EACH
PERFORMANCE.

Footloose – the Musical Live at Wauwatosa West High School in November!

When Ren and his mother move from big city Chicago to Bomont, a small farming town, Ren is prepared for the adjustment to his new high school. What he isn't prepared for are the local laws - including a ban on dancing - the brainchild of a local preacher bent on exercising control over the town's teenagers. When the Reverend's rebellious daughter sets her heart on Ren, her boyfriend tries to sabotage Ren's reputation and many of the locals are eager to believe the worst about the new kid. With its Oscar'-nominated hit score (the film soundtrack album has sold over 15 million copies worldwide) the celebrated film musical will burst onto the stage in November at Wauwatosa West High School, 11400 W. Center St., Wauwatosa.

Based on the hit 1980s movie (which launched the careers of Kevin Bacon, Sarah Jessica Parker and Jon Lithgow), FOOTLOOSE is filled with classic 80s anthems like Holding Out For A Hero, Almost Paradise, Let's Hear It For The Boy, and the title track, Footloose.

With more than 70 talented cast and crew members, West theater director Tim Catlett said this production will dance its way into the hearts of the audience, and send everyone home singing the hits.

Dancing is not a crime. To miss Footloose would be!

\$1 OFF EACH TICKET WITH GENTLY USED SHOE/NEW SOCKS DONATION FOR MILWAUKEE RESCUE MISSION

This year, in conjunction with Footloose, the students are holding a "Kick off your Sunday shoes" drive, collecting gently used shoes and new socks to benefit the men, women and children served by the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. All shoe sizes and styles and new socks are needed to benefit the Mission's clients, who soon will face the bitter cold Wisconsin winter on the street. Unlike other national organizations which collect used shoes, the Milwaukee Rescue Mission will give all donations directly to those in need; there is no resale to entrepreneurs. Multiple donations are encouraged; but just \$1 off per ticket will be allowed. If purchasing the ticket online with a credit card, show donation at the door to receive a \$1 maximum refund per ticket at the ticket booth prior to the performance. Thank you for helping local families in need!

The Counselor's Corner

News From the Tosa West Guidance Department

Visit our website at: west.wauwatosa.k12.wi.us/guidance

Timeline for Grades

The following is a timeline for grade reports. Parents can expect to receive mailed reports within two weeks of these dates. If you do not receive a report, please call the guidance office at 773-3030.

November 4, 2011	End of 1st quarter
January 20, 2012	End of 2nd quarter and 1st semester
March 26, 2012	End of third quarter
June 7, 2012	End of 4th quarter and 2nd semester

Important Test Dates

PLAN Test

Thursday, December 8

PLAN is the 10th grade test that gives students a forecast of how they might do on the ACT assessment. The ACT assessment is taken in the junior or senior year and is used for college admission. In addition to gauging academic achievement, PLAN provides information for educational and career planning. The Wauwatosa School District will be paying for all sophomores to take this test.

2011-2012 SATs and ACTs

SAT examination -	Saturday, November 5	Saturday, December 3	Saturday, January 28
Registration deadline -	Tuesday, September 27	Tuesday, October 25	Tuesday, December 20
ACT examination -	Saturday, Dec. 10 *	Saturday, February 11	Saturday, April 14*
Registration deadline -	Friday, November 4	Friday, January 13	Friday, March 9

* Wauwatosa West is a test site on this date

College bound seniors who have not already completed college entrance examinations or those who wish to retake them should consider using these test dates.

ACT Writing Test

ACT test takers will have the option of taking the Writing Test as part of the ACT Assessment. Students who take this option will be asked to produce a 30-minute writing sample in addition to the other parts of the ACT assessment.

UW-Madison, the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and Marquette University, require the writing test as part of the application for admission. For more information visit uwhelp.Wisconsin.edu/actsatfaq .

Midwest College Exchange Program

The state of Wisconsin recently joined the Midwestern Higher Education Compact which oversees the Midwest College Exchange Program. This program has been available to students in the Midwest since 1994. Through the Midwest Student exchange program students can attend universities, colleges, and vocational/technical schools at a reduced tuition not to exceed more than 150% of the in-state resident tuition rate. Participating private institutions offer a 10% tuition discount.

Current states participating in this program include Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. This program does not include every college or university in these participating states. Check out the Midwestern Higher Education Compact website for a complete listing of schools and programs available through this program at www.mhec.org .

Wauwatosa West Football Newsletter – November, 2011

Off Season

It has been almost a month since football has been over. Hard to believe we are not getting ready for a game, going to practice, sitting in the bleachers or sipping some hot chocolate. To say it has been a busy month for our program would be an understatement. We have already had one team meeting, countless weight lifting sessions and a banquet. Open gyms for basketball and wrestling have begun as well. Our athletes are involved and busy. We have several off season goals we will accomplish this off season. One of the most important aspects of building a program is communication. We feel that has been an area that has been lacking and we, as coaches, need to improve. We have assigned our coaches 6-8 players and families. The goal is for each coach to contact the player and family once a month in the off season. Coaches will be calling soon, so please let them know what we can do as a program to help make this the best experience possible.

The next goal is to make our kids stronger. The weight room is open from 3:10-to 5:00 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Wednesday it is open from 2:10-4:30 pm. The expectation of our strength coach and our program is that all athletes out for football attend 4 days a week for maximal results. We can't stress enough how important this is if we want to give our athletes the best possible experience.

The last goal is to have some team bonding/building activities in the off season. We have several exciting things planned. We will get information out to our athletes as time gets closer.

Character

Parents/Guardians, Wauwatosa Community - it takes all of us to build strong character in our young people. The traps today are many, and the road is treacherous for our youth. Please stand with all of us as we encourage not just our football players but all of our young people to make the right choices not the easy ones.

As always they may hear what you say, but they will learn from what you do. Our responsibilities are tremendous, and please know as a football staff and program we will continue to put character first in all we do.

Character is essential in everything we do.

We believe that to be truly successful, you must develop yourself to be a great person as well as a great football player. Great football players, as well as great people, will have great traits.

Traits such as a fantastic work ethic, a willingness to put "team" ahead of "self", and a willingness to serve your teammates to the best of your ability so that you can all share in success. These are just a few of the traits that are desirable to have.

Our point that we want to stress is this: We want to help you become a great football player and a great person by helping you understand that..

Everything starts with your character.

Staff Development

In any profession there is always opportunity to grow, football is no different. This month, our coaches have had the opportunity to go to all divisions of WIAA state football playoff games. Towards the end of the month we will head to Madison for the state championship games. It provides us a fantastic opportunity to watch championship caliber programs and talk with a variety of coaches in the state of Wisconsin. The coaching community is very strong here and great to be a part of!

Finally...

Starfish

A small boy was walking along a beach at low tide, where countless starfish, having been washed up on the beach, were stranded and doomed to perish. A man watched as the boy picked up individual starfish and took them back into the water. "I can see you're being very kind," said the watching man, "But there must be thousands of them; it can't possibly make any difference." Returning from the water's edge, the boy said, "It will for that one."

We never know which one our athletes we can make a difference. Please continue to push and encourage our boys to be the best we can be.

GO TROJANS!
Coach Good





**Congratulations, Patrick
on your 12th place finish
at the State Cross Country Meet**

Patrick Campbell won 5 individual meet championships, was the individual Woodland Conference Meet Champion, Placed 3rd at Sectionals, qualified for the State Meet, and placed 12th at State (D1). Patrick was named the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Runner of the Week October 5th following his victory at the Purgold Invite.



**Congratulations, Taylor
on your 54th place finish at the State
Cross Country Meet**

Taylor Floyd-Mews placed 4th at Conference, placed 11th at Sectionals qualifying for the State Meet, and placed 54th at State (D1).



Wauwatosa East Dance Team to hold Mattress Fundraiser 2011

Saturday, November 19, 2011

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

On Saturday, November 19, the Wauwatosa East Dance Team is pleased to host a one of a kind fundraising event. This event has been VERY successful in school districts all across the US over the last 6 years and we now have the opportunity to run this event at East High School!

If you think you might be in need of a mattress (or mattress set etc.), or if you know of any family or friends that might be in need, PLEASE keep November 19th open! The mattress sale will be in the Gym at **East** High School. East's team qualified for the National Dance Team Competition in Orlando, FL! ALL funds raised will go to pay for their trip.

There will be 18-20 sets on display to try out and a team of experts to answer any question you might have. No pressure- Just savings to our community from 30-60% below retail. They are even offering free layaway!

All we ask is you just come in and take a look.

It is a pleasure to be able to find a way to help students and their families while providing cost savings to our community.

East's Dance Team would very much appreciate your support of their fundraiser. Please spread the word to neighbors, families and friends.

Again, the event is on Saturday, November 19, 10 am - 5 pm.

SAVE AN ADDITIONAL \$50.00 OFF
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Personally Invited By Coach Kopp

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IMPORTANT DATED SCHOOL MATERIAL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, November 4	End of 1st Quarter	Wednesday, November 23	No Classes
Thursday, November 10	Scholarship Fundraiser at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 6:00 p.m.	Thursday, November 24 - Friday, November 25	Thanksgiving Break No Classes Offices Closed
Friday, November 11	Early Release Day 11:30 a.m.		
Friday, November 4 Saturday, November 5 Friday, November 11 Saturday, November 12	"Footloose" Musical 7:00 p.m.		
Sunday, November 6	"Footloose" Musical 2:00 p.m. Matinee		