

Around the Schools

... a publication for and about Westlake City Schools employees

Diversity calendar

Aug. 15-18: Bon Festival (Feast of Lanterns). This Japanese Buddhist custom to honor the spirits of one's ancestors is a family holiday.

Aug. 22: Ramadan begins.

Aug. 26: Women's Equality Day. Commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920, which gave U.S. women full voting rights.

Sept. 15-Oct. 15: Christa McAuliffe's birthday. She died in 1986 aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger.

Sept. 7: Labor Day

Sept. 15-16: Mexican Independence Days

Sept. 19-20: Jewish New Year

Sept. 21: Eid Al-Fitr. A day of feasting and celebration for Muslims marking the end of Ramadan.

Sept. 21: International Day of Peace

Sept. 24: School desegregation comes to Little Rock, Ark.

Sept. 28: Yom Kippur

WCSD welcomes 23

The Westlake City School District welcomes 23 new staffers to our ranks. If you see them in your buildings, give them a big welcome:

At Bassett we welcome **Chelsea McDonald**, 1st grade, and **Patricia Kosik**, media specialist.

At Holly Lane we welcome **Amy Fife**, intervention specialist; **Alison Martin**, music; and **Amal Mustafa**, 3rd grade.

At Hilliard we welcome **William Wilson**, art.

At Parkside we welcome **Rebecca Gorek**, media specialist; **Jessica Dye**, Language Arts/Social Studies; **Sarah Horbol**, Math/Science long-term sub; **Megan Thomas**, Language Arts/Social Studies; **Kelly Roath**, Language Arts/Social Studies.

At LBMS we welcome **Michael Thoms**, Science/Social Studies; **Caitlin Shea**, Language Arts/Social Studies; **Veronica Bozich**, Spanish; **Kelly Schneider**, intervention specialist.

At WHS we welcome **Elizabeth Zingales**, French; **Mark Campo**, Guidance/Head Football Coach; **Elizabeth Noren**, Social Studies; **Stacy Peltz**, Art/Industrial Technology.

At the district level we welcome **Jennifer Petticord**, Limited English Proficiency; **Valerie O'Connor**, psychologist; **Rachel Melrose**, ESL reading; **Judy Buffington**, speech language pathology.

Open enrollment

September is the month for making a change with your medical coverage. If you have gotten married, divorced, had children or have children who are no longer dependents, please notify the Personnel Office. You can also change your beneficiary on your life insurance at this time. Open enrollment runs Sept. 1-30. For questions contact Human Resources Director Mike Laub at laub@wlake.org.

24-pay program

All 9-month employees who wish to participate in the 24-pay program must submit a completed 'Request for 24-Pay Option' form to the Treasurer's office by Sept. 1 each year. Forms are available on the Treasurer's Office web page (under "About Us/School Finances").

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Robin Murray at x. 1252.

Field trips

Target is awarding 5,000 field trip grants of up to \$800 each.

Criteria include a description of field trip an objectives, benefits to students, tie-in to school curriculum, number of students impacted and proposed use of funds.

For information visit www.target.com/teachers.

Pay It Forward

These grants of up to \$5000 fund one-time-only service-oriented projects that benefit schools, neighborhoods or the greater community.

Projects must contain a "pay it forward" focus.

Applications are accepted year round, but there are specific review cycles. Applications received by Sept. 15 will be considered for first semester funding in October. Applications received by Feb. 15 will be considered for second semester funding in March. Visit www.payitforwardfoundation.org/educators/mini-grant.html.

Green Your School competition

The Student Conservation Association's Green Your School Contest is a national competition to stimulate and/or identify conservation service projects designed by high school students that improve, restore, beautify or conserve their high school environment.

Projects must have been started after Aug. 1, 2008. Students must complete the entries. The application process is available at www.thesca.org/green-your-school. Deadline to enter is Oct. 9. Winners will be announced around Nov. 15.



Our new teachers. Welcome Class of 2009-2010

Around the Schools is published weekly online by the Westlake City Schools communications department. Please forward information for publication to Communications Coordinator Kim Bonvissuto at the Administration Building, or call (440) 250-1258 or email bonvissuto@wlake.org

Deadline for submitting materials is Wednesday at Noon.

The Westlake City School District is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action agency and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, political affiliation or disability.

Free tech for teachers

Google Talk: Send instant messages to your contacts for free.

Doodle for Google: K-12 students can reinvent the Google homepage logo.

Google News Timeline: view recent and historical news.

SchoolTube: Educator-moderated video sharing

site where every video is screened by a classroom teacher before it goes live. Visit www.schooltube.com

Wikipedia for Schools offers the equivalent of a 20-volume printed encyclopedia and can be downloaded at <http://schools-wikipedia.org>. The site is updated an-

nually by volunteers from the English Wikipedia and SOS Children, a British children's charity.

Twitter for Teachers: Visit <http://twitterforteachers.wetpaint.com> or <http://twitter4teachers.pbworks.com> for lesson plans, classroom management strategies and other tips.

Program A begins at: 8am, Noon, 4pm, 8pm, Midnight, 4am

Program B begins at: 10:10am, 2:10pm, 6:10pm, 10:10pm, 2:10am, 6:10am

WHBS sponsor credits begin at: 7:50am, 3:50pm, 7:50pm, 11:50pm, 3:50am