

Around the Schools

National Signing Day



Grace Jenkins and Alexis Carpenter signed National Letters of Intent to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level. Grace will leave WHS as one of the top cross country athletes in the history of the school to continue her academic and athletic career at The Citadel. Alexis will continue her academic and soccer career at Miami University of Ohio.

Pictured: Assistant Soccer Coach Sean Koski and Coach Scott Jones with Alexis, and Cross Country Coach Travis Haselswerdt with Grace.

Board of Education approves participation fees starting spring

Beginning this spring, the Westlake City Schools will institute a pay to participate fee schedule for athletics and extracurricular/clubs. The fees are in response to two unsuccessful operating levies in 2013 and were developed to offset district general fund expenses while keeping fees reasonable to maintain current participation. Following a data-driven study of Southwest Conference districts and trends across Ohio, the district presented a three-tiered fee system that aligns with the district's needs and mission. That recommendation was adopted by the Board of Education at its Jan. 27 meeting.



In calculating the three-tiered fee system, the district considered supplemental costs for coaches and advisors, participation rates over the last three to four years, and transportation costs. The district used a 20% benchmark for total costs for athletics or clubs/activities to arrive at a final fee structure:

- Tier I - A* = \$125
- Tier I - B* = \$55
- Tier II - A = \$35
- Tier II - B = \$15

**Includes a one-time annual \$65 transportation fee*

The structure includes individual student caps at \$250 for high school students (\$315 including the transportation fee) and \$110 for middle school students (\$175 including the transportation fee). The fees will create an anticipated savings for \$41,433 for spring 2014, and between \$134,485 and \$176,750 for the 2014-2015 school year. The Proposal can be viewed on the Westlake Schools homepage at www.wlake.org.

E-Club Idol Rescheduled

E-Club Idol, a twist on "American Idol," has been rescheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Westlake Schools Performing Arts Center. Doors open at 4:30pm, show starts at 5pm. Tickets are \$5 presale or \$7 at the door. Contact Cathy DuBois for presale tickets at duboisc@wlake.org.



WHS Seniors Earn Work Ethic Awards for West Shore Career-Technical Programs

Three Westlake High School students have been nominated to receive the 2014 Lakewood Chamber of Commerce/Lakewood-Rocky River Sunrise Rotary Work Ethic Award for their exemplary performance in their West Shore Career-Technical District program. Senior Derek Bratsch won for Automotive Technology, senior Kevin Kruger for Networking/Cisco and senior Rachel Meek for Community Based Training: Rae Ann. These students will be acknowledged at the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce recognition breakfast on Feb. 21 at Brennan's Catering & Banquet Center, 13000 Triskett Road, Cleveland.



Earth Science Activities for Science Standards

The Ohio Geological Survey has correlated all of its Hands On Earth Science activities to the new State of Ohio Revised Science Standards. Teachers and educators can use these activities to address topics in the recently updated standards and model curriculum, which feature expanded requirements for Earth science and geology. All Hands On activity sheets are available for free download at <http://geosurvey.ohiodnr.gov/publications-maps-data/free-downloads/hands-on-activities>. For more information, contact the Ohio Geological Survey at (614) 265-6576.

Opportunity to teach in Taiwan

Ohio teachers have the opportunity to spend a year living and teaching English in Taiwan through a memorandum of understanding with Taiwan's Ministry of Education. Elementary and middle school teachers are invited to apply to participate in the Teaching in Taiwan program for the 2014-2015 school year. The deadline for applying is Friday, April 4, 2014. For more information, visit <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Academic-Content-Standards/News/Teaching-in-Taiwan-%E2%80%93-Special-Opportunity> or contact Dwight Groce at dwight.groce@education.ohio.gov.



National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Deadline Feb. 27

Ohio elementary schools should submit their best poster to the Attorney General's office, which will select a state winner to send to the national sponsor, the U.S. Department of Justice. The national winner will be announced at the National Missing Children's Day Ceremony in Washington, D.C. in May. To view contest rules, the application and resources, please visit the press room section of the Ohio Amber Alert website at <http://www.ohioamberplan.org/press.aspx>. Questions may be directed to Vicki Germann at (800) 325-5604 or (614) 466-1711.