

Around the Schools

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

Webinar

combats bullying

ODE has joined other state agencies to form the Ohio Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation and Anti-Bullying (Anti-HIB) Initiative. They are sponsoring a series of one-hour webinars during the current school year.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in each session, which will cover topics including: policy implementation and supports; cyber safety; legal ramifications; school-wide interventions; teen dating violence prevention; and girl aggression. ODE, speakers will represent the Attorney General, eTech Ohio, Ohio Domestic Violence Network and departments of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Health, and Mental Health.

Each webinar is open to the first 100 participants, with registration open 30 minutes before each program. In addition, the webinars will be recorded and posted the same day on <http://www.education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=435&ContentID=29364> for viewing at a later time. Please direct any questions to Jill Jackson at jill.jackson@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 466-9540.

National Latin officer

WHS senior Samantha Buck is the first in Westlake's Latin program to be elected to a national office within the Junior Classical League. At the conclusion of this summer's National Convention at Eastern Kentucky University, Buck took over as national parliamentarian, voted in by Latin students from around the country.

States compete in academic, artistic and athletic competitions during the annual convention. Buck will travel to North Carolina this fall to attend a planning meeting for the next national convention at Wake Forest University. As parliamentarian she is responsible for revising the organization's constitution, helping state parliamentarians write and amend their constitutions, and looking for candidates to run next year.

Buck has already served as the Ohio Junior Classical League president.

Target grant for math/reading

Hilliard Elementary Intervention Specialist Christina Meecha's proposal to create a combined math and Language Arts program has earned a \$2,000 grant from Target for math literacy materials.

Meecha plans to create a library of books that deal specifically with math concepts and will be used to "grab students' attention" for math lessons for preschool through fourth grade. Meecha said many students struggle with math but love reading, so finding books that enforce a greater love of math can help students in a fun way.

Meecha said she expects 500 students will be served by the program.

Skyping interest in technology

Technology teacher Kurt Thonnings coordinated a Skype conference between a 7th grade technology class and WHS Technology/Engineering teacher Scott Kutz's students, who demonstrated software they use to create their award-winning home designs.

Additional connections will be coordinated between the LBMS and WHS students to encourage the younger students to become engineers/architects/designers and to reinforce the connection between the middle school and high school technology programs.

WHS students earn AP Scholar Awards

Two recent WHS graduates qualified for the National AP Scholar Award. Abhi Ramachandran and Arit Umana each earned an average score of 4 or higher on the 5-point AP exam scale. Qualifiers each took eight or more AP tests.

The College Board's Advanced Placement program offers students college-level courses while still in high school, and the ability to earn college credit, advanced placement or both for successful performance on the AP exams.

Ramachandran and Umana also qualified for a State AP Scholar Award. That award is given to a boy and girl from each state with the highest average score on all AP tests. Westlake's average AP exam score was 4.6.

Nineteen 2011 graduates earned an average of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken to earn the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. WHS seniors Kyle Lathem and Joseph Warner also earned awards.

Another 13 students earned AP Scholar with Honor Awards.

Wylie Bowling for Vision

Wylie Bowling for Vision has replaced the annual Wylie Walk-a-thon to Support the Foundation for Retinal Research. The bowling event will be held on Sunday, Sept. 25, from 1 - 5 p.m. Wylie Bowling for Vision is done in honor of Allan Wylie, a kindergartner at Holly Lane, who was diagnosed with Leber's Congenital Amaurosis (LCA) at 4 months of age. The details can be found on the website (www.tfrr.org - click on "Events and Annual Funds" on the left side, scroll down to the Wylie Family Bowling for Vision). For questions contact Kim Wylie at vkwyli@sbglobal.net or 440-552-8327.



HUGS FOR SEAN

On Sunday, Aug. 21, almost 6,000 people walked around Cleveland's Voinovich Park to raise awareness and research funding for autism. Westlake's team, HUGS FOR SEAN, donated \$1,837 to the cause. It's not too late to make a donation. You can visit www.walknow-forautismspeaks.org for more information. Pictured left are Lisa Forshey and Sean.

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.

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National Teacher Town Hall

Teachers from around the country are invited to take part in the second annual Teacher Town Hall on Sunday, Sept. 25.

Moderated by NBC news anchor Brian Williams, the live chat will feature hundreds

of teachers live from Rockefeller Plaza in New York City, along with an online forum for thousands of participants from around the country.

Register now at www.EducationNation.com to take part

in this national event, which will be broadcast live on MSNBC at noon Eastern Time.

Other sponsors include the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation and Scholastic magazine.

Constitution Day is Sept. 17

Educational institutions receiving federal funding are required to plan an education program celebrating Constitution Day. This year marks the 224th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787. Resources are available from ODE.