

Around the Schools

Academic Challenge



The Westlake High School Academic Challenge Team qualified for and competed in the National Competition run by Questions Unlimited in Washington, D.C., last weekend, finishing 2-4 in its first advanced tournament. Team members are Alex Lathem, Eleni Packis, Alan Garber, Paavani Reddy, Aswin Bikkani and Apshara Ravichandran. Advisors are John and Sandy Packis. Last fall the high school team finished undefeated in its bracket at the Aurora Invitational Tournament, qualifying the team for regional competition. The team finished 12th in the nation in the 3-2-1 competition.

Kyle Yu places 6th in National Geographic Bee

Lee Burneson Middle School eighth grader Kyle Yu, 13, finished in sixth place at the National Geographic Bee in Washington, D.C., on May 21. Kyle beat out about 100 other fourth through eighth graders in April for his second straight state title. Congratulations!



Superintendent Search Proceeding

The Westlake Board of Education closed its Superintendent Search on May 23. Board members met May 30 and June 1 with the Ohio School Board Association search firm to go over the initial 24 applicants, who come from Ohio and outside of the state. OSBA is expected to recommend about seven candidates to be interviewed by the Board of Education.

Round 1 interviews are scheduled for June 2 and 3, with second round interviews taking place after the June 9 Board meeting. All interviews will be private. The Board tentatively set June 11 as the date for finalist(s) presentations to the community, which will be invited to participate in a Q&A.

Board President Carol Winter said the Board hopes to have Dr. Keenan's replacement in place prior to his departure on July 31. If the Board does not find a suitable replacement during this process, an interim superintendent will be named and OSBA will begin a new search with no additional consultation fee to the district.

Free World Language Professional Development

Beginning June 11, the Ohio Department of Education is offering world language educators free professional development workshops on six different days this summer around the state. On each day participants may take part in one or both sessions, including Student Learning Objectives/Ohio Teacher Evaluation System and Instructional Best Practices for World Language Teachers. To register, access your SAFE account at <https://safe.ode.state.oh.us/portal/> and click on the STARS system. Type in world languages in the event name search box. Choose your preferred date range and click on Register for Selected Session. For questions contact Kay Shelton at kathleen.shelton@education.ohio.gov or 614.995.4840.

ODE Offers Summer Workshops for AP Teachers



The Ohio Department of Education is offering a series of one-day workshops this summer for high school teachers interested in refreshing and improving their teaching of AP courses. The agenda includes teaching strategies for courses in U.S. History, Government, Physics, Chemistry, Statistics, English Literature and Spanish. Register through your SAFE account at <https://safe.ode.state.oh.us/portal/> and access the STARS system. Search for Advanced Placement on the event name line.



Website Offers Stem-Based Curriculum

The Ohio Soybean Council has launched GrowNextGen.org, a website offering STEM-based curriculum, interactive e-learning courses, career videos and the ability to network with other Ohio teachers. This effort to showcase real-world applications of math and science provides an opportunity to connect students to careers in agriculture, food science, engineering, biotechnology and chemistry.



Hungry Howie's

FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA



Area Businesses Support Special Needs Programs

I would like to thank the following companies for their continued support throughout the school year. Each of the businesses listed below allow our students with special needs the opportunity to utilize their work skills:

- Sunrise Assisted Living, Rocky River
- Goodwill Industries Inc, North Olmsted
- Winking Lizard Restaurant, Avon
- Romeo's Pizza, Westlake
- Hungry Howie's, Westlake

Katie McGlynn

Intervention Specialist