

Around the Schools

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

Teachers in Space

The Pathfinders program is the first step toward the goal of putting 1,000 astronaut teachers into American classrooms.

The program is looking for three additional Pathfinders who are knowledgeable in science, technology, engineering or math. Competition is open to K-12 teachers of all subjects.

Applicants can submit a proposal for an experiment that can be performed during a sub-orbital space flight and will be judged on these submissions, as well as educational background and experience. Finalists will be contacted for personal interview and additional screening.

To download an application visit <http://teachersinspace.org/apply/apply.htm>. Applications are due on or before Dec. 1.

Teachers in Space, a nonprofit project of the Space Frontier Foundation, also offers a series of workshops. Additional information and workshop applications can be found at www.teachersinspace.org/workshops.htm.

State budget plan heavily impacts Westlake Schools

As many of you were made aware at the all staff meeting on April 5, Ohio's school districts saw the first simulation of the newly proposed state budget. While our fiscal forecast prepared us for a 17% reduction, the first budget simulation shows Westlake Schools seeing a 71% reduction in state funding and reimbursements for Fiscal Year 2012. This includes \$3.2 million in reductions in FY12 and another \$580,000 in reductions in FY13.

This is the first proposal for the state budget, which will not be finalized until July. However, the Westlake Schools must face the unfortunate reality of preparing for these potential reductions.

Along with continuing to dialogue with state legislators, district administrators and the Board of Education are mapping out a response to these potential reductions. We will keep you updated on this topic as budget talks progress.

The Board of Education will discuss potential staffing/programmatic reductions at the April 18 meeting. Once decisions are made we will notify staff members.. As discussed at the staff meeting, we will continue to provide you updated information as we receive it from the state, as well as any decisions made at the local level.

College Board List

WCSD is one of 388 districts in the nation honored by the College Board on the AP Achievement List for opening AP classroom doors to a significantly broader pool of students while maintaining or improving the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher.

From 2008 to 2010, WCS increased the number of student participants from 203 to 244, while improving the scores of students on AP exams from 79% earning scores of 3 or higher to 82%. The list includes districts representing 43 states.

The Pajama Game

The WHS Center Stage Players present "The Pajama Game," a musical comedy based on the novel "7 1/2 Cents" by Richard Bissell.

Performances will be held April 15 and 16 at 7pm, and April 17 at 2pm at the Westlake Schools Performing Arts Center.

General admission is \$7 at the door or \$5 for students and seniors.

Tralee art exchange

A Send-Off to Tralee of the Sister Cities Student Art Exchange will be held Monday, April 11 at Westlake City Hall from 6 to 8pm. A dedication of the event will be at 6:30pm by Mayor Dennis Clough, followed by comments from Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. and Council President Michael Killeen.

The Send-Off is part of the first phase of a 3-part exhibition. About 60 pieces of student artwork from K-12 Westlake students will be packaged and shipped to Westlake's sister City, Tralee, located in southwest Ireland. In the second phase, work from Tralee students will be featured in the Feile na Blath, Gaelic for flower festival, in June. Phase three will see the return of Westlake student art accompanied by the artwork of Tralee students at a site to be announced. For now you can see the Westlake student artwork from April 11-19 at City Hall. This international student art exchange is part of Westlake's 2011 Bicentennial Celebration. Hours of the exhibition are 8am to 5pm April 11-10, or 10am to 4pm April 16.

Sponsors of the event include the Westlake Education Foundation, Northeast Ohio Art Education Association, Westlake-Westshore Arts Council, Rae-Ann Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Centers, WTA, the City of Westlake and the PTAs.



Snapshots from Dollars for Scholars. Congratulations to the Faculty Team for a win!

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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.

Teaching Tolerance

Teaching Tolerance project seeks applicants for culturally responsive teaching award

The Teaching Tolerance Award for Excellence in Culturally Responsive Teaching recognizes educators whose knowledge and skill make them particularly successful at meeting the needs of

students from racially, ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds.

The program will recognize five teachers at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., in December 2011. Each will be presented with an award of \$1,000. All P-12 teachers are invited to apply for

the award. Applications must be received by June 1.

Complete information and a link to the application are available on the Teacher Tolerance website.

<http://www.tolerance.org/award>

Position Available

Summer Cleaner, Westlake City Schools. 8 hours/day, 5 days/week. Salary range \$7.50/hour to \$8.67/hour. Application deadline is May 6.

To apply for this or any other open position, visit <http://www.applitrack.com/westlake/onlineapp/>. Job descriptions also are available in the Human Resources Department.