

Around the Schools

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

Bond rating goes up

The Westlake School's bond rating was upwardly shifted from Aa2 to Aa1 by Moody's Investor Service. The upward change places the district one notch away from the highest quality Aaa Moody's rating.

Westlake Schools is now one of only 23 Ohio local school districts rated in the Aa1 or Aaa rating categories, placing Westlake in the top 4% of all Ohio schools.

The Aa1 rating highlights the district's credit quality versus other debt securities, which should mean lower interest costs on future district borrowing -- including the 3.8-mill, \$84 million bond issue in front of voters on Tuesday, May 4 -- and savings of additional taxpayer dollars.

This shift is part of a large recalibration by Moody's to bring municipal issuers in line with other global issuers. The new ratings are intended to indicate average levels of credit quality consistently across different sectors and geographies.

Tennis champs

WHS No. 1 singles player, Colton Buffington, repeated as sectional champion in the big-school division and will go to districts as a No. 1 seed. It was a rematch of last year's sectional title match, as Buffington defeated St. Ignatius' No. 1 singles man James Oliver to win 6-3, 6-4 and take the title.

Unseeded WHS player Jason Wissman earned 4th in the Sectional Singles.

The WHS team's SWC record to date is 7 and 0 and Conference Champions.

Bring Your Ideas - Share Your Views - Join the Discussion

Help Shape the Future of the Westlake Schools: Join Our Planning Summit, June 14-15.

It's time to update the ongoing CIP and we want your input to help guide the plan's development. Using a process called Appreciative Inquiry, we'll engage in a dynamic dialogue and idea session to identify what works best in our school system and how to build on our success to better achieve our mission of Educating for Excellence.

Visit our website at <http://beta.westlake.k12.oh.us/about/CIP/default.aspx> to learn more

Registration Deadline is June 4. Send an email to TheSummit@wlake.org or call (440) 250-1258. Share this invitation with your neighbors, colleagues, and friends!

Switch Places

Teacher exchanges, like the well-known Fulbright Program (www.fulbrightteacherexchange.org), administered one-to-one exchanges. While you're teaching in the Outback for a year, an Aussie joins your home school's faculty. In addition to Fulbright, check out the U.S.-China Teachers Exchange Program at www.ncuscr.org.

Emily's Book Shelf

In celebration of Children's Book Week, Porter Public Library has launched Emily's Book Shelf, a website where readers in Grades 3 through 8 can review and rate books that they have read.

This site was named in memory of Emily Lewis, who participated in the library's Mom and Daughter Book Club for two years, and was a voracious reader. She lost her fight against kidney cancer in August 2009. Visit Emily's Book Shelf at <http://www.westlakelibrary.org/?q=node/2025>



In memory of Emma DeVito, her classmates in Intervention Specialist Rachael Lowery's class planted a tree. Several Dover staff members, parents and students attended the ceremony, along with Emma's family.



Pictured (far left) is Emma's family. Pictured left are classmates and family members helping to plant the tree in Emma's honor.

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.

Wedded bliss

Congratulations to Alison Martin, Holly Lane/Parkside music teacher, on her marriage to Don Gregory. The couple were married April 10 in Sandusky and have settled in Lakewood.

Congratulations to the Martin, Gregory, Holly Lane and Parkside families on this new union.

Each Tuesday during May, eTech Ohio is presenting Web-based professional development programs for educators. Upcoming interactive programs include:

- May 18, noon to 1 p.m. – 21st Century Readiness for Every Student – Ken Kay, president of the 21st Century Skills Partnership, will explain why and how dis-

tricts are launching new educational initiatives to meet the demands of the global economy.

- May 25, 11 a.m. – Using Tools and Data to Improve Student Achievement – Tim Dugan, Princeton City Schools, will help participants better utilize data from the Success and Value-

Added websites with the latest MeasureUp tool.

No registration is required. Participation is limited for the live sessions. However, Webinars will be posted online after the series is complete. For more information, visit <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/elearning/webinars/>

Free webinars from eTech Ohio

Great Programming on WHBS

- May 17 A: JV baseball v. Amherst (5/10)
B: Classic Zone #26 Year #9
- May 18 A: Classic Zone #5 Year #10
B: Classic Zone #30 Year #10
- May 19 A: Varsity baseball v. Midpark (5/3)
B: Classic zone #4 Year #11
- May 20 A: Varsity baseball v. Midpark (5/3)
B: Classic Zone #18 Year #11
- May 21 A: Boys/girls track & field v. Olmsted Falls (5/5)
B: The WHBS-TV Awards Night 2010
- May 22 A: Boys/girls track & field v. Olmsted Falls (5/5)
B: The WHBS-TV Awards Night 2010
- May 23 A: Boys/girls track & field v. Olmsted Falls (5/5)
B: The WHBS-TV Awards Night 2010

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