



January 23, 2009

In This Issue

Government Students go to
Lansing

Chill and Spill

Spirit West Design Contest!

ACT Seminar

College News

Drama Club Update

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 30th
8:30 PM

Chill & Spill
Howell Bowl-E-Drome
(please read article for further
details)

Tuesday, Feb. 10th

Government students field trip
to Lansing

Wednesday, Feb. 11th

Field trip to Grand Valley State
University

Tuesday, February 12th,
6 PM

Parent Group Meeting in the
Big Room.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please park in back of the
building (in the staff parking
lot).

February 13 - 17th WINTER

Dear KWHS Parents,

by James Perry

Last night we had a meeting for all 9th and 10th grade parents to discuss their child's score report from the ACT Explore and Plan tests our students took back in the fall. One of the main messages of the evening was that clearly our students are serious about getting into a good college and that it takes a lot of work during the high school years to adequately prepare for the rigors of college. High school needs to be regarded as a full time endeavor, not just something kids "do" between 7:30am and 3:00pm. We stressed to parents last night how important it is to continue conversations with your children about their college plans and to make sure they are spending time each evening and on weekends studying and completing homework assignments.

In past newsletters I've mentioned the Habits of Mind, which are characteristics, discovered through research, of intelligent, successful people who demonstrate effective thinking. The research that led to the identification of these 16 Habits of Mind didn't just look at scientists, or artists or the most wealthy people in society, but rather identified these characteristics in successful, mechanics, teachers, entrepreneurs, salespeople, and parents - people in all walks of life. For a complete list and more detail of these habits you can go to the Habits of Mind link on our website homepage.

One habit that has been the source of much discussion among the KWHS faculty recently is Metacognition: thinking about your thinking

Metacognition is our ability to know what we know and what we don't know. It is our ability to plan a strategy for producing what information is needed, to be conscious of our own steps and strategies during the act of problem solving, and to reflect on and evaluate the productiveness of our own thinking.

I'm sure you can see how critical this habit is for high school students preparing for college. One strategy you can work on at home with your child is to engage them in conversation about their goals and aspirations and linking this topic to their academic work at KWHS - prompting their conscious reflection on how they are doing and what they need to be doing on their road to realizing their goals. And of course, helping them plan their time to study and complete their home work.

It is clear from the conversations I've been having with parents and students as well as witnessing the impressive gains our students are making each year on their Explore, Plan and ACT tests that all working together, parents,

RECESS

YEARBOOKS FOR SALE!!

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday,
January 26-28 and February 2-4
at Lunch

Thursday, January 29 and
February 5 from 3:00-3:30 in the
Big Room

Or contact Mrs. Pratt at 517-545-
0828 or jpratt@kwoods.org.

Cost: \$35. After the Presale, book
prices will go up to \$40.
Make checks out to KWHS.

After School Activities

Running Club

Monday & Wednesday, 3-4:15ish

Drama Club

Tuesday & Thursday, 3-5

Chess Club

Monday, 3-3:45

Robotics Club

Monday & Wednesday, 3-5

Government Students Go to Lansing

by Robert Gluth

The Government students will be going on a field trip to Lansing to tour the Capitol building and the Michigan Historical Museum on Tuesday, February 10. Permission slips have been sent home with the students and need to be returned by Friday, February 6. Any parents wishing to attend and act as chaperone are certainly welcome. For more information, please contact Mr. Gluth at rgluth@kwoods.org.

students and KWHS faculty, we can help all of our students reach their highest goals.

Best Regards,
Jim Perry

Chill and Spill

by Debbie Uhley

Monthly get-togethers on a weekend. Teens, Parents, and KW staff invited. Come join in the activity or just chow & mingle.

Friday, January 30th

Bowling at the Howell Bowl-E-Drome on Grand River (Glow Bowl) Be there at 8:30 pm to get on list for bowling to start at 9:30 pm; ends at 12:30 am. Approximate cost \$11.50.

Saturday, February 21st

Ski/Snowboard at Mt. Brighton

Be there 5:30 pm to start at 6:00 p.m.; ends at 11:00 pm. Approximate cost to rent equipment and participate \$55 for skiing, \$61 for snowboarding.

Saturday, March 21st

Whirleyball/Go-carts at Great Escape in Howell on Grand River Be there at 7:00 pm; closes at 11:00 pm. Whirleyball cost is \$95/half hour (split by number of participants). (We'll try to work out a better deal before then)

April

TBD

May

Miniature golf in Genoa Township at Tom Deaton's Golf Center

June

Campfire/fishing/boating at Matt Uhley's in Hamburg Township

July

TBD

August

Camping/canoe trip possibly with incoming freshmen

Check Big Room PTO board for updates

ACT Seminar

by Laura Moellering

On Thursday, January 22, an informational meeting was held to discuss the 9th and 10th grade score reports on the ACT PLAN (10th grade) and ACT Explore (9th grade) tests that were taken this fall. If you were unable to attend this meeting, you should contact Laura Moellering to discuss your son or daughter's results and what they mean to you. Please email or call at either lmoellering@kwoods.org or (517)545-0828.

Juniors are in the final stages of preparing for the State of Michigan's required ACT and MME tests that will be administered on March 10, 11 and 12. This year they have taken two practice tests, one in the fall and one on Friday, January 23. They have also had test preparation activities in school and had a ACT practice book issued to them. If you are curious about how your student has done on these tests or are wondering what you can do to help them do their best in March, please contact Laura Moellering.

The State of Michigan has adopted the ACT test because of its proven accuracy at predicting academic success at the college level. Furthermore, colleges and universities place considerable weight on a student's ACT score. Because we are preparing all students for success after high school, we value the score and are proud of the significant gains we have seen as we have adjusted our curriculum to meet what college's have reported are the essential skills they want incoming students to have. Again, please contact Laura Moellering if you have any questions about how we approach these tests and apply College Readiness Standards to the classroom.

Spirit Wear Design Contest!

By Jessie MacGonigal Pratt

The KWHS Community is working to create a unique set of Spirit Wear to sell in the School Store and we need your help! Beginning today, KWHS is hosting a Spirit Wear Design Contest. Who better can express the Kensington Woods Difference than the KWHS Community? Here are the details:

Who: The contest is open to any KWHS student or family member

What: Design a shirt, pant or anything that represents KWHS and that you would want to buy!

When: Contest closes on February 20. All entries must be to Mrs. Pratt by that date. Students will vote on the top designs the following week, which will be produced for sale in the School Store.

Why: To develop school spirit and get the KWHS name out to the community!

How (Requirements): Designs must be simplistic in nature and contain no more than 3 colors. No photographs, due to the printing process we will be using. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pratt in school or email jpratt@kwoods.org.

Get designing!

College News!

by Shawn Pollman

On Wednesday, February 11th, Mrs. Pollman will be taking a small group of students to visit Grand Valley State University. The main campus is in Allendale which is located 15 miles west of Grand Rapids. While on campus, students will take a walking tour with a current Grand Valley student. Any interested Juniors or Seniors should pick up a permission slip from either the office or from Mrs. Pollman. Space is limited, so students who are interested in this tour should get their permission slips turned in as quickly as possible! All permission slips should be returned to Mrs. Pollman by Friday, January 30th so that final arrangements can be made.

Here are the details:

Who: KWHS Juniors and Seniors

What: Field Trip to Grand Valley State University

When: Wednesday, February 11th

Leave KWHS at 9:00 am and return at approximately 3:00 pm.

How: Mrs. Pollman can take a group of seven students on this tour. Since space is limited, students will be invited on this tour based upon the order in which the permission slips are turned in.

Cost: Students will need to have money for lunch!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Pollman at spollman@kwoods.org.

The Drama Club

by Elissa Patterson

The Drama Club would like to announce this years officers. Congrats to Co-Presidents Josh Lyon and Jason Gueli, Vice President Adam Vance, Treasurer Willie Hazel, Historian Kat Juarez, Do Crew Rep Steven Hattle, & Secretary Anna Jrasek. A quick reminder join us in the Kensington Woods Drama Club every Tuesday & Thursday from 3-5 in Mrs. Pratt's room.

KWDC is looking for students interested in acting, stage tech work, light design, set construction, costuming, make up design, musicians, and much much more! If you have any questions email directors Elissa & Jason at dramaclub@kwoods.org.

[Forward email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to jpratt@kensingtonwoodshs.com by ghernandez@kensingtonwoodshs.com.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Kensington Woods High School | 3700 Cleary Drive | Howell | MI | 48843

Email Marketing by

