



February 20, 2009

In This Issue

Curriculum and Instruction

Chill & Spill

Drama Club Update

Government Students go to
Lansing

Math Competition

College News

Upcoming Events

till February 26th

Citrus Sale

Use the money for any Project
Term class - or Prom

Friday, February 20th

School Spirit Wear Contest
Ends

Saturday, February 21st
Be there at 5:30 pm

Chill & Spill at Mt. Brighton

Friday, February 27th
1 to 3 pm

Parent / Teacher Friday
Afternoon

Friday, March 13

Senior Cap and Gown orders
due to the company

After School Activities

Running Club

A Message from the Principal Project Term - A Rationale

by Jim Perry

We introduced this year's Project Term course selections to students last week. Planning Project Term always brings an aura of excitement to the KWHS staff as we anticipate the exciting and engaging learning that will take place during these courses at the end of the year. If you have not already, please take a look at the Project Term course guide that we gave students last week or find it on our website. Again we are pleased to be able to offer these unique learning experiences for our students.

In brief, Project Term is a period of experiential education. Through field trips and hands-on activities, students gain educational experiences that are difficult to provide in a more traditional setting. It is an opportunity for teachers to share their areas of expertise with students. Exploring outside the classroom allows students to become connected with their community and consequently, more connected with their school. The Project Term courses offer the opportunity to develop interests and talents, not to mention stronger relationships with their teachers and peers that will last beyond duration of the term.

Because of the experiential nature of Project Term, most courses have some out of class component and many classes are conducted out of class altogether. Please consider assisting us during Project Term by helping transport students or offering your expertise in a course you see listed in the course guide. We are always looking for community contacts that might help enrich these courses as well. We would love to hear from you if you can help out in any way.

Curriculum and Instruction

by Laura Moellering

On Thursday, February 12, the students were given the course selection guide for Project Term. Project Term is the last two weeks of the school year, running from May 26 and concluding with an Open House on the evening of June 9th. Students could start turning in their choices as of Wednesday

Monday & Wednesday, 3-4:15ish

Drama Club

Tuesday & Thursday, 3-5

Chess Club

Monday, 3-3:45

Robotics Club

Monday & Wednesday, 3-5

and they are given priority based on when they turn the form in. Some courses have a fee associated with them and the staff instructor will let students know when that is due. Please don't let that stand in the way of signing up for a class that you really want though; contact Mr. Perry if you have any questions about fees. If you have questions about the courses or Project Term in general, contact Laura Moellering.

The week of the ACT/MME is fast approaching and juniors should be planning for those tests on March 10, 11 and 12. We have done all we can in school, but if your student has their ACT Victory book at home they are welcome to continue their practice. On the three days of the test, juniors will be dismissed immediately afterward. Students will report at the usual time and will be done at about 11:30 on Tuesday, and 11:00 on Wednesday and Thursday. Attendance for the test is absolutely mandatory each day in order to remain enrolled at KWHS.



Parent Group's CHILL & SPILL

By Debbie Uhley (KWHS Parent Group)

Chill & Spill is a monthly get-together on a weekend sponsored by the KWHS Parent Group. Teens, Parents, and KW staff are invited. Come join in the activity or just chow and mingle. Coming events are:

Saturday, February 21st

Ski/Snowboard at Mt. Brighton. Be there at 5:30 to start at 6:00 pm; 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; close at 11:00 pm. Whirleyball cost is \$95/half hour (split by number of participants).

We are seeking a donation of a good-working-order microwave for the school store. If anyone has one they would like to donate please call the office.

On February 27th, we'll be providing Mexican-themed lunch for staff. If parents would like to call to coordinate dishes they wish to bring please call Debbie Uhley at 810-231-2662 or email her at bumd@chartermi.net.

Also, voting for the Spirit Wear design contest will be Thursday, the 26th during students' lunch hour.

The Nerd Arrives at KWHS

By Elissa Patterson & Jason Pratt

The Kensington Woods Drama Club is proud to announce a congrats to the cast of Kensington Woods High School's first production, "The Nerd," by Larry Shue.

The story:

An aspiring young architect in Terre Haute, Indiana, Willum Cubbert has often told his friends about the debt he owes to Rick Steadman, a fellow ex-GI who he has never met but who saved his life after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. He has written to Rick to say that, as long as he is alive, "you will have somebody on Earth who will do anything for you"-so Willum is delighted when Rick shows up unexpectedly at his apartment on the night of his 34th birthday party. But his delight soon fades as it becomes apparent that Rick is a hopeless "nerd"- a bumbling oaf with no social sense, little intelligence, and less tact. And Rick stays on and on, his continued presence among Willum and his friends leading to one uproarious incident after another, until the normal placid Willum finds himself contemplating violence- a dire development which, happily, is staved off by the surprising "twist" ending of the play.

Cast List:

Willum Cubbert.....Jimmy Valentine
Tansy McGinnis.....Sarah Mallon
Axel Hammond.....Erica Phillips
Warnock Walgrave.....Nick German
Clelia Walgrave.....Mariah Stevenson
Tabbi Walgrave.....Emily Feskorn
Rick Steadman.....Andrew Gasiorowski

Assistant Director.....Liz Harrison

Stage Manager.....Steven Hattle

We are so honored to direct this show with such an amazing and talented cast. Make sure to mark your calendar for our production in the big room May 7th & May 8th. If there are any questions please contact us at dramaclub@kwoods.org.

Government Students' Trip to Lansing

by Bob Gluth

On Tuesday, February 10th, Kensington Woods High School's government classes spent a day in Lansing. The first stop was the Capitol building where the students were given a guided tour of the capitol building including the Capitol Dome, the old Supreme Court chambers, the Legislative chamber and the Senate chamber. We were officially recognized by our State Senator Valde Garcia and then had the opportunity to watch as the senate voted on various bills that had been previously discussed. When the session ended we had the opportunity to meet with Senator Garcia and had a group picture taken with him.

The students then had lunch and went over to the Michigan Historical Museum where they had the opportunity to wander at their own pace and view Michigan's involvement in mining, lumbering, the auto industry and other occupations. They had a chance to see first hand how Michigan was involved the Civil War as well. The students came back to school with a new appreciation of the history of our state as well as a strong sense of how our legislature works.

The American Mathematics Competition (AMC)

by Shawn Pollman

On Wednesday, February 25th, approximately fifteen advanced math students at KWHS will participate in the American Mathematics Contest 12 (AMC 12). The AMC 12 is a 25 question, 75 minute multiple choice examination in secondary school mathematics containing problems which can be understood and solved with advanced Algebraic concepts. This is a national contest which takes place in many schools across the country on a specified date. It is a way to recognize and reward excellence in mathematics by exposing students to challenging problems which require creative thinking. The students will work individually on the problems, and the top three finishers in the school will represent the team score for KWHS. Contest results will be posted in March!

College News...

By Shawn Pollman

FAFSA Deadline for Michigan- March 1st!

If you are graduating from high school in 2009, you need to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To get the most aid possible, your application needs to be turned in by March 1! Remember to apply early before funds run out.

Seniors Plan for College

Seniors at KWHS have been busy making plans for college and over the next few months we would like to highlight some of their impressive accomplishments. Seniors, we would love to hear from you, so let Mrs. Pollman know when you make those important college decisions!

Senior Feature - Nathan Hinkle



Nathan's future career goal is to become a high school Biology teacher. He intends to study Biology and Secondary Education in college. Nathan plans to attend Lansing Community College in the fall to take his pre-requisite courses. Nathan has also been accepted to Lake Superior State University where he has been offered a \$1500 scholarship. In addition to making college plans this past fall, Nathan earned the distinction of becoming an Eagle Scout. For his eagle project, Nathan placed three benches and three signs giving historical information about special sites on the Lakeland Trail. Congratulations to Nathan on his success and best wishes as he begins his journey to become a Biology teacher!

Senior Feature - Hannah Timpf

Hannah's future plans include reaching for the stars! She plans to study Astrophysics, which is the branch of astronomy that deals with the physics of the universe. When asked about her career goals, Hannah commented that she would possibly like to work for NASA someday. She plans to start her educational path at Washtenaw Community College making use of the \$4000 Michigan Promise scholarship that she will receive in installments over the next four years. Hannah would like to transfer to the University of Michigan after finishing her pre-requisite coursework. She also plans to pursue graduate studies with the intention of earning her doctoral degree. Her schools of choice for her graduate work would be either Cal Tech or Princeton. We wish Hannah the best as she embarks on her educational adventure!

