



February 9, 2009

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Upcoming Events

February 10th to 26th

Citrus Sale

Use the money for any Project Term class - or Prom
(see any of Mr. Coupland's students to order)

February 9, 10 and 11

Valentine Day Bake Sale

Tuesday, February 10th

Government students field trip to
Lansing

A Message from the Principal

The Whole Child

by Jim Perry

While I often report on specific initiatives or programs happening at KWHS to increase student achievement and skill development, it is necessary, at times, to take a few steps back and look at the bigger picture of a school, or in this case, our school. Our definition of achievement and accountability promotes the development of students who, as ASCD's Whole Child initiative suggests, are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. For a more detailed and eloquent explanation of The Whole Child initiative, refer to The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) website at <http://www.wholechildeducation.org/>.

At KWHS we know that research has proven that students learn best when their academic, emotional, physical, and social needs are met. We can educate much more powerfully when we are educating the whole child, one who is healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. We are continually discussing and working on ways we can strengthen our program keeping these tenets of "The Whole Child" initiative at the forefront of our efforts. As you read the following points below, please take a moment to reflect on how your efforts in these areas at home can support our efforts at school. We welcome conversations and questions from all of you about specific ways we are supporting our students in these areas.

Healthy

Research tells us that students have better grades and attendance when their health needs are met and they are entering school healthy each day.

Safe

Research tells us that students respond positively from an environment that is physically and emotionally safe- free from disruptions and negative behavior and at the same time is intellectually challenging.

Engaged

Wednesday, February 11th
Field trip to Grand Valley State
University

Wednesday, February 11
6 - 7 pm
Hike the Appalachian Trail
Meeting for parents in Mr. Coupland's
Room (205)

Thursday, February 12th
LAST DAY TO PURCHASE A \$35.00
Yearbook!

Thursday, 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 RECESS

Feb. 20th
School Spirit Wear Contest Ends

March 13
Senior Cap and Gown orders due to the
company

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

Chess Club

Check this out, mates:
Chess club is starting back up and will
be meeting with Mr. Muennix on
Mondays after school. Don't pawn off
this opportunity, it is your move.
Everyone is welcome.

Research tells us that student achievement rises with students who are actively engaged in learning and feel connected to their school and their community.

Supported

Research tells us that students are more likely to succeed, less likely to be absent or drop out and less likely to be disruptive if they attend a school where their individual learning is supported by qualified and caring adults.

Research tells us that student achievement is significantly and positively impacted in schools with at least one counselor for every 250 students.

Challenged

Research tells us that students are willing to work harder to meet high expectations. KWHS recognizes that all adults, not just teachers, working with students at school must believe that each student is capable of success - no exceptions.

ACT Info

by Laura Moellering

On Wednesday, any student who had not yet received their ACT PLAN (10th grade) or Explore (9th grade) score reports received them. They were given an explanation about what the scores mean and what the student can expect both from KWHS to get the score they would like to get, and from the test itself. At KWHS we understand that the "number" is important, but we also know that that number can rise significantly simply by preparing a student for the test and encouraging them to believe in themselves as college bound students. Also, this is another arena where our small size allows us to really look at both the students' scores and what he or she reported as areas where they would like help and then to respond to those.

Also, juniors received the results of the practice ACT they took on Friday, January 23rd. We were impressed at the gains students made just since October! It is important to know that this is not the type of test a student can study for, but it is one they can prepare for and understand better to improve their scores. Juniors will take the official ACT and the state MME test on the mornings of March 10, 11 and 12. This will be their only work on those three days, so they will finish up around 11 a.m. each of those days.

Please contact Laura Moellering if you would like

Just come on in or email Mr. Muennix for more information at mmuennix@kwoods.org.

any advice on these tests, help in interpreting them, or information on how we use the score reports at KWHS.

Citrus Sale Raises Money for Project Term

by David Coupland

KWHS has a great lineup of Project Term classes this year. Some classes such as Hike the Appalachian Trail, Yoga, or Martial Arts charge a fee to cover expenses. To help earn money for these excellent opportunities, KWHS students are taking orders for premium citrus fruit from Feb 10 through Feb 26.

This fruit is much better quality than store-bought citrus for about the same price, and it supports a good cause! Customers can choose between half-crate (20 lbs) or a full crate (40 lbs) of Texas ruby-red grapefruit or California navel oranges, which will be trucked directly to KWHS from the orchards about March 13h. Half-crates cost \$26 and full crates cost \$46. The profit, about \$10 per half crate, goes directly into the salesperson's student account to help pay Project Term fees.

If your student is participating in the sale, please place an order and help them identify other adults that may be interested. If you would like to purchase fruit but your student is not participating in the sale this year, please email me at dcoupland@kwoods.org and I will have a student contact you promptly. Thanks for your support!

Yearbook Prices Going Up Soon!

By Jessie MacGonigal Pratt

After Mid-Winter Break, Yearbook Presale will end, and yearbook prices will go up to \$40. To purchase a Yearbook while they are still \$35, purchase them next week from Mrs. Pratt.

Attention Seniors!

Last Wednesday, a representative from our cap and gown and announcement company came in and talked to the Seniors about ordering Caps and Gowns and Announcements for Graduation. He returned this Wednesday to take orders. If your student did not place an order on Wednesday, you must mail the order to the address on the form by March 13th. All Seniors are required to submit the name form and purchase a cap and gown. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pratt at jpratt@kwoods.org (however, I am not taking orders! All orders must be mailed to the company!).

Hungry? Valentine's Day Bake Sale is Coming!

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, Yearbook and Newspaper will be hosting a Valentine's Day Bake Sale during lunch and before school on Tuesday and Wednesday. Come hungry for homemade goodies! Warning: Get your goodies early. If we run out early, the sale ends early!

Batter Up!

by Laura Moellering

We are thrilled to be starting up a boys baseball team, following our first ever "official" sports team: Cross Country. So far, fifteen pioneering young men have agreed

to play in the inaugural baseball year. Starting it off is a little rocky as we learn about the rules and regulations from the Michigan High School Athletic Association and look for facilities, equipment and a field! All of these things are in the works, but if you know of a donor of baseball equipment, or can donate directly to KWHS's burgeoning sports program, please contact our athletic director, Jessie Pratt, or Mrs. Moellering. Please stay tuned to the newsletter and the school calendar to follow the growth of the program.

We are also surveying students about other sports they are interested in, so we can keep the ball rolling. Please let us know any thoughts or ideas you have about building the sports program at KWHS.

College News...

by Shawn Pollman

It won't be long and KWHS will be celebrating the graduation of the 'Class of 2009'! Many of our seniors 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 - Dan Smith

This fall, Dan plans to attend Lawrence Technological University. Dan was offered an impressive scholarship of \$18,000/year to attend Lawrence Tech! He plans to study Programming/Design and Game Design. When asked about his future career goals, Dan commented that he "would just like to be happy!" But, he also added that he would probably like to choose a career that involved game design.

In addition to the scholarship award at Lawrence Tech, Dan also received several other scholarship offers. He was offered \$17,000/year at Kettering University, \$6000/year at the University of Michigan- Flint, and \$3000/year at Eastern Michigan University. Dan also received acceptance to Michigan Technological University. One interesting point to share was that Dan was notified that he was accepted as a 'high priority' student to Michigan State University when he never actually applied to MSU! But, who can blame MSU for attempting to recruit such a high quality student? KWHS would like to congratulate Dan on his success and wish him the best for his future plans. It was an honor to have Dan at KWHS for the last four years and he will truly be missed by all!

The 2009 Michigan Statistics Poster Competition

by Shawn Pollman

Students in Mrs. Pollman's Advanced Algebra 2 & Trigonometry class have been working on statistics posters for the 2009 Michigan Statistics Poster Competition. The competition is sponsored by the Department of Statistics and the Regional Math and Science Center at Grand Valley State University with support from the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics. A statistics poster uses numbers and graphs to tell the story of a data set. Whether the summary is a bar chart, histogram, or table of numerical summaries, the focus should always be on the meaning behind the data. In a well done statistics poster, the reader is able to discover the story behind the data by following the logical progression of the poster. The posters are due in class on February 20th and will be sent to Grand Valley State University the first week in March. Our students will compete in the 10-12 category. Prizes in the amounts of \$72, \$48, and \$36 will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each of the grade level categories.



Parents Meeting for Hike the Appalachian Trail

Mr. Coupland

Is your student thinking about hiking the Appalachian Trail with us during Project Term this year? Then come to our Parent's Meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 6-7pm in room 205! We will discuss the itinerary, costs, equipment, and preparation and answer your questions. This is a trip your student will remember for a lifetime! To give you an idea of what the trip will entail here is the class description. Questions? Send me an email at dcoupland@kwoods.org.

Hike the Appalachian Trail limit: 12 students cost: \$150 + equipment

Do you like the outdoors and enjoy walking? Are you in pretty good shape? Then this adventure might be for you! We will hike the famous Appalachian Trail for 5 days through West Virginia and Maryland. Along the way we will walk through Harper's Ferry, a restored Civil War town and national park, cross the Potomac River on a railroad bridge, and pass Civil War battlefields, mountain ridges, and spectacular overlooks. After the hike we will spend a day in Washington D.C. visiting the White House and other sights. To prepare we will go hiking twice a month during the spring and do one overnight camp-out (required). You can earn some or all of the money for this trip through a citrus fund raiser in February so don't let the cost stop you!