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KWHS Mission

To prepare each student for success in college, career and life through an engaging, challenging and innovative educational program that is student centered and promotes character and values.

Upcoming Events

Friday, February 5
End of Marking Period 1

Friday, February 12
No School, Staff Training

Monday, February 15
No School, Winter Recess

Friday, February 19, 1-3
Parent/Teacher Afternoon

A Message from the Principal...

by Jim Perry

It is that time of year when we get a lot of enrollment inquiries for second semester (and next year). As we speak with prospective families about coming to KWHS, we hear a lot of stories about what is not going well for students in the large high schools they currently attend. We are always very careful to give these inquiring families honest information about how we think our school is different than the larger high schools in the area and what our expectations are of our students.

We have found it to be true that our current families are our best promoters of the Kensington Woods Difference. I'm including some (very) simple talking points about our school that may help your conversations with inquiring friends, neighbors and acquaintances.

School Culture

What our school is like/how we are different

- Small and personal
- Teachers have positive relationships with students so they want to come to school.
- Teachers know what each student needs in order to reach their potential.
- Teachers and students agree to do whatever it takes to be successful.
- Students learn to take responsibility for all of their choices.

The Learning

How we reach all kids who decide to come to KWHS

- We take time to learn about how each student learns best.
- We teach the skills needed so students can get to where they want to go.
- Students always know what they have to do; they can take extra time and get teacher's help on revisions.
- Students can work at an accelerated pace with a course of study that matches their interest and ability.
- The school has a flexible schedule running from 7 to 7
- Students can take classes in a variety of ways - online, traditional or blended, all with a real world focus.

Warmest regards,
Jim Perry

ACADEMICS

Germany Trip Deadline Approaching!

by Markus Muennix

Traveling abroad is a great way to gain perspective of one's place in the world. This year, we are putting on another two-week trip to Germany, for which we are already in the final planning stages. As part of that process, we need a final number of students able to go on the trip. Any student interested in going needs to have successfully completed at the very least one semester of German. Costs for the trip are currently set at \$1,720, which includes airfare, room & board (breakfast and dinner) and several activities. Parents of interested students need to contact Mr. Muennix (mmuennix@kwoods.org) ASAP, with a \$1,000 deposit due by February 12th.

You can read more about the trip to Germany by reading the [Letter about going to Germany](#).

You can also see a video created by an alumni about his trip to Germany [here](#).

COLLEGE NEWS

FAFSA Time!

by Shawn Pollman

It's time to start thinking about FAFSA! (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

The FAFSA is the U.S. Department of Education's financial aid application required by virtually all colleges and universities for students to be eligible for need-based financial aid. The FAFSA is used to apply for federal student aid such as grants, work-study, and loans. You may also use the FAFSA to apply for most state and some private aid. You can complete the FAFSA electronically by using FAFSA on the Web, or you can fill out and mail a paper FAFSA. The FAFSA Worksheet for high school seniors is currently available online ([online version of the 2010-2011 FAFSA](#)). Please note that state deadlines may be earlier than the federal deadline. For example, the **deadline for the state of Michigan is March 1, 2010!** Remember to apply early before funds run out!

For more information visit <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

LEADERSHIP GROUP

KWoods Supports Earthquake Relief

by Jessie Pratt

Kensington Woods' Leadership group has decided to help support the Earthquake relief in Haiti. Leadership will be collecting donations through January 29th during Advisory and in the Main Office. All donations will be given directly to the American Red Cross for Haiti relief. If every KWoods family gave \$10, we would raise well over \$2500, which can be a great support for those in need. To find out more about how the American Red Cross is supporting Haiti, visit the Red Cross' [website](#).



DRAMA CLUB

Feature your Business with the Drama Club

Drama Club is now accepting advertising orders for the program for Barefoot in the Park. Its a great opportunity for you to advertise your business and support Kensington Woods High School. Personal ads to the cast are also being accepted! The performance dates are February 26, 27, 28, 2010.

Pricing:

- 1/4 page (2.75in x 4.25in): \$15
- 1/2 page: (5.5in x 4.25in): \$25
- Full page: (5.5in x 8.5in): \$40

We are also looking for donations for the set (building supplies and furniture) and volunteers to help build the set. If you are able or interested, please contact Jason at dramaclub@kwoods.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Stuff Going on at KWoods

2 Liter Pop Bottles Still Needed!

We will be collecting 2-liter pop bottles through February to be used in Project Green Winter, a recycled materials greenhouse. Please keep us in mind when you are returning bottles and drop your 2-liter bottles in the box by the Main Office!

Spirit Wear

We are now back in stock with Spirit Wear! Don't loose your chance to get the best spirit wear around; they make great Christmas gifts! To see what we have, visit <http://www.kwoods.org/campus/spiritwear.html>. To purchase Spirit Wear, contact Jessie Pratt

at jpratt@kwoods.org.