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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, October 9th**  
End of First Marking Period  
for Day School

**Tuesday, October 13th**  
Hot Lunch for students, \$5.00

## A Message from the Principal . . .

Our year is well off to a great start and our first progress reports are already being mailed out next week. I want to take this opportunity to encourage a partnership between parents, teachers and students as we all strive for the highest possible achievement this year.

The first five week progress report should serve as a good indicator for students and parents to see what is working well here and where improvement is needed. I am confident that we can assist every one of our students to achieve at their full capacity with this strong partnership.

If you find your student is falling behind or having a difficult time grasping some of the concepts in their courses, I urge you to come in during parent/teacher conferences to discuss how we might best work together to improve your student's academic success. We understand that parent input can often offer valuable insight that allows us to more effectively work with your child.

Parent/teacher conferences are certainly not reserved just for struggling students. We really hope to see all of our parents at either the evening session or the Friday afternoon session because your input about your child is so important to our job as educators.

Our year is off to a strong beginning and we are very pleased with the dedication and overall quality effort we are seeing from the student body this year. We are looking forward to an exiting year, rich with powerful learning.

Best Regards,  
Jim Perry

**Friday, October 16th,**  
**5 - 8:30 pm**  
Fall Festival  
Wildwood Ranch, Howell

**Saturday, October 17th, 8 -**  
**11:30 pm**  
Homecoming Dance in the Big  
Room,  
Semi-formal, \$10 ticket

**Wednesday, October 21st,**  
**5 - 8:00 pm**  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

**Friday, October 23rd**  
Teacher Appreciation Lunch  
Parent/Teacher Friday  
Afternoon Conferences, 1-  
3pm

## From the Parent-Teacher Group President...

by Debbie Uhley

Mark Your Calendars!



Going on Now Pie fundraiser with  
Gordon Food Service, information was  
passed out to students during Advisory.

**Tuesday, October 13** Hot lunch available at school  
for kids. \$5 includes food & drink and will get some  
beginning funds into our Parent-Teacher Group  
account. If you can help serve, set up or tear down,  
please contact Joyce Call at  
[stripes9711@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stripes9711@sbcglobal.net) or 517-545-7762.

**Friday, October 16** Homecoming activities at  
Wildwood Ranch in Howell 5:00 to 8:30. Flag  
football, bobbing for apples, etc., bonfire. Bring  
flashlights. We will need help with games, possibly  
half-hourly bathroom runs, no pun intended, with  
the use of pickup truck (if we don't have a better  
option, in which case we'll need a pickup truck).

**Saturday, October 17** Homecoming dance put on by  
Student Council in Big Room. Water, soft drinks,  
snacks, cookies will be served. Semi-formal attire,  
Glow-disco ball/fog machine theme.

**Friday, October 23** Teacher/Staff Appreciation  
Luncheon. Senior-class families are targeted to  
supply the food and help. If you want to pitch in,  
contact Julie Amman [sj\\_amman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sj_amman@sbcglobal.net) or  
810-227-8518.

## College News...

by Shawn Pollman

KWHS Juniors and Seniors, it's time to start making plans for college! Ms. Merrill and Mrs. Pollman are in the process of scheduling college presentations and campus tours at state colleges and universities. If any KWHS student would like to make a special request for upcoming presentations or tours, they can submit their requests to Mrs. Pollman.

### **Upcoming College Presentations at KWHS in the "Big Room"**

October 12th, 11:05-11:30 (Advisory)- ITT Institute

November 9th- 11:05-11:30 (Advisory)- Lawrence Technological University

### **Senior Advisory Requirement**

All KWHS Seniors are expected to apply to college and to provide proof of acceptance in order to earn credit for Senior Advisory. Listed below is a guideline for students and parents to use when making plans for college.

### **College Planning Calendar~ High School Seniors**

#### **September**

- Discuss your classes, college plans, and test scores with your high school counselor.
- Request college applications from the admissions office. Or, use College Answer's Online Application Search to see if your school's form is online.
- Arrange campus visits.
- Register to take the SAT/ACT, if necessary.
- Continue to search for free money (scholarships and grants) and others ways to pay.
- Submit a CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, if required.
- Stay organized: File copies of applications and correspondence. Keep your calendar up-to-date tracking important dates and deadlines.

#### **October**

- Review your transcripts to verify that the information is correct.
- Send transcripts to your selected schools-ask your counselor if you need help.
- Find out the application-of-choice used by each college.
- Ask for letters of recommendation. Most admissions and scholarship applications require these letters.
- Get some pointers on writing admissions essays and scholarship essays.
- View sample essays and essay questions.
- Download College Answer's College Fair Checklist (pdf).
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights.
- Candidates for early school admission (early decision, early action, early admission, etc.) should complete college applications. It's a good idea to investigate the pros and cons of this decision and to get familiar with the early admission timeline.



## Fall Festival

by Theresa Merrill

Come join us on October 16th for the Kensington Woods' version of Homecoming! This fun event will consist of a flag football game followed by a bonfire. The Parent Support group will be grilling hot dogs as well as providing drinks, snacks and smores for the bonfire. The football game is still in the planning stage, but it's looking as though the teams will be staff/alumni vs current students. Permission slips to attend as well as to participate in the game will be handed out early next week. Here are the details:

**Where:** Wildwood Ranch in Howell  
**When:** Friday, October 16th  
**Time:** 5:00-8:30 pm.  
**Cost:** \$5.00 in advance      \$7.00 day of

## Running Bears Continue a Successful Season

by Jessie MacGonigal Pratt

In recent weeks, runners on the K Woods Cross Country team have made major improvements on the cross country course while facing stiff competition.

On Saturday, October 3, the Bears competed in the Byron Invite. Jacob Honey finished first for the Bears, setting a career personal record (PR) of almost a minute. Josh McGahey followed closely, setting a PR of almost 2 minutes. James Zarish came next, setting a 3:31 minute PR. On the girls side, Carly Niedwiecki finished the race by setting over a 3 minute PR. Katie McGuffin came next, setting over a 2 minute PR, followed by Courtney Ferranti, setting a season PR.

The Cross Country team has also competed in 3 dual meets at their home course, Kensington Metropark's Possom Hollow, most recently versus the Cheryl Stockwell Preparatory Academy and



the International Academy of Flint. Jacob Honey finished first overall in the October 7th meet, followed closely by Josh McGahey. Mike McMann finished his first 5K, followed by James Zarish. On the girls side, Carly Niedwiecki finished first, followed by Courtney Ferranti.

Keep up the good work Bears!

## Trip to Washington D.C. by Bob Gluth

Kensington Woods High School announces its first school wide student tour to Washington D.C. This exciting trip will take place from June 2nd through June 6th as part of our Project Term classes.

Just a few of the highlights include a trip to the White House and the Capitol building, a tour of all of the significant monuments, a trip to Arlington National Cemetery where we will place a Kensington Woods High School wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We are planning a trip to the Annapolis Naval Academy and a trip to Mount Vernon. We will take a dinner cruise down the Potomac River. We will stop off and visit the famous DC Fish Market, A National Cathedral Guided Tour and many other events as well.

The total price for this trip is \$700.00 and includes transportation, Rooms at the Marriott, and all meals. The only extra money the students would need is for souvenirs. A payment plan is being offered by Travel Adventures and we plan to have several fund raisers to help offset the cost of the trip. We will be having an assembly for all students on Tuesday October 20th at 11:30 to explain the trip and we will also have a meeting that same evening at 6:30 for the parents.

This will be a first come first served basis and will definitely create a lot of great memories for the students. A Video souvenir of the trip for all students is also included with the trip. So please, mark your calendars for Tuesday October 20th at 6:30 pm so you can hear about this marvelous opportunity for our students.

## Senior Portraits and Ads

By Jessie MacGonigal Pratt

### Senior Portraits

Senior portraits for the Yearbook are due December 18. All seniors are asked to bring in a senior photo, in a close up style. Photos can be submitted to Jessie Pratt in a hard copy or digital format (preferred). Digital photos should be at least 2x3 inches at 300dpi and emailed to [jpratt@kwoods.org](mailto:jpratt@kwoods.org).

### Senior Ads

If you would also like a Senior ad, orders are due December 18. All proceeds go to support the Yearbook program at KWood.

- Ad Sizes
  - Quarter pages are no charge, when Seniors submit 2 additional photos (a childhood photo and a Senior photo of their choice, different than the Senior portrait above.)
  - Half pages are \$25, and include a dedication and your choice of three photos (or more if smaller).
  - Full pages are \$40, and include a dedication and as many pictures as you want.
- Photos can be submitted to Jessie Pratt in a hard copy or digital format (preferred). Digital photos should be at least 2x3 inches at 300dpi and emailed to [jpratt@kwoods.org](mailto:jpratt@kwoods.org).
- When purchasing a half or full page ad, the Yearbook staff will work with you to create the layout that you like!
- Senior ads can be kept secret, just contact Jessie Pratt at [jpratt@kwoods.org](mailto:jpratt@kwoods.org) to order.

Business ads are also available for purchase, contact Jessie Pratt for more information.

## Drama Club Supports the Community

By Jason Pratt

This year, the Kensington Woods Drama Club is participating in the Trick-or-Treat So Kids Can Eat (TOTS-EAT) program. We will be collecting non-perishables and canned goods throughout the month of October to donate to Gleaners Food Bank.

Please take the time to stop in and help fill up our donation boxes which will be in the Big Room. Your generous donations will go to help the more than 12 million hungry children in the United States, many of whom live right here in Livingston County.

Drama Club would also like to congratulate this year's Drama Club Officers:

- President: Erica Phillips
- Vice President: Emily Feskorn
- Secretary: Eryca Cottle
- Treasurer: Nick German

- Clerk: Sarah Mallon

Mark your calendars for November 13, 14 and 15th when Drama Club presents their fall production of *Prelude to a Kiss* by Craig Lucas.

If you have any questions or would like to assist us in our campaign to fight hunger, contact Jason Pratt at [dramaclub@kwoods.org](mailto:dramaclub@kwoods.org). Happy Halloween!