

THE PIRATE



We care.
We communicate.
We continuously improve.

West Carrollton School District



Pirate 2009-2010 Football Team

Pirates join GWOC

On November 4, 2009 the WC Pirates were invited to join the Greater Western Ohio Conference (GWOC). "We now have the stability in scheduling competitions, and we're a part of an athletic family," said WCHS Athletic Director, Rob Dement. "What a benefit to our students and community."

The GWOC now includes 18 teams, six in the north, six in central, and six in the south. West Carrollton Schools will be included in the south division. Other school districts in the south include Fairborn, Lebanon, Miamisburg, Springboro and Xenia. Dement said the obvious immediate challenge is that this is a very competitive league from top to bottom. "However, I feel our athletes will rise to the level of expectation. We get an opportunity to write our own chapter," he added.

The GWOC league members obviously recognize Pirate student athletes as solid competitors. "We're very grateful," said Dement. "And, this new league status is a direct result of the work our students, staff, and community have achieved while we were independent," said Dement. The district has been competing independently since 2006.

A few ways the Pirates earned a reputation as strong competitors regardless of league affiliation is by playing a competitive schedule and producing student athletes that were successful in the classroom and on the field. Many of these ath-

letes went on to compete at the college level.

When asked how this transition to league play will begin, Dement said, "I'm unbelievably excited for our middle and high school student athletes. The middle school students will begin competing in the fall of 2010. Varsity football will start league play in 2012. The remainder of the sports will be phased in as approved by the GWOC.

Superintendent Dr. Rusty Clifford said, "The GWOC is not only the premier league in Southwest Ohio. I believe it's the premier league in the state."

Dement added that the Pirate community continues to support WCSD students and student athletes in a big way. "They know there's something very unique here. Just come out to a game and you'll experience it," he said. For WC student athletes the league play will result in recognition opportunities for all academic and all league honors. For the community it will mean having a clear vision. Obviously, travel times to games will also be reduced.

"There's a lot of work to be done to get set for all the opportunities being a part of the GWOC brings, and I want to assure the community that we will be up to the challenge," said Dement. Please check the school website and select the drop down link, "Athletics" to find the most updated WCSD athletic news and information.

What's covered

League Affiliation
Update

Dollars & Sense
WCS D positions
itself for low mill
request

House Bill 1

Greater Dayton
Conference on Youth

Kettering Medical
Center & WCS D
Partner for Wellness

Pirate Announcements

Senior Citizen's Luncheon

Tuesday, December 15, 2009
12:30 p.m.

Shade Early Childhood Center
510 East Pease Avenue
West Carrollton

To make reservations,
call (937) 859-5121 x 1133

WCHS Vocal Expressions

West Carrollton High School Vocal Expressions is currently booking performances for the fall and holiday season. If you would like entertainment for your organization, business, or holiday function, please call director, Brian Coleman at 859-5121, ext. 7775 for more information.

WCSD positions itself for low millage request

WCSD continues to work to have the lowest millage possible on the May 4, 2010 school levy. One of the ways the district is in solid position to do just that is by employing an additional round of House Bill 264 upgrades, renovations, and improvements, according to District Business Manager, Dana Green.

House Bill 264 is an Energy Conservation Program that gives Ohio school districts the ability to borrow funds and then repay those funds through cost savings in energy from improvements. The WCSD has already saved \$60,000 in electric savings because of previous HB 264 renovations. Savings will continue over a 10-year timeframe.

The Energy Conservation Program has given many Ohio school districts the ability to save millions of dollars, all at no additional taxpayer expense. House Bill 264 was passed in 1985 and more than 500 Ohio school districts have taken advantage of it. The WCSD has gone through four rounds of improvements over the last 19 years.

The latest round includes a partnership with Waibel Energy Systems. District Operations Supervisor, Jack Haag said "we are currently working on another project to utilize new lighting technologies and solar power heating for domestic water. The savings will assist in paying for upgrades to boilers and HVAC units at both the WCMS and the Shade ECC."

The goal with all of the district's HB 264 projects is the same, to increase comfort for the students and staff while saving enough energy costs to fully pay for the improvements.

Haag added that most school districts receive a partial guarantee for their projects. "Three years is the standard," he said. "We have received a 10-year guarantee on our energy savings. This guarantee will also provide technical support and monitoring for the 10 year period."

All of the items on the previous and current HB 264 projects were included in WCSD's capital improvement budget for replacement. This work was slated to be done using tax payer dollars. Green added, "By utilizing HB 264 we were able to fast track these improvements and also move up the timetable on other needed work. The HB 264 project has allowed us to accelerate the rate of improvement to our facilities, without requiring additional taxpayer dollars."

House Bill 1 changes to come



Walter Shade Early Childhood Center all-day kindergartners keep quiet in the hallway.



Shade ECC students demonstrating Asset #25, Reading for Pleasure.

The Ohio Education Reform Plan continues to evolve. For up to date information, please go to www.westcarrolltonschools.com and click on "Dollars & Sense". On this page you will have an option to access the Ohio Department of Education's Reform Plan link.

Resident Educator Program will start. It will be a multi-year resident program where new teachers will mentor with experienced teachers for up to four years. The new program replaces the current one year mentorship. The district will decide if a teacher is tenured after seven years.

Funding to schools will not be pupil-based but will be evidence model-based. This new funding model will be calculated using several more components, factors, and variables than the previous formula calculation. Almost all districts in the state will receive between 99% and 100.75% of last year's funding; any future success of the evidence based formula will be very dependent on the State of Ohio's success in solving the budget crisis.

Ohio Graduation Test will be replaced with a standardized assessment, end of course exams and a senior project.

Some of the more significant changes parents and students can expect with House Bill 1 in the near future include the following:

Beginning in 2010-2011 School Year

Full day kindergarten must be offered in all districts no later than the 2011-2012 school year. WCSD may apply for a waiver to continue half day kindergarten and tuition-based all-day kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year.

The State of Ohio is revising requirements for teacher licensure. Beginning in Fall of 2011, the Ohio

What's New

at www.westcarrolltonschools.com ?

Sign up for your building's e-newsletter.

Take a look at the video of the week on the home page, "A Pirate's Life for Me".

View pictures from your student's classroom and/or building with ClassScene

WC staff, students participate in Youth Conference



WCMS Principal Doug Mescher enjoys catching up with former students Ashley Theiss and Mervat Elhindi (currently attending WCHS).

The fourth annual Greater Dayton Conference on Youth continues to boost the idea that service to others is paramount to individual growth. This year's conference hit that point home like no other. Nine WC middle school teams and 12 high school teams attended the conference as facilitators and/or participants on Day One of the conference.

Teams of students from all over the Miami Valley worked together to create ten different service project plans to be implemented within their school or community. What was unique about this year's youth conference is that the project plans were 100% student-driven. Some service projects

focused on providing support to senior citizens in the form of help around the house with odd jobs, delivering meals, or just reaching out to give company to someone who needs it because leaving the house is difficult. Others were centered on supporting young children in need. All of the service plans included identifying the community partners, supplies, and logistical details to bring the ideas to life.

The "take away" was that all these students left with a clear plan about how they can make an impact to build assets and improve their schools and community.

Day two of the conference was packed with high caliber speakers who covered topics including "100 ideas to improve school climate" and "relationships and attitude are the most effective resources." WCS D staff participated in big numbers. Teachers, building principals, administrators, and so many certified staff members demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of these assets every day impacting WC students directly. The Asset framework was embraced by the district five years ago. Here are just a few ways each building is involved in Asset Building.

Asset Building involvement...

Walter Shade ECC
Project for Luncheon
Girl Scout Troop makes placemats for annual Senior Citizen's Luncheon.

CF Holliday
Asset Assembly
Each class and/or grade level highlights the asset of the month in a unique way.

Frank Nicholas
The Magnificent 7
Staff targets top seven assets they can impress upon at school.

Harold Schnell
BRAVO Days
Building Relationships with Actions that Value Others, 40 BRAVO Teams participate in tangible, small group activities that focus on selected Assets.

Harry Russell
Asset Groups
Each student group is led by a staff member and focuses on asset and relationship building.

Middle School
Compass Period
13 minute period where WCMS teachers engage their students in a discussion about the Assets and how they affect their lives.

High School
Support our Troops
Students made care packages and designed personal cards for soldiers to read.



WCHS Sophomore, Clarice Perryman shares service project plan ideas with conference participants.



WCHS Senior, Janelle Jones involved in "Asset Building Speed Session".



**We care.
We communicate.
We continuously improve.**

Dial 211

If you need help with child care resources, food, shelter providers, special services for seniors, plus much more.

You will be linked to a community resource consultant.



Kettering Medical Center staff member reviews health article with WCSD teacher.

Hess to leave WC School Board

West Carrollton School Board Member, Doug Hess will finish up his second term on December 31, 2009. During his tenure, Hess has twice served as President. He said making the decision to pursue a position on the board was a significant one eight years ago because the district was in the midst of a challenging time. "I wanted to assume a meaningful role in the quest for solutions rather than stand on the sidelines and be the proverbial part of the problem". Hess added, "My experience on the board has been both enlightening and rewarding. Although the demand placed on my time by board commitments has been significant, I have felt a true sense of accomplishment and satisfaction which has provided repeated reassurance that my decision to join the process was a good one."

Last December Hess announced his intention to not seek re-election for a third term on the board.

By the October 30 deadline, the board received letters of interest and resumes from 10 candidates. All candidates will be interviewed in executive session during the month of November with an announcement to follow at the December 9, 2009 Board of Education meeting.

Shade ECC Parents, 2009-2010 **INCLEMENT WEATHER** **TWO-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE**

AM Kindergarten & Preschool
11:00 am – 12:52 pm

PM Kindergarten & Preschool
1:45 pm – 3:37 pm

All-Day Kindergarten
11:00 am-3:37 pm

REGULAR SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

AM Kindergarten & Preschool
9:00 am-11:52 am

PM Kindergarten & Preschool
12:45 pm-3:37 pm

All-Day Kindergarten
9:00 am-3:37 pm

KMC offers wellness fair

Kettering Medical Center and WC Schools help set the stage for a successful school year by offering a Wellness Fair to all staff that included Cholesterol and Diabetes Testing, Glaucoma Screenings, Flu Immunizations, Sun Awareness Screenings, among other health-related information this past October. More than 300 WCSD staff members took part in the initiative to make Wellness a priority thanks to the efforts of KMC.

WCEF marks 20th year

The Board of Trustees of the West Carrollton Education Foundation (WCEF) marks its 20th year anniversary. Since its inception, WCEF has been committed to fulfilling its mission to provide private funds for the promotion of excellence within the WCSD. These grants have been a significant factor in enabling teachers to deliver creative, innovative and challenging initiatives that would not otherwise be possible. The foundation is a non-profit organization with an all volunteer Board of Trustees. It relies on the generosity of its supporters to be successful. In these challenging economic times, help is needed even more. Money is raised for one specific purpose; to provide grants in support of WC students. In order to continue to maintain the financial health of the organization, the number of grants awarded in 2008 was reduced. It is the desire of the Board of Trustees to use this 20th anniversary as a starting point to grow revenue and endow this Foundation for the benefit of future generations. This can only be accomplished with public support. To make a gift to the WCEF, please visit www.westcarrolltonschools.com.

Contact Information

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West Carrollton Schools

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