



Westlake News Extra

Westlake PTSO

Hello Westlake Parents, Teachers, and Students:

Welcome to Westlake High School's 2007-2008 school year. A special welcome to all incoming Freshmen and their Parents and new Faculty and Staff. We hope that this school year will be as enjoyable as the years past. The Board Members of the Parent Teacher Student Organization are dedicated to making that a reality. The PTSO established here at Westlake is an organization that helps Teachers, Students and Parents to liaison with each other. We hope that you will use the PTSO as a tool to get information and or guidance on which way to turn for help.

Last year under the direction of Caroline Kauffman and her staff, the PTSO hosted various events throughout the school year; from a bake sale to programs where guest speakers were invited to discuss stress of test taking, and security in our schools. We also hosted Teacher Appreciation breakfast, luncheon, and Teacher Appreciation Week. The PTSO even provided a \$500.00 College Scholarship for one of Westlake's Seniors. However, none of these events could have been a success with-

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Congratulations to the PTSO Scholarship Winner!

We want to congratulate Nicole Marie Willis. Not only did she win the PTSO 2007 Scholarship, she was also the Class of 2007 Valedictorian. She completed her four years at Westlake with a 4.517 weighted cumulative GPA. Nicole was Drum Major for the Marching Band, earned a Varsity letter in tennis, and was a member of the National Honor Society and the History Club. Outside of school she is active in her church and in the Girl Scouts. She will attend Wilkes University and is enrolled in their School of Pharmacy, Pre-Pharmacy Program.

Way to go Nicole and good luck in all your future endeavors!

Thank you!

I would like to take this opportunity to say Congratulations to all the graduates of Westlake High School, may your futures be filled with great success. A special thank you to all the teachers & staff at Westlake High School for all of your hard work, support, and dedication throughout the year.

Next, I want to recognize the 2006-2007 PTSO President Mrs. Caroline

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Upcoming Events!

- September 18th—Open House
- October 4—College Info. Night & Gen. PTSO mtg.
- October 26&27—Homecoming



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Hello Westlake.....(Continued from page 1)

out the support of the parents, students, faculty and staff. The PTSO is not funded by the Charles County Public School Board so therefore all our support is possible through membership drive and donations. As always we appreciate your financial commitments but we are in much need of your physical presence and support as well. This year we would like our organization to grow in size and receive even more support, so please come out and join the PTSO and help your Westlake investment become a productive one. We hold open meetings to keep everyone informed and we hope to see you all at these meetings.

Again on behalf of all the Board Members of the 2007-2008 school year, welcome back to all our returning faculty, staff and students and a special welcome to all of our newcomers! Go Wolverines!

David T. Brown, President PTSO
Brownbear55@aol.com

Parents Advisory Committee News

~ JoAnna Wilson

Notes from the:

Parent Advisory Committee – Year End Meeting
April 24, 2007

Several topics were covered including a system update by Mr. James E. Richmond (Superintendent of Schools), system communication efforts by Ms. O'Malley-Simpson (Coordination Supervisor of Media Relations and Communications), and an instruction update by Ms. Judy W. Estep (Assistant Superintendent for Instruction).

The next high school and middle school to be built are being planned. The high school will have 2 theaters to be used for a multitude of activities from dance, music, drama to math and science exploration. The middle school is being designed to include the Journey to Jupiter program that uses a simulator. UMBC, CSM, CISCO and NASA are among the outside organizations that may support these programs.

The Communications Department wanted to learn the following:

- Where do parents get their information about Charles County Public Schools and their individual schools?
- Are we spending our communications budget in a manner that meets the needs of parents and students?
- Are parents using the web for communication? If so, what are they looking for in a school/school system website?
- What publications produced by the school system/schools are parents reading?
- What additional information do parents want?
- Are parents using the television station as an information source? What information would parents view, if offered, on the television station?
- How can we improve communications?
- Are parents satisfied with our communication efforts?

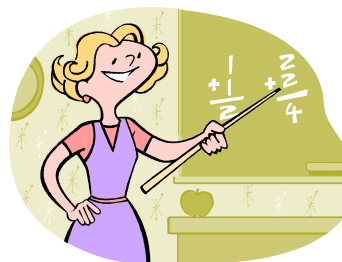
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Teacher Appreciation Week

Thanks to all that participated in helping to make this year's Teacher Appreciation Week one of the best ever. We received plenty of breakfast foods which led to a magnificent meal. We had the teachers talking for days about the event. A few of the gifts that each teacher received were coffee mugs from Wawa, coffee gift certificates from Einsteins, milk shake certificates from Checkers, and Chick-fil-a sandwich certificates. There were many gift cards, baskets and other gifts given to the teachers as daily drawings. All these activities were available because of the volunteers who went to each of the businesses asking for donations. Thanks again for all the time and effort that



you gave in making this event so tremendous.



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Kauffman for doing a wonderful job and for a position well served. On behalf on all The PTSO Board Members I would like to say thank you for everything you have done for Westlake High School, your hard work and commitment helped the school year run a lot smoother. We all will miss you next year! As this year's PTSO's President I hope that I am able to continue forward with the great success you started.

In closing, I want to say to all the PTSO Board Members, thank you for your help, hard work, and support, I look forward to working as team with you and continuing on with the great precedence that has been set.

Again thanks,

David T. Brown

Westlake High School

PTSO President 2007-2008



The PTSO Board

President	David Brown
Vice President	
Secretary/ Treasurer	Karen Mashinski
Newsletter	Lynn Wells
Membership	Caroline Cannon
Programs/ Assemblies	
Parent Advisory Committee	JoAnna Wilson
Scholarship	
Fundraising	
Principal	Chrystal Benson
Faculty	
Student Rep	



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The Communication Survey results are available at <http://www2.ccboe.com/publicinfo.cfm> under the What's New Section. 789 Charles County parents were randomly selected and surveyed in spring 2006.

The gifted program has been revised. The Maryland state law requires that gifted students must be identified. Charles County currently provides gifted services to 13 elementary and 5 middle schools. If you have questions or feedback regarding the program, please send comments to sbrewer@ccboe.com.

PTSO Officers Needed

We still have openings on the board. Please see a board member if you are interested in joining us!

Helpful websites.....



www.cafeprepay.com — You can manage your child's lunch purchases here. Log on and you can add money to their lunch accounts.

<http://www.ccboe.com/westlake/Guidance.html> — The Westlake High School Guidance office. This a great resource. You can make appointments, request transcripts and read important articles to help your student achieve their goals.



Westlake PTSO

Parents, Teachers, and Students working together.

The mission of the Westlake PTSO is to serve as a resource and voice for all parents, teachers and students. We strive to: share ideas and discuss concerns with Westlake Administration, offer support with the implementation of solutions to any issues that arise, and offer opportunities for ideas and suggestions to be realized.

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:

http://www.geocities.com/westlake_ptso/index.html

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