



WESTMONT PTSA

Westmont High School, 4805 Westmont Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008
westmont.cuhsd.org (408) 626-3406

www.westmontptsa.org

Principal's Message

By Owen Hege

We are now entering into our very important testing period of the year. On March 11 and 12 our sophomores had their first opportunity to pass the California High School Exit Exam. Based on various new support programs this past year, we are confident that more students will pass this exam sooner.

During the two week period beginning the last week of April and extending through the first two weeks of May, our students will be tested on the California Standards through a battery of tests known as the STAR Exams. As you should know by now, these tests play a crucial role in determining Westmont's annual API score that you see published in the newspaper. Last year Westmont was proud to report a jump from 738 to 754 in API score. However, our subgroup scores for particular ethnic groups did not meet up to the State's expectations for Westmont.

A new more rigorous goal will be set for Westmont this year, making it more important that all our students do their very best to achieve this higher goal. We will again be compared to scores throughout the state as well as a control group of schools with similar characteristics. **April 29 for English Language Arts, and April 30 for Mathematics** will be the two critical days of testing. Please pay close attention

to the exact schedule for these days and make certain that your students come to school rested on testing days. It is most important that all our students are present for all days of testing.

Recently it was announced by the Santa Clara County Board of Education that Westmont High School is the recipient of the prestigious Glenn Hoffmann Award for outstanding innovative programs. Westmont is being honored for our Special Education Inclusion model, which shows that we provide opportunity for all students to succeed.

Other schools in our district will be following Westmont's lead by beginning similar programs in the special education programs next year. At a Santa Clara County dinner and awards presentation on April 23, Westmont teachers Ilja Van Laar and Alicia Roberts will present an overview of our program to other educators of Santa Clara County. We are very proud of Department Chair Ilja Van Laar for her leadership over the past three years in bringing this program to such success.

NEXT PTSA MEETING:

TUESDAY, MAY 6th

in the library

Notes on Teaching and Learning

By Karen Stoneham, Vice Principal

STAR Testing Dates and Special Schedule for Westmont High: April 29th and 30th

All freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be testing. All seniors will attend senior-specific events which will be communicated via School-loop and the daily bulletin as we get closer to the date. These two test days cover NCLB English, math, science, and social science. By grade, here is a schedule for your children to follow these two days:

Tuesday, April 29

9th grade 8:25-11:30 AM
 10th grade 8:25-1:45 PM
 11th grade 8:25-1:45 PM
 12th grade 8:25-11:30 AM

Wednesday, April 30

9th grade 8:25-11:30 AM
 10th grade 8:25-1:45 PM
 11th grade 8:25-11:30 AM
 12th grade 8:25-11:30 AM

The California Standards Tests for the sciences will be taken within the regular science class on May 15th and 16th.

How to help us with an orderly and successful testing environment: Cell phones, calculators, iPods and other electronic devices are not allowed. Please don't bring these to campus on these days. Health and attendance are very important. Please help your sons and daughters get a good night sleep, eat breakfast, and arrive by 8:20 each morning.

Freshmen: These students will finish testing at 11:30 AM both days. Students can stay during lunch or be picked up from school. We will have lunch available in the cafeteria and our library/career center will be open for reading/studying after lunch until 1:45 PM.

Sophomores: These students have the most testing and need to stay until 1:45 PM both days. We've scheduled break and lunch and snacks to keep them motivated and nourished to do their best on these important exams.

Juniors: At the end of March, junior English 3 classes administered the Early Assessment Program essay that gives us feedback on their college-readiness, and potentially exempts students from SCU English and Math placement tests. The Math EAP will be given within our STAR testing schedule. The EAP data is pretty clear—students who do their best in high school and challenge themselves with the most rigorous 4-year high school courses in math and English are the most ready to step on a college campus and start their major without being routed backwards for remedial coursework. Please share the following link with your junior student: How EAP testing gives teachers and students feedback on CSU college-readiness: <http://eap2007.ets.org/viewreport.asp> (Select: Santa Clara County, CUHSD, Westmont, All Students)

Seniors: Attendance will be taken both days. AP Gov't seniors take their practice AP test in room 58 on April 29 with Ms. Atton and AP English seniors take their practice AP test in room 58 on April 30 with Mr. Evans. Other events may include college speakers, senior project progress reports, sign ups for senior project technology, hospitality and other logistics and service, distributing caps and gowns for graduation, senior panoramic pictures, and a senior BBQ.

Dean's Corner

By Andy Lewis and Jason Miller

With the weather warming up, the Deans would like to remind students and parents about the Westmont dress code. Female students are not permitted to wear halter tops, tube tops, "no back" tops, or tops with "spaghetti" straps. Also considered in bad taste are tops which expose excessive cleavage. Skirts and shorts should be of reasonable length. If in doubt about your wardrobe, speak with a Dean. Male students should not wear tops which expose the shoulders or exhibit excessive "sagging" of pants. Parents, please be aware of what your student is wearing to school, especially in warm weather. Students may be sent home to change if they are not dressed appropriately.

We've continued to have some problems with students bringing expensive electronics (cell phones, IPODS, etc.) and not protecting them by locking them in a locker during P.E. or lending them to a friend or acquaintance who then conveniently "loses" it. Best bet: don't bring them to school in the first place! Have a wonderful spring break as we prepare to head into the home stretch.

Guidance Department Updates

Every student will receive a copy of his/her course schedule for next year in the mail during the month of May. If a change needs to be made, please make the change on the form and send it back to Westmont's Guidance Office.

For seniors who plan to attend DeAnza College in the fall, there will be a mandatory placement test on Tuesday, April 15th from 9am -12pm in the College and Career Center.

Summer School applications are now available in the Student Service Center. The deadline to register is May 9, 2008. The first session of Summer School runs from June 23 - July 11, 2008. Session two starts on July 14 and ends on July 31, 2008. Both sessions begin at 7:30 AM and end at 12:15 PM. A student can earn 5 credits per session. A student taking Algebra 1 or Geometry would have to attend both sessions and would receive 10 credits.

College and Career Center Events

The College and Career Center will be hosting a **Freshman/Sophomore College Info Night** for students and parents on **Wednesday, April 16th** at 6:30 pm in the College and Career Center. Westmont counselor Monica Espinoza, San Jose State representative Tarrah Hartley, and volunteers from the College and Career Center will present and answer questions about the college process. Juniors and parents who didn't attend the College Information night on April 3rd may also want to attend.

The Career Center has arranged to transport interested Juniors by bus to the **WACAC College Fair** at Mission College on **Thursday, April 24th** from 10 am -12 pm. Representatives from over 150 colleges and universities will be there to share information. Students can sign up and get a permission slip in the Career Center on a first come, first served basis. The event is also open to all from 6 pm – 8 pm.

On Thursday, May 1st, we will take a bus of interested Seniors to tour **De Anza and Mission Colleges**. Students may sign up and get a permission slip in the College and Career Center. Mission College's hospitality program will provide lunch.

Fridays are a good day for students to find out about West Valley College and the community college system, as the center's Friday volunteer, Sarah Patterson, also works as a counselor at West Valley!



Energy Grant for Westmont

In June, 2007, Westmont teachers David Duarte (Agriculture) and Jim Earhart (Engineering Technology) received a \$10,000 grant from British Petroleum for a bio-diesel program at Westmont. This involves purchasing and setting up a bio-diesel pilot plant and two training plants. The plants are now on order and will become operational in the spring. Concurrently, the engineering students are learning the dynamics and economics of the petroleum and liquid fuels industry. One of their projects is to plan what steps must take place to reduce U.S. dependency on foreign oil. To their dismay, they are learning that, even with conservation, \$4.00 gasoline will appear cheap to them one day. Teachers Duarte and Earhart are casting about for a bio-diesel customer (free fuel) to demonstrate to their students how bio-diesel differs from petroleum-based diesel. Anyone interested—and who has a diesel vehicle—should contact the teachers.

Warriors Of Words Send Three To The State Championships!!!

WESTMONT'S SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM hosted the first State Qualifier tournaments of the year during March's opening weekend, continuing their recent streak of incredible success. Westmont had five semifinalists: Chris Kehoe in Impromptu, Alex Riad in Oratorical Interpretation, plus Sasha Sproch, Miles Witthaus, Tisha Rodgers, and Kyle Arrouzet all in Duo. But that's not all! Arrouzet went on to take 1st place in Oratorical Interp and qualify to the State Championships!

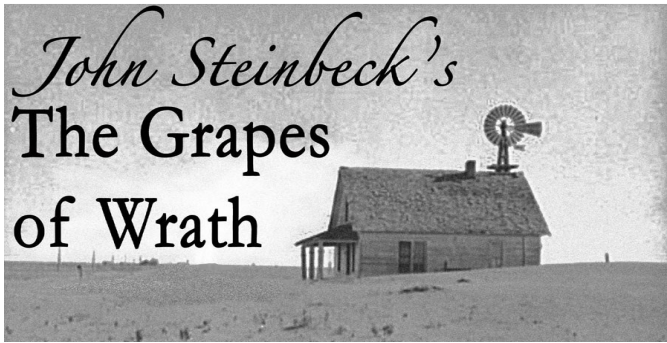
With momentum on their side, the Warriors of Words stormed through the rigorous final stretch of State Qualifying, entering four days of tournament competition in the span of one week, and scoring many triumphs along the way. At Leland on March 14 and 15, Lincoln/Douglas debaters Alex Riad and Miles Witthaus both advanced to the final rounds, with Alex winning a narrow decision to qualify for the State Championships! The following day, our speakers took the Leland stage and advanced six students to elimination rounds: Tisha Rodgers (Humorous), Loren Forrester (Dramatic), Miles Witthaus and Sasha Sproch (Duo) all earned berths in semi-finals. Alex Riad reached semi-finals in Dramatic and was a finalist in Oratorical Interpretation, grabbing 5th place overall. Similarly, Chris Kehoe advanced to semi-finals in Humorous and took home 7th place in Impromptu Speaking.

The finale came at the Student Congress qualifier at Fremont High on Wednesday March 19, where a squad of eight competitors scored six top honors. Tony Geravesh took home 3rd place in the Presiding Officer contest, Troy Estes tied for 3rd place in the Practice House, and in the Qualifying Senate bracket, Westmont scored a finalist in all four chambers! Daniel Kattan and Shannon Levis each took 7th place, Miles Witthaus placed 5th, and Chris Kehoe earned 2nd place honors to qualify for the State Championships!

When the dust settled, Westmont had qualified three students to State and earned 7th place in the Coast Forensic League. The CFL, unlike most CCS leagues and divisions, stretches all the way to San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties, and this was Westmont's third consecutive top-ten league finish! Congratulations to all of our dedicated Warriors of Words for an incredible run through the State Qualifiers!!!

TRACK AND FIELD FINALS AT WESTMONT!

Track and Field Finals are going to be held at Westmont High School this year on Tuesday April 29th and Thursday May 1st, from 3:00pm to about 6:30pm each day. We need volunteers! Parents and students, if you think you could help out, please contact either Athletic Director Brett Petersen or Coach Kirk Mansfield. This will be an amazing event, and any help possible would be appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support. *Go Warriors!*



Westmont High School Advanced Drama Class presents John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*. Winner of the 1990 Tony Award, this powerful and deeply affecting stage version of one of the masterpieces of American literature will be presented at Westmont May 8, 9 and 10 @ 7:30PM. Desperately proud, but reduced to poverty by the loss of their farm, the Joad family piles their few possessions on a battered old truck and heads west for California, fleeing the dust bowl of Oklahoma hoping to find work and a better life. Despite the stark realities of the Great Depression, the play becomes a deeply moving affirmation of the indomitability of the human spirit, and of the essential goodness and strength which then as now resides in the hearts and minds of the "common man" throughout the world. Tickets can be purchased online @ <http://www.westmontdrama.com> or in Room 3.

THANK YOU, PTSA!

On behalf of the Associated Student Body, I would like to thank the PTSA for supporting our on-campus dances this year. The coat check is an outstanding addition to the dances. A vast majority of the students who attended the dances stayed until the end of the dance. Because of safety and chaperoning concerns, it is crucial that the students remain at the dance the whole time. The coat check ensures that the students can focus on having fun and can fully participate in the entire dance. ASB looks forward to utilizing the PTSA provided coat check for many years to come.

-- Matt Kolda, Activities Director

Teen and Family Counseling Center

low-cost clinic in Campbell is open afternoons, evenings, and weekends by arrangement. Our counseling interns address such issues as substance abuse, stress/anxiety, family conflict, and behavior. We are here to help your student. For more information, please call (408) 370-9990 or visit the TFCC website www.teenfamilycounseling.org.

International Night, Westmont's fabulous show of one-of-a kind talent, will be held on Thursday, May 1st at 7:00 PM in the WHS Cafetorium! Acts from all over the world will grace our stage with song and dance from India, Iran, Mexico, Samoa, the Philipines, Somalia, Thailand, France, Germany, Turkey, Greece, Croatia, and the United States. Parent Volunteers are needed to sell tickets at the door and refreshments. For more information, call Elaine Weaver or Judy Murillo at (408) 626-3406.

Annual Spring Concert and Awards

will be held on Thursday, May 15th at 7:30pm in the Cafeteria. Admission is 5.00 and includes pie and ice cream at intermission. This program will feature large groups, ensembles, and outstanding soloists.

***OutSpoken* Performed at WHS During Unity Weeks**

Project Cornerstone will be hosting Westmont's annual Unity Weeks from April 14th - April 25th. These weeks will focus on bringing students together to increase tolerance of, respect for, and understanding of differences among individuals. The weeks will particularly focus on building a deeper appreciation of how culture is important to individuals. Activities will include a performance of The New Conservatory Theatre's Production of *OutSpoken* on Monday, April 14th, an art gallery, and a Spoken Word / Poetry Jam event. Students are also encouraged to meet new people by participating in intramurals at lunch.

Written by Prince Gomolvilas and directed by Sara Staley, *OutSpoken* is an innovative new play for teens based directly on the voices of today's youth. This unique theatre program looks at the many reasons teens feel ostracized in school, at home and in their community, including race, religion, sexual orientation, body type, etc. *OutSpoken* helps teens think about labeling and diversity within their community. Through *OutSpoken*, we hope young people will find new ways to move past their differences to a real place of tolerance, respect, acceptance and understanding. Each performance is about 60-65 minutes in length, including a discussion with the cast and student audience following the play. Preview a copy of the script at: <http://www.nctcsf.org/outspoken.html>

If you have questions about *OutSpoken* or about Unity Weeks, email Brook Wallace, Project Cornerstone's Faculty Advisor, at bwallace@cuhsd.org.



CSF & Honor Roll Club

WESTMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Fresh Choice Night

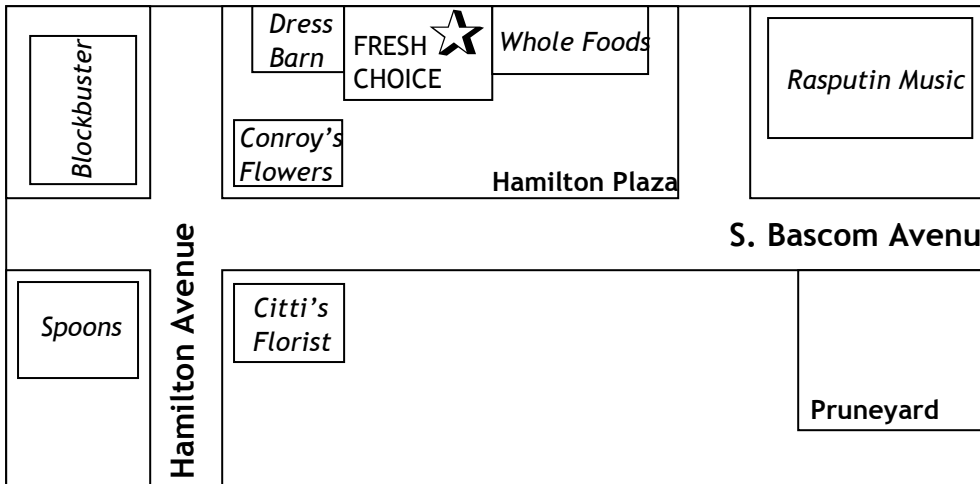


When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, April 28th, 29th, 30th
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Where: Fresh Choice in the Hamilton Plaza
1654 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008



Profits go toward scholarships and Westmont CSF & Honor Roll Club activities.



Your Name: _____ (Westmont High School)

Number In Party: _____
(Please only count adults and children over 5 years old)

Please mark one of the boxes that applies to you.

CSF Honor Roll Other: _____

- * Leave the bottom section of this form at the cash register to get your fundraising points!
- * The receipt must be attached for credit.
- * Sorry, no discount coupons may be used.



Westmont 2008 Senior Grad Nite Dance & Cruise Party!!!

Attention Seniors and Senior Parents: Grad Nite is coming sooner than you think! It's time to sign up and reserve your spot now!

As guests aboard the Hornblower San Francisco Belle, our graduating Seniors will enjoy:

- Bus transportation to/from Westmont High School
- DJ - - Dance, Dance, Dance!
- Blackjack tables - turn your winnings into Raffle Tickets for Big Prizes!
- Appetizer/Dessert Food Buffet and Soda Bar - yum, yum
- Safe Surroundings and Fun with fellow classmates
- All this while enjoying a beautiful cruise around the bay!

When: Thursday, June 12th (after graduation) 10:00pm - 4:00am
Where: Meet at Westmont to check-in and get on bus: 9:45pm
 Bus departs for San Francisco Pier 3 for cruise: 10:30pm
 Bus arrives back at WHS approximately 5:00am
 (Final agenda and schedule will be sent home later)
 For more info, send an email to: gradnite2008@westmontptsa.org

2008 Grad Nite Party and Cruise Order Form

_____ I would like to order (1) ticket @ \$115 (Please note: Price increases to \$130 after April 30, 2008)

I would like to make payments: Two (2) pymts of \$57.50 each _____ or Four (4) pymts of \$28.75 each _____

(Please note: Your first payment must be made by the April 30th deadline in order to "lock" in the \$115 price and the final payment is due by May 31, 2008.)

STUDENT NAME: _____ STUDENT PHONE# _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: _____

_____ Please call me regarding Financial Assistance. Best Time to Call: _____ AM / PM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

_____ I would like to make a donation of \$ _____ .

_____ I/My business would like to help sponsor a student (amount: \$ _____).

_____ I/My business would like to donate a raffle prize. Name/phone _____

*Return form and payment to WHS main office -or- Mail to: Grad Nite 2008 c/o Westmont High School, 4805 Westmont Ave., Campbell, CA 95008

2007-2008 Westmont Activities Calendar

The following dates are subject to change. The school calendar can be accessed on-line at www.westmont.cuhsd.org. Click on Event Calendar, My View, and select Westmont High School.

April 2008

- 1 PTSA Meeting - 7 PM - Library
- 3 College Info Night at West Valley
- 7-11 Spring Break - No School
- 14-25 Unity Weeks
- 15 Athletic Boosters Meeting - 7 PM - Library
- 16 College Info Night at WHS 6:30 PM
- 29-30 STAR Testing

May 2008

- 1 Mission/DeAnza College Field Trip
- 1 International Night at WHS 7 PM
- 2 End of 12-week grading period - Minimum Day
- 4 Athletic Boosters Pancake Breakfast
- 5 Minimum Day
- 5-9, 12-13, 16 AP Testing
- 6 PTSA Meeting - 7 PM - Library
- 8-10 WHS Drama Production "Grapes of Wrath"
- 9 Summer School registration deadline
- 13 Athletic Boosters Meeting - 7 PM - Library

May 2008, continued

- 15-16 STAR Testing - Science
- 17 Prom
- 20 CSF Field Trip to SF
- 20-21 Collaboration Days - Late Start
- 22-23 Biology Field Trip
- 26 Memorial Day Holiday - No School
- 27-31 District Art Show at Prospect High School

June 2008

- 3 PTSA Meeting - 7 PM - Library
- 4 Senior Recognition Night 6:30 PM
- 6 Drama Awards
- 10-12 Final Exams - Minimum Days
- 12 Graduation and Grad Nite
- 23 Summer School Begins