



September 2010

www.asdk12.org

Dear Parents,

As we begin this new school year, the excitement and enthusiasm being demonstrated by our students and staff is as strong as ever. Our teachers have been given the charge of positively and effectively engaging our students with instructional activities that are relevant, challenging and interesting. It is my firm belief that students learn best when they can see how what is being taught translates to the "real world" experiences and situations.

I'm pleased to announce that West Anchorage High School's preliminary AYP scores show an increase by 17% in Language Arts and 9% in Math for our Alaska Native/American Indian students. I would like to thank our community, entire staff and students for their help in making this possible. One of our goals this year is to continue this trend and to continue to work together to help our students succeed.

Please welcome Mrs. Johnson-Harris to West Anchorage High School. Mrs. Johnson-Harris is our new Activities Assistant Principal. Mrs. Johnson-Harris has worked in many culturally and academically diverse schools and will have no problem fitting into the West Anchorage community. Mrs. Johnson-Harris will be a strong addition to our staff.

A large thank you goes out to Lo Crawford and Lisa Mounds-Craft for starting our ninth grade ignition program. Our incoming ninth graders were introduced to this new program on the first day of school. We saw excitement and positive energy from our new freshman class. First impressions and experiences are critical to success and our freshmen are well on their way to having a positive and productive high school experience.

Finally, I would like to invite all parents to our Open House on Tuesday, September 14. A general orientation meeting will be held in our Auditorium at 7:00pm. At 7:30pm, parents will be able to visit their students' classrooms on an abbreviated six period schedule. We hope to see you here for our Open House.

Rick Stone
Principal

JROTC AK-033

Hi West High Eagles! So far this year has been a great success. We have had many events in which cadets have both participated in community service projects and had fun meeting other cadets in the corps.



The JROTC Summer Camp was held July 18 – 23. We woke up at 6:00 every morning to be in formation by 6:05. After the raising of the flags, a nice round of PT was done with our water, ponchos, whistles and flashlights. After PT the cadets had breakfast and the instructors would explain what activities they were doing that day. Within the five days the cadets spent there, we were taught many things including medical skills. We learned propelling, archery and riflery. During the came, we had a Black Hawk helicopter and an Air Force Rescue helicopter. Each cadet had the opportunity to ride in one of the helicopters. We also took a group of cadets to hike Gunsite Mountain. We managed to take 27 cadets and exactly 27 cadets came back. It took the cadets 22 hours to hike up and back Gunsite Mountain, staying the night after hiking the first two hours. On the last day of Summer Camp, we had cadets back their stuff and take their tents down. Some cadets took this last day after the work was done to go on a white water rafting trip.

We recently had West High Registration, cadets were instrumental in the process and worked the ID station. The Homecoming football game and dance is on August 28. Before the game there will be a Color Guard and Flag ceremony and at half time, we have the Saber Arch for the



homecoming princes and princesses.

We are looking forward to seeing the new cadets join the corps and we hope they will like JROTC and do as many events as they can, building character and leadership skills from their experiences.

HOME COMING

Counseling Corner



Counseling Dept. Phone Extensions

Ms. Nancy Brain, AP, Curriculum	2588
Mr. John Conroy (Ni-S)	2558
Mrs. Lourdes Crawford (T-Z)	2562
Mrs. Miriam Dean (A-D)	2556
Ms. Keely Maitland (E-Ka, Span. Im 9/10)	2560
Ms. Mounds-Craft (9 th gr)	2552
Mrs. Tawana Wilson (ELL-Mb-Z)	2554
Mrs. Michelle Yoon (ELL-A-Ma)	2560
Mrs. Judy Friar	2575
Mrs. Johanna Utterback	2539
Mr. John Owens (SPED Dept Chair)	2542
Mrs. Gina Wall (SPED)	2648
Ms. Debi Wilson (Psychologist)	2546
Ms. Cindy White (IEP Clerical)	2532
Mrs. Gail Rutz (CRC)	2540
Mrs. Laurie Sweet (Registrar)	2504
Mrs. Yolanda Fuerer	2503
Ms. Kate Frazier (CITC)	2564
Ms. Patricia Hanley (Grad Coordinator)	2642

Especially for Seniors:

Seniors are advised to complete their college entrance tests no later than January. Registration can be completed by application (available in the CRC) or online at www.collegeboard.com for SAT and www.ACT.org for the ACT. Juniors are encouraged to take the SAT and ACT in the spring and again in the fall of their senior year. Some schools require SAT II subject tests as well. The College Board recommends that students take subject tests after completing the related high school course.

Seniors check your college applications deadlines. If you have applications due December 30, January 1, or January 15, you will need to give those applications to your counselor by December 1, 2010.

From the Career Resource Center (CRC):

SENIORS-- Check online on the West webpage for the Fall Scholarship Bulletin.



SEPTEMBER

All September--

"Sample" Scholarship Portofolios are available to review in the CRC. SENIORS, hope you have already started working on yours!

September 10--last day regular registration for October 9 SAT college prep test

(www.collegeboard.com)

September 17--last day regular registration for October 23 ACT college prep test (www.act.org)

September 12, Sunday, 3:00 p.m.--

Exploring College Options (register online: <http://www.exploringcollegeoptions.org/>)

Duke University, Georgetown University, Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Stanford University

Hilton Anchorage Hotel

500 West 3rd Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

OCTOBER

October 9, Saturday--SAT Test (1st one of the school year), Service High School (must be preregistered)

October 16, Saturday--PSAT Test (signup will be in the CRC, the end of September, makeup test date is October 13 at KCC)

October 23, Saturday--ACT Test (must be preregistered)

October 24-25, Sunday and Monday--

ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS: A College and Career Fair is scheduled at Anchorage Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center (I will get out times as soon as available). Over 100 colleges and universities will be present to promote college success and to provide enrollment information to Alaskan students and potential students. Institutions invited to attend this event include 2 and 4 year Universities and Colleges, Technical Trade Schools and Private Institutions.

Activities Corner
Tina Johnson-Harris
Assistant Principal

Greetings! I am Tina Johnson-Harris, the new Activities Assistant Principal. It is a pleasure to be back at West High School. For those of you who may not know, I was a teacher at West from 1998-2002. West side spirit is stronger than ever!

There are many opportunities for students to get involved in extra-curricular activities. So far, seven sports have begun and by winter we will be in full swing with 15. Congratulations to the varsity football team! They upset Service with a 38 to 35 win and gained a tough win over Colony, 7 to 6.

This year there will be 12 games played at our stadium. Please come out to support the West Flag Football squads and JV and C Boys Football at these games. We are excited to be playing games on our field. The field is in good shape, thanks to the work of ASD grounds, Byran Stenhjem and his crew and bleacher seating will be provided thanks to the generosity of Wendler Middle school.

Homecoming will be on August 28th, Saturday at the Anchorage Football Stadium. There will be many games played: Flag Football JV Team at 3:30 PM, Flag Football Varsity at 5:00 PM and Boys Varsity Football at 7:00 PM. The dance will be on August 27th, Friday at 8:00 PM in the West cafeteria and students are reminded to bring their student ID to gain entry into the dance.

Support the Eagles!



Non-Discrimination Statement
For all ASD Publications

It is the policy of the Anchorage School District to provide equal educational and employment opportunities, and to provide services and benefits to all students and employees without regard to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, gender, marital status, change in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood or other prohibitions. This policy is consistent with numerous laws, regulations, and executive orders enforced by various federal, state, and municipal agencies, including but not limited to Executive Order 11246, Title 41, part 60-1, 60-2, 60-3, 60-20, Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and Section 504.

Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the School District's Equal Employment Opportunity Director, who also serves as the Title IX Coordinator, Boniface Education Center, 5530 E Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, AK 99504-3135, (907) 742-4132 or to any of the following external agencies: Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services.

WEST PTSA
Corner

CARR'S RECEIPTS NEEDED!

Student helpers get a free West t-shirt
and enter a drawing for an Ipod Touch!



Did you know West was the #3 earning school in the entire United States for the 10% Back-to-Schools Program in 2009-10? We earned \$21,000 for West!



We want West to be number 1 in 2010-11! This can only happen in two ways:

- 1) Families bring in Carr's receipts from home - put them in the collection bin in the main office!
- 2) Students go into Carr's stores and collect receipts from shoppers!

All the funds collected go right back to West High. Teachers, groups, and activities can apply for these funds throughout the year via the PTSA/Eagle's Cache grants program.

REMEMBER:

- 1) SAVE YOUR CARR'S RECEIPTS and bring them to school September 18th through October 9th.
- 2) Students earn a new West t-shirt and are automatically entered in a drawing for an iPod Touch for each 2 hour shift collecting receipts from Carr's shoppers at Aurora Village.

The part we need is at the bottom of the receipt.
It looks like this:

10% Back-To-Schools

Thanks for your continued support of
the 10% Back-To-Schools program.

Bring in this reward receipt to your
local school, or process your donation
at www.backtoschools.escrip.com
ENTER THIS NUMBER 0000000250035869843
Must redeem by 10/13/2009.

Teachers & Staff: Free Membership!
The PTSA has decided to sponsor all
teacher/staff memberships in 2010-11. You
can expect one of our student board
members or their helpers to ask you in
person to join the PTSA. All fees will be
covered by your West PTSA!

GRANTS INFO FOR TEACHERS AND COACHES – new requirements

All teachers or coaches planning to request \$1,000 or more from the PTSA in 2010-2011 **must** have their groups help with eScrip, the PTSA's source of funding for grants. Your group **must** help with eScrip in one of two ways to be eligible for the higher level grants (\$1,000+) in 2010-11:

- 1) Go to Carr's Aurora for a two-hour time period to sign up eScrip supporters or collect receipts for 10% Back-to-School from September 18th through October 9th.
- or -
- 2) Bring in 10 new sign-ups from your activity's participating families for eScrip.

Go to the Grants tab on the PTSA page at the West website for more information on grants:
<http://www.asdk12.org/schools/west/pages/NewWest/Information/PTSA/PTSA.html>

Next PTSA meetings:

Wednesday, August 25, 5:30 in the Main Office Conference Room
Wednesday, September 22, 5:30 in the Main Office Conference Room

Celia Rozen, the PTSA eScrip coordinator will be happy to schedule the two-hour Carr's events or to supply you with eScrip forms for your activity's families. Celia's contact info: westhighpts@gmail.com or 786-7676 days, 344-3280 eves.

16 EXCITING HANDS-ON CLASSES AFTER SCHOOL FOR ELECTIVE CREDIT AT KCC

**September 28 – November 3, 2010
3:00 – 5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday
REGISTRATION STARTS
SEPTEMBER 1**

*Classes will be announced on September 1
See your high school counselor for an application
Open to all students grades 9-12 • All classes are
introductory level
Transportation to KCC provided*



Staff Services

Welcome to all new and returning West Anchorage High School students!

Changes!

You will find a few changes this school year. First, our bell schedule has been modified to maximize instructional time and the passing periods have been reduced to seven minutes. Don't worry, the two minute warning bell is still in place. However, this means students will need to plan ahead to be on time for class.

The front parking lot and west parking lot have new signs posted regarding student parking. Please be aware that student parking during school hours is by permit only. Students must process parking permit applications and fees at the Student Services Office.

The new fire alarm system has been replaced and is fully operational. This new system has state of the art technology to provide detailed detection, location, and response assistance.

Attendance

This first week or two of school will be an adjustment for students to locate their classrooms and process our new bell schedule. Please work with your student(s) to ensure they schedule their time wisely to be on time to class. In addition, please discuss with your student(s) the importance of maintaining a good attendance record.

Sometimes students make the decision to skip a class. This decision to be truant will reduce the opportunity for successful outcomes. If trancies become excessive, a student is in jeopardy of being withdrawn from that class period. Withdrawal from a course would be recorded on the students transcript which affects grade point average and eligibility status.

Attendance Probation letters will be mailed to parent/guardians after a student has reached 8 absences in one or more classes. All absences (excused, unexcused) are counted in this report. This report is a status report to communicate to parent/guardians what our records reflect. Please contact us if our records reflect inaccurate information or if you have any questions on our notice procedures.

Students who accumulate 13 or more absences in a course, or courses, may be withdrawn for non-attendance. We work closely with students, parents, teachers, and counselors to retain students who find themselves in this situation. If academic success is possible, we strive to retain students. If the excessive absences prevent a student from passing a course, then the withdrawal process for that course would take place. Again, please contact us if our records reflect inaccurate information or if you have any questions.

Craig T. Walker
Assistant Principal, Staff Services



