

WMST-PCHS Parental Involvement News

Our December PTSA Meeting

Our December PTSA meeting consisted of parents discussing items of concern. Some of the follow up items discussed from previous meetings are as follows: *Parents request for a weekly lesson plan from teachers*—it was explained that parents can see weekly assignments by logging onto Power School.

Parents desire for improved and integrated communications—it was explained that the school has a new parent notice/alert system that is interactive to parents called SchoolAnnouncement.com.

Improved communications about tutoring for students with low grades and making it mandatory—it was explained that it is very important that when attendance to a particular program is implemented as mandatory that the parents feel the need to impress upon the student the understand-

ing of mandatory and encourage absolute participation. The implementation of mandatory programs are expensive; teachers, personnel, equipment, building cost—all of that is part of the mandatory agreement. Finally, for several pre determined student circumstances, tutoring is mandatory. For example, the Tenth Grade Academy (which consist of after school tutoring) is mandatory for all tenth graders. The Academic Success Program is mandatory for students performing below a grade standard of 2.0. And tutoring is encouraged and offered to all students Monday through Friday from 3:45 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Parents are free to make tutoring mandatory for their student.

PTSA meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Parent Center at the school.

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The International Baccalaureate Program

Washington Mathematics Science Technology PCHS is a candidate school for the **International Baccalaureate Program (IB)**. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that WMST believes is important for our students.

International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) as IB World Schools can offer any of its three academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), or the Diploma Programme. **Ms. Althea Rainge**, one of our esteemed teachers of English and Literature, has been appointed as the **International Baccalaureate Coordinator**. Please feel free to contact her with any questions, 202.636.8011.

Only schools authorized by the

Claire's Gourmet PTSA Fundraiser

The PTSA Spring fundraiser is Claire's Gourmet a Baltimore, Maryland based company that sells many tasty and popular food items .

We will give you the exact date for the beginning of the fundraiser in addition to all due and delivery dates.

Look for this information in future Parental Involvement News Issues.

Claire's offers as items for purchase cheese cakes, pizza, pretzels, cookie dough, cakes, éclairs, apple pie and pecan cobbler. These items will arrive just in time for your table or any celebration.

Our PTSA President, Ms. Barbara King, would appreciate your support. Show your WMST Panther Spirit, participate in our PTSA fundraiser!

The Office of Student Services

The **Director of WMST-PCHS Student Services, Mr. Enrique Watson**, has just a few words for parents about his role as director and the mission of his department.

Mission: Profoundly influence the academic achievement, aspirations, decisions, and future plans of all students.

The Guidance/Student Services staff at Washington Mathematics Science Technology Charter High School carefully monitors the academic progress of all students, paying particular attention to grades and graduation requirements for seniors. Our goal is for every student to be on track for graduation. In an effort to collaborate with you to support our students, I am sending you this notification.

Please encourage your child to attend the Field Trip to the Martin Luther King Junior Memorial Library on

March 1, 2010.

Your son/daughter will have an opportunity to access and apply to all available Scholarships in the United States of American for which he/she qualifies.

Remember: Direction not intentions determines destinations.

Mr. Watson was previously one of our Spanish teacher at WMST and is very popular with both teachers and students.

The Department of Student Services is available to assist you with senior graduation needs, student achievement issues, financial aid advice, student transcripts, class changes or selection, academic advice, and encouragement as well as many other student interest. ***Ms. Barnes*** and ***Ms. Gray***, both Counselors, and ***Ms. Larmouth***, the Counseling Assistant, are also a part of the Student Services staff. Please feel free to contact Mr. Watson and his counseling staff at 202.636.8011.