

Westlake High School

September Newsletter

The mission of Westlake High School is to provide all students with the opportunity to learn and be successful in a positive environment that encourages high standards, offers challenges, celebrates cultural diversities, promotes teamwork and prepares students for a productive place in the local and global community.



Principal's Message

..... Chrystal P. Benson, Principal

Welcome to a new school year. Our faculty and staff members have spent the summer preparing for our students. Our students have adjusted to their schedules, teachers and other daily routines. As the standards for excellence rise higher and higher, so does the commitment from Westlake's faculty and staff.

We have quite a few new faculty and staff members. Join me in extending to them a great Westlake Welcome! They are: Mr. Fred Sanford, Business; Ms. Yolanda Curtis, Computer Science; Mr. Trevor Gillum, Computer Analyst; Ms. Holly Folsom and Ms. Heidi Hanson, English; Ms. Sylvia Mathis, Food Service Assistant Manager; Mr. Robert Griffiths and Mr. Zachary Sarver, Math; Mr. Franklin McMillian, Physical Education; Mr. Bradley Grey and Mr. Justin Meeder, Science; Ms. Rochelle Savoy and Ms. Kathryn Wathen, Social Studies; Mr. Eric Bradford, Ms. Erika Epps, Ms. Donzella Hartwill, Ms. Judy Hume, Ms. Dawn Reney and Mr. Joseph Zaleski, Special Education; Ms. Courtney Brunone and Mr. Michael Picchiello, World Language.

As of Friday, August 28th, we have 1,524 students enrolled at Westlake High School: Grade 9 – 439; Grade 10 – 398; Grade 11 – 338; and Grade 12 – 349.

We would like to congratulate the Class of 2009. They accumulated over six million dollars in scholarship money. We also want to congratulate the members of the Class of 2009 for their SAT average. Their average was 1498, which was 3rd among the six high schools in Charles County, 34 points above the county average and one point above the state of Maryland average. The Class of 2009 had 150 students who took the ACT and 60 who took the SAT. We wish them much success in the future.

Please talk with your child about his/her academic goals. Teachers, counselors and vice principals are available to assist you and your child as needed. By now, all students should have turned in their signed emergency cards. If you have not signed and updated your child's emergency forms, please do so and have your child return the emergency forms to the main office. For safety reasons, anyone requesting to remove a student from school will be asked for picture identification. Please review the parent handbook in your school system calendar. It has a lot of important information.

We would like to see all parents and students at open house on Monday, September 21st. Our school communication plan will be given out at open house. PTSO and other parent booster organizations will also have information tables during open house.

PTSO meetings will be held the second Monday of each month. Our first PTSO meeting is Monday, September 14th, at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all parents. Band, Athletic and NJROTC Boosters' meetings are held on the same evening at 7:00 p.m. This allows parents to attend PTSO and their specific booster meeting on the same evening.

We wish all members of fall sports teams a great season. We encourage all Westlake fans to come out and support our teams. A schedule of all fall sports can be found on the Westlake website, www.ccboe.com/westlake. Westlake's homecoming will be celebrated the week of September 28th. The homecoming game will be played Friday, October 2nd and the dance will be Saturday, October 3rd.

I would like to wish all members of the Westlake family a great school year. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

*Sincerely,
Ms. Chrystal P. Benson, Principal*

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Alexis Williams, 10th Grader, at Westlake! Alexis was chosen out of over 1,000 students to go on a People to People trip to Australia for 21 days! Her experiences included swimming with crocodiles and sharks; going to the top of the Sky Tower, 850 feet in the air; and meeting with the Aboriginal people and learning their culture. What a great experience for Alexis!

The following talented Westlake High School students have been selected to have poems published in the Pine Tree Poetry 2009 Anthology Collection:

Jovan Brooks	Briana Sutton	Zyair Simpson
Michael Berry	Tyauna Blanks	Tony Vo
Priya Mathur	Alexia McGowan	Jonathan Archer
Zekedra Miller	Amanda Rexroth	Nel Lepe
Charles Robinson	Donnisha Peacock	DaShawn Thompson
	Darius Yorkshire	

STAFF RECOGNITION

Once again, Mr. Newcomb, Science Teacher here at Westlake, will be participating in the Northrop Grumman Foundation Weightless Flights of Discovery Program. The Weightless Flights of Discovery program is all about giving teachers the tools and experiences they need to show their students that math and science are not only entertaining, but can also be the basis for a fascinating career. Mr. Newcomb will be experiencing “weightlessness” on October 2nd. Good Luck, Mr. Newcomb.



*Advancement Via
Individual Determination*
[L. avidus]: eager for knowledge

Westlake High School has been selected to participate in an in-school academic support program called Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Three schools, General Smallwood Middle School, and Westlake and Henry E. Lackey high schools, are adding AVID to help prepare students for college eligibility and success. AVID places academically average students in advanced classes and is part of the school system's continuing efforts to eliminate achievement gaps for minority, rural, low income and other students without a college-going tradition in their families. Team members at each school received one week of training this summer to implement the program and to incorporate AVID methods throughout the school.

The program at Westlake High School is officially up and running with 23 students currently enrolled in the program. Students are recommended for the program by their teachers and counselors. All interested candidates must go through an interview process before being enrolled in AVID.

AVID is a rigorous academic program that includes Cornell note-taking, study skills, writing, time management just to name a few things that students will gain from being enrolled in the AVID.

This is just the beginning. The Westlake family is excited about this opportunity that has been afforded to us and the community.

AVID Details:

Grade 10 with grade-specific curricula

Required for all AVID students

Taught by trained AVID teacher

AVID materials support ("AVID libraries")

Course provides students with skills to help them succeed in college-preparatory classes

Tutoring takes place at least twice weekly in AVID class

AVID lessons are designed to address four areas: Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, and Reading

www.avidonline.org

For additional information please contact Mrs. Cheaves, AVID School Counselor or Mr. Brooks, AVID Administrator.



Fall Drama Show

Westlake Drama will be holding an informational meeting on Wednesday, September 2nd from 2:30 to 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium. We will discuss audition requirements, character type, and rehearsal expectations for our fall show, Look Homeward, Angel. This play is based on the novel by Thomas Wolfe and is a comedy-drama by Ketti Frings, produced by special arrangement through Samuel French. Please see any of the drama teachers if you should have questions. Looking forward to seeing you there!



ANIME CLUB NEWS

The 2009/10 Anime Club officers, Raneesha James, Tony Vo, and David Moore will be working to prepare activities and club procedures. Anime Club anticipates a September 9th meeting with all new and returning members. The Anime Club will announce its first meeting over the school announcements. Also, please pay attention to our showcase located on the 2nd floor in the 9th grade hallway. New members are invited to join.

Open House

Westlake invites you to attend our Open House on Monday, September 21st, at 7:00 p.m. You will have a chance to meet your child's teachers and follow the schedule that your child takes every school day. We look forward to seeing you!

PSAT/NMSQT TESTING

The PSAT/NMSQT will be given at Westlake High School on Wednesday, October 14th. All 10th & 11th grade students will take the PSAT and the cost for these students will be covered by Charles County Public Schools and Westlake High School. The cost for any interested 9th grade students will be \$13.00. These students will need to see Mrs. Wilhelm in Guidance before September 23rd to register for the test.



Underclass Pictures

On Tuesday, September 8th, all Underclass students will have their pictures taken for the yearbook.



9th Grade N2S Kits



Every 9th grader should have an N2S Kit in order to meet the academic achievements desired by our 9th Grade Academy teachers. The N2S kits are available in the main office at a cost of \$25.00. Included in the kit are five 3-ring notebooks, five packs of notebook paper, five sets of dividers, one pencil pouch, 3 pens and 3 pencils, and a student planner.

The Producers

We are always looking for Parents who want to get involved with our Theatre Company!

We will gladly accept assistance, experience, and donations.

Our first “Producers” meeting will be held Tuesday, September 29th @ 7:00pm in the Westlake Auditorium

For more information please contact:

Ed Shafer

Thespian/Drama Club Sponsor

eshafer@ccboe.com

301-645-8857 ext. 158163

2009-2010 Season

Fall Show:

Look Homeward,

Angel



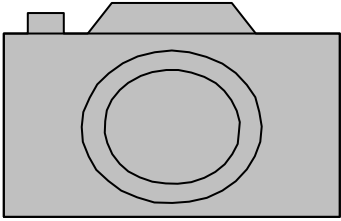
*November 19th, 20th, 21st
at 7:00pm*

Spring Musical:

The Wizard of Oz



March 18th, 19th, 20th
at 7:00pm
2:00 Matinee on Sat. 20th



***SENIOR PORTRAITS Make-Up Days
for the Class of 2010 will be held:***

- ***Thursday September 3rd***
- ***Friday September 4th***
- ***Wednesday September 9th***

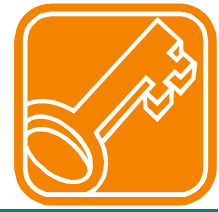
Essentially this is your last chance to be photographed for the Yearbook.

Please be aware that the Yearbook will only use Prestige Portraits. No photographs from other photographers will be accepted for the Senior Portrait Section of the Yearbook. You are not required to order your pictures from Prestige. A sitting fee will be charged if you have more portraits than your yearbook picture taken.

If you have not received a Senior Portrait Information Packet in the mail from Prestige Portraits, please see Mr. Adeeb in Room 249.

Look for your Senior Portrait Appointment Time in the DISPLAY CASE near the LIBRARY.

For questions about Senior Portraits, see Mr. Adeeb in Room 249.



WESTLAKE KEY CLUB NEWS

Want to serve your school, your community as well as your country? Want to learn leadership skills, develop your character, and perform community service? Then you should join the Westlake High School Key Club. You can learn all of these things and more as well as meet new people and earn student service learning hours. The Key Club is the oldest and largest service program for high school students. In addition, Westlake High School boasts the largest Key Club in Southern Maryland.

There will be a Key Club interest meeting on Wednesday, September 2nd, in the Chorus Room at 2:30 pm. All grade levels are encouraged to attend. The Westlake Key Club Sponsors are Mrs. Gray and Mr. Sanford.

We look forward to seeing you there...

"The Westlake Key Club" - "Serving the school, community, and the nation".

Giant A+ Bonus Bucks !!!

Giant Bonus Bucks fundraiser will begin soon. Westlake HS raised close to a thousand dollars last year. Remember to register your Giant Bonus Card and designate Westlake ID # 02862. Cards may be registered in the library beginning September 1, 2009. Ms. Hardison is our building coordinator for this fundraiser.

REMINDERS



Attention Parents/Guardians: Just a reminder that all cell phones, walkmen, Ipods, hats, MP3 Players, PSP's and other electronic games and communication devices will be confiscated from students who bring them to school. Please help us with this important reminder by passing this information on to your student(s). Westlake is not financially responsible for any of these items if lost or stolen.



Westlake's September Calendar of Events



<i>Wed., Sept. 2nd</i>	<i>Informational Drama Meeting – Auditorium</i>	<i>2:30 – 3:00 pm</i>
	<i>Key Club – Informational Meeting – Chorus Room</i>	<i>2:30 pm</i>
<i>Thurs., Sept. 3rd</i>	<i>Senior Make-Up Pictures – Auditorium</i>	<i>3:00 – 8:30 pm</i>
	<i>NJROTC – Parent Night – Cafeteria</i>	<i>5:30 – 7:00 pm</i>
<i>Fri., Sept. 4th</i>	<i>Senior Make-Up Pictures – Auditorium</i>	<i>3:00 – 8:30 pm</i>
<i>Sat., Sept. 5th</i>	<i>Freshman & JV Football – Cox Stadium – vs. Chopticon</i>	<i>5:30 – 9:30 pm</i>
<i>Mon., Sept. 7th</i>	SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED	
<i>Tues., Sept. 8th</i>	<i>Underclass Pictures – Auditorium</i>	<i>7:30 – 2:15 pm</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Catawba College – Career Center</i>	<i>1:30 pm</i>
	<i>Auditions – Fall Show – Auditorium</i>	<i>2:30 – 4:30 pm</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Volleyball vs. McDonough – Gymnasium</i>	<i>4:30 – 8:00 pm</i>
<i>Wed., Sept. 9th</i>	<i>College Visitation – Christopher Newport Univ. – Career Center</i>	<i>7:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – High Point University – Career Center</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>
	<i>Auditions – Fall Show – Auditorium</i>	<i>2:30 – 4:30 pm</i>
	<i>Senior Make-Up Pictures – Auditorium</i>	<i>3:00 – 8:30 pm</i>
<i>Thurs., Sept. 10th</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Boys Soccer – Cox Stadium vs. Patuxent</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
<i>Fri., Sept. 11th</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Field Hockey @ Westlake vs. Patuxent</i>	<i>4:00 pm</i>
	<i>Varsity Football – Cox Stadium – vs. McDonough</i>	<i>7:00 – 10:00 pm</i>
<i>Sat., Sept. 12th</i>	<i>Varsity Field Hockey Tournament – Westlake Tournament</i>	<i>9:00 – 4:00 pm</i>
<i>Mon., Sept. 14th</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Field Hockey @ Westlake vs. Lackey</i>	<i>4:00 – 7:00 pm</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Boys Soccer – Cox Stadium vs. Lackey</i>	<i>4:30 – 8:00 pm</i>
	<i>PTSO Executive Board Meeting – Media Center</i>	<i>6:30 pm</i>
	<i>Athletic Boosters Meeting – Career Center</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Wed., Sept. 16th</i>	<i>College Visitation – Albright College – Career Center</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Washington College – Career Center</i>	<i>1:30 pm</i>
	<i>Cross Country Meet @ Westlake vs. Northern</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Volleyball vs. Chopticon – Gymnasium</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
	<i>Freshman & JV Football – Cox Stadium vs. La Plata</i>	<i>5:00 pm</i>
<i>Thurs., Sept. 17th</i>	<i>College Visitation – Lycoming College – Career Center</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – University of Maryland/Baltimore Campus – Career Center</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Girls Soccer @ Westlake vs. Chopticon</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
<i>Fri., Sept. 18th</i>	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
<i>Mon., Sept. 21st</i>	<i>College Visitation – Methodist University – Career Center</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Frostburg State University – Career Center</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>
	OPEN HOUSE @ Westlake	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Tues., Sept. 22nd</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Boys Soccer – Cox Stadium – vs. Northern</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
<i>Wed., Sept. 23rd</i>	<i>College Fair @ North Point – 11th & 12th Graders</i>	<i>12:15 – 1:15 pm</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Field Hockey @ Westlake vs. Northern</i>	<i>4:00 pm</i>
<i>Thurs., Sept. 24th</i>	<i>College Visitation – West Virginia Wesleyan – Career Center</i>	<i>7:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation –</i>	
	<i>College Visitation – Marymount Manhattan – Career Center</i>	<i>8:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Old Dominion University – Career Center</i>	<i>9:30 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Liberty University – Career Center</i>	<i>11:40 am</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Hood College – Career Center</i>	<i>12:30 pm</i>
	<i>College Visitation – Averett University – Career Center</i>	<i>1:30 pm</i>
<i>Fri., Sept. 25th</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Girls Soccer @ Westlake vs. North Point</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
	<i>JV & Varsity Volleyball vs. North Point – Gymnasium</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
	<i>Varsity Football – Cox Stadium vs. Huntingtown</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Mon., Sept. 28th</i>	INTERIMS ISSUED	
	<i>JV & Varsity Volleyball vs. La Plata – Gymnasium</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
<i>Tues., Sept. 29th</i>	<i>JV & Varsity Boys Soccer – Cox Stadium vs. Great Mills</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>
	<i>Theatre Boosters – Auditorium</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>
<i>Wed., Sept. 30th</i>	2-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL	
	<i>JV & Varsity Field Hockey @ Westlake vs. Great Mills</i>	<i>4:00 pm</i>



September News from Westlake High School

Visit www.ccboe.com/westlake

For more WESTLAKE news

.....*featuring articles about*

- Remarks from the Principal
- Student/Staff Recognition
- PSAT Testing
- Key Club News
- Anime Club News
- Giant A+ Bonus Bucks
- Westlake Theatre News
- Underclass Pictures
- Senior Make-Up Pictures
- Career Center News
- September Calendar of Events



Café PrePay

Parentsthis is the fast, easy way to pay for school meals. Log on to cafeprepay.com and make a payment to your child's school lunch fund.

ATTENTION: PARENTS/GUARDIANS/STUDENTS

Westlake High School is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal items such as electronics and clothing.

Get your Westlake Spiritwear Online!
www.youofficialgear.com

www.ccboe.com/westlake
Click on "Career Center" for news on
Scholarship & College & Career Information

Distinguished Scholar Award Results List

Last Name	First Name	Achievement Status	Talent Status	Talent Category
Brown	Kathryn	Honorable Mention		
Buntz	John	Semifinalist		
Burley	Miesha	Honorable Mention		
Canare	Krystle	Honorable Mention		
Ibrahim	Ronnie	Honorable Mention		
Koster	Jessica	Honorable Mention		
Landgraf	Kelcey	Honorable Mention		
McCool	Ross	X	Honorable Mention	Instrumental Music
McGinnis	Amy	Honorable Mention		
Nigh	Sarah Riemer	Honorable Mention		
Pierce	Leo	Honorable Mention		
Segarra	Jeanine	Honorable Mention		
Tarlton	Amelia	Honorable Mention		
Welch	Dylan	X	Honorable Mention	Vocal Music