



INSIDE WEST ALLEGHENY

A publication for West Allegheny School District employees

Fall 2008

WA Vocal Groups Perform for Student Programs



Red Ribbon Rap

Wilson fifth graders Anthony Prohaska and Mark Behme (front) and staff members Kathy Taylor, Kim Fredericks, Bob Meehan, Kelly Britton, Karen Meyers (middle), Darren Humbert, Laura Jack Laurie Cole, Renee Caruso, Brittney Kuhn, and Nicole Zdinak (back) launched Red Ribbon Week on October 20, 2008, with their performance of "Red Ribbon Rap" encouraging students to make good lifestyle choices, like being drug free.



1950s Quartet

McKee Elementary Student Council's 1950s Week opened with musical entertainment by a 1950s quartet (from left: Board member Patrick Konieczny, McKee music teachers T. J. Fox and Mark Hoffman, and Superintendent Dr. John S. DiSanti) on October 28, 2008. The program was designed to raise money for charity and allow students to experience life in the 1950s through displays, a timeline, posters, and a 1950s car show.



West Allegheny 2008 Holiday Concert Schedule



- ❖ **Wilson Band & Chorus**
December 4, 7:00 p.m.
Wilson Elementary School
- ❖ **Donaldson Band & Chorus**
December 8, 7:00 p.m.
Donaldson Elementary School
- ❖ **McKee Band & Chorus**
December 9, 7:00 p.m.
McKee Elementary School

- ❖ **Grade 6 Band & Chorus**
December 11, 7:00 p.m.
Stewart Morgan Auditorium
- ❖ **High School Show Choir**
Holiday performance schedule
to be announced



- ❖ **Grade 7 Band & Chorus**
December 15, 7:00 p.m.
Stewart Morgan Auditorium
- ❖ **Grade 8 Band & Chorus**
December 17, 7:00 p.m.
Stewart Morgan Auditorium
- ❖ **High School Choruses**
December 19 & 20, 7:00 p.m.
Stewart Morgan Auditorium

District Welcomes New Employees for 2008-09

Added to the West Allegheny School District staff directory for 2008-09 are the following members of the administrative team, the faculty, and the support staff.

Conferences Focus on Art Programs

Debra Turici, Wilson/Donaldson art teacher, gave a presentation at the Pennsylvania Art Education Association Conference in Harrisburg on October 24, 2008. The topic of her presentation was *Advocating the Arts: How You can be a Leader of Change*.

Tom Snyder, district arts coordinator, and Debra Turici, Wilson/Donaldson art teacher, attended the Pennsylvania Art Education Association's Mini-Conference on September 27, 2008, at the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit.

Staff Supports Cancer Research

The district staff raised \$1,235 on Lee National Denim Day, a fundraising effort to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease. Employees wore denim to work on October 3, 2008, in exchange for a \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The school nurses at each building coordinated the collection as part of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.

Administration:

--Kenneth Fibbi, director of buildings and grounds

Faculty:

--Rachel Campbell, psychology intern

--Kristin Franks, Wilson special education teacher

--Brittney Kuhn, Wilson fifth grade teacher

--Hillary Mangis, school psychologist

--Julie McGough, middle/high school special education teacher

--Bob Meehan, Wilson fifth grade teacher

--Bill Morosetti, high school math teacher

Long-term Substitutes:

--Amy Boesenberg, Wilson first grade teacher

--Lisa Meehan, half-time Wilson kindergarten teacher

--Michelle Piagessi, middle/high school home and school visitor

Support Staff:

--Jean Borgo, McKee lunchroom aide

--Leanne Kocuba, McKee instructional aide

--Lisa Midgley, Donaldson instructional aide

--Barbara Monaco, middle school instructional aide

--Jennifer Rogers, Wilson instructional aide



The following new administration and faculty members for the 2008-2009 school year were available for a photograph on August 26, 2008: (front) Brittney Kuhn, Lisa Meehan, Rachel Campbell, (standing) Bill Morosetti, Amy Boesenberg, Bob Meehan, and Ken Fibbi. Missing from the photograph are Kristin Franks, Julie McGough, Hillary Mangis, and Michelle Piagessi.

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In-Service Programs Stimulate Staff Development



The first staff in-service program for 2008-09 held on August 26, featured the State of the District Address by Dr. John S. DiSanti, Superintendent (right) and a keynote address by motivational speaker Roger Crawford.



Dr. William Englert, Jr., Assistant to the Superintendent for Personnel and Student Support Services, and Mary Kelsey, district office secretary, present an overview of the new automated substitute scheduling program (AESOP) at the staff in-service program on August 26, 2008.

Wilson Staff Enjoys PTA Breakfast



Wilson staff members were treated to an appreciation breakfast on October 3, 2008, hosted by the Wilson PTA. Pictured are Debbie Ireland, secretary, and Becky Schroeder, school nurse.



Sophia Hanna, Kristen Tracy, Melissa MacNeil, Jeff Kiser, Lynn Birnie, and Leon Strimel complete district guidance plans at the October 13, 2008, staff in-service program.



It is the policy of the District not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age or handicap in its educational programs, services, facilities, activities or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 Regulations of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 204 Regulations of the 1984 Carl D. Perkins Act or any applicable federal statute. For information regarding this policy, contact Compliance Officer, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, West Allegheny School District, P. O. Box 55, 105 Pine Street, Imperial, PA 15126, 724-695-3422, or the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, DC 20201. The school district shall not discriminate in the operations/functions of the district on the basis of sex, color, national origin, religion, marital status, or handicap.

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Staff Supports Leukemia Walk



West Allegheny High School Junior Nikki Lipinski (front) recruited a team of volunteers, "Nikki's Knights," to raise a total of \$3,808.48 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at the Light the Night Walk on October 2, 2008, at Heinz Field. Pictured with Nikki are West Allegheny High School staff members Colleen Cunningham, Beth Voltz, Michelle Glunt, and Bob Palko.

Donaldson Staff Prioritizes Wellness

A group of Donaldson staff members are participating in a ten-week Weight Watchers program, which began on October 8, 2008. Meetings are held each Wednesday in the Donaldson music room from 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

Resources Available for Families In Need



District families with school-age children, who need support services, particularly during the holiday season, may contact the following: Lynn Birnie, high school, 724-695-5252; Pearl Hellmann, middle School, 724-

695-8979, Ext. 5233; Kristen Tracy, Donaldson, 724-213-1014; JoAnn Biscan, McKee, 724-695-5267; Karen Tracy, Wilson, 724-695-3300, Ext. 5304; and Meredith Gillo, District Office, 724-695-5219.