

# K-12 PTA NEWS

October 2007

*The next PTA meeting will be Monday November 19 at Webutuck High School at 6:15 PM*

## Yankee Candle Fundraiser

Our fall fundraiser begins Oct 10 and will be a Yankee Candles catalogue with not only candles but also wrapping paper and other gift items. Packets will go home with students K-8. This is our main fundraiser for the year. We appreciate your support. High school parents and students, there are packets in the main office, please stop by and bring one home. It is through your support of our fundraising that we are able to support programs for the K-12 students.

## Treasurers Report

Here is a list of our recent disbursements:  
H.S bulletin boards \$86.00.  
School nurse supply closet \$50.00  
HS Yearbook class for students \$160.00  
Middle school Locker Day barbecue \$200.

## Book Fairs

The Book Fair at WES is October 29-Nov 2.  
At AES, the Book Fair will run October 15-October 19. The Co-chairs for the elementary schools are Trini Stevens 373-7466 and Michele Coffin 373-7156. Volunteers are needed!

The Book Fair at EBMS will be Oct 22-26.  
Volunteers are needed to man the fair at lunchtime.  
To volunteer call Tina Robustelli, EBMS Vice President at 845-789-1135.

## Greenpoints

The Webutuck PTA has a half million points.  
The easiest way to donate your points is at the store check out. A special catalogue is published for school related materials such as maps and teachers are consulted about their needs.

## Vote on November 13

There will be a special District VOTE on transportation and EXCEL project.  
At the BOE meeting on September 24, the Board approved the scope of the EXCEL project and the transportation resolution for the public vote on November 13, from 12 noon until 9 PM.

Proposition 1, if passed, will replace the Millerton roof and begin the security swipe card system at WES, EBMS and WHS. The \$705,000 for these projects is from state aid in form of EXCEL funds.  
**\*\*\*\*\* Voting for this project will not cost taxpayers any additional money.**

Proposition 2, if approved, will allow the district to purchase 1 large bus, 2 smaller van/bus, and 2 cars for a total cost of \$213,000 for all 5 vehicles. The district feels the needs to purchase smaller vehicles to accommodate the various small runs needed for individual students.

Watch for a date on a public forum to present the information and the opportunity to ask questions regarding the two resolutions.

## Webutuck Community Day

Community Day will be Saturday Oct. 20 from 9am –3pm at Amenia Elementary School. It will be a fun filled day.

## Make a Difference Day

Make a Difference Day and the Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Oct. 27 at Webutuck High School. Please contact Sue Campbell, teacher at WES, at 373-4122 if you would like to donate or volunteer for the Blood Drive.

## High School News

Our PTA supplied the funds for the autumn decorations outside the high school/middle school building. We thank Joann Herald and Laura Grey for decorating. No sooner were the decorations up when yearbook photographers snapped student pictures there.

## Drug Free

**Red Ribbon Week – Drug Free – Oct 19 – 23**  
The PTA funded the purchase of a banner, ribbons, and stickers for HS staff and students. Physical Education Teacher, Doug Winslow and P.E. and Health Teacher Kathleen Kelly will incorporate Red Ribbon week into their curriculum.

## ASPCA

The high school community has been participating in the **ASPCA Challenge** since Sept. 18 and continues until Oct. 19. The drive

has collected money and as well as the following important items: wet and dry cat or dog food, blankets, towels, crates, paper towels, hand sanitizer and bleach. The challenge is based on a points system for the items and the grade that has the most points will win a prize. The students are collecting through their advisory group. Any questions, call Deputy Strid at 373 -4107.

## Middle School News

EBMS parent-teacher conference will be held Thursday, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:45 – 2:15 and 5PM-6:45 PM.

It is a half day for the students. If you have not signed up for an appointment, please call the middle school office at 373-4114.

### Middle School Dance

The first dance scheduled for the Middle School will be on Friday Oct. 26.

## A loss for Webutuck

On a sad note, we send our condolences to the family of 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher Liz Reihl, on her unexpected passing in September. Parents, students and staff were upset by the news.

Her middle school colleagues and students are in the process of planning how to celebrate her life with a memorial of some form.

## Elementary School News

### **WES**

The Halloween Social at WES grades 3-5 is on October 26th from 6-8pm.

WES Grandparents Luncheon is on November 6th. \*\*\*\* I need volunteers and bakers for both occasions. Call Sue Lopane at 518-789-3159.\*\*\*

### **AES**

AES Grandparents Luncheon is on November 15. Call Sharon Vesely at 373-7795 to volunteer and bake for that day.

### **Thank You**

Thanks to Laura Calabrese, Aimee Brockmueller, Dominique Eboli, Jody Watson, Gulden Caldas, Erica Mahaffey, Diane Marshall, and Melissa Moschillo from Melissa's Hair Magic for their help on Picture Day.

## Welcome new principals

Welcome to our new high school principal, Jay Parsiphany.

Mr. Parsiphany who just started on Sept. 30, has been working in education for over 20 years, both as a teacher and administrator. His previous positions include assistant principal at Linden Hall School in Hawthorne and principal at Lincoln Hall in Somers. He has been getting to know the students, staff and community these first few weeks and has been impressed with the cooperation and interconnectedness of the Webutuck community.

*We are also pleased to welcome Mr. Joel Freer, the new Elementary Principal, and Mr. Jerry Husted the Interim Principal at EBMS*

## 2007-08 PTA Officers

Valarie Corcoran PTA President, 373-7045

Joann Herald VP of WHS, 845-789-1111

Tina Robustelli VP of EBMS, 845-789-1135

Sue Lopane VP of WES, 518-789-3159

Sharon Vesely VP of AES, 373-7795

Pat Ackerman Treasurer, 373-7192

Joanne Boyd 6-12 Secretary, 373-7805

Lenore Salmons K-5 Secretary, 373-7313

## Membership

The PTA is in the process of forming an email list so that parents and staff can be kept up to date with the activities in our district. **Please fill out the membership form below** and clearly print your email address so you can receive 'breaking news' as well as timely reminders. Membership to the PTA is \$5 per person.

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## Membership Form

Dues are only \$5 each year and go to support the National PTA organization and a portion remains to help support our local chapter. Please include this form and send it to school along with dues in envelope addressed to the PTA treasurer. You will receive an official PTA membership card!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's homeroom teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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### *From Mr. Jerry Husted, EBMS Interim Principal*

I'm pleased to have been given this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Jerry Husted and I have been the Interim Principal of Eugene Brooks Middle School since the end of August. My role is to lead your middle school until a permanent principal of quality can be found. I retired in 2003 as a principal in the Wappingers Central School District. Since then, I've worked as a museum educator, a ranger and starter at a golf course, a car transporter, and, on four occasions, an interim principal. There is nothing that I find more rewarding and satisfying than working with children, parents, and teachers.

I'm in the unique position of being an outsider coming into your school and your community for the first time. From that perspective, I would like to share with you my impressions. I see your community today as similar to where I grew up in Wappingers in the 1950's. I'm struck first by the beauty of your rural landscape and your villages. Having been welcomed by nothing but good wishes and warm greetings, I see you as kind and caring people committed to the good of your community and the positive growth of your children.

I continue to be amazed by the high quality of your school building, your school staff, and the programs that have been put in place. My experience tells me that the comparatively small class size average and the goal-centered instruction found here are essential ingredients for student success. Program such as ACE provide valuable support for students who need a little more attention to succeed. There are countless academic and social advantages to attending a school of this size. In fact, there is a national trend away from large schools with enrollments over 1,500 students to smaller settings with enrollments of less than 800 students. In short, you are not just doing something right. You are doing many things right. I congratulate you on the fine school system that you have and thank you for the opportunity to be a part of it.

