



FALCON FOCUS

WHEATON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2006

A Message From The Principal...

Dear Parents,

As I write this letter, second semester has begun. It is amazing how quickly the school year moves. Wheaton North continues to provide opportunities in and out of the classroom for our students so they will be successful in high school and beyond. Our students and their accomplishments continue to be a source of pride. Just recently, Christopher Ferrer, orchestra, and Scott Kramer, choir, were selected to the IMEA All-State Orchestra and All-State Choir. They performed during the last week of January at the IMEA Music Convention. We are all very proud of them.

During first semester, WN conducted an extensive data retreat reviewing how our students perform on the **Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE)** and other standardized assessments. (Please refer to enclosed article on PSAE/PLAN.) We also reviewed courses of study and grades. We then developed a profile for students who may need additional assistance in order to meet state standards prior to graduation. As a faculty, we evaluated what we can do school wide in order to improve individual student performance. Our short term goals include a second semester lab course to assist juniors in need of mastering standards due to gaps in their course of study. We also continue to provide after school assistance to all students through our STRIVE program. Please encourage your son/daughter to take advantage of this if needed. Finally, beginning the second week of February, we will conduct a weekly 20-minute homeroom in order to increase our 9th-11th graders ability to perform well on standardized tests. Seniors will use this time to access counselors or concentrate on their studies. Long term we will continue to renew and revise our curriculum's ability to meet state standards and prepare our students for their future.

As a community, you should also share a sense of pride in the accomplishments of this school. It is our intention to keep you informed through the Falcon Focus. This semester, as a means to familiarize parents with Wheaton North High School, I will be offering **Freshmen Parent Coffees** during the month of February. Please see the enclosed information as participation is limited. We are also excited to announce that the new Field House is finished. We are offering **Field House Community Track Usage** during early morning and late evening hours for residents to utilize, Monday - Friday. Again, please see enclosed information.

As you read through the Falcon Focus, please make note of the many upcoming programs and events. Wheaton North is an exciting place. I am very proud to be the principal of this school. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the high school. We are happy to serve you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jill Bullo
Principal

The Billboard

February 1
8th Grade Parent Orientation 7:00 p.m.

February 9
Concerto Concert 7:30 p.m. - Auditorium

February 11
Turnabout Dance 7:00-10:00 p.m.

February 14
Booster Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.

February 16
Northside Band Festival 7:30 p.m. - Neibch Gym

February 17
Half Day In-Service - 10:35 a.m. Dismissal

February 20
NO SCHOOL - President's Day

March 3
NO SCHOOL - County-Wide Institute Day

March 7
Booster Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.

March 9-11
Musical, *Guys and Dolls*

March 18
Booster Club Dinner/Dance Auction 5:30-11:30 p.m.

March 23
Spring Choral Concert 7:30 p.m.

March 27-31
NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

April 26
PLAN Testing (sophomores)

April 26-27
PSAE Testing (juniors)

May 27
Commencement Ceremony at COD 3:00 p.m.

SUMMER DRIVER EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Attention to any student who is interested in taking Driver Education over the summer. Registration will be held from April 3rd - April 7th from 7:15a.m. - 2:15p.m. in the Wheaton North Guidance office. Students will be placed on the registration list according to their birthday. Priority will go from oldest to youngest to fill both sessions. Students will have the ability to sign up for one of the two sessions this summer. Session I will go from June 12th to July 7th and Session II will go from July 10th to August 4th. All students will be eligible to get their license at the same time regardless of what session they are enrolled in. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Driver Education Department.

Thank You,

Mike Oleszek 784-7490
David Eaton 784-7495
Steve Holland 784-7488

Wheaton North High School
One Falcon Way
Wheaton, IL 60187-3189

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Turnabout

The Turnabout dance will be Saturday, February 11th from 7:00 - 10:00 pm in Neibch Gymnasium. This year's theme is Under the Sea. Tickets are \$30 per couple, \$15 per single and will be sold during all lunches. Students will enter Door #16 (north side of the building). Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. **NO ADMITTANCE after 7:45 p.m.** All school rules apply. We look forward to seeing everyone for an enchanting evening of dancing!

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF TEENAGE DRIVERS:

Wheaton North Driver Education wants to inform you of two **NEW CHANGES to TEEN DRIVING LAWS:**

1. Effective July 15, 2005 - (PA 94-0240) Prohibits the use of cell phones for drivers under the age of 18, unless it is for emergency purposes, while driving a vehicle.
2. Effective January 1, 2006 - (PA 94-0241) Each driver under the age of 18 years **AND** each of the driver's passengers under the age of **19** years shall wear a safety belt.

From The Health Office

If you anticipate needing a copy of a school physical for work or camp please call 784-7327 as soon as possible. The health office will be closed over the summer break.

Several reminders for the parents of graduating seniors:

1. You should receive a copy of your student's health and immunization records with the Senior Newsletter that you will receive this spring. *If you do not receive a copy of this please call the WNHS health office at 784-7327.* Many colleges and universities require a copy of these records. It is a good idea to make a copy for your home file and for your student to keep in their personal file for future use. Doctor's offices do not keep these records indefinitely. These records are not available from WNHS over the summer. After graduation, records can only be released by completing the **Request for Transcript** form and there is a charge for future copies.
2. If your child is going off to college, it is important to consider giving them the **meningococcal vaccine** to protect them from the most common forms of meningitis. The American College Health Association (ACHA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that college students, especially those living in dormitories, receive the vaccine. We encourage you to talk to your healthcare provider about the meningitis vaccination before college begins. The DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) administers this vaccine to students. Call them at 682-7560 for information on availability.

FRESHMEN PARENT COFFEES

Attention parents of current freshmen. First semester is finished. Your son/daughter has had time to adjust to high school. **However, as a parent, you still have some questions or curiosity as to how the high school operates.** Well, you will have an opportunity to visit with the Principal, Jill Bullo, at a Freshmen Parent Coffee. Initially, she will be hosting two parent coffees: **February 16th and February 24th, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.** Parents will gather in the Main Office for conversation and then be given a tour of the building. Due to parking, seating is limited to 20 parents per session. **Please contact the principal's secretary, Nancy Guzzardi, at 784-7320 to make a reservation.** Sessions will be added if there is a need. We hope to see those of you who are unfamiliar with Wheaton North High School. Come and get to know us.

2006 Booster Club Scholarships!

Don't miss this chance to receive a \$500 scholarship from the Wheaton North Falcon Booster Club! Up to ten awards will be made to senior students who have been active in Wheaton North activities and plan to attend a one to four year accredited educational program after graduation.

Scholarship awards are made on the basis of participation in Wheaton North activities such as athletics, performing arts, student clubs, and other school related activities. Eligible educational programs include trade, technical, and vocational schools, along with traditional two and four year colleges and universities.

Applications may be submitted now through **April 5, 2006.** Forms, including instructions and further information, are available in the school Guidance Office or may be downloaded from the Booster Club website at www.wnhsboosters.org. Now is a great time to get started on an application!

Student Council News

Spring Extravaganza

Sign up for an audition time in Room 107 during the week of March 20th in room 107. Tryouts will be the week after Spring Break. Seniors interested in trying out for Comedy Troupe sign up the week of March 6. Tryouts for this will be March 21 and March 22. Spring Extravaganza will be May 12 and 13 this year.

Mr. Wheaton North

Boys! Come sign up to be a contestant in our third annual "Mr. Wheaton North" contest. There will be modeling, dancing, talent and interviewing segments in this year's show. Contestants must be sophomores, juniors and seniors. The show will be Friday, April 21 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Mandatory meetings for contestants will be Friday, March 17 at 6:50 a.m. or Monday, March 20 at 2:30. See Mrs. Martinez in room 107 for more information.

Christmas Sharing

Thanks to all for the generous donations made to our annual Christmas Sharing. It took more than two trucks to send the food and clothing to needy families in the area. Students participated in fun competition and many classes were winners of morning donuts. One class, Mrs. Paulsen's, was treated to a breakfast at Denny's.

Toy Drive

The Holiday Toy Drive was a HUGE success! Over \$800 was raised, and many holiday presents were purchased. Thanks to all who helped out!

Blood Drive

The Spring semester Blood Drive is right around the corner. February 15th from 7:30 am to 1 pm. Students ages 17+ are eligible to donate and should watch for opportunities to sign up the week before. Students age 16 can donate with a permission form signed by a parent/guardian. Any parents interested in donating or volunteering their time can call Palak Patel at 784-7390.

Relay For Life

The Wheaton Youth Relay for Life will take place the weekend of May 20th-21st. Last year District 200 students raised close to \$70,000 for the American Cancer Society! The Team Registration Kick-off will be after school on February 22nd. Encourage your students to form a team by volunteering to be their team chaperone. Or share chaperone duties with other parents. It's a great night for a great cause!

PSAE/PLAN: JUNIORS & SOPHOMORES

The Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) will be administered to eligible junior students (minimum of 12 earned credits) on April 26 - 27, 2006. The PSAE is the required state of Illinois assessment exam. The scores from the PSAE become part of each student's transcript. The PSAE is a combination of the ACT exam and additional state assessments. It is, according to the state of Illinois, an assessment of how well Wheaton North High School is teaching the state standards to our students. The combined scores become our signature as a school.

Additionally on April 26th, sophomores will take the PLAN test. The PLAN is the predictor test for the ACT. This will give sophomores information on how they may perform on their ACT exam taken as part of the PSAE their junior year. Freshmen and senior students will be excused from school on both days. Please make note of these dates. Further information will be sent through the mail to the parents of juniors and sophomores in early April.

Senior Class Fundraiser

The senior class finals care package fundraiser was a tremendous success. More than 275 care packages were delivered to students during finals week. We will continue this project with second semester finals and hope we can deliver a care package to your child this June!

We truly appreciate your support. This raises a good amount of money for the senior class. Moreover, it is an important activity in the way it brings the class together; the committee work really unifies this group of students. Furthermore, each member of the student council can feel he/she has made a contribution.

Wheaton North Speech Team Off To A Roaring Start

The Speech Team has successfully begun its competition season. After the team was selected in September and rehearsed throughout October, the season kicked off in November. The Novice Team, consisting of 1st year team members, competed at 4 contests and placed 1st at 3 of them and 3rd at the other. The Varsity Team has competed at 10 contests through January 7 and has placed 1st at 9 of them and 2nd at the other. 17 Varsity Team members, including Manny Reynoso, David DePino, Dahvede Wood, Kevin Cathey, Brigette Bucholz, Carly Vendegna, Katherine Onyshko, Chris Hodges, Angel Thomas, Alex DeCamp, Mike Movido, Jessica Loiacono, Chris Janjigian, Tom Seewald, Conor McSweeney, Joe Mikieta and Christina Wertke, have won individual tournament championships at these contests and numerous others have placed in the final rounds. The Speech Team will finish its invitational season on January 28 and will participate in the Illinois High School Association State Series in February. The Speech Team is coached by Head Coach Stan Austin and Assistant Coaches Ed Klemm, Scott Coleman, Mike Kolodziej, Merel Marine and Ryan Arndt.

Wheaton North Falcon Booster Club

The Wheaton North Falcon Booster Club has been busy getting ready for the biggest fundraiser of the year. On March 18 we will be holding our annual Dinner/Dance/Auction at the Carlisle in Lombard. The evening begins at 5:30 PM and wraps up when the music and dancing end at 11:30 PM. In between will be a delicious meal surrounded by a silent and a live auction. Tickets are \$75.00 per person and include an open bar for the evening. If you are interested in attending please contact either Geri Balow at 653-3144 or Al Ernst at 668-4356. For a list of auction items available check the website at <http://wnhs.maestroweb.com>. Click on categories in the left column to see list of items. There is no need to login. This list will be continually updated as we approach the Auction. We are always looking for new items (large or small) for the Auction. If you, your business, your friends, your neighbors or anyone you know has items to donate please contact Jack Rozwat (682-3224) or Al Ernst (668-4356).

We hosted our annual Pasta Dinner before the boy's basketball game on January 20. Thanks to Mike Scalise and Deb Willems on their hard work in organizing that event. A special thanks to the performing arts groups that entertained during the dinner.

Joanne Fahrforth and her committee will be organizing the Concessions at the Dance Team Competition on Feb 5th. Their efforts for this all day event are greatly appreciated.

Lynn Parrish and Jamie Kirchofer have stepped up to be our Wheaton North Co-Chairs for Operation Safe Celebration. Planning is in full force to get ready for Post Prom Night. If any parents are interested in helping support a safe night for the Juniors and Seniors of Wheaton North please contact Lynn (260-1997) or Jamie (690-6936).

We would like to thank the many volunteers who have stepped up to help these Committee Chairpersons and also those who have worked in the concession stands behind the leadership of George Fahrforth. As a club we are successful because of the help of many members.

Booster scholarship applications are available to seniors whose parents are Booster members. Applications can be found on the booster website at wnhsboosters.org

February Booster meeting will be held on February 14, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Schomas Theater. March meeting will be the first Tuesday (the 7th) instead of the second Tuesday due to Winter Sports Award Night on the 14th. Hope to see you there.

Al Ernst
Booster President

WNHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT SPRING CHORAL CONCERT

Thursday - March 23, 2006
Taylor Auditorium - 7:30 pm

Boys Track and Field

It's not too late to join us! If you are finishing up a winter sport or did not make the cut to a spring sport, we want you! So far we have had a great start to the season. We encourage all young men to join our squad. By running track and field, you will get stronger and faster! We especially encourage athletes from other sports (football, soccer, basketball...) to join us because being faster and stronger is the key to ALL sports!

There are 18 different events to compete in. These include: Sprints, Hurdles, Distances, Jumps (long, triple, high), Shot Put and Discus, and the Pole Vault. There is a spot for everyone! We strive to have the athlete look at their own performances and see if they get a P.R. (Personal Record). We look at P.R.'s over wins every time! EVERY individual that stays in our program gets better!

To join, simply pay your athletic fee (\$100.00) in the Athletic Directors office, make sure you have a current physical and parent permission form signed, then see Mr. Helberg in the athletic locker room after school to get your sweats and uniform. Practices are everyday at 2:30 and end around 5:00 (we lift everyday). We have meets at least once a week. There are no BENCH WARMERS! Everyone gets to compete in the meets! We currently have 125 athletes out for the team. Be part of it and make yourself better. Any questions see Mr. Helberg, Mr. Graf, Mr. Roe, or Mr. McQuaid. See you soon.

GIRL'S TRACK & FIELD

The Track and Field Season will begin on Monday, January 23rd. All young women, freshman to seniors, are encouraged to join our squad. By participating in track and field you will get stronger and faster, meet new friends, and feel better about yourself! Athletes from other sports are especially encouraged to join because speed and strength are the keys to success in ALL sports. If you are still in a winter sport (Basketball or gymnastics), we hope you will join us when your season is completed.

In Track & Field there are many different events an athlete can compete in including: sprints, relays, hurdles, distances, long & triple jumps, pole vault, high jump, shot put, and discus. There is a place for everyone on a team with such diverse competition. Our main emphasis is to "Have Fun and Do Your Best!" Girls on the team are encouraged to try several events to ensure that they find their best opportunity for success.

As a team of strong traditions we are proud of the success Girl's Track & Field has enjoyed in the past. Last year Wheaton North Girl's Track had 6 All-Conference Athletes, 7 State Qualifying Events, and brought home state medal honors in two events, Amanda Laesch in the 3200 m run, and Cassidy Wagner in the 800 m run. Everyone who has joined the program in the past has improved. Set your own goals - then strive to attain them!

Practice will begin on Monday January 23rd. Time & location of the first practice will be announced at school. If you get a chance, introduce yourself to one of the coaches. Head Girl's Track coach is Mr. Ken Fasshauer, Assistants: Miss Jorie Spayth, Miss Lisa Gathman, and Miss Lindsay Norden. The fee for track is \$100. If your fees are paid by January 18th, you may stop by after school on Wednesday through Friday of that week to receive your equipment. Practices are usually over before 5:00 p.m. Track meets are scheduled at least one per week (Two per week starting in April.) Everyone participates in at least one meet per week. Do not be bashful - bring a friend, warm clothes, and good running shoes and join in!

WHEATON NORTH ATHLETICS

Congratulations to all our fall sports athletes on a great fall season. I would like to recognize the accomplishments of two of our teams, Girls Cross Country and Boys Soccer.

Girls Cross Country

Congratulations to Ron Piro and the girls Cross Country team on their IHSA Regional and Sectional Championships and eighth place finish at the IHSA State meet.

Boys Soccer

Congratulations to Coach Bryce Cann and the Boys Soccer team for their IHSA Regional, Sectional and Super-Sectional championships and their third place finish at the IHSA State Finals.

Congratulations to our fall athletes selected to the DuPage Valley All Conference Team.

Boys Cross Country: Chase Kadlec, Graham Foster, Dan Cline, Ryan Richert

Girls Cross Country: Amanda Laesch, Cassidy Wagner, Jackie Laesch, Jamie Orewiler, Erika Oslund

Girls Golf: Katie Livergood

Boys Golf: Pat Kirchhoffer

Girls Volleyball: Jill Lewandowski, Jessica Ullrich

Girls Tennis: Kelsey Bushhouse, Eva Delk, Sarah Delk

Boys Soccer: J.T. Delk, Jon Wiarda, Andrew Jahns

Football: Sean Norris, Andy Schweitzer, Kevin Stratman, Nick Theobald

Important Spring Dates

Spring Sports Starting Dates:

January 18, 2006	Boys and Girls Track
February 13, 2006	Boy's Gymnastics
February 27, 2006	Badminton, Boy's Tennis, Baseball, Softball
March 6, 2006	Boy's Volleyball, Girls Soccer

Winter Sports Awards Night:

March 14, 2006 7:00 PM.

Spring Picture Day:

March 22 & 23, 2006 2:30 PM

Sports Physical:

June 5, 2006 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM at Wheaton North High School. Please do not request forms or an appointment date until after May 10.

Summer Recreation:

June 12 through July 29. Forms may be picked up in the Athletic Office after March 1.

NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

"One Stop Center for Financial Aid"

The website for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (www.collegezone.com) should be your primary website for college and financial aid information, regardless of whether your student will be attending the College of DuPage, University of Illinois, or Harvard University.

Here you can access the information you need, when you need it. Timely and up-to-date information is available and organized by zones: student, parent, counselor, and aid administrators. Moreover, the information, including helpful links, is available 24/7, wherever you have internet access, and it's free!

For those who still prefer the face-to-face, ISAC has established College Zone Outreach Centers at all 48 community colleges in Illinois. Wheaton North students and parents are invited to make an appointment with the Outreach advisors in the financial aid office at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Again, you do not need to be a COD student to receive this service.

Finally, College Zone Advisors can be reached by phone (8:30a.m.-5:00p.m.) at 1-800-899-4722 and email (collegezone@isac.org).

Scholarship Bulletin

As mentioned in the December newsletter the Guidance Department provides students and parents with a list of local scholarships and some national scholarships through the Scholarship Bulletin. During February and March we receive many scholarship offers, so the bulletin is updated more frequently. Therefore, we encourage you and your student to continually check for the updated versions. The Scholarship Bulletin is available in the College and Career Center and on-line at wnhs.org > Counseling > Guidance Department > College/Career Resources.

Local Scholarship Application

The Local Scholarship Application is now available in the College and Career Center. This is a great opportunity for students to apply for a number of scholarships by filling out one application. This year there are sixteen scholarships that are generously endowed by local community organizations. Awards range from \$350 to \$1500. The deadline for the application is March 1, 2006.

AP Test Registration

AP Test registration packets will be available in mid-February. Students can pick up a packet from their AP teacher or from the College and Career Center. Price per test is \$82. The registration deadline is March 16, 2006. All packets should be turned in complete with payment and parent permission to Joann Hogan in the College and Career Center. If you have any questions regarding AP testing please contact counselor Ms. Jane Bartley at 784-7325.

Course Selection Process Underway for the 2006-2007 School Year

Between January 23 and February 24, North counselors began helping students focus on the course selection process for next year. Graduation requirements, college admission requirements, current career interests, etc. are reviewed to help students choose the correct courses for them.

The schedule for this process is as follows:

Jan. 23, 24, and 25 - In their science classes, Counselors presented registration information to freshman and sophomores*. During this time students received their course selection sheet and course catalog

Jan. 25 through Feb.6 - Students discuss course choices with peers, counselors, parents, and get their course selection sheet signed by teachers

February 7, 8, and 9 - Current freshman and sophomores will complete the course selection process, with assistance of counselors, by filling out their registration card for next year and by turning in their course selection sheet **signed by parents**. This process takes place in the student's English classes.

March & April - Administration builds the master schedule, according to student requests, space and budget limitations

Mid-May - Students review their course verification form and see their counselor for corrections

June 9 - Deadline for schedule changes for 2006-2007 first semester courses

*Juniors have been meeting with their counselors since December in individual conferences to create their senior year schedule and to discuss post-secondary plans.

Let the Games Begin!

Please join the Wheaton North Competitive Cheer Squad as they vie for a bid to this year's Illinois High School Association State Cheerleading Competition. They are scheduled to compete in two preliminary competitions in preparation for the IHSA State Sectional Series to be held March 11 and 12, 2006.

Your support at any of these competitions is more than welcome!

Saturday, January 21, 2006 at Andrew High School, Tinley Park, Illinois

Saturday, February 4, 2006 at Lane Technical High School, Chicago, Illinois

Saturday, March 4, 2006 at Romeoville High School, Romeoville, Illinois