



ISSUE 4 | VOL 1 | SPRING 2010

The Viewpoint

CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITY – WHITNALL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Pulling together in difficult times

Even with budget reductions, Whitnall strives for excellence

By now you're likely aware of the reductions that are being made in our staff and programs for the 2010-2011 year. Cuts are never easy, but please know that we are still committed to doing the very best we can for our schools and our children.

Many of our community members have provided valuable feedback and ideas, through attending School Board meetings, making phone calls, and contacting the Board and Administration. If you haven't yet been involved with our schools, there's never been a better time than now. How can you help?

Get informed about school funding issues.

Our budget deficit is largely caused by shortfalls in state funding, not due to declining enrollment or mismanagement. Our School Board, Administration and staff have worked extremely hard to find cost saving

measures, and every department has been asked to examine their budgets. Unfortunately, districts like ours, which have slightly declining enrollment, will continue to see budget shortfalls, even with drastic and painful cuts. The quality of our schools directly impacts our quality of life here in Whitnall School District, and we hope you will be part of the solution. An excellent explanation of school funding issues in Wisconsin is available from the School Finance Network, www.SFNWisconsin.org.

Attend events.

Your attendance at school events supports our schools financially and emotionally. We welcome you to join us for a sports event, a concert or a play. Please see the enclosed sports schedule or visit our website for upcoming events.

cont'd. on pg. 2

Budget Challenges: How can you help?

- ✓ Get informed
- ✓ Volunteer
- ✓ Attend events
- ✓ Speak up



Thank you... for a great ten years!

Dr. Karen Petric is winding down her ten-year run as Superintendent in the Whitnall District. She began in August of 2000 and has brought many exciting and needed changes to the district. Starting just after the high school referendum was completed; Dr. Petric began working with the staff and Board on ways to upgrade the three other buildings which were in need of technology, asbestos removal, better classroom layouts, more efficient lighting, and safer entrances. Without a referendum, Dr. Petric was able to accomplish all of this work in the three other buildings over the span of her tenure with the most recent renovation to the middle school, completed in the summer of 2009.

Working with both the continuous improvement planning model and the newer District Strategic Plan, Dr. Petric and her staff have been able to upgrade and enhance technology to meet the 21st century skills needed for the students. By adding the appropriate tools such as SmartBoards along with the necessary software upgrades needed in the college and work world, the students are prepared to meet all the challenges when leaving the district. Communication has become stronger through more paperless efforts both internally and externally; and by parents having more access to teachers and student performance on a routine basis using technology.

Whitnall has turned the corner instructionally by integrating technology into the curriculum rather than making it a separate entity. Teachers have been defining the essential knowledge and skill sets for student learning in order to be productive in future jobs that haven't even been created yet. The District is looking at the next phase of curriculum which will involve more online and interactive technology as well as pairing up with multiple organizations and other districts as it opens up to thinking more globally. This next step will be important for the district as it strives for more rigor across the grades and curriculum.

Even with ongoing budget constraints, the district is well prepared for the next level. Dr. Petric would like to thank the Board, staff, students and parents for making her tenure in the district academically rewarding and continually challenging while still being enjoyable. With everyone's help, she and others have made a difference for the students and the community; and, more importantly, the district is now set to catapult into the next phase of excellence.

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Consider volunteering.

Your contribution may seem small, but every parent who brings treats to class party, volunteers in the classroom, or organizes a project helps our school budget. Other community members willing to share their experiences and expertise help us enrich our education offerings. We are working on providing a more comprehensive list of volunteer opportunities on our website. Stay tuned!

Speak up for your District.

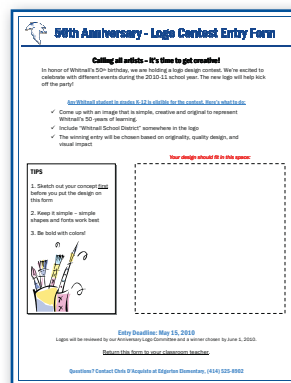
Join our Facebook page, consider becoming a school Ambassador, or regularly check our website. Word of mouth is the most powerful tool to shape perceptions and build support for our schools. Even in the midst of painful change, we are daily making a difference in our schools and our community. It takes the whole community working together to make a difference. We look forward, with your help, to continuing in the strong Whitnall tradition of providing the best education possible for our children.

Logo Design Contest

Whitnall is turning 50 and we need a logo!

Calling all student artists - Whitnall School District will be celebrating our 50th anniversary during the 2010-2011 school year. We'll recognize our history with some special events and activities at each of our schools and invite our community to join in.

The first step is designing a logo and tagline for the celebration that we'll use all year long. Any Whitnall student grades K-12 is invited to submit their ideas.



50th Anniversary - Logo Contest Entry Form

Calling all artists - It's time to get creative!

In honor of Whitnall's 50th birthday, we are holding a logo design contest. We're excited to celebrate with different events during the 2010-11 school year. The new logo will help kick off the year!

Whitnall students in grades K-12 are eligible to be entered. Here's what to do:

- ✓ Come up with an image that is simple, creative and original to represent Whitnall's 50 years of learning.
- ✓ Include "Whitnall School District" somewhere in the logo
- ✓ The winning entry will be chosen based on originality, quality design, and visual impact.

TIPS

1. Sketch out your concept **before** you start the design on the form.
2. Keep it simple - simple shapes and lines work best.
3. Be bold with color!

Submit your design to your classroom teacher.

Entry Deadline: May 15, 2010

Logos will be reviewed by the Anniversary 50th Committee and a winner chosen by June 1, 2010.

Submit this form to your classroom teacher.

Whitnall's Contact Info: P. Karpis at Education Department, (414) 520-8902

The logo design form with official rules is available on www.whitnall.com, or from your art teacher.

**Deadline is May 15,
so get creative!**



MISSION: By providing the highest quality personalized educational experience, the Whitnall School District engages learners who embrace challenges and are responsible contributing members of a dynamic global society.

Middle and Elementary School News

EDGERTON / HALES CORNERS ELEMENTARY, WHITNALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School and Discipline: Focusing on Positive Change

Middle school is a time of huge changes for our students - a new schedule, new expectations, and more physical, mental, emotional and social changes in three years than in any other point in their educational careers.

Naturally, all these changes present discipline challenges as well as learning challenges. The core of our discipline approach is to teach appropriate behaviors. Issues of respect, honesty and responsibility are addressed and developed. Students are encouraged and expected to “live above the line”. Living above the line means taking ownership of your behavior and responding positively to negative situations. It also means that students should choose to be part of a solution to conflicts and not part of the problem.

This also means we are no longer satisfied with simply handing out consequences punitively. Instead, our progressive discipline program is geared towards changing behaviors, learning from one’s mistakes, and giving the students an opportunity to start over.

Our P.A.G.E. (Pupils Achieving Goals Effectively) discipline model is comprised of three parts. First, we address the student’s behavior. The student must own their behavior and understand why it does not meet the school’s expectations, and accept the consequences. Each infraction also carries demerit points, the number of which determines the student’s privileges. Time is the last factor, and allows students to go back to a less restrictive status once they have behaved appropriately for a period of time.

We find that taking a proactive approach and stressing appropriate behaviors has a positive influence on young adolescents. It is only through positive change today that we can work towards a positive tomorrow.

Helping Others at Edgerton and Hales Corners Elementary

The Edgerton Student Council sponsored a coin drive to support the Haiti earthquake relief efforts. As a result of your generosity, the Student Council raised and will be donating \$733.52 to the American Red Cross. Thank you to Mrs. Rosenberg and the EES Student Council for organizing this important outreach effort!

HCE students and their families participated in two collection events this past month. The “[Feeding America](#)” food collection brought in nearly 500 food and supply items for the local food pantry.

HCE students also collected 208 pairs of shoes for Haiti through the [Stan’s Fit for Your Feet](#) stores. These opportunities help our children learn how to share and care for others. Thank you for your generosity and partnership in making these collections successful.



AWARD-WINNING ART

The Whitnall Middle School Art Department is pleased to announce that two of our students have artwork juried in to the Milwaukee Regional Art Fair’s Annual Art Competition.

Congratulations go to [William Kunkel](#) for his mixed media abstract piece “Work Force”, and [Mikeala Nowak](#) for her Pop Sculpture piece “American Eagle-Shop til You Drop.”

Their artwork will be exhibited at UW-Milwaukee in the near future. The date and location will be announced soon.





SPRING 2010 — BOYS HOME SCHEDULE

Boys Tennis

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday, Apr. 13	Union Grove	4:00PM	Varsity/JV Dual	Home
Thursday, Apr. 15	Saint Thomas More	4:00PM	Varsity/JV Dual	Home
Monday, Apr. 19	New Berlin West	4:00PM	Varsity/JV Dual	Home
Tuesday, Apr. 20	Greenfield	4:00PM	Varsity Match	Home
	Greenfield	4:00PM	JV Match	Home
Tuesday, Apr. 27	Greendale	4:00PM	Varsity Dual	Home
	Greendale	4:00PM	JV Dual	Home
Tuesday, May 4	Wauwatosa West	4:00PM	Varsity Match	Home
	Wauwatosa West	4:00PM	JV Match	Home

Boys Golf

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday, April 19	Greendale	3:00PM	JV Dual	Whitnall Park Golf Course
Thursday, Apr. 21	New Berlin West	3:00PM	JV Dual	Whitnall Park Golf Course
Thursday, Apr. 29	Brown Deer	3:00PM	JV Dual	Whitnall Park Golf Course
Wednesday, May 5	Pewaukee	3:00 PM	JV Dual	Whitnall Park Golf Course
Thursday, May 6			Varsity Golf Mini Meet	Whitnall Park Golf Course
Monday, May 10	Greenfield	3:00	JV Dual	Whitnall Park Golf Course



GO FALCONS!

See
www.whitnall.com
 for away schedules



SPRING 2010 — GIRLS HOME SCHEDULE

Girls Softball

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday, Mar 27	Multiple Schools	10:00AM	JV Scrimmage	Home
Tuesday, Apr. 13	Saint Francis	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Saint Francis	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Friday, Apr. 16	Pewaukee	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Pewaukee	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Monday, Apr. 19	Wauwatosa West	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Wauwatosa West	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Thursday, Apr. 29	Greendale	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Greendale	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Thursday, May 6	New Berlin Eisenhower	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	New Berlin Eisenhower	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Friday, May 7	Greenfield	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Greenfield	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Monday, May 10	South Milwaukee	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	South Milwaukee	4:15PM	JV Game	Home
Tuesday, May 18	Cudahy	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home
	Cudahy	4:15PM	Varsity Game	Home

Girls Soccer

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday, Apr. 13	Brown Deer	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	Brown Deer	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home
Friday, Apr. 16	Slinger	4:30PM	JV Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium
	Slinger	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium
Tuesday, Apr. 20	New Berlin West	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	New Berlin	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium
Thursday, Apr. 22	Greenfield	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	Greenfield	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home
Thursday, Apr. 29	New Berlin Eisenhower	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	New Berlin Eisenhower	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home
Friday, May 7	Port Washington	4:30PM	JV Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium
	Port Washington Home	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home
Tuesday, May 11	Cudahy/St. Francis	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	Cudahy/St. Francis	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home
Thursday, May 13	South Milwaukee	4:30PM	JV Game	Home
	South Milwaukee	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Milwaukee
Thursday, May 27	Oak Creek	4:30PM	JV Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium
	Oak Creek	6:30PM	Varsity Game	Home - WHS Football Stadium

See www.whitnall.com for Away schedules

Community Connections

Our Schools are for Everyone: HOW TO RESERVE SPACE FOR YOUR GROUP

If your community organization needs a place to meet, space may be available at our schools. Community use of Whitnall School District facilities is growing by leaps and bounds thanks to our new, online program called FS Direct.

If you are not already familiar with our online form to request the use of a facility, please visit Whitnall.com. Follow the link in the forms section entitled 'online building use form' and follow the instructions. It is that easy!

We suggest that building use requests for the 2010 -2011 school year be submitted during the weeks listed below. This will allow for returning staff to evaluate the calendar and prioritize District activities which take precedence over other group activities. Following this schedule will ensure that your request will be taken into consideration early in the process and the approval will go smoothly.

Group types are defined by Board policy 830 and 830R Use of School Facilities: Procedures. The following preferred dates to submit schedules apply to the group type listed in brackets. The group types listed below are for example only.

- August 2 through the 6: PTO events, Boy and Girl Scout troops
- August 9 through the 13: YMCA, Parks and Recreation, Football and Basketball Youth Sporting programs
- August 16 through the 20: All other groups with no school affiliation

BYE BYE BIRDIE

At right: Samantha Burkard, Rachel Zeman, Alex Klarr and Zak Stell get in costume



At left: Hillary Singer serves a guest at Senior Dinner Theater

SEE US ON FACEBOOK

What do 335 people in the Whitnall School District know that you don't? Stay in the loop. Find out by becoming a fan on Facebook.



With more of our students and parents using Facebook to keep in contact with the communities they care about, we wanted to be part of the conversation.

By being a fan, you'll receive timely updates in your News Feed about what's going on in the school district. You will not be giving WSD access to any personal information on your Facebook page if you have your privacy settings turned on.

Social media has amazing potential for building community connections - please use it responsibly.



HAVE YOU SEEN FALCON TV?

Tune in 24/7 to see what is happening around the district with **Falcon TV** at www.whitnall.com. The district has chosen a service called Livestream to broadcast over the internet - it's free and ad-supported to minimize cost to the district.

All board meetings since November 9 have been broadcast live online and are available on-demand at any time following the meeting. We have found that about 25 viewers on average tune in to the live board meetings on FalconTV, with many others watching later using the on-demand option.

Several other activities and athletics are available on-demand like last year's HS graduation, the high school talent show, high school sporting events, and middle school and elementary holiday concerts.

Suggestions or comments? Email our technology director at ghaar@whitnall.com.

Whitnall High School

REAL WORLD LESSONS IN THE CLASS ROOM



Featured Teacher - Aaron Bieniek (Mathematics)

2010 Herb Kohl Fellowship Recipient

The Kohl Teacher Fellowship program recognizes and supports teaching excellence and innovation in the State of Wisconsin. Annually, the Foundation awards 100 Wisconsin teachers with \$1,000 Kohl Fellowship grants, and each Kohl Fellowship recipient's school receives a matching \$1,000 grant.

Mr. Bieniek is on a personal mission to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills in his students. During class, problems are posed and students are expected to not only try and solve the problem, but also understand how and why they achieved their solution. Rather than lecturing, Mr. Bieniek acts as a facilitator, guiding his students through their discussion and helping them to come to a consensus around proposed solutions and methods.

He also integrates technology into his lesson plans every day. One lesson involved his designing questions with multiple choice answers that were shown on the Smart Board, and having students text their answers to a website that consolidated the data. The class then discussed if the popular answer was the correct answer and why.

Students in his classes are also each assigned days to blog a summary of that day's lesson, and before major exams, he conducts a live blog with the students in order to review, take questions, and provide solutions through a collaborative process. In 2007, he became a Nationally Board Certified Teacher.

Congratulations to Mr. B., and we look forward to your continued contributions to academic excellence at Whitnall!



“Shooting for the Cure” Raises \$1000 for Breast Cancer Awareness

Whitnall Varsity Basketball teams up with South Milwaukee

Two South Milwaukee students contacted Assistant Principal/Athletic Activities Director Jill Stobber to see if the boys' team would be willing to help their breast cancer awareness cause by buying t-shirts and wearing them as shooting shirts for the game.

After talking with Coach Kroupa and Coach Kujawa, the boys chipped in \$5.00 each and the athletic department picked up the remaining cost of the t-shirts. Thanks to the efforts of these two young ladies and our boys basketball team, we were able to help raise over \$1000 for breast cancer research.

The Viewpoint



WHITNALL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Community Newsletter
 5000 S. 116th Street
 Greenfield, WI 53228
 Ph. 414-525-8400

Feedback on the newsletter? Send to newsletter@whitnall.com.


Send your suggestions and comments to the Board of Education and Superintendent:

- TJ Anderson349-9361
- Mike Clarizio.....525-1477
- Suzette Larson.....425-7042
- Bill Osterndorf.....327-2584
- Stephanie Richter427-8534
- Bernard Shaw425-0465
- Nancy Zaborowski427-9604
- Dr. Karen Petric, Superintendent: 525-8411

CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

There are four key areas that we focus on in our communications:

Fiscal Responsibility


 The current state budget presents many challenges. However, we are committed to maintaining our programs and finding creative ways to cut costs and be responsive to our taxpayers.

Technology

Students and staff are immersed in technology every day.



Globalism

 We are preparing students to embrace the challenges of our dynamic global society.

Personalized Academics

Programs are available for every student to succeed in the real world.



APRIL

April 24, 2010	WHS Prom & Post Prom
April 29, 2010	HCE PTO Ice Cream Social & Project Fair

MAY

May 3, 2010	WMS PTO Mtg
May 7, 2010	WMS Spring Dance
May 10, 2010	School Board Meeting
May 12, 2010	6th grade Band/Choir concert 4th and 5th grade Instrumental Music Concerts at WMS
May 19, 2010	7th grade Band/Choir concert HCE K5 and 1st grade Spring Sing
May 20, 2010	Senior Awards and Awards Concert, WHS Band
May 21, 2010	EES PTO Spring Fling
May 24, 2010	School Board Meeting
May 25, 2010	WHS Choir Concert
May 26, 2010	Senior Honors & Awards Night; 8th grade Band/Choir concert
May 27, 2010	6th-8th grade Orchestra Concert
May 28, 2010	Student 1/2 Day All Schools, No School K4

JUNE

June 2, 2010	HCE 4th and 5th grade Spring Sing
June 6, 2010	WHS Graduation
June 7, 2010	EES Field Day
June 10, 2010	8th grade graduation, 6:30 p.m., WHS
June 10, 2010	Student 1/2 Day All Schools, End of 4th Qtr, No School K4
June 11, 2010	1/2 Day Teacher Flex Workday
June 14, 2010	School Board Mtg
June 28, 2010	School Board Mtg

The Whitnall School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap as required by WI Statute 118.12.