

"A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE"



ALEXANDRA BATES
PRINCIPAL

JARVIS ADAMS
ESTELLA COOK
CANDICE HICKMAN
CECILIA JOHNSON
TOSHA OLIVER
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Westlake **Pride**



Monday, August 31, 2015

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL ATLANTA, GA

2015 Issue 02

FOOTBALL TEAM WINS BIG

The Westlake Football team begins the 2015 - 2016 football season with a convincing 69 - 0 win against Banneker High School. Return to Glory Phase III kicks into gear as players set high expectations for the upcoming year.

BY STAFF

ATLANTA - On Friday night, the Westlake football team proved themselves a force to be reckoned with by beating Banneker High School 69 to 0 at Banneker.

Westlake successfully rode a high-powered offense led by quarterback Josh Jones and the three-headed monster at running back of Kristen Griffin, Justin Broughton, and Marquez Burdette, but it was perhaps Westlake's defense that set the tone.

Westlake felt an early hiccup, when on the first play of the game, Banneker intercepted a deep

pass and made a long run back.

The next play, however, Westlake's defense forced a fumble, and Christion Abercrombie picked up that fumble for a touchdown, which recovered the momentum for Westlake, who never again let it go.

The defense scooped and scored three times in the first half thanks to the heroics of seniors Jarrod Jones, Christion Abercrombie, and Jordan Mattox.

This means that 21 points of Westlake's total 69 came from the defense recovering fumbles and returning them for

touchdowns.

During the scrimmage the week before, Westlake had taken back a kickoff and made an interception for a touchdown, but this was a new height.

"I think in the years that I have coached, I have seen defenses score twice in a half, but to have three scoop-and-scores in a half, I haven't seen that," said Coach Alan Gordon.

Coach Gordon attributed the defensive successes to high expectations, as well as how the players work together as a unit.

"We're pretty hard on

the kids. Our level of acceptance is pretty high. Our team generally tries to please the coaches, and they have a tight bond, so they want to please each other."

The defense also accomplished one of its weekly goals by sustaining a shutout against Banneker.

This is particularly impressive because many starters were resting by halftime, so a new crop of players had the responsibility and pressure to keep the shutout alive through the second half.

Westlake's second half players proved

themselves gloriously, showing their thorough training, supreme focus, and personal hunger.

Coach Love made an effort to get everyone into the game, and by all accounts, Westlake was able to play all the 70 plus students who dressed out for the game.

This will go a long way to building depth on the team, which will prove vital later in the year during critical games.

Often, during the first game of the season, teams might have rust or look unfocused, but not this Westlake team.

The helmets were strapped on tight, the hits

came hard and frequent, and the crowd showed up in strong numbers to start the year off right.

Even though it was technically an away game, the Westlake stands were filled, the band was loud, and the cheerleaders and dancers were spirited, so it felt almost like a home game for the players on the field.

Next weekend, Westlake takes on Shiloh, a team that beat us last year 14-7, so Westlake is ready to vanquish a dragon and keep the momentum rolling.

See you at Shiloh to cheer on our Lions!

ESSAY LEADS TO NYC WEEKEND



Arthur Ashe (left) and Camille Quick (Right)

writing an essay!

Specifically, Camille is the 15-16 year old age group winner of the Arthur Ashe Essay Contest, a national competition that encourages young tennis players to identify a community hero and explain how that hero has positively affected their lives.

Camille, who wrote about her coach Sam Kennedy, found herself in New York City from



August 28th to 30th.

On Saturday, August 29th, Camille participated in the 2015 Arthur Ashe Kids' Day, a large event that includes tennis challenges, balloon making, juggling, and concerts hosted by Radio Disney.

Past performers for the Arthur Ashe Kids' Day concerts have included Shawn Mendes, Ariana Grande, Ne-Yo, Demi Lovato, Justin Bieber, Rihanna, Fifth Harmony, Hunter Hayes, The Wanted, Carly Rae Jepsen, Jonas Brothers, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, and Hanson.

While in New York, Camille also stayed at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, saw a Broadway play, and attended a special luncheon hosted by former NYC mayor David Dinkins, the first and only African-American to hold this position.

Camille's impressive

trip was sponsored by the Arthur Ashe Learning Center, a foundation left behind by the late tennis star and humanitarian.

Arthur Ashe became an essay-worthy national hero in the 1960's and 1970's as he broke barriers in the tennis world by becoming a successful black athlete in a majority white sport.

Ashe, who was ranked top three several times in career, became the first African-American male to win a Grand Slam tournament and finished his career with three Grand Slam titles, including the 1968 U.S. Open.

Ashe also made huge contributions off the court, and his essay competition's website fittingly lists him as a "social activist taking on issues like racial prejudice, AIDS, apartheid and education."

Specifically, Ashe

used his position as a tennis player to put pressure on the racist restrictions on athletics in South Africa and later joined a delegation to South Africa to monitor changes to apartheid.

Furthermore, Ashe's three volume book, *A Hard Road to Glory: A History of the African-American Athlete*, is often cited as one of the most influential books about the intersection of race and athletics.

For these accomplishments, Ashe was a posthumous recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Our own Camille has been identified by Ashe's program as a future youth leader who can make a similar impact on the tennis court and on the world.

While Ashe's legacy makes for big shoes to fill, the purpose of Camille's trip is New York

City is to reward the steps she and her coach have already taken to making the world a better place.

Hopefully, the experience will serve as inspiration for Camille to continue her good work and one day mentor someone as her coach has done.

When Camille returns to Atlanta, we will sit down with her and chronicle her trip to New York City as well as ask for tips on how to write such extraordinary essays!

BY STAFF

ATLANTA - Over the weekend, the Westlake tennis community said bon voyage to student-athlete Camille Quick, who earned a free trip to New York City as a reward for stellar essay writing.

That's right. Camille, who is best known for her outstanding performance on the tennis-court, netted a free weekend in New York City by

MEDIA CENTER'S CORNER

STUDENTS HAVE ONLINE ACCESS TO MEDIA CENTER**BY STAFF**

ATLANTA - If you have ever had a hard time finding a book in the Media Center, then Westlake has a solution.

Ms. Forrest, Westlake's Media Center Specialist would first like to familiarize incoming freshmen with the Media Center and teach them research techniques that will help them throughout their academic career.

To do this, Ms. Forrest will host a series of fresh-

men orientations for the next few weeks.

For students who are not freshmen, Ms. Forrest plans to help introduce students to the Media Center by promoting digital searches that will increase access to reading materials.

The Media Center currently pushes two digital information sources, Destiny and MackinVIA.

Destiny, an online catalog of what the Media Center holds can be accessed from home or on

Destiny
To access our on-line catalog and search books from home
Type: <http://fcstdestiny.fultonschools.org>
Locate: High Schools
Select: Westlake High School
Click: CATALOG and begin your search

Media Center Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
7:45AM-5:00PM
Wednesday & Friday
7:45AM-3:30PM

a mobile device.

Each Fulton County School is hooked up to a Destiny account, so Westlake's can be found through the common Fulton County website listed below.

MackinVIA brings students to Media Center's plentiful resources of e-Books, audiobooks, and databases of research ar-

ticles.

This 21st century service gives students the ability to use their devices to read great books instead of having to physically check out books from the Media Center.

Ms. Forrest encourages all students to familiarize themselves with these wonderful re-

MackinVIA

For access to WHS's eBook, audio, and database collection
Type: <https://mackinvia.com>
Enter: Westlake High School
Username: Student ID
Password: MMDDYYYY

Freshmen Media Center Orientation Schedule**TUESDAY 9/1**

Ms. Smith's 1st
Ms. Dunmeyer's 3rd
Mr. Gossett's 5th
Ms. Dunmeyer's 7th
Ms. Smith's 7th

THURSDAY 9/3

Ms. Dunmeyer's 1st
Ms. Nichols's 3rd
Mr. Hall's 5th
Mr. Gossett's 7th

TUESDAY 9/8

Ms. Hall's 1st
Ms. Nichols's 5th
Mr. Mall's 7th

THURSDAY 9/10

Ms. Nichols's 1st

WEDNESDAY 9/2

Ms. Dunmeyer's 2nd
Ms. Dunmeyer' & Smith's 4th
Mr. Gossett's 6th
Ms. Dunmeyer & Smith's 8th

FRIDAY 9/4

Mr. Gossett's 4th
Ms. Nichols's 6th
Mr. Gossett's 8th

WEDNESDAY 9/9

Mr. Nichols's 4th
Ms. Hall's 8th

FRIDAY 9/11

Ms. Nichols's 8th

MONDAY 9/14

Mr. Billup's 1st

MS. COOK EXPLAINS SCHOOL PROCEDURES**BY ESTELLA COOK**

ATLANTA - Thank you for wonderful first weeks of school! Here are a few reminders and updates:

1. Doors open at 7:45 AM for students. Please do not drop students off before this time, as there is no staff supervision until that time.

2. Upon arrival, students will report to either the Cafeteria or Main Gymnasium until 8:05 AM.

3. After 8:05 AM, students may visit their lockers and report to their first class of the day. Students who report after 8:20 AM will be marked Tardy to school.

4. As schedule changes are made, an updated schedule will be delivered to students in their class. Students are to follow their schedule as printed.

5. This week, students will have class meetings during school to address academic and behavioural expectations and other information pertinent to their grade level.

6. Dismissal is at 3:30 PM. All students should either ride their respective buses or leave school via personal automobile no later than 4:00 PM.

7. Students who drive to school must have a Parking Pass or risk having their vehicle towed.

NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS**BY ESTELLA COOK**

ATLANTA - Below you will find the must-read stories of the week.

1. New Phone Numbers

(470) 254-6400 (MAIN)
(470) 254-6410 (FAX)

All Fulton schools will have the same area code. Our old number will reroute you to the new number until August 30, 2015.

2. School Office Hours

Normal school office hours resumed on August 4, 2015. The Main Office and Student Services are open Monday - Friday, 7:45 AM - 4:15 PM.

3. After-School Activities

There are no sweep buses this week. Students staying after school for athletic practices must provide their own transportation and must leave campus when practice is over. Coaches will remain with student athletes until picked up, and will address instances of students being picked up late.

4. Communication Guide

Please see the Communication Guide on the school website to assist you with connecting with the proper staff members to meet your needs and answer questions: <http://school.fultonschools.org/hs/westlake/Pages/ContactUs.aspx>

5. Fulton County Schools 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook

Please review and save the updated 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook: <http://www.fultonschools.org/en/divisions/acd/supportserv/Pages/StudentDiscipline.aspx>

It is important that you review and discuss the content of the Code of Conduct with your child(ren). Teachers reviewed the Code of Conduct with students during Homeroom last week. Students also took a Discipline Test to ensure they understood the content of the handbook.

Please click the link below to review and submit the required Acknowledgement of Electronic Receipt Form: English Handbook: <https://www3.fultonschools.org/codeconduct>

Spanish Handbook: <https://www3.fultonschools.org/codeconduct/home/indexspa>

6. Access to Home Access Center (HAC)

If you have had difficulty getting in to Home Access Center, please note the following:

- The @ fcs.org extension is no longer needed; You just need to enter your parent ID.
- All schools have HAC turned on.
- The HAC page is here: <http://www.fultonschools.org/en/sp/Pages/default.aspx>
- There is a Password Reset utility on the page above along with instructions, if needed.

7. Westlake HS PTSA: Facebook and Online Membership

Be sure to check out the new Facebook page of Westlake HS PTSA! Stay abreast of upcoming events, ways to be involved, and opportunities for supporting the students and staff of your child's school: <https://www.facebook.com/westlakehspta>

You can now join PTSA and pay your membership online: <http://school.fultonschools.org/hs/westlake/Pages/PTSA.aspx>

BY JAMAR ROBINSON

ATLANTA - At the beginning of the school year, all students could use a review of the tardy policy. Here is what you need to know.

SUMMARY

All students are expected to be in class on time. All hallways and student areas will be swept once the bell rings to ensure that students are in class on time.

Once the bell rings, a student who is not in the classroom is tardy. Tardy students will be allowed into class after being marked tardy by their teacher.

Students who do not report to class within the first ten minutes will be considered skipping.

Teachers will not accept students into the classroom after ten minutes.

Instead, students ten or more minutes late will report to room 307 to receive an immediate discipline consequence.

CONSEQUENCES

Frequent tardies will result in progressive discipline per the tardy guidelines outlined in the student handbook.

1-3 Tardies = Warning. Teacher will contact parent.

4 Tardies = Tuesday Detention. Teacher/Administrator will contact parent.

6 Tardies = Tuesday and Thursday Detention. Teacher / Administrator will contact parent.

8 Tardies = Saturday Detention. Teacher / Administrator will contact parent. Saturday Detention will be assigned and a tardy contract implemented with parent

10+ Tardies = Administration will review / revise the tardy contract and ISS will be assigned.

EXPECTATIONS

Students will attend all classes on time.

Students will follow the tardy protocol implemented in each classroom.

Students will report to 307 and then to class in a timely fashion.

Students will report to and accept all discipline consequences as assigned.

Students will reduce the number of tardy infractions per 9 week period.

TESTING CORNER

STUDENTS CAN TEST-OUT OF COURSES WITH END-OF-COURSE TESTS

Ms. Oliver discusses the pros and cons of this opportunity.

BY TOSHA OLIVER

ATLANTA - Greetings,

Again this school year, students will have the opportunity to "test-out" of any course for which there is an associated End-of-Course (EOC) test and earn credit for that course.

Eligible students may participate in the administration of an EOC prior to enrolling in and taking the course, and if he or she scores at the "Distinguished Learner" level on the EOC, he or she will be awarded credit for that course.

Students must have a "B" average in their current course related to the EOC they will take to "test-out;" a counselor's signature of verification of this information is needed on the application.

There is a \$50 fee associated with each EOC test for which a student desires to "test-out," and a student may only "test-out" of up to three EOC subjects.

Students who meet the eligibility criteria and score in the Distinguished Learner range will receive a reimbursement of the fee.

Students who earn course credit by testing out and scoring in the "Distinguished Learner" range on the EOC will not have the opportunity

to take the course or the retake EOC to improve their course grade at a future time.

The EOC score will be recorded on the transcript as the final course grade.

This may impact class ranking and HOPE calculations.

If the student attempts the EOC and does not score at the Exceeds performance level, the student must take the course within their regular course of study.

This student would again take the EOC at the conclusion of that course experience regardless of their score during their attempt to test-out.

Test-Out applications are available in the front office and the deadline for submission of complete applications is Friday, September 4th.

The EOC Test-Out administration dates are September 21-23, 2015.

Another Test-Out opportunity is offered in the Spring semester during the month of March.

Thank you for your support and dedication to our students as we move into the new EOCT era!

I look forward to working together to help our students achieve success.

Sincerely,
Tosha Oliver

COUNSELING PROGRAMS

9th Grade Programs

- 9th Grade Parent Night (September)
- Fall Freshman Classroom Guidance: High School 101 (October)
- 9th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Career Interest Inventory (October - November)
- Suicide Prevention Classroom Guidance: Signs of Suicide (November)

10th Grade Programs

- 10th Grade Parent Night (September)
- Sophomore Classroom Guidance: Understanding the PSAT/Online Tools & Resources for Test Prep & College Search (September)
- 10th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Dual Enrollment and College Credit Now Opportunities (November)

11th Grade Programs

- Parent Night (September)
- Fall Junior Classroom Guidance: What Colleges Consider in Admissions (November)
- 11th Grade BRIDGE Law Benchmark Activity: Virtual College Search (November)

12th Grade Programs

- Graduation Status Check (August/September)
- Senior Parent Night (September)
- Senior Classroom Guidance Fall: College and Career readiness Components (September)

Counseling Programs Reaching 11th - 12th.....

- College and Career Center
- College Representatives at WHS (Grades 11-12)

Counseling Programs Reaching 9th-12th

- New Student Enrollments
- Academic Advisement
- Post-Secondary Planning and Advising
- Dual Enrollment Information
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Summer School Information
- Community Agency Referrals
- Collaboration with Teachers, Administrators, School Social Worker, and School Psychologist
- Care Team Referrals
- SAT and ACT Information
- Crisis Intervention
- Career Guidance and Exploration
- Transcribing Student Records

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORE TEACHERS FOR WHS

ATLANTA - Thank you for your patience during the schedule change request process.

The window to request schedule changes ended August 21st.

There will be some schedule adjustments in the upcoming weeks to level class size to the district/state mandated class size limit.

As you are aware, we have welcomed well over 250 new Westlake Lions.

Due to the inflow of new students, Westlake will receive additional teachers to accommodate our new student population, and this means schedule changes.

To ensure that classes are in compliance with district and state mandates, a random selection will be made to remove students from classes that are overcrowded and need to be balanced.

We apologize in advance for the inconvenience this will cause; schedule changes cannot be reversed.

We appreciate your understanding while Westlake adheres to district and state mandates to ensure smaller class sizes for optimal classroom instruction for our students.

SIGN UP FOR REMIND 101

Don't be left out of the loop—join today!

Please type the following url into your computer to sign up for Remind 101: Class of 2016.

ATLANTA- Join our distribution list to receive texts and/or emails with information on upcoming college representative visits and scholarship updates.

Both students and parents are encouraged to register by using the website provided below.

CHECKING SENIOR STATUS

ATLANTA- On May 20, 2016, senior students will be closing this chapter on their high school career.

Congratulations to all the senior students and parents of senior students who have almost made it to the graduation milestone.

Counsellors will begin senior status checks immediately following the schedule change window so we can inform you of your student's specific status.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

CONTACTING COUNSELORS

ATLANTA- As the year advances, you may find yourself in need of contacting one of Westlake's counselors.

When that happens, we want to make sure that you know the correct number and can quickly get in touch with the person who can best help your student.

Below, you will find a list of useful contacts for

the counselors.

If you need to set up a parent-teacher conference, we can set up a conference with all your student's teachers if you contact the Student Services office.

Please either call the school at (404) 346-6400 and request Student Services or email Jeanine Griswold at the email address posted below.

9th Grade (A - Z): Antonio Grissom, grissom@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46429

10th - 12th (A - E): Anthony Decosta, decosta@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46434

10th - 12th (E - K): Beatrice Ford, fordb@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46482

10th - 12th (L - Q): Shelia Reese-Jackson (Head), reeses@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46433

10th - 12th (R - Z): Dawn Perry, perrydb@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46432

Professional Assistant: Jeanine Griswold, griswoldj@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400

STUDENT SERVICES' CORNER

CONTACTING STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF

Please use the following numbers to contact the school in times of need.

Student Services Administration

Curriculum Assistant Principal: Cecelia Johnson, johnsonc5@fultonschools.org

Administrative Assistant: Candice Hickman, hickmanc@fultonschools.org

Student Support Staff

College and Career Advisor: Steven Johnson, johnsons16@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46462

504 Coordinator and Graduation Coach: Twanda Harrison, harrison1t@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46428

Instructional Support Teacher: Jennifer Swint, swint@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

SEC Department Chair: Andrea Freeman, freeman1@fultonschools.org or 470-346-6400 x46444

CALENDAR OF SCHOOL EVENTS

Student Government Meeting..... 8/31**DATE:** Monday 8/31**PLACE:** Media Center @ 3:40pm**INFO:** There will be an SGA meeting starting promptly at 3:40pm. No entry after 3:40pm. Please contact Morenike Ibidapo or Johnathan Johnson if you are unable to attend.On-Site Visit with Vanderbilt..... 9/2**DATE:** Wednesday 9/2**PLACE:** TBD @ 2:00pm - 3:00pm**INFO:** A rep from undergraduate admissions will be visiting with us from Vanderbilt University. VU is a medium sized/private, research university located in Nashville, Tennessee. Please see Mr. Johnson in Room 209 to sign-up.Senior Class Parent Meeting..... 9/2**DATE:** Wednesday 9/2**PLACE:** Auditorium @ 6:00pm - 8:00pm**INFO:** Senior Class Activities & Fees (Johny) Graduation/Baccalaureate & Fees (Counselors & Harrison) College & Career Planning (S. Johnson) Yearbook (Woods)Interest Meeting for Heels in Motion..... 9/3**DATE:** Thursday 9/3**PLACE:** Auditorium @ 3:30pm - 5:00pmCast Announced for Dream Girls..... 9/3**DATE:** Thursday 9/3**PLACE:** Auditorium Lobby @ 1:00pm**INFO:** The cast list will be posted for the hit musical Dream Girls as envisioned by the Westlake chorusOrchestra Parents Meeting..... 9/3**DATE:** Thursday 9/3**PLACE:** Orchestra Room @ 6:30pm - 7:30pmMagnet College Admissions9/12, 9/19, 9/26Essay Writing Boot Camp**DATE:** Saturday 9/12, Saturday 9/19, Saturday 9/26**PLACE:** Westlake High School @ 9am to 1pm**INFO:** This is a series of free workshops to assist 12th grade Magnet students with crafting a winning admissions essay. Students will receive guidance from the intial brainstorm to the final draft.Magnet/IB Breakfast Talk #1..... 9/16**DATE:** Wednesday 9/16**PLACE:** Auditorium @ 7:30am - 8:15amSenior Portraits..... 9/17 - 9/18**DATE:** Thursday 9/17 - Friday 9/18**PLACE:** AuditoriumUnderclass Portraits..... 9/22 - 9/23**DATE:** Tuesday 9/22 - Wednesday 9/23**PLACE:** AuditoriumScience National Honor Society 9/21Fall Induction**DATE:** Monday 9/21**PLACE:** Auditorium @ 6pm to 7pmPSAT/NMSQT Administration..... 10/14**DATE:** Wednesday 10/14**PLACE:** Westlake High School (During School)**INFO:** Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test / National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Free test prep is available through Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.org). For the new version of this test, which goes into effect with the October 2015 administration, choose "New SAT" (starting March 2016) from the test prep tab.Professional Development..... 10/30, 11/30, 1/6**DATE:** Friday 10/30, Monday 11/30, Wednesday 1/6**PLACE:** (Students Do Not Report to School)Westlake High School Graduation.....5/20**DATE:** Friday 5/20**PLACE:** Georgia Dome @ 7:00pm

STUDENT BODY

STUDENTS OF THE DAY

MONDAY 8/31 Demond Brown volunteered to help parents and staff members plant flowers in the front of the school. Instead of spending his last weekend before school started at home, he decided he would help beautify the school. (Nominated by Ms. Jenkins)

TUESDAY 9/1 Joshua Rich has helped Ms. Duffy, a teacher recovering from surgery, so many times that in her own words, "I cannot even keep up with it." Joshua has helped her get to classes, moved the furniture in her office so she could maneuver the wheelchair and walker, and opened doors countless times. Ms. Duffy stressed how caring and kind Joshua has been. (Nominated by Ms. Duffy)

WEDNESDAY 9/2 Spencer Ray, Javaris Askin, Shaina Morgan, Festus Ojo, Johnathan Jones, and Maya Dawson went the extra mile putting together the first Technology Student Association (TSA) meeting and promoting the meeting around the school. (Nominated by Ms. Glenda Walker)

THURSDAY 9/3 Jaaylee Jackson and Cyniah Spencer found a ten dollar bill at the track and were honest enough to turn that money into an adult. Thank you ladies for doing the right thing! (Nominated by Mr. Gossett)

FRIDAY 9/4 JaShan Robinson turned his frown upside down about Spanish and is an active participant and contributor in his Spanish 3 class. He has a warm and wonderful spirit and is excited to speak and learn another language. (Nominated by Ms. Wilson).

If you would like to be selected as a Westlake Student of the Day, please continue to make smart decisions throughout the week. Staff will be on the lookout for students who exemplify the I AM WESTLAKE spirit. If you work hard in a classroom, go above and beyond for a club or activity, or help out a classmate with a random act of kindness, you might be selected! Keep it up, Westlake!

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL ANNOUNCED

Representatives3 Parents:Chris Lennon
Keisha Minter,
Christel Jackson2 Teachers:Yoshana Jones,
OPEN2 Community:Suzanne Wilborn,
Rhonda Hudson2 School Employees:Chantrise Holliman,
Estella B. CookFY16 SGC Meeting CalendarLocation:Westlake High School
Media CenterTime:

Tues. 4:30-5:30 PM

Dates:9/15/15
10/27/15
12/01/15
1/26/15
2/23/15
3/22/15
5/10/15

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

MATH 8/31 to 9/7 - Toyin Hebert is a model student who has a tremendous work ethic and sets an example for her classmates. (Nominated by Ms. Whatley)

SCIENCE 8/31 to 9/7 - Jazlyn Brown is always on time and ready to learn. She is a role-model and sets the example among her peers. She is constantly seeking to expand her knowledge and is a very inquisitive student. (Nominated by Ms. Johnny)

ENGLISH 8/31 to 9/7 - Camille Quick won the Arthur Ashe Essay Contest and will be travelling to New York for Arthur Ashe Kids' Day. Congratulations, Camille! (Nominated by Ms. Hernandez)

SOCIAL STUDIES 8/31 to 9/7 - Jonathan Johnson exemplifies hard work and dedication, and any club, activity, or project he works on becomes a class act! (Nominated by Mr. Williams)

WORLD LANGUAGES 8/31 to 9/7 - Osjalee Glenn told her classmates that she has never been excited about coming to Spanish until now. Her excitement means a lot to her teachers. (Nominated by Ms. Wilson)

FINE ARTS 8/31 to 9/7 - Lauryn Davis is the Fine Arts Student of the Month, because last summer, she participated in the South West Performing Arts Center summer camp! (Nominated by Ms. Freda Walker)

JROTC 8/31 to 9/6 - Cadet Victorian Smith is a outstanding cadet who has performed numerous hours of community service. (Nominated by Major Johnson)

CTAE 8/31 to 9/7 - Spencer Ray led the push to advertise the first Technology Student Association (TSA) meeting and promoting the meeting around the school. (Nominated by Ms. Glenda Walker)

PE 8/31 to 9/7 - Osjalee has a 100 average in Physical Education she has exhibited leadership, integrity and dedication in class (Nominated by Coach Rogers)

WESTLAKE CELEBRATES ITS SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

Saturday 8/29

Destiny Bell

Chloe Davis

Shamia Harris

Michaela Smith

Wednesday 9/2

JaQuan Allen

Thursday 9/3

Elijah Holifield

Miracle Nichols

Sunday 8/30

David Derixson

Amber Gonsalves

Melanie O'Neal

Friday 9/4

Darion White

Ayomide Wowo

Monday 8/31

J'Quann Frett

Saturday 9/5

Bryce McByers

Edima Ubom

Tuesday 9/1

Justin Broughton

Cameron Cutno

Sunday 9/6

Shannon Williams

UPDATES ON SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

MAGNET DUES BY STAFF

Westlake's Magnet Program is now collecting dues for the upcoming school year.

All freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors need to pay their \$90 dues.

The Magnet Program has great activities planned for the year, and all students will need to continue their commitment and support to make these plans happen.

MAGNET PREPARES FOR ESSAY BOOTCAMP BY STAFF

Magnet juniors and seniors, join the Magnet Program for a series of free college admission essay writing bootcamps in September.

This is a great opportunity to learn strategies on how to begin the essay writing process.

Attend these sessions and hear from admissions officers on how to effectively craft a winning essay.

FBLA DUES BY STAFF

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is now accepting new members for the upcoming school year.

The cost to join FBLA is \$30.

Please see Ms. Carter in Room 232 to pay your dues and become a part of this organization.

SENIOR PICTURES AT SCHOOL BY STAFF

The deadline to take your senior portraits for the yearbook is approaching quickly.

All seniors must sign up online to take their pictures with Cady Studios by Oct. 8th.

Cady Studios will be at the school on Sept. 17th and 18th.

See Ms. Woods in Room 218 to pick up portrait information.

CALENDAR OF SPORTING EVENTS

Cross Country @ Westlake.....	9/1
DATE: Tuesday 9/1	
PLACE: Westlake Field @ 5:30pm	
Softball vs. Rockdale JV.....	9/2
DATE: Wednesday 9/2	
PLACE: Westlake Softball Field @ 5:45pm	
JV Volleyball vs. Banneker.....	9/3
DATE: Thursday 9/3	
PLACE: Banneker High School @ TDB	
Varsity Volleyball vs. Creekside.....	9/3
DATE: Thursday 9/3	
PLACE: Westlake Gym @ 5:00pm	
Softball vs. Langston Hughes.....	9/3
DATE: Thursday 9/3	
PLACE: Langston Hughes High School @ 5:30pm	
JV Football vs. Grady.....	9/3
DATE: Thursday 9/3	
PLACE: Westlake Stadium @ 6:00pm	
Varsity Football vs. Shiloh.....	9/4
DATE: Friday 9/4	
PLACE: Shiloh High School @ 7:30pm	
Cross Country @ Starrs Mill.....	9/5
DATE: Saturday 9/5	
PLACE: Starrs Mill High School @ 8:00am	
Cross Country @ Langston Hughes.....	9/8
DATE: Tuesday 9/8	
PLACE: Langston Hughes High School @ 5:30pm	
Softball vs. East Coweta.....	9/8
DATE: Tuesday 9/8	
PLACE: East Coweta High School @ 5:30pm	
Softball vs. Campbell.....	9/10
DATE: Thursday 9/10	
PLACE: Westlake Softball Field @ 5:30pm	
Varsity Volleyball vs. Langston.....	9/10
DATE: Thursday 9/10	
PLACE: Westlake Gym @ 5:30pm	
Freshman Football vs. Tucker.....	9/10
DATE: Thursday 9/10	
PLACE: Tucker High School @ 5:30pm	
JV Football vs. Carver.....	9/10
DATE: Thursday 9/10	
PLACE: Carver High School @ 5:15pm	
Varsity Football vs. Newton.....	9/11
DATE: Friday 9/11	
PLACE: Westlake Stadium @ 7:30pm	
Softball vs. Rockdale JV.....	9/14
DATE: Monday 9/14	
PLACE: Westlake Softball Field @ 5:45pm	
Cross Country @ Creekside.....	9/15
DATE: Tuesday 9/15	
PLACE: Creekside High School @ 5:30pm	
Softball vs. Pebblebrook.....	9/15
DATE: Tuesday 9/15	
PLACE: Pebblebrook High School @ 5:30pm	
Varsity Volleyball vs. East Coweta.....	9/15
DATE: Tuesday 9/15	
PLACE: Westlake Gym @ 5:30pm	
Varsity Volleyball vs. Centennial.....	9/17
DATE: Thursday 9/17	
PLACE: Centennial High School @ 5:00pm	

ATHLETICS

WESTLAKE SOFTBALL BEATS OSBORNE 17 to 5

BY STAFF**ATLANTA** - Westlake's varsity softball team capitalized on timely two out hitting and quick running in their convincing victory against Osborne High School 17 to 5.

The game was close at the beginning, but the bottom of the order got on base and set the scene for a series of hits that turned the tide of the game.

The game-changing offense was led by Myriale Hawking, who hit an inside the park grand slam, as well Marissa Holmes, who had an inside the park home run.

Freshman Amilya Little, who is putting together quite an impressive rookie season, also contributed an over the fence grand slam.

"I did not go to the plate expecting a homer-

un," confessed Amilya.

"I started off the game shaky with the bat. I was just thinking about getting on base because we needed the runs."

Amilya wound up doing much more than getting on base, even though she initially did not think she had hit the grand slam.

"I thought it was going to be a basic pop-up because it was so high in the air," explained Amilya.

"But before I could get to first base, my coach said, 'Good job!'"

With this run support, starting pitcher Jamia Lyons was more than alright.

From the mound, Jamia Lyons controlled the game, pitching seven innings and giving up only two earned runs.

Ultimately, the team

chemistry of this Westlake team is special and has been in the making for a long time.

"I've known a lot of the girls for a long time. There isn't any breakage in the bonds we have," detailed Amilya.

Perhaps the most memorable moment of the game came from Coach Sims, who showed his bond with his athletes by getting to the ground in a pivotal moment.

Westlake had a runner on third base, and the third baseman for the other team tripped her when the ball went into the outfield.

At that moment, Coach Sims literally got

on the ground and started doing pushups, trying to get on her level to tell her to go home.

It goes without saying that the runner got up and made her way home.

"Coach Sims is very encouraging and animated," said Amilya, who laughed when he had done the pushups.

All smiles, Amilya further described the feeling of hitting a grand slam, explaining what might just have been her secret motivation.

"This is only my second homerun. Me and my brother were in a competition because he recently hit a homerun. My dad said the next one to hit a homerun would get a prize."

And how does a Westlake student celebrate when she hits a grand slam?

"I'm going to ask him to go to the mall and go shoe shopping," said Amilya excitedly.

Enjoy your new shoes, Amilya. You earned them!

FOOTBALL PLAYERS TRAIN HARD OVER SUMMER

BY MAKAEAL KHAALIQ**ATLANTA** - Westlake's success in its first game of the season was not by accident.

Over the summer, the football team gathered three days a week to workout and practice.

The goal of summer practices is to get in shape for the upcoming season and begin establishing the bonds between players that lead to teamwork and unity.

While many students are spending the summer relaxing and goofing off, Westlake's football players are doing the opposite.

"What people don't

know about summer workouts is there are no days off," explained football standout Makael Khaaliq.

"The days you decide to take a day off is the day coach runs you for two hours nothing but sprints," explained Makael.

Even the days when there is officially no practice, players have to run on their own so they are not behind when they get to workouts.

This work ethic on off days helps to explain why, when at workouts, players set personal expectations to give it their all.

"Workouts are not for people who lack the heart to keep pushing and to persevere. From the morning until it is over, it is a grind."

"It was brutal waking up early every morning ready to grind. Lifting weights outside in the heat. Grinding for a state championship," detailed Maruice Peeks.

"Coach Love demands perfection and greatness. This is what he bleeds, and he has instilled in us that very mindset," said Maurice.

It is all worth it though when we get to go to FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) team camp and

play against other teams to see how much we have grown as a team, not only physically and mentally but also spiritually.

It shows how all the weight room lifts and exercises impact us. How during the transition between stations we were still working hard.

Even though the heat drains the life out of us and makes us feel like wrung out sponge, it makes us better because like Cameron Allen says, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

FINE ARTS

ORCHESTRA PARENT MEETING APPROACHES

BY STAFF**ATLANTA** - Westlake's Orchestra Program will ready parents for an outstanding year by hosting a Parent Meeting on Thursday, September 3rd.

Ms. Grimes will discuss orchestra expectation for the students, fundraising opportunities, future performances, uniforms, and more.

Ms. Grimes will also present information about upcoming events ranging from the Sickle Cell Gala and KSU Invitational.

tational.

According to its website, the KSU Orchestra Invitational is a unique event that offers high school and advanced middle school orchestras the opportunity to experience performing in one of the finest concert halls in Georgia, The Bailey Performance Center.

Ensembles will be critiqued in a non-competitive format and given feedback from KSU faculty.

Ensembles will also have a short clinic with

a nationally-recognized guest clinician and receive a professional audio recording of their performance.

Our featured adjudicator and clinician will be Dr. David Eccles from the VanderCook College of Music in Chicago..

Mr. Eccles has served as a guest conductor for various state orchestras and is also a clinician for the Hal Leonard Corporation.

Ms. Grimes was reported to be thrilled for the opportunity to go

to the invitational and show other schools the strength of Westlake's program.

In addition to the KSU Invitational, Ms. Grimes will also address opportunities at Westlake, such as playing pit music for *Dreamgirls*.

All orchestra parents are encouraged to attend. An email requesting RSVP was sent on last week.

The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30pm in the orchestra room.

ACADEMICS

MS. BOLDEN JOINS WESTLAKE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**BY STAFF**

ATLANTA - The Westlake Science Department has netted a tremendous hire in Tonya Bolden, a veteran teacher with a passion for inspiring future teachers.

To learn more about Ms. Forrest, please read the following interview.

How do you feel about joining the Westlake staff?

I love Westlake. It has been a breath of fresh air being here. I love being part of the Westlake family.

What have you noticed about the students?

I noticed that the students are very disciplined, eager to learn, and ready to solve problems. As a Physics and Chemistry teacher, that is a welcomed thing. They're analytical and ready for challenges.

What have you taught in the past?

This is my 14th year in the classroom, and I've taught Physics, Engineering, Chemistry, and Calculus.

What are some of your highlights of your 14 years of teaching?

The best thing about teaching is having students come back after they have gone to college.

I have some now who are out of college, and now they are in a scientific career or they are teaching.

I have one student named Jamal, and he is entering into his first year of teaching. I've been talking to him all summer and getting him ready for his classroom.

He actually expressed to me in high school that he wanted to be a teacher. I encouraged him with that.

It's just great to see that he's going to be a middle school teacher.

Do you have any other former students who are teaching?

I have two other students who are teaching high school.

One is teaching biology and the other is teaching chemistry.

I also have three other students who are now in Teachers Ed programs and are still in school.

So are you a college for teachers yourself that produces future teachers?

Yes! In my previous classes, I had the students actually teach. The students had to teach middle and elementary school students, and that's how they got a taste for teaching.

With this other stu-

dent named Lindsey, I told her, "You really have a gift for teaching. You should really do it. You got it girl. You should do it."

And now, she's a middle school teacher. Both her and Jamal claimed they were thinking about it for the future, and now they're teachers.

I'm so proud of them. To see other students go on to be engineers or biochemists. To see students excel, whether it is a science related field, college, or the military, that's the greatest joy I could have.

Can Westlake look forward to you continuing this tradition of having high schoolers teach the elementary and middle schools?

Yes, I would love to do that, to get in contact with our feeder schools and establish a relationship with them.

It's a win-win. I think it helps the younger kids because they look forward of seeing the high school kids and it helps reinforce the content for the high school students.

The high school students also end up saying, "I didn't know how hard teaching is!"

Any particular accolads for you throughout your teaching career?

I have been part of the Woodrow Wilson Program that helps select and mentor new teachers. A lot of people are second career and decide that they want to go into teaching.

I help select new teachers and administrators that come through this process. It is a national program, and it has been great to be a part of that.

It's through the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, which is headquartered in Princeton. It's all over the country, and I'm lucky because we get to give practical advice from the classroom.

I was in a cohort with other people when I did my alternative certification, so I'm enthusiastic about the Woodrow Wilson Program because I have a chance to repay the help I received by giving people support in their first years of teaching.

Ms. Bolden, now I have to be honest. I know you have been Teacher of the Year, but you are too humble to say so.

Yes. I have been Teacher of the Year at my old school.

(Ms. Bolden did not elaborate on her experience as teacher of the year and instead changed the subject to



the success of others.)

Tell us a bit about your educational philosophy.

I feel like teaching is a calling. That's the way I embrace it, and I want to see every student excel in whatever they want to do, in whatever facet of life they want to go into. That's my philosophy.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the Westlake Community about what makes you you?

Part of what makes me who I am is my background.

I came from a poor, single-parent home in North Carolina, and my grandfather was a tobacco farmer who could not read or write.

I was the first person in my family to attend college, and at Johnson C Smith University, I double majored in Chemistry and Physics.

Then I was given an amazing opportunity to study Education and Divinity at Princeton, where I graduated in 2007.

I include this information because I believe that students need to see that anything is possible.

I was supposed to be a statistic but with personal determination and the help of some wonderful educators in my life, I am here today!

WHS PRODUCES SCIENCE PROJECTS AT GEORGIA TECH**BY KIAURA KNOX**

ATLANTA - Over the summer, a select few of our magnificent students participated in a summer enrichment program at the Georgia Institute of Technology, otherwise known as Georgia Tech.

These students had the opportunity to consult one-on-one with professors, graduate students, and experienced scientists.

Specifically, Johnathan Johnson, Xavier Maldonado, Tatiana Maldonado, Adriana Maldonado, Markaline Reid, Spencer Ray, and Caitlin Jones, were fortunate enough to partake in this one-of-a-kind event.

Mr. Washington and Ms. Cordeiro served as program advisers for Westlake and helped guide the students into worthwhile mentorships with the staff at Georgia Tech.

Ms. Cordeiro stated in reference to the nature and maturity of the science project that, "The students were very mature and impressed me every day."

It certainly took maturity to work consistently across the entire experience to develop an idea of how to help the world.

Each Westlake project presents a different type of optimism about technology and the future, and we know that the Westlake Community should experience all the projects individually.

Therefore, here at the newsletter, we are going to bring you one science project each week to give you a closer look at our students' analysis and skill.

**STUDENTS PLAN HOW TO RECORD BIKE TRAFFIC****BY KIAURA KNOX**

ATLANTA - Traveling by bike is becoming more popular in Atlanta with the introduction of the Silver Comet Trail and Beltline, but cyclists still face danger on the busy city streets that they share with cars.

In order to ensure Atlanta adapts to its rapidly growing cyclist population, bikers must be tallied, recorded, and measured.

A system for finding out how many cyclists are on the road does not currently exist, but that did

not deter Westlake students.

In order to correct the situation, juniors Johnathan Johnson and Xavier Maldonado created the Bicycle Recognition Sensor.

"Basically, we made a camera using a Raspber-

ry Pi and programmed the camera to automatically distinguish bicycles from motor vehicles," Johnathan explained.

Once bicycles and cars are distinguished, the computer software will tally the number of bikes that pass on a given day.

Thus, Jonathan and Xavier's sensor is on the verge of improving the structure of roads and providing safer transportation for both cyclists and motorists.

A project of this caliber could have an impact on modern society and requires highly skilled students, so we at Westlake are extremely proud of the participants' accomplishments, as well as the reputation they provided for Westlake.

Congratulations Jonathan and Xavier! Next week, we will present another exciting project!

JUNIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPTIONAL JUNIOR CLASS DUES ARE SET AT \$100**BY STAFF**

ATLANTA - All juniors are encouraged to pay OPTIONAL junior dues, which are set at \$100 and includes many perks. The deadline for dues is December 4, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact your junior class sponsor, Ms. Wilson at wilsontl@fultonschools.org.

WHAT DO DUES INCLUDE?

Dues include the following:
 1 Prom Ticket
 1 Jr. Class Spring Activity (Main Event)
 Pride Package Includes:
 2 Class of 2017 t-shirts, backpack, water bottle

WHEN DO I PAY DUES?

All dues can be paid via www.mypaymentsplus.com
 Between September 4 - December 4, 2015
 **Payment is non-refundable
 ***Prom tickets are non-transferable

SENIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEADLINE FOR SENIOR PICTURES IS FAST APPROACHING**BY STAFF**

ATLANTA - If seniors have not already gotten yearbook pictures taken, then they will need to immediately get them taken. Below, you can find answers to the most frequently asked questions about yearbook photos. If you have any additional questions you can contact Ms. Woods at woods@fultonschools.org, or you can check out our Seniors FAQ page.

WHO IS CADY STUDIOS?

We are your schools official senior photographer! We hold a Junior Meeting at every school before our studios open to meet with the rising seniors to talk about the Cady Studios senior portrait experience. Cady Studios must photograph each student in order to appear in the yearbook.

WHAT IS A SESSION?

"Session" simply refers to your photo shoot at Cady Studios. Each session is a scheduled appointment time to be photographed on your chosen scenes. All sessions include yearbook, cap and gown, and a casual scene.

HOW DO I BOOK MY SESSION?

You can book your session online at <http://session.cadystudios.com/> or call our Customer Experience Team:
 678.951.0102 | Local
 800.547.6237 | Toll Free

HOW DOES CADY STUDIOS CONTACT THE CLASS OF 2016?

We email out booking reminders and send out all-inclusive informational pieces to students' homes.

WHEN SHOULD I BOOK MY SESSION?

Now! Most students take their senior portraits the summer between their junior and senior year, but book as soon as possible, because appointments fill up fast. You can schedule your session online or call our Customer Experience Team at 800.547.6237.

HOW MUCH ARE THE SESSION FEES?

Sessions start at \$25, which includes your yearbook and cap and gown portraits, and one additional indoor scene of your choice. Elite Sessions range in price and can include an all-out private photography experience including twelve locations and hair and makeup styling. Then, of course, there

WHERE DO I GO TAKE MY PICTURES?

You have 2 options: Studio or at School *both locations you MUST BOOK A SESSION TIME

We have two amazing studio locations . The addresses of our studios are:

ALPHARETTA, GA STUDIO
 44 MILTON AVENUE, ALPHARETTA, GA 30009

ACWORTH, GA STUDIO
 3979 S. MAIN STREET, ACWORTH, GA 30101

WHEN DO I GO TAKE MY PICTURES?

School Date and Times
 September 17th - 3:00-8:00pm
 September 18th - 3:00-8:00pm
 MUST BOOK A SESSION TIME online at cadystudios.com or by calling 800.547.6237

WHAT'S THE DEADLINE FOR YEARBOOK?

The last day to be photographed to select your yearbook photo is August 30th. You must be photographed by October 8th to appear in your yearbook. You will not be able to select your yearbook photo if photographed after August 30th.