Have you had an experience with a teenager, one that appeared to be unmotivated, one that you interacted with in a positive way, and the teenager turned it around? Joe was a 10th grader that was not performing to his fullest potential. His classroom participation was minimal. Joe was alone during the lunch period. When I first spoke to Joe he was reluctant to talk to me. I continued to attempt making conversation with him. I tried to pick topics he was interested in. Through numerous attempts to talk Joe finally opened up and expressed his desire to do better in school but because of some tense relationships at home he could not focus. He shared some of the hurdles he was faced with. When Joe opened up and shared his goals with me I was then able to help him reach those goals. I listened and then provided him with a few resources that he might choose from. It seemed to be just what he needed to get through his struggles, just one caring adult other than his parents, to listen to him and help him set his own goals, not my goals. Joe began succeeding in high school. He started attending some college classes as well. He graduated from high school and is now a freshman at a college in mid-west.

The Wilcox Community Mentoring Program that is mentioned in this edition is a program to match an adult mentor with a student that is struggling in school. The mentor helps the student with a mindset and skill set that helps the student to motivate themselves.

A recent article, “Academic Tenacity: Mindsets and Skills that Promote Long-Term Learning” by Carol S. Dweck, Gregory M. Walton, and Geoffrey L. Cohen speaks about the importance of non-cognitive factors that contribute to student success. An excerpt from the article;

“Most educational reforms focus on curriculum and pedagogy—what material is taught and how it is taught... Research shows that this is insufficient. In our pursuit of educational reform, something essential has been missing: the psychology of the student. Psychological factors—often called motivational or non-cognitive factors—can matter even more than cognitive factors for students’ academic performance. These may include students’ beliefs about themselves, their feelings about school, or their habits of self-control. Educators, psychologists, and even economists recognize the importance of non-cognitive factors in achievement both in school and in the labor market. ... The research reviewed in this paper shows that educational interventions and initiatives that target these psychological factors can transform students’ experience and achievement in school, improving core academic outcomes such as GPA and test scores months and even years later...and fostering these mindsets and self-regulation strategies is what psychological researchers typically mean by motivating students. This is quite different than adults trying to motivate students through money and other rewards. Rather, we emphasize the type of motivation that students carry with them in the form of mindsets and skills, and the kind that educators promote by fostering these mindsets and skills.”
If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please read below (page 6) for more information and who you can contact. I always believe that it takes a team to support students, both academically and emotionally. The team is often the student’s parents and teachers. However there are times that the team needs other community members to help. Those community members can be other teachers, coaches, mentor volunteers. It is never a waste of time to spend time with our youth.

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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) AND NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**

The Counseling Office would like to breakdown our **2013-2014** school year AP numbers for our parents.

- **396 students** attempt at least one AP exam. A total of 836 tests were administered.
- **120 AP Scholars** which means those students score a 3 or higher on at least 3 tests.
- **18 Students were named AP Scholars with Honors**—These are students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.
- **38 Students were named AP Scholars with Distinction**—These are students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.
- **7 Students were named National AP Scholars**—These students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Interesting facts about Wilcox and AP – over the last 5 years, Wilcox has added 50 testers and 150 tests while raising our percentage of students that receive at least one 3 from 65.8% to 75.8%. **Great job students!**

Tommy Giang, Brian Nguyen, Ishankumar Patel, Drew Pfeifer, Kyle Phan and Ryan Vosper received a **Letter of Commendation** from the **National Merit Scholarship Program**. The Letter of Commendation is sent to 50,000 of the 1.5 million high school juniors who took the PSAT; this roughly 3% of the high scoring participants are recognized for their academic abilities and potential, but they do not qualify for the scholarship itself. Additionally Lauren Fowlkes and Joi Strickland received “**Outstanding Participant**” letters from National Merit Scholarship. These students are referred to colleges for their potential for academic success. **Congratulations!**
ASB PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE ~ ASHLEY WONG

Wilcox's Associated Student Body has recently closed one of the biggest chapters of their year: Homecoming. With a successful Homecoming in the books, ASB has not hesitated to begin work on their annual George Mayne Toy Drive and Winter Ball planning. Every year ASB hosts a school wide competition between fourth period classes to see who can donate the most toys. When not working on Winter Ball preparation, during these months you can catch ASB members and other volunteers wrapping gifts in the ASB office. On Friday, December 12, ASB along with 3 students from the winning 4th period class will deliver the toys to George Mayne Elementary school in Alviso. If you are interested in donating toys, do not hesitate to bring them down to the Wilcox ASB office!

Also, we are working on everything for the annual Wilcox Winter Ball which will be on December 20th, 2014 at the Fairmont Hotel.

WILCOX DADS, GRADS & MOMS BOOSTER CLUB

First of all, a big thanks goes out to all of the volunteers we had at the Art & Wine Festival helping to staff our booths and making it a success. Also, thank you to those who have answered our pleas for staffing of the football snack bar this year. By the time you get this newsletter there will only be one regular season game to go. I always enjoy speaking to the new and returning parents at these events each year. Your volunteering through the parent organizations really does make a difference.

If you didn’t get a chance to help in the football snack bar, there are other activities we could use support with. Don’t forget that the sports pass membership is also good for entrance to all league games for boys and girls Basketball, Volleyball, and Wrestling. If you have not joined yet, you can still get forms in the ASB office or at the admission table at any home league game. Keep in mind that we will only be able to continue to offer that sports pass, which saves you a lot of money, if we have volunteers to help raise the funds needed to help the school.

As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, I will be giving my annual talk on College Financial Aid Planning again, tentatively scheduled for January 21st. If you have any thoughts of using financial aid to help pay for your student’s college education, you don’t want to miss it. There is an announcement in this newsletter for it and please note that the location will probably be in the Science Lecture Hall. The talk will be publicized in the daily announcements and SchoolLoop.

Please join us at one of our meetings, which are the last Wednesday of the month in the teacher’s lounge. Come out and keep up to date on what is happening at Wilcox HS.

Hope to see you at one of the many Wilcox events.
Marc Lund, President ~ marc@marclundcpa.com
EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- November 3 – December 12 – ASB Toy Drive
- November 11 – NO SCHOOL – Veterans’ Day Holiday
- November 13, 14, 21, 22, 7:00pm, Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead
- November 23, 2:00pm, Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead
  - Mission City Center for Performing Arts (Wilcox Theater)
  - Tickets are $10 for adults and $6 for students at the door
- November 18: Senior Panorama Photo
- November 19, 7:00pm, Wilcox Theater, Sophomore Student & Parent Night
- December 20, 8:00pm – midnight, Fairmont Hotel, Winter Ball
- December 22 – January 5, 2015 – Holiday Break (school resumes Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2015)
- January 14, 2015, 7:00pm – 9:30pm, Wilcox Theater, College Financial Aid Night
- January 21, 2015, 7:00pm, Wilcox Science Lecture Hall, Boost Your Chances for Financial Aid
- January 24, 2015 – 8:00pm – 11:00pm, Sadie Hawkins Dance
- January 28, 2015 – 7:00pm – 9:00pm, Wilcox Theater, Freshmen Student & Parent Night

WILCOX STAGE COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS
‘ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD’

‘Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead’ is a comedic play full of deeper messages about death, purgatory and fate based on William Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are two supporting characters in the story of Hamlet. This show focuses on their journey through the story weaving in and out of Shakespeare’s plot points as the two ride along with tons of shenanigans. This metaphor-filled comedy is set in Shakespearean times but is spoken in mostly modern English. It’s a laugh you won’t want to miss. Our show dates are November 13th, 14th, 21st and 22nd at 7pm and a matinee on the 23rd at 2pm at the Mission City Center For Performing Arts. Tickets are $10 for adults and $6 for students at the door.

FIRST SEMESTER FINALS WEEK SCHEDULE

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Good luck on your finals!
**BOOST YOUR CHANCES FOR FINANCIAL AID**

*Wednesday, January 21, 2015*

*7:00pm*

*Wilcox HS Science Lecture Hall*

Come to hear how to use the financial aid system to help pay for college. Practice proven advice from Marc Lund, CPA, MBA applied to his own Wilcox graduates of ’02 & ’07.

$ Knowledge of how the system works is the key.
$ Don’t pay full price for college……very few do.
$ How can the tax code help?
$ There is a right way and a wrong way to use financial aid.

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**FROM THE ASB OFFICE**

**TOY DRIVE:** Every year around this time Monday, November 3rd we start collecting new and used toys, clean stuffed animals and new and used books (with no writing in them ) for our annual toy drive to help out our elementary school George Mayne. We have elves throughout the month of November wrapping the gifts to get their community service of 20 hours in to help the cause. This will be our 24th year collecting toys and bikes to deliver to our elementary school. We have another elf who fixes bikes for the toy drive. If you have any bikes to donate he is so handy with the tools he will make the bikes look brand new. Remember let’s put a smile on everyone’s face this year because one smile leads to another. Any questions regarding the toy drive please call Ms. Lash at 408-423-2428.

**CAP & GOWN ORDERS:** If you have a senior graduating this year the cap and gown order form was mailed out the month of October and the order needs to be turned in Monday, November 3rd with your Civic and Econ Classes. Listen for the announcements as to the location to go to place your order.

**SENIOR PANORAMA:** If you are a senior the senior panorama picture will be taken on Wednesday, November 19th at SSR time in the quad. The company will have envelopes for you to place your order that day, or order on line.

**WINTER BALL:** This year the Winter Ball will be at the Fairmont Hotel. The theme for this year has not been posted yet. We are out of school on Friday, December 19th and the Winter Ball is on Saturday, December 20th from 8:00p.m. – 12:00a.m. If you are in need of some beautiful dresses the Princess Project usually contacts the ASB Office around November to have girls come and look at the gowns they have on display and you can purchase the one of your dreams!

**SADIE HAWKINS DANCE:** The dance is held on Saturday, January 24th from 8:00p.m. – 11:00p.m. Last year they had the dance in the main gym and everyone really enjoyed the evening. Remember to mark your calendar for Saturday, January 24th dance and this time the girl gets to ask the guy.
**Wilcox Community Mentoring Program**

Wilcox is piloting a volunteer mentoring program for a select group of Wilcox students who may need a little extra help getting through high school. The program is looking for volunteers: parents, grandparents, neighbors, community members (especially Wilcox alumni parents), anyone who would like to help a student by providing a positive adult presence. A mentor will be matched to a student based on similar career or social interests, hobbies and/or experiences.

This year, community mentors are asked to:
- 1. Commit to the program until June 2015.
- 2. Complete and submit volunteer forms.
- 3. Meet with the student on the Wilcox campus (at a time convenient for both) once a week.
- 4. Check in with student 1-3 times per week by phone.
- 5. Attend training sessions: one this semester, two next semester.

Principal Billings ran this type of program quite successfully at a previous school and feels that such an effort can make a huge impact at Wilcox. Very soon, we will have more kids interested than available mentors. Please help us by volunteering or spreading the word of this rewarding endeavor to other members of our Santa Clara community.

For more information or to sign up, please email Lillian Kwiatkowski: lgkwiat@gmail.com.

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The **Wilcox Varsity Dance Team** has been busy since the beginning of summer working on dance technique and choreography. The hard work has been mixed with lots of fun too. Dancing softball, tie dying, games, a movie outing, team dinner and many yogurt parfait days led to a fantastic time at USA spirit camp at UC Santa Cruz. The team was awarded the highest honor for their original routine as well as all the dances and cheer they learned at camp. Two of the girls were invited to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, two were invited to the London New Year's Day parade, and two were awarded All American honors.

The team performed several of their routines at the Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival. They are having a great time performing at the football games and thank the amazing Wilcox band for performing live music that is so exciting to dance to. Of course the highlight was performing at the Levi stadium game.

They have had many fundraisers from creating bouquets and selling them at a dance recital to marching in the San Jose Jazz Festival parade. A favorite was providing a snack bar for the Water Polo team. They are now looking forward to a flapjack breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's.

The team has six seniors, three juniors, three sophomores and one freshman. They are lead by captains Kate and Geneveve, President Madison, Vice President Abigail and Treasurer/fundraising chair Tiffany. The team is currently working on homecoming and celebrating their dance sister Kate's well deserved new title of Homecoming Queen! Go chargers!
Community Service Graduation Requirement
As a requirement for graduation, students must complete 20 hours of community service. Service involves working with a non-profit organization or agency serving the needs of the community. The service hours must take place outside of the school day. Many opportunities are available including work at your local elementary school. Many schools have after-school programs to work with youngsters as a tutor as well as helping students with reading.

It is suggested that students begin the hours their freshman year. The 20 hours required by Wilcox is just a minimum requirement. Colleges and universities look favorably on students who volunteer their time, and other local schools have much higher hour requirements. Encourage your son/daughter to come by the bulletin board in the office, the college and career center, or visit the Wilcox School Loop website under Guidance, Wilcox Counseling Department, and Community Service to see a list of service opportunities.

All students, especially seniors, should turn in their community service hours and reflection essay as soon as possible.

UC and CSU Applications
The University of California and the California State University applications are now available.

Students who are applying to the CSU system must use the electronic application located online at: www.csumentor.edu. Students who are applying to the UC system may also use the electronic application located online at: www.ucop.edu/pathways. Using online applications is recommended for both convenience and ease of application.

Please remind students to apply early. The deadline for both systems is November 30. No applications will be accepted after that day. Students should complete all necessary tests by the month of December (except that for SJSU the deadline is November).

Financial Aid
Any student who is considering attending a community college, a CSU, UC or private university is encouraged to begin thinking about financial aid. www.ed.gov/studentaid is an excellent resource for comprehensive, up-to-date information. Information about local and national scholarships is available on the counseling website.

Seniors should plan to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA). Forms are available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov in early January and the deadline for submitting information is March 2. Before applying for the FAFSA, the student and the parent should apply for a PIN number that will be used in place of the signatures on the forms. To obtain a FAFSA pin number, visit their website at www.PIN.ed.gov. The FAFSA form should not be filled out until after January 1st but the pin should be applied for now.

There will be a Financial Aid Information Night for parents and students on Wednesday, January 14th from 7 pm to 9:30 pm in the Mission City Performing Arts Center. All seniors and their parents are encouraged to attend! There are many online financial aid resources. Check out:

www.ucop.edu/pathways/finaid
www.finaid.org
www.c3apply.org

Please call the Counseling Office with questions about these or any other topics.

Counseling office 423-2414
Mrs. LaBarbera (A – G of the alphabet) 423-2411
Ms. Villarreal (P – W of the alphabet) 423-2413
Mr. LaFleur (H – O of the alphabet) 423-2412
Mrs. Mikhailova (X-Z of the alphabet) 423-2462
**The Top Ten Things that Parents Should Remember About the College Search Process**

(as published by Middlebury College)

10. **Remember that this process is not about you.** No matter how similar your children may be to you, they need to make their own decisions and observations.

9. **Support and encouragement are more appropriate than pressure and unsolicited advice.** Allow your children to seek you out and restrain yourself from imposing your viewpoint upon them.

8. **Do not use the words “we” or “our” when referring to your children’s application process.** Those little pronouns are surefire indicators that you have become too involved.

7. **Help them prepare but let them perform.** Encourage them to sleep well and put thought into a college visit, but once on campus, step back and let them drive the experience. This is a good practice for the next phase of their lives – adulthood.

6. **Encourage your children to make their own college appointments, phone calls, and e-mails.** When a family arrives at an admissions office, it’s important that the student approach the front desk, not the parents. They notice! Having control over those details gives them a sense of ownership. Don’t be tempted by the excuse that “I’m just saving them time: or “they are too busy” – students will learn to appreciate all the steps it takes to make big things happen if they do them.

5. **Allow your children to ask the questions.** They have their own set of issues that are important to them.

4. **Prepare your children for disappointment.** For many students this is the first time they could face bad news. Remind them there is no perfect school and that admissions decisions do not reflect on their worth as people or your worth as parents.

3. **Never complete any portion of the college application** – yes, even if it is just busy work. That also goes for friends, siblings, counselors, and secretaries. For many colleges, that overstep would be viewed as a violation of the honor policy at the school.

2. **Do not let stereotypes or outdated information steer your children away from schools in which they would otherwise have an interest.** Times have changed and so have colleges. ALL colleges and universities within California have become competitive and challenging to get into.

**And the #1 Thing for Parents to Remember about the College Search Process is:**

1. **Never, ever, during a college visit buy a sweatshirt or t-shirt from the bookstore in your size – it’s a dead giveaway!**
GET THE PERFECT FIT!

The NEFF Varsity Jacket Program

W

We understand how complicated it can be to coordinate the many components involved in building a school jacket program. There can be one company for the jacket, another for the letter, and another for embroidery, etc. NEFF is your one-source solution. By providing you with both the jacket and decoration, we are able to deliver the highest-quality jacket with consistent color matching across the board. This saves a great deal of time and money for you and your students.

A knowledgeable sales rep will also help you through the process, working with you to build your school’s unique program.

IT’S SIMPLE, IT’S EASY, IT’S THE PERFECT FIT!

1. WE HELP YOU DESIGN YOUR SCHOOL’S OFFICIAL JACKET
2. WE PROVIDE ALL THE TOOLS YOU NEED FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM
3. WE TAKE CARE OF THE JACKET FITTING AND ORDER TAKING
4. YOU GET YOUR JACKETS FAST & ON-TIME

Questions ??

Contact:

NEFF REP
Randy Vetterlein
rvetterlein@neffco.com
(650) 888-1025

Neff Customer Service
800-232-6333

or

www.wilcox/schoolloop.com
click on Athletic Information
click on Letterman Jackets
WE’RE IN IT TOGETHER.

Buy your WILCOX HIGH SCHOOL yearbook! Get the best price on your yearbook by buying now!

September 27 – December 19, 2014 - $85
January 6 – April 16, 2015 - $90
Purchasing through distribution - $90

Name (Please print): ___________________________ Student ID Number: ___________ Grade: _________

SSR Teacher Name (if applicable): ___________________________ Room #: ______

PERSONALIZE YOUR YEARBOOK for an additional $5.00 for one line and $8.00 for two lines. Please print your name as you would like it to appear on the first line of your Name Plate below. The maximum number of characters you may use is 30 per line, including spaces ($5.00).

____________________________________________________________________________________________

If you would like a second line of personalization print what you want on the second line ($8.00 for both lines)

____________________________________________________________________________________________

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ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK AND ACCESSORIES

MY YEARBOOK____________________

One line name plate $5.00__________

Two line name plate $8.00__________

Total Amount Due ________________

Please include a check payable to WILCOX HIGH SCHOOL or cash for the total amount due. If you pay with a check, please include your student ID number on the check. Please return this order form with the check or cash for the amount shown to the bookkeeper’s office.

To use a credit card to order your yearbook call 866-287-3096 or go to www.YearbookOrderCenter.com and use order number 16214.
Ed100.org has an optimistic purpose: to help you learn how education really works, so you can make a difference – whether you are a parent, a student, a teacher, or an interested citizen. Change happens. People who are prepared and informed can take moments of change and give them meaning. Ed100 can help you learn what you need to know.

Check it out. 10 lessons: Education is...Students...and Teachers...spending Time...in Places For...with the Right Stuff...in a System...with Resources...for Success. So Now What?

- Sign up & Sign in. Create a profile and track your progress through the lessons.
- Check your "profile" and add your school. Participating in Ed100 builds a record of informed parent engagement, which is a requirement of the new LCAP.
- It’s not just about you. Completing a lesson will earn you a completion certificate and provide evidence of informed parent engagement for your school.
- Talk about it. The impact of Ed100 is greatest when used kind of as a “book club.” Bring people together to discuss the lessons; there are discussion prompts to get the ball rolling. Or participate in online discussions.
- Use the LCAP Parent Checklist template to determine “next steps”.

WILCOX PTSA IS BETTER....WITH YOU!!!

With your PTSA membership, all things are possible! We invite every parent, student, teacher and staff to join the PTSA, as we work to make Wilcox the best it can be for our students.

Here are a few things we accomplished in the 2013-2014 school year:

- Donated $16k for Wilcox Technology Computer Labs
- Hosted three Staff Appreciation Luncheons
- Direct Donation to the library for Teen Read Week
- Donated towards every 15 Minutes Program
- Hosted a Parent Ed Night on Social Media & the College Search Process
- Sponsored 2014 Grad Night

For the 2014-2015 school year we hope to add more to our list with the help of each of you!

PTSA also means exclusive perks! To name a few:

- California Academy of Sciences
- Enterprise Car Rental and much more!!!!

Additional perks can be found here: [http://www.capta.org/sections/membership/perks.cfm](http://www.capta.org/sections/membership/perks.cfm)

Membership forms can be found here: [http://wilcox.schoolloop.com/ptsaforms](http://wilcox.schoolloop.com/ptsaforms) or can be picked up in the school office.

Sincerely,
Monica Dupree
2014-2015 Wilcox PTSA Membership Chair
monica.dupree@gmail.com
UP ALL NIGHT! Wilcox Class of 2015 Grad Night

Dear Parents/Guardians of the Class of 2015,

The Grad Night Committee will be mailing you information about Grad Night 2015, which will be held on Friday, June 5, 2015 after graduation ceremonies. We are planning to send the kids to Club Sport in Fremont for their party; they’ll enjoy sports, swimming, dancing, movies, food, fun and a night to remember! We hope you will send your graduate. If you’d like to join our planning committee, please contact me for more information about fund raising and meetings.

Linda Pfeifer, Grad Night Chair, lindaspfeifer@yahoo.com

P.S. parents/guardians of Class of 2016 and beyond: Your son or daughter will be graduating before you know it! We’ll be looking for chaperones for our Grad Night party, and you may want to see what this is all about. We’d love to have you join our team so that when it’s your turn you’ll know how to plan your student’s Grad Night.

Grad Night 2015 is sponsored by Wilcox High PTSA and is not a school or District-sponsored activity. Participation in the activity by any District employee is on the employee’s own time and not as a representative of the Santa Clara Unified School District. The Santa Clara Unified School District is not liable for events occurring as a result of this activity.

WILCOX PTSA SCHOLARSHIP 2014–2015

Seniors—Don’t miss the opportunity to apply for the 2014-2015 Wilcox PTSA Scholarship! Community service-based PTSA Scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors for use at an accredited college or university, community college, or trade and technical school.

Questions?
• Where do I get an application?
  You can download an application from the Wilcox website at http://wilcox.schoolloop.com/ptasascholar or you can pick one up from Jan Yee at the College and Career Resource Center on campus in January.
• What kind of information do I have to provide in order to apply?
  Details are on the application form but basically you’ll need to list the name(s) of accredited colleges, universities, community colleges, or trade and technical schools that you have applied to, and the intended major or course of study. You’ll provide a brief statement of your reason for applying for this scholarship and list your career plans. You’ll describe your school service-related activities and details of your volunteer service in the community, and include a reference letter from a teacher, counselor, employer or advisor. IT’S EASY—it’s limited to two typed pages (plus the reference letter). If you or your parent/guardian have not joined the PTSA yet, this the time to do as parent / guardian or student has been a PTSA member as of December 15, 2014, and has been a PTSA member for at least 2 of the last 4 years.
• When is it due?
  The application deadline is Friday, March 1, 2014.
• Where do I submit my application?
  Completed applications must be submitted to Anna Thompson in the front office at Wilcox.
• How will I know if I’ve been selected to receive a scholarship?
  Scholarships will be presented at the Wilcox Academic Awards Night ceremony (recipients will be notified ahead of time).

If you have further questions, email Jihan Alkhatib Musaffar @ jihankh@yahoo.com
Coming this winter, Wilcox PTSA will presenting "The Mask You Live In". From the director of Miss Representation - an exploration of American masculinity. The Mask You Live In documentary will examine how gender stereotypes are interconnected with race, class, and circumstance, and how kids are further influenced by the education system, sports culture, and mass media- video games and pornography in particular. The film also highlights the importance of placing emphasis on the social and emotional needs of boys through healthy family communication, alternative teaching strategies, conscious media consumption, positive role modeling and innovative mentorship programs. The documentary will be shown in mid-March, 2015. Please look for an update in the near future for the event date and time.

Hope to see you there,
Shelly Aggarwal
PTSA Parent Education Chair

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**Risks of distracted and dangerous driving: Helping teens stay focused on the road**

Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America’s roadways. The U.S. Department of Transportation is leading the effort to stop texting and cell phone use, as well as other distracted behaviors, behind the wheel.

**Did you know?**
- 88 percent of Americans recognize distracted driving as a problem, but 67 percent admit to using devices while driving.
- 10 percent of all drivers under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted.

Parents can be positive role models for teen drivers on all aspects of preventing distracted driving. The best way to end distracted driving is to educate all drivers about the danger it poses. Learn more at [http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html](http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html)

**TAKE THE PLEDGE**

The fight to end distracted driving starts with you. Make the commitment to drive phone-free today.

Distracted driving kills and injures thousands of people each year. I pledge to:
- Protect lives by never texting or talking on the phone while driving.
- Be a good passenger and speak out if the driver in my car is distracted.
- Encourage my friends and family to drive phone-free.