Another school year has begun and we are almost to the end of the 1st semester. Time passes quickly. Especially with all that we have going on. The end of the STAR testing to the implementation of the Common Core State Standards drives our academic program. At the same time we are currently getting ready for the week of student activities that precede our Homecoming football game.

What are the Common Core State Standards? How will they effect the education of my student? How will my student learn and will they be college and career ready? Are the universities and colleges on board with these standards?

The web address of www.cte.ca.gov is a good resource to begin answering some of the questions. There are short video presentations such as the video “A New Foundation for Student Success” that provides a quick overview of why common standards were adopted. There are also examples of student writing that are exemplary. The sample student essays demonstrate the level of writing that is more aligned to college standards. Students will be required to write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

The resources also provide information on the direction of the Standards for Mathematical Content and Practice. In particular, Modeling is defined as both a conceptual category for high school mathematics and a mathematical practice and is an important avenue for motivating students to study mathematics, for building their understanding of mathematics, and for preparing them for future success.

Please take the time to explore some of the resources that are available. It is my hope that given the right knowledge about the new Common Core State Standards, parents will be better equipped to support and encourage us as we prepare for how best to teach the mathematical practices and literacy skills necessary to better prepare all of our students for college or career pathways. Our vision is that all of our courses will be academically engaging and will focus on the needs of our students. Our vision also speaks about supporting students with social, emotional, and physical development. Providing quality student activities outside of the classroom contributes to students becoming self-directed, collaborative and contributing citizens to the Wilcox community.

Student activities are a big part of educating the whole student. We do have lots of fun during the week preceding the homecoming game. There will be dress up days, float building, parade, and of course the football game. Every year I am hopeful that many students will get involved in these activities. School spirit is best when we have many students participate.

November 6th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm is Open House. The purpose of the Open House is to allow incoming 8th grade students and parents to come and explore what we have to offer. We will start in the theatre and end with
a short tour highlighting our school programs which include academics, athletics, and student activities. Our Link Crew student leaders will be leading the tours. Nothing is more powerful than our student voices.

**MEET MATT KOLDA: WILCOX’S NEW VICE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Wilcox Community,

My name is Matt Kolda and I am very proud to announce that I am the new Vice Principal here at Wilcox High School. It has already been a great experience to work with the school’s staff, students and parents. The last six years of my career were spent working with the good people at Westmont High School. I look forward to utilizing the leadership skills I gained at Westmont to support my new community.

As previously having been an activities director, my main focus was utilizing extracurricular activities to ensure academic success for all students. I found that individuals who made lasting connections with school-sponsored organizations almost always increased the probability of a successful experience at Westmont. I still stand firm with the belief that the more involved a person attempts to be in a high school community, the better the chances are for a productive four-year high school career. Although in my new position I am now more directly focusing on academics and school safety, I still encourage all community members to be as involved in the school as possible.

Thank you to all who have given me compliments and words of encouragement. Please feel free to call, e-mail or plan a visit to my office anytime. I look forward to making this a great school year by reinforcing the high standards for safety and a challenging curriculum.

Your Partner in Education,
Matt Kolda

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**Adrian C. Wilcox Open House**

**Discover Wilcox**

**Welcome to our future class of 2018**

Explore the vibrant environment at Wilcox High. Enjoy the creative energy with our staff and students. Discover the broad array of courses designed to foster a passion for learning. We provide opportunities for our students to grow and develop intellectually and physically.

**November 6th, 2013**

**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Mission City Performing Arts Center**

Contact: Jan Yee

jyee@scusd.net

408-423-2445

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In 2012 US News & World Reports ranked Wilcox in the top 6% of all high schools in the nation for academics.
Campus Construction Update

The multipurpose wing is still on schedule, meaning we will move into our new cafeteria in February. We have experienced tar smells while they have been finishing the roof. The good news is the tar smell is almost done. They have scheduled the next tar session for a Saturday so as not to expose staff and students to the smell. The lights under the solar car ports will be working soon. They had to finish some wiring and needed to wait for the pool deck to be available before they could finish. This has been a challenge due to water polo practices and games. The solar panel project that is on top of building R, the three story classroom is almost complete.

Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars

The Counseling Office would like to breakdown our 2012-2013 school year AP numbers for our parents.

• 366 students attempt at least one AP exam. A total of 739 tests were administered.

• 103 AP Scholars which means those students score a 3 or higher on at least 3 tests.

• 19 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.

• 32 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.

FIRST SEMESTER FINALS WEEK SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 17 (Tuesday)</th>
<th>December 18 (Wednesday)</th>
<th>December 19 (Thursday)</th>
<th>December 20 (Friday)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERIOD</td>
<td>BEGINS</td>
<td>ENDS</td>
<td>PERIOD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 1 Final</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Period 6 Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Brunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
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Good luck on your finals!
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

- **School’s Out:**
  - Monday, November 11: Veteran’s Day Holiday
  - Wednesday, November 27 – Friday, November 29: Thanksgiving Holidays
  - Monday, December 23 – Monday, January 6, 2014: Holiday Break & Staff Development Day
  - Monday, January 20, 2014: Martin Luther King Holiday
  - Monday, February 17 – Friday, February 21: Winter Break

- **October 21 – 25: Homecoming Week**
  - Wednesday, October 24: Skit Night, 7:00pm, Main Gym
  - Thursday, October 25: Float Building Night, 3:00pm – Midnight (students must have permission slip to remain on campus after 10pm)
  - Friday, October 25: Homecoming Parade & Game
    - NOTE: Period 1 BEGINS at 9:00am; Period 7 ENDS at 1:15pm
    - JV Game vs. Mountain View High, 5:30pm
    - Varsity Game vs. Mountain View High, 7:00pm
    - GO CHARGERS!

- **Parent (and Student) Education:**
  - Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7pm, Wilcox Science Lecture Hall: Social Media and the College Search Process Parent & Student Education Night, sponsored by Wilcox PTSA; for more information, see page 10.
  - Wednesday, November 20, 6pm, Wilcox Theater: Sophomore Parent Night.
  - Wednesday, January 15, 2014, 7pm – 9:30pm, Wilcox Theater: Junior / Senior Financial Aid Info Night (see p. 7).
  - Wednesday, January 22, 7pm, Wilcox Science Lecture Hall: Boost Your Chances for Financial Aid, talk by Marc Lund, CPA, MBA; more information on page 8.
  - Wednesday, January 29, 6pm, Wilcox Theater: Freshman Parent Night.

- **Wilcox Open House:** Wednesday, November 6, 6:30pm – 8:30pm beginning in the Mission City (Wilcox) Theater

- **Dinner Out:**
  - Monday, October 21, 4pm – 10pm, Chili’s (Santa Clara) benefits Wilcox Girl’s Volleyball (see p. 12)
  - Tuesday, November 26, 4pm – 9pm, Chipotle (Sunnyvale) benefits Wilcox PTSA (see p. 12)

- **Toy Drive for Mayne School:** November 4 – December 13

- **Senior Cap & Gown & Announcements Presentations:** Tuesday, November 5

- **Senior Panoramic Photo:** Tuesday, November 19

- **Winter Ball:** Saturday, December 21, 8pm – midnight

- **Wilcox Leadership Workshop:** January 6, 2014, 9:30am – 3:00pm, Freshmen, Sophomores, & Juniors, see https://tinyurl.com/WilcoxLeaderWkshp

For more information & events, see the Wilcox Website & SchoolLoop.
ASB President’s Message — Marisa Kwiatkowski

There have quite a few events on campus this past month. ASB and the Stanford Blood Center hosted a successful blood drive on Friday September 27th and we collected 159 units of blood. This is an important event because, as a school, we worked together toward a common goal and our efforts will make a difference in the lives of those in need. We would like to thank all staff, students, and community members who took the time to donate. We also coordinated the Fall Spirit Rally on September 20th to honor our Academic Block Recipients (those with a GPA of 3.75 or higher), National Merit Scholars, Fall Sports, Marching Band, and Spirit Teams. This event involved crowd participation with cheers for the groups and teams and an engaging activity. We hope that many will come out to support and watch our various sports teams this fall season.

Furthermore, we are proud to have many unique clubs at Wilcox. We have over 60 active clubs, and many more are being approved as the weeks go by. Students have a great variety of clubs to choose from including interest clubs, service clubs, and cultural clubs. There is also the option to create a new club if students find an interest not already represented. Being involved in one or more clubs at Wilcox helps to create lasting friendships and memories with others with similar ideas. Our Club Faire on August 30th showed this great diversity with countless club officers lined up in the quad lunch with signs and clipboards, recruiting new members, especially freshmen. Many of these clubs sold food items at lunch at “Food Faire” on October 4th and 11th to raise money for their club’s goals.

Wilcox is looking forward our annual homecoming week from October 21-25th. This week involves dress up days, class yells, voting for homecoming king and queen, skit night, float building night, and the football game v. Mountain View. The Santa Clara Teen Center will be holding a dance afterward. We encourage parents and students to come to these events because they are amazing displays of creativity, hard work, and school spirit.

From the ASB Office:

ASB Sticker:
The ASB Sticker for your ID card will be on sale again this year in the ASB Office. For $20.00 students get a reduced entrance to all Wilcox sporting events, dances and a discount for yearbook this year.

Homecoming:
Homecoming is right around the corner! Please join us the week of October 21st thru October 25th for all of the wonderful events that go along with Homecoming. This year’s theme is Board Games. The Freshmen Class being Snakes and Ladders, The Sophomore Class being Life, The Junior Class being Clue, and the Senior Class being Monopoly. On Wednesday night October 23rd in the main gym at 7:00p.m the introduction of the Homecoming Court and the presentation of the King and Queen will take place during Skit Night.

On Thursday night October 24th Float Building in the quad! All classes will build floats for the parade on Friday, October 25th. The parade will feature the band, color guard, spirit squads and the homecoming court! We hope that you will get involved and join Wilcox High School in a display of Charger Pride that will unify our school to take on Mt. View High School in the Homecoming game. The JV game starts at 5:00p.m and the Varsity game kicks off at 7:30p.m. GO CHARGERS!

Car Tags for Students Driving:
You must purchase a car tag in the ASB Office for $10.00 to have the privilege to park in the student parking lot. This year the students may only park in the theatre section due to all the construction going on at Wilcox High School. Students parking at Wilcox can't park in any of the numbered spots. These spots belong to the teachers and staff members only. Students who violate these rules will be warned and may also have their privileges taken away.
TOY DRIVE FOR GEORGE MAYNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:
Every year we have a toy drive at Wilcox High School. We will start accepting toys, books and donations as of **Monday, November 4th** and we will wrap and organize all the gifts according to their classes to deliver them on **Friday, December 13th**. Please when dropping off used gifts remember to check the gift and make sure it isn’t broken, the books are not written in and the stuff animals are clean and the dolls are not broken or ripped. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (408) 423-2428. Also, students who would need community service hours may sign – up and help wrap gifts after school.

WINTER BALL:
The Winter Ball will be on **Saturday, December 21st from 8:00p.m. – 12:00a.m.** The theme as not been announced yet.

CAP AND GOWN & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR GRADUATION
This will take place in the seniors Civics and Econ classes on **Tuesday, November 5th**. The process is easy and if the student doesn’t have a Civics or Econ class you may pick – up an order form in the ASB Office and mail the order form to Herff Jones.

SENIOR PANORAMA PICTURE IN THE QUAD
The Senior Panorama picture will be taken at the football field on **Tuesday, November 19th** during SSR. Picture envelopes will be in the ASB Office and the photographer will take the orders that day.

*If you have any questions please call the ASB Office at 408-423-2428 from 7:00a.m. – 3:30p.m.*

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**Student of the Month September, 2013**

**CONGRATULATIONS, STUDENTS!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEACHER</th>
<th>STUDENT(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>★ Beadell, B.</td>
<td>Kayleigh McGee &amp; Vahleeshta Mehrshahi</td>
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<tr>
<td>★ Brown, D.</td>
<td>Sierra Boyanich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Courey, C.</td>
<td>Michael Stephenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Cummings, C.</td>
<td>Walter Silveria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Currie, D.</td>
<td>Amelia Langshaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ De Luca, G.</td>
<td>Andrew Lieberman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Dow, K.</td>
<td>Joseta Fatuesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Estioko, P.</td>
<td>Alison Rodriguez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Hall, G.</td>
<td>Andrew Rempel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Haughney, B.</td>
<td>Zack Schaffino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Imai, M.</td>
<td>Sarah Gentle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Larson, P.</td>
<td>Tina Tieu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Library Staff</td>
<td>Lenus Chow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Magagna, A.</td>
<td>Kenny Blow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Niczewicz, G.</td>
<td>Luz Figueroa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Piscitelli, B.</td>
<td>Julia Hong, Kendra Rodriguez, Samantha Gonzalez, Victor Chien, Duc Chi Nguyen, Ritika Shauma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Slate, M.</td>
<td>Abby Wheaton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Staroselsky, Y.</td>
<td>Jeremiah Strickland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Vernaelde, P.</td>
<td>Galilee Ibssa</td>
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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 15th from 7 to 9:30 pm in the Mission City Performing Arts Center. All seniors and their parents are encouraged to attend! Please RSVP in January to the counseling office at 423-2414.

There are many online financial aid resources. Check out:
www.ucop.edu/pathways/finaid
www.ed.gov/offices/ope
www.finaid.org
www.fastweb.org
www.c3apply.org
www.salliemae.com

Please call the Counseling Office with questions about these or any other topics.
Counseling office 408-423-2414
Mrs. LaBarbera (A – G of the alphabet) 408-423-2411
Mr. LaFleur (H – O of the alphabet) 408-423-2412
Ms. Villarreal (P – W of the alphabet) 408-423-2413
Mrs. Mikhailova (X – Z of the alphabet) 408-423-2462
Mrs. Gonzalez, VP 408-423-2426
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!

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Boost Your Chances For Financial Aid
January 22, 2014, 7pm, 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.
Dear Wilcox Families,
I hope you have settled into the school year, and the kids are enjoying their classes. Let's double check that everything for the school year is in place: Have you joined PTSA? Signed up for the volunteer request emails and SchoolLoop? Marked your calendar to attend upcoming PTSA and school events such as PTSA's parent & student Social Media & the College Search Process on October 29 or the Homecoming Game? Driven your Wilcox spirit around town with a Wilcox magnetic bumper sticker on your car? If you answered yes to all the above, congratulations you are a Super Charger! If you answered any question no, it's not too late -- Sign up for PTSA, our volunteer list and SchoolLoop today. See the Wilcox website to note the dates of upcoming school & PTSA events.

Thank you for joining Wilcox PTSA. Thank you for contributing to our Back to School Night Bake Sale. Thank you for volunteering your time. Thank you for helping PTSA and Wilcox students begin a successful year.

Best regards,
Linda Pfeifer, 2013/14 Wilcox PTSA President

PTSA MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN
Many thanks to all of you who have already joined the Wilcox PTSA. Don’t worry—if you haven’t already joined, it’s not too late. Membership dues are only $6.00 per person and everyone is invited to join. The Wilcox PTSA sponsors the Wilcox Chargers’ News, the Reflections Program, Staff Appreciation Lunches, Senior Grad Night, Parent Education Nights, and Scholarships for graduating seniors, and also provides volunteers for many events throughout the year. Registration forms are available on SchoolLoop and in the office.

Thank you for your support,
Cathy Dow, PTSA Membership Chair

THANK YOU WILCOX VOLUNTEERS!!
We appreciate all of your help at the football snack bar and the Santa Clara Art and Wine festival. I know I’ve kept you all very busy so far this fall. We do have a few more football games coming up October 18, 25, and November 15. We will also need chaperones at the Winter Ball on Dec. 21. If you aren't on my email distributions, please send me an email requesting to be added to my list. I'll be in touch. Thanks again for all you do to make Wilcox great!!

Sincerely,
Kimber Gollaher
1st VP, Volunteer Coordinator
kgollaher@yahoo.com
Mark your calenders for the next  
**Wilcox Parent and Student Education Night!**

Brought to you by your very own Wilcox PTSA, please join us for a very informative presentation on **Social Media and the College Search Process** on **Tuesday, October 29, 7:00-8:30 pm**, Wilcox Science Lecture Hall.

Scottie Johanna Hill, College Counselor at Bellarmine High School, will answer all of your questions and focus on helping parents see that responsible social media use is an important part of growing up and how we can help our teens transition to adulthood. The college admission process is one of the first places that they must present themselves as an adult to someone they don’t know and we can help them by being aware of the issues.

There is lots to explore and talk about so parents *and students* are encouraged to attend. Online and print resources will be provided.

Lisa Kassem  
Wilcox PTSA Parent Ed chair

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**GRAD NIGHT 2014**

The Class of 2014 Grad Night will be held on June 6, 2014 at Club Sport Fremont. The Grad Night Committee will be working on fundraising in the next few months to keep the cost of tickets low. Grad Night tickets will go on sale during Fantastics Week in March. The Grad Night Committee is seeking parents as well as students to give input on activities, help with fundraising and prepare for the event. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Lillian Kwiatkowski, lgkwiat@gmail.com. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who took time from their weekend to work the Grad Night Wine booth at the Art and Wine Festival!

Lillian Kwiatkowski  
2nd VP, Grad Night

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**Wilcox Magnets & Back to School Night Bake Sale**

Thank you to all who donated or bought goods from the bake sale. Together we made $696 in baked goods and $125 in magnets. The next bake-sale for the PTSA will be at Open House on Wednesday, November 6, 2013. Please donate baked goods to help support us. We request that donations be individually wrapped, with a list of ingredients for allergy purposes. Please drop of donations in the office by the end of school November 6th. Any questions please call me at (408) 247-6701, or email me at shortstop129@comcast.net Thank you for all your support we greatly appreciate it.

Kevin Case PTSA bake-sale chair

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Need **personalized or photo greeting cards**? Support Wilcox PTSA when you order your Holiday, Graduation or Birth Announcements from **Cardraising** at [www.cardraising.com/SCA04633](http://www.cardraising.com/SCA04633) (this is the link to Wilcox’s Cardraising website). Wilcox PTSA earns **30%** of the proceeds from your sale. Orders may be placed now and cards created will begin shipping after November 1; orders should be received within 5 business days.

*Thank you for your support of Wilcox PTSA!*
Wilcox Dads, Grads & Moms Booster Club

First of all, a big thanks goes out to 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. It takes quite a few volunteers to man the snack bar in order to make it run efficiently. There will be several more games left when you see this newsletter, so consider helping out for a shift. All the school sports depend on the success of this. 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 don’t get a chance to help in the football snack bar, there are other activities we could use support with. Also, 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 22nd. 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 possibly again in the next PTSA newsletter.

Please join us at one of our meetings, which are the last Wednesday of the month in the ASB office. November and December will be the 3rd Wednesday of the month. 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

Girl’s Volleyball News

This year the girl’s volleyball program has put in a lot of hard work and it has shown in their level of play. The girls have been highly competitive this season. They have received much praise on their defense and level of hustle from players and parents from other schools as well as the officials. "Defense Is A State of Mind" has definitely been noticed and has become a threat to opposing teams. Please come out and support this group of dedicated girls during the month of October as we will be celebrating breast cancer awareness. Any Wilcox student who wears pink to the home games during October will be able to watch the match for free. Also, breast cancer awareness t-shirts will be sold at our highly popular snack bar.

Another way to show your support for the girl’s volleyball program is by attending our Chili’s "Give Back Night." It will be held Monday, October 21st from 4PM-10PM at the Chili’s located on El Camino in Santa Clara. (Flyer is below.)

April Lujan
Wilcox High School
Physical Education/Girls Volleyball Program
(408) 423-2443
alujan@scusd.net
~ ANOTHER DINING OUT OPPORTUNITY ~

Join us **Tuesday, November 26** (week of Thanksgiving), **4pm – 9pm** at **Chipotle in Sunnyvale**. 50% of the proceeds from your dinner will benefit Wilcox PTSA. Please show this flyer when you purchase your meal. Thank you for your support!
UPCOMING EVENTS

Homecoming will be October 25th. The cheerleaders will be performing for at half-time of both JV and Varsity Football Games. Lots of activities that week – remember to dress up and show your SPIRIT!

8th Graders who will be attending Wilcox next year, will be coming to Wilcox to tour the school. We look forward to performing for them and meeting them.

JR. CHEER CLINIC – Sponsored by Santa Clara High School Cheerleaders and Wilcox High School Cheerleaders. Performance will be at half-time of the SCHS/Wilcox Football Varsity Game on Nov. 8th. More details to come!

Fundraisers

- Beginning of November will be our SEE’S Holiday Candy Sales. The cheer team will be taking Pre-Orders from the See’s Candies Holiday Flyer. The event will begin on November 4th through November 21st. Get your orders in! If you don’t see a cheerleader, please contact Coach Bunny and she will get you the information.
- Finally we will be selling “BUTTER BRAIDS” early December. If you haven’t had one of these before they are the BEST!

NO COST TO YOU – MONEY TO CHEER!

Shop at Lucky’s? Save Mart? FoodMaxx? Smart Foods?

We have a program for you, your friends and family! We have S.H.A.R.E.S. card which is absolutely FREE to give you. All you have to do is swipe the card when you are done shopping and before you pay. If you do this one little task, then the Wilcox Cheerleading Program will receive up to 3% of sales as a donation! These cards never expire and they are good all over the United States wherever there is a Lucky’s, Save Mart, FoodMaxx or Smart Foods. Please help us out. Contact Coach Bunny at Wilcox in the Bookkeeper’s Office (408) 423-2408 to receive your FREE card!

JAMBA JUICE

The Wilcox Cheering program has entered the "Sip to Support" Jamba Juice Card Fundraiser. The link below is to sign up if interested, as well as the link to the FAQs with all of the details there are to know about the program. In order to sign up for the card you must be 18 years or older, so please pass the word around to friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc. There is no cost to you, and it also used as a pre-paid card for Jamba Juice, through the site, with some additional benefits and savings (better explained on the site). The benefit to Wilcox Cheerleading is 10% of purchases every time you visit and use your card at Jamba Juice is donated to the cheerleading program.

When you sign up, it should auto-populate the organizations to choose from when you put in the zip code (95051). But in the event it doesn't we are listed under "Wilcox High School - Cheerleading" also under School Sports. Please be sure to mention this when spreading the word.


DONATIONS NEEDED

The Wilcox Cheer Program is looking for monetary donations to help costs. We are a self-funded group and receive NO budget from the school or district. We must provide items free of charge per the “Free Education” policy in the California Constitution, but as economics are tough, there are no budgets in the school or district to fund any of the costs. Therefore, we need to raise about $1,000 per person to cover uniform, team bonding, warm-up outfits, and coaching fees. If you would like to help support the cheerleading program with a monetary donation of any amount, please contact the Wilcox Bookkeeper (408) 423-2408.

Megan Turner, Head Coach Cheer, Mturner_cheergrl@yahoo.com
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
An emergency can occur at any moment. If an emergency or disaster were to occur during the school day, the staff of Wilcox High School will work to ensure that all students are safe and cared for.

Emergency Preparedness

During these tough economic times, Wilcox High School has had to reduce spending in some areas in order to fully provide for students' classroom and educational needs. Unfortunately, the school is not able to purchase much-needed emergency/disaster supplies. While we hope to never have to use these supplies, we must prepare for this eventuality. To this end, we would greatly appreciate any help you are able to provide. Your generous donation would be used to directly support students during a critical time.

Specifically, we are looking for the following items:
- $1 (or more) for each of your children enrolled
- Cases of bottled water
- Non-perishable food items, such as granola bars
- Medical supplies such as first aid kit(s), gloves, masks, bandages
- Supplies such as tarps, pop-up tents, duct tape, gloves, goggles, flashlights, ponchos, tissue, 5-gallon buckets

Monetary and Goods Donation Form

Name: ______________________________
Address: ____________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________
Phone: ______________________________

Monetary donation
☐ Cash Amount: __________
☐ Check (payable to Santa Clara Unified School District)

Please accept my donation of the following good(s):
☐ ______ case(s) of bottled water/drink
☐ Non-perishable food items
☐ First aid kit(s), medical supplies
☐ Emergency supplies: ______________________
☐ Other supplies: ________________________

Date: ____________________________
You might not understand a subject such as physics or early American literature but you can still listen to your teen talk about what is happening in class. Also listen to what is happening outside of class. Listen to what your teen is trying to say without immediately judging or offering advice.

• Encourage your teen to join a club or sport at school. Outside activities are educational and often increase students' interest in school.

• Help your teens put their concerns or problems into words and encourage them to try and figure out possible solutions or coping strategies.

• Try to find at least one teacher with whom you can communicate regularly for updates or advice on your teen’s general well-being in high school.

The ultimate goal is to help students become self-sufficient managers of their time and resources in order to get the most out of high school. They may need your help even if they don’t realize it. Help them to develop habits and strategies for greater achievement while encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their work.

Parents want their children to do well in high school but sometimes it is a challenge to figure out how to support them. High school is a time when parent involvement is critical but often not present. Following are some hints on how to help your teen get the most out of high school.

Help your child show up at school with a good attitude and ready to learn

Studies indicate that showing up is important but not sufficient for school success. Physical and mental states are important factors in getting the most from school.

• Keep tabs on school attendance. Check report card attendance reports. If you suspect a problem, immediately call the school. Do not encourage your child to skip school for special trips or activities not related to school such as a family vacation or an outing with friends. That makes school seem less important than having fun.

• Make sure your teen gets plenty of sleep. Recent studies show that teenagers need nine or more hours of sleep nightly and that students earning As and Bs generally are getting to bed earlier than students with lower grades.

• Don’t accept the “I’m never gonna use this after high school” excuse for not working hard in a particular class. For example, algebra may not be everybody’s favorite subject, but studies show that courses like algebra are critically important in college acceptance decisions and achievement.

• If you have a senior, beware of “senior slump.” Recent reports indicate that students may consider the last year of high school a waste of time. However, students who waste their senior year are often unprepared for college-level work even if they took challenging courses during their earlier high school years.

Help organize time and materials

Just because students are in high school does not guarantee they are all prepared to do high school work, especially long-term projects, on their own.

• Help your teen keep an assignment calendar with dates for long-term projects as well as daily homework. Review the calendar at the beginning of the week to plan how time will be used and make allowances for other activities such as sports and clubs.

• Help your teen divide long-term assignments into smaller tasks and develop a timeline for when tasks should be finished in order to have the entire assignment completed on time.

• Make sure there is a place for quiet study away from the television and telephone along with a place to keep school materials, including materials necessary for long-term assignments.

Take an interest

Studies show that parent involvement drops dramatically as students move from elementary school into middle and high school. Yet given the complexities of today’s high schools, this is a time when many students are most in need of parental support and involvement.
October is National Anti-Cyberbullying Awareness month.
Please review these resources from the Common Sense Media website (www.commonsensemedia.com).

Parents' Top 10 Cyberbullying Questions
Advice, guidance, and solutions for families battling bullies.
By Caroline Knorr, October 2, 2013

With the statistics piling up, it has become increasingly clear that the cruelties inflicted by cyberbullying have become a devastating reality for many tweens and teens.

While bullying is nothing new, when it takes place in the digital world, the public humiliation can shatter young lives. Photos, cruel comments, taunts, and threats travel in an instant, and can be seen, revisited, reposted, linked to, and shared by a huge audience.

We're all responsible for making the digital world a decent place. Below are some of the top concerns we've heard from parents trying to make sense of kids' online behavior and where you may go online to learn more.

- What is cyberbullying?
- What's the difference between bullying and cyberbullying?
- What are some examples of cyberbulling?
- What should I say to the parent of a cyberbully?
- What if my kid is the bully?
- Is it cyberbullying, or just kids being kids?
- When should parents get involved?
- How can parents empower kids to deal with bullies constructively?
- What if my kid is bullied in an online game?
- How do I monitor my kids without “spying?”
PARENT GUIDES TO THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

New standards, called Common Core State Standards, are on the way for all students in California, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. These standards set high expectations for all students. They are rigorous and internationally benchmarked; research- and evidence-based; aligned with college and career expectations; and they build on the foundation laid by individual states. The aim of this state-led initiative is to develop standards that ensure all students are held to consistent expectations that will prepare them for college and career.

See a three-minute video from the Council of the Great City Schools that explains how the new state standards will help students achieve at high levels and help them learn what they need to know to get to graduation and beyond.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

More information about the new state standards and what they mean for students, teachers and schools, more information may be found on the California State PTA (www.capta.org) and National PTA (www.pta.org) websites. A detailed presentation from the California Department of Education is available http://downloads.capta.org/edu/standards/CCSSforPTA_022613.pps

NATIONAL PTA PARENTS' GUIDE TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Find out what your child will be learning in Mathematics and English Language Arts; information is available for every grade level but for our Wilcox Chargers News, we will only provide links for High School Math & High School English Language Arts:

- High School Math
- High School English

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- California Department of Education
  Find detailed information about new state standards including implementation and resources for teachers, administrators, the higher education community and parents.

- K-8 California’s Common Core Standards Parent Handbook
  This handbook, created by the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) in consultation with the California State PTA, gives parents an introduction to California’s CCSS and a summary of what students are expected to learn as they advance from kindergarten through grade eight.

- SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium Information
  SMARTER Balanced tests will assess the full range of Common Core Standards in English language arts and mathematics for students in grades 3-8 and 11. It will measure current student achievement and growth over time, showing progress toward college and career readiness, and allowing for growth models.