

# Bobcat Bulletin

Western Dubuque High School

<http://www.w-dubuque.k12.ia.us>



December / January  
2010-2011 Newsletter



Dave Hoeger  
Principal

## Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we are half way through the second quarter of the school year. I would like to thank the parents for attending parent-teacher conferences in early November. It is great to see such strong support for your children as approximately 75% of the parents attended conferences. Teachers enjoy meeting parents because it opens the lines of communication.

We have completed the ITED and MAP tests earlier this fall. Teachers and students have been working on setting goals for students for the spring MAP test. We also introduced college and career readiness scores for the MAP tests so students are better able to set their goal for this year future years.

Students will start registering for the 2011-2012 school year at the end of January. It is one of the most important activities of the year for students because it will determine what their schedule will look like next year. Hopefully, it will also help students better understand what career field they may be interested in pursuing. More information on registration can be found in the guidance section of this newsletter.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Mr. Hoeger

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## Going Green!!

This is our first attempt to send our the newsletter via email. If you received this newsletter in the mail and would like to receive this via email, please contact Laura Hoerner at 876-3442 x3001. If you received this email via email and would rather receive it through the mail, please let us know that also.



## First Semester Tests and Report Cards

Second quarter mid-term grades are due on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students will be given these progress reports in early December. Semester test will be given prior to the end of the first semester which ends on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Remember, students receive progress reports every 4 1/2 weeks. The first of these 4 1/2 week progress reports for second semester will be handed out to the students the week of February 21<sup>st</sup>.



## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

By Ben Ressler, Yearbook Advisor

**Last Chance!!** The 2011 Yearbooks are on sale for **\$50** until December 22, 2010. After winter break the cost goes up to **\$55**. February is your last chance to order a 2011 yearbook. The Yearbook staff has already completed the fall sports pages. New items in the book this year are: fantastic action shots, player interviews, captivating season summary's and a detailed sports scoreboard.

**Attention Seniors:** A wallet of your senior photo needs to be turned into Mr. Ressler or Mr. Rickles by December 15<sup>th</sup>. If a photo is not received, your picture will not be in the yearbook.

## Library News

By Jessica Bogosian, Media Center

The 2010-2011 school year has gotten off to a great start. The Library Media Center has added over 100 new books to our collection! These titles cover many genres and interest levels. Many of the books are fiction and include titles with action/adventure, sports, historical fiction, and coming of age topics. We have had several classes come in to begin the research process and numerous students use the library on a daily basis to work on projects and utilize the resources available. The Library Media Center is dedicated to helping students become life-long readers and good users of quality information. Please allow us to assist you in any way that the library can!



## Future Business Leaders of America

By John McCoy, FBLA Secretary

Future Business Leaders of America is a local, state, and national organization that provides students further opportunities outside of the classroom to learn and develop business skills. In addition, FBLA offers students the opportunity to network with other students, teachers, and business professionals through state and national competitions and conferences. Most importantly, FBLA helps students develop a wide range of leadership skills and learn to connect their wide range of interests to the business world. FBLA is one of the largest student business organizations in the world with over 250,000 members.

The Western Dubuque FBLA chapter advisors for the 2010-2011 school year are Mr. Jacob Feldmann, Mr. Jordan Lee, and Mr. Royce Mahoney. WDFBLA officers for this year are Zach Schwartz, President; Beth Sullivan, Vice-President; John McCoy, Secretary; Jill Snyder, Treasurer; Ashley Davidson, Historian-Reporter; Tony Bries, Parliamentarian; and Kenny Heitritter, Web Master. We have 73 registered chapter members who were recently inducted into the FBLA organization. FBLA officers will head committees comprised of at-large members to tackle issues such as fundraising, guest speakers, blood drive, leadership conferences, business contacts, and the annual business tour.

FBLA has an active calendar this year. We plan on attending our annual business tour in December of a business yet to be named, listen to a variety of guest speakers, planning our version of the American Enterprise Project – an educational program with the goal to educate students and members of the community on the values of capitalism, host the annual blood drive in March, attend the State Leadership Conference in Cedar Rapids this April, and send representatives to the National Leadership Conference in Orlando this July.

2011 promises to be a very busy year for WDFBLA, and we are excited to get to work!



## National Honor Society

By Justin Smith, NHS Advisor

Western Dubuque High School National Honor Society is currently sponsoring a food drive for the benefit of the Epworth and Dyersville Food pantries. Cash donations along with non-perishable food items will be collected at the high school from November 9 through December 10. Currently, over 500 pounds of food has been collected.

Other upcoming NHS events will include Salvation Army bell ringing, Kennedy Mall Holiday gift wrapping, Holiday candy cane messages, and caroling at a nursing home. This year's membership includes thirty-five seniors and thirty-one juniors.



## Get Involved

By John Hlubek, Assistant Principal & Activities Director

After a successful fall with all of our activities, we are excited to get started with the winter activities. We have girl's basketball, boy's basketball, wrestling, girl's bowling, boy's bowling, choir, band, speech, cheerleading, plus all of our club activities such as; math, book club, environmental club, FBLA, art club, student council, FFA and yearbook just to name a few.

As you can see, there are plenty of activities for students to get involved. Western Dubuque High School is not so big that you need to specialize in just one activity. Be well rounded and get involved in several activities. Those students that are involved in high school extra curricular activities tend to have better grade point averages and learn to make better use of their time.

Good Luck to all our students as they participate in many of our winter activities. Let's get involved!

## WD Winter Cheerleaders Announced

By Jessica Bogosian, Cheerleading Advisor

The Western Dubuque High School Winter Cheerleaders are excited and ready for a great season of WDHS winter sports! The girls will be cheering for girls and boys varsity basketball and wrestling. Squad members work hard during the season to encourage the winter sports teams to do their best and they promote a positive attitude about WDHS in all areas of athletics and academics.



Bottom (l-r): Jessica Becker, Rachael Howard, Andrea Lyons. Top (l-r) Abigail Howard, Shelby Dausener & Sarah Dunkel. Not Pictured: Kylee Schroeder & Kelsey Steffensmeier.

## WD Vocal Music Department Presents:

# A Cathedral Concert

Sunday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Basilica of St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville

The Cathedral Concert is presented by the Aristocat and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Show Choirs and the WD Concert Choir. These groups will be performing a wide variety of holiday music in this beautiful setting.

Cost to get in is \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, but admission is free for anyone bringing non-perishable food items for a donation. Donations will be split among the local food pantries.

## WD SHOW CHOIR

### COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Performing Group(s)
January 22	Davenport North "The Big Dance"	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
January 29	Altoona, WI "Locopalooza"	Aristocats & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
January 31	State Show Choir Contest, TBA	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
February 12	North Polk, Alleman, IA	Aristocats & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
February 19	Waconia, MN "Star Power"	Aristocats & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
February 26	Western Dubuque "Main Event"	Aristocats & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
March 5	Totino-Grace HS, Fridley, MN	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue

## Bobcat Marching Band Heading to the Sugar Bowl!

By Mike Omarzu, Band Instructor



The Bobcat Marching Band will travel to New Orleans December 31 - January 5 to participate in the Sugar Bowl Halftime. The band will also compete in a national field show competition and do a service project to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The Bobcat Marching Band is very happy to restart the tradition participation in national events that made the band so famous in the past. The band is still looking for sponsors to help pay for meals on the trip. If you know someone who can help, contact Mr. Omarzu at 876-3442 x3050.

## FFA Updates & News

By Matt Lansing, FFA Advisor

West Dubuque FFA is conducting its annual fruit sale. If you have missed out on our first order you can still get the great products and just in time for the holidays. We have a second fruit order coming in on December 20<sup>th</sup>, if you are interested please contact a FFA member or Mr. Lansing at 876-3442 x3044.

West Dubuque FFA will also be hosting the 2011 Northeast District FFA Conference on March 5, 2011. There will be 37 schools attending, and we need your help. To host such a large event we will need approximately 100 judges, several parents and many community members to make this event run smoothly. If you are interested, or would like to learn more about FFA, come check out the leadership development events that will be running that day. A few of the events that we need judges for are: FFA Creed Speaking, Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Job Interview, Parliamentary Procedures, Conduct of Meetings, Ag Sales, Radio Broadcasting, Experience the Action, Secretary's Book, Reporters Book, Treasurer's Book, Farm Business Management, Agriculture CSI, Agriculture Issues & Perception, Greenhand Test, Chapter Tests, and much more. Please contact us to assist in the running of this event at either:

[matt.lansing@w-dubuque.k12.ia.us](mailto:matt.lansing@w-dubuque.k12.ia.us) or [westdubuqueffa1962@gmail.com](mailto:westdubuqueffa1962@gmail.com) or call 563-876-3442 x3044.

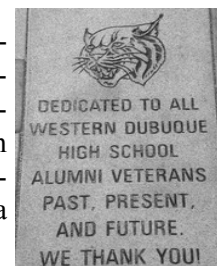


## Student Council Activities

By John McCoy, Student Council President

Fall was another busy time for the Student Council! On Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Student Council sent members to the annual state leadership conference and brought home the Honor Council Award, which is the second highest honor a student council can receive in Iowa.

November 11<sup>th</sup> marked Veteran's Day and the Student Council hosted the annual assembly for students featuring Korean War Veteran Maynard Rowe as the keynote speaker. Members of the Leadership class also attended the ceremony at the memorial on Chaplain Schmitt Island in Dubuque. Student Council purchased a memorial paver in remembrance of its veterans, the story being featured on the front page of the TH. The paver reads: "For All Western Dubuque Alumni Veterans; Past, Present, and Future – We Thank You." The ceremony was very powerful, and all walked away with a new sense of pride in their country and a new sense of gratitude to the veterans in our community.



Upcoming events include various winter sports pep rallies, the Annual Winter Assembly, the inaugural WAMAC Leadership Council hosted by Western Dubuque, March Madness and Prom.

The Juniors are currently holding an iPod raffle for the Prom fund and the Seniors will be conducting half court shots at the basketball games for After Prom. Chances for both are one dollar. Prom is April 30<sup>th</sup> at Farley Memorial Hall, with After-Prom, featuring Hypnotist Brian Imbus, to follow. These next few months promise to keep the Student Council very busy! Go Bobcats!



## Registration Information for the 2011-2012 School Year

Registration for the 2011-2012 school year will begin the end of January. Once again, parents are invited and strongly encouraged to attend their student's registration meeting. If you are able to attend the 15-minute meeting, and your student is in grades 9-11 this year, please call Becky Gasper, WDHS guidance secretary, at (563) 876-3442 ext. 3005 to set up a time. If your student is a current 8<sup>th</sup> grader, please call Linda or Mary Kay at Drexler Middle School at 744-3371.

### Registration Timeline is as follows:

- \* Current Juniors will register the week of January 31<sup>st</sup>
- \* Current Sophomores will register the week of February 9<sup>th</sup>
- \* Current Freshmen will register the week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- \* Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will register from March 7<sup>th</sup> - March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Any parents who cannot attend are asked to get involved by looking over the registration form your son or daughter will be bringing home. Please approve it with a signature and send it back to school with your child the day they register. Students will then meet with their high school guidance counselor to complete the registration for the next school year.

## Registering For the Selective Service

Male students who are 18 must register with the selective service within 30 days of turning 18, by law. Students can register online ([www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)) at age 17 years 3 months. The information can be stored electronically and then registration will be done automatically on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Students may also register in the guidance office.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Open House/Registration Meeting

On Monday, February 28, 2011 the Western Dubuque High School will be hosting a registration meeting and Open House for parents and their 8<sup>th</sup> grade son or daughter. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the main gym. This is a **MANDATORY** meeting for any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student and their parents that are planning on attending WDHS next year. Registration forms will be passed out, the entire registration process will be explained, any questions will be answered and tours will be provided for those that are interested. Forms will go home that evening for parents and their student to review and choose which classes they would like to take. Our counselors will be at the middle schools from March 7<sup>th</sup> - March 22<sup>nd</sup> to collect the forms and speak with the students.

Parental involvement in the registration process is critical in order to serve the families of the Western Dubuque School District effectively.

## College & Career Fair

On Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup> the Western Dubuque High School Guidance Department will hold a College & Career Fair for our current sophomores and juniors. Students will have the opportunity to meet with several different colleges, the armed forces, and local unions. This is a great opportunity for us to show our students that there are a variety of schools and career choices out there. This fair is very beneficial to our registration process here at the high school because it can lead students towards certain career pathways. This fair serves as the beginning of the college process.

# Senior News

## Financial Aid Night

There will be a financial aid information night at WDHS on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the WDHS library for all May 2011 graduates and their parents or anyone else that would like to attend. A representative from the College Planning Center in Des Moines will be presenting information on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

## "Fill Out The FAFSA Day"

Don't pay someone to do a service we offer for **FREE**. The WDHS guidance office in partnership with the College Planning Center will offer help filling out your FAFSA forms by sponsoring a "Fill Out the FAFSA Day" on Friday, February 11, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. by appointment only. Parents may call Becky in the guidance office at (563) 876-3442 ext. 3005 to schedule an hour time slot. Appointments are on a first come, first serve basis.



## College Representatives Visit WDHS

Several college representatives have already visited with seniors at Western Dubuque High School, and many more will be scheduled after winter break. Students have the opportunity to get first-hand information by people who actually work at the colleges and to have their questions answered. They also bring a great deal of printed information for the students.

Students are strongly encouraged to visit with representatives of colleges they are truly interested in.

## Graduation Date

Graduation will be on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the main gym.

Western Dubuque High School  
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## RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

### Board of Education

Jeanne Coppola  
 Mark Knuth  
 Gary McAndrew  
 Robert McCabe  
 Barb Weber

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# Calendar

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### Important Dates

#### December

- 2 2nd Quarter Mid-Term Ends
- 7 3 Hour Early Dismissal
- 15 Senior pictures are due
- 22 2 Hour Early Dismissal
- 23-31 No School (Holiday/Winter Break)

#### January

- 3 Resume classes
- 14 End of 1st Semester
- 17 No School (Professional Development)
- 18 Begin 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester
- 31 Current Juniors Registration



### Looking Ahead

#### February

- 1-8 Current Juniors Registration
- 9-18 Current Sophomores Registration
- 18 3rd Quarter Mid-Term Ends
- 21 No School (Professional Dev)
- 22-28 Current Freshmen Registration
- 28 Open House/Registration for incoming Freshmen @ 7:00 p.m.

#### March

- 1-3 Current Freshman Registration
- 7-22 Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade Registration
- 18 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- 21 No School
- 22 Begin 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter
- 29, 31 One hour early dismissal.  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

#### April

- 1 No School
- 22-27 No School (Spring Break)
- 20 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Mid-Term Ends