



# The Wolf Call

A monthly communication from the Wakefield Middle School PTSA

August–September 2011

## PTSA Board Members

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Pattie Trainor
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- VP Volunteers**  
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Dorothy Corrigan

## President's...Paws for a Minute

It is that time again when we as parents are rushing to gather the things that our kids need for the start of a new school year. Hopefully, our new sixth graders are finding their classes and feel comfortable getting around this school. Wakefield Middle School is filled with teachers, staff and administration who care about your child's success. If you have any questions there are lots of people ready and willing to help.

Our PTSA is here ready to help our students and our parents combine so that we can make this a successful year. Our focus is on their success. Our goal this year is to make sure our kids have what they need to be successful if they choose to. We want parents to have the tools they need to help their child be successful. With major budget cuts to the education funds from state and federal governments, as parents, teachers and community members that means more than ever that we need to all be involved in our children's education. We invite you to help us in any way you can. We need tutors after school for an hour, we need periodic volunteers to help out with activities that take place at the school, parents to develop programs, work at the school store for 15 minutes before school starts, be on committees that bring programs into the school, or bring in donations to help support our teachers. Most of them are limited time. You can choose your level of involvement.

Volunteering at a middle school level is a whole lot different than it is at the elementary level. Volunteering at the PTSA 95% of the time you are behind the scenes, and there are multiple levels at which you can fit into your busy and hectic life. And with you volunteering your time, not only your child benefits from your hard work but other students as well. If you want to become involved in any way or you have an idea for a program to help our students we would love to hear from you. We are always available. Check out our website for up to date information of what is taking place, or to sign up as a volunteer. [wmptsa.org](http://wmptsa.org)

We are also planning on starting our fundraising. We know how horrible it is to take your children out to sell things as well as to constantly be bombarded by fundraising. We don't like to do it as much as you don't like to hear about it. So what we are proposing is we are starting a capital campaign which is we ask for you to make a generous donation to our school PTSA. There will be drawings for golf, spa packages and a grand prize of an iPad. If we make our goal of 22,000 dollars then we will not do another fundraiser this year. However if we fall short, we can't continue with some of our programs for the kids and we will have to do another fundraiser in the spring. We want to avoid that if we can.

We also want you and your student aware that by joining the PTSA they can help run programs and have a say in what kinds of programs take place. One of the programs we are especially interested in having our students participate in is the 8th grade celebration. Last year this was a huge success and our students had a great time, but this year we would love for them to be involved in the planning of it. We would like both yours and their involvement in planning school beautification projects and not only be involved but lead some of these programs.

We hope this year is a very successful year for you and your student.

Sincerely,  
Angie Keetch



## WMS Club Events

Be sure to check the WMS website frequently for dates & times for each club. We look forward to a new and exciting year.

- ART
- Battle of the Books
- Chess
- Drama
- Odyssey of the Mind (Sept 15 3:20p.m.)
- Student Council
- Yearbook

## WMS Calendar of Events

- August 31<sup>st</sup> (Wed.)** Spirit Night Fiesta Mexicana
- August 31 (8:30 a.m.)** - PTSA General Body Meeting (with Donuts)
- September 1 (6:30 p.m.)** PTSA General Body Meeting (pick your best time to attend either of the meetings)
- General Meetings 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
- September 5** - Labor Day—NO SCHOOL
- September 13** - Meet the Teacher (6:30—8 p.m.)
- September 15** - Fall Portraits
- September 16** - Early Release (12:30 p.m.)
- September 20** - Spirit Night—Milton's Pizza & Pasta
- September 30** - Teacher Workday—NO SCHOOL
- October 7** - Early Release (12:30 p.m.)

## Upcoming WMS Athletic Events

- Boys' Football**(3:45 start time)
- August 25 - Tryouts (3:30 start time)
- September 21 – WF Rolesville
- September 28 – @ East Wake
- October 5 - W. Millbrook

## Volleyball/Soccer (3:45 pm start)

- September 22 – @ WF Rolesville
- September 29 – East Wake
- October 6 - @ W. Millbrook

## Upcoming WMS Band Activities

- August 31 (6:30 p.m.) @ Rentals

**We need YOU! Join PTSA Today & Help Support Our School**  
Students signed up by 9/2 entered in a drawing for a \$25 iTunes Gift Card  
Parents signed up by 9/2 entered in a drawing for \$25 Harris Teeter Gift Card  
Donuts for each Grade Homeroom with the most membership by 9/16





## PRINCIPAL'S PRIDE *James Sposato*



Welcome to the 2011-2012 school. We are excited about another great year here at Wakefield Middle. I will use this column to discuss happenings here at Wakefield. I will also use this forum to share information regarding developmental issues surrounding the middle school years. Much of this information I will pull from a book entitled NutureShock- New Thinking About Children, by Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman,

### Sleep Deprivation

Kids these days get on average an hour less sleep each night than we did as kids 30 years ago. We all know that a good night sleep is necessary for us to perform at our best. The authors dedicate a chapter on the research addressing the significant impact sleep deprivation has on teenagers. Sleep deprivation has a significant impact on their cognitive function, moods and is believed to be a contributing factor to weight problems as well. The authors note that studies correlate how much sleep students get with their grade-point averages - 15 minutes of sleep nightly makes a difference! Consider your child's sleep habits to determine if you need to make some changes in nightly routines.

### Other items of interest:

#### ALTERNATE LEARNING CENTER (ALC)

Our ALC or in school suspension program will operate a little differently this year. We have added a second tier of intervention for students who repeatedly violate Level I and Level II offenses as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. This model is not designed to replace our existing In-School Suspension program, but is intended to offer an additional discipline strategy for repeat offenders. We will continue to assign students to single days of ALC for isolated events or accumulated minor rule violations. A student will be assigned to the second tier ALC if a formalized intervention plan fails to result in improved behavior. The length of the ALC assignment will depend on the severity of behaviors but will likely start at five days. A team (counselor, teacher, administrator and the student) will develop a contract detailing the expectations and requirements for exiting the extended ALC assignment. Students who continue to display inappropriate behavior may be assigned to ALC for a longer period of time. Students who are attending ALC will receive instructional materials and assignments. Students may also be recommended for suspension or to an alternative school (River Oaks, Mount Vernon and Longview) as a result of failure to make progress in interventions.

#### INTERVENTION PLAN

The Wakefield Middle School staff developed a systematic intervention plan over the course of last school year. The system is designed to address academic, behavioral and attendance issues in a timely and structured manner. The plan has three components that address the responsibilities of the staff, the student and the parents. The commitment of the student and parent in addition to the staff is essential for the plan to be successful. Copies of the plan are viewable on the school website.

### Wakefield Middle School Family Spirit Nights

Wakefield Middle School PTSA would like to invite all of our families to join us for a family night out at the following local restaurants. A percentage of all sales will be donated to our PTSA to help support our programs and events.

Please mark your calendars now and help support our local restaurants & PTSA.

August 31 <sup>st</sup> (Wed.)	Fiesta Mexicana (Wakefield Commons)
September 20 <sup>th</sup> (Tues.)	Milton's Pizza & Pasta (Wakefield Commons)
October 18 <sup>th</sup> (Tues.)	Red Robin (Capital Blvd)
November 15 <sup>th</sup> (Tues.)	Chili's (Capital Blvd)
December 13 <sup>th</sup> (Tues.)	Mellow Mushroom (Wake Forest)
January 18 <sup>th</sup> (Wed.)	Spinner's Grill (Wakefield Commons)
February 16 <sup>th</sup> (Thurs.)	Chick-fil-A (Wake Forest)
March 21 <sup>st</sup> (Wed.)	Moe's Southwest Grill (Wakefield Commons)
April 18 <sup>th</sup> (Wed.)	Texas Roadhouse (Capital Blvd)
May 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> (Tues./Wed)	Sweet Spoons (Wakefield Commons)

### Fall No-Fuss Capital Campaign Fundraiser



Last year's No-Fuss Fundraiser was a great success, so the PTSA has decided to do it again this year. No more gift wrap or door-to-door sales. All money donated goes directly to the PTSA to SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN. The money raised will go to fund Cultural Arts Programs, Technology, Staff Appreciation, Student Agendas, Book Fair and Character Education Programs. Drawings will be held for Prizes.

**BE SURE TO PARTICIPATE!**

All Donations are Tax Deductable  
See Flyer for details

If you have any questions, please contact

Joy Spaulding at [jspaulding3@nc.rr.com](mailto:jspaulding3@nc.rr.com).

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sept 15 Fall Portraits - \$30 coupon on student package for a 4 hour shift

Contact Michelle Muster: [mmuster@wcpss.net](mailto:mmuster@wcpss.net)

BoxTops Coordinator: contact Joy Spaulding at [jspaulding3@nc.rr.com](mailto:jspaulding3@nc.rr.com) for details

More Positions Available: details on website



### HOW TO SUPPORT WMS PTSA

Donate to the Fall No-Fuss Capital Campaign Fundraiser  
Join the PTSA and become a member! \$7 for adults and \$4 for students

**VOLUNTEER!** Visit our website: [www.wmsptsa.org](http://www.wmsptsa.org)

Attend Family Spirit Nights at Local Restaurants!

Link your Harris Teeter, Food Lion, and Target Red cards to our school!

Collect BoxTops, Coke Rewards Points, and Campbell's Labels



### PTSA Communications

Please be sure to check the Wakefield Middle School PTSA website [www.wmsptsa.org](http://www.wmsptsa.org) for updated information. All future newsletters this school year will be online. Please check the website often for updated information for your PTSA! Patti Trainor



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## Meet the Silver Wolves Teachers:

**Ms. DeBose** teaches Social Studies and is the Team Leader. She grew up in New Bern, NC and enjoys traveling, painting, photography, and going to the theatre.

**Mrs. Crosse** teaches Science. She hails from Jamaica and loves to walk, sing, and play tennis.

**Mrs. Piombino** teaches Math. She was born and raised in upstate New York and enjoys music, hockey, and doing the USA Today newspaper's crossword puzzle.

**Mr. Tharrington** is the English/Language Arts teacher. He is a Raleigh native who likes traveling, comic books, and learning new things.

Welcome to the Silver Wolves team! We are very excited about the upcoming year and look forward to getting to know each student and family.

**Reminders:** Please complete and return the Student Data Sheet, SPAN application, and all first day papers by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

# 6

## PACK TEAM



### ALPHA WOLVES

I am the 6th grade team leader for the Alpha Wolves team.  
The teachers on the Alpha Wolves Team:

Patrick Adriance: Language Arts [padrince@wcpss.net](mailto:padrince@wcpss.net)

Jennifer Burnette: Social Studies [jburnette1@wcpss.net](mailto:jburnette1@wcpss.net)

Kelsie Stocz: Science [kstocz@wcpss.net](mailto:kstocz@wcpss.net)

Jonathan Walski: Math [jwalski@wcpss.net](mailto:jwalski@wcpss.net)

I am also the Assistant Football Coach. Some important information is that we are starting try-outs on the 25th of August. I look forward to working with you this year.

Jonathan Walski

# Team Tracks

ROYAL  
WOLVES

# 7

### TIMBER WOLVES

Welcome to the Timber Wolves Team!  
Timber Wolves Teachers:

Sherry Adamson: Math  
Deborah Melvin: Social Studies  
Cindy Killian: English/Language Arts  
Terry Mattson: Science

We look forward to an exciting year!

**Cindy Killian**  
(formerly Cindy Citty Cheng)  
Team Leader, Timber Wolves

### The Dream Team News

LaSonja Cunningham, Stephanie Jones,  
Donna Brewer, Patti Soule

Welcome to a new school year! In order to keep you updated, send your e-mail address to Ms. Jones, our math teacher: [sjones18@wcpss.net](mailto:sjones18@wcpss.net). Please make sure to put your child's first and last name on the subject line. We are looking forward to an exciting and successful year!

LaSonja Cunningham, Team Leader  
[lcunningham@wcpss.net](mailto:lcunningham@wcpss.net)

Welcome **Red Wolf** students and families! We are excited about getting to know you this 2011-2012 school year. Eighth grade will be both challenging and fun as we work to prepare all students for high school and future challenges. Here are a few topics of interest to help you find success as you begin eighth grade.

**Stay informed! ACTION REQUIRED!** Sign up **NOW** to receive our weekly email blasts. These emails will keep you informed about upcoming tests, project due dates, and general news from each core class team teacher. Knowing these facts will help you keep your eighth grader on track for a successful school year! Signing up is easy. Just send Mrs. Corrigan, our social studies teacher, an email at [dcorrigan@wcpss.net](mailto:dcorrigan@wcpss.net). Type the student's name in the subject line; then type your desired email addresses in the body of the email.

**Supplies.** Purchase supplies and keep them replenished throughout the year. Supply lists are available on team from any Red Wolf teacher.

**Communication.** Email is the fastest way to communicate with us. Email us with any questions or concerns early. We are here to help you help your student.

**Agendas.** Please expect your child to develop the habit of writing all assignments down in the agenda every day. Check to make sure this is being done from the start, and don't stop checking the agenda until you are sure your child has developed this key habit. This powerful planning tool is vitally important for student success. We have found that many eighth graders still need parent intervention to make this happen.

**Homework.** Students will have homework in multiple subjects every night. Ask to see the completed work if you hear something like, "I finished it all at school," or "I don't have any."

**Wish List.** Feeling generous? Send in a box of tissues, Clorox wipes, and / or hand sanitizer to help us stay well throughout the year. We are also collecting new or used Scrabble, Boggle, BLOKUS, or other language / math games. Extra pencils always help as well. Send any of these to Mrs. Kellerman any morning via your eighth grader.

We look forward to meeting you at our annual back-to-school night where we can share the details of our programs with you and answer any questions you may have. We look forward to a productive and successful 2011-2012 school year, and thank you all in advance for your support and help at home this year! **Go Red Wolves!**

Sincerely, Laura Kellerman  
8th grade Language Arts, Red Wolf Team Leader

### DIRE WOLVES

Mrs. Tatters, Mr. Tilley, Mrs. Roth and Ms. Pollenz wish to welcome our students and parents to the **Dire Wolves**. We are excited to begin the 2011-2012 school year. In preparation for the school year, we ask that our parents please take the time to read and fill out all paper work that will be coming home in the next few days and to sign up for SPAN as soon as possible. We want you to be informed so that we can work together to ensure a successful school year for your student. If you are looking for an opportunity to help the team, we are looking for donations of hand sanitizer, and boxes of tissues and pencils. We also ask that your student have a book to read by Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>.

To our students, please come to school with the desire to learn, a good attitude, a sense of humor and a list of goals. In the book *Nurture Shock*, the authors Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman, tell us "that the brain is a muscle. Giving it a harder workout makes you smarter"

PATRIOTIC  
WOLVES

# 8