# insight

# Wyomissing Area SCHOOL DISTRICT







David P. Krem, Superintendent

March 2011 | Volume 42, No. 2

# **Teachers Tour Turkey**



#### by Laura Zamperini **Art Instructor** Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School

During the summer of 2010, I was one of four teachers from Berks County selected to travel to the country of Turkey as part of a tour for educators from the United States. The World Affairs Council of Greater Reading and the Turkish Cultural Foundation sponsored this thirteen-day trip through the country that is the physical and cultural bridge between Europe and Asia Minor.

The goal of the trip was to educate teachers about the rich and diverse history of Turkey, so that they could in turn bring back their experiences to their students. When applying for the trip, applicants presented ways in which they could incorporate these experiences into the curriculum of their individual subjects. As an art teacher at the high school level, I was excited about including Turkey's rich history of ceramics, architecture, and textiles into the ceramics course that I teach, as well as the Art Major 2 course I instruct, in which the focus is a global perspective of the arts.

Our adventure began in Istanbul, Turkey's largest city, where we explored important cultural and

Overlooking the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, left to right: Scott Snyder (Oley Valley SD), Nicole Dysart (Reading SD), Laura Zamperini (Wyomissing Area SD), and Heather McCord (Twin Valley SD).

historical sites, such as the Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, and Topkapi Palace, as well as several museums. We visited the studio of an internationally known Ebru artist, whose techniques in creating extraordinary designs and marbleized paper will be an asset to the art major students at Wyomissing for years to come. A cruise down the Bosphorus Strait allowed us to directly experience the waterway that divides Istanbul's European and Asian halves. We also visited two different schools, one public and one private boarding school.

We then traveled south to Iznik, renowned for its ceramic tile and pottery traditions. Next on the journey was the city of Bursa, home of the famous shadow puppets, Karagoz and Hacivat. At Kusadasi, the furthest south we went, we experienced both the beauty of Turkey's rugged coastline on the Aegean, as well as the incredible ruins of Ephesus, one of the most complete city ruins left from Greek and Roman antiquity. Heading inland, we headed to Konya, the home of Rumi, the poet and Sufi mystic. Outside of Konya, we visited Catalhoyuk, a

Neolithic archeological site that dates back to 7500 BC. We also visited a rural school in this area. The region of Cappadocia was enchanting with its unique topography and ancient underground cities built into the soft volcanic rock. Visiting a 700-year-old pottery studio, built into the rock as well, was one of the neatest parts of the trip! Our final destination was Ankara, Turkey's youthful capital and the resting place of Ataturk, the "founding father" of Turkey's republic.

It is impossible to include every detail of the trip in this short article, but all of the combined places and experiences, coupled with interaction with the lovely and friendly Turkish people we met along the way, have transformed my ideas about the country for the better. The trip has enriched my life and will benefit and enrich the lives of the students I share these experiences with as well.

If anyone would like to learn more about my experience or if you are a 6-12th-grade teacher interested in applying for this trip in the future, please contact me at lzamperini@wyoarea.org.

## A look inside

## in our schools:

WREC: **Project Update** 

WHEC: Holiday Dinner with Special Guests





May we introduce Julia Vicente?

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**NHS New Members** In the News Mark Your Calendar

**School Board** Reorganization

Spring Arts Schedule





If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this publication, please contact Mr. David P. Krem, superintendent, at 610-374-0739, ext. 1106, or dkrem@wyoarea.org via e-mail. Reading Eagle: Lauren A. Little



WREC mascot Sadie takes a break in a hallway of SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Reading.



West Reading Elementary Center sixth-graders, above, attend gym class in SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Reading.

# **WREC Project Update**

Following four weeks of moving, unpacking, setting up, adjusting, repacking, moving again, adjusting again, and continually

### WEST READING ELEMENTARY CENTER

revamping daily routines to match their new surroundings, the students and staff of the West Reading Elementary Center have settled in to their temporary homes at the St. James Church and SS. Constantine and Helen Church sites. The entire WREC family – students, teachers, parents, staff, and community members – has contributed to the success of this huge undertaking.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Roy Kissinger and Mr. Frank Petrakis, the facility coordinators at the churches, for working so hard to serve the needs of the students and staff in order to minimize the disruption in providing the best fifth- and sixth-grade education possible.

On Wednesday, January 19, an open house was held at each location to give parents and community members an opportunity to walk through the alternate sites. With the students serving as tour guides, it provided the opportunity to see classrooms and various areas of the facilities that are being used to meet our

academic needs. Despite adverse weather conditions, many attended.

The faculty and staff have challenged the students to match all the hard work that has gone into the big move with an equally high commitment to make the very best out of this adventure.

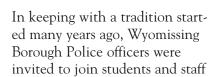
In early January, construction began on schedule. Temporary construction power was installed to the building on January 17. Work was underway to remove the old electric service and the power pole located at the corner of 4th and Grape streets. The temporary classroom/modulars have been removed from the property, and work is being planned for excavation and soil stabilization in the area under the new building addition.

Asbestos abatement is complete on the second level, and air monitoring clearances have been received. That floor is now available for demolition and construction to proceed.

Demolition is proceeding on all levels where possible.

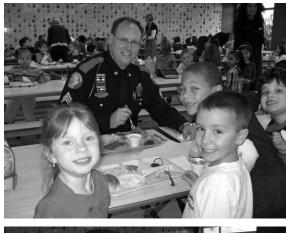
Please check the District web site at www.wyoarea.org for updates on the progress of the project as they become available.

# Fun Tradition at WHEC with Local Law Enforcement



## WYOMISSING HILLS ELEMENTARY CENTER

at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center for a holiday lunch that included all the trimmings: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables, and pumpkin pie. While providing a much needed break for the officers, the annual event also fosters the partnership between the borough police and the school in maintaining a safe environment for the students.









Wyomissing Police Department guests (clockwise from upper left): Sergeant Thomas Endy, Officer Ashley Borman, Officer Joseph Klatt, and Officer Kevin Quinter enjoy a holiday dinner with Wyomissing Area elementary students.

In January 2011, Julia Vicente joined the Wyomissing Area School District as the director of elementary and secondary education. Julia's passion for education began when she picked up a chunky green crayon on her first day of kindergarten. Somehow in that moment she knew that crayon was her key to lifelong learning.

As she grew older, Julia loved all kinds of learning opportunities to explore, construct, inquire, and derive meaning from presented information, both in and outside of the classroom. She came to appreciate and value the role of her teachers and professors and learned very quickly that a teacher's influence had the power to inspire! It was through this discovery that she vowed to become a teacher with a contagious spirit of lifelong learning for her students to catch!

Julia's high school teaching expe-

rience included 10 years between Schuylkill Valley High School and Spring-Ford Area High School. During that time, she became a student again and earned her master's degree in gifted education from Millersville University. It was through the encouragement of her professors that she earned her K-12 Principal Certification. As a result, she became the first graduate of Millersville University's Educational Leadership program.

Julia then joined the School District of Lancaster. During her seven years as an administrator with the district, she was afforded numerous opportunities to assimilate her passion for teaching students and professionally developing teachers to meet the goal of improving student achievement.

Julia's next opportunity stretched her professionally. She became a national consultant with an educational leadership development



firm, Performance Fact, Inc. In her role as senior consultant, she worked with senior-level district administrators as well as school board members to impact organizational, leadership, and teaching practices to improve student achievement. Julia learned that when the commonly held goals and shared beliefs of all stakeholders are infused in a clear and accountable action plan, the realization of their collective vision is more likely to become reality.

Prior to joining the Wyomissing Area School District as the director of elementary and secondary education, Julia served as the director of secondary education in the Reading School District.

In her spare time, Julia appreciates spending time in her gardens, whipping up culinary delights in the kitchen, and cherishing moments with her family.



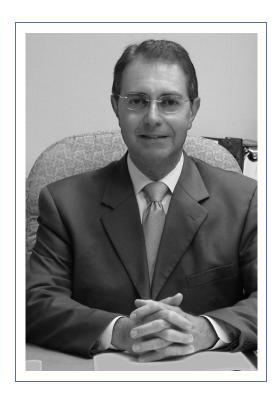
Wednesday
June 1, 2011
6 p.m.
Crowne Plaza
Reading Hotel

This community-sponsored dinner honors Wyomissing Area student athletes for their dedication to varsity and junior varsity sports. Awards are presented to the outstanding male and female team members of each sport, district and state qualifying teams, and individual athletes as well as county, district, and state championship teams. All senior athletes are specially recognized. Trophies and team plaques are purchased by the All-Sports Booster Club. The Nancy M. Hemmerich-Franklin E. Poore III All-Sports Scholarships and the LeRoy "Pro" Nelson Awards are presented.

Approximately 500 student athletes, family members, friends, coaches, school administrators, and special guests attend the Wyomissing Area All-Sports Awards Dinner. This volunteer effort raises funds to allow each Wyomissing Area athlete in grades 9–12 to attend the dinner free of charge and honors student athletes for their participation in varsity and junior varsity sports.

all-spo	orts awards	dinner ticket order form
<b>DINNER TICKETS</b> : \$25/person	_ Tickets × \$25 =	
HAPPY AD: \$10/each (15 words or less) The deadline is Friday, May 20.		
ALUMNI RECOGNITION: \$15 contribution	1	
Alumni	Year	Sport(s)
Sponsored by		
TAKE A SPARTAN TO DINNER: \$25/studer	t	
Sponsors × \$25 =	<u> </u>	
Your name	Address	
TOTAL ENCLOSED		
PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:	WAHS All-Sports Booster Club	
	•	ic Dept.   630 Evans Ave.   Wyomissing, PA 19610

# **Letter from the Superintendent**



The Wyomissing Area School District has adopted a new administrative evaluation program called the Total Rewards Program (TRP). The major purpose of TRP is to provide a fiscally prudent, fair, internally consistent and externally competitive program that will assist the school district with selecting, motivating, rewarding, and retaining the most skilled and qualified staff. TRP's design starts with the Board of School Directors establishing its goals and objectives for the school district. These goals and objectives are then translated into Guiding Assumptions for the superintendent to use in moving the school system forward while continuing to address the demands of the federal and state governments.

The TRP is comprised of four modules. The Performance Module includes a process to effectively link performance to pay/rewards. Significant design features include goal-setting and measurement, performance levels, rubrics for leadership competencies and link to pay. The Compensation Module uses a process to effectively assess the market and conduct a comparative analysis leading to the design of competitive salary ranges, position ranking and a salary plan. The

module includes the compensation strategy, administration of the salary range, position ranking/market ranking and establishing a salary plan. The Position Module identifies essential functions, accountabilities and responsibilities and ADA information. Position descriptions are effective organizational and developmental tools that play an important role in the design of effective performance plans. Position descriptions, once established, are normally reviewed every two years and/or as significant changes occur. The Benefit Module includes a process to assess the competitiveness of staff benefit program.

Based on this four-module approach, the superintendent develops an overall goal for the district and aligns his personal goals to the district goal. All administrators then develop a series of personal goals aligned with the superintendent's goals and the district goal. Quarterly updates to the superintendent are required with a mid-year evaluation of progress and an end-of-year evaluative meeting. During the end-of-year evaluation process, the administrators are required to present documentation in an organized manner, which addresses each of their individual goals

and supporting objectives. The superintendent is responsible for rating each administrator's performance completing a nonsubjective formula which yields a total score reflecting the level of successful attainment of performance goals for each administrative position relating to the superintendent's goals and the overall district goal.

The total individual score is placed on a scale which rates the administrator as being: Outstanding, Proficient, Satisfactory, or Needs Improvement. Each of the four ratings is tied to the level of salary increase the individual administrator is eligible to receive during the follow year: Needs Improvement and Satisfactory yield no salary increase; Proficient and Outstanding performance may yield a salary increase equivalent to the quality of the individual administrator's performance.

It is the hope of the Board of School Directors and the superintendent that this system will provide a means for administrators to be recognized and appreciated for their individual efforts in an appropriate yet financially prudent manner.

# Jed Lengel "retires" from Volunteer Post

A huge "thank you" to **Jerome K. (Jed) Lengel**, Class of 1951, for his years of dedicated work maintaining the alumni database of Wyomissing Area High School. After many years of diligent work on the project, Jed has earned a well-deserved "retirement" from his volunteer job.

Going forward, the Wyomissing Area Education Foundation will maintain lists of WASD graduates. E-mail updates, address changes, and notification of alumni who have passed away should be e-mailed to jcremer@wyoarea.org.

We thank Jed for tackling this all important project that has benefitted all Wyomissing Area alums!

# WASD Remembers a Fallen Hero

The Wyomissing Area School District and community were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Staff Sergeant Sean Michael Flannery. Sean was killed in action in Afghanistan on November 22, 2010, by a roadside bomb while serving as a member of the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

Sean was actively involved as a student in many District activities, including soccer, football, Spanish Club, Latin Club, Spartan Club, and Thoreau Club. After graduating from Wyomissing Area in 1999, he majored in business at Shippensburg University and graduated from there in 2003.

Sean is survived by his mother, Charlene, a former nurse for the District, and his brothers, Brian



and Devin. He also leaves behind his fiancée, Christina Martin. He was predeceased by his father, Michael, also a Wyomissing alumnus.

A banner remembering him and recognizing his service to our country has been installed above the entrance to the Jr./Sr. High School.

In loving memory of an American Hero
Staff Sergeant Sean Michael Flannery
United States Army
Wyomissing Area Class of 1999
Killed in action in Afghanistan
November 22, 2010

# WAEF

ENRICHING EDUCATION
IN THE WYOMISSING
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Join us for the

second season of The Toast!

The Wyomissing Area Education Foundation is pleased to announce the second season of The Toast! This spring, Wyomissing Area families, friends, and community groups are hosting a brunch, picnic, BBQ, or other type of party honoring a cherished teacher, coach, administrator, or other educator. Party hosts choose their honoree(s) and assume all costs associated with their events. Guests pay an admission fee ranging from \$5-\$25 to attend the party. Proceeds from The Toast fundraiser will provide additional grant dollars to benefit our students by increasing funding for superior, innovative, and educational programs.

We are excited to announce the fabulous events listed below. Your invitation with a complete list of events and reservation form will be mailed to the school district community in early April. We hope you will join our generous hosts to honor some of our wonderful Wyomissing Area educators.

For further information or questions, please contact a committee member. Visit our website at www.wyoarea.org/WAEF and look for a link to "The Toast." Look for your invitation in April!

#### 01 Treat The Nurses

Honorees: Mary Hollinger, Sally
McNichol, Tina
O'Hara, Laura
Schaeffer, & Lia Xavios
Hosts: Lesa & Peter Butera and
Loni & Steve Pottieger
Date: Saturday, May 14, 2011
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Price: Adult \$15 Child \$5
Student \$10

Join us for a bountiful brunch as we toast our compassionate, caring, and dedicated nursing professionals.

#### **02 A Hop-Fest For Todd Zechman**

Honoree: Todd Zechman
Hosts: Rob & Danielle Metzger
and Steve & Kristie
Brunner

**Date:** Saturday, May 14, 2011 **Time:** 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. **Price:** Adult \$20

Join us as we gather to enjoy fine beer, hor d'oeuvres, and the company of high school math teacher Todd Zechman. Come and sample some brews while honoring one of our great Wyomissing Area teachers!

#### **03 Cupcakes & Cappuccinos**

**Honorees:** Tim and Michele Hetrich

Hosts: Louise & David Reynolds and Sarah & Carl Godlove Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Price: Adult \$15 Child \$10

Student \$10

Come and enjoy some delectable cupcakes and cappuccinos with a dynamic duo. Tim has been a favorite teacher and coach at Wyo for 23 years, and his wife, Michele, has been leaving her mark at the Hills and WREC for the past eleven. When you leave, don't forget your very special treats created in Tim and Michele's honor!

#### 04 "Spruce"ing It Up With Jim Derr

Honoree: Jim Derr
Hosts: Frank Ferrandino &
Andi Watkins
Date: Friday, May 20, 2011
Time: 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Price: Adult \$15
Toast the 29-year career of the beloved Wyomissing Hills principal, Jim Derr. Join us for

#### 05 Picnic by the Pond

cocktails and appetizers.

Amanda Kraft

Hosts: The Filoon, Botvin, & Latourelle Families

Date: Friday, May 20, 2011

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Price: Adult \$15 Child \$5

Student \$10

**Honorees:** Nancylee Schlegel &

Student \$10 Join us for hot dogs, ice cream sundaes, crafts, games, and more as we toast two amazing teachers.

#### **06 Hors D'oeuvres and Desserts**

Honoree: Jeremiah Kozlowski Hosts: Mark and Marina Gehman Date: Saturday, May 21, 2011 Time: 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Price: Adult \$20 Please join us to toast "The Koz" in a relaxing and casual atmosphere with a great glass of wine, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and wonderful desserts! What a great way to end a long work week while getting to know one of our most valuable teachers!

#### 07 Cheers to Roseann

Honoree: Roseann Tice
Host: Judy Stoudt
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Time: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Price: Adult \$15
Please join us for a champagne
"toast" to this loyal professional
and special lady who has devoted

so much of her career in service to the staff and students of the district.
Roseann has served as secretary in the district for 32 years.

#### **08 Kudos to the Counselors!**

Honorees: Kelly McClennan & Amy Miller-Cush
Hosts: Michele & Michael
Fischetti, Catharine & Ted Lentz, and Colleen
& Alexo Zeppos

**Date:** Thursday, May 26, 2011 **Time:** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Price:** Adult \$20

Join us as we toast two outstanding WASD women who make such an important impact on our children's education. Come for drinks and hors d'oeuvres and share in the celebration.

#### 09 Score One for Mr. Miller

Honoree: Mr./Coach Christopher ("Toph") Miller Host: The Whitmoyer Family Date: Friday, May 27, 2011

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Price: Adult \$20 Child \$5

Student \$10

Come and enjoy a casual evening of fun and stadium inspired food to honor a fabulous third-grade teacher and varsity basketball coach!

#### 10 Paradise Playground Party

Honoree: Amy Stewart-Himes
Hosts: Karen & Bryan Wang and
Rachel & Mike Kuhn
Date: Saturday, June 4, 2011
Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Price: Adult \$10 Child \$5
Student \$5

To honor Mrs. Stewart-Himes we will be having a festive, Caribbean-themed party with music, snacks, drinks, and games for all.

#### 11 Too Much Fun To Miss!

Honorees: The Fifth-Grade
Teachers: Keith Arnold,
Nancy Boyer, Erika
Homan, Robin Kline,
Jill Kuhn, Dan Smith,
& Shana Bellairs

Hosts: Catharine & Ted Lentz and Karen & Jim McAvoy Date: Thursday, June 9, 2011

Time: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Price: Adult \$10 Child \$10

Student \$10

Join us for heart-racing fun as we simultaneously toast our wonderful fifth-grade teachers and treat our bodies to an hour of exhilarating exercise. Each exercise will be done to honor a specific teacher (Air Squats for Arnold, Broad Jumps for Bellairs). Chris Kaag, owner of Corps Fitness and former Marine sergeant, will lead the class. This is one you won't want to miss!

The Toast

#### 12 Soiree at Sunset

ATOMISSING AREA EDUCATION

Honorees: Barbara Brehony, Susan Lehr, and Jennifer Noll Hosts: The Filoon, Guiseppe,

Riddle, & Snyder Families **Date:** Saturday, June 11, 2011

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Price: Adult \$25

Join us for signature cocktails and delicious hors d'oeuvres as we honor and celebrate the office staff from WHEC. The dedication, devotion, and cheerful disposition of these three fabulous women help make The Hills a special place for students, parents, and staff.



Lesa Butera 610-670-5288 or lesab@comcast.net

Catharine Lentz 610-372-5864 or lentz\_catharine@comcast.net

Rob Metzger 215-749-0887 or rob.metzger.us@gmail.com

Judy Stoudt 610-374-8075 or judystoudt@comcast.net

Vicki Whitmoyer 610-736-3265 or folksof4@msn.com



# **2010-11 Wyo Area National Honor Societies**

Front row, left to right:

Mary Kate Whitmoyer, Madelyn White, Stephanie Wert, Samuel Weidner, Corbin Weaver, Heather Tellez, Sonya Stephen, Anna Smith, Rachel Seibert, Elizabeth Rush, Jessica Lazo, Rachel Pleet, Colleen O' Rourke

#### Second row, left to right:

Christina Cesarz, Sarah Bucolo, Zachary Moser, Gregory Brown, Chelsea Melcher, Juliet Bonino, Kathryn McElwee, Nicholas Blanchet, Macie Kurelia, Erin Benz, Theodore Kolva, Tyler Bell, Elaine Holehan, Andrea Bailey, Sonja Griesemer, Clint Arriola, Jessica Ertel, Ninoska Aristy, Kendal Duncan, Dylan Anthony, Stephanie Deem, Maria Cosma

# National Honor Society Induction

The annual National Honor Society Induction ceremony was held on January 5, 2011.

New members inducted included:

**Dylan Anthony** Ninoska Aristy Clint Arriola **Andrea Bailey** Tyler Bell Erin Benz **Nicholas Blanchet Juliet Bonino Gregory Brown** Sarah Bucolo **Christina Cesarz** Maria Cosma Stephanie Deem **Kendal Duncan** Jessica Ertel Sonja Griesemer Elaine Holehan Theodore Kolva

Macie Kurelia Kathrvn McElwee Chelsea Melcher **Zachary Moser** Jessica Lazo Colleen O'Rourke **Rachel Pleet** Elizabeth Rush **Rachel Seibert Anna Smith** Sonya Stephen **Heather Tellez Corbin Weaver** Samuel Weidner **Stephanie Wert** Madelyn White Mary Kate Whitmoyer New members of the National Junior Honor Society:

Samuel Blanchet

James Cardi, Jr. **Christine Chau** Katie Cush **Grant Davis Christopher Eaton** Sarah Ellington **Noelle Fromuth Paul Gehret** Erica Gleason Mark Goldberg **David Knauer** Michael Kovach Scott McAvov Gabriella Michelson **Zachary Miller** James Naylor **Robert Pattillo Alexander Shields Daniel Sweitzer** Elizabeth Tonneslan Maria Yost

# IN THE NEWS

## MATHCOUNTS + Wyomissing Area School District = Victory!

The team representing Wyomissing Area High School in the 28th annual regional MATHCOUNTS competition brought home the regional championship, securing a spot in the state competition to be held throughout March. The winner of the state competition will represent Pennsylvania in the national competition in Washington, D.C., in May.

Team members Mikayla Ambarian, Brett Driben, Alan Lu, and James Naylor, under the guidance of coaches Colleen Vargo and Betsy Santoro, placed first in the team category of the regional competition. David Knauer placed second in the individual regional competition, winning the opportunity to compete in the state competition.

Congratulations to all of our winners, and good luck in the state competition!

#### **Model UN Team**

Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School's Model UN team placed second in the countywide WorldQuest competition held February 7, 2011, at Albright College. Wyomissing Area has placed in the top three in every year the competition has run. Participants were James Conlin, Jennifer Helinek, Keito Hoshitsuki, Erin Vail, and Gregory L. Brown.

In addition, the Wyomissing Area Model UN team should be commended for their strong performance at the North American Invitational Model UN Conference held by Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., February 19-20, 2011. This is the

largest competition held in the Western Hemisphere with 140 schools bringing more than 3,000 of the best Model UN delegates in the country and abroad. Wyo Area received recognition in seven of the 15 committees in which it participated. Earning accolades were: Keito Hoshitsuki, Joshua Hamsher, Jennifer Helinek, Gregory L. Brown, Douglas Brown, Juliet Bonino, Krysten Dmochowski, Alexander Potcovaru, Robert Pattillo, and Caroline Pattillo.

#### **Spelling Bee**

On January 31, 2011, nineteen students from grades 6-8 competed in the 31st Annual Wyomissing Area and Reading Eagle Company Spelling Bee. To qualify for the bee, students participated in a classroom bee in December. In front of parents and peers, in the Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium, the top 19 spellers were challenged with words from a list provided by the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Reine Abubakar, grade 8, won the spelling bee, and Sarah Rothfleisch, grade 6, was runner-up. Both girls will represent our district in the Berks County Championship Spelling Bee on Monday, March 14, 2011, at the Miller Center for the Arts at 7 p.m.

#### **Poetry Competition**

On February 7, 2011, fifteen high school students participated in the Poetry Out Loud competition held at the Wyomissing Area Jr./Sr. High School. Poetry Out Loud is a national recitation contest created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Each student selected two poems, and the recitations

were judged by faculty members based on criteria established by Poetry Out Loud. The cumulative score from both poem recitations determined the winner of the competition. Brianna Bentz placed third, Maria Amancay Candal-Tribe placed second, and Alexander Potcovaru won the competition. Alex was one of four finalists in the regional competition at Millersville University on February 16, 2011.

#### **BCTC Competition**

Senior **Thomas Zimpelman** placed second at the SkillsUSA district competition in "Internetworking" on January 24, 2011. Tom is a student in the Information Technology – Networking program at Berks Career and Technology Center's East Campus.

#### **Region V Chorus**

Five Wyomissing Area High School students in grades 10, 11, and 12, were chosen for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) 2011 Region V Chorus. These students are among the best singers from every public, private, parochial, charter, and cyber high school in 15 Pennsylvania counties. They participated in the PMEA Region V Concert held on February 24-26, 2011, at Parkland High School. At that festival, they reauditioned for All-State Chorus – the highest level of choral achievement in our state. Selected students are as follows: Soprano II - **Jennifer Helinek**, grade 12; Alto I - Cara Wojciechowski, grade 11; Alto II - Sandra Bennett, grade 10, and **Stephanie Deem**, grade 11; and Tenor -Matthew Ohnsman, grade 12.





The Wyomissing Area School Board's annual reorganization meeting was held on Monday, December 6, 2010. Michelle Davis was re-elected as president, and Gregory Portner was elected vice president. Lawrence Fitzgerald currently holds the office of treasurer, which is decided each May. Corinne Mason, director of Business Affairs, is the board secretary.

Michelle Davis announced the current committee structure would remain in place. Committee chairs are: Curriculum – **Lynn Sakmann**; Technology – Lawrence Fitzgerald; Personnel – **Scott Painter**; Policy – Gregory Portner; Finance – Angel Helm;

Facilities – John Larkin. Ad hoc committee chairs include: Community Relations -Anne Seltzer; Economic Development - Carolyn Bamberger; and Uniform -Lynn Sakmann and Angel Helm.

Committee meetings have been tentatively scheduled as follows: **Curriculum** – 4:30 p.m., Mar. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, June 6, Aug. 1, Sept. 7, Oct. 3, Nov. 7;

**Technology** -3:30 p.m., Mar. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, June 6, July 11, Aug. 1, Sept. 6, Oct. 3, Nov. 7;

**Finance/Facilities** – 11:30 a.m., Mar. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, June 6, Aug. 1, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov. 7; **Personnel/Policy** – 5 p.m., First Tuesday of the month through Nov. 1.

In the event a committee meeting is cancelled, notice will be posted on our website, www.wyoarea.org under the School Board tab/Committee Assignments, as well as on district building doors.

Each month, there are two public board meetings. Business meetings with committee reports will be held the second Monday beginning at 6 p.m. Business meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the fourth Monday. Meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School. Residents are invited to attend

#### The 2011 **Wyomissing Area Board of School Directors**

Back row, from left: Lawrence A. Fitzgerald Scott C. Painter, Esq. David P. Krem, Superintendent John A. Larkin Gregory L. Portner, Vice President

Seated, from left: Anne P. Seltzer Lynn T. Sakmann Michelle M. Davis, President Angel L. Helm Carolyn M. Bamberger

### **Local earned income** tax must be filed by **April 18, 2011**

Anyone who has earned income, regardless of age, for the year 2010, must file a tax return if they lived in the Wyomissing Area School District. Even if your employer has withheld and paid your tax, this return must be completed. This obligation is incurred by anyone who is a wage earner, farmer, unincorporated business (including partnership and individual proprietorship), and all others who received earned income or profits for services rendered.

Failure to file on time will result in a penalty and interest charge of 12% per annum and additional costs of collection. Regulations also provide a \$500 fine for refusal to file or other violations.

Residents of the Wyomissing Area School District are required to file a tax return, even if they have not received a form through the mail. Forms may be acquired by contacting the Berks Earned Income Tax **Collection Bureau** 

920 Van Reed Road, Wyomissing Phone: 610-372-8439 Fax: 610-372-1102 Web: www.berkseit.com



#### Sr. High Drama **Presentation**

Friday, March 18 Saturday, March 19 7:30 p.m.

**Jr. High Drama Presentation** Friday, April 8 Saturday, April 9

**Jr. High Concert** Tuesday, May 10 7:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

**WREC Spring Concert** Thursday, May 12 7:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

#### Sr. High Concert Tuesday, May 17 7:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High School **Auditorium**

**Annual Art Show** Tuesday, May 17 to Thursday, May 19 2:15–3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Jr./Sr. High School "Old Gym"

#### **Grade 4 Concert** Thursday, May 19 6:30 p.m.

Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium

**Grade 3 Concert** Tuesday, May 24 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High School

Auditorium



March 11 Staff In-service School Closed

March 14 Staff In-service School Closed

March 15-25 PSSA Testing Math and Reading

March 28-April 1 PSSA Testing Writing

April 4-8
PSSA Testing
Science

April 11-15
PSSA Testing
Make ups

April 18-22 Spring Break School Closed

April 25 Snow Make-up Day Regular School Day

May 30 Memorial Day School Closed

June 2
Baccalaureate at
Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Atonement
7:30 p.m.

June 3 Commencement 6:30 p.m.

### **FYI: School Calendar**

The 2011–12 school district calendar will not be printed this year. Please refer to our calendar at www.wyoarea.org

for a complete listing of District events including athletic schedules. Up-to-date athletic information including cancellations can be accessed by calling 610-374-0739; option 3 – Athletics

#1 - day's current events or

#2 - day's cancellations updated by 2 p.m.



## **Kindergarten Registration**

CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT AND WILL BE FIVE YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE **SEPTEMBER 1, 2011** ARE ELIGIBLE FOR KINDERGARTEN.

Important information has been sent to parents. The preregistration form you received should have been returned to the Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. When that form is received at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, a packet containing all forms for registration will be mailed to you. As soon as you have all the information needed, please contact Barb Troxel at 610-374-0739, extension 1115, to set up an appointment to register your child. Orientation sessions are scheduled for March 30, 31, and April 1, 2011. Please try to have your registration appointment with Barb Troxel prior to the orientation sessions.

If your child, or the child of someone you know, is eligible for kindergarten and the parent has not received the preregistration information, please contact Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center at 610-374-0739, extension 4100, as soon as possible.

#### **Notice to Parents**

The Wyomissing Area School District believes in an effective public relations program that includes district initiated coverage of school activities in district publications and on the district web site. However, respecting the right to privacy, it is requested that parents/guardians notify the student's building office if there are objections to their child's photograph or videotaped image appearing in such publications. Unless otherwise notified, the district will assume it has consent for release of a child's name and/or photograph for possible publication during the 2010-11 school year.



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Official publication of the Wyomissing Area School District

This newsletter is published for the citizens of the Wyomissing Area School District. We welcome your ideas, comments, and suggestions.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this publication, please contact David P. Krem, superintendent, at 610-374-0739, ext. 1106, or dkrem@wyoarea.org via e-mail.

Wyomissing Area School District is an equal opportunity institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504.

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### **Our Mission:**

The Wyomissing Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, is committed to:

- educate all students to their fullest potential
- provide all students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to be successful in the 21st century
- encourage all students to be productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners.