



December 21, 2007

Hoof Beats

Newsletter of the Middle Creek High School PTSA

President's Message

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

The last days of school this year were filled with a flurry of activity as students submitted Artwork, Creative Writing entries, and Photographs to be entered in the National PTA Reflections contest. The theme this year, **I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY...** was illustrated in so many different ways, but all had the same clear message... Our young men and women intend to make a difference in their community. Judging from their entries, no one could doubt they will do just that. The MCHS PTSA goal is to support the youth in our schools. We hope that providing this opportunity to compete with their peers, has also provided them a mechanism to look within and explore ways they can make a difference in their world.

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Middle Creek Exam Schedule

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

(Early Release)

7:25 - 10:25 1st Period Exam

10:25 - 10:31 Class Change

10:31 - 11:30 2nd Period Class

11:35 Buses Depart

MONDAY, JANUARY 14

(Early Release)

7:25 - 10:25 2nd Period Exam

10:25 - 10:31 Class Change

10:31 - 11:30 3rd Period Class

11:35 Buses Depart

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

(Early Release)

7:25 - 10:25 3rd Period Exam

10:25 - 10:31 Class Change

10:31 - 11:30 4th Period Class

11:35 Buses Depart

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

(Early Release)

7:25 - 10:25 4th Period Exam

10:30 Buses Depart

10:30 - 1:30 EOC Retest #1

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

(Make-up Day)

7:25 - 10:25 EOC Retest #1

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

(Teacher Workday)

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

(Holiday)

John Buchanan

John Randolph Buchanan, Jr., a junior at Middle Creek High School, died as a result of a tragic accident on November 5, 2007, one week before his 17th birthday on November 10. The News & Observer described John as "a friendly, lanky kid hopelessly devoted to polyurethane wheels, maple plywood, and the pursuit of wicked air." His classmates, friends, and teachers at the Creek remember a funny, friendly, artistic, talented guy known by his skateboard friends as Peter Pan for his positive attitude.

John is survived by his parents, John "Savage" Buchanan and Leah Dawn Buchanan, an older sister, Tara Buchanan, and younger sister Leah Elizabeth, an eighth grade student at West Lake Middle School, other relatives, and many friends.

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On Friday, November 9, friends and classmates dedicated the morning news program to John. A video created by his classmates to celebrate his life along with several of his digital creations and productions were shown continuously in the Media Center during all lunches that day. Classmates from his art class created a collage of symbols of his life in his parking space.

For those most touched by John's life, who search their own hearts for meaning, remember Peter Pan's directions: "Take the second star to the right and then straight on till morning."

<http://rememberjohnbuchanan.com>

Student Directories

Student directories were delivered to all students with PTSA Family Memberships. Extra directories are available for purchase for \$5.00 in the Front Office. A \$25 mall gift certificate was purchased and taken to Principal Williams who presented it to the cover artist.

President's Message

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Please consider a generous contribution to your student's PTSA. We use the funds donated to improve their school, purchase rewards for students, and provide tools for classroom use. Teacher incentives help energize our staff to keep learning exciting for the students. Your contribution may even be tax deductible. See the note below from the IRS web page. Enjoy every moment of this wondrous time of the year.

Jan Johnson, President

All Profit Fundraiser

To help taxpayers plan their holiday-season and year-end donations, the IRS offers the following additional reminders:
Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, checks count for 2007 as long as they are mailed in this year.

For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Schedule A can claim a deduction for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available to people who choose the standard deduction, including anyone who files a short form (1040A or 1040EZ). A taxpayer will have a tax savings only if the total itemized deductions (mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, etc.) exceeds the standard deduction. Use the 2006 Schedule A, available now on IRS.gov, to determine whether itemizing is better than claiming the standard deduction.

Stampede Club 50/50 Raffle

In an effort to increase attendance at home Basketball games a 50/50 raffle is going to be held during $\frac{1}{2}$ time at the games. The person whose ticket is drawn will have the chance to shoot for a basket from half court. If they make the basket, they win half of the proceeds. If not, the money collected for the night rolls over to the next home game and so on. Tickets are \$1.00. We need about 3 volunteers to help sell raffle tickets at lunch time on Friday. The volunteer can either work the entire lunch period or just the a, b or c lunch time. The times are 10:35-11:10; 11:20-12:00; 12:10-12:45. If you are interested in helping out with this, please contact Nadia LoVerde at nadiahasgreatkids@yahoo.com or by phone at 662-9883. You can also contact Lewis Owens (lowens1@wcpss.net) if you have any questions regarding this fundraising event.

As always, thank you for your support.

Julie McRae, Secretary
MCHS Stampede Club

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