

Westpark Journal
March 2010
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Dr. Erica L. Hoegh, Principal



Principal's Notes

The State and IUSD Budget situation is difficult and trying. The uncertainty of programs and staffing for the 2010-2011 school year is hard on the entire IUSD and Westpark community. I appreciate the resiliency and positive attitude of our community in these hard times and the support that you have shown financially and with your time to mitigate the difficult decisions and stress we all face. This pulling together and demonstration of AIR will help us continue to set and meet the high expectations that are the hallmarks of IUSD. To this end, I want to make note of just a few of the amazing members of the Westpark family that give so much:

The PTA members that made Bingo Night and the Silent Auction Night such a success; what a fun night-not only did you raise money to support valuable programs; the most important part is that families enjoyed each other! Our Kids Run O.C. crew-it is great to see parents, teachers, and students out running and exercising and the program extending into the classroom. The Boy Scouts that supported our Eagle Scout to beautify our front planter and add recycling bins to the school; community service has become part and parcel of our AIR values. And of course our incredible teachers and instructional assistants who each and every day work to ensure that the academic and social needs of their students are met regardless if a child is on his or her roster or not; all Westpark students are our students!

I hope that you will all attend our Safe Moves Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Sponsored by the City of Irvine and a Federal Grant, this is a free family event in which your entire family will have the opportunity to scale a climbing wall, participate in a traffic obstacle course, test how far you can walk on treadmills, and learn more about commuting through walking and riding. Everyone that attends will be entered into a drawing for a bike and helmet!

We wrapped up the third quarter this past week. Once again teachers are working on report cards to provide students feedback regarding progress. Please take the time to review your child's report card for the second trimester and use it to measure growth from the first trimester and set goals together for the last trimester. If you are having a spring conference use this time with your child's teacher to set new goals as well.

I wrap up this month's Principal's Notes section of the newsletter on a personal note. March will be the last time I write this newsletter as Dr. Hoegh. As many of you know I was engaged last fall and will be getting married over our Spring Recess. I will be going by my married name, Erica Hawkes; so if your children start to say their principal is Dr. Hawkes, it is still me! ☺

Erica L. Hoegh

2010 Census



The decennial census is critical to our state and local funding. The stakes are high; an accurate count of the local population helps to ensure that our community receives its fair share of federal funding. This funding includes resources for services, such as health care, education, and roads. There are only ten questions to answer and it is estimated to only take a maximum of 10 minutes to complete. Most 2010 Census questionnaires will be delivered from March 15-17, 2010 and all are due by April 15, 2010. Here is some history

behind the United States Census

The United States Census is a decennial census mandated by the United States Constitution. The population is enumerated every 10 years and the results are used to allocate Congressional seats (congressional apportionment), electoral votes, and government program funding. Some states or local jurisdictions also conduct local censuses.

The census is performed by the United States Census Bureau. The first census after the American Revolution was taken in 1790, under Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson; there have been 21 federal censuses since that time. The last national census was held in 2000 and the next census is scheduled this year. The information the census collects helps to determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and other vital services including education and children's health care. Irvine had the second lowest response rate in the County in 2000. Please take the time to read your questionnaire and return it when you receive it this March. Here are some links for more information.

<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/index.php>

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>

<http://www.census.gov/schools/facts/>

Science News

Congratulations to all of our Westpark inventors. Here are the results of the Astounding Invention Fair at IVC held in January. There were many wonderful projects to view and fun science activities for people of all ages to enjoy. Mrs. Anthony hopes to see you there next year!

4	Outstanding Invention Division	Albert Ma	Westpark	Irvine	Expandable Sofa & Doggie Seat
4	Winner Division	Alexander Ma	Westpark	Irvine	Environmentally Friendly Truck
5	Winner Honorable Mention	Alexander Shih	Westpark	Irvine	Smoke Buster
5	Honorable Mention	Anna Pan	Westpark	Irvine	Nightowl Pillowcase
4	Honorable Mention	Emelie Mehl	Westpark	Irvine	The Sea Cleaner
4	Honorable Mention	Hannah Kim	Westpark	Irvine	Rain Detector Parking Space Sensor & Display Screen
5	Mention Outstanding Division	Jeffrey Yang	Westpark	Irvine	The Multi Utensil
5	Winner Division	Jocelyn Leung	Westpark	Irvine	The Multi Utensil
5	Winner Division	Kayla Pecanic	Westpark	Irvine	Marshmallow Turner
5	Winner	Megan Lee	Westpark	Irvine	Water Monitor

5	Division Winner	Michael Dang	Westpark	Irvine	Pokeless Pouch
5	Outstanding Invention Honorable	Nancy Wu	Westpark	Irvine	Event Reminder Alarm Clock
4	Mention Honorable	Robert Jacobs	Westpark	Irvine	Headphone Safety Helmet
5	Mention Division	Samuel Anavim	Westpark	Irvine	Automatic Filing System
5	Winner	Vincent Wu	Westpark	Irvine	Futuristic Brake

The annual IUSD Science Fair, sponsored by Broadcom this year, is held on March 3 at Northwood High School. We will have information regarding results in the next newsletter!

IUSD News

Enrollment/Registration for the 2010-2011 School Year

If you have an incoming Kindergarten student, you can begin the [On-line enrollment](#) process on Friday, March 5, 2010. Kindergarten-Round-Up will be on Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 5:30-6:30.

Residency Verification/Affidavits/Return to Westpark Information

It is time to complete the annual Residency Verification, Affidavit, and Return to Westpark forms again. Forms went home in conduits and via email on February 25, 2010. Thank you to those that have already returned the forms. We would like to have the forms returned by March 5, 2010. If you need an additional copy of any of the forms, please see our homepage.

Budget

As I continue to report, the budget news is not positive. The IUSD School Board will make program cut decisions at its March 16, 2010 school board meeting. I encourage you to visit the link on our homepage for the latest information.

IPSF News

IPSF is responding to the budget challenges facing all 27,000 students by extending its [5-Week Campaign](#) to raise funds for Classroom Support until March 15. IUSD and IPSF are asking for your help to commit as much as possible. 100% of the funds donated to IPSF will go directly to IUSD for class size support.

Please see the following links for more IPSF information:

[IPSF FAQ's](#)

[Class Size Campaign Flyers](#)

Thank you to those of you that supported the Dine Out. Help Out event; it was a great success! Thank you to our own Yvonne Cheung whose family restaurant participated in the event!

Upcoming Events

3/2-Read Across America Day

3/10 Jog-a-Thon-note this is a change from the original date of 3/5

3/10-PTA Meeting

3/12-Minimum Day for Grades 4-6 **ONLY**

3/15- Minimum Day for Grades 4-6 **ONLY**

3/16-3/19-Spring Conferences for Grades K-6-Minimum Days all days

3/18-Report Cards go home

3/24 and 3/25-PTA School Play

3/25-SSC Meeting
3/26-Spirit Day
3/26-Minimum Day
3/27-4/18-Spring Recess
4/19-School Resumes

PTA

The annual jog-a-thon will be Wednesday, March 10th! Get your running shoes ready! Thank you to Heather Green for all her hard work to make this fun, community event happen!

The popular PTA Scrip Program is still on! Thank you to Laurie Moore for her coordination of this program! Please see the PTA page on our website for the current order form and flyer.

The annual PTA musical is in full swing. Ingrid Green and her cadre of volunteers are in the home stretch of getting our kids prepared to present the "Mad Hatter." I hope you will attend one or both shows on March 24th/25th.

Math and Music

Math Team

Each Year 6th grade teacher Nancy Maguire fields a fine team to send to the Orange County Math Field Day. Ms. Maguire works with these students throughout the winter and spring in preparation for the May contest. This year the team will compete against other South County schools on May 22, 2010.

Congratulations this year's representatives:

4th Grade: Andy, Aaditya, Orson, Altan, and alternate Lucy

5th Grade Eric, Nathan, Anna, Vincent, and alternate Rebecca

6th Grade Joseph, Tristan, Jen-Yeu, Clare, and alternate Jason

Honor Orchestra, Honor Chamber Strings and Honor Chorus

Westpark is very well represented in this year's Honor Concert. The concert will be held on April 27, 2010. The concert is an amazing experience; I hope you can all attend. Look for ticket information from the Irvine Public Schools Foundation. Here are our representatives to the 2010 concert:

5th

Jeffrey Y

Tracey

Sunny S

Stephanie K

Soumya K

6th

Steven Z (winds)

Iona B

Ariana P

Joseph H

Jason W

Tristan M

Eumin L

Traffic News from the Irvine Police Department

Westpark and the entire Crossroads area of Irvine have a new traffic officer, Jay Indelicato. As part of his ongoing education of parents and students regarding traffic safety around the school Officer Indelicato is going to share tips to place in our newsletter. His first tip addresses parking issues.

["Sec. 6-3-573. - No parking.](#)

It shall be unlawful to park any motor vehicle immediately adjacent to or opposite any curb which has been painted red or bears a sign indicating that no parking is permitted or, where there are no curbs, within any area which has been signposted as a "No-Parking" area.

This is an Irvine Municipal Code section. Among other things, it pertains to posted No-Parking areas near schools that are designated as loading zones. These loading zones are for the immediate loading and unloading of passengers or items. Vehicles are not to be left unattended, nor are these areas to be used to sit and wait for students to get out of school."

Jay Indelicato

Crossroads Area Traffic Officer



Westpark Kids Run the OC



Lost and Found

Throughout the winter, we accumulate a large number of sweaters, sweatshirts, and jackets. If your child is missing any of these articles, please ask them to take a few minutes and visit the lost and found racks located near the lunch tables. Please be advised that any items not claimed by Spring Recess will be donated to charitable organizations. Lonnie will also place items in front of the school during Conference Week, the week of March 15-19.

Green Team

Our incredible Green Team continues to do a wonderful job managing the cans, bottles, and paper that are recycled at Westpark weekly. The entire Westpark community thanks Ms. Maguire for her leadership and her 6th graders for their stewardship! On Wednesday, March 17th, the Green Team will be marking St. Patrick's day with an extra "Green," theme with a school wide can and bottle drive. Bring in your cans and bottles (no glass please) and the Green Team will recycle for Westpark!