

Winthrop High School PTC Notes

March 18,2019

1. Class Updates

- a. Seniors- Prom invitations are in and will be distributed to students in the next couple of weeks. Watch the class Instagram page and listen to the morning announcements for ticket sale dates for the Prom and Overnight. Prom tickets are \$25 for senior class members and \$50 for guests (underclassmen or non-Winthrop students). Overnight tickets are \$10. Russo's forms will be available for seniors, underclassmen and non-WHS guests. The 5th Annual Easter Bake Sale will be held Saturday, April 20th. Bakers are needed.
 - b. Juniors-(Joe Mahoney) Junior class is planning the sophomore/junior social at the Cottage Park Yacht Club May 11th to be catered by Millie's Kitchen; Spring Bake Sale will be on June 8th at French Square during the Town Wide Yard Sale; The class is also planning for the Senior Breakfast on May 30th.
 - c. Sophomores – There will be a Paint Night fundraiser at the Winthrop Golf Club on Thursday, April 25th. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with light refreshments and raffles. Tickets are \$30 and space is limited. Contact Marissa Ferrara for tickets. All proceeds will be donated to the Class of 2021. The class has also been contacting venues for their senior prom to get pricing and availability. Responsible for senior class night set up and checking in. Also responsible for desserts for the sophomore/junior social.
 - d. Freshmen-Made \$700 at the basketball game concession stand; they will also be holding a concession stand at the Viking Color Run on April 27th at Deer Island. Another concession stand will be at the graduation.
 - e. STUCO and 21st Century are planning the Viking Color Run at Deer Island on April 27th.
2. LeighAnn Eruzione from CASA spoke about the Prevention Coalition in the community for risky behaviors and the Diversion Program. "The Diversion Program will offer the juvenile who commits a harmful act an opportunity to be diverted from the juvenile court system to remedy the harm and to prevent the juvenile from having a damaging court record. The student must be new participant in the diversion process; the offense must be on a preapproved list of eligible offenses and the student and parents or guardians must voluntarily agree to participate in the program." The Youth Advisory is located at the E.B. Newton Building. Drop-In Events are Tuesday for Middle School, Thursday for High School and Wednesday for LGBTQ community. CASA also provides Mental Health/Suicide Prevention Training where Community Service hours can be earned.
- a. The data from the Prevention Needs Assessment Survey from 2018 were presented.
 - b. 73% of the Winthrop High School students took the survey. Some of the findings are as follows:
 - i. **Alcohol:** 30% of the students are reporting alcohol consumption within the last 30 days before the survey. Winthrop binge drinking (5+ drinks) are higher than the state average.

- ii. **Vaping:** 40% of the students have reported that they are vaping. The bathroom seems to be the most popular location. Vaping is a Level Four offense. See the school handbook for student consequences. CASA holds quarterly meetings on Vaping at the E.B. Newton Building. The next meeting is March 27th at 5:30 p.m. Two hours of community service will be given for attendance.
- iii. **Mental Health:** 40% of the students felt depressed at some time last year. Findings are up from 30% reported in 2016. CASA is working with Fire, Police and the Superintendent to prepare staff on how to deal with mental health issues.
- iv. **Sexual Health:** Middle schoolers are now being asked if they can identify with the LGBTQ community. Of sexually active students, a large population does not use protection. 10% of the student body in the 6-12 grade range are sexually active. Of this 10% population, 18% feel they were forced to do something they did not want to do.
- v. **School Safety:** School fighting is going down. Safety is on the rise. Reports of bullying are higher in the middle school than in the high school. More students report that it is cool to defend somebody who is being bullied.
- vi. **Cyberbullying:** Highest numbers were reported in the current 11th grade.
- vii. **CASA is trying to reach the parents and educate them regarding the survey findings.** Please reach out to LeighAnn 617-207-1627 if you would like to host a coffee hour at your house to learn more about what is happening with Winthrop's youth in our schools and what you can do about it.

3. End of the Year PTC Events

- a. 10% Breakfast- Run by Tina. It will be held at the Cottage Park Yacht Club on Friday, May 10th.
- b. Staff Appreciation- Committee chairpersons are Jodee Harris and Tanji Cifuni - should be all set with volunteers.
- c. Graduation reception- Deb Chavis is the Chairperson-immediately after the graduation ceremony, families are invited to come to the cafeteria for coffee and desserts. Volunteers are still needed to help set up and break down. All board members have a child who will be graduating. Please contact Deb if you are able to help out.

4. Spring Happenings

- a. Wellness week will be held the week before the April break from April 8th-12th. Administration has been working with school nurses. The CASA survey drives the topics which become the focus for Wellness Week. Some of the topics that will be addressed are substance abuse, physical health, and healthy relationships. There will also be assemblies with speakers and activities planned during lunch. Spread the Word to End the Word assembly will be on the Friday before the vacation
- b. Seniors who have a 90%+ average to date in a class will be exempt from taking the final for that class, but they must still be in attendance.

- c. Check out the Principal's Blog on the school website to find out some of the latest news about what our students are doing.
 - d. Scholarships from outside organizations are posted on the school website. Students must apply for the scholarships by filling out a form online. Essays may be a requirement as well as transcripts. Please encourage your senior to see Guidance as soon as possible if transcripts are required as part of the application. The deadline is the Sunday night at midnight on April 14th, but any requests from Guidance MUST be made well in advance of the end of Wellness Week. In addition to the scholarships posted on the website, an additional 70 awards will be determined by the scholarship committee and presented on the nights of Class Night and Graduation. In order to be eligible, the Senior Exit Survey must be completed. No application is needed.
 - e. The Facella Scholarships require the CSS Profile to be submitted (a fee is involved). In addition, interested seniors must come in at 7 a.m. on Thursday, April 25th, when the prompt will be given for the required essay. Students will have until the start of classes to complete the essay.
 - f. Detective Armistead will be holding a women's self defense class for all interested female seniors on Tuesday, April 9th from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.
 - g. Guidance will ask each student which college to send final transcripts to when they pick up their cap and gown.
 - h. Parents can check their student's course selections on IPass, along with teacher recommendations.
5. Clothing Drive
- a. A spring clothing drive will once again be held in June.
 - b. Please spread the word to family and friends to start bagging gently used children's and adult clothing, shoes (laces tied together), belts, handbags, bedding, curtains, linens, and stuffed animals. All items must be clean, dry and free from grease and oil. This is one of our biggest fundraisers and helps to fund activities and events for our students. The Winthrop community has always been very supportive and we have always filled the truck. More information will follow.