

Good Evening and welcome to Meet the Teacher Night. Your involvement and enthusiasm is exciting as we kick off another great year at Wakefield High School.

I am Sandy Gasper, your PTSA President. I want to take a few minutes to fill you in on the wonderful programs your donations, membership and volunteer support provides our school. I want to personally thank our hardworking and dedicated Executive Board and committee members along with our great volunteers and the staff, faculty and students of WHS.

Our formal business at hand involves our membership drive and yearly budget. If you have already signed up as a PTSA member or intend to tonight, we need you to come by our table in the commons area and approve our annual budget. Copies of the budget are posted on our bulletin board by the office and at our table.

A portion of each membership dollar goes to support local, state and national PTA. One of the missions of the PTA is to advocate for adequate funding for schools, improve the juvenile justice system, and develop a consistent, clear academic standard that ensure all children are college and career ready for the future.

The rest of your membership dollar and any donation goes directly to Wakefield High School PTSA. and it's all about the W...and for us that means

Website: Who, what, when, where and why..is all on the schools website. PTSA is under the Parent and Community Programs tab. And we have a Facebook page! Come by our table and pick up our news bulletin and see what is going on.

Wonderful! – That is what our Mistletoe Market is. Mark your calendar for Saturday November 13. Arts and craft vendors, small businesses, bake sale, raffle, food. It is a wonderful community event that attracts over 2000 shoppers. You won't want to miss it.

Working hard! That is our students, faculty and staff: Our PTSA works with the school to organize programs for senior scholarships, academic achievement, positive behavior and appreciation functions.

And lastly, working together! Our Power of Parent or guardian series will kick off early November with our first community meeting entitled: Reality Check: Should I be concerned. We will bring in professional speakers to address issues that our teens face: academic pressures, social networking, safe driving habits, and drug/alcohol use. Let's fill that auditorium. It is really important for you to be connected.

The Just Think First ...your choices count program is in it's 5th year. In early spring of 2011, WHS and the PTSA will release it's second video documentary, addressing the challenges & concerns of drug and alcohol use. Local and national speakers will address our student body at assemblies throughout the year. Go to the school website often, come to our Principal Coffees and listen for your weekly phone messages to get all the information.

Once again, come by our tables to sign up, approve our budget and get important information to stay involved. With the state's budget cuts affecting our school, Wakefield High needs your support more than ever. I encourage every parent to join our PTSA and volunteer your time to support our programs. And on behalf of the PTSA, I thank you for your time and effort..

Sandy Gasper
PTSA President
Wakefield High School