

West Nichols Hills Elementary School

September 19, 2005
Volume 1, Issue 2

Mr. John Addison, Principal



*Don't let what you
cannot do interfere
with what you
can do.
-John Wooden*

Also Happening This Week

- ◆ The Fall Fundraiser packets went out last Friday, September 16th.
- ◆ Fundraiser sales will continue this week and next.
- ◆ Fundraiser orders will be turned in on Monday, October 3rd.
- ◆

A Few Notes from Mr. Addison

On September 30th, just 6 weeks into the school year, we will host our first Parent-Teacher Conference Day. As with all opportunities for parents and teachers to talk about the progress and success of their children, these conferences are very important and should not be missed.

Here are some conference suggestions for parents that come from a website called "Teachers and Families." See the complete article at <http://www.teachersandfamilies.com/open/parent/parent-tchr4.cfm>.

- Talk with your child before the conference. Find out if they have any concerns, and assure them that conferences are a way for parents to learn what their children are doing in school, and to seek ways to help them.
- Be familiar with your child's homework and assignments, and how they seem to be doing on them.

- Prepare a list of questions you want to ask your child's teacher concerning their learning, as well as their behavior.
- Be ready to collaborate. Teachers will share the good news with you, as well as any difficulties your child seems to be having. Remember that teachers have your child's best interest in mind and are ready to work together with you.
- If you don't feel you've heard it, ask about the positive. "What does my child do well? What are his/her strengths?"
- And, don't be afraid to ask questions. Ask for further explanations, or about anything you don't seem to understand.

Thank you parents! We are looking forward to visiting with you on Conference Day!

Open House Night, or "Mi Casa es Su Casa"

Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. will be Open House at West Nichols Hills Elementary.

Parents and family members are invited to look around the school, visit your child's classroom, see their work, and visit with their teachers.

This will also be a time for parents to sign up for a conference time on Friday, September 30th.

Following Open House at 7:00 p.m. will be a PTA meeting for the general

membership for the purpose of approving the annual budget. All parents are invited to attend.

If you have not yet joined PTA, don't let that stop you from attending. There will also be someone there to accept your \$4 and sign you up as a new member.

For more information on PTA, go to www.pta.org, and for information about PTA in Oklahoma, visit www.okpta.org.



Our WILDCATS are
the best!

*When written in
Chinese, the
"crisis" is
composed of two
characters.
One represents
danger, and the
other represents
opportunity.
-John F. Kennedy*

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We're on the Web!
[http://www.okcps.org/
sch/el/wnhills.htm](http://www.okcps.org/sch/el/wnhills.htm)

Passing the PASS Objectives

Have you ever wondered just how schools decide what to teach at each grade level?

Have you ever found yourself wondering, or even saying out loud to someone, that you don't remember learning what your child is learning at such an early age?

Well, there is method to our madness, and a guide that all schools in Oklahoma must follow. The guide is called the "Priority Academic Student Skills," and is what we in education commonly refer to as "PASS."

The PASS Objectives, or state curriculum, has been in existence since

the 1993-94 school year, and has been updated since. The most recent revision was in March 2005.

When we test students in the spring, starting at the 3rd grade level, they are tested on the skills found in PASS.

Why share this information with you? Quite simply, because the education of your children is a common goal, and the more you know, the more we can work together.

The PASS Objectives can be found online at
[http://www.sde.state.ok.us/home/
home01_test.html?http://www.sde.
state.ok.us/publ/pass.html!](http://www.sde.state.ok.us/home/home01_test.html?http://www.sde.state.ok.us/publ/pass.html)

Concern for "Car Riders"

Parents - a word of caution about dropping off and picking up your children at our main school entrance.

If you are dropping off your child in the morning, please pull through the driveway, letting them off on the sidewalk next to the school.

If you must release them on the other side of the fence, and they must cross the driveway, please get out of your car and walk with them.

Also, if you are picking up your child in the afternoon, please pull through the driveway or park along the side of the

street closest to the school property.

If you must park on the other side of the street, please get out of your car, come across to get them, and walk back across the street with them. Do not wave or motion them to cross the street by themselves.

These are our busiest traffic times of the day, and there are simply too many vehicles around to assume that everyone is watching as closely as they should.

Thank you for your care and your cooperation.

Just for Laughs

Teacher: What is the plural of mouse?

Student: Mice.

Teacher: Good! Now what is the plural of baby?

Student: Twins!

Student: I sure wished we lived in the olden days.

Teacher: Why is that?

Student: Then we wouldn't have so much history to learn!

Teacher: Does anyone know which

month has 28 days?

Students: They ALL have 28 days!

Teacher: Can anyone tell me how many seconds there are in a year?

Student: There are 12; *January 2nd, February 2nd...!*