



Cougar Pause

Apex High School

Published by the PTSA

May 2008

Next PTSA Meeting
May 8
7:00 P.M.

Dates to Remember

May

- 1 Early Release Day
11:30 AM
- 2 Teacher Workday
- 3 Prom
- May 4 through 10
Teacher Appreciation Week
- 8 PTSA Meeting 7 PM
- 23 Senior Day/Awards
- 26 Memorial Day Holiday

June

- June 4 through 10
Exams
- 8 Baccalaureate Service
3 PM
- 10 Last Day of School
- 11 Graduation Rehearsal
Reynolds Coliseum 10 AM
- 14 Graduation
Reynolds Coliseum 5 PM

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for the Gifted 4



From the PTSA President

This will be the last Cougar Pause newsletter for the 2007-08 year. We'll have one more PTSA meeting – Thursday, May 8 at 7:00 pm in the media center, and everyone is welcome to attend. At our last PTSA meeting we elected new officers. Linda Colhoun (VP of Programs), Cindy Wiseman (Secretary), and I will return to serve second terms. Karen O'Byrne will be the new VP of Communications, and Jennie Barrett will be the new Treasurer. I would like to thank Linda Bruggers (current VP of Communications) and Denise Franz (current Treasurer) for their MANY hours of service this year. Linda was the inspiration behind the "Meet the Staff/Department" articles that have appeared in the newsletters this year, and Denise has kept the PTSA financial records sound. We're lucky that both of them will remain active and chair PTSA committees next year.

You'll notice that the PTSA has two VPs - a VP of Communications and a VP of

Programs. We gave the VPs these names because our focus this year has been to increase communications and offer programs. The PTSA weekly emails, monthly newsletter, and website (the PTSA link from school website) give the parents more information than we've ever had. The PTSA offered an internet safety program last fall as well as a personal safety program this spring. We're already discussing plans for next year's programs.

The school year is ending, but PTSA volunteers will continue to work over the summer to prepare for next year. Look for the membership form, volunteer form, and other information in next August's mailing when the schedules arrive. If you'd like to volunteer or if you have suggestions on how the PTSA might improve, please send an email to apexpta@gmail.com.

Best wishes to the class of 2008!

Anne Williams, AHS PTSA President

Release of Information Forms

On April 23, forms were handed out to students regarding release of information. Please look at this form and only sign and return it if you DO NOT want your student's information released to the military, institutions of higher education and the school directory. If you sign this form, it will be

in effect for the duration of your child's high school career. Please contact Karen Graham (registrar) if you have any questions.

Karen Graham,
Registrar, Apex High School

Ticket sales and the fundraising provided by the Cougar Club provide the dollars needed for uniforms, referee fees, equipment, improvements made to playing fields, supplies, etc.



Mr. Phillips, a graduate of UNCW has been involved in baseball for nearly 50 years in some capacity.

Del Phillips

Apex High School's Athletic Director Del Phillips has the responsibility of overseeing 25 different sports, and 35 teams (since some sports have both varsity and junior varsity teams).

His job as AD is largely scheduling (fields and marking fields, transportation to away events, make up games/meets, etc.) and budgeting. Mr. Phillips and the coaching staff also provide the necessary field upkeep (grass mowing and fertilizing for example). Wake County contributes a TOTAL of \$950 annually out of their budget to provide for the operation of these 35 teams! Ticket sales and the fundraising provided by the Cougar Club provide the dollars needed for uniforms, referee fees, equipment, improvements made to playing fields, supplies, etc. Beginning to understand the importance of the Cougar Club to all athletics at AHS?

Even with the support of the Cougar Club and ticket sales, teams often need/want additional equipment that goes beyond what can be provided from the funds available. To contain costs, Mr. Phillips tries to keep uniforms on a 4-year rotation (the price tag for providing uniforms to a JV and varsity team is approximately \$3000). Replacing uniforms for 6-7 sports per year is a hit to the budget. Many sports teams rely on additional fundraising to bridge the gap between what the budget can provide and what the team needs/wants.

The majority of our teams are coached by Wake County faculty (32) with the largest number being at AHS (27). No surprise there. You may not know however, that 13 of our current

coaches are non-Wake County employees. Mr. Phillips emphasized that running an athletic program of this size could not be accomplished without these outside coaches. Most sports pay a small stipend to the head coach and possibly the assistant coach. Additional coaches serve on a volunteer basis.

Mr. Phillips, a graduate of UNCW, is originally from Sanford and has been involved in baseball for nearly 50 years in some capacity—as a player, coach, etc. His first introduction to baseball was as a batboy for his dad when he was only 3 years old. He served as varsity baseball coach at Apex before becoming Athletic Director. Mr. Phillips considers himself fortunate to be at AHS where athletics, activities and academics come together to provide the best high school experience for our kids. Having been in and around Wake County for many years, he attributes the success of the athletic program at Apex High to several things:

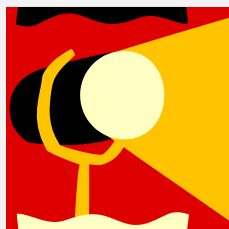
- The administration's support of the athletic program
- Dedicated coaching staff
- The Cougar Club
- Great kids
- Tremendous community support
- Wonderful groundwork laid by former AD Ed Tindal

State Championship trophies are proof that he is right. Equally important however, is the positive impact athletics can have on the individual student, with or without a championship.

GO COUGARS!!

Linda Bruggers

The Athletics Department will use a new computer software in 2008-2009.



For the first time we are holding a fundraising campaign specifically for our theater.

Apex High Athletics News

Wake County has new computer software that will make information gathering and dissemination easier beginning in the 2008-2009 academic year. This new program, The Coaching Staff, will be accessed via the Apex High School website, Sports. Parents and students will enter contact information (email address, cell phone, land line and preferred contact method) and sports in which students are participating. This

system will contact affected students/parents regarding schedule changes to practices and games. The system will also alert the coaching staff to expiring sports physicals and other administrative details. This new enhancement will also provide for easy access to schedules for games and meets. Look for more information on this feature in upcoming Cougar Pause and Cougar Notes.

Our Talented AHS Students Need Help to Light the Stage

Have you been fortunate enough to see the productions our award-winning Fine Arts Department performs? Then you know of the amazing job they do despite their limited facilities and financial resources. The children love producing top quality plays but their old, hand-me-down lighting often "leaves them in the dark!" For the first time we are holding a fundraising campaign specifically for our theater. To raise money for new light dimmer packs we are asking our Apex families and friends to please consider making a tax-deductible donation.

There are several ways you can help us with the goal of three new light dimmer packs for the theater.

Make a tax-free donation today. Any and all donation amounts are greatly appreciated!

Ask your employers, families, and friends to make a charitable donation to our cause. Many employers match contributions-perhaps yours is one of them?

Ask companies you do business with to consider making a donation and sharing an ad in the upcoming Drama III/IV production of "Much Ado about Nothing- A Musical Adaptation." Advertisement forms may be picked up at the Drama Dept. office.

Please help by sending your check in today. Your check may be delivered to Gina Winter, Drama Dept., Apex High School or mailed to AHS Chorus Boosters, 106 Oak Pine Drive, Apex, NC 27502. Please provide email or address information if you would like a receipt forwarded to you for your records. For questions please contact Trish Brown, 387-4235, or email Trish at pbrown@wcpss.net.

Apex High School
1501 Laura Duncan Road
Apex, NC 27502-1599

School Phone
387-2208

Attendance
387-2226

Driver's Ed.
387-3019

Guidance
387-2215

School website:
<http://apexhs.wcpss.net/>

PTSA website:
<http://www.teacherweb.com/NC/ApexHigh/PTSA/>



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
<http://www.teacherweb.com/NC/ApexHigh/PTSA/>

Thank You

Thanks to all the many, many volunteers on the hospitality committee this year for your candy, cookies, salads, etc..but especially your time!! A special thanks to Lora and Barbara - couldn't have done it

without you. Thanks again for everyone being so willing to do whatever was necessary.

Marylou Simpson

Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge

The Free Enterprise Leadership Challenge (FELC) is a 5 day residential camp where you'll learn about free market economics, how to create your own business and discover your leadership potential. There are two sessions in June at Wingate University in Wingate, NC or Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC. The only cost is a \$50 application fee.

To register online visit

www.jessehelmscenter.org/programs/felc.asp. You may also call the Helms Center at (704) 233-1776 ext. 8. Acceptance is on a first-come basis.

APEX HIGH SCHOOL PTSA

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