

# Wildcat PTA Weekly

November 17, 2008



**CHOOSE  
WOODROW**

Send notices and information to be shared with WWPTA members and Woodrow Community. [PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net) or [schuerger7@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schuerger7@sbcglobal.net)  
Check out the website for photos, newsletters and more: [www.woodrowwildcats.org](http://www.woodrowwildcats.org)

## Woodrow PTA Supports Redesign Proposal!

*The following is a letter from Emily Martin, WWHSPTA President pledging support to Principal Ruth Vail for the High School Redesign Plan that has been submitted to DISD for approval! The PTA joins the WW SBDM in their support of this ambitious plan. Look for more details to come.*

November 7, 2008  
Dear Ms. Vail,

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Woodrow Wilson High School PTA unanimously voted to endorse your proposed high school redesign plan at our meeting on Monday, November 3, 2008. As you may know, the Woodrow Wilson High School PTA presently has about 360 members, including 95 members of the Board of Directors.

Our PTA supports the objective of distinguishing Woodrow Wilson as a college preparatory high school with the highest standards of academic rigor and relevance. The focus on the college pathways of Math, Science, Technology; Arts and Humanities; and Business, Finance and Entrepreneurship seem appropriate to the strengths and interests of our East Dallas community. We are similarly enthusiastic about the plans to align and integrate with J. L. Long Middle School as well as all the elementary schools in the feeder pattern. We also trust that Woodrow's full complement of extra-curricular opportunities will continue to enrich the high school experience for students.

We salute you, Associate Principal Dinnah Escanilla, and all the other teachers and administrators who have worked with innovation and dedication in this forward-looking plan. We pledge our commitment to assisting Woodrow as it implements the plan.

Faithfully,  
Emily Martin, PTA President



### **Desperately Seeking "NIGHT"**

The English Dept. at Woodrow is looking for copies of NIGHT by Elie Weisel. Specifically, the edition pictured here is the one needed: Classes read the book and use an audio CD during their study of this Nobel Peace Prize winning text. But class copies have wandered off over the years, and this edition is now out of print! Help! If you look through your home library, or your student's room, car or other storage locations and find one, send it to the English Department or the Main Office – no questions asked!  
**And Thanks!!**



Check out all the PTA websites for information about contests, scholarships, political activity and much more. Of course, our website [www.woodrowwildcats.org](http://www.woodrowwildcats.org), gives you the up to date info and news you can use! [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org)



Know what's going on at Woodrow!  
Get on the an email list!

### **PTA Corresponding Secretary**

Mindy Cunningham  
[mindyPTA@aol.com](mailto:mindyPTA@aol.com)

### **Class Communicants**

#### **Senior Class:**

Linda Hale Buchanan  
[hale.buchanan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hale.buchanan@sbcglobal.net)

#### **Junior Class:**

Laura Tepera  
[lauratepera@aol.com](mailto:lauratepera@aol.com)

#### **Sophomore Class:**

Ruth Ramirez  
[famramirez5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:famramirez5@sbcglobal.net)

#### **Freshman Class:**

Suzanne Chatham  
[suzchat@gmail.com](mailto:suzchat@gmail.com)

# Woodrow Volunteer Opportunities



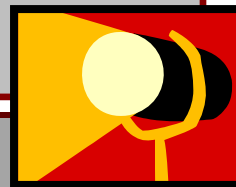
Teachers and staff all over Woodrow are anxious to hear from YOU about how and when you might help out in the classroom or offices. **Go first to register at [http://www.dallasisd.org/partners/volreg\\_form.cfm](http://www.dallasisd.org/partners/volreg_form.cfm), then call Minerva Flores, your favorite teacher or department chair at 972-502-4400,**

**or even your friendly PTA prez, Emily Martin, at 214-327-0068** Even if you (*or your spouse??!!*) can give just an hour a week, there is someone at Woodrow who will love you for it.

**Below is a list of general needs that teachers, administrators and staff have identified. We will highlight some of them in coming weeks. Pick one and make a commitment to helping out. Start out small and see how it goes – but do it! That’s what makes Woodrow Great!**

- **Reconnect:** Help students with online courses. Need to be comfortable with computers. Monday – Friday any time, all day or for an hour! **Contact Case Wallace.**
- **AVID:** Tutoring and Mentoring Students. Need to be flexible and encouraging! Monday - Friday, A.M. or P.M. **Contact Valerie Hendrickse.**
- **Special Education:** Duties will depend on needs and skills of volunteers, but could involve assisting students in “regular education” classes. Times and length of volunteer hours will likewise depend on needs and skills. **Contact Jessica Tilley.**
- **Limited English Proficiency (LEP):** Assist students in reading labs with reading, including word problems with math. Bilingual skills a help, but not necessary. **Contact Marjorie Shaw.**
- **Tutoring:** Assist teachers and help students with Math (Algebra I & II, Geometry and Calculus), Science (Chemistry and Physics), Writing and Language Arts. Volunteers should be competent in the subject area they wish to tutor, but remember that you will have texts and guidance from teachers! Monday – Thursday, 4 – 5:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. **Contact Bob Irby for Math, Enid Sanchez for Science and Keith Black for Writing/Language Arts.**
- **Clerical:** While staff go to lunch, volunteers are needed to help in the offices with answering phones, filing and miscellaneous duties. Monday – Friday, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm. **Contact Minerva Flores.**
- **Counselors’ Office:** Runners are needed to fetch students and run errands throughout the building. Times and days of needs variable. **Contact Dinah Escanilla.**
- **Entry Monitor/Greeter:** Authoritative and vigilant volunteers needed at Metal Detector A and Sign-In area at the main entrance to the building. Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (or any time you have available during that period). **Contact Ms Vail or Mr Henderson.**
- **Cafeteria:** Authoritative, friendly and outgoing adults (great job for dads!) needed to walk the cafeteria and help kids make good choices. Monday – Friday, 11:20am – 1:30pm. **Contact Ms Vail or Mr Henderson.**
- **Classroom Substitute:** Adults needed to stand in for absent teachers as *unpaid volunteers*. Choose morning or afternoon, and express subject preference. **Contact Sue Kile or Ms Valosek.**
- **Classroom Assistant – Adopt-a-Teacher!:** Help a teacher with bulletin boards, organizing, errand running, and general miscellaneous duties that free him or her to spend more time teaching kids! Volunteer 1 hour per week, or whatever works for you and your adopted teacher.

# Volunteer Needs Spotlight!



## Reconnect

Many parents are unaware that several teachers work all day with students who are working diligently on coursework via computer instruction in the “Reconnect” lab, located next to the courtyard across the hall from the boys’ locker room. Some students are trying to catch up to their classmates, some have returned to school after life’s complications have interfered with “normal” teenage schooling. Some need to just do things differently. They work under the guidance of dedicated teachers on basic coursework and requirements necessary to obtain the coveted Woodrow High School Graduation Diploma. You can volunteer and help students work through lessons presented on computers in a programmed, self-paced learning style. Text books and teachers are always on hand as resources for volunteers. Regularly scheduled hours would be best, so the staff can depend on having assistance and better utilize your energy and skills, but as little as an hour a week would help. The added bonus in this setting is getting to know some students who are inspirations as they steadily move toward graduating, sometimes against great odds. Likewise, the teachers’ enthusiasm and support for their kids is a gift. There’s a unique atmosphere and feeling in this room, and you can contribute to the future of some very special kids by volunteering in Reconnect. **Contact Case Wallace and stop by for a visit!**



## The Cafeteria could use you RIGHT AWAY!

Help form a **PADRES SQUAD** of Dad’s, Granddad’s, Uncles, Cousins, Big Brothers or other interested dudes to wander the cafeteria during lunch periods. You fellas can chat with kids (just stay on the other side of the room from your own, if that’s a problem!), get to know teachers and administrators who patrol the room, and help the kids to mind their manners if something starts to get out of hand. Food fights a la “Animal House” are to be prevented, and you could be just the guy to do it!



Lunch times begin at around 11:15 am and end at 1:30, and even a once a month commitment could work if you team up with some buddies to cover the other weeks. **Contact Todd Lott at 214-821-0412 or [lott01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lott01@sbcglobal.net).**

## Help Readers!

Teacher David Stapp needs two or three people to help a handful of kids learn to read, about half an hour after school, Monday through Wednesdays. Bilingual skills would be a plus, but not necessary. Contact him at [DStapp@dallasisd.org](mailto:DStapp@dallasisd.org), or call the school -- 972-502-4400.



## Help Students Prepare for Writing TAKS

The English/Language Arts Department needs a bunch of people to help get kids ready for the writing portion of the TAKS test in February. At least **six teachers** could use help with times available during every class period. Volunteer tutors can work with individual students to review their practice essay/narrative.



*If you know about subject/verb agreement, spelling and grammar, and basic principles of good writing, we need you.*

**Contact Keith Black to let him know you are interested.**

## Workshop for Writing Coaches



Valerie Hendrickse will conduct a “teach-the-teachers” class for volunteers who would like to help coach writing skills. She’ll explain what TAKS evaluates so tutors have a better idea what to emphasize.

**Tuesday, November 18, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, Room 3009**

*Please let Emily Martin know if you are interested in this tutoring opportunity, and if you will attend the workshop session.*

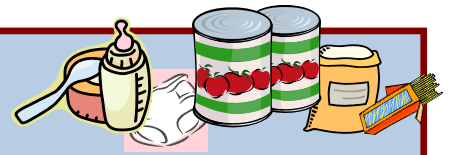
[PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net)

## **CHOOSE WOODROW**

**Signs available! Put one in your yard today! Get one at 6602**

**Lakeshore Dr (corner Lakeshore/Cambria). \$5.00 Donation appreciated but not required!**

# Food Drive Wrapping Up!



Suggested items are: macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, canned meat, canned fruit & vegetables, chili, dried beans, soups, cereals, canned spaghetti, rice, stew, pudding cups, cereal bars, coffee, flour, sugar, baby food, DIAPERS (for adults and infants), shampoos, toiletries for men and women. Cookies and hard candy are a treat.

For the 18th year, Mrs. Ruth Collins Sharp Altshuler (WW Class of 1940) is conducting a food drive and asks as many people as possible to participate.

Deliver food one of two ways:

1. **5227 Meaders Lane** (first street north of Walnut Hill, right off Inwood Road) on either **Monday, November 17th or Tuesday, November 18th**, between **8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.** (Drive to the end of the driveway where volunteers will unload cars. Mark your sack as coming from Woodrow!)
2. **Bring donations to Woodrow and deposit into boxes placed by the doors.**

 **Wildcats Help Those In Need!**



**campusoutfitters**  
**Fall Sale**

Now through November 30

20% off all in-stock merchandise

Extra 10% off Walking Shorts!

[www.campusoutfitters.com](http://www.campusoutfitters.com)

888-923-0700

Get your Wildcat Uniforms!



**Southwestern Medical School**

in partnership with DISD hosts

**Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure Program**

6 consecutive Saturdays

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> - Feb. 14, 2009

9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade

For more information go to

[www.utsouthwestern.edu](http://www.utsouthwestern.edu).



**Don't forget to check this out!**

## **FREE TUTORING FOR QUALIFIED STUDENTS!**

Students who qualify for Supplemental Education Services may receive up to \$1,575 of FREE tutoring services from state-approved vendors! Want to learn more???

**Supplemental Education Services Parent Information Night**  
**November 18, 2008, Tuesday, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.**

Over 700 Woodrow Wilson HS students may qualify for the SES program. Approved vendors will be giving out flyers and information about their programs and services ranging from free laptop computers and internet service for online tutoring, palm pilots, one-on-one or small group private tutoring, SAT/ACT review classes, etc.

**It's easy to access these services – if a student is qualified, just select an approved vendor, fill out and turn in the application and begin to receive services! Easy!!**

For more information contact Patty Rodriguez [blarodriguez@dallasisd.org](mailto:blarodriguez@dallasisd.org) or call her direct line at Woodrow: 972-502-4440.

The **JROTC** is selling Entertainment Pass Books

Each book is \$20 but the value is far and above that when you use coupons for dining and entertainment in the Dallas area.

**Sales will continue through November 18th.** Contact LTC Dumas (972-502-4459) [edumas@dallasisd.org](mailto:edumas@dallasisd.org) or any of the Student ROTC members.

**Help support this great group of Wildcats!**



Don't forget that our Wildcat

**MOCK TRIAL TEAM** is still in need of donations or financial underwriting for their trip to **Harvard University** representing Dallas public schools. If you can help, contact Mike Buchanan:

[mike.buchanan@ogletreedeakins.com](mailto:mike.buchanan@ogletreedeakins.com)

Woodrow is one of only TWO

Dallas schools invited to this amazing event!



# Welcome 2 Woodrow! Spread the Word!

Woodrow Wilson High School is hosting its annual

## Welcome to Woodrow!

Open House and Tour

for eighth graders, prospective students, and their parents

**Tuesday, December 2, 2008, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.,**

at Woodrow Wilson High School,

100 S. Glasgow, 75214

- ✓ Meet the teachers, administrators, coaches, parents and students.
- ✓ Learn about the outstanding academic and extra-curricular opportunities!
- ✓ For more information call 972-502-4400.



And if you can help spread the word to neighbors and friends with 8<sup>th</sup> graders looking at all their high school options, contact Emily Martin [PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:PTAatWoodrow@sbcglobal.net) or Bobbi Willhite [willhitehlavaty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:willhitehlavaty@sbcglobal.net).

Your help at the Open House is also most welcome, if you are a current parent or student, an alum, an interested community member or public school proponent! Contact Melinda Kurzner if you can help: [melindakurzner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:melindakurzner@sbcglobal.net)

**Woodrow is for everyone, and everyone is welcome!!**

## Opportunity to hear Internationally Known Author

### **Ibtisam Barakat**

**Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 pm**

Irma Rangel School

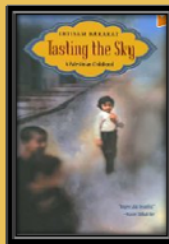
1718 Robert B Cullum Blvd, Dallas, 75210

Ms. Barakat works with the United Nations to facilitate dialogue between the Palestinians and Israelis. Her book "Tasting the Sky" is a memoir of her Palestinian childhood, exploring her years living through the Arab Israeli War and has won the IRA Best YA Non-Fiction Award (2007), Booklist Editor's Choice Award (2007), Arab American Book Award (2007), and the SLJ Starred Review.

For more information about Ibtisam Barakat and her book, go to

[http://www.wrmea.com/archives/July\\_2007/0707062.html](http://www.wrmea.com/archives/July_2007/0707062.html) or

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6438286.html>



## More Books Needed!

English IV Teacher Paula Burkham is in need of a class set of the classic

**1984**

**by George Orwell**

No specific edition is required, but she needs a bunch of copies for students to study during the Spring Semester. Check out your used book collection, or if you see one you can pick up for her, you can drop it at the Main Office for Ms Burkham, or deliver it to Portable 6.

Did you read 1984 when you were in school? The phrase "Big Brother is watching you" comes from this book as does the concept of "doublethink". You might want to read it again with your English IV student in 2009!

## News Coverage of Dallas ISD Financial Crisis

You may be interested in reading *D Magazine's* Special Edition about Dallas Public Schools. If you're not a subscriber or can't find it in the stores, it is also available on their [website](#).

Extra copies may be ordered for \$5.95 each: 214-939-3600

[amy.Jesionowski@dmagazine.com](mailto:amy.Jesionowski@dmagazine.com)






We share this information as a service to our readers, and the WWHS PTA does not endorse *D Magazine* or benefit in any way from this informational article.



# The Week At Woodrow

Nov 10 - 16



Monday November 17	Tuesday November 18	Wednesday November 19	Thursday November 20	Friday November 21	Saturday November 22
	<p>Don't forget to bring food donations to Woodrow for the Altshuler drive!</p> 		<p>Girls Varsity Basketball Turner Tournament Games TBA</p> 		
	<p>Workshop for Writing Coaches 5:00, Rm 3009</p>  <p>Girls Basketball Vs WT White @ Woodrow JV 5:30, V 6:45 pm</p> 				<p>Sunday November 12</p>
					<p>Thanksgiving Break Begins! Happy Holidays!</p>

Mark your calendar....

Thanksgiving is next week! See you again on December 1!

Girls Basketball Never Rests: Mon, Nov 24 @ FWC Riverside: JV11:00am, V12:30pm.




Tue Nov 25 @ Pinkston: JV10:30am, V12:00pm



# The Week At Woodrow

December 1 - 7



Monday December 1	Tuesday December 2	Wednesday December 3	Thursday December 4	Friday December 5	Saturday December 6
Report Cards Issued			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     Girls Varsity Basketball <i>Wildcat</i> Tournament                      AT WOODROW! Games TBA                      </div>		
	Girls Basketball Vs Molina @ Woodrow  JV 5:30, V 7:00 pm		Swimming City Wide Meet @ Loos  5:30 pm		SAT Exam
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                         Welcome                          2 Woodrow!                     </div>				Sunday December 7



## Mark your calendar....

- Dec 16 – Fine Arts Holiday Program/PTA General Meeting/Junior Class Auction
- Dec 13 – Math AP Exam Prep Session
- 3 Weeks until Winter Break!!!