

# WAUNAKEE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER (STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES)

## Registration for 2012-13 is Upon Us

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

#### DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/>

### IMPORTANT DATES

Registration for classes for next year starts on Wed., Feb. 1st

Feb. 24th 2 hour Early Release

Parent Teacher Conference  
March 6th 4-8 PM

Friday, March 9th, No School  
Parent Teacher Conferences  
7:45 AM-Noon.

Club Dates: Friday, Feb. 3rd &  
Friday, Mar. 2nd

Madison College Tour Feb. 21st  
Details will follow!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
(DVR) Presentation  
Contact Monica Dedrick  
(608) 849-2162 March 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM

March 23rd 3rd Quarter ends-2  
hour early release.

Spring Break: March 26-30th.

Starting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, registration for classes for the 2012-13 school year will begin. Your student will be meeting with his/her counselor to discuss scheduling, required classes for graduation and electives chosen by the student. Waunakee HS counselors include Ms. Bishop (last name letters A-E), Ms. Fassbender (F-K), Ms. Kuntz (L-Q) and Ms. Glynn (R-Z). The Guidance Office Phone number is 849-2115 and their office is located just northwest of the high school commons.

It is important that your student discusses this/her class schedule options with you and their case manager. While there are individual needs that may impact your student's future classes, your student's case manager will have some insight that may avoid difficulties with classes in the future. Some things for your student to keep in mind for registration:

- make sure "required classes" are covered (see course book or registration sheet)
- select courses in an area(s) of interest
- chat with instructors to get a better feel for a prospective class
- review potential selections with parents and case manager
- make a note of your time slot and be there promptly
- make a note of college or university requirements for specific school entrance when selecting coursework.

#### Planning Skills (adapted from Writers Inc)

Not much that is important happens without a plan. Great games, meets, papers and social events all begin with a plan. All jobs require personal commitment, without it optimal learning cannot take place. This being said school is only part of a student's life. Today's students must learn to balance learning, jobs, sports, family, friends and technology. To maintain success planning is an essential part of the process to become successful at any job.

**Finish each day strong by doing your best. Time Management Basics - for life after HS and now:**

- Write down your assignments
- Keep a schedule for completing your work
- Break big assignments into smaller tasks in your assignment notebook
- Plan your study time (study anything graded, books and/or handouts)
- Follow Infinite Campus - double check your assignments and grade
- Be disciplined, but flexible
- Follow your learning style (do you need quiet or a little noise, do you need a study group)
- Learn from your mistakes
- If you are having trouble ask for help-challenges do not go away

- "Take the wheel", Do something to help yourself

- **Remember-balance-eat, sleep, work, study, and spend time with family (yes they want to see you) and your friends. Do your best!**



## In-school Work Experiences : Not just coffee...

### Kokopelli Kafe is not just serving coffee....

It is a school-based coffee shop which serves delicious treats and drinks to Waunakee High School's students and staff. Kokopelli is operated by students in a work experience class in which they learn functional, transitional, vocational, and social skills in real work environments. Students also learn daily living skills such as baking, cleaning and shopping.

Basic academic skills are incorporated into the curriculum as students develop their own advertisements and use math skills such as counting money, figuring profit and completing inventory.

Kokopelli Kafe students also give back to the community by donating a large portion of their profit to WHS organizations and local charities each quarter. Last year over \$3000 was given to a variety of charities including Waunakee Neighborhood Connections, Salvation Army and the Waunakee Scholarship fund.

The coffee shop, which serves freshly baked treats, coffee, hot chocolate, apple cider, Chai tea, cappuccino, smoothies and iced Frappes, is open 8:30-10:20 am during school days.



## Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Presentation March 9<sup>th</sup>- 10:00 AM

### WHAT IS DVR?

DVR is a state agency serving people with physical, cognitive, or psychological disabilities who may face barriers in getting or keeping jobs. DVR provides services that help students develop and pursue their career goals.

### WHAT SERVICES CAN DVR PROVIDE?

DVR provides services that will help students become employed. Those services depend upon what each student's goal is and what kind of help is needed to reach that goal. Everybody's services are different!

### HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT DVR?

Gillian Van Dien, DVR counselor, will speak at Waunakee High School on March 9<sup>th</sup>. After a short presentation about services, she will be available to answer questions, collect applications and meet individually with parents and students.

**Contact Monica Dedrick for more information at (608) 849-2162.**

## Community Based: Work Experiences -TRANSITION PLUS +

**Goal:** Successful transition from high school to paid work for students with special needs.

The program uses a supported employment model and Partners in Business Model that mimics the services students can obtain at age 21 from Dane County Human Services in the following three divisions: Developmental Disabilities/Physical Disabilities/ Mental Health Needs. Supported employment is competitive work in integrated work settings for persons with disabilities. There are many levels of supported employment. A few examples are: One on One Support (constant support at a job site), Paired Support (two individuals with a disability receiving help from one job coach), Spot Checks (periodic checks at a job site), and the Partners in Business Model. (natural supports by business employees with support in structure of the job site and fading from school supports).



Students with special needs who complete their high school coursework and/or four years of high school, and who continue to have needs in preparing for the transition to adult life may participate in the 18-21 Transitional Program. This is a community-based program. Students participate in the community in paid jobs, volunteer activities, recreation, and consumer activities, as do other same-age peers. Emphasis is placed on planning activities based upon interests with support by teachers, job coaches, and para-educators.

Each student will:

Receive his/her high school diploma after reaching vocational goals or aging out of the program.

Meet with county transitional coordinators and DVR counselors on a regular basis.

Work between the hours of 9:00-2:00 Monday-Friday No work on weekends or when school is not being held unless approved by transitional teacher.

Participate in community based instruction along with vocational instruction.

Receive all passing scores on a pass/fail grading system for every semester involved in the program. (Based on attendance and daily evaluation scores on performance.)