



# *The WayPoint Way*

News from WayPoint...where students discover success!

## **CONGRATULATIONS to “New Student” Raffle Winners!**

Thank you to all who encouraged students from throughout the Muskegon area to “check out” WayPoint and to apply for enrollment. The winners of our “New Student” raffle are: *Video MP3 player = Tyler Robbins; Nintendo DS player = Kyle Kalchik; and a new laptop computer = Gabriela Vazquez.* Way to go, Navigators!

### **Student Academic Achievement BEST START Ever!**

As we approach the “half way” point of the 1st Marking Period, we find that 59% of our students are currently earning ALL A’s & B’s! That is simply OUTSTANDING academic achievement. WayPoint Navigators CHALLENGE THEMSELVES and focus on SUCCESS; we’re very proud of their efforts and hard work.

### **Monthly Lunch Menus Now on Website**

For those who might be interested in knowing what we are serving on a daily/weekly/monthly basis, you can now find the monthly lunch menu posted on our website in the Resources section. PLEASE NOTE: regularly we are adding more and more resource information for parents in this section of the website. Please check back often. Also, if you would like to see something included on the site which you currently don’t find there, please let us know.

## **MEAP TESTING for 5TH THROUGH 9TH GRADES TO BEGIN SOON!**

The annual State of Michigan MEAP tests for all students in grades 3-9 begin on October 14th this year. For approximately a week’s time, our students will be involved in taking the various MEAP tests (grade 5 takes Math, English Language Arts & Science; grade 6 takes Math, English Language Arts & Social Studies; grade 7 takes Math & English Language Arts; grade 8 takes Math, English Language Arts & Science; and grade 9 takes Social Studies. Parents can help by stressing the importance of students doing their very, very best on the MEAP tests and by insuring that students get plenty of rest the night before and eat a good breakfast before leaving for school.

### **Senior Class to Offer Movie Nights at Way-Point**

Beginning October 14th, our Senior Class will be sponsoring Tuesday “Movie Nights” at the Academy. For just \$1.50, students will be able to stay after school from 3:20pm to about 5:30pm, watching the “movie of the week”. Information will be shared with students via Daily Announcements. Most all movies will be rated “G”; those rated “PG-13” will require a parent permission form.

### **Family, Food and FUN Night Coming for 5th & 6th Graders**

On Tuesday evening, October 21st, we will be offering our monthly Family, Food & Fun Night...this month for our 5th and 6th graders and their families. More specific information will be sent home to parents of our 5th & 6th graders soon. PLEASE PLACE OCTOBER 21ST ON YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND!

### **WayPoint Students Recognized at Chamber of Commerce Early Bird Breakfast**

On Friday, September 26th, Samona Mahan, Joe Segelstrom, Katie Squires & Tevin Eubanks did a superb job representing the Academy to area business, education and government leaders at the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce meeting highlighting our area’s top 3 employers.

### **HABITAT TRAIL...Phase 2...in Process**

Under the supervision of Mr. Eling and Mr. Downing, our 7th and 8th grade science students are working diligently on Phase 2 of their Service Learning project...the WayPoint Habitat Trail. Between now and next Spring, you will see boulders put in place; a split rail fence go up; a walking trail created; a variety of vegetation planted; a bridge over a pond built; mulch placed...a literal outdoor classroom come alive! Keep watching as the Habitat Trail truly comes to life! Our thanks to Mr. Downing, Mr. Eling and our 7th and 8th grade students, for their hard work.

## WayPoint Academy... a G.L.O.B.E. School

Under the training and direction of science teacher, Aaron Eling, WayPoint Academy now joins over 20,000 schools in more than 100 countries participating in GLOBE, which is a hands-on environmental science and education program that unites students, educators and scientists from around the world in studying the global environment. On October 29th, Mr. Eling and 4 WayPoint students will be traveling to Grand Valley State University for a conference and workshop which will formally begin our participation in this outstanding program. What a GREAT opportunity for our students. If you want to know more about our being a G.L.O.B.E. school, please contact Mr. Eling here at WayPoint.

### Authorities Warn About “New” Drug Being Used by Teens

Parents should be on the look-out for a new drug that is quickly becoming a favorite of teens. The new drug is commonly known as “strawberry quick”. This drug is a type of crystal methamphetamine (crystal meth) and looks like strawberry pop rocks (the candy that “sizzles” and “pops” in your mouth). It also smells like strawberry and reports have come in that it is being handed out to young people in school yards, street corners, and other places where young people might gather. Young people are ingesting it thinking it is candy and being rushed to the hospital in very serious condition. The drug may also come in chocolate, peanut butter, cola, cherry, grape and orange flavors. Some young people have accepted from their friends what they thought was candy, only later to find out that instead it was this new drug. We are including here a website link which contains more information for parents. Let’s all work to keep ourselves informed so that we may keep our kids safe. The link is:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,271215,00.html>

### Parent Volunteers Needed

Our students are interested in having a variety of after school, extra curricular activities here at WayPoint. Currently, we are looking for a parent volunteer to “coach” a chess club; we are also looking for a parent to volunteer to “coach” a choir or vocal music; also looking for a volunteer to teach conversational Spanish. If you are interested, or know anyone who might be, please contact Ms. Stellard.

### WayPoint Credit Union Run by Personal Finance Classes

In our attempt to create financially literate young people, we continue to promote our Personal Finance classes under the direction of Mrs. Heacox. We also promote our partnership with Family Financial Credit Union (we house the WayPoint Credit Union, a branch of FFCU right here at the Academy!); this year, our Personal Finance classes are taking over the direction of the Credit Union. At this time, over 25% of our students own their own accounts.

### After School Academic Success Program Proving Successful

Thanks to Mr. Westerlund, Mrs. Brown and Ms. Berryhill...for creating and coordinating a very successful after school academic assistance program for our students. Four days a week, for an hour after school, students who have traditionally struggled in their classwork have the opportunity to receive extra help and academic support. Mr. Westerlund is doing a GREAT job with the students...and they are realizing MUCH success. Some of the students attended last month’s Board of Directors meeting to share their enthusiasm about the class & opportunity.

### Ask About THE WAYPOINT WAY

Our students are focused on learning, practicing and then evaluating their success on THE WAYPOINT WAY. Please ask your student to tell you about THE WAYPOINT WAY...ask to see the chart each student has explaining it...and then ask your student how he/she is doing so far this year. It is ALL ABOUT “THE WAYPOINT WAY”!

**GO ‘GATORS!**

### FREE WayPoint Polo Shirt to the First Parent Who Responds

***THE FIRST PARENT TO CALL MS. STELLARD TO LET HER KNOW YOU’VE READ THIS NEWS-LETTER WILL WIN A FREE WAYPOINT POLO SHIRT FOR HIS/HER STUDENT!***

***OUR STUDENTS ARE WORTH WHATEVER IT TAKES!***