



# WOLF E-NEWS

*from Westside High School*

14201 Briar Forest Houston, Texas 77077 \* Phone: 281.920.8000 \* Fax: 281.920.8059

January 8, 2024

## Save the Date for Showcase

All students and families interested in learning more about Westside's offerings are invited to our Showcase on January 18, from 5-7 PM. Spread the word to your friends and neighbors!

**WESTSIDE'S  
SHOWCASE**  
OPEN HOUSE EVENING EVENT

For ALL 8th and 9th grade students - zoned and magnet - and families!

Thursday, January 18, 2024  
5:00 - 7:00 PM

Meet the Principal  
Check out our  
Academics  
Magnet Programs  
Athletics  
Fine Arts  
Clubs  
Enjoy Student Performances

[www.westsidewolves.org](http://www.westsidewolves.org)  
Westside High School 14201 Briar Forest Drive

### Calendar

**January 15**  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday, No School

**January 16-18**  
Interim STAAR Testing

**January 18**  
Westside's Showcase,  
5-7 PM

**January 20**  
Attendance Appeal Reg-  
istration, 8:00 AM

2023-  
2024  
HISD  
Calen-  
dar

## Altered Bell Schedule for Interim Testing January 16-18 (Subject to Adjustments as Needed)

### Non-Testers

| Time                | Tuesday                | Wednesday              | Thursday               | Friday                           |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7:45 am – 9:15 am   | 1 <sup>st</sup> period | 1 <sup>st</sup> period | 2 <sup>nd</sup> period | 1 <sup>st</sup> p: 7:45 – 8:38   |
| 9:20 am – 10:50 am  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> period | 3 <sup>rd</sup> period | 3 <sup>rd</sup> period | 2 <sup>nd</sup> p: 8:43 – 9:38   |
| 10:55 am – 11:55 am | Lunch                  | Lunch                  | Lunch                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> p: 9:43- 10:36   |
| 12:05 pm – 1:35 pm  | 4 <sup>th</sup> period | 5 <sup>th</sup> period | 4 <sup>th</sup> period | 4 <sup>th</sup> p: 10:41 – 11:34 |
| 1:40 pm – 3:25 pm   | 6 <sup>th</sup> period | 7 <sup>th</sup> period | 6 <sup>th</sup> period | Lunch: 11:38 – 12:31             |
|                     |                        |                        |                        | 5 <sup>th</sup> p: 12:36 – 1:29  |
|                     |                        |                        |                        | 6 <sup>th</sup> p: 1:34 – 2:27   |
|                     |                        |                        |                        | 7 <sup>th</sup> p: 2:32 – 3:25   |

### Testers

| Time                | Tuesday                | Wednesday              | Thursday               | Friday                           |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7:45 am – 9:15 am   | Interim Testing        |                        |                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> p: 7:45 – 8:38   |
| 9:20 am – 10:50 am  | English 1              | English 2/Biology      | Algebra / USH          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> p: 8:43 – 9:38   |
| 10:55 am – 11:55 am | Lunch                  | Lunch                  | Lunch                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> p: 9:43- 10:36   |
| 12:05 pm – 1:35 pm  | 4 <sup>th</sup> period | 5 <sup>th</sup> period | 4 <sup>th</sup> period | 4 <sup>th</sup> p: 10:41 – 11:34 |
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|                     |                        |                        |                        | 5 <sup>th</sup> p: 12:36 – 1:29  |
|                     |                        |                        |                        | 6 <sup>th</sup> p: 1:34 – 2:27   |
|                     |                        |                        |                        | 7 <sup>th</sup> p: 2:32 – 3:25   |

Students enrolled in English I and II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History will be taking interim STAAR exams next week.

General information for testers:

- Testers will need their student ID, charged laptop and charger
  - Report time each day is 7:45 AM

## Announcements



**ATTENTION!**  
DO YOU HAVE NGs ON YOUR REPORT CARD FOR  
THE FALL SEMESTER 2023?

### REGISTRATION FOR ATTENDANCE APPEAL

**SATURDAY**

**JANUARY 20**

**8:00 AM**

YOU **MUST** REGISTER FOR ATTENDANCE APPEAL  
**BEFORE** YOU CAN COMPLETE HOURS FOR THE FALL  
SEMESTER.



#### Registration

**Saturday**  
**January 20**  
**8:00 am**

#### All Grades

#### WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

14201 Briarforest  
Houston, Texas 77077

For more information,  
contact

Cheryl Williams

[cburd@houstonisd.org](mailto:cburd@houstonisd.org)

Or (713) 556-5248



## WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 23/24 Cell Phone Policy

From 7:45 AM to 3:25 PM, students are required to  
stow away their cell phones, earbuds and headphones.

- Students may use their devices during the lunch period only.
- This rule applies throughout the entire school premises.

#### 1st Offense

A warning will be issued to the student,  
emphasizing the importance of adhering to the policy.

#### 2nd Offense

The student must surrender the device to the teacher.

- The device will then be submitted to the House Secretary and will be returned at the end of the day.
- For incidents in the hallways, students will be directed to take their devices to the House Secretary for safekeeping until the end of the day.

**Note:** Refusal to surrender the device will result in further disciplinary actions.

#### 3rd Offense

Parents are required to meet with the dean  
to discuss repeated violations, and to pick up phone.

The meeting allows for a collaborative effort between parents and school staff to address any underlying issues.

- In cases of repeated violations beyond the second incident, the device may be barred from the campus for the remainder of the school year or until the dean deems it appropriate. This measure is taken to ensure a sustained focus on academic engagement.
- We believe that by implementing these measures, we can create an environment that minimizes distractions, promotes active participation in class, and fosters a more focused learning atmosphere.
- This policy is non-negotiable.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



# VAPE = DAEP

## TEXAS HOUSE BILL 114

Any student caught violating the new law relating to  
e-cigarettes will be subject to immediate DAEP  
placement, as mandated by the state law.

Click to learn more about HB114 related to vaping:

<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/199791>



## Alumni Breakfast 2024



On January 5th, Westside welcomed alumni back to the pack for our annual Alumni Breakfast. Students from as far back as Class of 2007 attended, despite the rain and the early hour.

The former students have attended universities and colleges near and far, including HCC, UH, UT, TAMU, SFA, Houston Christian University, Brigham Young University, Virginia Tech, De Paul University and more. Their areas of study include Nursing, Art, Theatre, Math, Publishing, Business, Finance, Engineering, Computer Science, History, and Pre-Med.

Thanks to all of the alumni for coming back and reconnecting. Thanks also to our PTO for organizing and hosting this annual event. Once a Wolf, always a Wolf!



## Announcements



Westside Wolves Lacrosse

# 2024 SEASON KICKOFF

Join us to finalize your spring registration,  
get your questions answered, and  
support our Westside Wolves!

**January 11th, 6pm**  
**@Flip 'n Patties**

## Westside High School


SERIOUSLY, DON'T MISS OUT!

## ORDER A YEARBOOK

YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW  
**LIKE, RIGHT NOW**

USE OUR ORDER NUMBER WHEN YOU LOG ON:  
**25686**  
Westside High School

YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM



## Gamer's Club

Hosted in:  
**E124**

We have  
**Board Games  
&  
Videogames**

**WEDNESDAYS**  
During Lunch

More Info:  
[jason.rodriquez@houstonisd.org](mailto:jason.rodriquez@houstonisd.org)

**WESTSIDE FRC  
ROBOTICS CLUB**

Remind: @frc2587w

- Design, build, and program robots!
- Gain valuable STEM skills!
- The hardest fun you'll ever have!!

MEETINGS EVERY THURSDAY  
FROM 3:30 TO 5:00 IN ROOM V101





Join the  
Remind

Go  
Wolves!

Get Involved!

## List of Clubs & Orgs

LET'S TOUCH  
*the sky*

EST. 2018

## DRONE CLUB

WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL


**TUESDAYS 3:30-4:30 ROOM VIII**  
JOIN THE REMIND  
TEXT @DRONEWEST TO 81010

### Westside Coding Club

**Meetings Every Tuesday in  
Room N225 During Lunch!!**

- No experience needed
- Learn and collaborate with peers
- Practice coding skills
- Compete at UIL and HPE Codewars

Scan the QR Code to join the Remind, or type the link below



[tinyurl.com/whs-code](https://tinyurl.com/whs-code)



## PTO Announcements



**\$100 PER PAWPRINT FOR A FULL YEAR**

**\$20 OF THE LOGOS GOES TOWARDS THE ORGANIZATION CHOSEN**

**Pawprints**  
Make Your Mark at Westside

**MONEY GOES TOWARDS THE SENIOR CLASS FUND FOR YOUR STUDENT'S GRADUATING YEAR.**

**THE COST FOR EACH LOGO IS \$25, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 2 LOGOS PER TRANSACTION.**

SCAN ME

[www.westsidehighpto.org](http://www.westsidehighpto.org)

# 2023-2024

**The PTO Welcomes All New and Returning Westside Families!**

WHS PTO Website



Scan using your camera

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WESTSIDE PTO!**

We need your support!

**WAYS YOU CAN HELP:**

- ☒ JOIN THE PTO!
- ☒ VOLUNTEER!
- ☒ DONATE!
- ☒ SHOP OUR STORE!
- ☒ ATTEND MEETINGS!

**Join and become a PTO member today!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
SEE THE PTO FLYER IN YOUR STUDENT'S FIRST DAY PACKET

[WESTSIDEHIGHPTO.ORG](http://WESTSIDEHIGHPTO.ORG)

## WESTSIDE SCHOOL STORE

A SERVICE PROVIDED BY PTO

**HOURS:**  
**TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS**  
**DURING LUNCH**  
**&**  
**3:30 - 4:00 PM**

**QUESTIONS: [WHSPTOSTORE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WHSPTOSTORE@GMAIL.COM)**



# It's a Great Day to be a Wolf!

## College Center Announcements

### Financial aid:

FAFSA - While [FAFSA](#) traditionally becomes available every October, due to major changes to the application and website, the 2024-2025 FAFSA application will not be made available until December 2023. An official release date has not been confirmed but colleges across the U.S. are aware of this change. However, the College Center is recommending students to still submit by the original priority deadline of January 15<sup>th</sup> to be safe. A major change to keep out for is that what was previously known as the "Student Aid Report" will now be shown as "FAFSA Submission Summary."

TASFA – The biggest update to share about [TASFA](#) this year is that it will now available online! Each student and one parent/guardian will create an account and complete the application online and will have the ability to send their completed online TASFA applications to up to 10 schools.

### Scholarships:

HISD has provides students with a list of "Hot Scholarships" that are available to them throughout their senior year. The Hot Scholarship list for October-December is accessible through each student Schoolinks account and be found the by following these steps: *Digital Resources > Schoolinks > Finances > Scholarship Matching*

### Testing:

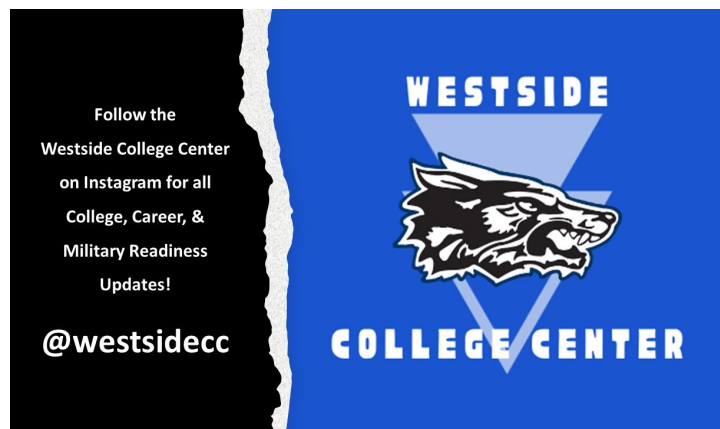
**SAT for Seniors** - There are still several opportunities for seniors to take the SAT and/or ACT this school year! While many schools remain test optional, meaning SAT test scores are not required to be sent as part of the admissions process, a school may still ask for a student's test scores to determine that they are "college ready." To meet this criterion, a student must have scored the following: Evidence-based Reading & Writing: 480 and Math: 530

**SAT for Juniors** - A major change to the SAT is that starting in March 2024, **all** SAT exams given will be **digital**. Click [here](#) to find upcoming test dates for the 2023-2024 academic year. Juniors will take the School Day SAT in March 2024, and are recommended not to test before then as they will not have covered some material yet.

ACT – Click [here](#) to find upcoming test dates for the 2023-2024 academic year.

### College and Career Planning:


- College Center Advisors are currently presenting in all Senior English 4 classes to discuss all things related to the college application process and Schoolinks account setup/utilization.
- Open lab in in the college center is as follows:
  - ◆ During lunch
  - ◆ Off campus (7<sup>th</sup> period)
  - ◆ After school (on occasions if we're in a classroom presentation throughout the day)
  - ◆ On very few occasions, the college center will be closed due to presentations or trainings.



# 23/24 Bell Schedule

| Mon/Tues/Fri |               | Wednesday & Thursday |               |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1st Period   | 7:45 - 8:38   | 1st Period           | 7:45 - 8:45   |
| 2nd Period   | 8:43 - 9:38   | 3rd/2nd Period       | 8:51 - 10:24  |
| 3rd Period   | 9:43 - 10:36  | Pack Time            | 10:30 - 11:00 |
| 4th Period   | 10:41 - 11:34 | LUNCH                | 11:06 - 12:06 |
| LUNCH        | 11:38 - 12:31 | 5th/4th Period       | 12:13 - 1:46  |
| 5th Period   | 12:36 - 1:29  | 7th/6th Period       | 1:52 - 3:25   |
| 6th Period   | 1:34 - 2:27   |                      |               |
| 7th Period   | 2:32 - 3:25   |                      |               |

**ENERGIZE!**



## Follow Us on Social Media



Facebook: Westside High School



Instagram: gowestsidewolves



Twitter: @westsidehigh



## Quick Links

Submit stories and photos for eNews:

[barbara.nassab@houstonisd.org](mailto:barbara.nassab@houstonisd.org)

School Pay:

<https://www.schoolpay.com/>

School Web Address:

<https://www.houstonisd.org/westsidehs>

HISD Web Address:

<https://www.houstonisd.org>