
DRUMBEATS

West High School 20401 Victor St Torrance CA 90503

President's Message

Dear West High Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back our returning students and families to West High and I would also like to extend a profound welcome to our new West High families. My name is Zee Harb and I am this year's PTSA president. I am looking forward to making 2019-2020 a fun and a very productive year here at West High.

I would like to THANK our parents who have volunteered over the summer. It is very much appreciated. Preparing to get the school year started is not an easy task and it takes many great parent volunteers to support and ensure that events like Welcome Warrior, Memberships, Library and Registration support, Snack Bar and Staff Welcome Back luncheon continues happens. West High PTSA supports many programs. With our programs throughout the school we want to make sure that all these programs are well funded so we can add to the students High School experience. I look forward to working with all of you as we all grow and become closer throughout the school year.

I encourage everyone to please become a West High PTSA member. The cost to be a member is only \$9 per member. Anyone can join and be a member. Seniors, PTSA's also offers scholarships but in order to qualify for any of those scholarships you must be a PTSA member. Parents, if you would also like to donate to the West High PTSA please write a check out to West High PTSA. We would appreciate any amount of donation.

I look forward to working with our parents, staff and community this school year! Mark your calendar Back to School Night and PTSA Association meeting is on September 18th.

“Building Tomorrows Future Today”

Zainab (Zee) Harb

West High 2019-20 PTSA President

Community Events

Back To School Night & Bake Sale

You are invited!

2019-2020 PTSA Membership and September Association Meeting

Please don't forget to join PTSA during your summer online registration. Membership dues are \$9 beginning July 1, 2019, and donations are always welcome! Also, we invite you to attend our September 18, 2019, Association meeting at Back-to-School Night. We will be adopting our budget, audit, and bylaws changes, as well as electing the nominating committee and ratifying delegates to Torrance Council of PTAs.

Community News

Warrior Welcome

West High School's FRESHMAN FOCUS CLUB hosted the annual Warrior Welcome orientation for about 350 incoming ninth graders on August 14, 2019. Students enjoyed a film in our beautiful performing arts center that highlighted events, clubs, advice from students and a greeting from administrators and counselors. Participants toured the campus, played get-acquainted games, and attended workshops that focused on academics and clubs. Class sessions provided tips to start and stay strong academically and encouraged everyone to get involved, have fun, and develop leadership skills. Freshman Focus would like to thank our generous PTSA for providing snacks, with special appreciation for Cyndy Alatorre and Karin Cunningham, who handled the shopping, organizing and distribution. Freshman Focus wishes our newest warriors the best year possible with even better ones to follow!

Honorary Service Awards

Each year, West High PTSA presents Honorary Service Awards to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service in any capacity that benefits the youth of our community. These individuals may include teachers who go above and beyond their job description, community members who volunteer to coach our youth, Scout leaders, or those who help out in shelters, at food banks, at our schools, or in places of worship. This year, the Honorary Service Awards will be presented at our PTSA Association Meeting on Wednesday evening, February 26, 2020, in the WHS Library.

Nomination forms will be available on the PTSA page of our school's website on October 7. If you know of a deserving individual, please fill out a Nomination Form and let us know the person's name and what they have done for our community. Nominations must be submitted no later than December 6, 2019 to the Principal's office in an envelope marked "Attention: PTSA Honorary Service Committee", or by e-mail to Kathleen Gates at ckgates8@verizon.net.

Snack Bar Donations

The West High PTSA needs donations for our biggest fundraiser - the home side snack bar! We've received a few donations at registration - Thank You! It's not too late; there's still time to donate. Thanks to everyone's efforts, we've consistently donated close to \$20,000 to West High over the past few years for various programs such as technology support, library support, college fair, emergency supplies and other campus needs.

We also welcome monetary donations in any amount! Checks are acceptable payable to "WEST HIGH PTSA" with "SNACK BAR" written on the memo line.

Items needed are:

- \$20 (or more) COSTCO Gift Card
- \$20 (or more) DOMINO'S PIZZA Gift Card
- \$20 (or more) SAM'S CLUB Gift Card
- \$20 (or more) SMART & FINAL Gift Card
- 6pk or 8pk less sodium SPAM CANS

Items can be dropped off at the front desk on Fridays from 7:45am to 11:30am Attn: Dawn Mikkelson.

Please contact Stephanie Ishioka at sishioka@yahoo.com with any questions. Thank you so much for your support and making West the Best!

PTSA Reflections Arts Program

The new 19/20 Reflections theme is here! For 50 years, National PTA's Reflections program has helped students explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence, and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and life. Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response a student-selected theme. The theme for the 2019-2020 program year is Look Within. Students submit their completed works of art in one or all of the available arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts. Submissions will be due October 18, 2019, 3:30 p.m. to the WHS Principal's Office. Program details are available now at <https://westreflections204.wixsite.com/enter>. Contact Becky Ward at WestReflections204@gmail.com (mail to: WestReflections204@gmail.com) with questions.

PTSA Membership

West High PTSA has set a goal of 1400 members and we are not as close as we want to be. The new paperless registration this year is very different; however, we can still reach our goal, but I need your help.... I know we can do this!

It costs \$9 to join. You can join one of 2 ways...

1. Make a check out to West High PTSA and bring it to Back to School night. We will have a table there for membership with forms to fill out. (You can also take a form with you that night and bring payment to the office.)
2. You can click on this link and join online <https://jointotem.com/ca/torrance/west-high-ptsa> (there is a \$1 processing fee).

Myth Buster #1...If you join PTSA you are NOT required to volunteer. We, of course, always need volunteers and would love it if you did.

Myth Buster #2...ANYONE can join PTSA, not just parents. Students, relatives, neighbors, friends, West High Alumni can all support PTSA.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF WEST HIGH SENIORS!!! Your student can be eligible for several scholarships if they are members of West High PTSA.

Upcoming PTSA Meetings/Events

September

- 18 Back To School Night/PTSA Association Mtg. @ 6pm
- 18 Back To School Night Bake Sale @ 6pm
- 21-22 Catalyst SAT Boot Camp 9am - 1pm (Cafe 5/Library)
- 23 Student Free Day/No School

October

- 2 TCPTA Association Mtg. @ 9:30am
- 9 Student Free Day/No School
- 16 Executive Board Mtg. @6:30pm
- 19-20 Catalyst ACT Boot Camp 9am - 1pm (Cafe 5/Library)
- 21-25 Red Ribbon Week

November

- 11 Veterans Day Holiday
- 13 Executive Board Meeting 6:30 PM
- 25 – 29 Thanksgiving Holiday

Support West High: eFundraising

Benefit

Download our new scrip Benefit Mobil App. Set up your account to buy gift cards to your favorite stores: Target, Starbucks, Sephora, Amazon, Nordstrom, etc. Link your credit card or bank account and choose West High PTSA as the beneficiary. Earn up to 20% of your gift card purchase. You can buy and instantly redeem gift cards online or in store.

Register/Renew Your Ralphs Card

Create a new account or sign in to www.ralph.com, Click on your account information then click on “Community Rewards” to link your card.

Shoparoo

Download the Shoparoo app and snap pictures of your receipts to earn cash for our school.

What type of receipts are rewarded?

- Receipts from any store that sells grocery items earn cash donations no matter what items you buy.
- Receipts from any retailers that do not sell groceries (restaurants, department stores) will earn entries for our school into monthly and yearly sweepstakes.
- Submit receipts within 14 days of the transaction date and time.
- Submit up to 20 receipts in a 7 day rolling period.

How to get started:

- Download the free Shoparoo App from the App or Google Play Store
- Only your email address is required when you sign up
- Choose “West High - Torrance, CA”
- Enter your name or an alias or leave blank to remain “Anonymous”
- After a brief introduction, select “Get Started”
- Select the “Camera” option on bottom and snap your first receipt!

For more information go to www.shoparoo.com.

Escrip — Credit/Debit Card Registration

Lucille’s is a participating restaurant and each time you dine at Lucille’s BBQ and pay with your registered credit/debit card (choose West High PTSA as the beneficiary), 5% of your food sales will come back to our school. To register go to www.escrip.com.

AmazonSmile — Giving back to Charitable Organizations

Support West High PTSA when you shop AmazonSmile. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to West High PTSA. For more information go to <https://smile.amazon.com>.