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## WAVERLY MIDDLE SCHOOL TAKES CITY HALL BY STORM

The Waverly Middle School students braved the rain last Friday as they walked to Pasadena City Hall for a special tour. The students were met at City Hall by Ann Erdman, Pasadena's Public Information Officer. Ms. Erdman ushered them upstairs to the Council Chamber, where they were greeted by Mayor Bill Bogaard. Mayor Bogaard gave the students a wonderful description of city government, and then answered their insightful questions.

Steve Madison, District 6 Councilmember (and proud Waverly parent,)

allowed the students to approach the chamber's dais and try out the seats of our

city government. They were thrilled to take over the chairs that are usually reserved for the Mayor and City Council. Councilman Madison then engaged them in a Socratic discussion about city government. The middle school students are still buzzing about the experience!



The students enjoyed one more surprise treat before they headed back to school. Ann Erdman led them down to City Hall's basement, where they were wowed by the Traffic Management Center (TMC). Engineer Joaquin Siques demonstrated the



array of hi-tech computers and large-screen displays that allow him to monitor and control traffic throughout Pasadena. The TMC looked like something

straight out of a spy movie! The students went home warning their parents to drive carefully because someone is always watching. Waverly is grateful to everyone who made this wonderful field trip possible. Waverly parents Mike Alvarez and Steve Madison deserve special praise for arranging such a special experience. Thank you very much!

## SHAKESPEARE'S *MACBETH* AT WAVERLY HIGH SCHOOL

*Lay on Macduff!...Out, out brief candle...Double, double, toil and trouble; fire burn, and cauldron bubble...*

The high school drama class is proud to present William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* as its second show of the 2008-2009 season. The production takes place outdoors on the grassy lawn of Webster Quad at the high school. There are three performances—two free performances during school hours for students of the

### Save the Date

Applications due for new students  
Financial aid applications due from new and returning families  
Sunday, February 1

Upper School WPO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, February 5

Elementary School WPO Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
Friday, February 6

Westridge Summer Opportunities Fair  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 7

middle and high schools on Friday, February 6, and one public performance, at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 7. Admission to the Saturday performance is \$5, payable at the door.

The audience sits on the grass and, although we have camping tarps to sit on, for maximum comfort the Saturday audience is encouraged to bring low beach chairs, blankets or cushions to sit on! The play runs under two hours. We hope to see you there!

## INAUGURATION DAY, 2009

By: Danny L. Mauldin, 7<sup>th</sup> grade



Danny at the Washington Memorial

We got into Washington on Monday afternoon. There were so many planes at Dulles Airport they had to close a runway so they could park them. That was the first clue that it was going to be crowded. Then we found out they closed most of the bridges early, so we drove to the Metro station in Virginia where we had to wait for another hour just to get our tickets to get on the train. Needless to say, it took a while to get to our hotel.

We went to the Caucus Room, a very good steakhouse, for dinner. Then we walked down to Pennsylvania Avenue and the mall. There were already many people there. We could see the Capitol all lit up, and set up for the Inauguration. It looked almost like a spaceship. It was tremendous. By the way, it was 20 degrees. It cut right through my three layers. We went over to the CNN booth, where we saw Anderson Cooper. Every time he went off the air he groomed himself. There were people from all over the country gathered around watching the show.

We woke up the next morning and as soon as we went outside we knew this was going to be a challenge. Everywhere you looked, there were people. The problem was, no one did a very good job of handling the crowd. We still ended up on the mall, but we had to create our own route. When we got to the mall, it was amazing. It was the population of some big cities, all standing together in one place. We watched Barack Obama being sworn in, and as soon as he took the oath a cry went up that was like the Coliseum times ten. People were crying and cheering. We were right at the base of the Washington Monument.

We starting walking back home and saw President Bush fly over in his presidential helicopter, even though he wasn't president anymore. Thousands of people in the crowd started the same chant all at once: "Nah-nah-nah-nah, nah-nah-nah-nah, hey-hey-hey, good-bye!"

We had tickets to the parade, but it was impossible to get to the checkpoint because the Secret Service closed Constitution Avenue. Every official person we talked to said something different about where to go. My dad was ready to give up, but I said I wanted to keep trying. We ended up walking about two miles to another checkpoint and they let us in. We got so lucky. We ended up in first row seats right in front of the Treasury Department. The parade started late because Senator Kennedy has a brain tumor and he collapsed at the Capitol luncheon. It started an hour late, but when President Obama went by us, he was smiling and waving. I was quite shy, so I only waved a little. But then he got out of the limo with Michelle and the crowd roared. It was an amazing moment for me. Plus I got a lot of exercise.

## PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR

Recently, there have been a couple of car break-ins on the blocks surrounding the Waverly campuses with purses or other valuables being the target. The Pasadena Police

Department has been informed and will be patrolling our neighborhood more often. We urge you to not leave anything of value in your parked car.

### H.S. STUDENT AWARDED IN HIP HOP DANCE GROUP

Waverly High School senior Santiago Alcántara competed last Saturday, January 24, at the Extreme Explosion competition in Long Beach. Santiago is part of a hip-hop competition group from the Academy of Music and Dance located across the street from the elementary campus. The group received the following awards and recognitions:

1<sup>st</sup> Place for Teen Hip-Hop Small Group  
1<sup>st</sup> Place for Highest Score in the Novice Division  
Extreme Gold  
Top 10 High Score, Novice Division

Congratulations, Santiago!

### FARM REPORT

Hello fellow farmers! I've just returned from the Ecological Farming Conference in Monterey, California. I,



along with 1,699 other like-minded souls, attended lots of workshops on composting, food sheds, medicinal hedge rows and edible landscaping. I am filled with thousands of ideas and dreams! One idea that would be suitable for the Waverly Organic

Farm is a seed swap. I received some seeds for a new variety of tomato suited to the San Gabriel Valley that I would be willing to share. Also, I have some Cinderella pumpkin seeds. Start collecting seeds you would like to share, ask your friends if they have seeds to share, and stay tuned for an announcement for our first Waverly Seed Swap and Picnic.

[donnaforey@gmail.com](mailto:donnaforey@gmail.com)

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REHEARSALS FOR SPRING SPOTLIGHT BEGIN FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>

It is not too late to sign up to participate in Spring Spotlight 2009. Interested students in the elementary school (grades 3 to 6) just need to have their parents fill out a form (available on the parent counter in the elementary lobby) and give it to Alison at the front desk by Monday, February 9. Once your child signs up, please pick up a CD and packet with lyrics and further instructions from Alison beginning Monday, February 2. All students who sign up must be able to attend the first rehearsal on February 9, and the rehearsals on February 23, March 2 and March 5. All Monday after school rehearsals start at 3:00 p.m., in the Community Room, and are over at 4:30 p.m. This show will be performed in Thorne Hall at Occidental College on Friday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. Mandy Boesche, our middle and high school drama teacher, will be directing the show and staging the numbers. It's going to be lots of fun!

### SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FAIR

We encourage all Waverly parents interested in summer programs for their children to attend the Summer Opportunities Fair to be held at Westridge School (324 Madeline Drive in Pasadena) on Saturday, February 7, 2009 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. This annual event is a wonderful way for parents and students to explore many exciting summer opportunities that are available to school age children and teenagers, 5 to 18. The Summer Opportunities Fair features programs that accommodate all budgets and areas of interest. Information on many of the programs registered can be found on the Westridge School web site: [www.westridge.org/sof.html](http://www.westridge.org/sof.html). A flyer is also attached to this week's e-packet. The Waverly School no longer offers an elementary summer program. Information about Waverly's summer classes for middle and high school students will be shared in the next few weeks.

## REMEMBER, HOME TOYS STAY AT HOME

A reminder to elementary parents and guardians: toys and games (including electronic devices and gadgets, such as mp3 players, cell phones, and handheld games) should not be brought to the elementary school. On occasion, toys and/or games can be brought to the classroom with the approval of the teacher for a special project or for sharing. This policy is consistent with Tom Sawyer Camps After School Program guidelines. Electronic devices that are seen and/or heard are subject to collection by the Head of the Lower School. Please refrain from bringing these items to school.



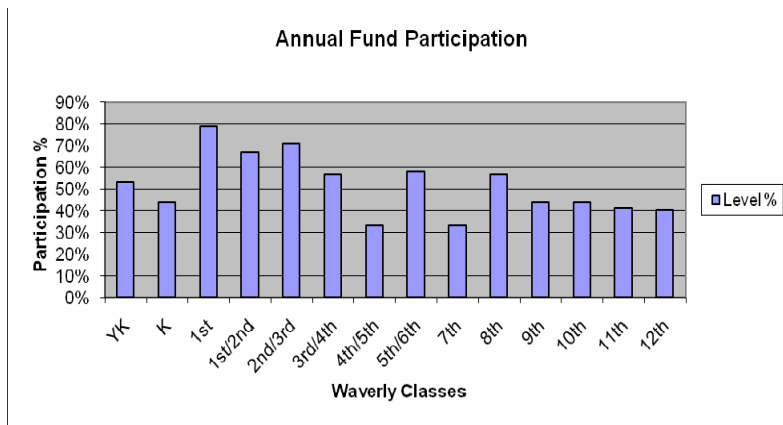
## ANNUAL FUND INFORMATION

2008-2009 Annual Fund Goal: \$275,000

Dollars raised since last week: \$11,580  
(includes pledges)

Overall family participation to date:  
52.1583%

Class Participation Bar Graph:



## THE SILENT AUCTION IS COMING! WANT TO HELP?

**We need your help to make the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction a big success!**

This is the biggest fundraiser put on by the Waverly Parent Organization and your participation is crucial to meeting our goals. All the money we raise goes directly to the school's general fund.

**What can you do? First, mark your calendars with the date Sunday, April 26, 2009, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.** This is the one event where you get to socialize with the parents, faculty and staff of all three schools. Invite your friends and relatives to attend, too. **Invitations will arrive by mail in the next few weeks.**

**Second, be generous with your donations for the Silent Auction!** We are asking for every family to donate. Think about the kinds of things you would like to bid on at our Silent Auction, and help us have a fabulous array of tempting items.

**Here are some suggestions for donations:**

**FINE ARTS and JEWELRY:** If you are an artist, donate a piece of your work. If you know any artists, ask them to donate. Over 300 people will see their work! Jewelry was very popular last year. Do you have some high-end pieces that you never use? Donate them!

**SPORTS:** Tickets to games, sports memorabilia, sports equipment, or sports lessons. Can you teach a sport? Paintball, laser tag and other kinds of activities are popular.

**VACATION HOMES and TRAVEL:** A weekend or week in your vacation home is very popular! Hotel stays, travel books, airplane miles or tickets—anything to do with travel.

**LESSONS and SERVICES:** If your child is taking lessons somewhere and you like the teacher, spread the word! Donating sample lessons or services to the school will help advertise their business. Same goes for hair stylists, massage therapists, consultants, etc. If you provide lessons and services, please donate your special skills.

**FINE DINING, SPECIAL DINNERS and FINE SPIRITS:** Certificates for dining at restaurants always are a big hit.

Encourage your favorite restaurant to donate a \$50 or \$100 certificate. They will get new diners and patrons from their generosity. If you can cook, donate a dinner for 8. Home cooked dinners are very popular. Fine wines and spirits are also successful donation items.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** If you have season tickets, donate an evening. Tickets to Disneyland, Legoland, museums, aquariums, live theaters, movie theaters, and musical events are all welcome!

**SPECIAL AND UNIQUE:** If you have a great idea for a donation we welcome it! Contact Ann Cooke at [chcooke@earthlink.net](mailto:chcooke@earthlink.net) if you have any questions.

## BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

**Name:** Michael Alvarez

**Position:** Board member since 2007; chair of Board Trustee Affairs Committee, member of Board Development Committee

**Grade(s) of child(ren):** 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

**Years as a Waverly Parent:** 3

**Day Job:** I graduated from Carleton College (in Minnesota) in 1986, and



picked up my M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from Duke University. After Duke, we moved to the Pasadena area, where I took a faculty position at the California Institute of Technology, and my spouse, Sarah Hamm-Alvarez, took a faculty position at USC. Since coming

to Caltech, I studied elections and voter behavior, but since the 2000 presidential election I've worked more on issues of election administration and voting technology as a member of the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project. I've had opportunities to work with elected officials and policymakers in our local area, in California and other states, and at the federal and international levels as they seek to improve their electoral procedures and voting technologies. In addition to writing academic articles, I've written five books (with another one coming out soon!). Recently, I've enjoyed writing with a few colleagues on my blog, Election Updates, at <http://electionupdates.caltech.edu/>.

**Influential Books:** *An Economic Theory of Democracy* by Anthony Downs

**Reasons for Serving on Board:** First, as an educator, I've always believed that education works best when it is tailored to the student's individual needs and abilities, and I want to help develop primary and secondary education programs with those values. Second, our family has benefited greatly by being part of the Waverly community, and we want to continue to help Waverly achieve its ambitious goals. Third, Waverly is a special institution in our area, and I want to help develop Waverly's continued contribution to our community.

**Favorite Board moment:** Recruiting and helping mentor new Board members.

**Message for fellow parents:**

Developing a strong and vibrant educational institution for our children and community is a lot of fun. I also enjoy playing basketball on Sunday mornings with a great group of Waverly parents!

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Our final Parents' Night Out will be on Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14 from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the elementary school. Run by Waverly's own Martha Ramirez, this night is the perfect opportunity for you to celebrate with a romantic dinner, sans your children! Dinner will be served. Reserve a spot by contacting Martha at 323.394.4669 or

[martharamirez4ever@hotmail.com](mailto:martharamirez4ever@hotmail.com).

Reservation forms are attached to this week's e-packet.

## Community Service Corner

**On Saturday, February 7, 2009, join the Bruins and hundreds of volunteers at the Northeast Los Angeles Mayor's Day of service; from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Rio de Los Angeles Park, 1900 San Fernando Road, 90065.**

**Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center's Showcase House raises money for music programs throughout our schools. Volunteer Saturday, April 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or Monday, April 13 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact Stacy Miller [stacywm5@yahoo.com](mailto:stacywm5@yahoo.com).**

**The Rose Bowl in Pasadena hosts Autism Speaks' 7<sup>th</sup> annual autism awareness event, Walk Now for Autism on April 25, 2009. [www.walknowforautism.org/losangeles](http://www.walknowforautism.org/losangeles)**