

***The Hurlbutt Scoop***  
**Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO Newsletter**  
**Thursday, October 25, 2012**

***SCHOOL CLOSINGS & SCHEDULED DELAYS***

(Click [here](#) for 2012-13 District Calendar)

November 6<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL (K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences)

November 7<sup>th</sup> – EARLY DISMISSAL (K-5 P/T Conferences)

November 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> – NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Recess)

***UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS***

October 26<sup>th</sup> – Hurlbutt Dollars Order Deadline

November 5<sup>th</sup> – UNIFC Deadline

November 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> – Hurlbutt Book Fair

November 15<sup>th</sup> – Family Fun Night, 5:30pm, HES Cafeteria (RSVP Required)

November 19<sup>th</sup> – School Photo Re-take Day

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***SCHOOL & PTO NEWS***

***A MESSAGE FROM SARA SPAUDLING & TAMMY ROBERTS, HURLBUTT PTO CO-PRESIDENTS***

Hi everyone - Be sure to ask the kids about the visiting author who came to Hurlbutt yesterday (thank you Darcy Barrera-Hawes for helping Mrs. Radko make the event run smoothly). Next week is the Halloween parade - I hope we don't have a repeat of last year's snow storm... In exciting book fair news: our students raised \$1000 in the Book Fair Charity Coin Drive last week. As a result of the generosity of our students and families Scholastic will donate 1,000 books to children in need across the country and we will purchase books for two local children's hospitals with the money we raised. \$1,000 is an amazing amount given that this the first year the coin drive was added into the book fair - I cannot thank our chairs enough for adding this opportunity for children to share their good fortune and love of reading! Speaking of the book fair, it is almost here - if you haven't already, please consider signing up for a shift (during your child's class visit is always fun). It looks like it will be a really great event; our chairs are doing an amazing job - thank you ladies! Have a great weekend!

Sara Spaulding & Tammy Roberts  
Hurlbutt PTO Co-Presidents

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***NEW PTO WEBSITE***

The Weston PTO's have joined together and launched a single District PTO website, [www.westonpspto.org](http://www.westonpspto.org). The home page of this new website contains information relevant to all four PTO and each PTO has its own tab with information relevant to that PTO. It's important to remember that any online sign-up and RSVP forms for Hurlbutt will be listed under the HES PTO tab. If you have any comments or feedback relating to the new site please email [westonpspto@gmail.com](mailto:westonpspto@gmail.com).

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**BOE UPDATE****Board of Education Meeting: 10/15/12**

This summary concludes the 10/15 board meeting recap. For the first portion of this especially informative session, please refer to last week's

Scoop: <http://files.leagueathletics.com/Images/Club/7529/HES%20PTO/Scoop/The%20Hurlbutt%20Scoop%20-%2010-18-2012.pdf>.

**Resignations and Retirements**

The Board accepted the resignation of Hurlbutt Elementary Principal, Ms. Joanna Genovese and the retirement of Mr. Kevin Fitzpatrick from WHS. Mr. Fitzpatrick was in the Math department and his retirement is effective November 1, 2012.

**Review and Approval of Weston BOE Strategic Plan**

The Board voted and approved the WPS Theory of Action. The Eleventh Draft Theory of Action is a 3-year plan for the District and available for public view on the district website or at this link:

[http://www.westonps.org/uploaded/NEWS\\_and\\_ANNOUNCEMENTS/Adopted\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_10-15-12.pdf](http://www.westonps.org/uploaded/NEWS_and_ANNOUNCEMENTS/Adopted_Strategic_Plan_10-15-12.pdf).

Dr. Palmer acknowledged the work of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee and the individual sub-committees over the past year. The district's work is divided into four sections: Teaching and Learning; Student Needs; Communications and Community Outreach; and Resources, Operations and Finance. Strategy, Tactics and Tasks have been developed for each area. Please contact a Board of Ed member if you have any questions or concerns.

**Financial Report for First Quarter FY 2013**

Dr. Keating reviewed the First Quarter FY 2013 Financial Report which details the transfers between salary accounts due to staff transfers between schools, turnover savings, salary increases for non-represented administrators, and other needs. If you have questions, please contact her office directly.

**Discussion and approval of salary increases**

Weston Board of Education approve a 1.85% salary increase for Transportation Energy Coordinator; Nursing Supervisor; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Human Resources; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Directors of Finance and Operations, Facilities and Technology; Purchasing Coordinator; Payroll Coordinator; Accounts Payable/Grant Coordinator; Student Activities Bookkeeper; Athletic Trainer; Medical Advisor; and Network Administrator for the 12-13 school year.

Sandy Hart, [sandy@sundial.com](mailto:sandy@sundial.com)  
BOE Representative

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**HURLBUTT ANNUAL BOOK FAIR**

The annual Hurlbutt Elementary School Book Fair will be November 5-9. Our theme this year is ALL-STAR BOOK FAIR: EVERY READER IS A STAR! We will be offering you the opportunity to purchase Hurlbutt dollars for your 1st & 2nd grade child/children in advance, online, starting October 15, ending October 26 in order to purchase books at the fair. Please [click here](#) to purchase Hurlbutt dollars. Dollars will be distributed to students via their teachers the week of the fair.

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to help out with setup, decorating, selling, and more. Please [click here](#) to volunteer to help at the Book Fair.

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### **UNICEF**

On Monday, October 29, your children will bring home their UNICEF boxes for Trick or Treating. If you would like to help educate them about children in need around the world, please visit the [Trick or Treat for UNICEF web site](#) where you can view helpful information and download additional resources. Please also encourage your children to bring their UNICEF boxes when they Trick or Treat and to collect spare change around the house.

UNICEF helps fund resources to help with famine, clean water, disease and education. The coins that children collect can buy:

- \$.50 buys one child a notebook and a pencil
- \$1 provides 24 protein biscuits for a starving child
- \$17 buys vaccines to keep a kid safe from 6 killer diseases
- \$60 buys a School-in-a Bag with basic classroom supplies for 40 students
- \$500 buys 4 recreation kits so 270 kids can play sports like football and soccer
- \$600 buys enough lifesaving peanut paste to feed 400 under-fed kids

These are short videos appropriate for first and second graders.

**Movies:** [Children You've Helped](#)

Nirmala in Nepal

Rosie Bell in Nicaragua

**Boxes are due back to the classroom on Monday, November 5.** Children who are learning to count money can count their change at home and bring the money back in a plastic bag.

If you would like to help distribute boxes to classrooms or pick up boxes and take the money to the bank (students welcome!), please contact [Heather Pemberton Levy](#), 203.820.3361.

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### **FAMILY FUN NIGHT, NOVEMBER 15 – HOLD THE DATE**

AFRIKAN DRUM CIRCLE AND CRAFTS with internationally acclaimed drummer Kojo Bey of Sounds of Afrika. 5:30pm – 7:00pm, Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Hurlbutt Elementary School Cafeteria.

On-line sign-up coming in November! [Click here](#) for full details.  
8 Volunteers needed to work craft tables at Family Fun Night. Please contact Kristin at [kmatouse@optonline.net](mailto:kmatouse@optonline.net) if you are able to help. It is easy and fun. Volunteers need to arrive in cafeteria at 5:00 on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

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### **PHOTO RETAKE DAY – NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>**

Photos taken during Photo Day will be delivered in your child's backpack during the first half of November. If your child was absent during Photo Day, or if you wish to retake your child's photo, HES's PHOTO RETAKE DAY will be on **Monday, November 19, 2012!** Mark your calendars!

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### **NUTRITION NEWS**

[Click here](#) for the November 2012 edition of the Nutrition News.

Jill Patterson RD, Resident Dietitian  
Chartwells School Dining Services

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### **VISIT WITH AUTHOR DAVID SCHWARTZ**

Hurlbutt classes had an opportunity to meet with author David Schwartz on Wednesday, October 24th. This event was made possible through Hurlbutt PTO Philanthropy funding. If you ordered a signed book, it should have come home with your student on Thursday, October 25th. Please contact Darcy Barrera-Hawes at [d.barrera@outlook.com](mailto:d.barrera@outlook.com) if you have any questions regarding book orders. Many thanks to her for all the help with organizing the orders and assisting with the book signing.

Sharon Rodko, Librarian

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### **INNISBROOK GIFT-WRAP FUNDRAISER**

Many thanks to all the families that participated in our annual fall fundraiser! Once again, it was a great success and we were able to raise quite bit of money for our school. Orders will be ready for pick during the first or second week of November. We will notify you!

Eliza Tabacchi, [elizatabacchi@yahoo.com](mailto:elizatabacchi@yahoo.com)

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### **HURLBUTT 2012-13 YEARBOOK**

Believe it or not, we have already starting preparing for the 2012-2103 yearbook. Of course, we need your help. We are looking for photos from last year's Mother's Day

concert, Field Day and Flag Day concerts. We will also be asking for pictures from the first day of school, field trips, class parties, family fun night, recess and any other specials that take place.

Please make sure that these are high resolution photos. You have two options for sending your pictures. You can send them directly to [samhleuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:samhleuzzi@gmail.com) or you can upload directly to the Hurlbutt 2012-2013 Shutterfly share site. Please email [samhleuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:samhleuzzi@gmail.com) to be added to the share site.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either Sam Leuzzi at [samhleuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:samhleuzzi@gmail.com) or Melissa Chesman at [mhchesman@gmail.com](mailto:mhchesman@gmail.com)

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### ***SOCIAL MEDIA – FACEBOOK & TWITTER***

[Click here](#) to find us on Facebook. Like our page and get updated information in your Facebook newsfeed.

[Click here](#) to follow us on Twitter.

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### ***AROUND TOWN***

#### ***TICKET AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE WMS PTO & LIBRARY PROJECT***

Demi Lovato and Jonas Brother Tickets auctioned off to benefit WMS PTO & Library Project!

##### *Number 1:*

Do you want to be the world's BEST PARENTS? Do you need an awesome holiday gift? Then here you go – Concert package will include four house tickets for a Demi Lovato headline tour date in the northeast, VIP sound check party (if there is one), and a meet and greet!

Just so you come off hip, Demi is one of the hosts on the current X Factor and you should know her hot songs of the moment are "Give your Heart a Break" and "Skyscraper"!

Date to be determined based on their touring schedule coming up.

Donation from: Demi Lovato Touring

Total value: Priceless

Starting bid: \$1,000

##### *Number 2:*

Do you want to make your daughter scream, hyperventilate, sweet and just plain adore you?! Yes, then here you go – Concert package will include four house tickets for a Jonas Brothers headline tour date in the northeast, VIP sound check party (if there is one), and a meet and greet!

Date to be determined based on their touring schedule coming up.  
Donation from: Priceless  
Jonas Brothers Touring  
Total value: Priceless  
Starting bid: \$1,000

How this will work: if you are interested in bidding, please send Dawn Egan an email and a bid quote at [jdweston@optonline.net](mailto:jdweston@optonline.net). If there is a bid higher than yours, you will be notified. Bidding will end on Monday morning, October 29th at 9:00am promptly. Any questions, please do not hesitate to call 203-221-9114. All donations will be held in escrow until event happens.

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### **SCARE FAIR 2012**

A family partnership fundraising event to support Weston Girl Scouts and Girl Scouts of Connecticut. Saturday, October 27th, Noon to 4:00PM, Weston Historical Society, 104 Weston Road, Weston, CT (Rain Date: Sunday, October 28th). [Click here](#) for flyer.

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### **WESTON PARKS & RECREATION – WINTER 2012 PROGRAMS**

[Click here](#) for information on the Winter 2012 programs being offered; Sports & Fitness, Dancercise, Peanut Basketball and American Red Cross Swim Classes.

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### **KINDERGARTEN DAISY GIRL SCOUT**

If you're interested in being a kindergarten daisy girl scout there are openings. Please contact Mary Fiore at [jmfiore@aol.com](mailto:jmfiore@aol.com).

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### **WESTON SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL RE-GIFT SALE**

Monday November 26th-Thursday November 29th, 10:00-2:00pm. Please gather up any new or un-used items from your home. to donate to our sale. We are currently accepting donations! Please tell your friends to donate items too. Come shop at our sale, beginning November 26th at 10am. 100% of proceeds go to the Weston Senior Center.

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE WESTON LIBRARY**

Here is a preview of the programs we are presenting at the library in October. All are free and open to the public and reservations are not required.

- Lunch and Learn - Self Publishing and Memoir Writing - Thursday, October 25th at Noon. Marcelle Soviero is coming to speak at the library on "Self-Publishing and Memoir Writing" Marcelle is from Wilton and has been published both online and in print publications.
- Animal Embassy - Halloween Creatures & Critters - Saturday, October 27th 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Join Animal Embassy at the library for this special Halloween program. You will learn about the origins of fear, while meeting incredible live Animal Ambassadors. We will discuss predators such as wolves and bears, and discover how snakes, spiders and scorpions look from the inside out. We'll turn fear into respect and appreciation by learning about animal behavior and appearance. Participants will hear myths and legends surrounding some of these amazing animals, while meeting a diversity of creatures such as a Pink-toed

tarantula, an Emperor scorpion, a Sinaloan Milk snake, a Boa constrictor and perhaps a Spectacled owl! Recommended for children over the age of four.

Please visit [www.westonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.westonpubliclibrary.org) for a full listing of events.

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### **FREE SWAP & SHOP EXCHANGE PAGE**

For Sale, For Free and Wanted Items for Sale. Have something to sell or giveaway but can't deal with Craigs List or Ebay? [Click here](#) to view, [click here](#) to advertise for free.

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*Submissions should be relevant to Hurlbutt and the Town of Weston (i.e., town sports programs, Town of Weston sponsored community events or after-school sports programs for students taking place in the Town of Weston). If there is any question regarding the relevance of a submission, final approval will be determined by The Hurlbutt Scoop editor and/or the Hurlbutt PTO President. Submission deadline is Tuesday – The Hurlbutt Scoop is emailed to all registered PTO Members on Thursday! All write-ups should be in WORD format and the content should be print-ready,*

- *If you have a flyer, please submit a brief write-up and we will attach the flyer to the newsletter,*
- *If you want to re-run something from the previous week, let us know; review the write-up - does it need updating, i.e., change the wording from "coming home this week" to "you should have received last week"? If so, revise and resubmit,*
- *The email address for the Scoop is [hesptoscoop@gmail.com](mailto:hesptoscoop@gmail.com)*

*Thank you for your support and cooperation.*