

SPORTS BOOSTERS
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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Blackhawk Families, Friends, and Fans,

Welcome back to another exciting school year and athletic season. The beginning of a new sports season is always very exciting. Supporting our student athletes and sharing their accomplishments is what makes the West Aurora Blackhawks program so successful. On behalf of the West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters, I would like to welcome the incoming freshmen and returning athletes, as well as our devoted alumni, and to thank those who have been Sports Booster Members throughout the years. The Blackhawk Sports Boosters have been supporting our athletes and teams since 1970 as well take an active role in providing funds and services which enhance our athletic programs and allow our athletes to compete at the highest level.

The Sports Boosters look forward to your continued support in helping out all the athletic programs. In addition to your financial help by becoming a Sports Booster Member, why not join the fun and volunteer your time through a variety of positions. This will be our second year that we will be publishing and producing our own programs for the fall, winter, and spring seasons which we are hopeful will become an annual revenue stream in supporting our student athletes. Our Membership Committee is currently getting your membership decal sent out to display on your car or home window.

The Athletic Department, the Sports Boosters, and the other organizations that support District 129 would like to thank you for your continued support for the West Aurora Blackhawks. Your generosity means a great deal to our athletes and community.

Roll on, you Blackhawks Roll...

John Sudges

President, Blackhawk Sports Boosters

FOUNDED IN 1970,
The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is the official athletics fundraising organization of West Aurora High School. Since its inception, the Boosters have raised more than one million dollars toward support of athletic scholarships, equipment and supplies. This year, thanks to your contribution, the Boosters have proudly provided more than \$65,000 to support our coaches' "Wish List" requests!

Save These Dates

October 17

Swimming & Diving Senior Night @ IMSA (home meet) 5:00 PM

October 17

Girls Volleyball-Volley for A Cure vs. Wheaton North 6:00 PM

October 18

Football vs. Naperville North (Senior Night) 7:30 PM

October 26

Boys & Girls Cross Country Sectionals @ Kress Creek Farms 10:00 AM

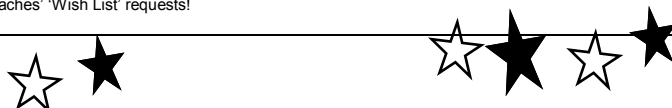
November 4

First Day of Winter Sports

"Sports serve society by providing vivid examples of excellence."
- George F. Will

Check out the athletic website at <http://il.8to18.com/WestAurora/>

BOOSTERS GRANT WISHES





VS.



West Aurora defeated East Aurora 46-16 in the 121st meeting in the oldest football rivalry in Illinois.

Drake Spears rushed for 169 yards and had 2 touchdowns.

Quintez Jones rushed for 110 yards and also added 2 touchdowns.

Alex Shire and Cody Tinsley led the team in tackles.

Our sophomore team and freshman team were also victorious. Both games were shortened due to weather.

Chalk Talk

Meet Laura

Kicking around with Girls' Soccer Coach Wagley

By Tom Herget

Laura Wagley has been West High's girls' soccer coach for four years. She joined the Blackhawks after one year at Sterling High School.

Ms. Wagley is a 2008 graduate of Aurora University where she competed in soccer all four years. At her native Sycamore, she was a two star athlete, excelling in basketball and soccer.

Laura teaches PE and health at West, directly applying her major. The health curriculum includes nutrition, relationships and emotions.

Laura has been playing soccer since first grade. She now coaches that sport and oversees three levels: freshman, jayvee and varsity. About 60 girls are in the program each year. The season starts at the end of February and concludes in mid-May. Off-season, weights, laps, and Sunday open gym are available to the girls. Playing and practicing on the outdoor turf is a treat. She encourages her players to join traveling teams in the summer.

Her pastimes include socializing with friends, home cooking and running marathons. She has run the Chicago marathon three times. Evenings are also occupied with earning her masters degree in Educational Leadership at Olivet Nazarene. Laura also finds time to coach the freshman girls' volleyball team.

Laura is a dedicated athlete, coach and professional. West is fortunate to have her in the classroom and on the sidelines.



Fall Jamboree

The Fall Jamboree was a success as fall sports showcased their talents in demonstrations across the West High campus. Each program also had the opportunity to meet the Athletic Department staff, the Sports Boosters, and conduct parent meetings to set out objectives for the coming season. Attendance was wonderful, as the West Aurora community came out in droves to support Blackhawk Athletics.

New Head Coaches

Anthony Rizzo-Head Boys Cross Country

Anthony Rizzo is an English teacher, entering his 7th year at West. He has coached Cross Country and Track collectively for 9 years, 5 of which were at West. A graduate of North Central College, Rizzo earned 11 All-American honors in Cross Country and Track and Field, and was a captain of 2 NCAA National Championship Teams. Coach Rizzo hails from Schaumburg High School where he ran Cross Country, Track, and wrestled all 4 years.



Stefanie Bannack – Head Cheerleading

This will be Coach Bannack's second year teaching mathematics at West and her first as the Head Cheerleading Coach. Bannack is originally from Schaumburg where she attended Schaumburg High School. Also a graduate of Northern Illinois University, Coach Bannack is looking to further her education to obtain her master's degree in curriculum and instruction. She previously coached cheerleading for two years and is anxious to bring her enthusiasm, team building skills, and methodologies to the growing program.

Baili C. Hernandez-Girls' Tennis

Coach Hernandez is entering her first year as Head Coach of the Girls' Tennis Team. She started playing tennis when she was 9 years old, having her dad as her first coach. Hernandez attended the John Newcombe Tennis Academy while attending High School in New Braunfels Texas. She continued her education by attending the University of Alabama and playing varsity tennis. After two years in Alabama, she then transferred to the University of Florida where she continued to play varsity tennis having a successful tennis career. Coach Hernandez is a first grade bilingual teacher at Smith Elementary; she has been teaching at Smith for the past nine years. She is married to husband Steve and has twin daughters Angelina and Jazmine and enjoys playing/teaching tennis to her daughters.





You can still be a part of the West Aurora Sports Boosters!

To print a membership application, copy this link and go to:

<http://westhigh.sd129.org/www/ud00/2/2857474694a1471a8e932e8aedfdc00/Personal Documents/Sports%20Boosters%20Membership%20Form.pdf>

To join online, copy this link and go to:

<http://sd129.revtrak.net/tek9.asp?pg=products&grp=57>

To visit our Sports Boosters website, copy this link and go to:

<http://westhigh.sd129.org>

Then go to ATHLETICS and ACTIVITIES
then go to SPORTS BOOSTERS

**It's
not
too
late...**

Chalk Talk

Get Quality Volleyball at Kosko

Dig in with Boys' Coach Tolis

By Tom Herget

Greet Apostolis Koskinaris, West High's boys' volleyball coach. Perhaps Tolis was predestined to oversee a round-ball sport, as his ancestor from ancient Greece, Sisyphus, spent many an hour rolling a rock to the top of the hill. Well, no sissies need apply to Tolis' teams, as coach will be doing what it takes to propel his squad to the top of the conference.

Tolis, a native of Wheaton, graduated from high school at Waubonsie Valley. There he was instrumental in getting the school to adopt volleyball as a varsity sport. At the University of Illinois, Tolis excelled on the men's Club Volleyball team.

His double major of speech communications and political science was the perfect prerequisite for becoming a paralegal. To this day this has been Tolis' sole vocation. But his sole avocation is volleyball.

Tolis was an assistant volleyball coach at Aurora University. Starting with an unsolicited email, he steered this application into landing the WA varsity post in 2009. Since then, Tolis has been a passionate and innovative supporter of our young athletes.

Tolis holds open gym every Tuesday night in the summers. There, the prior year's freshmen, sophomores and juniors play a round robin with the alumni. Tolis has recruited former West players to stop by every Tuesday to teach the young lads a lesson or two. It is a spirited evening, with shrieks, screams, laughs and power kills.

To inspire the boys to come out for, excel at and enjoy volleyball, Tolis likes to keep it loose. He likes to keep it fresh. He encourages the boys to play often, but always with enthusiasm. He advocates beach (two on two) and club volleyball when the high school season is over. Tolis' Cyclones volleyball club plays out of Vaughan Center and attracts athletes not only from Aurora, but Kaneland, Batavia and Oswego.

Tolis recently married Christina at St. Athanasios church here in Aurora. She is able to refocus his attention from volleyball with her excellent pasta shells stuffed with ricotta. We hope this Plainfield couple continues to contribute to West Aurora's performance

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday November 11

Monday December 9

Monday January 13

Monday February 10

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) are held at 7:00 PM in WAHS Room B140

SHOP FOR YOU OR YOUR FAVORITE ATHLETE:

Visit our online store for spiritwear at:

http://www.8to18lockershop.com/Booster-Store_c44.htm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

For concessions during basketball season.

Please contact Michelle at michellesak@hotmail.com

A small amount of your time can make a big difference for our athletes!!

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it!

West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters
2112 West Galena Blvd., Suite 8-187
Aurora, Illinois 60506

Address Service Requested

FALL 2013 NEWSLETTER

**Chalk Talk with Coaches Laura
Wagley & Tolis Koskinaris**

**Wrap-up from Fall Jamboree & East-
West Football**

PLEASE NOTE:

The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is a designated 501(c)3 charitable organization and all gifts through donation or membership are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. This does not apply to purchased items or purchased advertising.