



The Hatchet

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Washington High School 38442 Fremont Blvd. Fremont, CA 94536

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Scrivener receives superior rating

Htoo Htoo Lu
Staff Reporter

The Scrivener, WHS's literary magazine, won the Superior award in National Council of Teachers of English's Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines.

Of the 425 schools across the United States who submitted entries, 26 received the highest award, 81 Superior, 207 Excellent, and 48 Above Average.

This program is open to all high school and junior high schools throughout the United States, Canada, Virgin Islands, and to American schools abroad.

Once submitted for judging by experienced reviewers in Washington DC, the magazine is judged on four criteria: content, content variation, graphics, and organization.

"We hope younger students will maintain [such accomplishments] in the future," Scrivener editor Cindy Wang said. Ficia perro mo minctotatur?

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ASB sells Christmas trees for a new marquee

Paige Castren
Staff Reporter

ASB is selling Christmas trees to generate money to buy a color marquee. Activities director Helen Paris found out about this idea when she went to a leadership conference. The long term goal is to have a color marquee installed within four years. With a color

marquee, ASB would have the opportunity to display ads and pictures; now the marquee can only display word messages.

"It will let us do so much more than what we can do now," ASB president Seth Neuman said.

Leadership students have spent the month of October spreading the word through posters and the daily bulletin.

"Everyone we've talked to seems really interested," Neuman said.

Students have to order the trees by Nov. 18. The different types of trees include Douglas, Noble and Grand ranging in price from \$40 to \$85. ASB is also selling wreaths and garlands. The trees are from Oregon and will be cut 48 hours before delivery. Students will be able to pick them up Dec. 5 from 9

a.m to 2 p.m. in the senior parking lot.

Even though not everyone celebrates Christmas, Neuman believes this an appropriate fundraiser "because it has a potential to make a lot of money which will benefit students."

ASB does not have any other fundraisers planned at the moment for the marquee.

WASC team visits, writes glowing report

Bach Phan
News Editor

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) evaluated the school March 7-10 to consider its reaccreditation. Visiting committee members were impressed with many aspects of the school.

Washington's WASC coordinator, Brynn Osicka, helped prepare for the team's visit.



Brynn Osicka

"I helped organize the teacher input in the report. I wrote sections of the report," Osicka said. "I organized the actual visit with the committee. I did none of these things alone."

ASB members gave the committee a tour, and the following

three days, met with teachers and administrations and visited almost every classroom. A student focus group was also included.

The focus group included members from some of the clubs on campus such as MeCHA, Gay-Straight Alliance, Black Student Union and Interact. There were also students from the African American Male Focus Group, the Multimedia Art Academy and a group of juniors who have been in the families program since their freshmen year. They discussed things such as school atmosphere, preparation for college, and the standardized tests.

"The chairman of WASC said we should bottle [clubs and support groups that allow a non-discriminatory environment] and sell it to other schools," junior David Agorastos said.

According to the WASC

evaluation report, the committee concluded that the staff encourages high expectations of students and uses assessments, group projects and collaboration.

Other strong points were our school's leadership program, student activities such as clubs and student government, the supportive community that we had and the school's student related programs that were available at the school such as leadership. They also applauded the school for using assessment tools such as the Online Assessment Reportings (OARS) to direct our curriculum.

Most of the areas of focus that were around for the last evaluation were met except for closing achievement gaps and implementing ESLERS.

This year, the committee focused on developing programs for underrepresented sub-groups

and closing the achievement gaps for those groups.

Another area of improvement that was a factor was the technology plan. Even though the school recently installed LCD projectors, the committee wants to develop a technology plan that will be able to increase learning efficiency in the classroom. Osicka, math teacher Mark Clevenger, activities director Helen Paris and Principal Linda Fernandez will be visiting other campuses around the district to learn about different technology.

These areas will have to be improved upon before the next renewal. By sometime in June, WASC will let Washington know how many years—up to six—the school is accredited for. During that time, the school will be implementing changes to meet the requirements.

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