



At Ursuline Campus

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# Heart of the **MATTER**

A Monthly Bulletin for Sacred Heart Academy Parents & Friends



## Big News

### **MARCH 2 INTERLUDE RAFFLE TICKET SALES**

Interlude raffle tickets are on sale now for \$50 to win a grand prize of \$25,000. All students received at least two tickets in October and January to sell. Incentives for students include dress down days (up to five), weekly drawings for gift cards, and drawings for prestigious up-close parking spots (like Colonel's spot). **Our SHA goal is to sell at least 1,115 tickets by Friday, February 24** and then *everyone wins a day off school . . . Monday, April 16! It's the Monday, after Spring Break.* Additional tickets are available in the office. Announcements will be made during school and through Constant Contact emails on our progress and weekly drawings.

### **KEEP THE HEART OF SHA BEATING STRONG!**

February is Heart Month at SHA. It is also the time alumnae are asked to support the Annual Fund. SHA students can earn service hours by participating in the Student Phone-A-Thon. Freshman can earn up to 15 hours, while sophomores, juniors and seniors can earn up to 10 hours. NHS members can also earn up to 10 hours by participating in the Student Phone-A-Thon. Phone-A-Thon will run Monday through Thursday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., beginning February 1 and ending February 16. Students should look for sign-up sheets posted weekly on class message boards in the main hall. Please encourage your daughter to show her support of SHA while earning service hours!

### **22ND ANNUAL ALUMNAE AWARDS CELEBRATION!**

The faculty, staff and students of Sacred Heart Academy congratulate Dr. McAuliffe and the following alumnae, parents, parent of alum, and former coach who will be honored at the 22nd Annual SHA Alumnae Awards Celebration on February 15: Alumnae of the Year – Marissa Howard-McNatt '87, MD; Heart Award – Joan and Fabian Lipp, Sherry Lerme, and Carl Hafele; Honorary Diploma – Dr. Beverly McAuliffe; Ursuline Teaching Award – Kathleen Wagner '67; Valkyrie Hall of Fame – Jenna Cooper '01, Kim Brown Knopf '77, Mary Elizabeth McAuliffe '64, and Scott Miller, former swim coach. The dinner and awards ceremony will be held at The Olmsted from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. For more information, contact Nannette Mershon at 896-8681, ext. 1509 or [nmershon@sacredheartschools.org](mailto:nmershon@sacredheartschools.org).



## Around Campus

### ♥ PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

SHA's Parents' Association plans numerous events for SHA students, teachers, and parents. You know about these activities, but did you know that our parents have a key role making these successful: Kroger Cards, Open House, Father-Daughter Dance, Sophomore Grandparents Mass, and Teacher Appreciation Lunches. We are planning for next year. Do you have time to volunteer and help with one or more of these functions?

Specifically we are looking for additional help on our Special Events Committee that plans five student-parent receptions throughout the year. For example, the Freshman Parent Mass Reception is held during September. We send emails asking our parents to provide dessert items or help set-up and serve. Most of the events are in the evening and you can help even if you work full-time during the day. We would also like to have a parent from each class on our Committee for the Teacher Appreciation Luncheons. We host five each year, usually on a planned half day of school when teachers stay for meetings after lunch. We email parents to send in food items and we need help at the lunch setting up and serving from about 10am-2pm. If you are interested, please email Joan Lipp (Meredith, Class of 2012) and she will get you involved: [lippf@insightbb.com](mailto:lippf@insightbb.com)

The next Parents' Association meeting will be held Monday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the SHA cafeteria. All parents are welcome!

### ♥ MULTI-CULTURAL DINNER

The annual campus Multi-Cultural Dinner will be held Friday, February 3, in the SHA gym and connector. The international fair will begin at 5:00 p.m. and dinner and entertainment will follow in the gym starting at 6:00. Cost for the dinner is a recommended donation of \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Children 6 and under are free. Student and adult volunteers are needed to prepare international food items and/or to help out on the day of the event by serving, helping to set up or clean up, participating in the entertainment portion of the program, or having a display at the international fair. All profits will be donated to an appropriate charity. To volunteer, please contact Carol Sherman, [csherman@sacredheartsschools.org](mailto:csherman@sacredheartsschools.org).

### ♥ APPALACHIA SERVICE TRIP

It's not too late to be part of this summer's service trip to Appalachia. Any student can complete her 2012-13 service hours through this experience. The July 8-11 trip is sponsored by Hand in Hand Ministries and costs \$250. We are in serious need of adult participants with home repair skills. Girls and their parents are encouraged to contact Mrs. Kelly immediately if they are interested.

### ♥ HEART OF THE MATTER

If you have any questions, comments or contributions for our monthly newsletter, they can be directed to Denise Gahafer, Communications Coordinator of the Parents' Association, at 314-4153 or by email at [dajgr59@yahoo.com](mailto:dajgr59@yahoo.com).



## The Spotlight

### ♥ CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

SHA will be celebrating this special week by targeting groups to express our appreciation. January 31 is Parent Appreciation Day, February 1 is Faculty Appreciation Day, February 2 is Alumnae Appreciation Day and February 3 is Student Appreciation Day. The SHA Student Council Executive Board and SHA Administration are in the process of planning special events and activities for each of these days. Details will be announced as they are finalized.

### ♥ ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Please join SHA in celebrating the beginning of the Lenten Season by attending the Ash Wednesday prayer service to be held in the SHA gymnasium on February 22 at 9:45 am. All parents and other family members are invited to attend.

### ♥ FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE

The SHA Father-Daughter Dance will be held at the Mellwood Arts and Entertainment Center on February 25 from 8:00 – Midnight. The Theme for this year's event is "My Wish." Dress is semi-formal. However, most seniors wear their prom dress and senior dads wear a tuxedo. Cost is \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door. Tickets may be purchased during each lunch period starting February 20. Tickets may also be purchased after school in the front office during this time period.

### ♥ IB AND AP NEWS

Sophomores will be making decisions this semester about the course of study they will follow at SHA over the next two years. To help with these decisions, parents of sophomores currently enrolled in Honors classes are invited to an informational meeting about IB diploma and certificate programs on Wednesday, February 8, at 7:00 p.m., in the cafeteria. Students may come as well. Parents of freshmen who want to attend in order to start early planning are invited, too.

#### INCOMING FRESHMAN PARENTS FOR 2012-13:

There will be an informational meeting about the IB program for you on Monday, February 27, at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria. Your daughters may come as well.

AP test fees are now due for any student currently enrolled in an AP class. Cost is \$87 per test. Checks should be made out to Sacred Heart Academy and given to their AP teachers. If taking more than one AP test, one check for the total amount will be sufficient. Write the names of the subjects testing on the memo line.

### ♥ INCLEMENT WEATHER

If school is closed or if classes are to begin later than usual because of weather conditions or any other extraordinary reason, an announcement will be made by local radio and TV stations. Those registered with Dean Alert will be contacted directly. SHA abides by the Archdiocesan weather decisions. If a late opening is announced, school begins at 9:30 am. If weather conditions require an early dismissal, school will end at 1:30 pm.



## The Principal's Interest

Dear Parents,

As we head into February, the second semester of this school year has a comfortable rhythm for students and teachers. I hope your daughter is motivated and focused to continue to do and be her very best this semester. Obviously, what that "very best" is looks different for each and every student. The journey toward maturity for our students is one of discovering strengths and talents and accepting limitations. And in this process, there are challenges and setbacks, maturation struggles, family crises at times, and friend/boyfriend issues. Good and wise parenting is truly a challenge at this age!

In an earlier HOM letter to parents, I shared my concerns about our students' stress levels as they strive to make top grades, take the most challenging classes, and impose sometimes too much challenge on themselves. At times that challenge may lead to decisions they normally wouldn't make, such as cheating on a test or plagiarizing an assignment. As you no doubt realize from your daughter's course syllabi in all her SHA classes, we have a strict policy on cheating that teachers are expected to enforce. Yet today's technology, with the ease it provides to access information, makes ethical decision making a huge challenge for our girls. To combat the temptation to plagiarize, SHA teachers have been requesting that we purchase a program called Turnitin. This program is "the leading academic plagiarism detector, utilized by teachers and students to avoid plagiarism and ensure academic integrity" to quote from the company website. I had resisted the request as I perceived that it had a "catch them being bad" philosophy instead of challenging them to be good. However, the company has added a new element which, as an English teacher at heart, I believe made the purchase truly worthwhile and in the best interest of our students: they can access Turnitin to help them self-correct sentence structure and ensure that they are not plagiarizing unintentionally (as sometimes this is a challenge even for adult writers). Parents, I encourage you to check out Turnitin (online) with your daughters! They will be better writers for it and will be more aware of ethical decision-making!

Thank you, parents, for sending your daughters to Sacred Heart Academy. It is a truly a privilege to be their principal and to watch them learn, grow and become strong women of great faith!

Sincerely,

Beverly McAuliffe, EdD



## The Chalkboard

### FROM THE DEANS OF STUDIES

#### SCHEDULING PROCEDURES FOR 2012-2013

Planning for next year's class schedules begins this month. Students will be called together as a class to receive information about required courses and credits. The week following these meetings, advising meetings will begin. This is the time when students meet individually, during class, with their English, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language teachers to discuss level placements and course selections for next year.

Class Scheduling Meetings will be held in the cafeteria during TEAM on three days:

Rising Seniors – February 1

Rising Juniors – February 7

Rising Sophomores – February 9

Individual advising days will be held February 13 and 16. Your daughter will meet with her English, Math, Social Studies, Science and World Language teachers in those classes to discuss the appropriate course/course level for next year.

Elective Advising for Juniors and Seniors will take place on Feb. 24 and 28 during TEAM.

**Students must have approval signatures from all teachers and from parents in order to register for classes.** Scheduling forms will be due with contracts on March 15.

#### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As the new semester gets underway, you are asked to review Sacred Heart's Academic Integrity statement printed in each teacher's syllabus and posted under Contents on the home page of Edline. And in our continuing effort to educate students and parents on the serious issue of academic honesty, please note:

Clemson University has an excellent web page dedicated to Academic Integrity: [http://www.academicintegrity.org/educational\\_resources/ai\\_articles.php](http://www.academicintegrity.org/educational_resources/ai_articles.php). On that page, an insightful letter written by a Professor of Political Science from Oakton Community College, the importance of academic honesty is articulated to students of the college. Professor Taylor notes that integrity is a character trait that must be developed and nurtured. He asserts that if we can justify dishonesty in the small areas of our lives, then we will be more likely to do the same in more significant areas. Professor Taylor comments, "I'm deeply convinced that integrity is an essential part of any true educational experience, integrity on my part as a faculty member and integrity on your part as a student." Please take time to review this important issue with your daughters and work with us to teach them character as well as content, integrity and achievement.

#### PLANNING AHEAD

Second semester Parent Teacher Student conferences will be held on Tuesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m.



## FEBRUARY 2012

Catholic Schools Week (January 29 – February 4)

- 1.....Catholic Schools Week Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day  
Class Scheduling Meeting for Rising Seniors – TEAM  
Student Phone A Thon (M-TH through Feb. 16) – 3-5 pm – Development Office
- 2.....Catholic Schools Week Alumnae Appreciation Day  
Parent Prayer Group – 8:15 am – SHA Chapel
- 3.....Catholic Schools Week Student Appreciation Day  
Multicultural Dinner and International Fair – 5pm – SHA connector and gym
- 6.....Parent Association Meeting – 7 pm – SHA cafeteria
- 7.....Class Scheduling Meeting for Rising Juniors – TEAM
- 8.....Sophomore Parents IB Information Meeting – 7 pm – SHA cafeteria
- 9.....Parent Prayer Group – 8:15 am – SHA Chapel  
Class Scheduling Meeting for Rising Sophomore – TEAM
- 10.....SAT Registration Deadline for March 10 test
- 11.....ACT Test – 8:00 am
- 13.....Noon Dismissal  
Booster Meeting – 7 pm – SHA cafeteria
- 15.....Edline Posting  
SHA Alumnae Awards Celebration – 6 pm – The Olmsted
- 16.....Parent Prayer Group – 8:15 am – SHA Chapel
- 17-21 .....NO SCHOOL – Winter Break
- 22.....Ash Wednesday Prayer Service – 9:45 am – SHA gym
- 23.....Parent Prayer Group – 8:15 am – SHA Chapel
- 24.....Junior/Senior Electives Advising – TEAM  
TEAM Last Sr. Early Dismissal  
Interlude Raffle Sales Drive Ends
- 25.....Father/ Daughter Dance – 8 pm – Mellwood Arts Center
- 27.....Incoming Freshmen Parent IB Information Meeting – 7:00 pm – Cafeteria
- 28.....Junior/Senior Electives Advising – TEAM

## MARCH 2011

- 1.....Parent Prayer Group – 8:15 am – SHA Chapel
- 2.....Noon Dismissal  
Sacred Heart Schools *Interlude* 2012 – 7 pm – SHA gym
- 5.....Parent Association Meeting – 7 pm – SHA cafeteria
- 6.....Freshman Registration – 6 pm – SHA gym

## FROM THE COUNSELORS

### FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

At this time of year, as seniors wrap up the process of applying for college admission, the focus is on applying for scholarships and financial aid. Many colleges, businesses and organizations offer scholarships with deadlines in February and March. Make sure you check *Naviance* for the list of available scholarships as well as these search engines: fastweb.com, MeritAid.com, and cfloisville.org.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available and should be filed as soon as possible. The FAFSA is **free** and can be found at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Completing your tax return prior to completing the FAFSA will make the application process easier. Filing electronically is the fastest and most accurate way to apply for aid, but be sure to keep a hard copy for your records.

Kentucky colleges and universities have a March 15 deadline for submission of the FAFSA. Students should verify the deadline for submission for each college to which they have applied and should check on the necessity of additional forms. Many schools rely solely on the FAFSA as the application for need-based aid, but some schools require additional forms, such as the CSS Profile. Be sure to check for your preferred college's form!

### NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

We encourage juniors to start planning college visits so they can begin to think about colleges where they may want to apply their senior year. A great opportunity to learn more about colleges is at the NACAC college fair on **Sunday, February 26, from 2:00-5:00 pm** at the Kentucky International Convention Center. This is a national fair, so there will be over one hundred colleges in attendance!

### STANDARDIZED TESTING

It is very important that juniors take the ACT and/or the SAT twice before the end of June of the current school year. Registration deadlines are quickly approaching. The registration deadline for the March 10 SAT test is February 10. The ACT test is April 14 and the registration deadline is March 9. We want our students to be well prepared for these tests, so be sure to check out the Method Test Prep program available through *Naviance*.

## MISSION

Sacred Heart Schools is a community of Catholic schools, sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters and dedicated to educating the whole person in academics, arts, athletics, and spirituality.

## VISION

To be a nationally recognized Catholic community and premier character-building academic institution where teachers want to teach, students want to learn, and others want to be.