

Seven Hills Chronicles & Beacon Prep News

December 11, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 11

The excitement is mounting as we approach the holiday season, which, from the looks of the weather is already upon us. We are 7 school days away from being in our new space and the buzz of the move is gaining momentum. Please contact Mrs. Emery at cemery@shcamn.com if you have time between January 4th and 8th to assist with cleaning (4th), moving (5th and 6th) and moving and cleaning (7th and 8th). Again, we would like to remind everyone in the community to mark their calendars for January 15th, on which day both school boards will be hosting the Open House.

Our VIPs this week included:

Kindergarten: Wellsley Warriner, Bryn Morgan, Kathryn Ross

First Grade: Catherine Sothy, Alexander Keaveny, Nicholas Weiderholt

Second Grade: Aavni Varadhan, Naomi York, Mallory Bowman

Third Grade: Claire Reece, A.J. Wallace, Matthew Verbout

Fourth Grade: Paige Christenson, Nicole Farnham

Fifth Grade: Emma Alberts, Kila Mei Panchot

Art VIP: Matthew Verbout (that's two for him this week☺)

Our Very Important Classes (VIC) are:

Music: Mrs. Tieman's Class

PhyEd: Mrs. Gleason's Class

For Beacon Prep VIPs, watch for the last edition of the month as they recognize character and good citizenship at a monthly assembly. Additionally, the middle school has launched its values program which is known as the "Pillars." The students will be reflecting on and developing the following traits, or pillars, to promote 'ricches' in their community: Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Citizenship, Honesty, Excellence and Self-Confidence. Please ask your child(ren) what these words mean to them and how it impacts their participation in the Beacon Preparatory School community.

A few more things that you should know:

MATCHING GIFTS: We want to take a moment to thank those of you who investigated matching gifts with your employers. Year to date, we've received over \$2,000 in contributions from employers. The generosity of our parents and their employers continue to benefit our programming and is deeply appreciated by the entire community. Thank you.

HOT LUNCH & MILK: No more lunches can be ordered for December at this time. Please be advised, however, that January lunch menus will be coming home on Monday, December 14th and will be due on Monday, December 21, 2009. Menus are always posted on our website; so, check there if one does not make it home. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments or concerns that you might have regarding the lunch program.

Dates to Remember

December 15, 5:30 p.m.
BP Board Meeting

December 17, 6:30 p.m.
Winter Program
PC Book Fair*
**schedule change*

December 22
Last day of school before
Winter Break

December 23-January 10
Winter Break

**January 4-8th
SHCA and BP move into new
facilities!!**

*Please contact Claire Emery at
cemery@shcamn.org to sign-up for
volunteer opportunities. We're
looking for movers, cleaners, tech
set-up folks, classroom set-up
assistance, etc.
(952) 426-6000*

**January 15, 2010
6:30-8:00 p.m.
OPEN HOUSE
New Facility!**

***Students who forget to bring their lunch will be sent to the office and a call home will be made to ensure that every child is eating a lunch.*

CONFERENCES: We want to acknowledge the support of all of our parents, all of whom made it in to speak with us regarding your children. 100% of our parents made it in for first quarter conferences.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: Now that we have experienced our first winter storm, we think that we should let you know where to check for school closings. You can watch for our schools closings on WCCO (Channel 4), KSTP (Channel 5) and KARE (Channel 11). Please note that KARE 11 has not yet confirmed for Beacon Prep. We'll keep you posted on that. In the meantime, Beacon Pep parents should tune in to either WCCO or KSTP! ☺

LOST AND FOUND: Outside the temporary main office, several tables have been set up to house all of our lost and found items and it seems to be growing as the weather changes. If you are missing shoes, lunch boxes, gloves, sweaters or coats—you name it—chances are you'll find it on the table. Please be advised that during the winter break, unclaimed items will be donated to a worthy cause. The tables will be placed out in the Sanctuary area during the Winter Program.

BUSING: Should you have busing issues and concerns, please contact the office to speak with our transportation contacts: Liz Ekholm and Chris Bewell. We appreciate your support and, as always, welcome suggestions and/or questions. If you have immediate concerns—e.g. the bus just drove by your stop and you're quite positive you saw your child sitting in the third seat waving at you as it drove by, please contact Monarch Bus Company directly at 612-238-8080.

CLUB CLASSICS: Winter Club Classics will begin on Tuesday, January 19th. Please watch your child(ren)'s back pack for information regarding the winter offerings. You can contact Mrs. Burfeind at hburfeind@shcamn.org with any questions that you might have regarding kids clubs.

SPANISH and LATIN: If you have an interest in

having your 5th through 7th grade child join the Spanish and/or Latin enrichment classes, please let Ms. Pollis (epollis@shcamn.org) for Spanish and/or Mr. Ball (tball@shcamn.org) for Latin know and they will be happy to provide you with any details that you might need.

MUSIC: Please contact Mrs. Wood kwood@shcamn.org with any questions that you have regarding choir (available to 4th-7th graders) or band (available to 6th and 7th graders). There will be more opening/s in choir and band in January. Please watch for news about enrolling at that time.

The schools' Winter Program has been scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. ☺!

UNIFORMS: Please continually refer to the uniform policy with questions that you might have. We are seeing a growing number of children wearing cargo pants, colored hoodies, sweatshirts and sweaters, etc., all of which fall outside the parameters of allowable wear for school. Please double check what your child(ren) are wearing as they head off to school each day to ensure compliance with the uniform policies. We want all of the children to be comfortable in their surroundings and, given the cold weather, we appreciate the children coming with sufficient clothing to keep them warm. Along those lines, children will be going outside for recess every day that the temperature (including wind-chill) is above zero. As always, we appreciate our community's support of all school policies and encourage you to make a phone call to the office with any questions that you might have.

COMMUNICATION: Please be advised that, due to construction, teachers do not have immediate access to telephones. Barring an emergency, calls made to the office result in a message being placed in a teacher's mailbox. Thus, if you call the school for things such as collecting homework for a sick child, please understand if the teacher is not able to respond to your message on the same day that you call it in. We are all looking forward to having better communications once the new phone system is in place.

We encourage e-mail communication as the best way to connect with a child's teacher. Additionally, we send the school's newsletter out each week via e-mail only and are contacting VIP parents via e-mail when possible. If the office does not have your current e-mail address, please let us know.

SEVEN HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The board of directors January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., here at the school. *Please be advised that the Seven Hills Board is looking to add a community member to the board. While any interested community member is encouraged to participate, individuals with either a legal or human resources background would add to the various abilities and skill sets already represented. Interested individuals should contact Mrs. Day at eday@shcamn.org for more information.* Agendas for the meetings will be posted on the main office door approximately one week prior to each month's meeting.

BEACON PREP BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The board of directors will be having its December meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., here at the school. *The Beacon Prep Board is looking to expand its membership as there are currently only 5 members. Should you have an interest or know of anyone who would like to participate on the school's board of directors, please have them contact Meghan Butler, the Board President, at mbutler@tcfbank.com.* Agendas for the meetings will be posted on the main office door approximately one week prior to each month's meeting.

School board meetings are public meetings and all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

PARENT CONNECTION: The Parent Connection "PC" will be meeting on January 14th at 6:30 p.m.. Please contact Liz Ekholm at lizekholm@yahoo.com should you have any questions, comments or concerns that you would like to address to the PC. Again, all are encouraged to attend. Additionally, we want to let the PC know how much we appreciate the time and effort that was expended

in getting the school directory printed and ready. Please contact Liz Ekholm if you have not yet received your copy.

The PC is selling Blue Sky Coupon Books for \$20. You can get a book now by contacting Liz or you can pick one up at the PC Winter Book Fair which will be going on the night of the Winter Program. Additionally, Beacon Prep is planning an overnight field trip to Camp St. Croix. The field trip is scheduled for the end of the year but the PC is assisting with fundraising efforts through the sale of cookbooks which are now available for \$10 each. Again, you can purchase the cookbooks from the Beacon Prep families or directly from the PC. We hear that they are making great holiday gifts!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: We appreciate those of you who are volunteering in the classroom, regularly during lunch and recess, and with projects that you might be doing at home. Please contact Mrs. Emery (cemery@shcamn.org) to share your availability to come in and help out. As always, we are particularly grateful for any help we can get during the lunch hours—come have lunch with the kids and help us ensure the safety of all students!☺

Are you a 1st Year Student Family at SHCA/Beacon Prep? Want to connect with other first year families? Please contact Amanda Boe, arboe@frontiernet.net, if you have any questions, are looking for or would like to be a mentor parent.

DROP OFFS & PICK-UPS: As we anticipate increasingly foul weather, we would continue to caution you to please follow staff directions when picking up your children at school. We would like to continue to encourage pick-up parents take advantage of the car pick-up line, particularly now that inclement weather is upon us. Our children's safety is our concern.

EARLY ARRIVALS: As a reminder, no drop-offs are allowed prior to 8:45 a.m. Please make every effort to have your child here as close to 9:00 a.m. as possible. If you happen to let your child off early, please remind her/him or them that they are expected to be on their best behavior—no running, playing ball indoors, etc. At 8:45 a.m., there is staff in the entry area to monitor student behavior.

Students who are not able to make appropriate choices will be asked to wait with their parents in their cars until the children are allowed to enter the building at 9:00 a.m.

ENROLLMENT: Please share with your family, friends, neighbors and community how happy you are with Seven Hills and Beacon Prep! Both Seven Hills' and Beacon Prep's enrollment window is now open. Please direct interested families to our websites so that they can complete Enrollment Interest Forms for the 2010-11 academic year.

Seven Hills School Mission Statement

Seven Hills Classical Academy provides students with a classical education in an academically rigorous environment designed to promote strong citizenship and life-long learning.

Beacon Prep School Mission Statement

Beacon Preparatory School creates a unique community by engaging students in a rigorous, content-rich curriculum with an emphasis on Classical, liberal arts education. We promote pillars of character development including integrity, honesty, and self-confidence while embracing the individual needs and development of our students.

*****please remember that we promote a nut-free environment for our students—be sure to check granola bars, lunchables, etc., when deciding what to pack for lunch or to send for snacks*****

Have a safe and warm weekend!