

Seven Hills Chronicles & Beacon Prep News

December 17, 2009

Volume 1, Issue 12

We are all still enjoying the celebration that began last night with The Winter Program. Thank you so much for your support, the encouragement of the children and your participation in our excitement as we wind up 2009. We are looking forward to a restful, safe and happy holiday season and wish only the best for you and yours!

We are 2 school days away from being in our new space! Please contact Mrs. Emery at cemery@shcamn.com if you have time between January 5th (note the change!) and 8th to assist with moving and cleaning (5th -7th) and classroom organization and set-up (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 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Our VIPs this week included:

Kindergarten: Nicolas Kapocius, Ava Knight, Ben Brom

First Grade: Lavell Miller, Logan White, Caleb Flierman

Second Grade: Belle Lockrem, Victoria Johnson, Katie Alger

Third Grade: Tara Sothy, Kelly Powers, Spencer Kleve-Strabley

Fourth Grade: Ryan Lundeen, Lucy Snider

Fifth Grade: Andrew Worm, Sam Walker

Art VIP: Ryan Lundeen (that's two for him this week☺), Emily Mickelson

Our Very Important Classes (VIC) are:

Music: Mrs. Wiederholt's, Mr. Becker's and Mrs. Peterson's class

PhyEd: Ms. Passa's Class

Our Beacon Prep VIPs this month are:

Science: Emma Wigdahl and Nick Nelson

Language Arts: Ashleigh Reece and Caleb Snider

Social Studies: Carl Olmstead and Andrew Johnson

Math: Katherine Zoellmer and Grace Sheets

These students demonstrated extraordinary character and good citizenship this month. Additionally, they exhibited evidence of each of their "Pillars:" Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Citizenship, Honesty, Excellence and Self-Confidence. Please encourage your child(ren) to keep up the great work as it impacts their personal and academic success in the Beacon Preparatory School community.

A few more things that you should know:

HOT LUNCH & MILK: January lunch menus went 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.

***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.*

Dates to Remember

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 5, 2010

Seven Hills Board Meeting

January 12, 2010

Beacon Prep Board Meeting

January 15, 2010

6:30-8:00 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE

New Facility!

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: In severe weather conditions, please 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 Prep parents should tune in to either WCCO or KSTP☺!

LOST AND FOUND: *Please be advised that during the winter break, unclaimed items will be donated to a worthy cause.* The tables will be placed out in hallway until the end of the school day, December 22, 2009.

NEW FACILITY: Please look for a packet of information during the first week of January, 2010, with regard to new drop off and pick up procedures for the new space. The buses will pick up and drop off children on the west side of the building. Parent drop off and pick up will be at the new main entrance—under the school bell. Traffic routing maps will be forwarded in the packets. Please make sure to follow directions so that the flow of traffic can be smooth and convenient for all.

MATCHING GIFTS: We are so appreciative of the substantial employer matching gifts that we have received this year. If you have not done so, check with your employer to see if the company matches charitable contributions. In this way, whatever you donate to the school can be matched.

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.

UNIFORMS: Thank you all for supporting the schools' uniform policies. As we head in to the winter break, we would ask that you review the policy before returning to school on January 11th and, remember, if the wind chill is above zero, we plan on heading out in to the snow for recess! 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. While we anticipate that this will change in the New Year, until you receive confirmation of that fact, we appreciate your understanding that, barring an emergency, calls made to the office may 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, the teacher may not be 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 January meeting on Tuesday, January 12th, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., here at the school. Please note that this meeting will be held one week earlier than the regularly scheduled board meeting. ***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.

OPEN HOUSE: Both schools' Board of Directors cordially invites you to participate in the school's Open House which will be held on Friday, January 15, 2010, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming to the school to take a tour of the classrooms, and other new areas of the building. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

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 directly. 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: Please watch for news over the winter break for changes in the drop off and pick up procedure. In the meantime, we continue to caution you to please follow staff directions when picking up your children at school. Again, we encourage pick-up parents to 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*****

**We wish for you all the merriest
holiday season ever!
Be safe, be healthy and be warm☺!**