

Seven Hills Chronicles & Beacon Prep News

February 5, 2010

Volume 1, Issue 16

The winter NWEA testing window has now closed. We are thrilled to report that students are showing as much or more growth in Math and Reading than they did last year. What we do know is that the introduction of the Singapore Math curriculum, with a more focused implementation of the Reading and other Language Arts components has significantly impacted our academic programs in a very positive way. We are so proud of the children and their discipline and dedication to their own personal success.

The VIP Assembly included the launching of this year's Science Fair. Please ask your child all about it. Our VIP award recipients this week are:

Kindergarten: Anja Urbanz, Alex Gihl, TJ Whipple

First Grade: Levi Plummer, Kyrie Ross, Cecily Thomson

Second Grade: Katelyn Mahan, Bella Jessen, Makenzie Kinney

Third Grade: Ryan Peters, Brigitta Naegle, CJ Hayes

Fourth Grade: Kealani Smith, Spencer Will

Fifth Grade: Jack Thunstrom, Phillip Pollis

Art VIPs: Mallory Bowman, Michael Williams

Our Very Important Classes (VIC) are:

Phy Ed: Mrs. Nelson's Class

Music: Mrs. Getz's Class

Beacon Prep held elections today for the first of what is sure to be many Honor Councils. Candidates submitted applications, gave a brief speech to their peers and an election was held this morning. The Honor Council will be a self-governing group of students who, in collaboration with Mrs. Emery and Miss O'Brien, will assist students in developing the type of culture that will set them apart from other middle schools, embracing all of its Pillars. We were excited at the student interest and are pleased to announce that the following comprises the 2010 Spring Honor Council:

6th Grade: Katherine Zoellmer, Nathaniel Davis and Sam Belden

7th Grade: Zachary Gilliland, Kaleb Snyder, Ankitha Varadhan and Savannah Badeaux

A few more things that you should know:

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: We just can't say enough how much we love our parent volunteers. For those of you who have met your 40 hours of volunteer service to the schools, you will find a visitor's pass with your name on it when you sign in. If you have a question about what volunteer opportunities are available, please be sure to contact Mrs. Emery at cemery@shcamn.org.

HOT LUNCH & MILK: March lunch menus will be coming home after the 15th ☺. As always, monthly menus are posted on our website. 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

*Please contact Claire Emery at cemery@shcamn.org to sign-up for volunteer opportunities.
(952) 426-6000*

SINGAPORE MATH NIGHT

*Tuesday,
February 9, 2010
6-7:30 p.m.*

Parent Informational Meetings

*Tues., 2/16 at 6:00 p.m.
Sat., 2/20 at 9:00 a.m.*

BOARD MEETING

DATE CHANGES

*Monday,
March 8, 2010
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Seven Hills Board Meeting*

*Wednesday,
February 17, 2010,
5:30-7:00 p.m.
Beacon Prep Board Meeting*

PC Meeting

*Thursday,
February 11, 2010*

NO SCHOOL

*Friday, February 12
Staff Professional Development
Monday, February 15
President's Day*

READ ACROSS AMERICA LITERACY NIGHT

*Tuesday,
March 2, 2010
6-7:30 p.m.*

Singapore Math Night: You are cordially invited to attend Singapore Math night that will be lead by some of our fabulous teachers. We will have demonstrations and examples which should explain our approach to teaching Math. Please bring your questions and learn all about Singapore Math on February 9, 2010, from 6-7:30 p.m.

2nd Annual Read Across America Literacy Night: Please mark your calendars for this wonderful celebration of Reading which will take place on March 2nd, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Join us for literacy-focused activities for all K-7th SHCA and BPS students.

In order to make this event a success, we would be appreciative of the following donations:

- Cardstock (all colors)
- White poster board
- Markers and glue
- Crayons and pencils
- White paper lunch bags
- Craft supplies (ribbons, buttons, stickers, etc.)

** donations can be delivered to Mrs. Emery. Thank you in advance for your help!*

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: We had a couple of cold and snowy days this week which persuades us to keep this section in the weekly Chronicles. Please be advised, then, that 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: Come and look for newly missing hats, gloves or shoes at the main office. While many lost items were reunited with their homes, our bin is ever growing☺! Please let your child(ren) know that, if they are missing something, it may have found its way to the main office. They should come in and check either before or after school.

MATCHING GIFTS: We are so appreciative of the substantial employer matching gifts that we are receiving already 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 are well under way and the participants are having a blast! There is still room in some of the clubs. Please 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: Mrs. Wood is no longer accepting enrollments in choir and band; nevertheless, 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). She has all the information that you might need to enroll your child in either choir or band.

UNIFORMS: Even though we had a couple of below zero days this week, we want to encourage your sending of the children fully geared, especially our bus riders. 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: We encourage e-mail communication as the best way to connect with a child's teacher. Each teacher can collect voice messages throughout the day. If you would like to leave a voice mail message for any staff member, please contact the school and we will be happy to forward your message to the teacher you wish to contact. 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 March will be held on Monday, March 8, 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 February meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at 5:30 p.m., here at the school. *The Beacon Prep Board is also 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 February 11th 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.

ST. CROIX TRIP: 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 parents have begun 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.

FIRST YEAR FAMILIES: 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: We think the drop offs and pick-ups are going well! Thank you all for following the directions that were sent home and paying attention in the parking lots! We continue to 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.

If you have to call the school to change a pick up or drop off plan, please make sure you are doing so well before 3:45 p.m. each day. Having advance notice of changed plans for your children is greatly appreciated. A note with your child is the best way to communicate transportation information to his or her teacher and the office.

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! Seven Hills' enrollment window is now open.

Beacon Prep's enrollment window is now closed. We will be accepting enrollment interest forms for Beacon Prep on a first come, first serve basis. Please direct interested families to our websites so that they can complete Enrollment Interest Forms for the 2010-11 academic year. Additionally, we are now conducting tours of the building. They will be given on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. through the end of February. Please have any interested families call Ms. Bewell to schedule an appointment and for information regarding parent informational meetings.

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 warm weekend☺!!