

GTACS NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF GRAND TRAVERSE AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

MISSION SCHOOLS OF
DISTINCTION



MISSION STATEMENT: Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education ensuring educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.

Published August 31, 2010

Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is each Wednesday @ 2:00 p.m.

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Maureen DeYoung at

MDeyoung@qtacs.org

School Phone Numbers and School Hours/Dismissal Times

Holy Angels Elementary-HAES
(231) 946-5961 7:50 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - SEAS
(231) 932-4810 7:50 a.m. - 2:40

p.m.

Immaculate Conception - ICES
(231) 947-1252 7:50 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

St. Francis High School - SFHS
(231) 946-8038 7:50 a.m. - 2:42 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Below are reminders of the important date reminders from the Principals Back to School letters:

- **TONIGHT!** Tuesday, August 31st: SEAS Open House and Ice Cream Social 31st from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Please gather directly in the gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. for a welcome, prayer, and delivery of general school information.
- Wednesday, September 1st: K-5 Class lists posted by 8 a.m. on school doors of Holy Angels and Immaculate Conception
- Wednesday, September 1st – 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. – Holy Angels Open House and Ice Cream Social
- Friday, September 3rd: First home football game - St. Francis Gladiators play Saginaw Nouvel at 7 p.m. at Thirlby Field
- Tuesday, September 7th: First ½ Day of school for grades 1-8 (Kindergarten visits) 11 a.m. Dismissal (busing provided)
- Wednesday, September 8th-10th: Full days for students in grades 1-12, Kindergarten attends half days
- Week of September 7th –10th: Preschool Conferences

- September 9th: Immaculate Conception Elementary Open House at 6:30 p.m. This will begin in the church. The students and families will then visit their classrooms.
- Friday, September 10th: All System Mass in St. Francis Gym at 8:30 a.m. All K-12 students are to be dropped off at the SF site that morning at regular time
- Week of September 13th – Preschool classes begin
- Wednesday, September 15th: St. Francis Parent Orientation for all grade levels in the Kohler Auditorium. 9th and 10th grade parents are invited to come from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. to meet our teachers and tour the school. 11th and 12th grade parents are welcome to come from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to meet our teachers and learn about upcoming tests and important deadlines you won't want to miss!

Additional Information for St. Francis Students:

- Students should have received their schedules in the mail the week of August 8th and textbook ordering information was included with that mailing. Please make sure you have your textbooks ordered asap! Questions? Call the St. Francis office at 946-8038.
- Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors final schedules and locker combinations can be picked up on Tuesday, Sept. 7th, from 8:30—2:00. At this time we will collect the locker fee of \$7 and parking permit for any new drivers which is \$20. The parking fee is refunded at the time of graduation.
- All freshmen and transfer students will have an orientation beginning in the Kohler Auditorium on September 7th at 9 a.m. They will receive their locker combinations, schedules and other helpful information. Students do not need to wear uniforms this day
- All 9-12 grade students will begin their first day of classes on Wednesday, Sept. 8th. Students may be in the hallways at 7:20 am. Classes begin at 7:50 am and end at 2:42 p.m.

Additional Staffing Changes

We have a few staffing changes to update our families on. Mrs. Rose Gallagher resigned her 2nd grade position at Holy Angels. We wish her many blessings as she transitions into her new position as Kindergarten Teacher at Blair Elementary (TCAPS). We are happy to announce that Mrs. Nicole DeVol will be following her passion to teach at the elementary level and filling this position. Mrs. DeVol was part of the SEAS 7th grade team. We are also pleased to announce that Mrs. Kammie Richardson will be joining the 7th grade team at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Mrs. Richardson has 12 years of teaching experience in both Catholic and public education. She and her husband, Robert, have five children and three of them will be at GTACS this fall in grades PreK, 5th and 7th grades.

St. Francis High School also has a new member to their staff. Mr. Terry Morris will be teaching two sections of Algebra. Mrs. Morris has 34 years of experience in education and recently retired as principal of Elk Rapids Middle School.

Welcome, Mr. Morris and Mrs. Richardson, to the GTACS family!

PTC Parent Coffees

The GTACS Parent Teacher Council invites all Holy Angels, Immaculate Conception and SEAS Parents to "Welcome Back Coffees" the first week of school. Holy Angels will be on September 8th and IC and SEAS will be on September 9th. Coffees are from 7:40 a.m.-8:45 a.m. in the respective school cafeterias. Click on the link below for the complete details:

[PTC Back to School Parent Coffees](#) (Sept. 8 and 9th)

Sports Passes

Gladiator 2010-11 All Sports Pass are now on sale in the Athletic Office. Sport Pass Prices for 2010-11 school year are as follows: Adult \$85 Student \$60 Family \$275, and Senior Citizens \$25. Passes are valid at all GTACS home regular season contests at St. Francis High and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Middle School.

Please note that this Friday's home opener football game against Saginaw Nouvel at 7 p.m. is expected to be very busy. Please stop by the athletic office in the gym lobby of St. Francis to purchase sports passes in advance. Questions? Call the Athletic Office at 946-1180.

Playground Duty Information

Playground Duty Scheduling will be finalized over the next few weeks. We still need regular duty lead parents to volunteer. These spots allow you to choose a regular schedule, such as every Tuesday or one Friday per month, etc. We need to schedule one lead parent for each day at Holy Angels, IC and SEAS. Please contact Holly Schurg at hschurg@gmail.com if you are interested. Every family at each school is scheduled to take 1-2 times per year to cover playground duty at their children's schools. Please note: We are also looking for volunteers for all three schools for the first two weeks of school. It would be a great way to get your family's commitment out of the way! Please e-mail Holly Schurg @ hschurg@gmail.com

Calling all 8th Graders-Washington D.C. Meeting

There will be a Washington, D.C. trip meeting for all eighth grade students and their parents on Wednesday, September 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the SEAS library. Information about travel plans, registration, fundraising and costs will be available. There will also be a NEW Christian Service opportunity with the Sisters of the Poor that will be announced.

St. Francis Gladiators to Host 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Bowl

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 11th when the St. Francis Gladiators will host Elk Rapids for the 3rd Annual Breast Cancer Bowl. There will be a JV and Varsity football game, Pop Warner game, tailgate, games for children, and more! All money raised will stay local and go to Munson Women's Cancer Fund. In addition to raising funds to battle breast cancer, there will also be special recognition honoring our local law enforcement in honor of the anniversary of September 11th. Gates open at 2 p.m. with the JV game beginning at 3 p.m. and the Varsity game beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, contact the GTACS Athletic Department at 946-1180.

Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools Announce 2010 Hall of Fame Inductees

The Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are pleased to announce their fourth class of inductees into the GTACS Hall of Fame:

- Lorna Ameal
- Timothy Carroll
- Joseph Kroupa
- William McGee

- Larry Sellers

The induction ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. on September 25, 2010, prior to the St. Francis High School Homecoming football game. The ceremony will be held in the Kohler Auditorium in St. Francis High School. Inductees will also be introduced during half time of the homecoming football game. Kick-off is scheduled for 1 p.m. For more information, contact Cindy Weber, Director of Admissions at (231) 995-8425 or email cweber@gtacs.org.

TRIP News

TRIP stands for Tuition Reimbursement Incentive Program, and it's a great way to save on next year's tuition!

- While supplies last, **Staples** cards are loaded with extra value. The \$25 cards are valued at \$26.25 and the \$100 cards are valued at \$105.00.
Effective August 16th, American Waste certificates can only be used for RESIDENTIAL accounts.

The TRIP Office is located in the gym of the St. Francis lobby and open Wednesdays from noon-2 p.m. and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Call the TRIP coordinators: Kate Fly or Lynn Montroy at 932-4848 to learn how you can get started today on saving money or visit www.gtacs.org and look under the Parents tab for TRIP information and order forms.

Attend Special Taping of Dr. Meg Meeker's New Video Series

You are invited to be part of a live audience for a taping of a six lecture series presented by Dr. Meg Meeker, based on her national best-seller, Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters: Ten Secrets Every Father Should Know. Seating is limited so please RSVP. (Point of interest: Dr. Meeker is a GTACS Parent and the company filming the series is Petersen Productions who does our Gladhander video every year).

When: Friday, September 24th at 6:30 p.m. (light dinner served)

Saturday, September 25th at 9 a.m. (light breakfast served)

Place: CenterPointe Auditorium, 12935 S. West Bayshore Dr. Traverse City

R.S.V.P.: Anne Mann at 231-392-9038 or annemann@gmail.com

Mothers in Christ

Mothers in Christ (MIC) meets Monday mornings (September through May) from 9 am -11 am at Christ the King Church in Acme.

MIC has a wonderful ministry in that we support one another in our awesome, exciting, yet sometimes exhausting role of motherhood. Quality childcare is provided in age-appropriate rooms with a healthy snack. We invite you to join us each week as we grow in faith together through spiritual, educational and social opportunities. Below is the schedule of events for the fall:

Mothers In Christ

Celebrating the Gift of Motherhood

www.mothersinchrist.com

Fall 2010 Schedule

September

13th – Tami Evans Foster

Children's book illustrator & public speaker

"Life on Center Stage: Step out of the Wings and Lead"

20th – Popular MIC speaker

Ziba Graham

“The Spirituality of Marriage”

27th – Faith Enrichment Series: *“Food from Heaven”*

by Jeanne Kun

October

4th – Fun & Fellowship

Rosary followed by Praise and Worship with

Dr. Lynn Swan

11th – Faith Enrichment Series

18th GTACS Chaplain, Fr. Bill Lipscomb

25th – Faith Enrichment Series

November

1st – NO SCHOOL

8th – David Peck

“A Journey Home to the Catholic Faith”

15th – Faith Enrichment Series

22nd – Faith Enrichment Series

29th – Advent Mass and Confessions

December

6th – Faith Enrichment Series

13th – Mike Koelzer R.Ph.

Public speaker and prolife pharmacist

“Following Two Fathers”

20th – Christmas Brunch

27th – NO SCHOOL / Christmas Break

New Members Always Welcome!

(We follow the GTACS School Closing Schedule)