

***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.*

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Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is Thursday @ 11:00 a.m.

Please email information for the SF newsletter to Kathy Hunt at khunt@gtacs.org

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Maureen DeYoung at mdyou@gtacs.org

Christ – Above All Things

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

5/1 Prom @ Traverse City Country Club 6:30 PM – Doors close at 7:00.

5/4 (Tuesday) ½ day Inservice followed by Festival of the Arts – Dismiss 11:00

Schedule

1 st hour	7:50 – 8:15
2 nd hour	8:17 – 8:42
3 rd hour	8:44 – 9:09
4 th hour	9:11 – 9:36
5 th hour	9:38 – 10:03
6 th hour	10:05 – 10:30
7 th hour	10:32 – 10:57
Announcements	10:57 – 11:00

5/17 (Monday) Mass with Bishop Hebda @ 9:30 followed by speaker Jason Evert

5/19 (Wednesday) Senior trip to Empire after lunch

5/20 (Thursday) Sports Faith International Assembly and Awards

5/27 (Thursday) Senior Award Night and NHS Inductions 7:00-8:30 PM
(cafeteria)

5/31 (Monday) No School Memorial Day

6/2 (Wednesday) Baccalaureate & Graduation Practice @ 10:00 AM

6/3 (Thursday) Baccalaureate Mass @ St. Francis Parish beginning with prelude music @ 6:30 PM

6/6 Graduation @ 3:00 in the SF Gym

6/7-6/10 EXAM WEEK for 9-11th

From the Counselor

Happy Friday!

This weekend will be one of the most remembered events for many SF students – Prom!

As a parent you probably remember your own prom with fond memories – the dress, the tux, the flowers, the dinner, the music, and the hair (especially the hair if you were in

high school in the 80's). The reason, unfortunately, too many proms are tainted with bad memories due to alcohol, drugs and sex.

For as long as proms have been around there has also been alcohol, drugs and sex. As parents, we have a responsibility to impart some of our well earned wisdom to our sons and daughters. Many parents believe that their words will fall on deaf ears, which many times are probably true. Worse than that many parents use the excuse of, "kids will be kids" or "I did it in high school" as a way to justify not talking to their sons and daughters about the potential dangers of prom night. Let me clarify that I don't think "scare" tactics work with high school students. You can quote statistics about prom tragedies until you are blue in the face and it won't make a difference to your teen. Teens always feel they are invincible and it won't happen to them. However, I think it is always appropriate to have a frank conversation with your son or daughter about temptations he or she will face on prom night.

The following are some tips in order to keep your teen safe prom night:

- Talk to your teen about your feeling about underage drinking, drug use and respect for their bodies. If you can't communicate strongly how you feel about it how are they able to resist temptations.
- Talk to your teen about the consequences of his/her actions. Don't just give them the worse case scenario (you could die if you drink and drive), but honestly talk about some of the other consequences. For example, wouldn't it be nice to actually remember your prom because you were sober.
- Give your teen an out. Let's face it our kids like to blame us for everything (especially moms). So give them the opportunity to do that. Tell them it is okay to use you for an excuse – "my mom or dad would take away my car; ground me for life, etc. if I drank on prom night".
- Know the who, what, when, where, and how for the night. Find out the itinerary, the chaperones, the after parties and let them know that if any plans change for the night they need to call you. Thanks to cell phones there is no longer any excuse for kids not checking in.
- Make sure your teen has a backup plan for the night for transportation. Let them know that not only is it not okay for them to drink and drive, that they are also not allowed to get into a car with someone else who has been drinking. Give them money and the phone number for a local cab company in case they need it.

Prom should be memorable because it is a fun time, not because of a tragedy. Let's keep our kids safe this weekend!

With God's Guidance,
Susan Stendel, GTACS Counselor
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 6th – We are offering the **ASVAB for any 10th, 11th or 12th grade students** who would like to participate in this career exploration test. This test, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is administered by the military but the scores will not be

sent to any military branch. If you have signed up for this testing, report to the library at 12:30 p.m. on the 6th. Testing will begin promptly at 12:45 p.m.

The SR. PLANS/Baccalaureate Mass form has been handed out to all senior students. Very few of you have turned these forms in yet. These forms are used during the senior awards program and also during Baccalaureate Mass. PLEASE make sure they are returned to the guidance office NO LATER than **Friday, May 7th**.

AP Testing for current AP students begins next week. Testing takes place on the NMC campus. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from testing. The following is the AP testing schedule:

- May 5, Wednesday, 8 a.m. – Calculus AB
- May 6, Thursday, 8 a.m. – English Literature and Composition
- May 7, Friday, 8 a.m. - United States History
- May 11, Tuesday, 12 p.m. – Psychology
- May 12, Wednesday, 8 a.m. – English Language and Composition

NWEA Testing has begun this week with the 9th and 10th grade students. Testing will continue through the next five weeks on block days. Remember to get a good night's sleep and eat a good breakfast.

Some of the enrollment deadlines may have already passed, but take a look and see if any of these programs interest you...

MORE SUMMER PROGRAMS:

- Penn State Pre-College Programs (sas.upenn.edu/summer/students/highschool)
- Loyola Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars (LUC.edu/summerscholars)
- Operation Bentley (May 15 – May 21) ALBION COLLEGE. This is open to juniors and sophomores interested in policy development and local government. (albion.edu/Bentley)
- CMU's Leadership Camp – seniors who have been admitted for Fall 2010 can apply (reslife.cmich.edu/leadership/leadershipcamp)
- Alma College Leadership Academy (JUNIORS) – alma.edu/leadacademy
- Lawrence Tech Summer Camps – ltu.edu and look under Summer Programs 2010
- Lake Superior State University – Issu.edu/summercamps
- Ferris State University Summer Academic Camp www.ferris.edu/summercamps
- 2010 Constitutional Academy - a six-week distance learning program that culminates in a week-long residential program in Washington, D.C. www.ConstAcademy.org/Guidance
- Compass Film Academy – film and acting camps. www.compassfilmacademy.com

A new scholarship list is attached with some upcoming due dates. Take a look at the list and remember to meet the deadlines.

Festival of the Arts
St. Francis Student Artwork Fundraiser

While attending the Festival of Arts come and support the St. Francis Student Artwork Fundraiser for purchase!

Select from Handmade Melted Glass Bowls, Glass Necklaces, Note cards and Digital Photographic Images.

This Artwork is displayed in the Gymnasium and has been made by Fine Arts Students in Mrs. Coburn's class.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week Luncheon "WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!"

Thursday, May 6th will be the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon, **BBQ Style**. We are in need of door prizes!!!! Our theme is garden, BBQ, beach/pool, reading or food gifts. If you are able to help, please contact Katie or Karen.

Thank you for your help!

Katie Bobrowski @ 995-9887