

# Principal's Newsletter

## Scranton Preparatory School

August 2010

Dear Parents,

At the end of the last school year, Ms. Jeanne Kowalski decided to step down from her position as dean of students. She served as dean for nearly fifteen years. I take this opportunity to thank her for her work with our students in so many ways.

As dean of students Ms. Kowalski was primarily in charge of discipline. Her firm but fair and compassionate approach to discipline was the hallmark of her tenure. She earned the respect of Prep students not through fear but through fairness and friendship. Her involvement in all aspects of student life endeared her to many students. Her experiences as a health and physical education teacher, as a certified sports trainer, and as dean of students gave her a unique opportunity to shape the minds, strengthen the bodies, and mold the characters of students. Indeed she always used her position as dean of students to help students become men and women of character. Through her ardent support of Prep extra-curricular activities, sports, and retreats and through her presence at so many events with her ever-present camera, Ms. Kowalski worked tirelessly to learn as much about students as possible and to help them in any way she could. I am very grateful to her for all she her work on behalf of Prep students. I am delighted that she will continue to work with students at Scranton Prep as she goes back to teaching health, a position she held before being named dean of students.

I am also delighted to announce that our new dean of students is Mr. Christian Davis. Mr. Davis, a 2002 graduate of Scranton Prep, has served at Prep as director of alumni and math teacher for the past three years. Mr. Davis' philosophy of discipline clearly reflects Prep's mission of developing responsible young men and women of conscience and compassion. Mr. Davis is committed to continuing to serve Scranton Prep students through active participation in student life - something he has already been doing over the past three years.

On the pages inside this newsletter is detailed information for the first days and months of the school year that I hope will get us off to a smooth start. Again this year, we have included student schedules in this mailing. Quite a few parents requested this change last year since it is often difficult for those living some distance from the school to get here for schedules during the summer. As always, I look forward to working with you and your sons and daughters during the 2010-2011 school year.

Sincerely yours,

Patrick J. Marx  
Principal

## **Student Schedules for the New School Year**

Students schedules for the new school year are included in this mailing. If all accounts are not current or students have outstanding service hours, textbooks, etc, schedules cannot be released until those matters are settled. Please contact the treasurer's office for matters pertaining to accounts or Mrs. Nagurney for other matters pertaining to schedules.

## **Fourteen Service Projects Serve Local and National Communities**

All members of the Class of 2011 will live out Prep's commitment of service to others through at least fifty hours of community service. During the summer, 217 members of the class took part in fourteen different service projects. Following are the locations of this year's summer service projects and their moderators.

Reading, PA - Fr. Keller, S.J. / Mr. Davis / Mr. D. Marx  
Mississippi - Mrs. Donnelly / Ms. Loyden / Mr. Gower  
Chicago, IL - Ms. Elgaway and her sister, Mrs. Jeffers  
Virginia I - Ms. Elgaway / Mr. Mullen  
Scranton Neighborhood Outreach -Ms. Elgaway / Mrs. Zeleniak  
South Dakota I - Mr. Hewitt / Ms. Tyrrell / Mr. Mihailoff  
Scranton - Camp St. Andrew - Mr. Cosgrove/ Mr. Sykes

South Dakota II- Mrs. Fitzsimmons / Mr. Holzman  
Virginia II - Mrs. Rose / Mrs. Barrett  
Scranton ARC - Mr. Holzman  
Scranton Project Hope - Mrs. Scahill /Mr. Yasinskas  
Philadelphia - Mrs. McKenna / Mr. Seymour  
Washington, D.C.- Mr. Bernard  
Cincinnati - Ms. Tyrrell / Ms. Dooley

## **Monthly Calendar of Events and Sports Schedules Online**

Each month the principal's office publishes a detailed calendar of school events. These calendars, which include sports schedules, are available at the counter at the Main Office and are also available on our Website. You can check out all Prep sports schedules throughout the year at **[www.highschoolsports.net](http://www.highschoolsports.net)** The online schedules will enable us to update the often-changing high school sports contests.

## **Welcome Class of 2014!**

On August 31, Prep will welcome a full freshman class of 223 students. Orientation for Prep's newest members will take place over three days. Mrs. Mary Grace Phillips, director of guidance and freshman counselor, and Mr. Ed Cosgrove, guidance counselor, will direct the orientation with the help of over 100 Prep students. The specific schedule for orientation is on the next page of this newsletter.

## **Busing**

Please contact the district in which you live to see if busing is available and where your bus will stop. For days when Scranton Prep has abbreviated schedules, students should check with the district or their bus driver for the time their buses will pick them up. **Some districts have recently changed their policies concerning student pick up on abbreviated days.** School bus service is not available for those who reside in Scranton.

## **Important Parent Evenings**

We offer two parent orientation evenings at the beginning of the school year. The first for freshman parents is on **Sunday morning, September 19, at 10 a.m.** The second is for sophomore parents on **Wednesday evening, September 22, at 7 p.m.** Parent evenings of information pertaining to juniors and seniors and their college plans are held later in the year. The guidance department will send letters informing parents of dates and times for the junior and senior evenings. Also our first parent/teacher conferences take place about half way through the first quarter. We have two evenings to accommodate the number of parents who usually attend. We set **Thursday, October 7, at 7 p.m.** for names beginning with A-K and **Tuesday, October 12, at 7 p.m.** for names beginning with L-Z. I ask you to follow the above schedule. If it is not possible, however, for you to come on your assigned evening, you are certainly welcome on the alternate evening.

## **Date for Explore and PSAT Tests**

On **Wednesday, October 13**, freshmen will take the Explore test and sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT test. Dismissal will follow the testing at approximately **11:30 A.M.** Buses will be notified of the early dismissal. Students should check with their bus drivers to find out what time buses will pick them up. There is no school for seniors on this day.

## **Prep Call Alert System**

Scranton Prep employs a call alert system that can broadcast a recorded message to your phone when we need to get important information to you quickly. The Call Alert System allows us to record a message and send it immediately to all the numbers we have on file. We use this system primarily for unexpected developments like a power outage or early dismissal due to snow or unexpected changes in schedules.

## Freshman Orientation Schedule

*Tuesday, August 31* — 8:30 A.M. — Arrive at Prep (Bellarmine Theatre).  
2:35 P.M. — Dismissal.

**Students should dress in full uniform and bring a lunch.**

*Wednesday, September 1* — 1:00 P.M. — Board buses for outing at Van Fleet's Grove.  
Dinner will be provided at Van Fleet's.  
7:30 P.M.— Return to Scranton Prep.

**Dress for the day is casual. No uniforms.**

*Thursday, September 2* — 8:30 A.M. — Arrive at Scranton Prep.  
Early Dismissal between 11:15 A.M.- 11:30 A.M. — Lunch will be provided.

**Dress for the day is the warm weather uniform. (Uniform skirt and blouse for girls; dress pants, shirt and tie for boys.) No sports coats or sweater vests needed.**

*Friday, September 3*— No School

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## Schedule for Upperclassmen for the First Week of School

Each class will have an orientation day during the first week of school. The day will consist of an assembly in the Bellarmine Theatre and a short schedule for the day. Students need to report only on their class day of orientation during the first week. The regular schedule of classes will start on Tuesday, September 7.

*Sophomores - Wednesday, September 1* Report directly to the Bellarmine Theatre by 8:30 A.M. for an assembly. Fifteen-minute classes follow the assembly with dismissal at 11:45 A.M.

*Juniors - Thursday, September 2* Report directly to the Bellarmine Theatre by 8:30 A.M. for an assembly. Fifteen-minute classes follow the assembly with dismissal at 11:45 A.M.

*Seniors - Thursday, September 2* Report directly to the Bellarmine Theatre by 11:30 A.M. for an assembly. Fifteen-minute classes follow the assembly with dismissal at 2:30 P.M.

*No school on Friday, September 3 and Monday, September 6. Regular classes begin Tuesday, September 7. Summer Reading Test will be administered on Tuesday, September 7.*

## Early Dismissals for Faculty Meetings

Students will have early dismissal once each month (except September) for faculty meetings. The time for dismissal will depend on the agenda for the month but usually dismissal will be at 12:50 P.M. Following is a list of dates for faculty meetings for the first semester. **Tuesday, October 5 Tuesday, November 9\* Tuesday, December 7**

\*On November 9 the juniors will have their annual career day so they will be in session until 2:35 P.M.

## No School Sponsored European Trips for 2010-11

Please note: Scranton Prep is not sponsoring or supporting any overseas trips for the 2010-2011 school year.

## Spring Sports and Spring Vacations

Students who may be planning spring trips on their own over spring break are reminded that they **will not be able to participate** in spring sports since such trips interfere with the spring sports schedule.

## **Join Us for the 2010 Scranton Prep Alumni Weekend**

### **Saturday, October 2**

11 AM - 2 PM - Family Day on Loyola Field  
- Tours of Prep Facilities  
6 PM - 9 PM - Class Reunion Celebrations

### **Sunday, October 3**

10 AM-11 AM Sunday Mass and  
Rinfret Award Presentation  
11 AM-1 PM Brunch at Prep



**Please join us for Reunion Weekend.  
Open to all alumni, family, and  
friends.**

