



Building On Our Foundation
1959-2009

On September 9, 1959 the dreams of so many came true as Bishop Stang High School opened its doors to its first freshman class. This year our 50th freshman class enters Stang on September 1st (we start school earlier these days). To commemorate this milestone members of that first class will be at Stang to greet this year's freshmen.

They are representing our first alumni, the class of 1963. Now nearly 8800 strong, our alumni have accomplished so much and have helped so many over the years. A main reason was the foundation they received at Stang combining a strong academic preparation along with an invaluable religious experience. Our alumni are beacons, living examples of the tradition of excellence for which our school is known. They light the way for all the graduates of Stang who follow.

This is the year of our 50th anniversary filled with major celebrations. The first of these is the re-dedication of the school on September 9, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. to take place at the cornerstone (outside the chapel) followed by our 50th Anniversary Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Julie's Church.

On November 14, 2009 a Gala Dinner at White's of Westport will celebrate Bishop Stang High School's Past, Present and Future. During this our 50th year, Stang will remember its past and celebrate all of its accomplishments. You play an important role in this. Please join us.

50TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATING OUR
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

President's Newsletter

Bishop Stang High School
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Instead of President Theresa Dougall's letter, school nurse Donna Rogers, R.N. provides this month's message.

Dear Parents, Students, and Friends,

As the new school year begins, we are faced with the challenge of dealing with public health issues impacting our school and our community. Chief among these are MRSA infections (Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus) and the A/H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu). As the school nurse for Bishop Stang High School, I recently attended conferences dealing with the prevention and management of each of these issues. The nurse's primary goals are prevention through education and management of students who have symptoms.

The keys to avoiding MRSA spread are through awareness and prevention. Our school successfully managed five known cases of MRSA in September of 2007. Athletic programs must practice good hygiene by having athletes wash their clothing on a daily basis, and by thoroughly cleaning all athletic facilities and equipment. Our custodial staff oversees the maintenance and cleaning of our school, and uses anti-MRSA cleaning products on a regular basis.

With regards to A/H1N1 influenza, the World Health Organization raised its alert to the highest level (6) and formally declared a global pandemic in June. The expectation is that we will see a resurgence of some strain of this influenza in the fall and winter months. An immunization program should be available sometime this fall.

The prevention of influenza also centers around good hygiene practice, since it is spread person-to-person through coughing and/or sneezing. Hand washing significantly prevents and limits the spread of the virus. All classrooms and offices at Bishop Stang will have alcohol based hand sanitizers for students, faculty, staff and visitors to use. The practice of sneezing into tissues or the inner elbow also minimizes the transmission of the flu.

Management of influenza requires isolation and supportive care. If your child is sick with flu-like symptoms such as a fever over 100 degrees, cough, sore throat, or body aches **keep your child home**. Isolation of an ill person will greatly reduce the spread of the illness. If your child has a confirmed case of A/H1N1 influenza, please contact me at school. I am required to notify the local Board of Health, which monitors the incidence and spread of A/H1N1. Confidentiality will be respected with regards to the student's identity, and all further decisions regarding the school's management and the student's return to classes will be directed by the Board of Health.

There may be an increase of cases in the fall and therefore the absenteeism rate at Bishop Stang may be impacted. In general, our attendance policy is in place to ensure students attend school with minimal absences. However, this policy is not intended to encourage sending ill students to school who need to stay home. Any students absent due to influenza will not be unfairly penalized. It is through education and awareness of good health practice that we continue to keep our school community healthy and safe. Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Sincerely,



Donna Rogers R.N.

ORIENTATION NIGHT FOR NEW STUDENTS

Mandatory Parents Meeting August 25

An orientation night for **incoming freshmen and transfer students** is planned for Tuesday, August 25th, at 6:30 p.m. in the John C. O'Brien Gymnasium, a night that new students and their parents will not want to miss. The evening provides an opportunity for students to meet others who are just as new to the school and to visualize what to expect next year. It is a night set aside to meet homeroom teachers and guidance counselors, be introduced to our campus ministry program, and locate the important places and key people in the school. Families from the same geographic regions will also have an opportunity to meet.

Parents of incoming freshmen and transfer students will meet for their mandatory meeting during our orientation. This evening allows parents the opportunity to partner with the school in the areas of school mission, programs, policies, athletics, co-curricular activities and school finances. Part of this meeting will also cover the obligations of parents with athletes at Bishop Stang. Parent attendance is mandatory in order for your child to participate in all athletic programs during the 2009-2010 school year.

Parents attending this orientation meeting are not required to attend the September 2nd Mandatory Parent meeting.

INCOMING FRESHMEN AND TRANSFER STUDENTS

The Admissions Office reminds **parents of incoming freshmen and transfer students** that they are **required** to have current schools forward **all medical and educational records** to Bishop Stang before the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. **Final report cards** must also be sent. Please notify your son's/daughter's school in writing if you haven't done so already.

MANDATORY PARENTS NIGHT FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

There will be a mandatory meeting for parents of all returning students to begin the new school year on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will focus on important information all parents need to know as school begins. Part of this meeting covers the obligations of parents of athletes at Bishop Stang and therefore parent attendance is required in order for your child to participate in athletics throughout the school year.

Save These Dates:

INCOMING FRESHMAN/ TRANSFERS AND PARENT ORIENTATION

Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30 p.m.

PARENTS OF 10TH, 11TH, AND 12TH GRADERS

Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

NEW SCHEDULE INTRODUCED FOR 2009-2010

Classes Begin at 7:45 a.m.

The Diocese of Fall River has requested all secondary schools comply with the state 990 rule requiring five and one half hours of instruction per day. As a result, we will be adding thirty minutes of class time to our present schedule as follows:

Period 1	7:45 – 9:00
Homeroom	9:03 – 9:23
Period 2	9:26 – 10:26
Period 3	10:29 – 11:29
Period 4	class 11:32 - 12:47 with lunch 12:50 – 1:10 or lunch 11:32 – 11:52 with class 11:55 – 1:10
Period 5	1:13 – 2:13

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic honesty is an expected standard of behavior in any institution of learning. Plagiarism, copying the work of other students, or using any form of notes during examinations without the approval of teachers are forms of cheating. Such incidents warrant a grade of zero. Students who have violated the policy must inform their parents/guardians who must in turn contact the teacher. The Academic Principal, the student's guidance counselor, and NHS advisor are informed of all cases of academic dishonesty. A more detailed review of this policy can be found in the 2009-10 student handbook.

BUSINESS OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Just a reminder that the business office summer hours are 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday through August 21st. Regular business office hours (7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) resume on August 24th.

STANG REFINES UNIFORM POLICY

With input from faculty and student council, the school has refined the current uniform policy. For the 2009-2010 school year the following uniform policy will take effect:

GIRL'S UNIFORM

Girls may wear the uniform skirt or kilt (**hemmed no shorter than the top of the knee.**)

Girls may wear Harvey uniform pants with solid color ankle high socks.

Girls may not wear long-sleeved t-shirts under short-sleeved polo shirts.

Girls may wear a white or maroon long or short-sleeved Harvey uniform polo shirt.

Uniform polo shirts must be properly **tucked in** at all times.

Girls must wear black tights with their skirts.

Patterns of any type are unacceptable.

Footless tights and mid-thigh stockings are not permitted.

Girls must wear acceptable dress shoes that are non-athletic footwear. Dress shoes must have a closed toe and closed back. Dress shoes must be below the ankle and no clogs, sandals, or canvas shoes of any type or style are allowed. Sneakers, mules, hiking or dress boots, "ballet style" shoes and jellies are not allowed. All shoes must have a visible minimum half-inch heel. No high-heeled or platform shoes are permitted.

BOY'S UNIFORM

Boys must wear Harvey uniform pants.

Boys must wear belts with pants.

Boys must wear solid color socks. Socks must be visible above the dress shoe.

Boys may wear a white or maroon long or short-sleeved Harvey uniform polo shirt.

Uniform polo shirts must be properly **tucked in** at all times.

Boys must wear appropriate dress shoes that are non-athletic footwear. Dress shoes must be below the ankle and not a boot. Hiking shoes or boots, dress boots, sneakers, athletic or canvas shoes are not allowed.

Only "uniform" sweatshirts, school sweaters, fleece vests or sweater vests can be worn by both boys and girls. Only white t-shirts with no writing are permitted under polo shirts. No hats may be worn in the school building at any time.

MORNING DROP-OFF

Thank you to parents and students for your help in keeping our parking lot safe and the traffic flowing smoothly. The Dartmouth Police Department has directed the following traffic pattern for our use:

There will be two lanes of traffic.

Drop-offs must be made in the right lane beyond the crosswalk. Absolutely no drop-offs in the left lane; this is against the law. Please wait until the faculty traffic person waves for you to drop off students. If you are in the left lane, the traffic person will stop the traffic to allow you to enter the right lane. Drop-offs in the front parking lot are not allowed. Anyone who parks in the front parking lot must use the crosswalk to enter school.

Thank you for your continued patience and assistance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

All student *absences must be verified with a telephone call from parents or guardians by 10:00 am on the day of the student's absence.* The Attendance Office is staffed from 7:45 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. For the convenience of parents and guardians who must call earlier, the Attendance Office voice mail accepts messages at any time. Students are considered tardy to school if they are not in their first-period class at the 7:50 am bell. *Parents or guardians must verify students' tardiness with a telephone call on the morning that students are tardy.* Going out to breakfast and missing first-period class or quiet study without verification from parents or guardians is considered a class cut. *A class cut results in a Saturday detention and a zero for all work missed.* Once students arrive on school property, they must remain until normal dismissal time. The Attendance Office can be reached at 508-996-5602 x 417.

DISMISSAL POLICY

Students requiring dismissal from school must bring a parent's note to the Principal of Students office before 7:45 a.m. Students with approved early dismissals must sign out in the designated three ring binder in the Business Office. **Any parent/guardian** picking up a student must sign the student out in the binder provided in the Business Office (this includes students who are dismissed by the school nurse.)

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY

Should a student miss class on more than six occasions in a given course during the same marking period, the Academic Principal will direct that a "failure for lack of sufficient attendance" be recorded for that quarter. In the fourth quarter this policy applies when a senior misses class on more than four occasions. A review of the quarter failure may be requested if extraordinary circumstances exist. Vacations or trips are not reasons for review.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT FOR PARENTS

Parents are invited to follow their son or daughter's schedule during Back-to-School Night for Parents on Thursday, September 17th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The evening provides an opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and to hear the course expectations. Time constraints do not permit individual parent conferences during the evening; however, Parent-Teacher Conference Night is scheduled for Thursday, October 15th.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones may not be used in the school building during the academic day and must be turned off and stored in the student's locked locker. A first violation of this policy will result in confiscation of the phone. A second violation will result in an administrative detention. A third violation will result in a Saturday detention and the cell phone will only be returned to a parent or guardian. Subsequent cell phone violations may result in transfer/expulsion.

Taking pictures/video at school or at any school function without prior permission from an administrator is strictly prohibited. Text messaging during the academic day is strictly prohibited. The phone will be confiscated and given to the Principal of Students. Any text messages, pictures or video will be viewed by an administrator or designee. Any inappropriate messages, pictures or video may result in administrative action up to and including transfer or expulsion.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

The schedule for next year's buses has been set and we have once again contracted with Whaling City Transit for service. Parents should have received letters and bus forms in June. Buses will cover the areas of Fairhaven to Cape Cod, as well as the Somerset and Rhode Island areas. We have been able to hold the cost of transportation at last year's levels. If you are interested in bus service for this coming school year, please contact Mrs. Williamson at 508-996-5602 ext 417 in order to receive further information.

PURCHASING YOUR BOOKS

Parents should have received a letter in July detailing the procedure for book purchases. Packages may be picked up between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. August 24th through August 28th. Freshman parents attending the orientation program on August 25th may pick up book packages between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on that day. For those of you who did not use the prepackaging book sale, students will buy their books on the first day of school. Payment must be made in full at that time. The school accepts payment by cash, check, Visa or MasterCard.

BE PART OF THE AFTER PROM!

Calling all parents! The first after prom meeting of the new school year is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th at 7 p.m. in the music room. Organizational plans will be the major focus...come be part of the magical transformation that takes place at Stang after the prom. It's a night the seniors never forget, and neither will you!

BISHOP STANG PARENT ASSOCIATION

All parents of Bishop Stang High School students are invited to attend the first meeting of the Stang Parent Association on Tuesday, September 15th, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The purpose of the meeting is to review plans for the 2009-2010 school year and to focus on the upcoming Parent-Teacher conferences on Thursday, October 15th, 2009.

STANG WELCOMES NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BSHS is very happy to announce that Mr. Peter Shaughnessy has joined the faculty of BSHS as Director of Athletics and theology teacher. Most recently he was the Assistant Principal at St. Francis High School in Wheaton, IL where he was in charge of athletics as well as chairing the Religion Department. He also has experience as a coach, Campus Minister, and Theology teacher. His educational background includes a Masters of education in Administration from Benedictine University and a Master of Arts in Theology and Master of Pastoral Studies from Loyola University. Mr. Shaughnessy is married to Anabela Vasconcelos Shaughnessy, a 1994 Stang graduate.

FALL SPORTS PRACTICES SET

Athletes: make sure you stay in shape and condition during the summer because fall sports practices and tryouts are not that far off! Conditioning sessions for football begin on Monday, August 24th. All other sports practices begin on Thursday, August 27th, following a sports prayer service at 8:00 am.

PHYSICAL EXAMS FOR ATHLETES

Physical exams are required for all sports participants, including cheerleaders. Your physical is valid for thirteen months from the examination date. It must clearly state the date the physical was performed, that the student (with name clearly written) is cleared to participate in interscholastic sports and be signed by an MD, NP, or PA. All sports physicals, medical history questionnaires and consent for treatment forms must be submitted to Ms. Kathy Thornton, Athletic Trainer, by **Monday, August 10th, 2009**. All forms must be submitted before the athlete will be allowed to participate. Any questions, please contact Kathy Thornton at 508-996-5602 x 489.

Medical history questionnaires and consent for treatment forms can be downloaded from our website, www.bishopstang.com under Parents/Newsletters & Forms. They can also be obtained from the athletic trainer.

NHS ROCK-A-THON

Rocking to Feed the Hungry

The members of the Sr. Teresa Trayers, SND Chapter of the National Honor Society will hold their annual Rock-a-thon on Friday and Saturday, September 25th and 26th. The event gathers non-perishable food for the area's needy. NHS members approach sponsors who donate items in exchange for the member rocking in a rocking chair for one hour. Proceeds will benefit the Shepherd's Pantry in Acushnet, St. Anthony's Church Food Pantry and the Solanus Casey (Catholic Social Services) Pantry in New Bedford. Anyone wishing to donate items may do so during the week of September 14th at the display in the business office lobby. Last year in excess of 11,000 pounds of food were collected. Thanks in advance for your generosity once again this year.

SENIOR R.E.A.D.S. PROGRAM

Resume, Essays, Applications Done Simply

Seniors are encouraged to take advantage of this great hands-on evening program designed to help ease them through the college application process. Led by teachers and guidance counselors, seniors will be creating personal resumes, getting encouragement and advice on their college essays, finding information on how to fill out forms and what to look for in a school, and so much more...all this in a comfortable and non-stressed environment. The group will be meeting on selected Tuesday evenings in September and October from 6-7:30 p.m. in the library. Check with guidance for times and dates!

MAGAZINE DRIVE KICKS OFF!

Great prizes and surprises are waiting for students who participate! Please hold your subscription renewals and new subscription orders until our annual magazine drive begins on Wednesday, September 16th, and continues through Monday, October 5th; perfect timing for holiday gift-giving. QSP offers magazines at the lowest rate available. Last year the annual drive raised over \$90,000 for the Bishop Stang High School scholarship fund.

SENIOR RETREAT

Senior retreat will take place on Tuesday, September 1st at 7:45 a.m. at Bishop Stang. Students should meet in the gym. Seniors will participate in several outdoor physical activities during the day and should wear weather appropriate clothing and shoes or sneakers for safety. Please, no open-toed shoes or flip-flops. Please bring a lunch for a picnic on the field, weather permitting. Retreat is designed as a team-building experience and a great way to begin the year! This retreat is mandatory. 100% participation is expected. Because senior retreat requires seniors to come to school a day early, October 14th will be a day out of school for seniors to work on their college application process. Students who do not attend the scheduled retreat on September 1st will not have the college application day off but will instead participate in a make-up retreat. Please call Mrs. Dougall at ext 432 with any questions.

DATES FOR THE START OF THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Tuesday, September 1	Freshmen – First day of school (full day) Senior Retreat
Wednesday, September 2	Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors (only) First day of school (full day) Mandatory Parents Meeting 6:30 pm Gr. 10-12
Thursday, September 3	All students attend a full day of classes
Friday, September 4	No school
Monday, September 7	Labor Day – No school
Tuesday, September 8	Classes resume for all students – Day 1

IMPORTANT ADMISSIONS DATES

September 1, 2009	Admissions kits are available by calling 508-996-5602 x435. You may also pick one up when you participate in one of the following programs.
October 1, 2009	Spend-A-Day program begins for 8th grade students. Please call the Admissions Office to schedule an appointment and an optional interview.
November 1, 2009	Open House 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
December 5, 2009	Placement Exam 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Walk-in registration, \$20.00 fee
December 12, 2009	Make-up Placement Exam 8:00 a.m. Walk-in registration, \$20.00 fee



50th Anniversary Mass and Re-Dedication

September 9, 2009

9:30 Re-Dedication at Bishop Stang High School

10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Julie Billiart – Bishop George Coleman

Gala Celebration

November 14, 2009

White's of Westport

*If you would like to attend either event please email
alumni@bishopstang.com*

ARE YOU AN ALUM?

Join our online community and get re-connected with your classmates! Post news, pictures, get networking, attend events, and so much more! Click on the alumni 'online community' through the school website to get started! Don't know your ID number? Call the Advancement Office at 508-996-5602 ext 485 or 490.

Looking for information?

Visit the Bishop Stang High School website. Everything you need to know is right at your fingertips. Check it out today! **www.bishopstang.com**

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