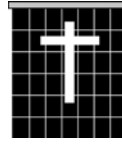


President's Newsletter

Bishop Stang High School
500 Slocum Road • North Dartmouth, MA 02747-2999
www.bishopstang.com
508-996-5602



Dear Parents, Students, and Friends,

Bishop Stang's 4.5 million dollar Capital Campaign is underway. At the Anniversary Gala this past November 14th, the plans were explained as we enter the main phase of the Campaign. We have already raised half of our campaign goal.

The Capital Campaign to renovate, expand and endow Bishop Stang High School for the future has three main goals.

Goal #1 To renovate and expand usage of the Family Life Center

- Provide new settings for library, fine arts, guidance, and advancement offices
- Free up current areas in the main building for expansion of labs, a media center, and classrooms
- Offer conference rooms to accommodate the many curricular, co-curricular, alumni, advisory board, and parent meetings that take place each week
- Expand entrances from main building to the Family Life Center, including front entrance of the school

Goal # 2 To acquire land to expand the over-used athletic field space

- Eliminate busing of teams to fields in New Bedford and at UMass Dartmouth at considerable cost to the school
- Acquire land in close proximity to the school to increase fields available for team use

Goal # 3 To increase the endowment for financial aid and scholarships

- Meet the financial needs of more families and better fulfill the school's commitment to educating those in need
- Maintain a tuition rate that is fair and affordable, while assuring continued excellence

By renovating and expanding our programs and facilities and by building our endowment, we can better deliver on our promise to continue our tradition of excellence for years to come.

With everyone's help we will be able to reach our goal as we *Build on Our Foundation* together. This is such an exciting time to be a part of Bishop Stang High School's Future.

As you celebrate Christmas and the New Year, know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

God Bless,

Theresa E. Dougall
President



CURRENT STUDENT COURSE SELECTION NIGHTS

Current freshmen, sophomores, juniors and their parents will obtain information regarding course selections on **Thursday, February 4th**, and **Tuesday, February 9th**, for the 2010-2011 school year. The process begins in the cafeteria at **7:00 p.m.** Course Selection Night reviews suggested programs of study, presents curriculum offerings and new classes for the next school year, emphasizes the importance of teacher and department chair recommendations, and discusses graduation requirements. All parents are urged to attend one of these two evenings.

CAMPUS MINISTRY HOLDS FAITH NIGHT

Students, friends, and family are all invited to attend a special Advent Faith Night in the Chapel of the Annunciation. Come experience an evening of praise, worship and witness on December 18th from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

NO SCHOOL DATES FOR STUDENTS *Christmas Break and January 18th*

Christmas Break for the students begins at 2:13 p.m. on Tuesday, **December 22nd**, following the close of a full day of school and resumes on Monday, **January 4th, 2010**.

Students also have no school on Monday, **January 18th**, for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. The business office will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Dec. 23 and 28 – 31, 2009. The office will be closed Dec. 24-25, 2009, and Jan. 1, 2010.

A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT *Celebrate the Spirit of the Season*



Feel the warmth of the holiday as Stang presents a Christmas Concert on Thursday, Dec. 10th at 7 p.m. in the John C. O'Brien Gymnasium. Featured performers will be the Greater New Bedford Elementary School Choir. Directed by Mrs. Terry, the concert includes instrumental, choral, solo and dramatic (Ms. Grygiel and the Improv Club) performances, as well as our annual alumni tradition. Admission is free, with voluntary donations accepted at the door to support the fine arts department.

NHS GATHERING

On Wednesday, December 9th, the members of the Sr. Teresa Trayers Chapter of the National Honor Society will meet in the music room for their annual Advent/Christmas Gathering. All chapter members are urged to attend.

ATTENDANCE POLICY *Absences, dismissals and tardiness*

Parents and guardians are reminded that they are expected to call the school when their son or daughter is absent. According to the Student Handbook, "All student absences must be verified with a telephone call from a parent or guardian by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the student's absence" (page 30). To report an absence, please contact Mrs. Williamson at 508-996-5602 ext. 417.

Students are considered tardy to school if they are not in their first-period class at the 7:45 a.m. bell. **Parents or guardians must verify a student's tardiness with a telephone call on the morning the student is tardy.** Going out to breakfast and missing first-period class or quiet study without verification from a parent or guardian 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.

Students requesting an early dismissal from school should report to the Principal of Students' office before 7:45 a.m. with a note from their parents or guardians. We ask that parents follow this policy so that we do not interrupt classes. Please refer to page 31 of the Student Handbook. Calling in for an early dismissal should be in an emergency situation only. It creates a time-consuming burden on the attendance office.

EXCESSIVE ABSENCE 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.

FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR *For the 2010-2011 School Year*

Parents of incoming freshmen and current students are invited to attend an informational night regarding how to apply for financial aid on February 9th at 6 p.m. in room 117. Families planning to submit financial aid applications may do so quickly and easily online at www.factstuitionaid.com. Otherwise, complete the financial aid request form (included in the Admissions kit) and return it to the Admissions Office, or call 508-996-5602 ext 435 to have a packet mailed to you. Financial Aid packets are mailed out in late December. Be sure to have your taxes done early as a copy of your forms will be required for application. The application deadline is March 1st 2010. There is a \$25.00 fee to apply.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Students Travel to D.C.

More than 75 students in the March for Life Group from Stang will be traveling to Washington DC on the morning of Thursday, January 21st. Bishop Coleman will be leading the group, with Fr. Jay, Ms. Cooke, Mr. Voci, faculty and parent volunteers chaperoning. The group will attend Mass on Thursday. Friday they will join thousands of other pilgrims from all over the country and the world in peaceful witness to our belief in the value of human life. After the March, the Stang contingency will go on an evening tour of Washington. They will leave Saturday afternoon after Mass with the Bishop and arrive back to Stang late Saturday night. Students attending the march are excused from school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The days out of school will not be counted in the absentee policy, but they will count as missed classes and work will need to be made up.

STANG WELCOMES NEW TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

This past summer the Stang family was pleased to welcome new Director of Technology, Mrs. Cherie Gilmore. Mrs. Gilmore possesses an extensive background having been the Technology Integration Coordinator for the Greater New Bedford Catholic School Collaborative through the Fall River Diocese. For the last twelve years she was also the Technology Coordinator at St. Margaret's Regional School. Mrs. Gilmore has been very busy implementing new systems, programs, software and hardware this year, as well as running workshops and developing curriculum with various classes. She is also the parent of alumni Sean Gilmore '09.

HOLIDAY HOPE PROJECT

Donations Welcomed by Student Council

This year the BSHS Student Council will participate in the Holiday Hope Project, sponsored by New Bedford Child & Family Services. Eight local families are "adopted" and Homeroom Reps collect monetary donations, gifts and items specifically requested by the families, such as clothes, toys, toiletries, and household items (new items only). Gift certificates to local grocery and retail stores are purchased. After all donations have been gathered, gifts for each family are wrapped and delivered to the New Bedford Child and Family for pickup by the families. Anyone wishing to contribute to this very rewarding and worthwhile project may send donations in with students, or contact Mrs. Michele Tapper-Racine (ext. 112) for more information.

SNOW STORM NOTIFICATION OPTIONS

Parents will be notified by phone/email of school closings or delays via the School Reach program. Notifications will continue to be broadcast on local television and radio stations.

SCHOOL STORE OPENS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING



Get the perfect gift for your favorite Spartan! The school store will be open for your shopping convenience on December 2nd, 10th, and 16th from 3 – 7 p.m. and is located in the hallway just beyond the trophy lobby. If you can't get to the store during the posted hours, call Mrs. Pelletier (x490) or Mrs. Quintin (x485) and they will be happy to make other arrangements with you.

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK ONLINE

The 2010 all color yearbook makes a great Christmas gift for your son or daughter! To order online with a credit card, go to www.bishopstang.com and follow the "parent" link to yearbook orders. You can also purchase a book by contacting Mrs. Thomas at jthomas@bishopstang.com or call ext 456.

MORNING TRAFFIC

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation with the traffic flow in the mornings. Just a reminder: students are not to be dropped off in front of the main lobby of the school or from the middle lane of traffic.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION CLASS

Sign ups will be available after vacation in the business office for the next AAA Driver's Ed Class. Included are thirty classroom hours, twelve hours behind the wheel, six hours observation, and the two-hour parent class. Class will run in the afternoons beginning January 20, 2010. Current AAA members receive a one year free membership. Cost is \$775. Flyers are available in the main office.

HOLD THE DATE – AUCTION 2010

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Spring is just around the corner...*REALLY*. And that means the benefit Auction is coming up. Mark your calendars now – the 21st Annual Auction ***Under the Sea*** is set for ***Friday evening, April 9th***. Last year's record-setting auction raised close to \$50,000 for the Bishop Stang financial aid fund.

The Auction committee will hold its next meetings on ***Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m.*** in the Conference room. Please see the newsletter insert for gift gathering – think of those you do business with as potential auction donors.

REMEMBER – Bishop Stang families and graduates have a major impact on the economy in the SouthCoast! When you're out doing your Christmas shopping invite the merchants to be a part of our auction.

Questions – call Suzy Burke at 996-5602 x 430.

MOODLE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Teachers will begin putting homework and other class materials on Moodle. Moodle is a safe online class management tool allowing teachers to post class information and work collaboratively with their students. Usernames and passwords are required for access. Ask your child to give you a tour of Moodle and share their username and password with you. If students are unable to share their passwords with you, please contact your child's guidance counselor or email Mrs. Gilmore at cgilmore@bishopstang.com and the accurate login information will be shared with you.

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?

Recognize your son, daughter, mom, dad, favorite teacher, coach, or administrator with a book! Make a contribution to the Roseanne Barker Library and Media Center in honor of that special someone.

For a \$10.00 donation, the library will send a certificate to the honoree recognizing your gift to the book fund. For a contribution of \$25, the honoree will receive the certificate as well as a bookplate placed in a new book acknowledging your donation. Please visit our website for information or contact Mrs. Thomas at 508-996-5602 x456 or jthomas@bishopstang.com for more information.

PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING



The next Parent's Association meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 19th** in the cafeteria. Plans will focus on the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast and Luncheon to be held during Catholic Schools Week. Breakfast will be served on Monday morning, February 1st and Lunch on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010 from 11:32 to 1:10 pm. This year's theme of Catholic Schools Week is **Catholic Schools – Dividends For Life**. If you are unable to make the meeting but are interested in helping with the breakfast or luncheon by either preparing or serving the meal, please call Mrs. Miskel at ext. 416.

Parent Association members are encouraging parents to bring small gifts appropriate for the After Prom Party with them when they come to the Association meetings. These gift certificates, phone cards, cd's, supplies, etc. will be given away on their own or assembled in college survival baskets for distribution at the After Prom Party.

FROM THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Applications for the Class of 2014 are being accepted. Be sure to forward the Recommendation Forms and Student Guidance Report to the appropriate offices with ample time to be completed. The forms can be forwarded directly to Stang by the individuals completing them. The Application for Admission should be forwarded directly to the Admissions Office. Placement exam test results are required as part of the application for incoming freshmen. In lieu of HSPT test results, applicants may forward equivalent standardized test scores (e.g. SSAT). A status letter indicating the pieces missing from each application kit will be mailed out in mid-December. Completed Application Kits received by January 4th, 2010 will be processed for first review. Acceptance letters will be mailed beginning January 25th, 2010.

The Placement Exam (Scholastic Testing: High School Placement Test or HSPT) will be administered on Saturday, December 5th and Saturday, December 12th from 8:00-11:30 am. The testing fee is \$20.00 and no pre-registration is necessary. Students who take the exam at Bishop Stang High School on either of the first two dates are eligible for two merit scholarships. The top ten exam scorers will receive the Father Leonard Mullaney scholarship of \$1000 toward tuition for their freshman year. The top five exam scorers will receive free books for their freshman year.

Spend-A-Day at Bishop Stang. Applicants are highly encouraged to spend the day with one of our friendly student ambassadors to see if Bishop Stang might be the right fit for their high school experience. The program is open to 8th graders only. Please call 508-996-5602 X435 to schedule a visit.

Congratulations to the following winners of our Tuition Discount Drawing held at Open House: \$1000 – Katelynn Couto, \$500 – Meghan Desrochers and \$100 – Rebecca Creswell.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Our sincere thanks go out to the many prospective families who attended Open House in November. We hope you enjoyed your time with us as much as we enjoyed hosting you! Our appreciation also goes out to the many BSHS students, parents and faculty members who volunteered their time to make the afternoon such a tremendous success.

MAGAZINE DRIVE NON-UNIFORM WEEK

Congratulations to all who qualified for the non-uniform week by selling \$200 or more in Magazine subscriptions! The non-uniform week is December 14th– 18th. Homeroom teachers will distribute passes to everyone who qualified. All students are urged to consult their handbook for appropriate attire on non-uniform days (page 34).

FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Thank you to all who gave such great support to our Spartan teams this fall!

Reminders for Parents:

All sports programs will have individual end-of-season awards banquets this year. There will not be a Fall Sports Banquet on December 3 or a Winter Sports Banquet on March 11 as listed on the school calendar.

Winter sports start on November 30. Winter sports will have practices and games over Christmas break. Spring sports are the only sports with time off during vacation. Spring sports tryouts and practices start on Monday, March 15th. If you intend to be on a spring team, you must be at all practices and games. **April vacation begins on Saturday, April 17th.** Please keep this in mind as you plan your spring vacations and review our Athletic Department policies on pages 44-49 of the Student Handbook.

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you for taking the time to complete the brief survey that accompanied our parent opportunities for involvement. In your reasons for choosing Bishop Stang High School you overwhelmingly ranked Academics as number one. This was followed by Religious Values as the second most important reason for choosing Stang and Discipline as third. Safety, Athletics and Co-curriculars were the next reasons listed for your choice.

We value your input and the time you took to communicate with us. It is vital for us to understand the thought process of our parents in choosing Bishop Stang High School. Our community will continue to be successful with parents as our partners.

AFTER PROM PARTY

Plans are well underway for the After Prom Party. The Committee invites all Stang parents to help. We want all seniors to go home with a gift from the party. Please remember the After Prom Party as you do your holiday shopping – we welcome small gifts, gift certificates and monetary donations. The next meeting for the After Prom Party is **Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 at 7:00 pm** in the Music Room. Join the committees and help make this event a tremendous success!

JUNIOR “NUTS & BOLTS” NIGHT, JANUARY 26 *College Process Information Night*

The Guidance Department of Bishop Stang High School invites juniors and their parents to an introduction of the college search and application process on **Tuesday, January 26th, at 7:00 p.m.** in the cafeteria. During junior "Nuts & Bolts" Night, a college admissions counselor and school guidance counselors provide students and parents with a detailed overview of the procedure, including considerations in choosing schools and college admissions criteria.

In case of inclement weather, the evening will be held on Thursday, January 28th.

HELP US HELP OUR SCHOOL – TARGET AND STOP & SHOP

TARGET

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for Bishop Stang. It's super easy, and all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Whether you are applying for a new card, or already have one, just designate Bishop Stang as the recipient in the Take Charge of Education program. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the program. Visit target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Bishop Stang. *To date we have received over \$1,200 this year from Target...thanks so much to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better. Proceeds benefit the student council fundraiser.*

STOP & SHOP A+ BONUS BUCKS

With A+ BonusBucks, points accrue with each purchase where the Stop & Shop Card is used. It even works with purchases made online with Peapod by Stop & Shop. At the end of each month, these points determine Bishop Stang's cash total which is automatically credited to our account.

Thank you for registering your Stop & Shop card online at www.stopandshop.com/aplus.

AUCTION "UNDER THE SEA" NEEDS YOU!

Everyone has the potential to be a contributor to the *Auction*, Bishop Stang's 21st Annual Scholarship Auction, *Under the Sea*, to be held on Friday, April 9th, at Hawthorne Country Club in Dartmouth.

What gifts could you give or gather? Almost anything. Get creative and think of what you would like to buy at an auction – something unique.

Popular items for bid are: catering services, golf at one of the many premier courses nearby. Vacations make wonderful auction items; donate frequent flyer tickets or time in your condominium or summer cottage. How about a hot air balloon ride! Maybe someone you do business with has access to Red Sox/Patriots/Celtics tickets or theater tickets.

Themed gift baskets such as a lobster feast for four, California cabernets, single malt scotches, iPod

accessories, dine around gift certificates, or gourmet treats are always popular auction items.

The possibilities are endless. One person's talent is another person's dream! Think of the stores, restaurants, gift shops, and other vendors you patronize. Ask them to contribute an item to our auction. Remember the impact that Bishop Stang families have on the economy of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island SouthCoast!

Have fun and help the students of Bishop Stang. Please donate your time, talent, and/or product to our auction, and then join us for a fun-filled evening.

Please complete the form below and return it to Suzy Burke in the Advancement Office. Invitations and raffle tickets will be mailed in late February.

Thanks for your support!

Gift Acquisition Form _____	Catalog # _____
For Office Use Only	

Bishop Stang High School Alumni and Parents
Present
THE TWENTY ~ FIRST ANNUAL AUCTION
Friday, April 9, 2010
Hawthorne Country Club
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Item/Service: _____	Value: \$ _____
Specific Description (including restrictions): _____ _____ _____	
Donated by: (please print)	Name _____
	Address _____
	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
	Phone _____ Contact _____
	Name as it should appear in the Auction Catalog _____
	Donor will deliver: Yes No Solicitor pick-up Requested: Yes No
Gift Solicited by: _____ (please print)	
Please mail to: Bishop Stang High School, Advancement Office, 500 Slocum Road, N. Dartmouth, MA 02747	

This donation becomes the property of Bishop Stang High School for sale at an auction, the proceeds of which will benefit Bishop Stang High School, a non-profit educational institution. You received no goods or services in exchange for this gift. The value of this donation is tax deductible to the amount limited by law. Bishop Stang's Tax ID number is 042-131-417. If you have any questions, please call the Bishop Stang Development Office at (508) 996-5602 extensions 430, 485, 490.

MID-YEAR EXAM SCHEDULE:

January 12-15, 2010

Tuesday, January 12	Theology World Language	8:00 – 9:30 a.m. 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Wednesday, January 13	English Business, Health, & Fine Arts	8:00 – 9:30 a.m. 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Thursday, January 14	Math Science	8:00 – 9:30 a.m. 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Friday, January 15	Social Studies Conflict and Make-up Exams	8:00 – 9:30 a.m. 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Note: Bus transportation is provided following the 11:30 a.m. dismissal.

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