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# DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Darien High School, 80 High School Lane, Darien, Connecticut 06820 • (203) 655-3981

March, 2006



### Community Effort Makes Volunteer Fair a Success

The Darien High School and Darien United Way co-sponsored a successful volunteer Fair at DHS on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium with over 600 students attending.

Prior to the Fair, the student body attended an assembly where student volunteers spoke about the merits and value of voluntarism in their lives. Erika Sekse spoke powerfully about her experience volunteering in New Orleans with the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Billy Powers spoke about volunteering with Best Buddies, and his involvement with special needs students. Victoria Batha and Kevin Delaney spoke about Building with Books, and their experience in building a school in Nicaragua. Aldo Giannattasio created a video presentation in which student volunteers from Post 53 and the Volunteer Fire Department expressed what volunteering meant to them. The volunteer experience of the TIES Organization was presented by students from Mrs. Sorensen's English 10 class; Mika Roux, Rob Salvatore, Greg Shaw, Adam Vincent.

Encouraging the students to visit the Volunteer Fair, Mrs. Russo closed the assembly with the following words. "Today's fair is such a valuable opportunity for you to give back to someone else and be able to change a life. Putting the needs of others ahead of your own brings purpose to life, a sense of accomplishment and the personal gratification of giving back to those who truly need your help. Use your talents and interests..... make a difference for someone today."

Over 40 local agencies were on hand at the Fair with representatives and material to showcase youth volunteer opportunities at their organizations. There were a wide range of opportunities available, such as: working with younger children, seniors, the disabled, animals, projects in social services, outdoor work or administrative/office work. Many thanks to the people who made the Fair a success: the Darien United Way, the organizing committee, the assembly speakers, the DHS Video Production class, The Volunteer Center of SW Fairfield County, the DHSPA, and DHS Food Services. "Bear Naked" Company offered free samples and T-shirts. It was an extraordinary day and truly a community effort.

# From the Principal's Desk

Dr. Jerry Auclair

## SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

Perhaps the most difficult and unpleasant duty of a school administrator involves making decisions in school discipline situations. These include school suspensions, athletic suspensions, and consequences for academic cheating or other violations of school rules. All parents and students recognize the need for rules to ensure that students are safe and that the school fulfills its mission to educate. Nearly all agree that the rules of a particular high school are fair, reasonable and necessary. However, often students and parents disagree in individual instances regarding the administration of school consequences for violations of rules.

One aspect of school discipline that is often misunderstood by students and parents involves the "student's rights" in a school disciplinary situation. As a lawyer friend of mine likes to say, "People simply watch too much television." Students and parents often think that they have the same due process rights that a person has in a court of law. In 1975, the United States Supreme Court addressed the issue of defining a student's due process rights in a school disciplinary situation in the case *Goss v. Lopez*. Interestingly, the decision was issued on a 5-4 vote, with the dissenting minority of justices feeling that school administrators should be given even greater latitude in dealing with students and that it was unnecessary to define a student's due process rights. Subsequent to *Goss v. Lopez* most states, including Connecticut, passed laws that defined student disciplinary processes consistent with the ideas defined in the ruling of the Court.

In defining a student's due process rights, the Court said: "*the student (must) be given oral or written notice of the charges against him and, if he denies them, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have and an opportunity to present his side of the story.*" Essentially, students have the right to speak to an administrator, to have the violation and the circumstances explained to them, and to have an opportunity to tell their version of what occurred. The Court further explained limitations to student due process rights: "***There need be no delay between the time "notice" is given and the time of the hearing. ... We stop short of construing the Due Process Clause to require, countrywide, that hearings in connection with short suspensions must afford the student the opportunity to secure counsel, to confront and cross-examine witnesses supporting the charge, or to call his own witnesses to verify his version of the incident. ... To impose in each such case even truncated trial-type procedures might well overwhelm administrative facilities in many places and, by diverting resources, cost more than it would save in educational effectiveness.***" Hence, the student does not have the right to an attorney, cannot cross examine witnesses or even call on other witnesses.

When a situation arises in which school rules might have been violated, the school administrator has an obligation to first determine what actually occurred. This usually involves questioning faculty, staff members and students. If the student might be guilty of a viola-

tion that will lead to disciplinary consequences, speaking to an administrator can be somewhat intimidating. In my experience, school administrators do not threaten students or brow beat them into confessions. The administrator simply wants to get to the truth of the situation: whether a rule was broken and under what circumstances. School administrators hope that the student demonstrates good character by being honest and forthright. Accepting the consequences for one's mistakes is another indication of strength of character.

Some parents feel that they have the right to be present when a school administrator questions their child. Although parents have this legal right when the police interview a minor child, there is no such right in school discipline matters. The purpose of the questioning is to determine the truth about what has happened. Having a parent serve as the student's lawyer would likely not shed any light on the truth of the matter and would be a waste of everyone's time. It is also blatantly unfair that student discipline be meted out proportionate to the ability of the parent to plead the student's case. Parents sometimes instruct their children not to speak to the administrator in discipline situations. While this is a choice that the student can make, doing so forfeits the student's fundamental due process right to tell the student's version of the incident. In such an instance the school administrator has no choice but to make the ruling based upon the other available evidence.

Connecticut General Statute 10-233 defines procedures and authority for school discipline, including up to a 10-day suspension from school. Boards of education grant this authority to building-level administrators. Building-level administrators are most familiar with the situation in the school and have the best perspective on the consistency of application of rules and regulations. Appeals of decisions by a building-level administrator to central office personnel are not likely to be overturned on the basis of faulty judgments. The only reasonable basis for an appeal would be a violation of the student's fundamental due process rights. Similarly the courts have repeatedly refused to question the judgment of school administrators. In a recent decision by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York (*D.F. v. Board of Education of Syosset Central School District*), the court stated: *"This court should not be a haven for complaints of students and their parents against actions taken by school officials in their extremely difficult task of educating and controlling the irresponsible behavior of their students. ... These types of conflicts are better handled within the educational system and not in the federal trial and appellate courts."*

School administrators take seriously their obligation to enforce disciplinary consequences for violations of school rules. When these situations occur, they make every effort to determine the facts of the situation and consider the perceptions of all involved before making a decision. The standard for that decision is reasonable certainty, not proof beyond a shadow of a doubt. Consequences should be administered based upon discipline codes and student actions, not on technicalities or minor details. Almost always, the reason why school administrators chose to enter the field of education was to support and educate students. In discipline situations administrators have to balance the individual needs of the student involved with the larger interest of fairness and consistency of application of school rules. These situations are often painful, yet valuable learning experiences for all involved.

**YWCA Parent Awareness Network,  
DCAARB & The Darien Times  
Present**

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A Panel Discussion For Parents On  
**THE DARIEN PARTY SCENE**  
*Good Kids Making Poor Choices*

**Wednesday, March 8  
7:30-9:30 pm  
Darien High School Auditorium**

**ONE FAMILY'S TRAGIC STORY**

David Pease, Author & Speaker

*How underage drinking and drugs profoundly affected his family*

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Duane Lovello, Darien Chief of Police

*The Darien scene; criminal and civil liabilities*

**SAVING LIVES FROM DRUGS & ALCOHOL**

John Hamilton, Sr. Vice President, Liberation Programs

*Social & emotional effects, risky behavior red flags, strategies for empowering parents*

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

*Panelists, DHS staff, and local health care professionals will be available*

DCAARB, the Darien Coalition to Address At-Risk Behavior, strongly encourages you to attend this program:

*Child Guidance Center of Southern CT, Darien Fathers' Forum, Darien High School, Darien Police Department,  
Darien Social Services, Darien United Way, Darien Youth Commission, Darien Family Centers,  
Liberation Programs/Darien Family & Youth Options, Middlesex Middle School, Northeast Youth Ministry Network,  
Office of the Selectmen, Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center, The Depot and YWCA Parent Awareness.*

This program is offered free of charge to parents with children of all ages.  
If Darien public schools are cancelled, this program will be rescheduled.



**YWCA**

Darien/Norwalk

49 Old Kings Hwy. N, Darien, CT 06820

203-655-2535

## Students Win Medals at Science Fair

Last Saturday, ten DHS students participated in the Southern CT Invitational Science & Engineering Fair held at Staples High School. Each student was required to present his/her research project to two teams of judges. The following students were medal winners:

**Katy Quintal** – 1<sup>st</sup> Place in “Research Proposals”

**Sylvia Puma** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in “Life Sciences”

**Kate Farley** – Runner Up in “Life Sciences”

**Tim Grejtak** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in “Physical Sciences”



Please feel free to congratulate these students for their outstanding accomplishments and dedication to academics.

## Thanks From US Troops in Iraq

The Class of 2007 collected items and put together care packages for US troops stationed in Iraq. The packages were sent to Captain Scott McLellan, who is with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, and to Darien alum, Ian Crouch, also with the 101<sup>st</sup>. The Class of 2007 would like to thank everyone who brought in items for the troops. Captain McLellan sent his thanks to the students and Chris Buckley, Jr. Class Advisor:

*Dear Chris,*

*I just got 4 of your packages. Totally awesome, especially since I got it on a Sunday, which is a slow day. I harass my mail clerk every day for not bringing me stuff (not his fault), but today he walked in and it was Christmas again. Everything you sent was great. I guess special thanks go out to the "Building with Books" club, because that is where all the letters are coming from. Your students are awesome and the support was cool.*

*I can't thank you all enough, and I promise to come and see them in person.*

*Thanks again,*

**SCOTT W. MCLELLAN**

**CPT, AD**

## DAFFODIL DAYS ARE COMING

The 16th Annual Daffodil drive is coming to DHS March 20th—March 24  
DHS students interested in selling Daffodils should contact one of the following students:  
Alex Duncan, Lexy Stauffer, Amy Marchesi, and Larsen McDowell.

# News From the DHSPA

Dear Parents;

**March meeting change of date!** The DHSPA will meet on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:15 in the Auditorium. This change was made because of the CAPT testing schedule and timing. The program will feature some of our talented musicians!

The DHSPA would like to welcome Patti Schoknecht to the DHS staff. Patti is the new Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator. She is replacing Mallory Weymann who recently "retired" to pursue other adventures. Patti can be reached at 655-3981 x2353 and her email is [pschoknecht@darienps.org](mailto:pschoknecht@darienps.org). Please feel free to call or stop by anytime.

Special thanks to all of the parents that attended a reception held for Mallory Weymann last month. The DHSPA, in conjunction with the Administration and Community Council, want to thank Susan Elliott, Peg Kaminski, Diane Bosek, Jenny Streeter, Lynn Gagliardi, Terrie Woods, Lois Schneider, Flora Smith, Nancy Herling, and Pam Clark for their extra effort in making this event very special.

Nominating is working on the slate for 2006-2007. Please contact Kathie Rischmann, Cindy Ryan, Cini Shaw and Mary Flynn, our Nominating Co-Chairs, if you are interested in serving on the DHSPA Board. Please note that two new sub-committees are being added to the DHSPA board for next year: the *College & Career Programs* and the *College & Career Center*.

The College & Career Program committee is busy preparing for some exciting programs to be held in April. These mini-programs will take place during lunch and will feature topics ranging from the college process to careers. Details will be forthcoming!

The Guidance Advisory Council continues to meet on a regular basis. Their next meeting is early March. The council will submit a report to the BOE in April.

Again, we thank you all for your continued support and extra effort on behalf of DHS!

Respectfully,  
Olof Preston and Barb Simms  
**DHSPA Co-Chairs**



## DHS Celebrates Black History Month

This year, the Black History Month Assembly had as its theme, The African Diaspora: The Culture of the Caribbean. At the assembly, on February 16th, our students performed a dance, read poems and talked about the history and culture of four Caribbean islands. Thanks to a grant from the Parents Association, a New York steel pan band, Jah Pan, entertained the audience with calypso music. The students participated by singing along and dancing to the infectious rhythms while three of our concert band members joined in by playing the conga drums.

## New to DHS: The Fishing Club

The fishing club is a great way for students interested in fishing to become involved in extra-curricular activities, spend time with their peers, and make new friends that share similar interests. During fishing club meetings, students who are new to the sport can come to learn how to use a fishing pole, about the different species of fish, as well as different fishing techniques. Students that are familiar with this information can share fish tales and help their peers understand the basics of fishing. During meetings we will also read current literature on the sport, students will be encouraged to bring in prevalent articles, and we will watch selected fishing videos. When the club members are ready, we will take fishing trips to local fishing areas, and when the weather permits charter a boat to go fishing on Long Island Sound. Students do not have to attend the trips, but could still come to meetings to share their own fishing experiences, and learn about the sport. Please come to the first meeting to find out more information. Signs will be posted with the date and location of the first meeting.



### HAVE YOU HEARD?

- Kids thrive when they are accepted for who they are. They grow into the unique people that they are.
- Kids who feel good about themselves don't need to drink to boost their self-esteem.
- Don't tell kids how they should think or feel, instead LISTEN, LISTEN and LISTEN again to what they have to say.

Brought to you by DCAARB (The Darien Coalition to Address At Risk Behaviors)  
Additional information at [www.fatherhoodinitiative.state.ct.us](http://www.fatherhoodinitiative.state.ct.us)

## College and Career Programs

The DHSPA College and Career Program Committee is now in its third year and continues to work with the administration, guidance, and faculty in developing programs for both students and parents. After the spring break, we will be providing a schedule for the following programs.

### For Students:

- 1). Career program – **in April** - 20-minute lunchtime segments. With the assistance of DHS faculty, careers of interest to the students will be identified. Open to all grades.
- 2). College process – **in April** - 20-minute lunchtime segments. The programs will discuss college selection, interviewing, the essay, special interest portfolios, and more. Open to all grades.
- 3). For seniors – **May** – life on campus – from laundry to roommates, legal responsibilities, academic choices, etc.

### For Parents:

Parent-to-parent forums discussing the college process will be held with parents sharing their insights and experiences for those new to the college process.

Watch the blast for dates, times and more details. We welcome your suggestions for the programs and speakers.

Most important - encourage your students to take advantage of these opportunities.

Contacts:

Bohdana Puzyk [bpuzyk@optonline.net](mailto:bpuzyk@optonline.net) 329-3713 or

Lois Schneider [lois100@aol.com](mailto:lois100@aol.com) 655-3026.

## All-State Musicians

The Music Department is proud to announce that three students from Darien High School have been selected to participate in the 2006 Connecticut All-State Music Festival. The festival sponsored by the Connecticut Music Educators Association will be held at the new Convention Center in Hartford on March 23-25. The students chosen for this honor competed in two auditions with several thousand students from throughout the state of Connecticut and will perform in ensembles conducted by nationally recognized conductors and educators. Representing Darien High School are: Phillip Garrott – vocal tenor, Christopher Black – viola, and Hayley Karlan – viola. Congratulations to all on their outstanding achievement!

## Student Blood Drive

The second annual blood drive will be held in the North Gym on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Led by seniors Whit McCarthy and Alison Hill, and juniors John Haire and Cailin Watters, it is, as always, our goal to produce 40 to 50 viable pints of much needed blood products for local service. The student leaders are to be commended for scheduling donors, and helping to set up and run this important event. The drive runs from 8AM to 1:30 PM.

### ATTENTION DHS SENIOR PARENTS!!!!!! ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GRADUATION PARTY NIGHT

For all of the Senior Parents, including veterans and novices to this great day—here's a summary of the fun evening that is fast approaching! It has long been a tradition that a committee of senior parents organizes and hosts a Graduation Party from 10 PM-2 AM which continues with a Weed Beach Party from 2-4 AM. The party, this year to be held at the DCA, includes music, dancing, photo booths, games and the highly anticipated PRIZE RAFFLE! Throughout the night great prizes (like iPods, TV/DVDs, mini-refrigerators, college survival gift packs etc.) are raffled off to the lucky winners. This is a fully chaperoned evening!

\*\*\* We rely on donations from the senior parents to create this special night for the graduates, and to provide the funds for the purchase of prizes. We do not solicit from town merchants. A donation of any amount is appreciated! Also, if you have any items that would make a good gift (e.g. sporting or concert tickets, electronics etc.) please feel free to contact:

Julie Parker: [parkerj1@optonline.net](mailto:parkerj1@optonline.net) or Debbie Lee: [Chatealee@aol.com](mailto:Chatealee@aol.com)

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### I WANT TO MAKE A GRADUATION PARTY DONATION!

\$ 15 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$40 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ Any \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and mail to Mary Nelson, 5 Knollwood Lane, Darien CT  
Checks payable to DHS Parents Post Graduation Party

**2004-2005  
Athletic Participation Percentage  
Selected Connecticut High Schools**

<i>High School</i>	<i>Total Participants*</i>	<i>Total Enrollment</i>	<i>Percent Participa- tion</i>
Weston	799	713	112.1%
<b>DARIEN</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>98.7%</b>
Staples (Westport)	1369	1458	93.9%
Wilton	1046	1216	86.0%
Avon	762	889	85.7%
New Canaan	898	1115	80.5%
Ridgefield	1274	1589	77.8%
Simsbury	1127	1455	77.5%
Joel Barlow (Redding)	700	984	71.1%
Brien McMahon	737	1421	51.9%
Norwalk	809	1706	47.4%
Greenwich	1274	2693	47.3%
Westhill	881	2102	41.9%
Stamford	810	1968	41.2%

\* includes multiple sport athletes  
Source: CIAC

## Come See the First Production in Our New Theatre



Theatre 308 presents *Into the Woods* on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale at Darien High School (front desk) and Barrett's Bookstore. Students/Seniors are \$8 and Adults are \$15.00.

Pictured are members of the set crew: Kari Williamson, Sayuri Soejima, J.P. Panier, Helen Rodriguez, Reilly Horan, Jocelyn Spencer, Samantha Dedon, Jessica Hoover, Kendra Albert, Beth Wyatt, Sarah Lewis and Megan Kineen.

# From the Health Office

## EMERGENCY CARDS

**THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS STILL HAVE NOT TURNED IN EMERGENCY CARDS TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE. EACH STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO HAVE TWO WHITE EMERGENCY CARDS ON FILE WITH THE NURSE. (STUDENTS WHO PLAY A SPORT MUST GIVE A BLUE EMERGENCY CARD TO THE COACH.) PLEASE TURN IN YOUR WHITE EMERGENCY CARDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Anderson, Courtney	Klucik, Lindsay	Reilly, Matt
Annechino, Carly	Koslo, Elizabeth	Rodriguez, Mary Francis
Bloom, Curtis	Kostin, Andrew	Rogers, Courtney
Brown, James	Li, Joanna	Rogers, Eric
Carrera, Kassandra	Li, Joyce	Scholtz, Scott
Chalmers, Oliver	Locke, Elizabeth	Scott, Tyler
Chrostowski, Daniel	Macdonald, John	Shimmel, Jason
Colli, Christopher	MacDonnell, Cooper	Smith, Andrew
Collins, Hillary	Mageras, Muireann	Stineman, Kenny
Davis, Kimberly	Marchesi, Kelly	Sucre, Juan
Dushku, Victoria	McLaughlin, Mike	Sullivan, Megan
Forlenzo, Adam	McNamara, Margaret	Sullivan, Patricia
Gelineau, Katiana	Milne, Tyler	Tarnowsky, Joe
Gencarelli, Mike	Mutino, Christian	Taylor, Allison
Giampia, Jonathan	Mutino, Mary	Thoren, Laura
Giannattasio, Sonia	Naan, Mike	Thoren, Lindsay
Harding, Steven	Negri, Andrew	Tisano, Krysten
Hayes, Kate	Pauillac, Pierre	Toledo, Liz
Heck, Julia	Peace, James	Velesbir, Sarah
Hennessey, James	Peacock, Tamara	Verrico, Savannah
Hewitt, Duncan	Pearson, Katherine	Vladic, Jordan
Homes, Marjorie	Petrone, Rose	Zack, Erica
Jones, Alison	Powers, William	
Joosten, Nick	Reed, Amanda	

*Continued on Page 12*

## **FLU SEASON**

**The first flu symptom is usually a sudden onset of FEVER. Frequently the fever occurs with chills, headache, malaise, diffuse muscle aches, and a non-productive cough. Then later, the respiratory symptoms of sore throat, nasal congestion, runny nose, and cough and/or the GI symptoms of abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting may occur. The flu is most contagious in the beginning, even for up to 24 hours before symptoms occur.** We ask, therefore, that you be especially diligent in assessing the health of your child and keep him/her out of school if you think your child might be coming down with the flu.

When illness strikes, it is recommended a student remain home until he/she:

- Is "fever free" for 24 hours
- Has not vomited or had diarrhea in 24 hours
- Has been on antibiotics for 24 hours when ordered
- Is without purulent nasal or eye discharge or productive "barky" cough
- Can be independent and hygienic in handling his/her congestion

Please reinforce the importance of frequent effective hand washing, covering coughs and proper use and disposal of tissues. Please report "physician diagnosed" flu, pneumonia, or any other communicable diseases on the high school absentee line.

Please call Julie Prescott, RN at 655-3981 x2311 if she can be of assistance to you.

## **CONGRATULATIONS 2006 NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS**

Michael Coburn  
Kathleen Farley  
John Saulitis

## **PARKING IN THE BACK OF DHS**

Please be aware that parking is never allowed, day or night, in areas designated as handicapped or as a fire lane. Although this problem seems to have been corrected during the school day, these areas are being used for parking in the afternoon, evenings and on weekends. Please be advised that the Darien Police Department will be issuing tickets to those parked illegally in the near future. Thank you for your cooperation.



# Guidance News

## **CAPT TESTING:**

All 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in the state of Connecticut are required to participate in the Connecticut Academic Performance Test. Testing will run from March 3 – 10. Darien High School will operate on an adjusted schedule for the six days of testing. Students in grade 11 who did not meet the state performance standard in any one of the CAPT subtests should plan to re-take those segments of the test. Beginning with the class of 2006, each student must meet state goals on the Reading/Writing and Mathematics segments of CAPT to receive a DHS diploma. Those students who do not meet the state goals on CAPT may meet graduation requirements through alternate assessments. For more detailed information, please visit:

<http://www.darienps.org/dhs/guidance/capt.htm>.

## **THERE WILL BE NO LATE BUS DURING CAPT TESTING**

### **Tips for Visiting College Campuses**

With junior parent college conferences wrapping up, the guidance department would like to remind you that March vacation is a great time to start looking at colleges and universities. Certainly visit the schools you are already attracted to, but also check out a campus you may not have considered previously. There is much information to be gathered from an on-site visit. If you plan ahead geographically, it's possible to visit two or three schools in one day. Be sure to call ahead and get a full tour because you will get a more detailed, overall picture of a school than you will if you just "drive through".

Tours are usually given by a current student eager to share first-hand experiences. These tours often begin with a small group presentation followed by a walk-about. It's a great way to get the real scoop and have your questions answered. It's also likely that you will have the opportunity to meet with an admissions officer before or after the tour, so be sure to have some questions prepared.

### **Scholarship Applications for Seniors**

Each year various organizations in the Darien community offer financial assistance for DHS graduates to defer college expenses. Details and applications are now available in the guidance office. For further information, please contact Patti Schoknecht at 655-3981 X 2353.

### **Important SAT Dates**

Registration deadline for the May SAT I/II administration is April 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Registration deadline for the June SAT I/II administration is April 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Academic Planning Workshop**

A reminder to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade parents, the Academic Planning workshop will be held in the Auditorium at Darien High School on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. *Continued on Page 14*

## Pre-Registration for 2006-2007


All students in grades 9 – 11 must make an appointment to see their counselor by March 24. At this meeting, the counselor will inspect the pre-registration form and help the students select one or more electives. During the meeting, students and counselors will electronically record the course requests. The students will then be given a printout signed by the counselor, and marked FINAL. The counselor’s signature indicates that the student and the counselor are satisfied with the requests and any necessary modifications have been made.

## QUESTIONS FOR THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR?

If you have questions about anything you have read or heard, feel free to call your counselor. Better yet, send an email. The following are general breakdowns of counselor caseloads. Some students may not fall exactly within the alphabetical listing below.

Mike Caro	Last names A – C	<a href="mailto:mcaro@darienps.org">mcaro@darienps.org</a>
Joan Flaherty	Last names D – G	<a href="mailto:jflaherty@darienps.org">jflaherty@darienps.org</a>
Jessica Larit	Last names H – Ma	<a href="mailto:jelarit@darienps.org">jelarit@darienps.org</a>
Kim Taylor	Last names Mc – R	<a href="mailto:kitaylor@darienps.org">kitaylor@darienps.org</a>
Barbara Thorne	Last names S – W	<a href="mailto:bthorne@darienps.org">bthorne@darienps.org</a>
Bob Pomer	Last names W – Z	<a href="mailto:rpomer@darienps.org">rpomer@darienps.org</a>

## The Depot

March 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	2 FUNBUSTERS 3-5 pm	3 RECEPTION FOR THEATER 308 CAST & CREW	4 BAND NIGHT \$7.00
						YOUTH ARTS EXPO
5 DEPOT CLOSED	6 DEPOT CLOSED	7 KIDS IN CRISIS YOUTH CORPS 6-7:30 SGB	8 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	9 FUNBUSTERS 3-5 pm	10 CHILL NIGHT	11 MOVIE NIGHT
12 DEPOT CLOSED	13 DEPOT CLOSED	14 DEPOT OPEN 7-11 pm	15 DEPOT OPEN 7-11 pm	16 DEPOT OPEN 7-11 pm	17 DEPOT OPEN 7-12 am	18 DEPOT OPEN 7-12 am
19 DEPOT CLOSED	20 DEPOT CLOSED	21 SGB	22 SPRING SPORTS CAPTAINS DINNER	23 FUNBUSTERS 3-5 pm	24 "BUDDY SYSTEM" BENEFIT 7:30pm/\$5.00	25 CHILL NIGHT
26 DEPOT CLOSED	27 DEPOT CLOSED	28 SGB	29 \$1.00 MENU 5-7 pm	30 FUNBUSTERS 3-5 pm	31 "BATTLE OF THE SEXES" 8-10 pm \$5.00	

## LIFE SKILLS CLASS



The EXCEL students have been working on daily living skills, including cooking! We started the New Year off with a Super Bowl theme, making everything from pizza and salad, to wings, veggies, and dip. Each student is responsible for following the recipes, preparing and cooking the food. The proof is in the pictures!

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## DHS DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CHINA

The 2006 DHS China Delegation left Darien on February 24<sup>th</sup> and is currently spending two weeks attending the Shanghai #3 Girls' School and living with host families in Shanghai. During the final days of their trip, the travelers will visit Hangzhou and Beijing. DHS teachers Ralph Chianelli and Lynda Sorensen are accompanying the group.

In preparation for their travels the group has studied China from multiple perspectives in an independent study class at DHS this year. In addition, the students have taken some Chinese language lessons and visited Chinatown during the Chinese New Year. They received an official "send-off" at the Chinese New Year Celebration and dinner held at DHS on Feb. 9. To follow their travels, check the DHS link to the US-China Exchange.



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## CAPT TESTING REGULATIONS

1. Students who do not have obligations and are not able to find a ride to school on CAPT test dates may take the bus at the usual time and use the auxiliary cafeteria and library during the CAPT testing period.
2. Students are not allowed in areas of the building where CAPT testing is held.
3. Students who have rides should arrive at school no earlier than the following times:
  - Friday, March 3rd & Wednesday, March 8th—10:10 a.m.
  - Monday, March 6th & Friday, March 10th—11:30 a.m.
  - Tuesday, March 7th—11:15 a.m.
  - Thursday, March 9th—10:50 a.m.
4. On Monday, March 6th, Tuesday (7th), Thursday (9th), and Friday (10th)  
LUNCH WILL ONLY BE SERVED TO CAPT TEST TAKERS AND STUDENTS WHO ARRIVED AT THE USUAL TIME. STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE SHOULD EAT BEFORE COMING TO SCHOOL.
5. ***JUNIORS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DRIVE TO SCHOOL DURING CAPT TESTING. VIOLATORS WILL NOT BE ISSUED PARKING PERMITS IN THE FALL UNTIL AT LEAST OCTOBER 3RD.***

*(See back page for complete schedule.)*

# IMPORTANT DATES

March 2,3,4 Theatre 308 musical, *Into The Woods* 8 p.m.—Auditorium  
 March 3-10 CAPT Testing  
 March 8 Parent Awareness “The Party Scene” 7:30 p.m.—Auditorium  
 March 13-17 Spring Recess: No School  
 March 21 DHSPA 9 a.m.—Auditorium  
 March 25 Father’s Forum 8-9:30 a.m.—Auxiliary Cafeteria  
 March 28 DIVE Day

April 11 DHSPA—9 a.m. Auditorium  
 April 14 Good Friday: No School  
 April 17 Staff Development: No School for Students  
 April 22 Father’s Forum 8-9:30 a.m.—Auxiliary Cafeteria  
 April 28 Ring Dance 8-10:30 p.m.—Woodway Country Club

## CAPT Testing Schedule

Day	CAPT Testing	Test Subject Matter	Classes	Lunch Schedule
Fri., 3/3 E Day	9:00 - 10:15	Mathematics A <i>and</i> Freshman Response to Lit.	10:21 - 2:17	Regular lunch schedule
Mon., 3/6 F Day	9:00 - 11:30	Math I <i>and</i> Science I	12:03 - 2:17	Lunch for test takers and students arriving early
Tue., 3/7 G Day	9:00 - 11:15	Interdisciplinary Writing I <i>and</i> Reading for Information	11:48 - 2:17	Lunch for test takers and students arriving early
Wed., 3/8 H Day	9:00 - 10:10	Response to Literature	10:21 - 2:17	Regular lunch schedule
Thur., 3/9 A Day	9:00 - 10:50	Interdisciplinary Writing II <i>and</i> Editing and Revising	11:26 - 2:17	Lunch for test takers and students arriving early
Fri., 3/10 B Day	9:00 - 11:30	Math II <i>and</i> Science II	12:03 - 2:17	Lunch for test takers and students arriving early