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SHS PARENT ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

October 5, 2011

A Note from the Editor

I hope many of you are able to attend the Parent Forum about Guiding Your Child through the College Application & Selection Process either **tonight or tomorrow night**. Having been through this process twice with my older boys, I know all too well that this can be a stressful and overwhelming process for all involved. Some of the stress can be alleviated by planning ahead, and thinking about how you and your student will approach college applications before you are thrown into the midst of it. Whether your child is an upperclassman, or an underclassman, this parent forum is being planned to take as much mystery out of the process as possible, and with less mystery, there is sure to be (at least a bit) less stress. This is a topic that many of you frequently ask about, and our coordinators and presenters have worked to accommodate many schedules by offering the same forum twice, so figure out which evening works for you – and join your fellow parents in the SHS Library at 7 PM on October 5 or 6. [Click here to see the flyer.](#)

Debbie Eder
SHS Parent Bulletin Editor

Calendar – School and District

- Oct 5 End of Orchestra Candy and Coffee Sale – contact an orchestra student
- Oct 11 School Board Meeting – agenda will be posted [here](#).
- Oct 12 Testing Date – [more information here](#).
 - 9th Graders – Explore Test
 - 10th Graders – Plan Test
 - 11th Graders – PSAT Test
 - See school schedule for the day & other information in mailing that was sent home
- Oct 13 Teacher Dinner provided by SHS Parents – [click here to see how you can help](#)
- Oct 13 School dismissed at 11:30. **Parent Teacher Conferences** 12:30pm – 8:00pm
- Oct 13 SNACPAC Meeting
- Oct 14 No School – Parent Teacher Conferences – 8am – 11:30 am

Calendar – College Information & Planning

- Oct 5 & 6 [Parent Forum](#) – Guiding Your Student through the College Application and Selection Process (same program both nights, no need to come twice)
- Oct 9 [National College Fair](#) in Milwaukee
Editor's Note – as of publication, the website has been down, so if it doesn't work, check back later. Basic Info – Frontier Airlines Center noon – 3:30 pm. Free but save time by registering in advance (if the website is working!) Try <http://www.nacacnet.org/Fairs/Pages/default.aspx> or <http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/ncf/Fall/Pages/11FMil.aspx#general>
- Oct 10-14 – [Wisconsin Education Fair](#) at various Milwaukee area locations
- Oct 13 [Online College Fair](#)
- Ongoing College Representatives Visit SHS to talk with students about their schools. Students must sign up in the guidance office at least 24 hours in advance for each session they wish to attend.

Calendar – Community

- Oct 5 [Shorewood Reads](#) – Larry Watson, author of *Montana 1948* Speaks at Public Library

The complete District Calendar for 2011-2012 can be found [here](#).

Bulletin Submissions

Bulletin submissions should be sent by Monday evenings for inclusion in that week's Wednesday bulletin. (Of course, you can send earlier, too!) Send submissions to news.shsparentassn@gmail.com.

News & Announcements

Important Parent Mailing

This week you should receive a mailing from school that has several important pieces of information. Look for it, open it and READ IT! Highlights include:

- **Your registration code to log onto Family Connection.**
(*Editor's note:* It only takes a minute to logon and set up a new password of your choice – even if you don't have time to spend on Family Connection, at least do this before you lose the small piece of paper with your registration code!)
- **A letter explaining the school schedule for the week of October 10**
 - Extended homeroom and altered bell schedule on Oct 10
 - Testing schedule for freshmen, sophomores & juniors on October 12
 - Seniors are not testing and need not arrive at school until 11:53 am
 - All other students should arrive at school prior to 7:35 so that tests may begin promptly.
 - *Editor's note:* – make sure your child has the required testing supplies with him/her.
 - Conference Day Schedules for students and parent conferences
- **Grade Specific Letters**
 - **Freshmen Parents** received a letter about the EXPLORE Test
 - **Sophomore Parents** received a letter about PLAN Test
 - **Junior Parents** received a letter about the PSAT Test

*Attendance Policy

If you missed it last week, be sure to familiarize yourself with the SHS attendance policy. In the past students and parents have been surprised to learn that an exam exemption opportunity had been forfeited. Make certain you and your child understand the policy. http://www.shsparentassn.com/uploads/6/1/2/5/6125612/attendance_policy.pdf.

Seniors – College Application Process

During the extended homeroom last week, Seniors were given a packet about the college application process. [To see an online version, click here.](#) This document includes:

- A senior year timeline
- A list of scholarship search engines
- A list of local and national scholarships
- Family Connections
 - Use it to inform your guidance counselor of which colleges you are applying to
 - Request a teacher recommendation
 - Request that transcripts be sent to colleges to which you are applying
 - Use it to research specific colleges

Juniors – PSAT Test

During the extended homeroom last week, Juniors were given an information booklet about the PSAT Test. To view the online version, go to http://www.nationalmerit.org/student_guide.pdf. This guide includes:

First Half of the Booklet

- Information about the National Merit Scholarship Program
- A list of scholarships sponsored by independent organizations based on PSAT scores
- A list of colleges that sponsor merit scholarships based on PSAT scores

Second Half of the Booklet (page numbers begin again at page 1):

- Information about score reporting
- Preparation Tips for each section of the test
- Sample questions for each section of the test

The hard copy version of the booklet also includes a PSAT practice test. Answers and explanations to the practice test can be found at: <http://www.collegeboard.com/psatpractice/index.html>.

More practice problems and explanations can be found at: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/prep.html>.

Freshman – Wisconsin Covenant

During the extended homeroom last week, freshmen learned about the Wisconsin Covenant. [To see it, click here.](#)

From The SHS Daily Announcements

This is a sampling, (by no means all), of some of the morning announcements the students hear each day at school. Look at the exciting things going on at SHS:

- Peer Mentors – wear your t-shirts this week
- Spoken Word Club invites new members for Poetry and Performance Art
- Senior Quotes are due
- Volunteer Shorewood needs additional volunteers for a pancake breakfast on Oct 16
- Drama Students can sign up with Mrs. Gensler to see Sweeny Todd
- Freshman girls interested in playing basketball – see Mr. Haury
- Applications for Showcase Director are due Oct 7
- Juniors – you should have received your PSAT study guide during homeroom
- As always, numerous Club and Group Meetings including: Robotics, Stock Club, Amnesty International, Science Club, Animal Rights Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, Quidditch Club, and Model UN. Most clubs accept new members and visitors throughout the year.

From Student Support Services

Family Connection Parent Logins

The Student Support Office has uploaded parents into Family Connections. If you did not receive a login online, you will be receiving a paper copy this week with the mailing from school.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards – Win a Trip to Washington DC

Students who have done substantial volunteer work, may want to apply for this opportunity to win a cash prize and a trip to Washington DC. Applications are due November 2. Additional information can be found at www.spirit.prudential.com.

District, Village & Community News and Events

SNACPAC Meeting – October 13

The Shorewood Nutritional and Physical Activity Committee (SNACPAC) will be meeting on Thursday, October 13 from 7:00-8:00 am in the Shorewood High School Conference Room 116 to review the School District's wellness policy and guidelines. Your participation is encouraged.

For more information, please contact Deb Stolz at 414-963-6913 x4 or DStolz@shorewood.k12.wi.us.

North Shore Parent Network – Special Education Group

If you are a parent, educator or professional interested in the special educational needs of all students in the North Shore schools, please consider joining the North Shore Parent Network. The first events this year will be held on October 19, at 6:20 pm in the St. Francis Children's Center. To see a list of all scheduled events and topics, [click here](#). For more information, contact Terri Hart-Ellis at hartellis@sbcglobalnet or 414-217-7999.

In Memory of Kris Oates – October 6 – 5:30 PM Lake Bluff Upper Playground

Sincere thanks to everyone who made the installation of benches and trees, in honor of Kris Oates, possible through contributed funds and hard work. May this special place be one to remember good times of the past and also a place for new memories in the future. A dedication of this memorial will take place on Thursday, October 6 at Lake Bluff upper playground, with refreshments beginning at 5:30pm and an official dedication at 6:00pm at the Lake Bluff upper playground. Please RSVP your attendance for this special evening maggiedietrich@gmail.com;;. All friends of Kris and her family are welcome to attend. (Rain date will be Tuesday, October 11.)

Annual Shorewood Connects Yard Clean-Up Day – November 5

Saturday, November 5, is scheduled as the fourth annual Shorewood Connects Yard Clean-Up Day, linking neighborhood volunteers with older adults and disabled adults who need help winterizing their yards. Volunteers are sought between 9:00 a.m. and 12 p.m. to rake leaves, clean out garden beds, trim hedges, and empty hoses at the homes of older and disabled adults for whom these tasks would prove difficult. This is a great volunteer opportunity for teens, families, community groups, etc. Those interested in volunteering are asked to register with Sue Kelley, Shorewood Connects Facilitator at (414) 961-7262 or skelley1@wi.rr.com. It's a great chance to connect with your neighbors!

School District Annual Meeting – A Note from a District Parent

Some observations for those of you who missed the School Board Annual Meeting last week:

- There was a report from maintenance, which did a huge amount of work including greening our buildings, used some creativity to find efficient ways to do repairs and save money without jeopardizing safety or using crappy materials, and went \$150,000 under budget. We're saving \$80,000 in energy costs annually compared to a few years ago and the maintenance folks have even more ideas on greening the buildings and facilities.
- Mr. Stranke, SIS principal figured out a way to save on special ed transportation costs.
- It looks like the headcount will show another rise in enrollment this year which helps us with state funding.
- Superintendent McCann read off some impressive gains for African American kids between 4th and 8th grade, showing that the schools are making serious inroads into closing the achievement gap for these kids.
- Many in attendance felt that there was much evidence showing the work our district is doing to save money while still providing excellent services in our schools. And it would seem that young families are noticing too.

ATHLETIC NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Greyhound Update – football, soccer, swimming, cross country, tennis, volleyball.

<http://shorewood.patch.com/articles/greyhound-update-football-team-cant-hold-third-quarter-lead>.

Girls Swimming – Strong girls team, lead by Kristin Malone and Ellen Stello – looking forward to State success!

<http://shorewood.patch.com/articles/greyhound-swimming-duo-has-eyes-on-more-state-success>.

CONGRATULATIONS, KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S

CONGRATULATIONS TO NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMI-FINALISTS & COMMENDED STUDENTS

Eight SHS Seniors have been recognized National Merit/National Achievement Scholarship Competitions for achievement based on the results of the October, 2010 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).

- **SEMI-FINALISTS in the National Merit Scholarship Competition** are among the top one-half of one percent of the students who took the PSAT. Semi-finalists are eligible to advance to the finalist level of the competition to be considered for a Merit Scholarship award. **Congratulations to SHS's 2012 National Merit Scholarship Competition Semi-finalists:** [Arwen Bleksley](#), [Gabriella Champagne-Sitzler](#), [Katherine Kuchin](#), [Zan Song](#), and [Eileen Stillwell](#)!

- **COMMENDED STUDENTS** are among the top three percent of PSAT test takers. **Congratulations to SHS's 2012 students who earned Commended Status: Keith Dodd, Maja Ivanovic, and Sofia Jonas!**

AFS Students at SHS

Welcome to our new AFS students: **Fiona Bucher** who is from Switzerland and **Ingrid Lind** who is from Norway. This is the 61st year that the District has participated in AFS. Thank you to the Henschel family for hosting Fiona and to the Gess family for hosting Ingrid.

Do you know students, staff, school clubs, etc. who deserve recognition?

Please let us know if you know of an SHS student or staff member or school group who deserves recognition – whether your own child, a friend, neighbor, teacher, coach, mentor, co-worker, etc. We are thrilled to use this space to share student and staff achievements, but we can only do so when someone tells us about them! Send your submissions to news.shsparentassn@gmail.com.

*****Reminders from Prior Weeks*****

Join SEED at Sprecher & Support our Schools – November 4

November 4 is the Sprecher Tour and Tasting Event hosted by SEED. Join us for locally brewed beer and soda! Tour the Brewery! Enter the bean bag toss tournament! This is a great way to spend a Friday night for less than the cost of going to the movies, and you may make a few new friends while you're there. For more details and to make your reservation, [view the flyer](#). Questions? Call Tracey Grabowski at [414-963-0257](tel:414-963-0257) or email tracey_grabowski@yahoo.com

Guiding Your Student through the College Application & Selection Process – October 5 & 6

Join the SHS Parent Association and the SHS Student Support Services for a lively discussion about the process of applying to and selecting a college. Jane Frederick, Ph.D., experienced college counselor and parent of a 2011 SHS graduate, will share her professional expertise about what makes a college search successful.

- What should you do when your child is a Sophomore? Junior? Senior?
- What resources are available to you at school or online?
- What is the role of the parent? The student? The school?

Email your questions in advance to: omearastillwell@sbcglobal.net.

Please join us on either October 5 or 6 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the SHS Library.

The same program will be offered on both October 5 and October 6, no need to come both dates.

[Click here](#) to view the flyer for the program, which contains additional information.

Testing – Freshmen, Sophomores And Juniors – October 12

On October 12, SHS will be administering pre-college tests to all freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Fees were paid at registration, and there is nothing you need to do for your child to be registered for the appropriate test.

Additional information about these tests as well as the tests that are usually required for college admissions (ACT and SAT) can be found on the Student Support Services Page of the School website – [click here](#). Alternatively, some of the information from that page has been copied to [this document](#).

Parent Teacher Conferences October 13 & 14

Parent – Teacher Conferences will be held on October 13 from 12:30 pm – 8:00 pm and on Friday October 14 from 8:30 am – 11:30 am. No appointment is necessary. When you arrive you will see teachers seated at desks, and you may make your way from teacher to teacher in which ever order you choose. In order to avoid long lines building up, please keep your conference time to about 5 minutes. If you need more time with any teacher(s) you may schedule separate conferences with them. Watch for more information from school including details as to which day shared staff members will be at SHS.

Student Directories

There are about 50 of you who paid for student directories, but have not yet picked them up. If you are one of those people – you or your student can stop in the SHS office and get yours. If you didn't preorder – directories are still available for sale, also in the SHS office.

Candy & Coffee Sale – Support SHS Orchestra – Sale Ends October 5

SHS Orchestra Students are selling Serogy Chocolate and Stone Creek Coffee to raise funds for their spring trip to Italy. To purchase candy or coffee, contact any orchestra student by October 5. Questions, or need the name of an Orchestra Student – contact Beverly Goldberg at 961-8850.

Using Family Connection to Determine when College Representatives are Visiting SHS

- All juniors and seniors are welcome to meet with these representatives.
- Students must have a signed pass from the guidance office 24 hours in advance.
- To see which schools are sending representatives on which days,
 - Use Family Connection – <http://connection.naviance.com/shorewood>
 - The first time you use this site you will need to input the code you were given by student support services, you will then create a password, and use that for subsequent visits. If you do not have your code from student support services, you can expect to receive a paper copy this week.
 - Click on the colleges tab
 - There is a section labeled “ Upcoming College Visits”
 - You can see the scheduled visits for the next few days
 - Click on “view all upcoming college visits” to see future weeks
 - Expect this to be updated frequently as more colleges schedule visits to SHS.
- Attending these sessions, not only allows a student to learn more about a specific college, it also allows them to show “demonstrated interest” in that college – something that some (not all) schools consider in the admissions process.
- Note – there is LOTS more that you can do with Family Connection – if you haven't spent any time looking around the site yet, be sure to do so. And keep in mind, that the SHS specific data is still being updated.

Village and Community Events

- **Shorewood Waters Project** – Free Lake Michigan excursion, fishing clinic, rain gardens and more. To view the complete list [click here](#). To read details about select events, [click here](#).
- **Shorewood Reads** – All Shorewood community members are invited to participate in Shorewood Reads by reading **Montana 1948** by Larry Watson and participating in Shorewood Reads events which will include discussion sessions on September 29 (7pm) and October 1 (10am) led by SHS Students and teachers, and will culminate on October 5 with two appearances by the author at the Shorewood Library at 3pm and 7pm. To learn more, [click here](#).

ACT Test Preparation

Test Preparation Programs of which we are aware:

- Shorewood Recreation Department see [page 13 of the rec dept. bulletin](#), or go to the [registration website](#) and click on the course number.
- UWM – See [UWM Trio and Pre College web page](#) (scroll down page for fall and future dates)

Shorewood Foundation – Dinner & Silent Auction – November 19

The Board of Directors of the Shorewood Foundation would like to invite you to attend the Shorewood Foundation's Annual Dinner which will be held on **Saturday, November 19, 2011 at the Hubbard Lodge in Shorewood.**

The proceeds from this event support the activities of the Shorewood Foundation. The management of Hubbard Lodge generously provides delicious, gourmet dinners for the event at a substantially discounted price, and Foundation Board members have historically purchased the wine for the dinner. Thus, *almost all of the ticket price goes directly to the grant recipients of the Foundation.*

Those who attend the annual Shorewood Foundation Dinner readily attest to the fact that this is a delightful and wonderful evening. The Foundation supports many of the good things that happen in our Village. This includes the activities of many worthy civic groups, improvements for the Shorewood Schools (including a recent \$22,000 grant to SHS!), the annual 4th of July Fireworks Celebration at Atwater Park and more. [Click here for more information and to rsvp.](#)