



January 23, 2012

## INSIDE CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Teaching character, compassion, and confidence to the youth of West Virginia for over 80 years

Dear parents and students:

Days at Charleston Catholic are diverse and busy. I wish everyone could see what those of us who are fortunate enough to spend our days here get to see.

I like to spend a bit of time each day wandering around the school. I never fail to be impressed. Recent expeditions uncovered chemistry students analyzing solutions and reactions. Sixth graders in the computer lab excitedly told about their animal and plant classification activity, using all sorts of photos they had found of unusual species, the odder-looking the better. Students in the speech class were brainstorming the CCHS display for the upcoming Catholic Schools Day at the Legislature, discussing content, layout, supplies needed, and ideas for freebies to distribute during the event. The Spanish IV class presented their skits to younger students, ending the session with much appreciated chips and salsa. Social studies students used clickers to respond to rapid-fire questions from the teacher. Smartboards were on all over the building, flipping from screen to screen with equations, videos, maps, notes, and other resources. Teachers were lecturing and discussing, challenging students to think and apply information learned. The library exploratory class proudly presented its latest video poetry project. Students in the gym ran a basketball passing drill. Biology students showed off their creativity, using edible items to demonstrate cell components. Theology students were deep in discussion, reflecting upon a variety of topics. The office staff juggled calls and an infinite number of tasks, including soothing sick students while parents were on the way. The kitchen and maintenance staff were busily working while parents set up for school lunch or team lunch. And on and on.

After school is no less busy. Any day after 2:45 finds teachers in their classrooms, preparing lessons, helping students, meeting with parents, chatting with one another. A couple of juniors, working with their teacher and a mentor, are focused on a complicated science project. The drama troupe is in the Commons, putting finishing touches on their upcoming production. Athletes and cheerleaders ready themselves for practices and games. Ski club members, if it's a Wednesday, gear up for their trip to the slopes. One night last week found parents in the computer lab with Mrs. Thomas and a guest from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, filling out FAFSA forms for their seniors. And our custodians are on site, taking care of all of us with their careful attention to detail and their pride in the building.

When asked, I often describe Charleston Catholic as a productive, happy place. Staff and students are busy and typically upbeat. One day last week, a teacher popped into my office and announced exuberantly, "I love my job!" And she absolutely meant it.

No place is perfect. And we're constantly raising the bar for ourselves. But isn't it gratifying to know that your children are in a safe, nurturing environment where expectations are high and where smiles still pervade the atmosphere?

Would that every child could be in such place.

As we look toward Spring and the beauty of that season, let us pause and recognize the beauty that pervades our Charleston Catholic community and each of us do what we can do to keep it so.

Debra K. Sullivan, Principal

**CONDOLENCES** – We express our sympathy to a number of our students and their families who have lost loved ones recently. May the souls of the departed rest in peace: paternal grandfather of Allie and Aaron Persily; paternal grandfather of Robert and Stephen Gresham, CCHS recent alumni; paternal grandfather of Michael Carbone (and CCHS alumni Stephen and Jamie); paternal grandfather of Antonio Lim; and Dorothy Scharf's aunt. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

**THOUGHTS ON MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMS** – As you examine your middle schooler’s exam grades, keep in mind that these tests are primarily aimed at giving students experiences in studying for and taking “big tests” so they’ll be better prepared for our high school program. For this reason, middle school exams make up only a small percentage of the semester grade. Focus your attention on quarter grades to get a more accurate assessment of your child’s progress.

**PROMOTION POLICY** – A review of the CCHS promotion policy is in order, now that first semester grades are official.

1. All students (grades 6-12) must pass both semesters of theology in order to be promoted in June. The required number of community service hours and fine arts/humanities credits must also be completed before being granted a diploma or before being readmitted for the next school year.
2. Promotion to grades 7, 8, and 9 is granted when a student passes both semesters in English, health/PE, math, science, social studies. If a student fails one or two semesters in any of these courses, he/she must complete summer programs, possibly including enrolling in public school summer school classes, selected by CCHS for each failed semester. Failure to complete these summer requirements will result in the student being denied enrollment at CCHS in August. Middle school students failing more than two semesters in these core courses may not be readmitted to CCHS.
3. Students who fail courses in grades 9-12 must enroll in CCHS-approved summer school programs during the summer following the failure to make up the credit if they wish to remain at CCHS. No more than two semesters of coursework may be earned during the summer. To graduate from CCHS, students must earn 28 specific credits in grades 9 – 12. Since only two summer school sessions are offered, each one worth half a credit, a student who is deficient in more than one credit (i.e., one semester of two classes or two semesters of one class) will be unable to accrue the number of credits needed for graduation.
4. To be classified as a sophomore, a student must have earned 7 credits, 14 credits to be considered a junior, and 21 credits a senior. 28 academic credits plus an addition credit for community service and fine arts are needed for graduation.

**2011-12 SCHEDULING FOR CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS** – Scheduling forms will be distributed to students by late February. Currently enrolled students should **NOT** complete the applications for admission that are on the CCHS website.

**NEW STUDENTS FOR 2012-2013** – Applications for all grade levels are available on-line ([www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org)).

**Tuesday, February 7** – information meetings for parents of prospective students (grades 6-10). We have planned two options: 1) **at 8:30 a.m.** Following the information session in the library, parents will have the opportunity to tour the school as a group while classes are in session and then, if they wish, to eat lunch in the CCHS cafeteria. 2) **at 6:00 p.m.** – information session in the CCHS library followed by a tour of the school.

**Thursday, February 9** – prospective 6<sup>th</sup> graders visit CCHS 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. (5<sup>th</sup> graders not currently enrolled at Catholic elementary schools must call CCHS office to make reservations.)

**Saturday, February 11** – admissions test for all prospective students from 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. in CCHS Commons

**Monday, February 13** –deadline for receipt of applications of students currently attending Catholic schools who wish to be given first consideration. Applications from area Catholic schools received after this date lose “first consideration” status and are placed in the general pool of applicants.

**Tuesday, February 14**- first day applications will be processed from students in non-Catholic schools

**Monday, February 27**– deadline for all non- Catholic school students to submit applications who want to be considered in the first round of acceptances

**Friday, March 16** – first round of acceptance letters mailed (for applicants whose files are completed by February 27 – applications received after February 27 will be reviewed periodically by the Admissions Committee and notification as to enrollment status will be mailed at that time)

**NOTE** – It is rare for CCHS to accept students as juniors and seniors. Generally speaking, only juniors and seniors moving into the area attending Catholic schools elsewhere will be considered.

**DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE** -- is available for **needy Catholic students** wishing to attend West Virginia Catholic schools. Go on-line to [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com) to apply.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: FAITH, ACADEMICS, SERVICE** -- Please mark your calendars for the week of **January 30-February 3!** During Catholic Schools Week each winter, the school family, under the leadership of the PVA, reaches out to the community around us and participates in an act of community service. This year, we are reaching out once again to Manna Meal and will be collecting donations to support their programs. This year we are asking for particular items each day of CSW based on Manna Meals' needs:

Monday- canned meats (chicken, tuna, salmon, Vienna sausages, spam, etc.)

Tuesday- chicken noodle soup

Wednesday- macaroni and cheese

**\*\*Thursday- peanut butter--dress down day with a donation!**

Friday- canned meats (chicken, tuna, salmon, Vienna sausages, spam, etc.)

Donations may be dropped off at CCHS Commons during the week of January 30-February 3rd. CSW committee members will provide assistance for students each morning from 7:35-8:00 a.m. in the Commons. Please remember flip top lids if possible!!! If you have questions, please contact Penny Gennette @ 343-1555 or Diane Gouhin @ 926-8119.

**IMMUNIZATIONS** -- Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources will require students in grades 7 and 12 to have additional immunizations. **All 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students enrolled in WV public and private schools must have proof of these immunizations or they will not be allowed to begin school in August. CCHS must have an updated copy of the immunization records, which include these vaccines, on file in the school office in order to allow your child to begin school in August 2012.** Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade must have 1 dose of the Tdap vaccine and 1 dose of the meningitis vaccine. If the 12<sup>th</sup> grade student received a meningitis vaccine before his/her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, he/she is required to have a second dose of the vaccine at this time. A letter is included in this mailing for parents of children in grades 6 and 11 indicating which of these required vaccines CCHS has on file and if school records need to be updated before August.

**EXHIBIT** -- When we returned from our Christmas break we were fortunate to have an art display sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee. Windows and Mirrors, a travelling community exhibit, provided our students with an up-close look at the everyday realities of life in the war zone of Afghanistan. The drawings were created by a broad range of people looking at the hope for peace and the destruction caused by war. Our high school students took time to analyze the exhibit and to write their reflections on some of the pieces. These reflections, quite profound, will travel with the exhibit as it travels around the US.

**DRAMA PRODUCTION** -- Holy curtain calls, drama fans! It's time for another play! CCHS Drama is proud to present "May the Farce Be with You," a comedy farce in the grand tradition of Mel Brooks. The play pits a crackerjack team of superheroes against a band of intergalactic villains bent on world domination. You won't want to miss this exciting show! Performances will be Friday, February 3, and Saturday, February 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the CCHS Commons. Tickets are available at the door - adults \$6 and students \$4.

**HOPE (Housing Outreach Project Express)** - Students participating in Charleston Catholic's summer home repair ministry in Clay County, WV, are raising funds to purchase building materials to help make 10-12 families' houses warmer, safer and drier. **To date, we have raised \$12,000 of our \$35,000 goal. Please consider making a tax deductible donation, 100% of which will be used to purchase building materials.** Checks can be made payable to "Charleston Catholic High School" and sent to the school office to the attention of Bill Mehle. To view photos of HOPE in action, visit the school's web site and click on the "Community" link.

**HOPE SPAGHETTI DINNER** – Join our HOPE participants in the CCHS Commons on Friday, February 24 from 6:00p.m.- 7:30 p.m. For \$7, you will enjoy spaghetti, salad, bread, and lemonade, and, at the same time, benefit our June 2012 home renovation project in Clay County. Tickets will be available in the school office and from HOPE participants (about 40 juniors and seniors!).

**GOLDEN HORSESHOE** – All 8<sup>th</sup> graders in West Virginia schools are able to take the “big” test. The 45-minute computer test will be administered state-wide in all public and private schools. CCHS eighth graders are tentatively scheduled to take the test on either March 27 or 28. There will be no make-up date.

**THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT THANKS** – Many thanks to guest speakers in our World Religions course with the senior class during the first semester: **Dr. Surendra Verma:** The Hindu Tradition; **John Fluharty** (CCHS alum

and graduate student at Oxford University): Reflections on his two months in Afghanistan working with a political think tank in Kabul; **Thad Settle** (CCHS parent): Zen Buddhism; **Diana Mehle** (CCHS faculty member): Japan - A Land of Contrasts - Reflections on her travels with a teacher exchange program; **Rabbi Victor Urecki** (CCHS parent): The Jewish Tradition; **Imam Ehteshamul Haque**: Islam Today; **Pastor Jamie Wright**: Maranatha Christian Fellowship & Nondenominational Christianity; **Rev. Shauna Hyde**: The United Methodist Church; and **Fr. Leon Alexander**: The Roman Catholic Tradition.

**YEARBOOK ADS** -- Those parents of seniors who reserved a space for a yearbook ad should contact Mrs. D'Brot to schedule a time to come in and work with a yearbook student to design the ad. The yearbook class meets 2:00 through 2:45 p.m. each day. Please bring with you the pictures you will use for your spread, the words you would like to use, any ideas for colors of borders and text, and a check to cover the cost of the size you requested. We are limited in the number of photos we can use depending on the size of the ad. The fewer photos you have, the bigger and easier they will be to see! Quarter Page – maximum of 4 small photos; Half Page – Maximum of 6 small photos; Full Page – Maximum of 10 small photos. Please email Mrs. D'Brot ASAP (dbrotcchs@hotmail.com) to arrange for an appointment.

**SENIOR YEARBOOK ITEM REMINDER** – If you haven't sent your senior's drape and baby pictures to Mrs. D'Brot for yearbook, you are past due. Please forward these to her in jpeg form at debrotcchs@hotmail.com.

**TRAVELING ART EXHIBIT** – Each year through the generosity of the PVA (many thanks!), the Spanish classes host a traveling art exhibit. This year the students are studying the life and works of Pablo Picasso. Stop by (February 6 – 10) and see the gorgeous tapestries located outside the library on the second floor.

**LATIN FIELD TRIP** -- On March 23, Latin students will have a wonderful opportunity to study and enjoy artifacts from ancient Pompeii when they visit the Cincinnati Museum Center. The traveling exhibit, "A Day in Pompeii," contains over 250 artifacts from the Archaeological Museum of Naples. Field trip permission forms and fees are due to Ms. Cook or Mrs. Snyder by January 27.

**ATTENTION: FRESHMAN PARENTS** – In keeping with the CCHS tradition, our 9<sup>th</sup> grade class will be hosting the Baccalaureate reception for this year's graduating seniors and their families on Thursday May 24, 2012. This event takes much planning and cooperation from the entire 9<sup>th</sup> grade class and planning is already underway. 9<sup>th</sup> grade parent volunteers are needed to help in the following areas: decorations, food, home-made desserts, set up/ clean up, paper products, invitations. To volunteer or for more information please contact: Terri Moore Imani at imaniklan@yahoo.com or 304-546-3365.

**ATTENTION: SOPHOMORE PARENTS** – Hosting Project Graduation is the 10<sup>th</sup> grade parent project. This all-night lock-in is scheduled at the Charleston YMCA on Friday, May 25, 2012, from 10:30 p.m. to 4 a.m. The evening is the final send-off for our new graduates and a fun-filled event where they can safely gather together one last time. We need your help. Please contact Betsy Crocket at 304-346-7682 or Tricia Dexter at 304-346-4681. Also, watch for a letter in the mail asking for your help and support! Many thanks!

**JUNIOR PARENTS** – The juniors are in the planning phase for the prom and are being encouraged to share the ideas with their parents. Any parent who would like to lend a hand should pass the word along through their student or contact Mrs. Scharf at dscharf@suddenlink.net.

**SENIOR INFORMATION** – Graduation and all the end-of-year activities will be here before we know it! A letter to senior parents containing important dates and information, including information on Mid-Year Grade Reports to colleges, was mailed recently to senior parents from Mrs. Lycan and Mrs. Thomas. Seniors should have ordered their caps, gowns (as necessary), tassels, and stoles for graduation. Parents please check to insure that this responsibility has been fulfilled.

**HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BOOK CLUB** – is reading Healing Hands by Kathy Magliato and will be discussing it in late January.

**MEDICATIONS** –REMINDER: When students need to take prescription medication at school, the medicine must be sent to the office with a doctor's order and in a plastic zip-lock bag with the student's name clearly labeled. Also, any medications kept at school for various reasons – e.g., asthma, allergies, etc. – should be sent to the office

in a bag with the doctor's order and an allergy or other medical plan, if applicable. Over the counter medicine such as Advil, cough drops, etc. need to be in a plastic bag with student's name clearly marked and with specific information stating when such items should be dispensed.

**SCIENCE TUTORS** -- Peer tutoring is available to students for help in their science classes. Students wishing tutoring need to tell their science teacher, who will make arrangements.

**ALL-CLASS REUNION** -- Plans are underway for the Charleston Catholic All Class Reunion scheduled for the weekend of June 22-24, 2012. Events will feature the annual golf outing, an open house in the Commons, tours of the school building, and an afternoon at the Athletic Facility. All CCHS graduates are invited to join in the festivities and reconnect with classmates. Follow the event on the CCHS Alumni Facebook page.

**SKI CLUB** -- The 75 ski club student participants and 7 teachers have enjoyed the cold and snowy winter weather on their first ski trip this year! **PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILDREN TO LOCK UP THEIR BELONGINGS AT WINTERPLACE.** They are used to being in a safe, secure environment at school and are extending their trust to the larger world at Winterplace. **Parents, please be on time -- 10:30 p.m.** -- to pick up your children, who are tired, and to be considerate of our teacher chaperones and sponsors who show such dedication and give a major time commitment to provide this activity for your children. Students are expected to be in school **ON TIME the mornings following** ski club activities. Students violating this policy will have their ski passes held for a time during the next ski club date.

**AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLINIC** -- This structured, teacher-supervised time is dedicated to homework completion and study and is free of common distractions. Homework clinic meets in science teacher Mrs. Erby's room on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 3 – 4 p.m. The cost is \$10/session. Students are encouraged to bring a snack.

**YOGA, ANYONE?** Lifespring Yoga and Wellness at 1031 Quarrier St. will offer a yoga class for teens and tweens beginning in February. The class will meet on Thursdays from 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. A 10% discount will be given to Charleston Catholic families. This class will teach students how to relax, as well as get them moving through stretching and strengthening exercises. Call 304-590-1388 for more details.

**SERRA CLUB OF CHARLESTON** -- is very happy to present George Weigel, author of "Witness to Hope" and "Letters to a Young Catholic." Mr. Weigel is one of America's leading Catholic writers and speakers, and he will speak on "**Blessed John Paul II: The Challenge of the New Evangelization**" at 7:00 pm on February 28, 2012, at the Blessed John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston. Tickets are \$10, and all proceeds will go toward the education of our diocesan seminarians. For tickets and information, please call Max Wilkinson at (304) 539-8101, or e-mail him at [jwtwilkinson@spilmanlaw.com](mailto:jwtwilkinson@spilmanlaw.com). You may also buy tickets from any member of the Serra Club of Charleston. Members are listed on the website at <http://www.serracharleston.org/members/Members.html>. Please note that child care (toddlers and older) will be provided by Charleston Catholic High School students involved in the school's HOPE summer home renovation project, courtesy of the Serra Club of Charleston.

**VIRTUS**– All parents or other adults who volunteer, coach, drive students, chaperone, etc., are required by the Diocese to complete the diocesan sexual abuse awareness training before being allowed to work with our students. Training is available online or at sessions periodically scheduled. At the VIRTUS website, go to Options, scroll down and choose online. Allow 1- 1½ hours to complete the program. Print out the certificate of completion and submit it to Ms. FitzGerald. It is still necessary to complete the background check and sexual abuse awareness statement which can be done by clicking on the link at the school website at [www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org](http://www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org).

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14** – We will be remembering *Bobby Hypes*, a member of the CCHS class of 2008, who died of heart disease on February 5, 2006, with a "Wear Red for Bobby Day." Students may wear red sweaters/shirts with jeans or khakis. \$2 contributions to help fund the CCHS Bobby Hypes Memorial Scholarships will be collected from students participating. The partial-tuition scholarships, awarded to rising freshmen each year, were established in Bobby's honor by his classmates and CCHS. Voluntary donations to the scholarship fund are also accepted.

**MRS. THOMAS' TIDBITS –**

1) Keep up with the latest news, information, and deadlines from Mrs. Thomas' office by **signing up on Twitter at CCHScollegeprep** to receive periodic "tweets" which may be sent to your e-mail or phone as a text message.

2) SAT and ACT testing and registration dates (**CCHS code: 490-205**)

**SAT and SAT Subject Tests** (can register on line -- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org))

TEST DATE	DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
March 10	February 10	February 24
May 5	April 6	April 18
June 2	May 8	May 22

**ACT: (can register on line -- [www.act.org](http://www.act.org))**

TEST DATE	DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
February 11	January 13	January 20
April 14	March 9	March 23
June 9	May 4	May 18

2) Many colleges require first semester grades before they will make admission decisions. If your college requires these grades or if you want to show colleges how well you are doing, give Mrs. Thomas addressed envelopes and she will send 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades by Friday, January 27.

3) **PROMISE scholarship and FAFSA deadline – March 1.** Students must complete **BOTH the PROMISE and the FAFSA applications in order to be considered for the PROMISE scholarship.** Additionally, colleges and universities throughout the country use FAFSA information to determine scholarships and financial aid. **Go to [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com)**

4) **Juniors** interested in applying for the Governor's Honors Academy need to act quickly. Again, the competition at the county and state levels is fierce to get these slots! Check [www.wvgovschools.org](http://www.wvgovschools.org) for a full description of the program and selection criteria. The GHA will take place at West Virginia University July 8 - July 28. **Interested juniors need to have Part 1 of their application completed on-line and submitted by Monday, February 20 and Part 2 completed and turned into Mrs. Thomas by Monday, February 27.**

5) Governor's School for Math and Science is a competitive summer program for current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Information will be available, along with application materials, in early February on the Governor's Schools website [www.wvgovschools.org](http://www.wvgovschools.org). The 7<sup>th</sup> grade program will have two sessions which will be held at WVU in mid to late June. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade program will only have one session which will be held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory July 29 - August 11. **Applications are due to Mrs. Thomas Monday, March 19.** Note the qualifications carefully and make sure that your child meets the criteria.

6) Mrs. Thomas is meeting with juniors individually to begin discussing their college plans. During these sessions, they review test results and student interests and discuss how to look for and choose colleges. Afterwards, students receive lists of colleges that fit their interests so they can begin their college search.

7) CCHS encourages students to take both the ACT and the SAT before the end of their junior year. Doing this allows students to get a baseline score and to prepare for future tests. Both tests are accepted by all colleges and universities for admission. We have found that students perform better on these tests if they are taken before the end of the school year. By the June testing dates, students tend to be tired and not as fresh. So, if possible, consider an earlier test date. Students may also take SAT II subject tests which are best taken at the end of the junior year or upon completion of courses being tested e.g., Biology, World History, U.S. History.

8) Mrs. Thomas handles college visit requests. Students should get the forms from her and return the completed forms to her at least 2 days before the trip. **Seniors are allowed 2 college visit days; juniors are allowed 2 college visit days. College visits must be made before May 1.**

9) Students wishing to take AP tests for non-AP courses (e.g., foreign languages, advanced honors English 11 or 12, etc.) may choose to do so and must notify Mrs. Thomas in February.

**NOTES FROM THE PARENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION (PVA)**

1) The 2011-2012 PVA Parent Registration Packet is available online on the CCHS website.

2) **PVA Polos and Fleece** - Order forms for CCHS logo jackets, white uniform polo shirts, and green athletic/academic competition polo shirts are available on the CCHS website. For questions, please contact Lisa Dundervill (304-543-4951) for jackets, Paula Jameson (304-949-2478) for green polos, and Lisa Cassis (304-925-5946) for white polos. Please note that high school students who are members of athletic teams and academic competition teams are permitted to wear a CCHS hunter green polo shirt to school on designated dates – normally home games and other days designated by the principal.

3) **INNISBROOK ORDERS** – may be placed throughout the year and will be shipped directly to you - and CCHS will get credit for your order. Go to [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) and click on “Buy Innisbrook Products” and enter CCHS school number 121949. Contact Lisa Dundervill (304-543-4951) for more information.

4) Parent involvement is critical for the successful operation of the CCHS athletic program. Helping transport students to games and practices, working gates, being supportive of the players and coaches, attending games, and participating in the team lunch program are just a few ways that parents help. EVERY parent of an athlete is needed to support the teams! Each sport is allocated a few **team lunches**. Guidelines and dates for these lunches (**designated away games only**) will be distributed to parents at the beginning of each season, once team rosters have been established.

5) **Athletic family passes** are available through the PVA. These passes are good for **immediate family members only** (not cousins, in-laws, ex-in-laws, grandparents, fiancées, etc.) to attend CCHS home games. **The passes do not cover away games, tournaments played at home, homecoming games, or any SSAC tournaments.** Cost is \$150 for all home middle school games only, \$175 for all home high school games only, and \$200 for all home games (both levels). A \$100 student or senior citizen pass for all home games is also available. **Each adult in a family will be issued a pass that must be shown for admission to games.** Please ask Eileen Goldberg if you have questions about these passes.

**AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP** – Teachers are reporting that parents are clogging the intersection and that students are having to walk in-between cars. Please help us avoid this dangerous situation and help students follow teachers’ directions regarding pick-up.

**NOTES ON THE ATHLETIC FACILITY** – Please drive slowly and carefully when you are at the CCHS athletic facility (and in the school neighborhood, of course!). Lots of people are on foot and we certainly don’t want anyone to get hurt. Also, please park only in approved parking spaces. No outside food or drink is permitted in the building. Tailgating is prohibited.

**SPRING SPORTS** – As we gear up for spring sports even as our winter sports are continuing, keep in mind that eligible students must have at least a 2.0 grade point average for the first semester and must be in good behavioral and academic standing at CCHS. Attaining such standards should be a given for our students. Spring head coaches are: HS boys’ and girls’ tennis: David Sadd; H.S. baseball: Bill Mehle; H.S. softball: Steve Young; H.S. track: Scott Welch; M.S. baseball: Joe Belcher; M.S. softball: Kevin Corbett; M.S. track: Kate FitzGerald; M.S. golf – TBA; M.S. tennis -- TBA.

**PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL SPORTS** -- In order to participate in an athletic event on a particular day, a student must be in school for the **FULL DAY on the day of the event**. This “full day” policy includes appointments so students need to avoid scheduling appointments during the school day. Students are also expected to **be on time on days following athletic events**.

**TRIANA FIELD SPONSORS** - The high school baseball team has scheduled 12 home games at UC's Triana Field in Kanawha City. Sponsors are needed for each home game at a cost of \$150 per game. The name of the sponsor will be advertised at the field on game day. Please contact Bill Gillispie or Bill Mehle if you are interested in a game day sponsorship.

**LOST AND FOUND** – Those lovely black logo jackets are wonderful to wear but they make a sad sight in our lost and found, the place where “nameless” jackets, textbooks, and other items reside. Please make sure that your children have their names in their school materials (e.g., textbooks, workbooks, etc.), gym clothes, uniform jackets, and even outerwear. It is amazing to see the types of items that students “lose” and never claim.

**ADDRESS CHANGES** -- If there are mistakes on the name/address on the progress report, please notify Mrs. Cielensky so corrections may be made.

**KING CAKES** – For many years, students at CCHS have enjoyed King Cakes on Mardi Gras day (Tuesday, February 21). This tradition will be continued this year thanks to the efforts of Chrissy Hovorka and a group of parents who will be making these New Orleans-style sweets from scratch, including the baby Jesus tucked into each cake. Many thanks to our parents who have taken the extra time to bake these delicacies for our students, faculty, and staff to enjoy! There is still time left to volunteer – contact Mrs. Hovorka at 304.553.3311.

**THANKS –**

- to the PVA parents who provided an incredibly delicious and beautiful Christmas lunch for faculty and staff: Kimber Asseff, Tasha Agnew, Brooke Bunn, Dianna Canfield, Lisa Cline, Alison Corbin, Jennifer DePond, Lisa Dobbins, Leslie Gallian, Jill Helmick, Viv Higgins, Chrissy Hovorka, Mary Jenkins, Ruth Joseck, Felice Joseph, Janet Kawash, Helen Kesari, Sandy Kinney, Shannon Lane, Susan Malinoski, Gwyneth Owen, Ann Rembrandt, Debbie Smith, Melissa Stephens, Liz Weisberg, Tracy Zachwieja, Mary Blaydes, Sharon Casto, Lynn Golden, Terri Imani, Laura Maddox, Nanette Martin, and Lynn Payne.
- to the students, staff, and parents who participated in the Pax Christi Red Cross Blood drive – 21 pints were collected!
- to the students and staff who supported the have-your-picture-taken-with-Santa fundraiser which provides some starter money for the 2012 Clay County Christmas project.
- to our Read Aloud volunteers who so faithfully and happily spend time providing our middle school students with additional opportunities to appreciate good literature.
- to parents, alumni, and other supporters who have already contributed to this summer's HOPE campaign which will make houses warmer, safer, and drier for disadvantaged families in Clay County.
- to our winter coaches for their commitment, poise, and skill in helping our teams achieve notable successes and helping our student athletes and fans represent themselves and our school community in such fine fashion.
- to Russ Miller, photographer extraordinaire, for his donation of high-powered camera and lenses to the school to be used to capture photos for yearbook, the website, and other uses. Thanks, too, to Mr. Miller for spending Wednesdays with our yearbook class, teaching them the fine points of photography.
- to M&J Operations for helping CCHS secure an EXXON Mobil Education Alliance grant which goes to support technology purchases at CCHS.
- to Jeff and Kathy Crain for designing and installing a new sign identifying and calling attention to the CCHS Athletic Facility.
- to alumnus Vince Stricker who presented a science seminar in January, giving students good advice about choosing engineering as a career path. Mr. Stricker is on the College of Engineering Student Recruitment Team and he is involved with the development of curriculum for a new major at WVU which will be called chemical/biomedical engineering.
- to Neil Chakrabarty, Mike Rowe, Laura Crowder, Matt Connelly, and John Daly, the mentors and coaches of the robotics team. These engineering and computer science professionals have each already volunteered over 75 hours to work with the high school robotics team in preparation for their tournaments. The mentors and the students are featured in the January DEP newsletter!
- to Carrie Waters from the WV Higher Education Policy Commission who offered one-on-one assistance to our senior parents as they completed and submitted FAFSA forms.
- to Bernie Ream for his continuing guidance and mentoring of 2 junior students as they explore the intricacies of chemistry for a competition-focused science project.
- to senior Mary Elliott for being selected as Charleston Catholic's Aquinas Award recipient. Mary will be recognized at a diocesan luncheon in Morgantown later this spring.
- to alumnus Matt Elliott, 4th year medical student, for speaking to the anatomy class.

**CONGRATULATIONS –**

- CCHS is wired! With 33 teachers in the building, we now have 35 Smartboards, interactive whiteboards, installed throughout the school. Many thanks to PVA for its support in getting us to this point.
- to Math Field Day representatives: 6th - Edward Rowan; 7th - Kathryn Wantlin; 8th - Leo Cicconi; 9<sup>th</sup> – Ryan Edwards; 10<sup>th</sup>- Annie Crockett; 11<sup>th</sup>- Sami Harris; 12<sup>th</sup>- Haston Gerencir, Alexandrine Ratnani, Dominic Rendinell, and Keaghan Ritchie. They will compete on February 10, 2012, in the County Math Field Day.
- to CCHS National Geographic Geography Bee winner Samuel Levenson and runner-up Mandy Spiegel.
- to athletic director Bill Gillispie for earning his Athletic Administrator Certification from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.
- to English teacher and CCHS swim coach Shannon Vollmer for being named West Virginia Girls' Swim Team Coach of the Year!

**SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS DUE TO SNOW/ICE** – – We've been fortunate (or not, depending on one's point of view!) so far but need to keep planning ahead. Here's a brief reminder of the CCHS weather policy. Remember that school closings and delays are also announced on the CCHS website and through our CCHS News Twitter (see website for details).

- 1) CCHS/SHGS will NOT follow ANY of the Kanawha County Schools' weather-related procedures.

2) Families will need to connect to the CCHS website or listen to the radio/television for changes to CCHS/SHGS schedules. The following stations will be notified by 6:15 a.m. if there are changes to be made: WV Public Radio, WCHS, WCHS-TV, WSAZ-TV, V100, 96.1, Super 102, WBES, WKAZ, and WQBE.

3) If no announcements are made for CCHS/SHGS, classes will be held on the regular schedule.

4) **If a two-hour delay is announced, classes will start promptly at 10 a.m.** The building will not open until 9:30 to give staff time to get to school. Please do not drop off your children before 9:30!

5) **As always, if you cannot get your child to school for health or safety reasons, notify the school.**

**Also, regardless of the school's schedule, parents know that are in charge of their family's car keys and whether or not their children drive to and from school on any given day.**

**FAMILY TRIPS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.** -- Please avoid taking students out of school for vacations, family trips, appointments, etc. If students miss school for any reason (including illness), it is their responsibility to find out what they missed. **If your child is ill or will miss school for any reason, please notify the school office by 8:30 a.m.** In addition, at the end of the semester students will have to stay after school to make up any time missed during excessive absences/tardies.

**CALENDAR FOR 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR** – With this information in hand, families should be able to look ahead and avoid student absences for family trips or other occasions. At the end of each semester, students must make up time missed for illness or other non-school related reasons (more than 5 absences per semester in any class) in order for class credit to be granted. Please note exam days -- students must take exams on the days/times when the exams are scheduled.

Wednesday, January 25	ski club
Thursday, January 26	6 <sup>th</sup> grade Challenger trip
Monday- Friday, Jan. 30- Feb. 3	Catholic Schools' Week: "Faith, Academics, Service"
Wednesday, February 1	ski club
Friday- Saturday, February 3-4	drama club performance "May the Farce Be with You" -- 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, February 7	Prospective Parent Open Houses 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 8	ski club
Thursday, February 9	5 <sup>th</sup> grade visit 9:30 – 11 a.m.
Friday, February 10	7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> grade winter dance 7 p.m.- 10 p.m.
Saturday, February 11	Admissions Test, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.
Tuesday, February 14	Wear Red for Bobby
Wednesday, February 15	ski club
Monday, February 20	Presidents' Day – no school
Friday, February 24	HOPE spaghetti dinner 6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
Friday, March 16	end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter
Thursday, March 22	sophomore retreat, Blessed Sacrament
Friday, March 23	Latin field trip to Cincinnati
March 27 or 28	Golden Horseshoe
Friday, April 6	Good Friday – first day of Easter break
Monday, April 16	classes resume
Tuesday- Thursday, April 24-26	Terra Nova testing for 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> grades
Monday, May 7	AP tests begin
Saturday, May 19	prom
Thursday, May 24	baccalaureate, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, May 25	graduation , 6:30 p.m.
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day – no school
Wednesday-Friday, May 30 – June 1	exams for grades 6 – 11
Thursday, May 31	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Moving Up ceremony, 6:30 p.m.
Friday- Sunday, June 22-24	All Class Reunion



### January-February-Early March Menu

NOTE: During Lent, no meat is served at Charleston Catholic on Fridays. If you are preparing a team lunch on a Friday, please be sure to adhere to this restriction.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
23- Hot dogs Vegetable soup Steak fries	24- Philly cheese steak sandwiches Mashed potatoes & gravy Green beans	25- Chicken teriyaki Rice Pita and hummus	26- Taco pie Nachos Spanish rice	27- Baked penne Garlic toast Salad
30- Pizza Soup	31- Bosco sticks Chicken noodle soup	February 1- Chicken parm Baked potatoes	2- Steak fajitas Spanish rice	3- Calzones Potato cheese soup
6 – Bacon cheeseburger Broccoli cheese soup	7 – BBQ Macaroni salad Deviled eggs	8 – Chicken strips Mashed potatoes Corn	9 – French toast Bacon Fried apples	10- Chicken alfredo Greek salad Fruit
13- Pizza Soup	14 – Chicken stir fry with rice Veggies Pita & hummus	15 – Tacos Nachos Taco salad	16 – Buffalo chicken strips Chicken Caesar salad	17 – Hot dogs Smiley fries
20 -PRESIDENTS' DAY – NO SCHOOL	21 – Pizza Pasta salad Veggie soup	22- Ash Wednesday Baked potato Veggie chili Fruit	23 – Hot ham & cheese pretzel bread Steak fries	24 – Stuffed shells Bosco sticks
27 – Pizza Soup	28 – Grilled chicken sandwiches Chicken gnocchi soup Spinach-apple-craisin salad	29 – Meatball sub Antipasto salad	March 1 – Hamburger Steak fries	2 – Mac & cheese Green beans