



Sierra Lutheran High School

Maroon & Blue

Monthly Parent Newsletter - That Informs Parents of Upcoming Events & Interesting Happenings at the School

Volume 8, Issue 4

Preparing students for today, tomorrow, and ETERNITY

Dec 2009

December Dates

- 12/4 Faculty Meeting
- 12/10 Falconer Christmas Party 6:30
- 12/14 - 12/18 Finals Week
- 12/18 End of 1st Semester
- 12/21-Jan 3rd -Christmas Break

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Notes From Ms. Conner

SENIOR PICTURES REQUESTED (for Grad DVD)



In order to begin our graduation DVD, I would appreciate each parent submitting 7-10 pictures of your student. The DVD will show your son/daughter as a baby and the final picture will be his/her senior picture; I would appreciate having pictures of your student at various ages (EX. baby, two years of age, starting kindergarten etc.) In addition, if you have pictures of your student during his/her high school career - pictures with the family, cross country, volleyball/ basketball pictures etc., I would like to view those photographs also and possibly use some for the DVD. I realize some seniors may have not

yet had a senior picture taken. However, I would like to get the other pictures no later than the end of January and the senior picture as quickly as possible. Each family will receive one copy of the DVD at graduation. Thanks for your help and feel free to call me if you have any questions.

FACULTY MEETING ON 12/4 (half-day of school)

Our monthly faculty meeting is Friday, December 4th. School is out at 11:20; please have your student picked up by 11:45. **I will send out an all-call to remind families about the half-day.**

FALCONER CHRISTMAS PARTY



On Thursday, December 10th, the Booster/Falconer's Club will host their annual Christmas party. We mailed invitations in early November inviting all parents to this event. The pot luck dinner begins at 6:30 and the festivities should conclude around 8:00-8:30 PM. If you have questions about the Falconer Christmas potluck or gift exchange / (steal a gift), please contact Mrs. Torkeo. A copy of the invitation is also on our website. **PLEASE CALL AND RSVP as soon as possible.**

Volleyball Plays at Regionals / Two Lady Falcons Nominated to All Conference Team

The fourth seeded Lady Falcons played first seeded McDermit on November 9th in a very close match. McDermit defeated the Falcons 25-19, 25-20 and 25-23. Our team played as a cohesive unit and made key plays to keep us battling for a second round of play, but were just out played by a team of mostly seniors and our team had no seniors! Stephenie Nieri had the Falcon fans on their feet when she stuff blocked McDermit's big gun, 6'5", Becky Kershner. Hannah Ediss played an excellent match with

teammate Tiffany Patrick assisting Ediss with six kills. Mariah West, Ediss and Patrick pulled up some key digs to keep the Lady Falcons close in score. We look forward to next year with all of our girls returning; they should be a tough and tenacious group.



On November 17th, coaches from our 1A West Conference selected members to the all conference team. Each coach has an opportunity to vote, but the coach cannot vote for his/her own players. The conference selected Tiffany Patrick as a member of the first team All Conference and Hannah Ediss as a member of the second team All Conference. In addition, the Lady Falcons won the conference's Sportmanship Award for the second year in a row. **GREAT JOB TO ALL OF OUR PLAYERS!**

“A MIRACLE IS HAPPENING” CELEBRATION

On Tuesday evening, November 17th, many who are a part of the greater SLHS family gathered together in the Community Room of East Fork Fire Station #12 (right next door to the new site) to give thanks to God for all that is taking place on North Sunridge Drive. Students, parents, staff, board members, generous donors to the building fund, members of local churches, and many others assembled to review architectural drawings, see large pictures of construction progress, become acquainted with building timelines, and listen

to key leaders of the effort to provide a permanent home for Sierra Lutheran High School.

Mr. Cary Richardson, of Miles Construction, presented details of the building efforts and answered questions from those in attendance. Mrs. Kathy Hone shared news of the loans that were secured to enable the project to move forward, and Mr. John Hamer, chairman of the capital campaign, updated information about gifts and pledges received, and de-

scribed the need to raise an additional \$500,000 to fully equip the facilities and finish the project. All who attended were humbled by the enormity of ways in which God is truly blessing this project, and excited about the future opportunities to use the new campus to expand educational ministry opportunities to greater numbers of teenagers, so that they might draw ever closer to the Savior, and that they might be equipped to become the future leaders of our churches and communities.

THE DREAM IS COMING TRUE

The concrete foundations have been poured. Masonry walls, up to approximately five feet high, are in place. Tons of steel, for the steel frame structure, are now being moved into position for installation and those walls will be going up by the time you read this. Some door frames are even in place already. Wow!

DOUBLE WOW!! The new, permanent school facility for Sierra Lutheran High School is becoming a reality before our eyes. Praise God, from whom these... and all blessings flow!!

The next time you travel to/from Carson City, take a slight detour at North Sunridge Drive and drive past the new

campus. (I trust that, by now, you know its location.) If you can't do that, then check the school's website (www.slhs.com). Each week, Miss Larson kindly takes updated pictures and presents them for your viewing pleasure. Thanks, Penny!

MIGHT YOU BE WILLING TO HELP??

From mid-January until the end of April, the capital campaign committee for the new campus will be conducting a "100 Day Final Thrust" effort to raise the remaining \$500,000 for the new building. The current team is looking for a

few more individuals who are passionate about Christian education, excited to share the story of Sierra Lutheran High School, and willing to speak with others (individuals and groups) about the miracle that is happening at SLHS. If God is calling

you to help with this effort, so that the gymnasium and locker rooms can be finished prior to next school year, please contact Norm Brauer or John Hamer.

Tis the Season...

It's that busy time of year. Final projects are due, Finals are approaching, and basketball tournaments are coming! That's right, our basketball teams will be participating in some tournaments this month in preparation for their upcoming league season in January. God truly has blessed this school in so many ways, but this year He has provided enough girls to produce two teams! Our Varsity teams will be participating in the Coleville tournament December 4-5, the Gerlach tournament December 11-12, and the Varsity girls will also be competing in a holiday tournament in Placerville, where they will be competing with some big schools. We know it's a hectic season and yet a joyous season, but we want to keep our focus on the REAL reason for this season, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is the reason we are able to celebrate, and we look forward to His second coming, when we all get to see Him face to face.

THEY DID IT AGAIN!! HOW ABOUT THOSE FALCONS?!!

For the fourth, yes fourth, straight year, Sierra Lutheran High School has won the Nevada Class 1A Academic Olympic State Championship. The Falcons' amazing feat was accomplished with a blend of veteran and new team members, but the result was the same as in 2006, 2007 and 2008. After garnering their sixth consecutive regional championship earlier in the month, the Falcons were cautiously optimistic that they would do well again at the state event. A solid, four round performance in the preliminaries easily qualified SLHS for the semifinals, where six schools competed for the right to advance to the three team championship round. Halfway through the semifinals, the Falcons found themselves in fourth place and in serious danger of not advancing to defend their

2008 crown. A strong finish in the semifinals, however, boosted the team into the finals where they encountered the other schools who distinguished themselves as the "best of the best" – Tonopah and Virginia City High Schools.

The thirty minute championship round is a pressure filled, winner-take-all competition for the state title. Sierra Lutheran's team in the final round included seniors Andrew Deterding, Aaron Sever, Jesse Walser-Castro and Nick Winstead along with juniors Sydney Campau and Haley Stokes. The Falcons jumped out to a quick lead and maintained the margin to win the title comfortably.

"To win any state championship is a special experience", noted SLHS Ex-

ecutive Director, Norm Brauer. "To win two in a row is amazing." "To capture four consecutive state titles is nothing short of extraordinary." "This accomplishment is quite a testimony to our students, their teachers, and the quality of education taking place at Sierra Lutheran High School", he continued. "Year after year after year, with different combinations of students representing their school, our Falcons have been able to succeed against the top public and private small high schools in the state of Nevada."

In addition to those already mentioned, Sierra Lutheran's 2009 team included sophomores Conner Love and Mikey Overton, along with freshmen Jacob Medlock and Matt Tollefson.

Student of the Month

Now appearing at Sierra Lutheran High School, Senior Shelby Farney as Student of the Month! Shelby's effervescence and dedication make her a sure fit for this award.

Shelby loves to write, and even got a writing club together last school year. She's Student Government secretary, and is also part of the Journalism staff. She joined the basketball team last year, and this year managed the volleyball team. Shelby's most significant involvement, however, is in Applied Christianity. Her obvious love for the Lord and her hunger to know Him more seems to drive her.

Shelby's desire to be obedient, and to use the gifts and talents she's been given, are evidenced by her dedication to improve in all areas of her life, whether academic or social, as she continually strives to be the woman that God has created her to be. Shelby's Christian joy beams through her warm, ready smile. Her willingness to share the love of Christ with everyone is marked not only by her open and bold confession of faith, but by the tenderness of her heart. And if you need prayer, Shelby will drop everything to pray with you. That winning combination of boldness and tenderness serve to let everyone know she is, indeed, a woman of God.

Congratulations, Shelby!



THE LONG AWAITED SCHOOL BUS HAS ARRIVED!!

Yes, after years of planning and fundraising, the Falcons of SLHS have a school bus. The big, yellow gift, capable of transporting 54 adults, arrived on campus on November 10th from its "home" in southern California. This is a used vehicle capable of easily putting on an additional 500,000 miles, according to the "experts". In the next few weeks, details such as licensing, resolv-

ing security matters, finalizing plans for drivers, etc. will be completed so that the bus might be used to transport basketball teams during the winter months.

Once again, we thank the SLHS students and Booster Club for several years of fundraising efforts that made it possible to purchase this ve-

hicle!! Again, we also express sincere appreciation to Mr. Floyd Young for his guidance and leadership during the search for a quality vehicle, and now for his assistance in training drivers, taking care of matters that will prepare it for use, and then overseeing maintenance in the future.

WILL MR. CHARLES GEBHARDT BECOME THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR?

Since the SLHS Board of Directors learned in 2008 of Mr. Brauer's decision to retire in June, 2010, efforts have been ongoing to identify the individual who would become the next Executive Director of our school. Important elements of the search process, and a list of final candidates being considered, have been shared with you in previous newsletters.

At its November meeting, your Board of Directors determined to extend a call to Mr. Charles

Gebhardt to fill that position beginning in the summer of 2010. Mr. Gebhardt is currently serving as the Principal/Executive Director of Salt Lake Lutheran High School. Prior to his 5+ years in Salt Lake City, he was the assistant principal at Northeast Lutheran High School in Norfolk, NE, and before that he taught for years at Long Island Lutheran High School in New York.

Mr. Gebhardt is married (his wife is a Christian elementary school teacher) and has two daughters. He has requested our prayers as he struggles to seek the Lord's will for his future. Will the decision be to accept the call to Sierra Lutheran High...or to remain in his current work in Salt Lake City? Once he announces that decision to both school boards (perhaps by mid-December), it will be shared with you.

Annual Dinner/Auction

SLHS' 8th Annual Dinner/Auction is being held on March 6, 2010 at St. Galls Pastoral Hall. This event will be here before you know it. Our theme this year is "REMEMBER WHEN". This will be a fun evening of which we expect approximately 250 people. There is a fabulous dinner, silent and live auction with "Dollar for Scholar" tickets that you can put toward any of the wonderful baskets of items. This event benefits tuition assistance for students here at SLHS.

We are busy gathering items to be donated but we are looking for more. A letter to all parents will be coming out soon giving you more details of what we are looking for.

There are many ways you can contribute to this wonderful event:

- Come to the event invitations will be going out early January.
- Contact business' to request donations to be a live or silent auction item.
- Attend the meetings to help the many committees that need help. The meetings are on the following Monday's at the school at 6pm. Jan 11, Feb 8, Feb 15, Feb 22, and March 1.
- If your schedule only will allow helping the day of the event, Saturday, March 6, 2010 we need help in the morning, at the event (5ish) and after the event (9ish)

Pray for God's will for everyone to be a good steward of his time and money.

We know your time will be well spent and an added bonus is you will receive PIP hours for your time.

If you would like to contact us you can email us at slhsdinnerauction@yahoo.com or you can call any of us. Thank you for your support

Kathy Hone, Chairperson, 782-4758

Stephanie Sanguinetti, co-Vice Chairperson 781-8541

Wendy Miller, co-Vice Chairperson 267-4338

ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration (extra fee)
December 12	November 6	November 20
February 6	January 5	January 15
April 10	March 5	March 19
June 12	May 7	May 21

SAT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration (extra fee)
January 23	December 15	December 30
March 13	February 4	February 18
May 1	March 25	April 8
June 5	April 29	May 13

Seniors: WNC will be having a financial aid night sometime next semester. We are waiting to hear back from WNC as to when a representative will be presenting information on the many different ways to fund a college education. Also, all government aid is now funded through one program called FAFSA. In order to apply you need a PIN number for both parents and student and completed 2009 tax information. You can start the process now by obtaining a PIN number at www.pin.ed.gov. For more information on the FAFSA

program you can go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Remember to sign up for the SAT and/or ACT exams.

The recommended practice is to take both the ACT and SAT the junior year. The ACT is an achievement test which measures a student's ability to recall facts. The SAT is a reasoning test. Usually a student will score better on one or the other. They should take the test that they scored higher on the fall

of their senior year to ensure that the best possible scores are sent to the colleges of their choice.

The year is flying by so remember to start the application process. **Know the deadlines for your schools of interest.** Please remember that if you are requesting transcripts or letters of recommendation, you need to give the staff time to complete your request. In other words, don't ask two days before a deadline.



Student Government

Mr. Garwood

Merry Christmas! We're celebrating the indescribable gift of Jesus as a student body this season through two traditions started several years ago: Secret Saint Week and Candy-grams!

First is the Secret Saint Gift exchange. On Tuesday December 8th students and staff will draw names from a hat to participate in a school wide gift exchange each day of the last week of school. Beginning on Monday the 14th each student and staff member will be a "Secret Saint" and place a gift (please no more than \$1 per day) under one of the Christmas trees. Please be sure to write to whom the present is to be given! On the final day of school, Friday the 18th, (following a time of worship and the reading of the Christmas narrative), the final gift exchange will take place. At that time we will discover who are Secret Saint is as we exchange a final gift (please no more than \$5) and a hug.

Starting now and ending on Dec. 11th students may purchase Candy Canes for \$.50 each or 3 for \$1, attach an encouraging note and add to the Christmas cheer during exam week as we share peppermint goodness together. See any Student Government member for orders.

Tuesday Assembly

Dec. 1st Discipleship Groups

Dec. 8th Secret Saint drawing & Assembly for Guest speaker

Dec. 15th Exams, no assembly!

REMINDERS - REMINDERS - REMINDERS - REMINDERS

In about two months (January 31 to be exact), the deadline will be here for early enrollment/re-enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year. The incentive? A \$200 savings for those who take advantage of it. That's right – submit your enrollment/re-enrollment application paperwork, and \$350 for the annual registration fee, before January 31 and you save. After that date, the annual registration fee goes to \$550 until March 31, and increases to \$750 on and after April 1. Between the current economy and the holidays, it's not an easy time to save for this extra family expense...but in the long run, you'll be glad you did! All forms are available at www.slhs.com.

Parents of work/study students are asked to note that the November and December monthly evaluations will be combined into one report and mailed to you, along with the work schedules for January and February, during the Christmas break.

How are you doing with those Parent Involvement Program (PIP) hours? Please remember that each SLHS family is required to volunteer at least twenty (20) hours per student, per year, to help the school. With the basketball season looming (scorekeepers, ticket takers, concession help, etc. are needed), and the annual dinner/auction coming up on March 6, opportunities abound. Call the school office (782-0060) for more information. Need extra motivation? Parents are charged \$15 for every unfinished PIP hour in June. We need...and want...your help volunteering!! Thank you!!

If you know a student/family interested in SLHS for next year, the final date for entrance testing prior to the early enrollment deadline is Saturday, January 9. Encourage them to call the school office and reserve a spot for that testing so that they, too, might have the opportunity to save \$200.