

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

School Newsletter

October-November 2009

From the Principal's Desk:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your participation and support of the many fall activities that mark the beginning of a new school year. You have helped us get off to a great start. The community participation and volunteer efforts in the recent **Open House, Ministry Fair, Cougar Open, and Cougarfest** events makes me proud to be associated with a community who is so passionate about their school and the faith-based education it provides. In talking with CC alumni you see a pride in their school that is exuded and is unique. As they reflect on their experiences at Catholic Central you see it in their eyes and you hear it in their voices; they are proud of Catholic Central. It is through these events that we can continue to build a strong sense of community and to provide the best for the students of Catholic Central High School.

In continuing our goal of Christian service, there are a number of opportunities that students can be involved in that will help them live out and grow in their faith. Teacher Jeff Duba and the Catholic Central Teens for Life Organization have organized a group of students to participate in the **40 Days for Life program**. 40 Days for Life is a national pro-life effort to end abortion through prayer, fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach. Running from September 23, to November 1, the most visible component of this campaign is the peaceful prayer vigil outside one of the city's abortion clinics, located at 320 East Fulton St.—within walking distance from Catholic Central. The Catholic Central Teens for Life will be participating in the peaceful prayer vigil on Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. If your son or daughter would like to participate please contact Jeff Duba @ 233-5855. **For other service opportunities and a description of our upcoming retreat program, please see the article from our Campus Minister, Kathie Walsh.**

On September 28th a group of students, staff, and parents celebrated the opening of the Adoration Chapel. On Mondays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. we have the opportunity to pray in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament through the practice of **Eucharistic Adoration**. Through Religion classes or study halls, students may have the opportunity to participate in Eucharistic Adoration and we welcome parents to join us on those days as well. Our Pastor-President, Fr. Stasker, is also joining us to **celebrate mass every Friday at 7:15 a.m.** in the Chapel. Mass ends by 7:50 a.m. giving students plenty of time to get to their 1st hour classes on time. Parents are also welcome to join us on Friday mornings for mass.

In my visits to classrooms I am reminded of the many **positive things that are happening academically** in the classrooms and on this campus. The combination of the intellectual curiosity of your students and the subject knowledge of our staff opens up a world of opportunities for learning and intellectual growth. Covered in some recent 12th grade classes were lessons on macromolecule construction, political heritage and our constitution, God's universal and particular call to holiness, and college essay writing. The scope and range of topics covered in this sample of lesson plan topics gives you an idea of how students are challenged and ultimately prepared well for college. As a staff goal this year we are focusing on writing authentic assessments and exploring ways to use the results of assessments to drive instruction. On Friday's half-day for students, the staff will continue their professional development training in those areas.

Important Phone Numbers

Main Office: 233-5899
Attendance: 233-5812
Guidance Office: 233-5810
Athletic Office: 233-5898
Business Office: 233-5976



Steve Passinault, **Principal**
Greg Deja, **Assistant Principal**
Heidi Clark-Smitley, **Director of Guidance**
Todd Kolster, **Athletic Director**
Kathryn Walsh, **Campus Minister**
Mary Ottenwess, **Technology Director**

From the Principal cont.

A strong partnership between the school and parents can have a significant impact on high school success. This partnership relies on excellent communication. As technology has evolved it is imperative that you use the electronic opportunities available to you to stay abreast of current information pertaining to the school and your students. Please bookmark our website grcatholiccentral.com for the latest news, announcements, and events. Also make sure that you are checking **Infinite Campus** regularly to stay on top of your child's progress in the classroom. In addition, please make sure that we have your **current email address** on file so that you may receive the "email blasts" that we are sending out on a regular basis to communicate information to parents.

As always, I thank you for your prayers and support.

Yours in Christ,

Steve Passinault

From the Assistant Principal:

Parents/Guardians,

I have been very pleased with the start of the school year and am humbled by the support I have received from the Cougar family.

There are a few points of the school dress code that need attention. Sunshine uniform shorts will no longer be accepted as part of the dress code beginning October 5th. Clogs are permitted for both males and females for the 2009-2010 school year. Undershirts must be white and free of any designs, patterns, or logos. I also have a growing concern about what some are calling "body art." Some students have taken to decorating their arms and/or legs with pens or markers, which serves as a distraction to the learning environment and is not permitted within our dress code.

The flow of traffic in the morning and the afternoon has been fairly steady. This process would run more smoothly if cars do not stop on the crosswalk for pick-up or drop off. Students are expected to use the crosswalk for their safety, and, therefore, need it to be clear. Please anticipate congestion and arrive well before 8a.m. Additionally, cars must be able to pass through the middle of Goodrich from 2:50-3:15 as campus clears. Please make sure your vehicle is not in the flow of traffic.

Catholic Central's Spirit Week and Homecoming festivities will take place from October 12 – 17. Juniors and seniors are able to attend the Homecoming dance stag if they so choose. Guest forms are required for all individuals not enrolled at Catholic Central; these forms can be picked up in the Main Office and must be returned to me by October 9th. Students are not permitted to arrive to the dance in limousines or with any type of chauffeuring company.

Not coincidentally, this Spirit Week begins with a Retreat Day to celebrate our Catholic identity and relish our service to each other and the community. Popular belief associates Homecoming week with dress down days, a pep rally, a dance, and rivalry athletic competitions; while all of these are true and relevant, we cannot forget we are all spiritual beings having a human experience. I'd like to emphasize sportsmanship, safety, and a first-class approach to our school pride during all facets of this exciting week.

Sincerely,

Greg Deja

From the Campus Minister:

Dear Catholic Central Family,

The Class of 2010 chose **Building One Beat** as their COREX theme. This creative theme told of this class's determination to come together in all ways – in their fun, in their spirits, in their hearts. They began by loudly and literally making one beat in the gym at the CAT, and then they took seriously our Pastor President's plea that their goal of unity was something needed in today's world, but very difficult to achieve. On Sunday the Class of 2010 played hard, went deep within their hearts, and came together in Small Group and Large Group Gifting. Their Hearts Beat as One at the Vespers on the beach Sunday night. On Monday they experienced FORGIVENESS with each other and in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spent the afternoon preparing for the final Mass of COREX. By the time the sun went down on COREX 2010, it seemed as if everyone on the beach was praying and singing and hearts were beating as ONE as the Class of 2010 began their Senior year.

I would like to thank all the parents and teachers who help make COREX happen. We had 50 staff parents who spent the weekend with students, 10 Meal Coordinators who planned and made the kitchen work, and over 50 parents who came out and helped with a meal, and many parents who prayed on the prayer chain. In addition, there are 11 teachers, a priest, and a deacon who are on our team who give their summer to make this a reality. COREX is one of Catholic Central's most special moments that we give our students. It is also one of our proudest "Community" moments.

The Opening School Mass was a combination of welcoming and blessing as we began this school year with each class, through their class president, explaining their goals for the year and lighting their class candle. After Mass, the seniors showed their spirit by sharing their Memories of COREX and showing their enthusiasm for their class song. The Seniors shared their goals with everyone: *1) Inspire the underclassmen and set an example 2) Grow as one class with Christ as our core to reach our full potential 3) Amplify Cougar Pride 4) Come together in the Spirit of COREX.*

Volunteering has gone into high gear, as many organizations begin their fall and winter programming. H.O.P.E. Volunteers had more than one hundred fifty students come to the first meeting of the year. Students are signing up for activities and making commitments for many needs in our community. Last school year, our students once again documented incredible service hours, 32,000. This spring, the President's Student Service Challenge honored 53 students who earned the Bronze Award for more than 100 documented hours of community service, 12 students who earned the Silver Award for more than 175 documented hours and 12 students who earned the Gold Award for more than 250 hours of documented service! To qualify for endorsement, freshmen **must attain and document 20 hours** (*no more than 10 hours to home or school*), sophomores **must attain and document 30 hours** (*no more than 10 hours to home and school*), juniors and seniors **must attain and document 40 hours** (*no more than 10 hours to home or school*). The endorsement gives the actual number of hours the student has documented. Endorsements are made yearly and hours are counted from June 1 to May 30 of the present school year. **New this year is entering service hour into Prep HQ. Please make sure your student knows how to do this.** Directions were mailed home and H.O.P.E. is also handing them out, as is Guidance. This procedure will soon become habit and in the long run it will become easier to access your service history. After Entering your hours to Prep HQ, turn the service form into the mailbox on Mrs. Walsh's window (or if you are in National Honor Society give the form to Mrs. Vesbit)

We also keep all service forms until after a student graduates so it is a valuable record for each student. We will continue to provide service opportunities for students. Our goal is to have all students participate in some kind of service during the school year. I think we do a pretty good job, if you include the all-school activities during Thanksgiving, Christmas and Lent.

From the Campus Minister:

October 12th is our annual Retreat Day. The freshmen will have Freshman FIRST Day and will meet in small groups in the morning on Campus with selected Senior Leaders. After lunch they will have a class Mass with Fr. Louis Stasker, our Pastor President as presider. The sophomores travel to the CAT for Sophomore Community Day, planned by the Peer Ministers. This day consists of 20 small group sessions planned by the Peer Ministers. The sessions are a variety of topics from activities like "Working Together" and "Trusting Yourself and Others" to more serious discussions such as "Getting Through Loss" and "Making Good Decisions". Sophomores choose six sessions prior to the day and on the day they receive a schedule with five of their choices plus a session to tie dye a shirt. Each session has a different group of people, encouraging constant changing groups and interaction throughout the day. Sophomores return to Catholic Central at 2 pm and we will come together in the cafeteria where we will pray together, emphasizing the theme of the day. The Seniors who are not working Freshman First Day and who are not Peer Ministers working Sophomore Community Day will be doing directed Service on October 12. They will be working at approximately 10 sites under the direction of Mrs. DeYoung and Mr. Deja, supervised by various teachers.

This year we have expanded THE JUNIOR EXPERIENCE to a two day program. One day continues to be our "traditional" program at the Pretty Lake Adventure Centre and the other day is a reflective day that looks at values, goal and ideals, with the help of film, discussion and Fr. Steve Cron. This program gives the juniors an opportunity to meet together in a comfortable setting to explore their own strengths and weaknesses and to appreciate the gifts of others. We have always had to use two days for Camp Pretty Lake, and have wanted to use the second day to add a component that would complement the lessons learned at the outdoor camp. The Juniors will be having their Retreat on Sunday and Monday, October 11 and 12. In addition, we will have a Mass and dinner for the entire Junior class on Sunday evening at the end of the sessions. On Monday, the students who went to Pretty Lake on Sunday will attend the discussion series and the discussion group will go to Pretty Lake. We are looking for parent volunteers for the Camp Pretty Lake part of Junior Experience (you do not have to do any of the activities!!)

On October 21 Bishop Hurley will be joining us for Liturgy.

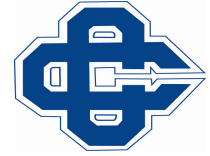
During the month of November we will be collecting food and clothing for the Heartside neighborhood. The food will go to the Downtown Churches' Food Pantry and the clothing will go to The Cathedral Outreach Clothing Center. On Tuesday, November 24 we will have our Thanksgiving Mass. And then we will move into Advent and Christmas families!

Thank you again for your commitment and presence in our school.

God bless,
Kathie Walsh

Students! Parents! Grandparents! All Are Welcome!

Eucharistic Adoration at CC. Our CC chapel is open everyday for students and staff. But on Mondays and Fridays the Eucharist is exposed from 8 am to 2 pm. This is a powerful witness of our Catholic faith and it is made possible by 20 parents and youth ministers who have committed to an adoration time. Please join us and call Barb at 245-4959 Joni Mauren at 452-8438 to set up your time to pray. Our commitment as Eucharistic adorers is to give glory and praise to Our Lord Jesus Christ as we lift in prayer the students, staff and ft in prayer the students, staff and families of the CCHS Community.



Winter Sports registration will take place in the cafeteria during lunch periods on Thursday, October 22nd. Any student intending to participate must have a **Physical Exam** on file in the athletic office, **taken and dated since April 15, 2009**. A list of students with approved physicals is given to the coach and is on file in the Athletic Office. This is a State rule, not negotiable. Exams are available, for a fee, at various medical stations around Grand Rapids. Students may not tryout or practice without a completed physical examination. Forms are available at school and on the school website.

The **23rd Annual Booster Club Golf Outing** was another successful event. On September 14th approximately 220 “golfers” enjoyed great fellowship at Boulder Creek and Quail Ridge golf courses. The Outback Steakhouse on Alpine, north of I-96, donated an excellent meal for all attendees. Show them our appreciation by having dinner at their great steakhouse restaurant. We have a superb committee working hard from April to September to organize and run the Cougar Open. Please thank these people when you see them, and support their projects.

The **1st ever Cougarfest** was a great success. The event took place at the CAT on September 26th. At different points in the day there were 1500 community members at the CAT supporting Catholic Central Athletics. With early morning GRACEAC Football games starting at 9am, the event was in full swing until 11pm. We had a tremendous group of people that worked extremely hard to pull this event off to bring our community closer together through Athletics. Our Athletic Booster Club is excited to continue this event in the future and make this another great event in our community for years to come.

*The Athletic Code is established to improve opportunities to achieve personal and team goals. **The code applies at all times in all places. It does not matter if you are “in-season” or “out-of-season”.***

****Athletic Uniforms** are not to be worn other than during a contest unless approved by the Athletic Director.** Wearing athletic uniforms in the bleachers, at dances, other contests, etc. is prohibited. This policy prevents damage, theft, etc. of our team uniforms.

Is there a problem? Part of our educational mission is to instill in our students the confidence to approach a coach and discuss an athletic concern. This should be the very first communication step. The dialogue between coach and student is the optimal solution format because they have spent so much time together and should be able to reach an understanding based on facts. A situation may arise where you are concerned about a team policy or action involving your student’s team. Please contact the coach directly as a first step in establishing facts. Discussions with the coach should be in private, away from others, and involve only your child. If you are not satisfied with the results of this discussion, please contact Todd Kolster, the Athletic Director, at 233-5898.

Schedules, highlights, cancellations, etc. are available on the school website at www.grcatholiccentral.com and highschoolsports.net. Directions to other schools are available by going to www.mhsaa.com under “School Directory”. Also, you may call 233-5898 for any last minute changes.

Your support is important to the student-athletes and I hope you will find the time to watch them participate. While you are attending, please remember you are watching kids at play. Let the players play; let the coaches coach; let the officials officiate. Be a role-model spectator and focus your energy on supporting our team.

Student Activities Update

October Events

All A's

Help support our students with tuition assistance by giving to All A's

Our walking goal is \$75 per student. We would like to help our students above and beyond that by setting our school goal at \$100,000!

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| October 7 | All A's Walk to John Ball Park |
| October 23 | All A's Incentive Day Off 9:00pm at the CAT: Jon Troast in concert! Sponsored by CC Student Congress Come right after the Forest Hills Eastern game! www.jontroast.com |

Homecoming Week

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| October 11, 12 | Junior Experience Session 1 & 2 |
| October 12 | Sophomore Community Day Freshman First Day Senior Volunteer Day |
| October 13 | Animal Day – Students may dress up like an animal. |
| October 15 | Crazy Day – Students may wear a crazy outfit. |
| October 16 | Spirit Day – Students may wear the spirit shirt & jeans Football Game at Fifth Third Ballpark Come support the Cougars against the Fighting Scots of Caledonia! |
| October 17 | Homecoming Dance at the CC gym 8 – 11pm <i>“Welcome to the Jungle!”</i> |

November Events

Freshman Elections

Freshman have a chance to give a speech to their classmates and run for representative of their class. There are six spots for them to fill!

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| November 3 | Election Day |
| November 22 | National Honor Society Induction ceremony in the CC Gymnasium at 6:00 p.m. Dessert reception to follow in the Cafeteria |

December Events

Christmas Families

Students will be putting together Christmas gifts for families in need through their 5th hours. This is a great opportunity to share Christ's love with our neighbors.

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| December 22 | ½ Day of school for delivery |
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From the Guidance Office

Catholic Central's annual Testing Day will take place on Wednesday, October 14. Students should come prepared for testing; they will need No. 2 pencils, their Social Security numbers and their calculators. The cost of these tests is included in tuition; Catholic Central students will not be charged any additional fee. Dismissal will be at noon for Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors. Seniors are strongly encouraged to use this day to visit a college campus.

The **Freshmen** class will be taking the EXPLORE test – with subtests in Reading, English, Mathematics and Science Reasoning. Individual results are an important factor in appropriate placement of students into sophomore classes, and the class results will be helpful to teachers planning curriculum improvements. Scoring on the EXPLORE test is linked with the sophomore PLAN test, and the ACT college admissions test.

Our standardized test for **Sophomores** is the PLAN – a test designed to mirror the ACT Assessment taken for college admissions. The scores are primarily used as a career and educational counseling tool. In addition to test sections in English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning, students respond to some career interest questions and will receive career information along with their scores.

Juniors will take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT), which gives them an opportunity to experience the testing format and questions of the SAT. The PSAT is also a scholarship exam (NMSQT); The National Merit Corporation will use these scores to identify National Merit semifinalists next fall.

As in past years, we will offer the opportunity to a limited group of sophomores to take the PSAT on the testing day. **In order for us to obtain accurate school-wide data, these sophomores will also be required to take the PLAN test, which will given again for them on Saturday, October 24.** In other words, they may take the PSAT in addition to, not instead of, the PLAN.

NOTE: We recommend the PSAT for sophomores who may be potential candidates in the National Merit competition as juniors; that is, if they are a student whose test scores would place them in the **top percent (99th percentile) of students nationally**. The counselors will explain this option to the sophomores when they visit classrooms during October, prior to Testing Day. Sophomores who typically score above the 90th percentile on standardized tests and who are in honors level courses in both English and Math may want to consider taking the PSAT. While they would not be eligible for the scholarship competition this year, the test would serve as a practice for when they take it again during their junior year. The PSAT is designed for students who are juniors, so sophomores would feel prepared for this test if they are advanced in their math curriculum, and are very strong in reading comprehension and vocabulary skills.

In order for a sophomore to take the PSAT, they need to see their guidance counselor by October 9th for pre-approval; and they must agree to come to school on October 24 to take the PLAN.

Seniors are encouraged to complete their college applications as early as possible this fall. They will receive optimal consideration in the admissions process and for scholarship opportunities. Information and reminders for seniors are communicated at PrepHQ (go to www.grcatholiccentral.com/GRCS/CCHS/Academics website links) and in the Daily Announcements.

Parent Programs- Don't forget to mark your calendars and attend informative workshops hosted by the Guidance Department.
Monday, 10/5 – Study Strategies w/ Wendy Marty, Academic Coach
Monday, 11/2 – Career Cruising w/ Liz Jones, KISD
Wednesday, 12/9 – Financial Aid w/ Dave Steffee, Aquinas College

We Care News

Catholic Central formal dances will begin soon starting with Homecoming on October 17th. We Care would like you to read the insert in this newsletter about keeping our kids safe during this wonderful experience.

We Care would like to thank Dee McGraw for her presentation for our parents on **Substance Abuse as it relates to Depression**. Dee is director of Education for Recovery Solutions. She had great information on why kids turn to drugs and alcohol. Here are some of the things she talked about in case you missed it.

One of the main reasons kids turn to drugs and alcohol is to self-medicate for being depressed. This can be attributed to stress and pressure at school. 70% of parents report their 9-13 year old children experience moderate to high levels of stress. 3.2 million kids ages 7-17 were treated for depression in the past 5 years. This was more than double from the previous five years.

Drug abuse often starts in the home. Many kids start by taking a family members prescription. They don't see it as a "street drug", plus it is easy to get. Dee suggest you inventory your prescription drugs, discard the old ones, hide them, or store them somewhere kids can not find them, or under lock and key.

Studies have shown that underage drinking leads to other risk taking behaviors such as sex, violence, suicide, drug, and tobacco abuse. Dee stated that family meals were the strongest predictor of better test scores and fewer behavioral problems in children 3-12 due to the one on one time.

Dee showed us ten myths about underage drinking. Number one was, "It's ok as long as they don't drive". Only 1/3 alcohol related accidents involve an auto crash. The remaining 2/3 involve poisoning, homicides, suicides, burns, drowning, and falls. Another myth was "At least alcohol is safer than other drugs". Alcohol kills 6.5 times more youths than all other illegal drugs combined.

These were just a couple of the myths out there regarding underage drinking. If you would like to see Dee McGraw's PowerPoint presentation, there are copies in the main office.

Hey! Ask your son or daughter how they liked the ministry fair that We Care sponsored. During your students religion class, they went to over to the gym and met and talked to youth ministers from partner parishes, witnessed inspirational presentations, and found out what was happening at other churches around the area.

WECARE joined with the CC Campus Ministry team to sponsor the annual Ministry Fair which was held on Thursday, September 17th during each student's religion class. The guest speaker for the event was Beth Kolenda, Youth Minister from St. Paul's parish, who spoke about her husband's courageous and faith-filled journey through serious illness. She shared how even from a wheelchair and unable to speak he was able to minister to people in his own special way. She also taught the students the three ways in which they impact a community. After Beth's talk and slide show the students met with their parish youth ministers where they were introduced to various youth ministry program offerings and ministry opportunities in their parishes and throughout the diocese.

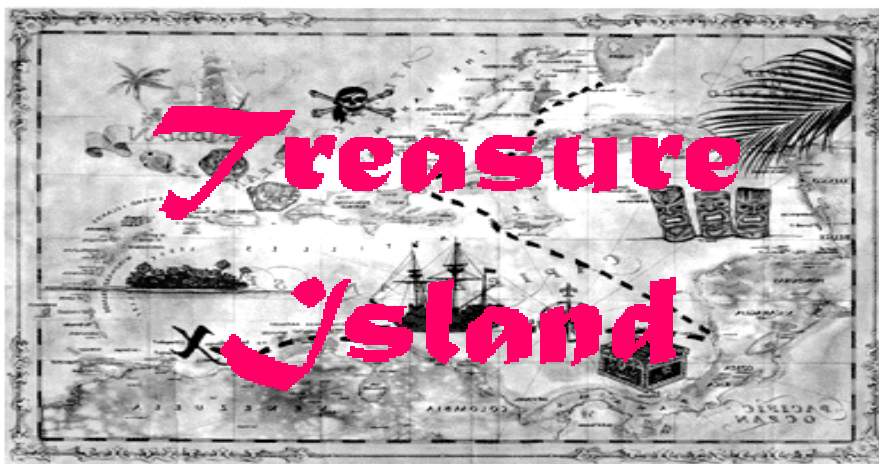
WECARE provided tables, set up, tear down, breakfast, lunch and an assortment of beverages and snacks for the fair participants. We would like to thank all of the parents who donated food, beverages, or their time and muscle to make this event a success.

Thank you to those of you that have sent in donations, and to those of you that haven't please return your volunteer form along with your donation. With your help, we can keep our kids safe.

Thank you for your continued support.

We Care

Fall Play—Treasure Island



*A veteran cast of nineteen pirates and heroes has been assembled and is working hard to bring Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Treasure Island* to life in the Ken Ludwig adaptation of the story on the stage at the PAC at Aquinas College. Come join us on October 29, 31 or November 1 as we set sail on the most famous treasure hunt in all of literature. Tickets will go on sale on Monday, October 19 at the Box Office at the PAC. General Admission ticket price is \$6; students with id will receive a \$1 discount. Show times are 7:30pm on October 29, 10am and 2:30pm on October 31, and 2:30pm on November 1. Don't miss out on the fun. Plan to join us as we set sail for adventure and pirate treasure!*

CC MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS



The **Cougar Marching Band**, now 77 members strong, has a new look! You can see them in their new marching uniforms at each home football game as well as the following competitions:

Sept 26 – Kenowa Hills Marching Invitational

Oct 3 – Hastings Marching Invitational

Oct 13 – District Marching Festival

Oct 17 – Jenison Marching Invitational

The **Choral Department** has a great series of performances and activities lined up for the fall. The CC Choirs continue their commitment to musical excellence! We would like you to especially invite you to the following events:

October 8 - Parent meeting for all interested in 2010 Italy Pilgrimage Choir Tour 7:00pm; CC Music Room

October 5 - Workshops throughout the day with world acclaimed Gloriam Dei Cantores Choir

October 21 - Notre Dame Men's Glee Club concert featuring the Catholic Central Men's Choir; 7:00pm; Cathedral of Saint Andrew

October 25 - CC Autumn Choral Concert; 3:00pm; Cathedral of Saint Andrew

November 20 - Women's Chorale to participate in St. Mary's College's Women's Choral Festival; South Bend IN Invitational

The Choral Department is proud to present our 2009 *Steal Away* cd's. They are available in the CC Main Office for \$10.00. They would make an exceptional gift for any occasion!



Fundraising Opportunities for Catholic Central

Please join Academic Boosters in raising funds to benefit Catholic Central. No additional work involved – just mention Catholic Central when you shop at D&W, Family Fare, Gordon Food Service, Office Depot and others. The fundraising programs are:

D&W School Days Event

October 11 -17, 2009

November 22 – 28, 2009

Family Fare Cash for Class Event

October 18 – 24, 2009

November 29 – December 5, 2009

Tell your family and friends to shop at D&W and Family Fare during these weeks and Catholic Central will receive 2% of our total purchases just by mentioning Catholic Central – group code #87954 at time of purchase.

Office Depot 5% Back to Schools Program

Just by mentioning Catholic Central (group #70050314) at time of checkout Catholic Central will earn 5% in credit towards free supplies. This program is available for in store purchases, online and phone purchases all year long.

Michigan Apple School Sweepstakes

For every Michigan Apples logo from the Michigan Apple Bag (available in supermarkets and apple orchards) collected, Catholic Central will be entered into the Michigan Apple School Sweepstakes for the chance to win a computer or a \$1000 to \$5000 cash award. \$20,000 in prizes will be awarded. One logo collected equals one chance to win – the more logos collected the more chances we have to win. Please drop off your Michigan Apple logos to the CC office before 03/31/10 to the attention of Anne Kloth.

Gordon Food Service – Fun Funds Program

Shop at Gordon Food Service and Catholic Central could earn up to a 10% rebate on over 1000 eligible items. The more we shop, the more money we'll get back. Just mention Catholic Central at checkout. Please pick up a Catholic Central personalized Member Enrollment form in the Catholic Central Main Office.

Target – Take Charge of Education Program

Here's how it works: Visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, and then use your **REDcard** whenever you shop. When you use your **REDcard** (Target Visa Credit Card, Target Credit Card or Target check card), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to Catholic Central.

AT&T School Program

We can support the Catholic Secondary Schools while signing up for new or upgraded services through AT&T. Just mention the Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools when you call for services at 866-51-BOOST (866-512-5578) and our schools will benefit from the sale.



Dear Parents,

Each year Catholic Central sponsors three “formal” dances. The first of these three dances will celebrate Homecoming on October 17 from 8:30 to 11:30pm, in the CC Gym. These dances provide our students (sophomores, juniors and seniors) with opportunities to learn how to behave respectfully in social environments, interact appropriately with a date, and follow school guidelines for dress and demeanor. WE CARE supports safe social situations for CC students. We hope all the students attending the dance will enjoy themselves. We also want them to be safe. Drinking, parties in unsupervised homes, cottages, and hotel/motel rooms, and co-ed sleepovers are **not** a part of the Homecoming experience.

Accomplishing these goals is a team effort—school, parents, and students all have a role. The school provides the chaperones. Parents are present to serve refreshments, check coats, and provide valet parking. Students demonstrate respect for each other by reminding their peers of appropriate behavior, including avoiding illegal substances such as alcohol, and returning dates to their homes at respectful times.

Experienced parents have listed the following tips to help parents do their part to ensure a fun and safe event:

- Be active in planning. Remind your teen that the dance is the highlight of the evening, not gatherings afterwards.
- Be clear in your expectations of an alcohol and chemical free night.
- Set a curfew. Ask about your teens’ date’s curfew.
- Remind students that they need to be at the dance no later than 9:30pm.
- Gather together with your son or daughter's group at a parent's home for pictures before the event. This will allow you to meet other parents and agree on the plans for the evening.
- Problems often occur when renting limousines. It is **not** recommended.
- Inform your child of where you will be if they need to call.

If you do decide to continue with a gathering after the dance:

- Welcome a few of their friends to your house after the dance for a special breakfast, pizza, or to play cards. Make sure it is a small group of **INVITED** friends. If you are a host parent, enlist other parents to help you supervise. If your teen is attending such a gathering, call the host parents in advance to make sure they will be home. If possible, offer to send food or help supervise.
- Have your child call you (using a land line for caller id purposes) if they change locations. Confirm the home phone number.
- You may want your child to have cell phone for the evening. Tell them to keep it on.

Remember, according to the City of Grand Rapids, the curfew hours are 11:00 p.m. for children under 15 years, midnight for children under 17 years. This means they have to be off the streets. For the teens driving under the graduated licensing law and not yet 17 years old, please keep in mind the hours they cannot be driving without adult supervision.

All of us want our students to have a great time. By planning ahead and working together, we can provide a safe, enjoyable event for them. Let's pray for a safe and fun-filled evening, and take an active role in making it happen.

WE CARE Representatives

Russ & Anne Armock

Kathy & Keith Barth

Betsy Pangle

Laurie Vicari

Kim Cook

Betty Ortega-Furgeson

Celeste Dyehouse

Karen O'Rourke