

***MISSION STATEMENT:** Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education ensuring educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.*

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Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is Thursday @ 11:00 a.m.

Please email information for the SF newsletter to Kathy Hunt at khunt@gtacs.org

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Maureen DeYoung at mdeyou@gtacs.org

Christ – Above All Things

Happy Friday SF families and the end of exam week...PHEW!

What a busy and exhausting week for many of you. I saw quiet hallways, noses in notebooks and fear on some faces, but I hope the week was a successful one. It is done and we should start looking ahead at Monday, the start of second semester. Remember the semester grades are the only grades listed on your official high school transcript, so these are the grades that impact your GPA and your class ranking. New GPAs and rankings will be available in a couple of weeks.

NEW SCHEDULES were printed and were available to pick up Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. If you did not pick these up, they will be waiting for you in the main office on Monday. Schedule changes NEED to be completed before Monday if possible. Please know, we have worked to try to level class sizes classes are as small as possible so schedule changes may not be granted. Remember we won't change your schedule to give you the "best" free period, or to be in all 7 classes with your friends. ☺

GIRLS STATE APPLICATIONS are STILL available in the guidance office. JUNIOR GIRLS who are interested in this opportunity should see me ASAP! Interviews will begin soon.

SOPHOMORE students: Mr. Esper and I will be coming into your class on February 2nd to review your PLAN test results. You will not only get the test results back, but also you test booklet which you should use to help prepare for the ACT. See you on the 2nd.

Catholic Human Services is looking for some students who are interested in helping in the prevention of alcohol abuse. The Drinking Coalition will hold its first meeting on February 11th from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. They are interested in having 2-3 motivated students from our TENTH and ELEVENTH grade classes. PLEASE let me know if this is something that would interest you.

MORE SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Notre Dame Summer Programs (precollege.nd.edu)

Penn State Pre-College Programs (sas.upenn.edu/summer/students/highschool)
...more will be coming so keep an eye out for summer opportunities...

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, February 3rd – CTC visitation for all sophomores who returned their permission form.

Thursday, February 4th – Make up day for the CTC visitation if there is a snow day on February 3rd.

Sunday, February 14th – NMC will be hosting the College Goal Sunday where they will help you complete your FAFSA information FREE! This is a great opportunity to get the FAFSA form completed with the help of a financial aid specialist. They will also be giving away prizes! ☺ Last year they were giving away a laptop computer! Good luck. Stop by the Beckett Building room 146/147 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Wednesday, February 24th – 8th Grade Parent Orientation in Kohler Auditorium

Friday, February 26th – 8th Grade VISIT and course selection sheet distribution

Tuesday – Thursday, March 9-11 – MME or the Michigan Merit Exam will be held at the K of C Hall. ALL JUNIORS will be taking this test. Remember, this test includes the ACT+ Writing, ACT Work Keys and three MI subject tests. Keep your eye out for more information as the date approaches.

SCHOLARSHIP LIST has been updated and five new scholarships have been added. Applications/information for all scholarships is available in the guidance office. Remember to keep an eye on the deadlines...some are quickly approaching. If you are applying for the Grand Traverse Area Retired School Personnel you will need evaluations and letters written, so please start working on this before time runs out.

I continue to pray for you all as we begin the second semester. Lots to look forward to...course selection for next year, the MME ☺, Baccalaureate Mass, Awards Program and GRADUATION....oh ya...and I am having a baby sometime in there too! ☺

May God be with us ALL as we begin anew.....

*Beth Maday, School Counselor
St. Francis High School*

Parents of Mrs. Zamarron's 2nd Semester Apologetics Class:

With the launch of our Catholic Values of Human Sexuality Committee initiative, each family of a St. Francis High Schooler received a workbook entitled "Theology of the Body for Teens". We will begin the semester using this workbook. If you could locate that

workbook and send it with your son/daughter, that would be most helpful. Looking forward to a great semester with your kids!
Mrs. Zamarron

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon

On Friday, February 5th will be the Catholic Schools Week, the GTACS Parent/Teacher Council is sponsoring a luncheon for the staff of Holy Angels and St. Francis. The elementary parents will be providing food for the luncheon, and we would like the high school parents to help with door prizes.

We need about 40-50 door prizes for the Teachers and Staff. We would greatly appreciate any donations of plants, TRIP gift cards, etc. (It can be anything!) Our theme for the luncheon is Italian!!!! If you are interested in helping in anyway please contact:

Karen Provins or Katie Bobrowski
938-0664 995-9887
KAP560@aol.com kbobrowski@charter.net

Christian Service Hours

If your student is looking for a way of fulfilling his/hers Christian service hours, St. Francis church has many opportunities for them. A good time for this is when there is no school or even before school. Contact Bob Kuhlman at the parish for jobs and times.

Dance Chaperones Needed

On February 27th, the annual Snowcoming Dance is being hosted by the sophomores.

Currently, we are looking for parents interested in chaperoning. It is February 27 8 p.m.-11p.m. at the IC gym. (However we would need you to be there by 7:45 at the latest.) If you are willing to help, please contact Diana Matuszak at (231)-929-3448 as soon as you can! Your participation would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for considering.

-Sophomore class officers

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

1/25 – Jean Day for Haiti – HS only – other schools in the system have it on Jan. 22nd.

1/28 – (Friday Schedule)

1st 7:50-8:55

3rd 9:00-10:05

5th 10:10-11:15

Mass 11:25-12:10

Lunch 12:15-1:12

7th 1:12-2:37

1/29 – ½ day (Thursday Schedule) dismiss @ 11:00 Parents provide take home transportation. Schedule:

2nd 7:50-8:50

4th 8:55-9:55

6th 10:00-11:00

2/1-5 Catholic Schools Week – Full Schedule to come in GTACS News

2/3 (Wednesday) CTC Visit for Sophomores

2/12, 13 & 14th HS Musical Bye Bye Birdie

2/15 (Monday) No School – Inservice
2/19, 20 & 21st HS Musical Bye Bye Birdie
2/24 (Wednesday) 8th Grade Orientation
2/26 (Friday) 8th Grade Visitation
3/9-11 MME Testing for all Juniors at K of C Hall