

**November 10, 2009**

Dear Parents:

I count it a privilege in my job to talk with numerous people from our community about a large variety of topics. I have always had an "open door policy" and I appreciate it when people stop in. Many conversations focus on students (no surprise) and we often seem to talk about student behavior. You might think that discussions center on poor choices made by our children, and I do have those discussions from time to time. After all, while we may integrate our faith in our teaching of children we know sin is a part of all of our lives and yes, in our schools as well.

I want you to know, however, that many of my conversations with students and parents focus on the many awesome things going on. Some of you are aware of our project with the nursing home residents at The Laurels of Hudsonville and our 7th grade students. Last week I received a message from an elderly resident of the Laurels. She was concerned because she had not heard from her "friend" from HCMS for awhile and she was afraid she had become ill. I pursued the message to find out the student was now in the 8th grade. She had continued her relationship with the resident and went to see her every day. The "quite awhile" turned out to be four days. I also had a teacher bring to my attention last week a student who had taken it upon herself to get pledges to raise money for people she had never met on the other side of the world. She raised money by running many miles and then donated the dollars to help others live in an environment safe to raise a family. Just recently our media specialist told me of a student who asked if he could help someone by paying their book fine...the only catch was that he didn't want anyone to know he was doing it.

I know that there are many stories we could share with each other...and sometimes it is good just to remind each other of the blessings around us...our children!

Dan Pott, Middle School Principal

## SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

### LATE START DAY TOMORROW!

Tomorrow will be another late start day with school beginning at 9:45 a.m. Regular bus routes will be running, but will be approximately two hours later.

### WENDY'S FAMILY FUN NIGHT FUNDRAISER

We are looking forward to seeing many HCS families at the Family Fun Night held at Wendy's Restaurant in Hudsonville (Port Sheldon) on Thursday, November 19 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Show your HCS pride by wearing your HCS apparel or green and white clothing. Come to the HCS table to fill out a raffle ticket and get your kids faces painted. Remember to stock up on your Wendy's T.R.I.P. Ten percent of ALL dine-in and drive-thru sales will go directly to HCS!

### INVENTORY SALE

Cards, calendars, napkins, gift wrap, maybe even a few gift items. You never know what good deals you might find at the 5th Grade Card & Giftwrap Sale's leftover and inventory sale! These miscellaneous items are available from order corrections and extra stuff. The inventory sale will be held during TRIP hours on Monday evenings, November 16 and 23. Look for us by the TRIP information table.

### TRIP NEWS

Have you started your Christmas shopping? Start stocking up on gift cards now! Bonus percentages (above the normal %) effective immediately: Bath and Body Works (5% until 12-4-09), Logans (2% until 12-25-09), Cabelas (1% until 1-1-10), Applebees (2% until 12-31-09), JC Penny (1% until 11-20-09), Red Robin (2% until 12-25-09), and Old Navy (2% until 12-18-09). Also Gordon Foods will now be available on TRIP on Demand and Hallmark will only be available on regular TRIP. Check out the HCS website for current merchants and order forms!

### HCS HOME AND CRAFT EXPO FUNDRAISING EVENT

We hope you are planning to attend the HCS Home & Craft Expo Fundraiser for the Crisman, Koning, and VanRijs families on Monday, November 16 from 4 - 8:30 p.m. at the elementary building. There will also be baked goods available for purchase. Come shop for your holiday gifts while supporting HCS families struggling with cancer!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

### COLOR/DAY SCHEDULE

<u>Nov. 11</u>	Adjusted Day	<u>Nov. 16</u>	Red/Day 1
<u>Nov. 12</u>	Green/Day 3	<u>Nov. 17</u>	Yellow/Day 2
<u>Nov. 13</u>	Blue/Day 4	<u>Nov. 18</u>	Green/Day 3

### HOT LUNCH

Hot lunch this week Wednesday will be hot dogs, Cheddar Sun Chips, potato chips, raspberry yogurt, and Rice Krispie bars.

### COOKIES FOR KENYA

Chocolate chip cookies will be sold for \$.25 a piece this Friday morning in support of our Kenya partnership.

### THANKSGIVING CHAPEL

Pre-K through fifth grade students will participate in a Thanksgiving Chapel given by second grade students on Tuesday, November 24 at 8:15 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the all purpose room. Parents of second graders are invited to attend.

### THANKSGIVING COLLECTION

The Thanksgiving collection at the elementary school will be a non-perishable food drive that will be divided between Wedgwood Christian Youth Services, Bethany Christian Services, and the Eastern Avenue CRC Saturday Food Program. This is an advance notice as items should be brought to school the week of November 16.

### REPORT CARDS

Report cards were sent home with students last week Friday. Please review your child's report card, sign, and return to school as soon as possible.

### HUDSONVILLE HOLIDAY POSTER CONTEST

Congratulations to Britta DeLong (3rd grade) and Ashley Freerksen (4th grade) for their winning holiday posters!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

### HOT LUNCH

Hot Lunch this week: Arby's Roast Beef \$1.50 each, pop \$.50 and chips \$.25.

### CHAPEL HAPPENINGS

Friday, November 13: Mrs. Wendy VanDoeselaar leads chapel  
Tuesday, November 17: Gilda's Club leads chapel

### PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE NIGHTS

The following middle school staff will be available 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. & 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in their classrooms ONLY on the evening noted during conference nights.

- Mrs. Coallier (7th Skills/Short Stories/8th Lit./Health) - 11/24
- Mrs. Heerspink (Art) - 11/24
- Mrs. Jager (Orchestra) - 11/23
- Mr. Knot - (6/7/8 Band) - 11/23
- Mrs. LeMahieu (Media Specialist) - 11/23
- Mrs. Prins (7/8 Girls PE/6th Exploratories) - 11/23

### LOST ITEM TABLE

The tables with lost and found items from the first nine weeks of school are set up now. Parents, when you are in school for conferences, please stop by to check over the items on the lost table for any missing things from your home! The table is located across from the middle school office.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS (continued)

### ACT TESTING

Parents interested in ACT testing for their student can stop by the middle school office to pick up an ACT test registration and information packet. All those interested in the PATH program at Hope College must take the ACT test to be considered for acceptance into PATH.

### AFTER SCHOOL STUDY HALL

After school study hall is an opportunity for 6th – 8th grade students to stay after school and work on homework in a supervised study hall. There will be a teacher present; however, it will not be a one-on-one tutoring time. The after school study hall began at the middle school at the end of October. The study hall meets on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the library. Students must plan to stay the entire hour if they choose to stay for the study hall period. Please have rides home available at the end of the period. If you have questions, please call the middle school office.

### ORCHESTRA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE

Many of our middle school orchestra students will be performing in Solo & Ensemble on Saturday, November 21 at East Rockford Middle. The participating students have been given their performance times and a schedule for the day. Maps to the school are being sent home this week. Parents, please check with your orchestra student for this information!

### CEREAL COLLECTION

At our Tuesday, November 24 chapel at the middle school our Christian Service class students will be collecting cereal boxes from the students as they enter the gym for our Thanksgiving Chapel. What a great opportunity for students to give something that can benefit others! All cereal collected will be divided between two local food pantries.

### SEW (SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS WEEK)

S.E.W. 2009 will be December 7 – 11. *Is It in You?* Please save Thursday evening, December 10 from 7 – 9 p.m. for a special middle school activity at school for students.

### ADVANCE NOTICE & CONCERT TIME CHANGE

On December 21 our 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school bands, choirs and orchestras will perform a Christmas concert at Grace Community Church. Plan now to join us at this wonderful event. Please note this concert will begin at 7:00 p.m.

### SWIM TEAM/SWIM MEET

Hudsonville Christian Middle School will compete in the league swim meet that will take place at Ottawa Hills High School this week Saturday, November 14. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. and the meet will begin at 9 a.m. Entrance fees as follows: Family \$5, Adults \$2, Students \$1. A bus will transport students to and from the meet. A letter from the coach will be coming home with more specific times and information.

### BASKETBALL

#### 7th Grade Boys & Girls Basketball

Team lists and schedules will be distributed to team members at school this week. Please check with your child for this important information that includes dates and times for games, practices and maps to schools.

#### 8th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball

Practice schedules continue for both teams.

## PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

### LOVE BAZAAR

This is the last week to volunteer to help our children at this year's love bazaar. We need to get our list finalized in preparation for this fun day. Please call Deb Klein at 669-3261 if you would like to experience this joy with our children. Please continue to bring bubble wrap, tissue paper and any boxes that you may have to the shelves by the gym. Nesting of boxes is appreciated. Thank you!

## PARENTS' CLUB NEWS (continued)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Love Bazaar committee is still in need of two more people. If you are considering being a committee member, you need to be willing to shop the day after Christmas. This is an important shopping date and replenishes most of our inventory. After that day, you may shop on your own time until the next year's love bazaar. There are approximately three meetings a year. Please call Deb Klein if interested.

### HELP NEEDED WITH THE AUCTION

The Auction Committee is in need of 3 - 4 new committee members and 10 caller/runners. These positions are vital to the success of the HCS annual auction. Please consider volunteering. Call Dawn Hulst at 662-0432 to volunteer or with any questions. Thank you!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 7TH/8TH GIRLS SADER SATURDAY BASKETBALL

Unity Christian H.S. will be sponsoring a Saturday morning basketball program for girls in 7th and 8th grades on **November 14 and November 21**. Each girl in these grades should receive a registration form from their teacher or you may pick one up in Unity's office.

### 4TH—6TH BOYS SADER SATURDAY BASKETBALL

Unity Christian H.S. will be sponsoring a Saturday morning basketball program for boys in grades 4—6. This five week program will be held on December 5, 12, 19, and January 9 and 16. Each boy in these grades should receive a registration form from their teacher or you may pick one up in Unity's office. Deadline to enroll is November 23.

### UNITY SPIRIT STORE SADER SALE

The next Sader Sale will be held Saturday, November 14 from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. in Unity's south gym lobby.

### CLC CITRUS & MORE SALE

CLC Network celebrates 30 Years of partnering with schools, churches and families. We are again having the Citrus & More Sale. Orders are due to **CLC Network** by Friday, November 13 and pick-up date for items is on Friday, December 11. For a flyer for this sale, please look on-line at [www.clcnetwork.org](http://www.clcnetwork.org), call CLC Network at 616-245-8388, or see your school office.

### BEAUTY AND THE BEAST MUSICAL

Unity Christian High School is presenting the fairy tale musical, **Beauty & the Beast** on November 19 – 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the Zeeland East High School DeWitt Auditorium. Ticket orders can be taken by calling Unity at 669-1820. In addition, on Wednesday evening, November 18, young children and their parents are invited to a special matinee performance to be held at 5:30 p.m. at the DeWitt Auditorium. Admission will be \$4 per person, sold only at the door. There will be no advance ticket sales or reserved seating for this performance.

### SELAH AND AVALON BENEFIT CONCERT

There are currently two students at Hudsonville Christian who came from God's Littlest Angels orphanage in Haiti and a third one will be home soon! Join us on Friday, November 13 at 7 p.m. at Grace Community Church in Hudsonville for an evening of wonderful worship and great music. The Christian music artists Selah and Avalon are performing a benefit concert for God's Littlest Angels Orphanage in Haiti. Tickets are \$15 for adults/\$10 for students, available at the door or by calling Tom & Cheryl Vanderwell at 669-1505.

### TUTOR

Could your child benefit from additional support in reading or writing this year? Openings are available for elementary students. Call or email Ann DeBoer, certified teacher and HCS paraprofessional (896-1377 or [deboer92@aol.com](mailto:deboer92@aol.com)) with questions or to sign up.

### THE FAMILY CONNECTION SUPPORT GROUP

The Family Connection is a bi-monthly support group for family members or caregivers seeking support to more effectively deal with stresses of family members who are diagnosed with mental illness. Held from 5:30—6:30 the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at the Pine Rest Southwest Clinic at 4211 Parkway Place in Grandville. No cost; donations accepted. Please call to register for your first meeting at 222-3700.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Nov. 11	Late Start for Students — 9:45 a.m.	Dec. 3	7th/8th Skating Party
Nov. 16	HCS Home Expo Fundraiser, 4—8:30 p.m.	Dec. 4	Elementary Love Bazaar
Nov. 17	6th Grade Skating Party	Dec. 7-11	M.S. Spiritual Emphasis Week
Nov. 21	7th/8th Orchestra Solo/Ensemble	Dec. 18	M.S. Magazine Sale Kick off
Nov. 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Dec. 21	M.S. Christmas Concert
Nov. 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Dec. 21-22	Limited Busing Days
Nov. 25—27	Thanksgiving Break	Dec. 23	Christmas Break begins