

Director's Letter

Larry Sauer

The beginning of the new school year has been a very busy time for our Hanover Program. Between July and now, more than 20 new students and families have joined us. We are working hard to get to know the new students, their families, their school districts, and others with an interest in their success.

There are a couple of events coming up this month to provide us with an opportunity to get to know families better and give families an opportunity to get to know us better. These events are also an opportunity for families to get to know other families who share their Cushing experience.

As was announced in last month's newsletter, this coming Tuesday, September 28th will be our first Parent Advisory Committee ("PAC") meeting including the election of officers. We are really hoping to reinvigorate the PAC this year and develop it into a strong organization where families feel they have a forum for expressing their ideas, thoughts, and concerns. We want families to be collaborative partners in the education of their children.

Something new we are going to try at this PAC meeting, is making the meeting available by conference call for those parents from long distances or who aren't able to come to Cushing for the meeting, to still be able to participate in the meeting. This was a great suggestion by one of our out-of-state parents and we are going to give it a try on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. Please join us in person or by phone if you can.

Here are the directions for joining the conference call if you wish to join us by phone:

1. Dial 203.310.4287;
2. Enter *PARTICIPANT* pass code, 5799309#;
3. At the prompt, state your full name and wait to be connected to the conference call.

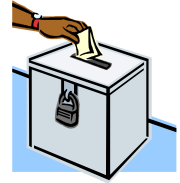
If you are having difficulty joining the call, please call Larry Sauer at (781) 829-1202. If there are technical glitches, please understand this is our first attempt and bugs need to be worked out.

PAC MEETING REMINDER

Tuesday, September 28, 2010
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Staff Dining Hall in the
Knights of Columbus Building

Election of Officers*
(see article below for more information)
Meet the new Clinical
Director of Student Services,
Michael Berardo



The other family event taking place this month is our annual Harvest Festival. The Harvest Festival is one of the events that are students look forward to every year. It is a great chance for families and friends to spend time with our students on-campus in a casual and fun atmosphere! Their will be food, games, hayrides, music, and fun for all. Margaret Lelakes, our Volunteer Coordinator, spends many hours bringing this event together and deserves a round of applause from everyone!

See information for the Harvest Festival below:

ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

October 16, 2010

12-3p.m.

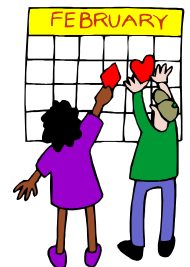
Hanover Campus



CALENDARS

You can find our School and Recreation Calendars on-line at:

<http://www.coletta.org/CARDINAL/calendar/calendar.htm>



**Braintree St. Coletta Day School
Ron Shepherd**

Braintree St. Coletta Day School's annual Family Day celebration will be held on Saturday October 23rd the time has yet to be determined. This year's event will feature a cookout and a sing- a- long performance by our friend Seth Connelly.



The students and staff at BSCDS wish to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Robert Lee of Hull and "Murphy" the Wonder Dog who has provided Pet Therapy to our students since 2006. Mr. Lee and Murphy have left us with a lifetime of smiles here in Braintree. We wish both the best as they move on to new ventures.

BSCDS welcomes two new teachers this year. Amy Orlando and Kristine Cosetta, both Amy and Kristine have served as classroom assistants at St. Coletta's. We wish them the best in their new positions.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has awarded BSCDS a grant to use for school bus transportation for student enrichment field trips. The grant will be used during the 2010-2011 school year. We are looking forward to our upcoming trips. We also wish to again express our appreciation to the Evan Henry Foundation and the Morse Foundation for their grants which are funding a Music Therapist for the students of St. Coletta's.

The students and staff of BSCDS have worked hard to plant a memorial garden in memory of those members of our community who are no longer with us. The garden has bloomed beautifully all summer in spite of the heat and drought. We have noticed that it is enjoyed as much by the butterflies as by the students and staff.



COMPUTER LAB – Hanover

In the Computer Lab we have been very busy using MAXWRITE (Word) to practice our typing skills and learn some editing skills. We created some autumn poems and designed fall pictures using TUXPAINT. We have joined with Kristen, our APE teacher for Health classes, and have begun a 5 week Internet Safety course. Topics in these classes will be online stranger danger, cyber bullying, keeping our identity secret, and being a good "netizen."

Just a reminder, that Picture Day is on Monday, October 4th. Order envelopes have been mailed out. Payment needs to be in school before or on the 4th.



International Day of Peace

Tuesday, September 21st 2010, the Cardinal Cushing School celebrated the annual International Day of Peace in the campus' St. Francis Peace Garden. All students and staff participated by planting student-made pinwheels into the lawn. The students created the pinwheels with the assistance of art teacher, Randy Wiskow.



The multicolored pinwheels spun quietly as students were encouraged to think about their contribution to a peaceful world.

The International Day of Peace started in September of 1982 to honor the beginning of a new year for the United Nations General Assembly. In 2001, the day was moved to 21st of September as a declared worldwide ceasefire. The International Day of Peace is a global event honoring the spirit of peace.



The Cardinal Cushing Centers Inc. have been participating since 2001.

HEALTH CENTER HAPPENINGS



Happy Fall!!!! It's that time again; time to start thinking about the flu and what can be done to prevent it. The first and most important step in flu

prevention is a yearly flu vaccine. The 2010-2011 flu vaccine includes the 2009 H1N1 virus, so only one vaccine is needed this year. Everyone 6 months and older should get the flu vaccine as soon as it is available. Some Cardinal Cushing students and staff have already been vaccinated by their doctors.

Other ways to prevent the spread of infection include covering your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze and washing your hands with soap and water. The flu is passed from person to person from nose and mouth secretions. Sneezing and coughing cause these droplets to go into the air. Touching your eyes, nose, mouth, and biting your nails are all ways to contract the flu. Encourage your child to avoid doing all these things.

Think you or your child have the flu? What are the symptoms?

Know the **FACTS**: Fever – Aches – Chills – Tiredness – Sudden Symptoms

Even one or two of these symptoms could mean you have the flu and even mild symptoms could become severe without much notice, so it is recommended that you see your doctor if you develop any of these symptoms.

DON'T LET THE FLU GET TO YOU!!!

SPECIALISTS' NEWS



SPOT on consults began this month with Speech Language and OT staff meeting regularly with educational teachers together, as opposed to separate occupational therapy and speech language meetings. Teams have been developed by which OT and Speech Language staff are assigned to work with each classroom to foster increased continuity of care for our students. While consults have always occurred; this is a more collaborative effort to focus on students in the classroom with respect to any specific IEP goals relating to our specialist areas, to plan and support activities around classroom themes, to encourage collaboration of goals to foster generalization across

settings, and to include valuable assistant level staffing in these discussions. By doing so we are conserving our efforts and limiting duplication of meetings, while embracing the interdisciplinary team approach. We are confident we are off to a great start this school year!

PT news: By the time you may read this, Michelle Aucoin, DPT will have a new addition to her family. With that, Michelle has contacted families of students she is working with either by phone and/or mail to indicate the plan for students while she is out on maternity leave. We are grateful that Megan Currier, Physical Therapy Assistant will increase her hours to meet many of the students' needs. In addition, Laura Manning, PT from Braintree St. Coletta Day School will provide supervision until Michelle returns in early December. For any Physical Therapy related questions in Michelle's absence, feel free to contact Megan or myself, Patti Nelson, at x1134 or 1238.



RECREATION UPDATE

**Tom McElman, Anne Matheson
Terri Keenan**

- New this fall we have started a unified flag football team and a fall cheerleading squad. We have a couple of games coming up, a Special Olympic event on Saturday October 2nd at Taunton High School and Sunday, November 14th at Gillette Stadium. Please come and cheer on our new flag football team and cheerleading squad. For more information please contact the Rec Department.
- The Fall Walking Club is in full stride. So far our students in the club have walked more than 57 miles, a few have walked more than 7 miles.
- Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts have begun meeting and are looking forward to another exciting year of Scouting. Our Sr. Girl Scouts are teaming up with the local Girl Scout Council and will be running our troop under Anne Matheson's watchful eyes.
- The Cardinal Cushing Soccer program has kicked off with two traditional 5-a-side teams and one Saturday mornings unified team. Our unified team has a few of our community players, along with their siblings, joining forces with our soccer players. All will participate at the Sp. Olympic events on Sunday October 3rd at North Attleboro High School and Sunday, November 7th at Governor Academy in Byfield, MA.

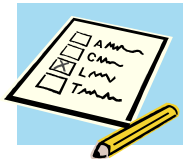
- We will be taking orders for our new line of Cushing logo wear, just in time for the holidays. We will be offering T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Long Sleeve T-shirts, Golf shirts, fleece vests and Pajama Pants. We will be taking orders up to November 19th. Order forms will be posted on our website in the very near future with a link on our homepage at <http://www.coletta.org>
- Please contact the Recreation Department for more information.

PAC Elections

Each year the Cardinal Cushing Centers Advisory Committee elects four officers for the PAC.

These positions include a president, vice-president, recording secretary, and treasurer. Because two of our officers' children have graduated from the school and the other two officers have served the maximum number of years in their current offices, all of the officer positions are open for the coming year. Below are descriptions of the positions from the PAC By-laws. The offices are not as complex as the by-law language makes them appear.

If you have an interest in running for one of the offices, please let me know before or at the PAC meeting on Tuesday.



SECTION 5. OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The President shall:

1. be the Chief Executive Officer of the CCCAC and be subject to the control of the Executive Committee;
2. supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the CCCAC;
3. when present, preside at all meetings of the CCCAC; sign with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the CCCAC instruments or documents as expressly delegated by the Executive Committee;
4. monitor the function of subcommittees.
5. act as a liaison to the Cardinal Cushing Centers, Inc., and the Executive Director or his designee;
6. be responsible for receiving official records and materials from CCCAC Officers and shall distribute and present the records and materials to the successor in Office within thirty (30) days receipt of the same;
7. when appropriate and deemed necessary appoint designees; and

8. perform any and all other duties that are incident to the Office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time.

B. The Vice President shall:

1. in the absence or vacancy in the Office of the President, preside at all meetings and perform the duties of the President and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Office of President;
2. assist, be directly responsible to, and assume such duties as from time to time may be delegated by the CCCAC; and
3. perform any and all other duties that are incident to the Office of Vice President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the President or Executive Committee from time to time.

C. The Recording Secretary shall:

1. maintain and record the minutes of the proceedings of the CCCAC and of the Executive Committee in one or more minute books provided for that purpose;
2. take, prepare and distribute the minutes of the Membership and Executive Committee prior to the next scheduled meeting;
3. give due notice of all meetings of the CCCAC;
4. be custodian of the records and official documents of the CCCAC;
5. execute along with the president instruments or documents that are expressly delegated by the Executive Committee; and
6. perform any and all other duties that are incident to the Office of Recording Secretary and such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the President or Executive Committee.

D. The Treasurer shall:

1. in coordination with the Cardinal Cushing Centers, Inc. take custody of and be responsible for all funds associated with the CCCAC;
2. receive and give receipts for monies due or payable to the CCCAC from any source whatsoever and deposit all said monies in the name of the CCCAC in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as shall be selected or designated by the Executive Committee;
3. if required by the Executive Committee furnish a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum or sums as the Executive Committee shall determine;
4. render a report on the status and equity of the CCCAC; and
5. perform any and all other duties that are incident to the Office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the President or Executive Committee.