

## **A Principaled Perspective**

**By Linda Eno, Principal**



The past month has been busy and productive. Over 160 8<sup>th</sup> graders registered at our November 3<sup>rd</sup> Information Session. It was far and away our largest crowd and it was both exciting and a little overwhelming for the staff and students who were running it. Overall, the district saw a rise in the total number of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students seeking information. Applications are due December 13<sup>th</sup> in the Central Office. It will be interesting to see what percentage of our visitors become applicants.

On other fronts, we had a fun Halloween, with record numbers of staff and students dressed for the occasion. Academic Team has been engaging in Quiznet: Science League is prepping for the Olympiad in January: Drama Club practices have begun: Driver's Ed is full and meeting biweekly: Midterms for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades came and went with minimal trauma: and we held an Open House for people interested in serving as mentors for Senior Internship. Our Art Auction was a complete success. In addition, we completed our Middle States Site Visit. The amount of parental involvement has been very rewarding and we appreciate both the participation and the hospitality they have provided.

The past six weeks have been turbulent and stressful on the world front. The global recession has roared upon us and we are seeing it locally in closings and layoffs. No one is unaffected. Here at BTHS we recognize that this type of stress has the ability to impact schoolwork and performance. Please let us know if your student experiences changes in their life that impact behavior or mood. This is a good time to work together as closely as possible.

As this holiday approaches, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to each of our BTHS families. I thank you for the support you have given to this faculty over the opening months of the 2008-2009 school year and I look forward to further opportunities to work together. Be well, have fun, laugh a lot.

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

School Calendar website:

<http://www.shoremedia.org/bths/phpicalendar/month.php>

### Monday, November 24

Spirit Week (24-26)

Academic Team Competition, 2:30

### Thursday, November 27-30

School closed Thanksgiving Break

### Monday, December 1

Practice ACT, SAT 2:30-6:30

### Tues. & Thursday, December 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18

Drivers' Ed.

### Friday, December 5

All School Dance, 6:30-9

### Sat., December 6

Key Club Santa Lunch for Kids, 10:30-12:30

### Monday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>

PSFA meeting, Cookie Wrapping

### December 24- Jan. 4

School closed Winter Break

### Tuesday Jan. 5, 09

First day back for staff and students



## PSFA Presidents' Corner

By Ann Daniels & Kathy Hackler, PSFA Co-Presidents

Wow! What an exciting time at Friday's art auction. Great food, fun fellowship, beautiful gift baskets, and very tempting art (I should know; I bought 4.) A huge thank you to Karis Cornell, Ellie Krall, Alison Gross, Susan Nestor, Sandy Staba, Denise Forlano, Mari Ann Pepe, Amy Schwartz, Laurie Neyhart, Teresa Mattia, Robin Alterman, Ann Marie Fitzsimmons, Marlene Legaspi, Dianne Lowing, Karen Mastria, Cindy Neil, Karen Rubenstein, and Sharon Poskaitis for a wonderful job.

The preliminary numbers are in with a profit of \$12,746 which is amazing and beats last year! I am sure you would agree, the evening was very successful. A special thank you also goes out to the BTHS artists who donated their own original works to be auctioned off. It was wonderful to see their talent, and I am sure those who bought their works will treasure them for a long time.

Congratulations to the Super Raffle Winners:

1. Jannarone Family - \$811.25
2. Cahill Family - \$486.75
3. Buckbinder Family - \$324.50

In addition, a big thank you goes out to the students who stayed to decorate, carry art, move gift baskets, serve food, and clean up. We could not have done it without you; you really are exceptional young people who are pleasant and polite to work with. Thanks also go to Mrs. Eno for her support, Mrs. Ferrara for her work with the art students, and the custodians for all of their hard work with set up and clean up. Again, thanks to all of you who made the evening such a success.

The Middle States visit went very well. Thanks to all of you involved with Middle States. I know a lot of hard work went into preparing for it. Special thanks go to Shamoli Patel, Marianne Kenny, and Colleen Janiw for all of their help with hospitality during the visit.

Don't forget the following dates and events:

- Seniors: Cap/gown orders due Wed. Nov. 26
- Yearbook clothing orders due Wed. Nov. 26
- Grapefruit/Orange/Citrus Sale for SCC/TSA: See Mrs. R/ Due date early Dec.
- Freshman Dance for Everybody: Dec. 5
- Key Club Santa Luncheon/Gift Auction: Dec. 6
- Cookie Collection for Faculty/Staff: PSFA meeting: Dec. 15

Thanks again for everyone's hard work!

Kathy and Ann



A teacher affects eternity;  
he can never tell where his  
influence stops.

~Henry Adams

## Biotechnology Mentors Needed

If you are a member of the biotechnology industry or know of individuals that may be interested in becoming a mentor for a BTHS senior this Spring please e-mail

Erin Dwyer at [erin\\_dwyer@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:erin_dwyer@bths.mcvsd.org) or

Danielle Jensen at [daniell\\_jensen@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:daniell_jensen@bths.mcvsd.org)

## How would you score on the SAT or ACT?!?

Come find out in a stress-free environment. The only person who will ever see your score on this test is you (and your parents if you're nice!)

The Princeton Review will be administering a practice test for both the SAT and ACT right at BTHS. After the test they will provide you with a detailed score analysis that highlights your strengths and weaknesses. From there you can determine what type of preparation you might need and what areas to focus on.

**Date: December 1, 2008**

**Time: 2:30-6:30 p.m.**

**Location: BTHS**

**Fee: FREE for all BTHS Students**

To register, give a call to 800-2Review (800-273-8439)



## Calling All Cookies!

**To show our appreciation for the faculty and staff of BTHS and to spread holiday cheer, the PSFA will collect, package and distribute holiday cookie trays.**

## How Can You Help?

**We are asking parents to donate 4 dozen or more of their favorite holiday cookie. Homemade cookies are preferred but store bought are welcome. The cookies can be sent to school on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> or brought to the PSFA meeting at 7:00 that evening. A committee of volunteers is needed to help assemble the cookie trays after the meeting. If you wish to volunteer to donate cookies or assemble trays please e-mail Susan Nestor at [MTNSAN6467@aol.com](mailto:MTNSAN6467@aol.com).**

## Remember...

**Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others. - Booker T. Washington**

### SAT QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted in the sentence, *best* fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Because she has a great need for -----, she loathes the public appearances demanded of her as a leading literary figure.

A. luxury B. privacy C. reward D. devotion E. distraction

be sent to both you and your child's email addresses. Did you know this service is free? **Check out and register with The College Board: <http://www.collegeboard.com/>**

**The College Board: Connecting students to college success:** The College Board is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 5,400 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves seven million

students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admissions, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best-known programs are the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, and the Advanced Placement Program (AP). The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns. (the correct answer is B. Privacy)

# Attention Graduating Families

Dear Senior Parents,

Although I can hardly believe it myself, this year we will celebrate the first graduation at BTHS. We would like to put together a slideshow to present at graduation, and we need your help. We will be asking the class of 2009 to bring in a baby picture and a middle school picture in LEAP class. Please help your child find these memories to add a special touch to graduation.

Thank you,

Danielle Jensen



**Congratulations**  
to the  
**2008**  
**National Honor**  
**Society**  
**Inductees!**

Each of the inductees has demonstrated success in each of the 4 pillars of NHS: scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Scholarship requires a cumulative 92.00 average. Service requires documentation of a minimum of 100 hours of volunteering at a minimum of 2 different roles. Leadership requires documentation of a minimum of 50 hours of leadership at a minimum of 2 different roles. Finally, character requires 10 teacher recommendations. Congratulations once again to all of the inductees!

## Yearbook Update from Ms. Faust

### Senior Recognition Advertisements

For the first time this year, we will have a special section in the yearbook to recognize graduating seniors. This space is sponsored by an individual or group of people and contains pictures and/or text addressed to that senior. Prices range from \$30 for a business card sized ad to \$150 for a full-page ad. This is a great way for parents, relatives, friends, employers, and others to congratulate one of (or a group of) our graduating seniors.

If you or someone you know would like to purchase a senior recognition ad, please contact me at: [kristen\\_faust@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:kristen_faust@bths.mcvsd.org) The deadline for submissions is Dec. 17.

### Clothing Sales

As a fundraiser, the Yearbook club plans to sell BTHS clothing again this year. This is a great holiday gift for students and family members. Order forms were mailed with report cards.

### Thank you

Please continue to send year book pictures directly to me or upload them to Jostens. Please take a few minutes and upload any good pictures to our website so we can use them in the yearbook.

Go to: <https://images.jostens.com>

Enter username: 1170498 and password: biotech

Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload. Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.

Click "Save Details"

It's that easy! The yearbook staff will review all submissions prior to including them in the yearbook. We cannot guarantee that all submissions will be used in the yearbook. Thanks again!



**Allyson Alfonso**  
**Chris Bo**  
**Marissa D'Ambrosio**  
**Domenic DeSocio**  
**Ed Devine**  
**Josh Falescky**  
**Jessica Freeman**  
**Alex Janiw**  
**Mike Mattia**  
**Matt Mikulski**  
**Russ Nadler**  
**Jen Nestor**  
**Jeff Neyhart**  
**Julia Olson**  
**Akash Patel**  
**Dean Pavlick**  
**Mackenzie Shade**  
**Chelsea Shafranek**  
**Raj Singh**  
**Ashley So**  
**Carly Starke**  
**Mike Stevenson**  
**Alan Tsai**  
**Joe Wagner**  
**Ethan Winter**  
**Kayla Wroblecky**

**Notes from Mr. Hercek:****HELP SHAPE  
OUR BTHS  
WEBSITE**

BTHS is very interested in what you (the parents) would like to see on our BTHS

Website. Any specific suggestions are welcome.

<http://www.bths.mcvsd.org/Welcome.html>

Please email your suggestions to Mr. Hercek  
[william\\_hercek@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:william_hercek@bths.mcvsd.org)

**ATTENTION TARGET SHOPPERS**

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for our school. It's super-easy, and all you have to do is use your Target Visa or Target Card. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education program. It's easy. Just visit <http://target.com/tcoe> or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school. So, if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target Visa or Target Card. Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better. Find out how much money our school has already received at <http://target.com/tcoe>. Grandparents, alumni, neighbors and friends can take part, too.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

Please support our school by clipping and submitting your Box Tops! Drop box located in the lunch room. Hurry! Box Tops expire so be sure to turn them in promptly. You can also earn cash for our school when you shop online by using the Box Top website as the porthole to your shopping website.

**For more information about Box Tops:**

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/>

**Earn cash for our school when you shop online:**

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace/Default.aspx>

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s),

Your sophomore student has been involved in an exciting grant program called "Safe Dates" during Health II class time. This effective research based program targets the attitudes and behaviors associated with dating abuse and violence and allows for practice of more effective open communication skills.



As the enclosed newsletter reports, dating abuse can be a significant problem for teens as young as middle school age. The *Safe Dates* program explores and defines healthy relationships, dating abuse and its causes & consequences, and key ways to recognize and prevent the occurrence of dating abuse.

It's understood that some parents don't want their teens dating until they are older. *Safe Dates* doesn't push or promote dating, but it will prepare your child for the future when he or she may be dating. The program goal is to help teens be safe as they develop healthy relationships with friends.

As the parent of your teen, you play the most important role in keeping your teen safe in dating relationships. The newsletter provides some helpful tips in doing this. Should you have any questions about the *safe dates* program or dating abuse in general, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely, Vicki M. Warnock RN, BSN, School Nurse

**Biotechnology High School Shirts, Hats, Bumper Magnets and more for Sale**

The BTHS PSFA has created a great line of LogoWear for our school. These items make great gifts for the holidays, for birthdays, or just to tell your student how proud you are of them. You can see the items for sale as well download an order form on the following link: <http://www.mcvsd.org/weblog/bthspfsa/>

Send the order form to school with a check made out to the BTHS PSFA and you will be contacted when your order is ready. You can also contact Cheryl Shade, BTHS PSFA Clothing Sales volunteer at 732-740-7364 or at [shadec@icsolutionsnow.com](mailto:shadec@icsolutionsnow.com)

## Guidance Update—November 2008:

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as nominees for the **2009 Governor's School Programs**:

- Jen Nestor - School of the Sciences at Drew University
  - Alan Tsai - School of Engineering & Technology at Rutgers University
  - Ryan Johnson - School on the Environment at Stockton College
  - Rajmeena Singh - School of International Studies at Ramapo College
- \* Selected students per program will be announced in early 2009. Best of luck to each nominee!

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### IB Spotlight College: **CLEMSON UNIVERSITY**

More than 17,000 students call Clemson University “home” each academic year. Why? Because Clemson has a way of doing things differently. Clemson is more than a top-tier research university, more than big-time science and engineering, and more than course schedules and final exams. It’s about providing experiences and enrichment opportunities that create leaders, thinkers and entrepreneurs.

Set in a college town with a beautiful backdrop of lakefronts and mountains, Clemson attracts students looking for a strong sense of community, school spirit and a love of winning – in academics, in athletics and in life. We invite you to get more. We invite you to Clemson University.

Clemson University Recognizes the academic challenge inherent in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme and encourages you to apply for admission. In most cases, students presenting Higher Level examination scores of 4,5,6,7 will receive college credit. Please take a look at the links below to see their IB credit policies.

<http://www.clemson.edu/prospectivestudents/transfer/ibcredit.html>

<http://www.clemson.edu/prospectivestudents/documents/ibchart.pdf>

\* For more information on the university and their programs, please visit: [www.clemson.edu](http://www.clemson.edu)

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**IB recognition at universities and institutions:** To take a look at all the list of universities and colleges nation-wide as well as world-wide, please visit <http://www.ibo.org/country/US/index.cfm>.

As part of the college search process, IB students and their parents seek universities that recognize the rigor of the IB. As the number of colleges and universities actively recruiting IB Diploma students grows, it is important for universities to make their IB policies available for review. In the past, this information was in a bound book format. More recently, it has been available on line at

<http://www.ibo.org/country/US/> and <http://www.ibo.org/country/CA>

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**Scholarship Postings: Check the BTHS Guidance Weblog at:** [http://www.bths.mcvsd.org/Guidance\\_Summer\\_Opportunities.html](http://www.bths.mcvsd.org/Guidance_Summer_Opportunities.html)

Check out: <http://www.FastWeb.com>

**FastWeb** is....

- The largest and most complete source of scholarships available
- It has personalized matching of scholarships to your unique profile
- Millions of scholarships worth billions of dollars available!
- New scholarships added every day, all year long
- The best way to get free money for school

# Service, Selflessness, and Spirit: The BTHS Key Club

By Jason Rubinstein and Jennifer Nestor



As November comes to a close and the last few leaves fall off the Autumn trees, things begin to get colder and the holiday season commences. The Biotech Key Club is in a very similar state this time of year in a number of ways.

Like a rake collecting leaves, Key Club members have been collecting money for Unicef by going house to house on Halloween Night. Every Key Club member had been given a small box for donations in hopes of gathering money for this event, known as Trick-or-Treat for Unicef. As the boxes start to pour in, we seem to have a pretty lengthy job ahead of us counting the numerous donations collected.

With the coming of winter also comes the holiday season. In honor of this, we are in the process of initiating the Angel Tree Project. This project consists of small cards being attached to a tree near the entrance to the school. The gender and age of a child is inscribed on each. Key Clubbers and other students take a card and go out and buy an appropriate gift for the described child and place it under the tree. These gifts will in turn be brought to the Salvation Army and given to underprivileged families (with the help of some Key Club members) at a later date.

Last but not least, the Biotech Key Club's second annual Holiday Luncheon is almost upon us. Coming up on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10AM to 12:30PM, the event consists of food, entertaining games and activities for the young ones, live music from BTHS's own Music Club and a silent auction... Even Santa Clause himself may show up! All we ask of you is a \$5 for a ticket at the door (all money goes to the Children's Specialized Hospital). In addition, donations of baskets for the silent auction would be greatly appreciated. Please email Rajmeena Singh at [rajmeena\\_singh@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:rajmeena_singh@bths.mcvsd.org) if you would like to donate or for more information about basket donations. If you have any other questions or concerns about the Holiday Luncheon, feel free to email Jennifer Nestor at [jennifer\\_nestor@bths.mcvsd.org](mailto:jennifer_nestor@bths.mcvsd.org)

All in all, although Key Club seems to be entering hibernation during the month of November, we're actually hard at work, getting reading for our great upcoming events. Once again, thank you for your continued support for the Biotechnology High School Key Club, and we would love to see you at the Holiday Luncheon!

## **BTHS PSFA Board, Committee Members and Volunteers Contact Information**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Phone</u></b>	<b><u>Email</u></b>
Co-President	Ann Daniels	732-222-8054	<a href="mailto:annhughes13@hotmail.com">annhughes13@hotmail.com</a>
Co-President	Kathy Hackler	732-918-0344	<a href="mailto:hackler@optonline.net">hackler@optonline.net</a>
Vice President	Susan Nestor	732-888-9020	<a href="mailto:MTNSAN6467@aol.com">MTNSAN6467@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Sandy Staba	732-571-1990	<a href="mailto:ssaba@comcast.net">sstaba@comcast.net</a>
Recording Secretary	Phyllis Salvatore		<a href="mailto:salvam99@optonline.net">salvam99@optonline.net</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Colleen Janiw	732-866-9560	<a href="mailto:JANIWFAM@optonline.net">JANIWFAM@optonline.net</a>
Fundraising	<b>Help Needed</b>		
Target, IGive, Boxtops	Ann Daniels	732-222-8054	<a href="mailto:annhughes13@hotmail.com">annhughes13@hotmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Denise Bogusz	732-280-0412	<a href="mailto:ZBSMOM@att.net">ZBSMOM@att.net</a>
Hospitality	Marianne Kenny	732-431-0974	<a href="mailto:MKECK1007@MSN.com">MKECK1007@MSN.com</a>
Hospitality	Shamoli Patel	908-670-1080	<a href="mailto:shamoli@optonline.net">shamoli@optonline.net</a>
Clothing Sales	Cheryl Shade	732-740-7364	<a href="mailto:shadec@icsolutionsnow.com">shadec@icsolutionsnow.com</a>
Communications	Candice Banks	732-380-7524	<a href="mailto:ms_bbb@hotmail.com">ms_bbb@hotmail.com</a>
Drivers Ed	Ali Sollazzo	732-972-5705	<a href="mailto:alleycat@aol.com">alleycat@aol.com</a>
Scholarships	Paul Yaron	732-741-8201	<a href="mailto:pyaron@mac.com">pyaron@mac.com</a>
SGA PSFA Rep	Melissa Daniels	908-489-5296	<a href="mailto:melissa_daniels@bths.mcvsd.org">melissa_daniels@bths.mcvsd.org</a>
PSAT/SAT Chaperones	<b>Help Needed</b>		
IB Boosters	Denise Bogusz	732-280-0412	<a href="mailto:ZBSMOM@att.net">ZBSMOM@att.net</a>
IB Boosters	Cheryl Shade	732-740-7364	<a href="mailto:shadec@icsolutionsnow.com">shadec@icsolutionsnow.com</a>
Art Auction	Ellie Krall	732-786-8374	<a href="mailto:JEKrall@optonline.net">JEKrall@optonline.net</a>
Art Auction	Karis Cornell	732-577-8112	<a href="mailto:karisc@verizon.net">karisc@verizon.net</a>
Membership	Susan Nestor	732-888-9020	<a href="mailto:MTNSAN6467@aol.com">MTNSAN6467@aol.com</a>
Grants	Executive Board		
BTHS PSFA Website			<a href="http://www.mcvsd.org/weblog/bthspfsa/">http://www.mcvsd.org/weblog/bthspfsa/</a>



**Have you changed your contact information?**

**New email address?? New phone number?? Recently moved??**

**Please email Susan Nestor at [MTNSAN6467@aol.com](mailto:MTNSAN6467@aol.com) with your changes**