

SFBRHS NEWSLETTER

TIS THE SEASON

DECEMBER PERFORMANCES:

The concert band, jazz band, chamber choir, and mixed chorus will perform on Sunday, December 14 at 2 PM. The elementary bands will perform at 1 PM. All of the concerts are in the gymnasium. Punch and cookies will follow the concerts. All are invited.



GIVING TREE: From December 1 to December 12, there will be a Giving Tree in the lobby. Families are encouraged to pick up an ornament from the tree and to return the specified gift, preferably unwrapped, with the ornament attached. These gifts will be given to the Pregnancy Assistance Center for distribution prior to Christmas Eve.

CAROLING: On Wednesday, December 3, the chamber choir will be singing at the courthouse in Union from 1:20 to 1:50 PM. Later that same day, they will travel to the Way of the Lights in Belleville, IL. They will sing there at 6 PM.

EXAM SCHEDULE

December 17:
Blue Day Per 1
Blue Day Per 2
Blue Day Per 3

December 18:
Blue Day Per 4
Gold Day Per 1
Gold Day Per 2

December 19:
Mass
Gold Day Per 3
Gold Day Per 4

Exam Days: 8 AM until 12:05 PM

There will be an all school Mass at 8:25 AM on Friday, December 19. Students will be dismissed at 12:05 PM on exam days.

School will resume with second semester beginning on Monday, January 5 unless the calendar raffle quota is met. If so, there will be a free day on Monday, January 5 and school will resume on Tuesday, January 6.



Mark Your Calendars Now

Music Assn. Meeting	12/01 7 PM
Athletic Assn. Meeting	12/03 7:30 PM
No School—Immaculate Conception	12/08
Dr. Bergamini Presentation	12/09 7 PM
Faculty Mtg. 12:30 PM Dismissal	12/10
Financial Aid Night	12/10 7 PM
Band & Choir Christmas Concert	12/14 2 PM
Advisory Board Meeting	12/17 7 PM
Exams	12/17- 12/19
Christmas Vacation Begins	12/19 12:05 PM

Special points of interest:

- ⇒ No School on Monday, January 5 if the Calendar Raffle Quota is met.
- ⇒ Dr. Bergamini's presentation has been rescheduled. It will be held on Tuesday, December 9 at 7 PM in the theatre.
- ⇒ Deposits for ski trip are due no later than Friday, December 19.

SNOW DAYS



Any school closings or snow schedule information will be posted on our home page and broadcast on the following television and radio stations.

TV: KMOV (Channel 4), KSDK (Channel 5) & ABC (Channel 30)

Radio: KLPW, KSLQ, KWMO, KTUI and KWRE

Snow schedule means that we start at 9:15 AM with a 3 PM dismissal. The late start is to enable the students to avoid traffic and to give the snow removal crews time to clear the roads. The school is open by 6 AM and any students dropped off after this time can wait in the cafeteria.



ADVANCEMENT ACTION


Borgia Raffle Calendars—Great Christmas Gifts: Please remind your students to turn in calendar sales promptly. Again this year, we are offering a prize package of over \$20,000.



- Turn in days: Tuesday and Thursday mornings during homeroom
- Student quotas: 10 per student (7 per student if 2 or more students in school)
- Extra calendars: available in the Advancement Office
- School goal for extra day off (January 5): Goal of 3766 calendars need to be sold by December 16, 2008
- Last day of sale: January 9, 2009
- Student prizes: Cash, casual day passes, lunch passes, bowling & skating passes, soda and gas cards

Students are responsible for each calendar they receive. All unsold calendars have to be returned to school after the drive.

If calendars are not returned, \$25 will be charged to the student's account for EACH unreturned calendar.

Schnucks Cards: With the holidays fast approaching, please remember to use your  Schnucks cards when shopping at any area Schnucks store. There is no additional cost to you when using your cards but a percentage of each sale will be electronically deposited into Borgia's account. Just have your Schnucks cards scanned by the checker PRIOR to the totaling. If you don't have a Schnucks card and would like one, please stop by the Advancement office. All you need to do is call in (toll free) and select SFBRHS as the recipient institution. Once the card is activated it is happy shopping at Schnucks! Thank you in advance for all of your help. Every little bit helps!

TIDBITS, TIDBITS, TIDBITS...

Schedule Changes for Second Semester: Any student who requires a schedule change for the second semester should see his/her counselor during the week of December 1. Changes should be kept to a minimum. All changes have to be approved by the teacher, parent, and principal. The fee for a schedule change is \$10.

Blue Ribbon Parent Campaign: October and November "Town Hall" meetings were held for parents wishing to take the "Blue Ribbon Pledge." Anyone wishing to join the Blue Ribbon Parents Campaign but who was unable to attend the pledge meetings may contact Dr. Heger for an opportunity to take "The Blue Ribbon Pledge." Names and contact information of those parents who have taken the pledge will appear on Moodle for easy reference.

Christmas Dance: The Student Council is sponsoring a Christmas Dance on Saturday, December 19 after the basketball game against CBC. Eighth graders are welcome at this dance. It will be held in the cafeteria after the game until 10:30 PM. Admission is free.

Names in Sweatshirts: In order to reunite students and lost sweatshirts, please use some method of identification for the sweatshirts. We will allow a small name embroidered on the sleeve of the sweatshirt. A less expensive method would be to use a textile marker to mark the sweatshirt on the inside of the neckband. We simply need a way to identify the owners.

Winterization Project: The Pro-Life Club is in the process of weatherizing homes for low-income or needy families. If you know of someone who needs help in keeping their heating bills to a minimum, please call Bill Gegg at 636-239-5883. Materials and labor are free.

"Keeping Christ in Christmas"

Guardian Angel Christmas Wreath Raffle: Be on the look out for the Christmas wreaths that are adorning the SFBRHS hallway!!! These wreaths were hand made by members of the Guardian Angels and each, in some way, celebrates the birth of our Lord. The wreaths will be on display in the corridor over the next two weeks, and chances may be purchased in the morning before school, during school lunches, and at the Turkey Tournament. Tickets are fifty cents to two dollars depending on the wreath size. The winner will be announced on the feast of the Our Lady of Guadalupe. All proceeds will go to the Guardian Angel Association. The Guardian Angels are a group of students, parents, and grandparents dedicated to supporting the students' Catholic identity and related activities at SFBRHS. Past fundraisers have provided money for the chapel's "Protector of the Children" statue and Stations of the Cross, class catechisms, prolife trips, rosaries, and chastity speakers for the student body. Don't miss this chance to support Catholic education, and win a beautiful wreath that promotes keeping Christ in Christmas!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT THE SPIRIT SHOP



It's not too late to do some Christmas shopping at Borgia's Spirit Shop! Potential gift items include clothing items such as Borgia sweatshirts, tee shirts, light weight jackets, and

hats. There are also Borgia coffee cups, pens, blankets, and many other items.

The Spirit Shop is open on school days. We are having a special sale on Friday, December 5. 10% off all items.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

DATES TO REMEMBER:

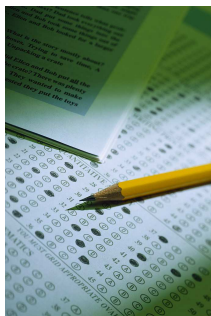
- Wed., Dec. 10 Financial Aid Night (junior & senior parents)
7 PM in the cafeteria
- Sat., Dec. 13 ACT Test Day
- Tues., Jan. 6 Regular Registration Deadline for Feb. 7 ACT

SENIOR NEWS:

- ◆ The FAFSA financial aid form cannot be submitted online until after January 1, 2009. Parents and students must have a PIN number (www.pin.ed.gov) in order to complete the FAFSA.
- ◆ If a student has a college/scholarship application deadline date due before January 6, the student needs to get the information to his/her counselor by December 12 for processing.
- ◆ During the holiday break, take the time to discuss the positive and negative aspects of each of the schools to which a student has applied. Try to begin narrowing his/her choices.

JUNIOR/SENIOR NEWS:

- ◆ If a student is taking the ACT for the first time on February 7, he/she may want to complete the registration form before the Christmas holidays. If needed, counselors can answer any questions about the form if a student completes it before the Christmas break. The regular registration deadline is Tuesday, January 6. Most of our juniors will take the April test. If in doubt, the student should ask his/her counselor which test date would be most appropriate for him/her.
- ◆ Some tips from the ACT Midwest representative were given at an ACT workshop.
 - If a student registers online, make sure he/she uses Borgia's School Code: 263 535. If it is not typed in, Borgia will not get a copy of the score for the transcript.
 - There are only two colleges in Missouri who presently require the writing section on the ACT: Washington University and Evangel. If a student is considering an out-of-state school, he/she should check on the ACT website to see if the writing section is required.
 - ACT recommends the following ACT Prep Materials
 - * ACTive Prep—a CD-ROM. Two retired tests with explanation for each item response. \$19.95. ACTive Prep is the only test preparation software developed by ACT. It can be ordered online at www.act.student.org.



- * The Real ACT Prep Guide—Three actual ACT tests, information on the writing test, and test taking strategies. \$25. It can be ordered online at www.act.student.org. The Guidance Office also has three copies that can be checked out for a limited time.
- * Preparing for the ACT Assessment—A retired ACT test. Free to students in Guidance Office.

JUNIORS NEWS:

- ◆ The holidays are a good time to talk about possible career choices and college/career school choices. Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. McGowan have finished speaking with all junior students about their strengths and interests, their career choices, their college/career school choices, and the courses they may choose to take during their senior year. It's not too soon to begin discussing when they will be visiting schools.
- ◆ The PSAT results will be returned to students in December.
- ◆ Remind students that post-secondary schools will be looking at semester grades from freshman, sophomore, and junior years. Second semester is the last semester for them to really "shine".

SOPHOMORE NEWS:

- ◆ PLAN test results will be returned to students in January. The scores will give an estimated ACT score. Students can review strengths and weaknesses to determine what areas need to be improved. Career options are also available on the test.
- ◆ Continue to encourage your student to do his/her best in school. Begin to discuss what courses he/she might want to take next year. This could include some college courses (SLU 1-8-1-8 or ECC classes) or Four Rivers Career Center classes.
- ◆ Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. McGowan will begin meeting with sophomores in January to discuss career plans and courses for their junior year.
- ◆ It's never too soon to begin a discussion about career/college choices.

FRESHMAN NEWS:

- ◆ EXPLORE test results will be returned to students in January.
- ◆ Continue to monitor your child's progress. Begin to discuss possible courses for next year with the student.
- ◆ The holidays are a good time to talk about their plans for after high school.

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A college preparatory
high school



WE'RE ON THE WEB!
www.borgia.com

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

The cafeteria has been using the Food Service System (FSS) since 2007. With this system, each student has an account which can be accessed via his/her fingerprint to pay for lunch each day. These are to be prepaid accounts. Students are also able to continue to pay by cash.

The balances in these lunch accounts can be checked at www.myschoolaccount.com.



If you haven't already done so, please go to this website and set up an account there as soon as possible. When asked for your student's user id, use his/her Borgia user name (usually last name and first initial). In addition to checking balances for one or more students, you can set up to receive notification when the available funds drop below a certain amount, such as \$5.

Money can be placed into your student's account online by an ACH transaction (transfer from a checking account). If preferred, cash or a check can be brought into the main office to fund your student's lunch account. (There is a charge for the online ACH transaction.)

Currently we are having problems with students carrying negative balances on these accounts. We inform the students when their balances fall below \$5 but the message doesn't always make it home. Some of the negative balances are quite high. PLEASE check the balances for your students today and insure that the balance does not go below zero.

If a student's balance ever goes below -\$5, he/she will need to pay cash for lunch until the outstanding balance is paid. Once the outstanding balance has been paid in full and additional funds have been placed in the account, he/she will again be able to use the fingerprint system. We will begin strictly enforcing this after the Christmas break. If you have any questions please contact Gloria at 636-239-7871, ext. 121.

VISION STATEMENT

Our new Vision Statement has been developed by the faculty and was recently approved by the Advisory Board. We wanted to share it with our entire Borgia Community.

"We envision a community of inquisitive learners, grounded in Catholic heritage, sustained by faith in Christ, committed to one another's personal growth and dignity, and guided by a consistent Christian life ethic. Our graduates are sent prepared into an ever-changing world with a commitment to serve the needs of others responsibly and generously. We strive to be a safe haven of grace and compassion."

"TUSCANY KNIGHTS"

Annual Dinner Auction - February 14, 2009

Chairpersons: Lisa & Andy Beckermann (Rachel, Class of 2009)

Co-Chairs: Angie & Dale Siebert (Jeremy, Class of 2010)

The annual SFBRHS Dinner Auction benefits all SFBRHS students.

How can parents, alumni and friends help?

1. Attend the auction. Tickets are available by reservation.
2. Purchase a \$10,000 Raffle Ticket.
3. Donate goods, services, vacation homes or cash. Your donations are what make the Borgia auction unique.
4. Purchase a Tuition Raffle Ticket.
5. Volunteer to help make this auction successful.

Contact the Advancement Office via email at advancement@borgia.com or via phone at 636-239-7871, ext. 122 to make a reservation, purchase raffle tickets, volunteer or make a donation.

TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY

Today in the town of David,
a Savior has been born to you:

He is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

May the Christmas Season
be filled with love and joy for you and
your family.

