

February 2012

St. Croix
Lutheran High School
of West St. Paul



ST. CROIX

Informing Parents. Reaching Out to Friends.

Tri Metro Fine Arts Day Monday, January 30

SCL's Music Department will take several students to the Tri Metro Conference Fine Arts Day at St. Anthony Village High School for a day of clinics and rehearsals, and a public evening concert (7 pm) on Monday, January 30, 2012. The students will be accompanied by instructor Mr. Casey Pufahl.

SCL Art students will also display their work at St. Anthony Village HS for this event.

Crusader Band Concert Sunday, February 5, 2:30 pm

Spring Break 2012 March 17-24

St. Croix will close for spring break March 17-24. Classes resume on Monday, March 26, at 8:05 am.

Families who make vacation plans which require a student to miss school days must notify the school BEFORE the absence by phone, note, or email to both Mr. Weiing and Mrs. Harley at:

pweiing@StCroixSchools.org

dharley@StCroixSchools.org

Thank you!

THE POWER OF PRAYER BY PRINCIPAL GIBSON

Each Monday morning the St. Croix faculty and staff gather before the school day starts for a briefing on the week, to hear from God's Word, and for prayer. It seems that every week the list of prayer requests gets longer. Family members, friends, or students may be suffering from illness or injury, some of them life-threatening. Friends of St. Croix may be having serious issues in their personal lives. Not only do the lists get longer, it seems that the issues are more serious.

Every day the students in our Bible classes present prayer requests and concerns for their teachers and students to pray about. Many of those students also have serious requests for their teachers and classmates to bring to the Lord. Among these requests, there may be some that don't seem so serious to adults. "I have a test today, and I want to do well." "The team is playing a game today, and we want to win." While some requests may seem small, we are thankful that our students are confident enough to take anything and everything to the Lord.

The January 24, 2012, issue of the Daily Devotion from www.WhatAboutJesus.com, has the theme, "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff." The devotion is based on the 2 Kings 6:1-7 portion of the Bible where Elisha performs a miracle in order to recover an ax head which had fallen into the Jordan River. The Lord made the ax head float so a prophet could recover it. Really??! A lost ax head is worth a miracle? Apparently so!

The same Lord who worked out our salvation because of His love and concern for each of us also has concern for the "small stuff." We can trust that our heavenly Father will take care of us and our problems. So don't sweat the small stuff, or the big stuff.

Our Lord's power and love can take care of it all.

2012-13 REGISTRATION STARTS FEBRUARY 6

Registration for 2012-13 freshmen begins on Monday, February 6, 6-8 pm. If you know of any 8th grader that has not yet received information about enrolling at St. Croix, please contact Principal Gibson at 651-455-1521. Additional opportunities for freshman registration are during the Open House on Saturday, February 11, 10 am to 3 pm, and Monday, February 13, 6-7:30 pm.

Principal Gibson is also available for individual tours and registration appointments.

Registration for students currently in grades 9-11 begins in March, when students receive course selection materials from their advisors.

Chaperones Needed

The Student Council is looking for parent and faculty chaperones for the **SnowFest Dance on Saturday, February 18.**

Either of two shifts is available, 7:30-9:30 and 9:30-11:30.

Please contact Pastor Leach if you can chaperone. Thank you!

TUITION REMINDER

According to school policy established by the Board of Regents, if tuition is past due or any fees or fines (such as library books or sports uniforms) are outstanding, a student's online grades will not be available, and report cards/transcripts will not be mailed.

Parents can contact Sharee Horzewski (651-455-1521, ext. 103 or shorzewski@stcroixschools.org) to make tuition payment arrangements.

DRIVER TRAINING OFFERED

A+ Driving School classes begin Monday, February 27, and will continue daily (M-F) until Friday, March 9.

Classes will be held 3-6pm each day in Room 113, except Tuesday, March 5, when class will meet 2:40-5:40pm due to early dismissal.

If you have questions, please contact the driving school directly at 952-469-4656 or gustaflood@msn.com.

STARLIGHT EVENT & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 13th Annual Starlight Variety Show will be held on Sunday, February 26, beginning at **6pm** (*please note the new time*). Starlight is a fundraiser for the Music Department. This year, the format of the event is changing away from a full dinner to an offering of hors d'oeuvres before the performances begin and dessert served at intermission.

Advance tickets are available online at www.StCroixLutheran.org/StarlightEvent or by calling the school office (651-455-1521) for \$15/adult or \$8/students grades 5-12. Prices at the door are \$20/adult and \$15/student. Children ages 10 and under are free, but please include the number of children in your party when you order.

If your student is not performing in the show, there are still ways to participate in the event. **Student volunteers** are needed for stage crew, sound/lights crew, and wait staff. Service credit hours are available to those who work this event. Speak to Mr. Pufahl or Mr. Weihing about helping.

Parent volunteers are also needed for several committees - refreshment, decorations, publicity, reservations, setup and cleanup. Help is needed especially on Saturday morning (Feb. 25) for setting up the stages and decorating the gym, and on Sunday, Feb. 26, for supervising students, serving, and cleanup.

Contact Mr. Casey Pufahl (cpufahl@stcroixschools.org), Mr. Jim Pasbrig (jpasbrig@stcroixschools.org) or Mr. Tom Joyal (Tom.Joyal@comcast.net) if you have questions or wish to volunteer.

VACATION HOME-STAY HOSTS NEEDED

During our Spring break the St. Croix Lutheran High School dorms are closed. This gives our dorm staff some well-deserved time off and our maintenance staff a chance to catch up on some cleaning and repairs in the dorms. This means that a number of the international students will need host families during this time.

If you are interested in opening your hearts and homes to one or more international students during our Spring break (dorms are closed March 17-24), please contact International Advisor Sue Galler at sgaller@StCroixSchools.org or 651-455-1521 x 118. A stipend is awarded for hosting students. For more on what it means to host an international student, go to www.StCroixLutheran.org/student_hosting.

FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL CAMP

SCLHS will host two Sunday evenings of fast-pitch softball instruction for girls in grades 4-9 on March 4 and March 11, 6-8 pm. The softball clinic will introduce athletes to the sport of fast-pitch softball. Campers will work on hitting, fielding, and pitching. The camp is conducted by the Crusader coaching staff with help from the Crusader softball team. Each camper will receive a tee-shirt. Cost is \$25.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Erin Hulse at 651-587-3557 or hulses711@yahoo.com or call the school office at 651-455-1521. Information and registration forms are also available at www.StCroixLutheran.org/sports.

SPRING SPORTS START DATES

Softball and track seasons start Monday, March 12. Baseball and golf begin Monday, March 19, with boys tennis starting on March 26.

Athletes, make sure your physical exam record is current and you have a valid MSHSL eligibility form for 2011-12 on file in the office before the first day of practice. If you have completed these forms for Fall or Winter 2011-12 sports, they are still valid.

STARLIGHT

VARIETY SHOW

Sunday, February 26, 6pm

Starlight: An evening of outstanding entertainment by students and friends of St. Croix. Reserve a table and bring a group from your church or neighborhood!

Tickets for adults/students cost \$15/8 each in advance, or \$20/\$15 at the door. Performers must also purchase tickets in order to be seated and served the refreshments.

The proceeds of the 2012 Starlight Variety Show will be used to purchase non-budgeted items for the Music Department.

Visit www.StCroixLutheran.org/starlightevent for reservation information and to order online, or call 652-455-1521 (main office).

TRI METRO ALL-CONFERENCE FINE ARTS PARTICIPANTS

Twenty-one music students were selected by the 2012 Tri-Metro All-Conference Planning Committee to represent St. Croix Lutheran at the 2012 All-Conference Fine Arts Festival. The students were selected to perform in one of the following groups: Honors Orchestra, Honors Band, and Honors Choir.

The festival will be held on Monday, January 30, 2012, at St. Anthony Village High School. The students will rehearse all day with well-respected clinicians and then perform a public concert at 7pm. Four St. Croix art students are also participating in the Festival and exhibiting their work.

We congratulate these fine students!

AUCTION: "A WALK IN THE PARK"

Come with us for "A Walk in the Park" on Saturday, March 31, for the 20th annual St. Croix Lutheran High School auction at Southview Country Club in West St. Paul. Auction chairs Jeremy and Kelly Wood invite everyone to enjoy fantastic fellowship, a wonderful meal and the excitement of supporting St. Croix through bidding in the silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$60 and can be ordered from the St. Croix web site—each ticket includes a tax-deductible donation that will help further St. Croix's mission to educate the total student.

Here's how you can make a difference:

Attend!

Tickets are available for purchase from the St. Croix web site (www.StCroixLutheran.org/Auction) or by phone at 651-455-1521, x105. Doors open at 5pm. Seating is limited, so buy your tickets today!

Donate!

St. Croix accepts donations for the auction throughout the year. Not sure if your item is right for the auction? Here are some simple donation guidelines:

- Services -- "Stop where you shop" -- Gift certificates or gift cards from places you frequent (salons, massage therapy, mechanics, florists, restaurants, etc.)
- Experiences -- Tickets to an event (sporting, theater, dinner cruise, etc); lessons (musical, gym, or something rare like sommelier class at a winery); full-catering service package for graduation or confirmation, Spa-day; behind-the-scenes tours, Zero G experience, Space Camp, or even "Hero for a Day" (police officer, firefighter, mayor, astronaut, etc.)
- One-of-a-Kind -- Dinner with a local celebrity, astronaut signed gear, front row tickets to a high-demand event (i.e., U2 at TCF Stadium); ride-along with a news crew (news van or chopper!), private tours of museums, zoos, etc; autographed sporting memorabilia; hosted dinner at local restaurant by award-winning chef, behind the scenes experience, etc.
- Staycations -- In the land of 10,000 lakes there are beautiful cabins, resorts and staycation opportunities. A time-share on Gull Lake or a cabin on the North Shore, everyone loves a Minnesota region get-away!
- Gourmet! -- Baskets for the foodies and wine connoisseurs!

College Recruiters on Campus in February

Feb. 2 - 9 am

Inver Hills Community College

Feb. 9 and 10 - all day

Martin Luther College

See Pastor Huebner or Mrs. Gatzke for passes to visit with these school representatives.

FLU SEASON REMINDER

St. Croix continues to encourage proactive health and cleanliness procedures among our staff and students at school.

Please check with your health care provider and determine if the seasonal flu vaccination is appropriate for your child.

If your child displays symptoms of flu, please keep him/her home from school until all symptoms clear up.

Volunteer!

Please contact Robyn in the Mission Advancement Office at 651-455-1521, ext. 106, if you would like to volunteer your time and talents for this event. We have several volunteer areas available!

For more information about the 2012 auction, please visit www.StCroixLutheran.org/Auction.

STUDENTS SHOW MATH SKILLS

After three contests in the Martin Luther College Meet Math, St. Croix's Grade 11-12 team is placed second, with high scorers Lila C., Matt H. and Rebecca H. in the top 10 scorers overall. SCL's Grade 9-10 team is currently in first place; Roger Z., Riley H. and Isaac K. are in the top 10 scorers.

In the Minnesota Math League, SCL's top scorer is Rebecca H., who placed in the top 15 scorers in the league. St. Croix's team is ranked 7th out of 30 teams.

February 7 is the American Mathematics Competition, which will take place at SCL. About 60 students will participate in this national competition. There are 2 levels for the exam, grades 9-10 and grades 11-12. Qualifiers from this competition advance to the American Invitational Exam in March.

CRUSADER GALA

Current members of both the Crusader Corps and the Wildung Society will meet at St. Croix Lutheran High School on February 2 to celebrate St. Croix's blessings and to be recognized for their financial support of the school. An invitation is also being extended to everyone to join the Crusader Corps and Wildung Society. A dinner will be served.

After dinner, President Dr. Gene Pfeifer will share a presentation entitled, "St. Croix in the Faces of Students," which gives insight on how current students view the school and their appreciation of those who give their time, talent, and financial support to St. Croix. Brent Schacht, physical science instructor, will give a presentation on the Annual Fund project which supports the renovation of the Physical Science classroom.

If you are interested in learning more about either the Crusader Corps or the Wildung Society, contact Greg Schuyler, Director of Mission Advancement, at gschuyler@stcroixschools.org, or by calling 651-455-1521 x 113.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE TEST PREPARATION CLASSES

St. Croix Lutheran offers test preparation classes for students taking the SAT, ACT, and TOEFL. The TOEFL is a test for English proficiency and is required for all international students wishing to matriculate to post-secondary education in the United States. International students generally begin taking the TOEFL for college admissions during their junior year.

The SAT and ACT are college entrance exams. Typically students begin taking these exams during the 2nd semester of their junior year. The ACT is generally the test of choice for students wishing to matriculate to schools in the Midwest, while the SAT is for students wishing to matriculate to schools on the East or West Coast. However, either the SAT or the ACT are accepted at most universities and colleges. The structure of the ACT is different from the SAT. Since the SAT is the test most often taken by our international students, the structure of the SAT preparatory class is with a focus on the English skills needed for succeeding on the test.

Registration forms for the preparatory classes are available in the school office and on the SCLHS website under Academics > Learning Resource Center. The dates for the upcoming classes at St. Croix are:

SAT: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 3-5pm, February 7 to March 6 (Registration closes January 27; contact Dr. C. Pfeifer)

TOEFL: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 3-5pm, March 27 to April 12 (Registration deadline March 9)

ACT: Saturdays - 8am-12pm, April 14, 21, and 28 (Registration deadline April 5)

If you have further questions about the tests or the test preparation classes, contact Dr. Carrie Pfeifer via email at cpfeifer@stcroixschools.org.

REVIEW OF DRESS CODE FROM DEAN OF STUDENTS

Recently, all the SCLHS girls were asked to stay after in the Chapel when the devotion was finished. Once the boys had been dismissed, Mrs. Hillstrom reviewed St. Croix's dress code, particularly as it pertains to short skirts, leggings/jeggings, low-cut shirts or tops, and other tight clothing. Many girls are coming to school dressed in items that do not conform to the published dress code, and have "pushed the envelope" of decency and appropriateness.

The school's policy states:

Girls may wear dresses and must follow the guidelines for style and modesty outlined in the shirts/sweaters and the skirts/shorts sections below. Jean skirts may not be frayed at the hem.

Shirts/Sweaters: Shirts must have sleeves and a modest neckline. No cleavage should be visible. Shirts need to be long enough to be tucked in. If skin shows when hands are raised above the head, the shirt/sweater is too short. Buttoned or zippered shirts are to be buttoned or zipped unless there is a crew neck type shirt underneath.

What is an appropriate length for skirts and shorts? The bottom hem of the item should meet or exceed the reach of the fingertips when your arms are placed at your side, even when wearing leggings. If bare skin is touched by the extended fingertips, the shorts, skirt or dress is too short.

All clothing should follow the guidelines Christian students realize that their bodies are the temples of God's Holy Spirit and as such strive to keep themselves neat, clean, well groomed and modestly dressed. This is yet another way for students to be salt and light in the world.

While current fashion trends include the low-cut necklines, figure-hugging knit mini-skirts and short sweater dresses, and you may personally approve of them being worn by your daughter, they violate the intent of the published dress code. Even though some of the knit skirts are long enough according to the "fingertip" rule when the student is standing still in front of a mirror, as the girl walks or when she sits in a desk, the skirt rides up on the girl's hips and legs, causing the skirt to be too short and thus immodest.

I am asking all students and parents to abide by the dress code policy and the intent of the policy, and dress appropriately for classes and school events. Parents can help their students by checking what they are wearing to school and providing only those types of clothes that are acceptable attire for school.

The faculty and staff will be strictly enforcing these rules effective immediately. The consequences for violating the dress code are also published in the Student/Parent Handbook (included in your student's SCL planner):

NOTE: An immediate detention can be issued for violation of the above. In addition to detention periods, the following discipline will apply:

1. The student will serve an in-school suspension until his/her clothing is in line with the policy above. An in-school suspension results in zero credit for any class time missed.
2. The parents will be notified and expected to bring clothes or grant permission for their child to go home to change clothes and return to school as soon as possible.

NOTE: It is not practical for St. Croix to establish written rules for every single issue of dress that may arise. At those times when personal judgments are made, Christian young people will honor the decisions of those whom the Lord has placed into positions of authority.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at pweihing@stcroixschools.org.

In service to our Lord and to you, *Paul R. Weihing, Dean of Students*

St. Croix HS and MS Parents, Association Members, SCLHS Association Grade School and SCLMS Students
....You are invited with **FREE ADMISSION** to:

Basketball Night at St. Croix Lutheran High School

When: Monday, February 6, beginning at 5:30 pm

What: St. Croix Crusaders vs. New Life Academy

4:45 - Pep Band plays

5:30 - Girls Varsity game 7:30 - Boys Varsity game

Dance Team performs at halftime for both games

6-8 pm Freshman Registration (in Library)

Where: St. Croix Lutheran High School Gymnasium

1200 Oakdale Avenue, West St. Paul

Plus: Students in grades 5-8 may choose to participate in halftime competitions during both varsity games.

Cheer the Crusaders to Victory!

SnowFest Activities February 13-18

The St. Croix traditional cure for the winter blahs and blues – SnowFest – is coming in February with spirit activities and winter fun during the week of February 13-18. The tentative schedule is below. Watch daily announcements for any changes.

Spirit Days -- Dress & Activity

Monday, Feb. 13 -- **Character Day** (Dress Day only – no activity)

Tuesday, Feb. 14 -- **Stoplight Day** **Floor Hockey**
If single, wear **green** **& Dance Team Performance**

"It's complicated," wear **yellow**

If taken, wear **red**

Weds., Feb. 15 -- **Crazy Day** (Wackiest outfit) **Homeroom Tug-of-War Tournament**

Thursday, Feb. 16 -- **Twin Day** (dress like twins/triplets) **Talent show**

Friday, Feb. 17 -- **Decades or Heritage Day** **Lightning Basketball**

(Freshmen – 50s; Sophomores – 60s; Juniors – 70s; Seniors – 80s)

Saturday, Feb. 18 -- **Dance, 7:30-11:30 pm.** Semi-formal attire, \$5 admission.

- No admittance after 9:00 pm
- No one is allowed to leave before 10:30 pm

School Dress Code restrictions for modesty and appropriateness still apply during the dress-up days.

Student Council Mission Project

The Student Council selected the Central Africa Medical Mission ("CAMM") as its mission project for 2011-12. CAMM does not receive any WELS Synod funding, but operates completely on donations.

Linda Liesener, chairman for the Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM), made a presentation in December to the St. Croix student body about the humanitarian aid that the CAMM shares with children and families in need in Malawi and Zambia. They share food with malnourished and impoverished children (and their families), along with many lifesaving medicines and preventative vaccines. The pictures she shared were a beautiful expression of love in action, but they were also a call to action in view of such great need.

The Student Council has planned a number of events since then to raise funds for this mission. There have been two 'Student Council Cafes', selling coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts to students and staff, with all funds going toward this mission project. A "Gopher" day has been scheduled for Thursday, February 2, when students will voluntarily auction themselves off for service to another (carrying books, cleaning lockers, etc.).

Students are also collecting funds by class (donation box is in the main office), and the winning class will receive a prize. Additional events will continue throughout the year. The goal is to raise \$4,000.

You can donate toward this important work by sending a check payable to St. Croix with CAMM mission in the memo. If you'd like to learn more about the Central Africa Medical Mission, visit www.camm.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January

- 28 Varsity One Act Subsection - all day, St. Paul Harding HS
- 30 Tri Metro Fine Arts Festival Concert - 7pm, St. Anthony Village HS

February

- 5 Mid-Winter Band Concert - 2:30pm, Gym
- 6 Freshman Registration - 6-8pm, Library
- Grade School Basketball Night - 5:30 & 7:30 games, Gym
- 7 American HS Math Exam at SCLHS
- 11 Grade School Basketball tournament, Gym
- HS and MS Open House - 10am-4pm
- Freshman Registration - 10am-3pm
- 12 Grade School Basketball tournament, Gym
- 13 Freshman Registration - 6-7:30pm
- 13-17 Snow Fest Week activities
- 16 Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 18 Snow Fest Dance (semi-formal) - 7:30-11:30pm
- 20 **NO SCHOOL** - Presidents' Day
- 22 Ash Wednesday
- 24 End of 24 weeks
- Early dismissal - 2:37pm
- 25 Starlight Rehearsal
- 26 Starlight Variety Show
- Feb 27 - March 9, M-F A+ Driving Classes - 3-6pm

March

- 5 Early Dismissal - 2:37 pm
- Parent/Teacher Conferences - 5-6:45 pm, Commons
- 9-11 Band Fest at Northland LH (select students)
- 10 Grade School Spelling Bee/Math Quiz Bowl
- 12 Softball and Track begin
- Early dismissal - 2:37 pm
- Parent/Teacher Conferences - 5-6:45pm, Commons
- 15 Board of Regents Meeting - 7pm
- 17 Dorms Close at 12 Noon
- 19 Baseball and Golf begin
- 19-23 SPRING BREAK - No School
- 24 Dorms Open at 12 Noon
- 26 Classes Resume - 8:05am
- Boys Tennis begins
- 29 Red Cross Blood Drive
- 31 SCL Auction - 5pm, Southview Country Club



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