

Seton Catholic Central October 2013 / Newsletter

From the Principal's Desk

Richard A. Bucci

Dress Code – New Dress Code guidelines begin on October 1. Boys in grades 9-12 are wearing a white shirt and tie with black or khaki pants. Girls in grades 9-12 are wearing the Seton logoed blouse with black or khaki pants or uniform skirt. Students in grades 7 & 8 are wearing a Seton polo shirt and black or khaki pants. Grade 7 & 8 students may also wear the senior high uniform.

New Diocesan Superintendent – William Crist has been named the new Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Syracuse. He has a 31 year career in education. Most recently he has held administrative positions with Massena Central School District and the Oswego City School District. Mr. Crist is a graduate of Ithaca College with a master of Music Education degree, The State University of New York with a Certificate of Advance Study / Education Administration, Cornell University with a Certificate in Labor Relations. Mr. Crist will assume the responsibilities of the diocesan leadership position in March.

Blessing of the Animals / October 6 - In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi Seton Catholic Central will be hosting a Blessing of the Animals on **Sunday, October 6 at 1:00 p.m.** in the school's parking lot. If rain, the ceremony will take place in the gymnasium. The blessing will be performed by the Franciscan Friars of St. Cyril & Methodius Church. Creatures large and small are welcome. Information: contact Rich Bucci @ 723-5307.

Free College Planning Presentation - SUNY Broome Community College's Continuing Education Department is hosting a college planning event, presented by the Southern Tier Chapter of the Financial Planning Association. "Common Sense College Planning" lays out a practical approach to funding college which includes how financial aid and the Expected Family Contribution affects the college search, strategies for saving for college, financial aid strategies, and how to integrate college funding with your retirement plans. The program will be held on **Tuesday, October 8th, 2013** in the Room 224 Business Building on the BCC campus from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The program is being offered at no cost as a public service program by the Southern Tier FPA Chapter and is listed in the SUNY Broome Fall 2013 Continuing Education Catalog. Although this program is free, pre-registration is required. Registration info can be found on the BCC website:

<http://www.campusce.net/sunybroome/course/course.aspx?C=917&pc=18&mc=&sc=>

No Classes – There will be no classes on **Friday, October 11**. The teachers are participating in a series of professional development workshops. There will be no classes on **Monday, October 14** in celebration of Columbus Day.

Senior Parents Meeting / October 9 – Senior parents are meeting October 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. This meeting is the "old" Post Prom Party meeting. We need more parents to be involved with this very important event for their children's Senior Year so at the suggestion of last year's steering committee Post Prom Party is trying a new name!

Aladdin – The middle school performance of Aladdin is Friday, October 11 @ 8:00 p.m., Saturday, October 12 @ 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 13 @ 3:00 p.m. Tickets: adults-\$8.00 / children \$6.00.

College Day / October 16 -College Day will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena.

"Representatives from more than 150 two-year and four-year colleges, nursing schools, business schools, and trade schools will participate in the 42nd Annual Greater Binghamton College Day on October 16 at the Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena. It is sponsored by the Broome-Tioga Counselors' Association and the Binghamton City School District.

College admission advisors can answer questions related to their respective institutions and about the college application process. Students can collect a variety of resources to take home as reference material for the college search and application process."

School Calendars – School calendars were mailed in mid-September. Any family who did not receive one, please contact Rich Bucci @ 723-5307.

Parent-Student Handbook and Acknowledgement Forms - Each year we update and revise the Parent-Student Handbook. This Handbook forms part of our contractual agreement with you and as such outlines the rules and policies by which we and the Diocese operate Seton Catholic Central. The Handbook is posted on the school website for your convenience -- <http://www.setoncchs.com/>

Once you access the website, you will find a link to the Handbook in the left-hand column. Although we ask that you review the Handbook in its entirety, there are several sections that warrant close attention. These sections are listed below:

- Academic Eligibility
- Attendance and Tardy Policy – including Attending After-School Activities
- Bullying
- Cell Phone (and Electronic Devices) Policy

- Disciplinary Eligibility
- Dress Code
- Internet Acceptable Use Policy

After reviewing the Parent-Student Handbook, we ask that you and your child(ren) sign the Acknowledgement of Handbook (and Talent Release) Forms. These forms are also on the school website. There is a link to Forms directly under the Parent-Student Handbook link. Please note: Acknowledgement forms are due in the Main Office no later than October 14. Student access to school computers will be compromised without the return of these forms.

PSAT / NMSQT – October 16 - The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) will be given on Wednesday, October 16 at 8:15 a.m. Juniors are automatically registered; no permission slip or money is required. By taking the PSAT Juniors are automatically entered into the NMSQT. Sophomores are only eligible to take the PSAT. Any interested sophomore is required to bring a permission slip and a \$14 test fee. A letter was mailed home last week to all sophomore and junior families and the counselors visited all sophomore and junior English classes to discuss the test with students. For additional information or questions, please contact the Guidance Office.

FREE ONLINE PSAT CLASS: <http://methodtestprep.com/promote-psat-week>

Flynn & O'Hara Trunk Show / October 23 – Flynn & O'Hara will be hosting a Trunk Show on October 23 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Yearbook News – Grades 9-12 - Planning for the 2013-2014 high school yearbooks is underway! Senior pictures are due to Mrs. Schmidt by Friday, November 1st Check with your studio about the picture you want selected for the senior section as well as their delivery to the school. Most studios will send a CD, with all Seton students who had their portraits taken there, to the school before the deadline.

Seton Catholic Central has a full color yearbook. The early bird price of \$70.00 runs through October 25th. The cost is then \$75.00 until Dec 20th; after which time the cost is \$80. Yearbooks may be ordered through Mrs. Schmidt during homeroom period in the library with cash or check made out to Seton Catholic Central. Credit card purchases may also be made online by going to www.jostens.com

We are also accepting ads at this time. Staff members have ad forms circulating and are looking for personal/business ads. We also need sports candid photos for all fall sports. Thank you for your support!

Magazine Drive - This year's drive will run from October 9 - October 25. Our hope is that each student will try to sell at least three subscriptions each to family, friends and local businesses. Students need to sell six subscriptions to be able to dress down. The profit from this drive helps to fund tuition assistance as well as student council activities such as: Freshman Welcome Activities, Saints Day, Yuletide – a Christmas dance and service project we have been running for several years. It also provides support for Catholic Schools Week, Nazareth Farms.

Students will receive rewards for their efforts such as: Dress down for the duration of the sale for 6 sales, families with two students – 10 sales, three students-12 sales; Free yearbook for 20 sales (High School book), Free cookies from the cafeteria, gift cards, Sainly Grounds Bucks, candy, etc.

Top Seller will receive a Nexus 7 tablet; Second Place and Third Place will receive cash prizes.

Please help us sell more subscriptions so that we can continue to support all the activities that we expect each year as well as provide tuition assistance.

New York City Trip - On Friday December 13th, we will be traveling to NYC to see the Radio City Christmas Show at Radio City. We will leave Seton at 6:00 a.m., attend the show at 10:00 a.m. and return from Bryant Park at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$100.00 for bus and an Orchestra seating ticket. Please send payment (cash or check made payable to Seton Catholic Central) to Mrs. Schmidt ASAP. The bus will fill up quickly and spaces cannot be saved. This has typically been a family trip with siblings and a parent(s) attending with their student.

Upcoming College Representative Visits – Listed below is the October schedule for college representatives who will be visiting SCC:

October 1/ SUNY Cortland, D'Youville College; **October 4/** Scranton University, Elmira College
October 7/ University of Albany, **October 8 /** Clarkson University, **October 9/** St. Bonaventure University, Colgate University, **October 15 /** Southeastern University, Le Moyne College, Wilkes University; **October 16 /** SUNY Maritime College, **October 18 /** St. John Fisher, Manhattan College; **October 21 /** University of Connecticut, Sienna College, **October 22 /** The College at Brockport; **October 23 /** College of Saint Rose, **October 25 /** Utica School of Commerce, Hobart & William Smith; **October 29 /** SUNY Geneseo, Keuka College, Hamilton College, **October 30 /** Lock Haven University, Mansfield University, **October 31 /** Kings College

Specific times are on the SCC website, and announcements are made prior to each visit. Any questions, please contact the Guidance Office.

First Congressional Science Fair – Two Seton students have been invited to present their commended 2013 science fair projects at the First Congressional Science fair to be held at the

Capitol Visitors Center in Washington D.C. on November 14. Lauren Young, a seventh grader will be presenting her project on Hydroponics and Kaitlin Abrantes; an eighth grader will be presenting her project on Biotechnology: Bacterial Transformation. This is a prestigious honor for these students and the school.

Halloween with a Reading Focus - Mr. Lucia is looking for donations of scary or Halloween-themed books for a national book giveaway started by author Neil Gaiman called ALL HALLOWS READ. The idea is to give away books instead of candy for Halloween, and he'd like to host the first annual All Hallows Read here at Seton. He's looking for appropriate Young Adult, Teen and Adult books. Please email him for further details at klucia@syrdiocese.org.

National Honor Society Dues - Mrs. Simpson is collecting \$15.00 National Honor Society dues through October 31.

Robotics Club - Robotics Club is open to all students in grades 7-12. They are currently meeting Mondays and Wednesdays after school in Room 210 to get ready for their First Tech Challenge in December/January. Come join the fun! See Mrs. Simpson for more information or just come to the working meetings.

Senior Class Bottle Drive - Senior Class Bottle Drive will be held Saturday, October 26 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the SCC parking lot.

Saintly Grounds Needs Help - Parents, grandparents or friends of Seton Catholic Central who may have a few hours to spare are needed to help in Saintly Grounds after school. The days and hours are flexible. Contact Mrs. Mary Sammakia at 759-5991 for more details.

GOOD NEWS

Seton Catholic Central Chemistry Teacher Is Grant Recipient - Diana Simpson has received a \$1,500.00 American Chemical Society–Hach High School Chemistry Grant. The grant is for her Spectroscopy in Chemistry Project. The American Chemical Society with headquarters in Washington, D.C., awards grants to selected high school chemistry teachers with innovative ideas for transforming the teaching and learning of chemistry. Mrs. Simpson and her work were featured in the Sunday, September 29 edition of the *Press & Sun-Bulletin*.

Athlete of the Week – Congrats to Abby Galyon who was featured as WBNG TV's Athlete of the Week on Thursday, September 26. The story is posted on Seton's web page.

Congratulations Dick Braco - The 2012 recipient of the "Good Guy Award" from the City of Cortland's Men's Fast-Pitch League was given to Seton Catholic Central teacher Dick Braco for promoting the sport of fast-pitch softball in the league which is run by the city's Youth Bureau

for all players 18 years of age or older. For over twenty years, Braco has managed and pitched for a team called Mister B's, which began in the Binghamton area and continues today in Cortland.

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Using Technology Creatively in the Classroom – One of the new trends in education is allowing students to bring in their own technology and incorporate into the delivery of instruction. Seventh and eighth grade students in Mrs. Colonna's Spanish class did research for their Hispanic Heritage project by bringing their own devices to class. The concept was very successful resulting in engaging and informative lessons.

7th & 8th Grade Halloween Dance - There will be a 7th & 8th Grade Halloween dance on Friday, October 25 from 7 p.m. to 9p.m. in the cafeteria. Prizes for best costumes! No props, please. Any parents, who can chaperone, please contact Melodi McIntyre at melciancio@hotmail.com. Any parents who can help plan and decorate for the dance, please contact Miss Colleen Curtin at ccurtin@syrdiocese.org.

7th & 8th Grade Yearbook - The 7th & 8th grade yearbook is now on sale! If you pre-order by January 17, 2014 you are eligible for a reduced price. Yearbooks are \$28 before January 17, \$35 after January 17. All personalized yearbook orders must be submitted by January 17, 2014. Miss Curtin will e-mail order forms to all 7th & 8th grade parents. Forms will also be available on the SCC website.

7th & 8th Grade Yearbook Ad Orders - Purchase an ad in honor of your student or to promote your business! Ad prices are as follows: Full page \$60, 1/2 Page \$40, 1/4 page \$25. All ad orders must be submitted by March 7, 2014. Miss Curtin will e-mail ad forms to all 7th & 8th grade parents. Forms will also be available on the SCC website.

7th & 8th Grade Counselor Meetings - In an effort to connect with all 7th and 8th Grade parents and students, Miss Curtin will be scheduling appointments for 15-minute parent/student meetings during the school day throughout the months of October and November. Arrangements can also be made to meet before or after school. This meeting is to introduce the role of the school counselor to you and your child, goals for the year, and discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the school year. Please call 607-723-5307 x142 or send an e-mail to ccurtin@syrdiocese.org to schedule a meeting.