

## Seton Catholic Central November Newsletter

### From the Principal's Desk Richard A. Bucci

**All Saints Day** – The faculty and student body will celebrate the Feast of All Saints with Mass at 1:45 p.m. in the auditorium. Parents and family members are welcome to attend.

**Mayoral Debate** – The students at Seton Catholic Central in partnership with the students at Binghamton High School sponsored the only Binghamton Mayoral Debate that was open to the public. The debate was also streamed live on Pressconnects.com. The students worked together to identify and research issues, formulate questions and craft the debate guidelines. The students also facilitated the actual event asking questions, keeping time and greeting spectators. The event went flawlessly and proved to be an interesting and informative event for the residents of Binghamton. We thank all those involved who made the debate a success. We especially thank the candidates Rich David and Terri Rennia for their enthusiastic participation.

**Bids for Boosters Holiday Auction** – The Booster Club's Annual Holiday Auction is Saturday, November 23 at Seton Catholic Central. Festivities begin with a silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by a dinner buffet at 6:45 p.m. and a live auction at 7:30 p.m. Donation is \$25.00 per person. For information call 785-4600 or go to [setoncchs.com/athletics.asp](http://setoncchs.com/athletics.asp). This is a major fundraiser for the Athletic Department. It is a great evening of food, fun and entertainment.

**End of the First Academic Quarter: November 15, 2013** -- All students who have missed work assignments during the First Academic Quarter must have made up all their work before this date. The school policy is that students are to make up work within one cycle of the date that they were absent; student work not made up within that time period will be given a zero in the teacher's grade book.

**Report Cards:** Report Cards will be distributed in Homerooms on November 25. Students who are tardy or absent may pick up their Report Cards in the Guidance Office any time after Homeroom on November 25.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** On Tuesday, December 10 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. parents of students in the 7th and 8th grades will have the opportunity to meet with their children's

teachers to discuss their children's Report Cards and academic progress over the First Academic Quarter.

The following night, Wednesday, December 11, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., parents of 9th through 12th grade students will have a similar opportunity to meet with their children's teachers.

**Middle States Re-accreditation** - Seton Catholic Central has been accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools since 1993. We were re-accredited in 2003. Our second re-accreditation process was extended from 2010 to enable our transition into a new grade 7 through 12 school. And now we are embarking on an accreditation process that encompasses our entire Diocese, one that ensures our re-accreditation as an individual school in the process.

If you who would like to know more about the accreditation process or more about the Middle States Association, here is the website: <http://middlestates.org/>.

For now, the short answer is, Middle States is an organization of educators who are concerned - as we are -- about the quality and continual improvement of education and the institutions and educators that provide it. Middle States assembles volunteer teachers and administrators, trains them to observe and evaluate schools based on best practices and current research, and deploys teams of volunteers to help schools determine the best plans for improvement based on the schools' own goals.

According to Middle States: "Accreditation is an impartial, third-party validation that an educational institution meets challenging, but achievable standards of quality, and provides a mechanism for continuous school improvement." For additional information check out this web site <http://middlestates.org/accreditation.php>.

In the near future we will be sending you surveys to help us understand how you view our performance as teachers, administrators, and as a school. We need you honest opinions. Your feedback and opinions will help us determine our areas of challenge and opportunity as we seek to move Seton Catholic Central from good to great.

**Winter Uniform Dress Code - Grades 7 – 12** – The guidelines for the winter months are no leggings or yoga pants under the skirts, only black or hunter green socks or tights; no boots or shoes above the ankles (for boys and girls); sweaters, vests, and fleece jackets must be hunter green or black and have the Seton logo.

**Post Prom Committee Needs Parent Support** – Mrs. Frontera is still in need of parents to oversee the duties of the Post Prom committee. Traditionally parents of juniors take on these responsibilities. Each year the Post Prom Party has been a tremendous success because of the

enthusiastic involvement of parents. If you are interested or would like to discuss the responsibilities in greater detail, please contact Mrs. Frontera @ 723-5307.

**Seton Teacher's Reflections on Robert F Kennedy Are Published** -A short story about the 1964 senatorial campaign of Robert F. Kennedy, written by Seton technology teacher Dick Braco, has been selected for inclusion in an anthology called *The Kennedy Curse*, published by Exter Press this fall. The story centers on preparations for Kennedy's visit by his campaign manager, and includes local scenes around Central New York.

**Give a Gift of Music This Christmas Season** - This fall, Seton Catholic Central teacher Brian Hyland recorded an instrumental Christmas CD with his brother-in-law Chris Woodard of Ithaca, Owego harpist Meredith Bocek, and Ithaca fiddler Tim Ball. Mr. Hyland plays digital accordion, English concertina, flute, and pennywhistle on the CD. The CD, *Season of Hope and Joy*, is available at Logos Bookstores nationwide or through the musicians. The cost is \$20.

**Thanks for Bottle Donations** -Thank you to all who have donated their bottles and cans to the Senior Class bottle drive fundraisers. The next Senior Class bottle drive fundraiser will be Saturday, December 14; 10:00 a.m. to noon at Seton's parking lot doors.

**7th & 8th Grade Halloween Dance Thank You** - Thank you to all of the 7th & 8th grade parents, students, and faculty who helped with the Halloween Dance. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of your donations of food and drinks. Thank you to those who shared decorations and who gave their time as chaperones. We could not have had such a successful event without the wonderful support we received. Special thanks to Sonya Rundell for coordinating the food donations and to Melodi McIntyre for coordinating the chaperones. Thank you to the 7th & 8th grade students who helped plan for, decorate, and clean up after the dance. Also thanks to the janitorial staff for setting up the cafeteria, Mr. Gilligan, Mrs. Askar, and Mrs. Wright for helping with decorating, Mrs. Corbin for sharing her talents as a face painter, and Mrs. Linge, Sister K, Mr. Gilligan, and Ms. Hull for chaperoning.

**Thanksgiving Holiday** – There will be no classes on Wednesday, November 27 through Friday, November 29 in celebration of Thanksgiving. Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 26 at 1:45 p.m. in the auditorium. Parents and family members are welcome to attend.