



Academy News

PRINCIPAL'S POINT OF VIEW

"Academics first, last, and in between" was the thrust of last month's article. My purpose was to provide a reminder of why this school exists. We have talked many times over the years about ensuring that the athletics and activities "tail" not be allowed to wag the academic "dog." Having said that, I believe it is important to recognize the number of opportunities students have to get involved in athletic and non-athletic activities.

Last year, about 150 high-school students participated in Academy athletics. That's more than one-half of our student population. To put that into perspective, other area high schools have about 1300 students. For them to offer as many opportunities as we do, they would have to approach 700 student participants. We view activities and sports as enrichment activities. In large schools, the enrichment for most students involves *watching* sports, rather than participating. Despite the fact that we don't offer a large variety of sports, we do offer athletic opportunities to a larger proportion of our students than most schools do.

I am often asked why we don't have soccer, football, or wrestling. The answer has several parts. First, any new sports we might offer would be in competition with existing activities for a limited number of participants. Second, the sports we do offer involve very little expense, especially when you compare them to football (helmets, pads, and equipment need to be purchased and maintained every year). Third, we have some profound facilities limitations, as you are certainly aware.

What about soccer? Many years ago, the Academy sanctioned a soccer program. It died a quick death from lack of interest. Had it survived, it would have encountered significant problems. The most obvious is that we were a 1A school (we are now 2A; these are the designations the state activities association uses to identify school size for fair competition—1A is tiny, and 2A is slightly less tiny). There are no schools in Idaho smaller than 3A (schools with up to 639 students in the high school—we currently have about 250) that have soccer. Our teams would likely have been beaten badly and often. Say what you will about "character building," this would not have provided much in the way of enrichment.

Another common comment is that we need to offer daily P.E. in all grades. This is strictly a facilities issue. We have one multi-purpose room that functions as a substandard gym. We have a six-period day. We also have required P.E. for all seventh graders (five classes of them), one semester of required P.E. for all sixth graders, and one high school elective P.E. class. Yes, that's seven P.E. classes, with one small gym, in six periods. We understand the value of physical activity, but we have pretty well maximized our ability to provide it during the school day.

We are dedicated to our academic program. It defines who we are. But we also want our students to enjoy enriching activities and have physical outlets. All things considered, I believe we do a good job of providing opportunities.

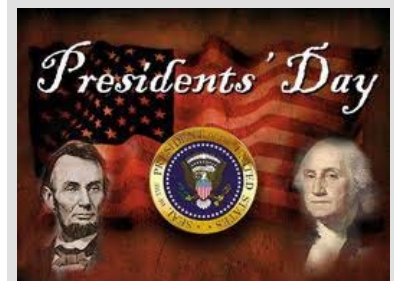
Think spring!

Dan Nicklay, Principal

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February 21, 2011
No School



SUNRISE ROTARY FEBRUARY STUDENT OF THE MONTH—ELISABETH MOORE

By Heather Solsvik hsolsvik@cdacharter.org

With her “positive and vibrant attitude,” as noted by her nominator Mr. DePew, and her dedication to all the challenges that school can bring, it is no wonder that Elisabeth Moore, senior, has been selected as February’s Sunrise Rotary Student of the Month. Elisabeth is fully engaged in her education. Not a day goes by that she isn’t hashing out the finer points of whatever novel she’s studying in AP Literature or honing her next animated performance for Jazz Choir. But beyond her academic achievements – which include a schedule filled with Advanced Placement and honors courses and an impressive GPA – Elisabeth demonstrates integrity well beyond her years: the sort of integrity that isn’t feigned perfection, but rather a willingness to accept faults and failings, face them head-on, make positive changes, and move on to bigger and better things. This is something that cannot be overtly taught in a classroom, but springs from inner character and courage. So congratulations are in order for a young lady who, as Mr. DePew said it best, “works hard and is attentive to doing the best work possible.” Congratulations, Elisabeth! We are proud of you!



Elisabeth Moore

Speech and Debate

Foley Tournament is scheduled for February 11 and 12, 2011.

Please contact Mrs. Vaughan for more details: tvaughan@cdacharter.org

From the Registrar

By Melissa Thompson
mthompson@cdacharter.org

Report Cards

Semester grade reports were mailed home on Thursday, January 27. If you did not receive your child’s report card, please contact me. Third quarter progress reports will be sent home with students on Tuesday, March 1.

Siblings of current students:

Siblings who wish to attend the Coeur d’Alene Charter Academy next year must have their applications in by the March 11th deadline to ensure sibling priority in the lottery. Sibling applications received after 4:00 PM on March 11th will be placed at the end of the waiting list in the order in which they are received. Applications are available at either office or on our website at www.cdacharter.org.

See page 4 for more information regarding registration.

CHOIR NOTES

By Sheila Wayman
swayman@cdacharter.org

DVDs of Christmas Concerts

Thanks to Charter’s Mr. Rob Bass, we can now offer DVDs of the Middle School-High School Christmas Concert from December 8, and the 6th Grade Christmas musical “*I Need a Little Christmas Vacation*” from December 15. Each DVD is available for a suggested donation of \$5. Please call or email Mrs. Wayman at swayman@cdacharter.org or 676-1667 to order yours.

Pastry Puffins Fundraiser

Our spring fundraiser begins February 9, with delivery in early March. These light and fluffy individual pastries come 12 in a frozen package and sell for only \$11. Our profit margin is around 40% which is excellent for fund raisers. With all the budget cuts, fund raisers are even more important to provide the necessary music and fees for our choir program. Thanks to everyone who helps in any way!

Jazz Ensemble to NIC Jazz Clinic

The Charter Jazz Ensemble recently presented their “Final Exam Concert” at Callypso’s Coffee on January 13 to a packed house. Join us for their next performance at the NIC Jazz Clinic on Monday, January 31 at 4:30 PM. The Jazz Ensemble singers are: **Brynda Murphy, Kate Johnson, Rachel Averett, Ashley Drechsel, Elisabeth Moore, Katie Waltar, Tessa Lauer, Rachael Mylroie, Taylor Freeman, Duncan Menzies, Caleb Drechsel, Clyde Mooney, and Dan Siemens.** They will be critiqued by three outstanding musicians from the University of Idaho and Lewiston: Gary and Al Gemberling and Dan Bukvich. On Tuesday, February 1 at 7:30 PM, these three amazing musicians, along with the NIC Jazz Ensemble, will present a pro-

fessional jazz concert. It’s free and it’s always the best jazz concert all year! Don’t miss it!

6th Grade Choir

After a seemingly very short semester, it was time to say goodbye to the 6th grade C & D choir and drama groups. There are some very talented singers and actors in both groups, proven by the huge success of their Christmas musical. Both Mrs. Vaughn and Mrs. Wayman hope to see many of them in choir and drama classes next year. On Monday, January 24, the classes switched and groups A and B now have choir and drama. They will perform their jazz musical, “*Gotta Be Jazz*” on Thursday, May 6, at 6:30 PM.

Upcoming Festivals

Family and friends are welcome.

- Middle School Vocal Ensemble Festival – Saturday, March 5, 8:00-5:00 PM at CDA Charter Academy
- High School Vocal Festival – Saturday, March 12, 8:00-5:00 PM at Post Falls High School

Charter is hosting the Middle School Vocal Solo and Ensemble Festival on March 5. We need parents and older students to help supervise hallways and serve as door monitors. Please volunteer by calling or emailing Sheila Wayman at school.



NEW FINANCIAL CLASS

By Dr. Bill Proser, Founder bproser@cd charter.org

Consider the following:

- What would happen to our country if, suddenly, a public high school were to graduate financially literate investors?
- What if those same high school graduates understood that profit is a good thing, that capitalism works and that compound interest is their best friend?
- What if these same students intended to save 10-20 percent of every paycheck they earn and were convinced that too much debt would kill their dreams and imprison their spirits?

If this were to happen, our national savings rate could increase. As a result, the amount of capital available for investment in the economy could increase. A third result would be that the average amount of personal debt could decrease. Isn't this exactly what our country needs?

The student body of the Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy is eager for this knowledge. Students have signed up for a class offered after school

that carries no credit toward graduation. Their only incentive is the chance to learn financial literacy. We can teach them the benefit of accumulating capital in a well-diversified equity mutual fund. We can jump start their future in a real Roth IRA investment, that they earn and save. The nation's ability to compete globally depends on the next generation applying the principles contained in this curriculum.

If you agree that this project is sorely needed and is worth doing, then consider partnering with us in effecting a positive change in education. With your help, we can create a model course in financial literacy that could be duplicated across the country. Sound exciting?

This new financial class begins January 24, 2011! We seek your involvement in this effort as much as your financial support. This new class is upholding the Charter tradition of doing more with less. No cost to the student, no cost to the school, books provided by donors. You can help by writing a small check payable to Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, memo: financial literacy class. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Track & Field

By Michelle Lockhart
mlockhart@cd charter.org

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD

Practice begins February 25.

Practice schedule:

Mondays & Wednesdays 4:00-6:00 PM

Fridays 3:00—4:30 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD

Practice begins in March. Date and times will be announced in the Daily Announcements.

IMPORTANT: Turn your athletic packet in to Michelle in the middle school office. **ALL PLAYERS** must fill out the information sheet and either a physical or interim report. **Packets are due February 25.** If you played volleyball, basketball, or ran cross-country this school year, you do not need to fill out a new form. See Michelle in the middle school office if you have any questions.

Silverwood Theme Park "Reading is the Ticket" Program

By Cathy Biernie
cbiernie@cd charter.org

Once again the Charter Academy is taking part in Silverwood's "Reading is the Ticket" Program - an exciting program that is designed to get your child reading for fun! This program is open to any of our students in grades six through eight. Every student who completes 10 hours (600 minutes) of recreational reading will earn a ticket good for free admission to Silverwood Theme Park. It's fun, it's easy, and it doesn't cost a thing. Reading to complete school assignments doesn't count for the program, but any other reading - books, comic books, magazines, newspapers, you name it - counts, provided it is recreational reading. Information and tally sheets will be distributed by your child's language arts teacher. The ABSOLUTE deadline for returning tally sheets to the school is Friday, March 18.

Twelfth Night

By William Shakespeare

AUDITIONS

January 31 **OR** February 1

3:00 - 4:30 PM Room 5

Please read the play before auditions.

All ages welcome

First meeting February 3 at 5:30 pm

Rehearsals T, W, TH 3:00 - 4:30

Shows April 21, 22, 23

ASB NEWS

By Jean Robinson jrobinson@cd charter.org

Annual Valentine's Day Rose Sale

ASB will sell 400 roses for Valentine's Day; roses are \$2.00 each. ASB has begun taking rose orders. You may place your rose order before school and at lunch in the commons of both buildings. Orders will NOT be taken over the phone, via email, or through the office; orders must be paid for at the time of purchase. ASB will distribute the roses on Monday, February 14 **during lunch only**. You or your student must pick up the flowers as ASB cannot deliver to classrooms.

Dances

The ASB hosted a "Break before Finals" dance on January 15. Admission was **FREE with**

VALID CCA ASB card. About 140 students came to the dance to unwind a bit before hitting the books hard for finals!

The 3rd Annual "Highlighter Dance" will be held in the MMPR on Saturday, March 12. More information to follow.

The ASB will be sponsoring a dance for 7th and 8th grade students Friday, March 18, from 3:00-5:00 PM. Charter graduate Dustin Selle will provide music for students. Admission is \$2.00 per student.

Senior-Staff Smash

The 3rd Annual Senior-Staff Smash is Thursday, March 10, at 7:00 PM at Holy Family Catholic School. Come watch as the Class of 2011 take on members of our faculty and staff! Admission is free!

ALL PARENTS: IMPORTANT DEADLINES APPROACHING!

SIBLING APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 11, 2011 BY 4:00 PM

SIBLINGS AND NEW STUDENTS

All sibling applications and new student applications must be received by Friday, March 11, 2011 (no later than 4:00 PM), to ensure sibling priority in the lottery. Sibling applications received after March 11 will be placed at the end of the waiting list.

The 2011-2012 student application is available at either office or online at www.cdacharter.org.

Applications are for siblings and new students only (see information below regarding returning students).

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

- Registration for current returning students will occur in **April**. Registration dates will be announced in the March newsletter.
- Registration packets will be sent home with students before spring break.
- Returning students do not need to fill out a new application.
- **All returning students** are required to provide verification of residence in the form of an electric bill or another utility bill with a service address listed. Driver's licenses, rental agreements, cell phone bills, and tax statements are not accepted as proof of residence.
- **Registration packets will not be accepted early**. Returning student packets will only be accepted at their scheduled registration time.
- Parents are welcome to attend registration, although, it is not required for parents to be present.

COUNSELING CORNER

STUDY SUPPORT

After first semester report cards were sent home, some of you have had heightened concerns about grades and resources to obtain additional academic help. My first recommendation is for students and parents to start with each teacher. All Charter faculty are available to provide extra assistance to students before and/or after school. While more students do take advantage of this assistance at the Charter Academy than I have typically seen at other schools, there are still many students who do not utilize or under utilize this valuable source of help. A study hall, staffed by Mr. Gabrielsen, is available every Monday through Friday when school is in session (except for Fridays before major holiday breaks). Study hall is 3:00 to 4:00 PM in the high school multi-purpose room. All students have a study lab built into their schedules which offers them the opportunity to get extra help during the school day. Although students are assigned to a specific teacher's study lab, they are encouraged to get passes to go to other teachers for additional help during this period, as needed.

SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

FAFSA forms should be submitted before the rapidly approaching financial aid priority deadlines at colleges and universities. Many colleges and universities also have separate scholarship applications due during the month of February (for example, University of Idaho's application deadline is February 15). Please contact me if you have any questions about college scholarship/financial aid applications or deadlines. A list of several additional scholarships is included below.

AXA Achievement Community Scholarship (Deadline February 15)

These are \$2,000 scholarships awarded to seniors based on the following criteria:

- Ambition and drive
- Determination to set and reach goals
- Respect for self, family, and community
- Ability to succeed in college

Additional information and applications are available online at <http://www.axa-equitable.com/axa-foundation/community-scholarships.html>.

Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce Scholarship – (Deadline 4/6)

Three \$500 scholarships will be awarded to seniors from Coeur d'Alene high schools. Students must have:

- A minimum GPA of 2.5
- Experience with business or industry (a job, internship, volunteering, etc.)
- Applications are available in the counseling office.

Best Buy Scholarship – (Deadline 2/16)

Scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded nationwide to 1,200 high school seniors who live within 75 miles of a Best Buy store. In addition students must:

- Have a minimum cumulative high school grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (or

an equivalent).

- Demonstrate commitment to and involvement in volunteer community service or work experience.
- Plan to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school in the United States or Puerto Rico no later than fall 2008.

Students should apply online at <http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/scholarship.htm>.

Horatio Alger Lola and Duane Hagadone Idaho Scholarship—(Deadline 4/15)

Open to seniors planning to attend NIC, LCSC or University of Idaho. Selection is based on:

- Financial need (\$50,000 or lower adjusted gross family income is preferred)
- Involvement in co-curricular and community service activities
- Minimum GPA of 2.0

Students must submit an online application at https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/program_idaho.cfm.

Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) Scholarship (Deadline 3/4)

Six \$1,000 scholarships are available to seniors who are a child of a county employee or the child or grandchild of an elected county official. The scholarships must be used at an Idaho college or university. The selection is based on a personal essay, grades, school and community involvement, and two letters of recommendation. Applications are available online at http://www.idcounties.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={F4987959-4FCA-4BE4-BF3A-E935CB609C93}.

KFC Colonel's Scholars—(Deadline 2/9)

These are KFC Scholarships up to \$20,000 and are awarded to graduating high school seniors with a minimum GPA of 2.75, who plan attend an Idaho college, pursue a bachelor's degree, and have demonstrated financial need. More information and applications are available online at www.kfcscholars.org.

Kootenai Electric Scholarship—(Deadline 2/11)

Kootenai Electric offers a \$1,000 scholarship awarded to up to 10 graduating seniors whose primary residence is served by Kootenai Electric. Applicants must have a 2.5 GPA. Scholarships winners are determined by school and community involvement, academic ability, financial need, and a two-page essay. Applicants must also submit a transcript and two letters of recommendation. Additional information and applications are available online at http://www.kec.com/2011_scholarship_program.php.

Society of Women Engineers Scholarship (Deadline 2/28)

Several \$2,000 scholarships are awarded to senior women from Idaho who will be entering their first year of an engineering program at an ABET-accredited university. Applications are available at www.swiswe.org/scholarships.html.

US Bank Internet Scholarship Program (Deadline 3/31)

Forty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded through a random drawing to graduating seniors who submit an application. Students can only apply online at http://www.usbank.com/cgi_w/cfm/studentloans/marketing.cfm.

USA Funds Scholarship – (Deadline 2/15)

These are \$1,500 scholarships available to high school seniors whose adjusted family income is less than \$35,000. More information and applications are available online at www.usafunds.org/scholarship.

Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

Many of the public colleges and universities in several western states (Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program, which offers out-of-state students from participating states a large reduction in out-of-state tuition. Students receiving a WUE award are able to attend an out-of-state school for 1 ½ times in-state tuition. This is a significant savings. For example, an Idaho student receiving a WUE at Washington State University would save \$9,000 for each year of attendance. For some colleges, WUE scholarships are available to all students from participating states, while other colleges award them as limited, highly competitive academic scholarships. Some public colleges in the consortium states also choose not to participate in the WUE program. Go to their website (www.wiche.edu/sep/wue) or see Dr. Schaffer for more information about requirements and participation at specific colleges in the eligible states.

COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTING

It is strongly recommended that **juniors take both an ACT and SAT test during the spring of their junior year**. By this time, students have completed most of the coursework for the year and their performance is often higher than it is in the early fall of their senior year, after the summer break. After obtaining spring scores, students still have time to repeat the test 2-3 times in the fall of their senior year if higher scores are needed for admission or scholarships. Students often perform considerably higher on one admission test than the other, so by taking both SAT and ACT tests during the junior year students can identify the test which is best for them and, if needed, focus on repeating the test that is their better test. Remaining spring dates and registration deadlines for both of these tests are listed below. Students can register for the SAT at www.collegeboard.com and the ACT at www.act.org.

Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Reg. Deadline
2/12	1/7	1/21
4/9	3/4	3/18
6/11	5/6	5/20

Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Reg. Deadline
1/22	12/23	1/7
3/12	2/11	2/25
5/7	4/8	4/22
6/4	5/6	5/20



WASHINGTON, D.C. ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

By Karen Coughenour kcoughenour@cdacharter.org

The Washington, D.C. group will hold their annual rummage sale on Saturday, March 5, in the high school multi-purpose room. Everyone is invited to donate their used but clean and serviceable items for this cause. All proceeds will go to the 2011 spring break D.C./Philadelphia tour participants (who provide at least four hours of work). Donations can be dropped off on Friday, March 4, to Mrs. Coughenour. Thank you for your donations.

PTO PRESS

PTO Teacher Appreciation

Monthly staff lunches continue and secret families are caring for staff members. Always feel welcome to send an email or message to the school or a particular teacher to tell them how much they are appreciated! Watch for volunteer opportunities this spring!

PTO Meetings

With half of the year over, things have slowed down for the PTO. Now is the perfect time to join us and share your ideas on how to make our school a better place. Our next meeting is February 14 at 3:00 PM in Mrs. Larsen's classroom. See you there!

Used Uniform Sale

The PTO will have gently used uniforms for sale at discounted prices at the **Washington, D.C. Rummage Sale on March 5**, in the high school multi-purpose room. If you have uniforms that your child has outgrown, please consider donating them

to the Academy. You may drop off your donated clothing to the Academy office no later than February 18. (Donated clothing should be clean and in good condition).

Lunch Schedule

Mondays & Wednesdays:

Café Chulo

Nachos, burritos, and salads.

Tuesdays & Thursdays:

Little Caesars Pizza

Pepperoni or cheese pizza and drinks

Fridays:

Lil Polpetta

Deli sandwiches, chips, and drinks



Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy

4904 N. Duncan Drive
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
T. 208.676.1667
F. 208.676.8667
www.cdacharter.org

