

# THIS WEEK

@ HILLCREST CHRISTIAN ...



MARCH 13, 2008

## CALENDAR ITEMS

### MARCH 2008

- Thurs. **13** Hope 139 Presentation 7 P.M.
- 11-14** Spiritual Emphasis Week
- Mon. **17** St. Patrick's Special Dress Day  
Norman's Uniform Sale 2:30-6:00 P.M.
- Wed. **19** HCS Speech Meet 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.
- Thurs. **20** Middle School Party 6:30-8:30 P.M.
- 21-28** Easter Vacation

### APRIL 2008

- Thurs. **03** Elementary Musical 6:30 P.M.
- Sat. **05** Saturday Work Day 8 A.M. - NOON  
First SAT Prep Class 8:30 A.M.
- Mon. **07** Accreditation Visit Week
- 07-10** Cheerleading Work-out Week
- Fri. **11** Cheerleading Tryouts  
ACSI Science Fair
- Sat. **05** First SAT Prep Tutorial. 2 P.M. - 5 P.M.
- Fri. **18** International Day
- 21-25** SAT Testing

ONLINE CALENDAR: [WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG](http://WWW.HILLCRESTCS.ORG)



by Stephen Allen, Head of School

## Are You Engaged?

One of my favorite television programs was *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. At the end of nearly every episode, Captain Jean-Luc Picard would wave his arm to point forward and say "Engage" – giving the order to move the Starship Enterprise to its next destination. When the captain says, "Engage", all of the ship's various functions must work well to move the ship forward. What children need today to be successful in school is for parents to be fully engaged in school. If you don't feel your child has enough success in school, then perhaps more engagement is needed. How can parents be engaged to move education forward? Here are a few suggestions.

**Are you engaged or unengaged? In a few years, your child will be on his or her own. The child the Lord has blessed you with is worth your engagement efforts.**

**Communicate directly.** This is probably one of the greatest needs for all involved. Telephones and email facilitate communication, in addition to simply stopping by the classroom to ask for a time to talk with the teacher. Many a child's education is negatively impacted when parents don't take the time to ask questions about projects, assignments, discipline given to the child, or concerns of the child or another parent. I strongly recommend that you keep your child in the middle of those conversations at every opportunity. Teachers appreciate your objectivity to hear both sides of issues before you draw conclusions.

**View available information.** There are several forms of communication that the school and/or the teacher make available to parents. If you have never viewed what is available on our web based data base – RenWeb – then you are not yet fully engaged. Contact Mrs. West (ext. 205) if you need help getting started. View your child's school papers that come home. Weekly, at noon on Thursday, we also provide the newsletter, *This Week @ Hillcrest*, available on our school's web site at [www.hillcrestcs.org](http://www.hillcrestcs.org). We put much time and effort into publishing this information for you. Engaged parents use this tool to stay informed.

**Talk with your child.** Your child spends many hours each week at school. Take the time to discuss what is going on there. Some parents confuse showing an interest with needing to fix every detail of the child's world. Don't always try to instruct. Simply listen and care about their life at school. Ask clarifying questions. Show an interest. Use this time to guide and to give advice. When you can, let your child take the initiative when it comes

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THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK

## P.F.A. NEWS

### PARENT FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

#### Need Volunteer Hours:

**Mrs. Freeman needs your help** for Open House... now! – We are looking for one or two parents from each elementary class to volunteer to sort and display their class's artwork for an art banner to be displayed during Open House.

**Prom Committee Help:** All eleventh and twelfth grade parents, please contact Mr. Kempf to see how you can make this event the most memorable yet.

**Auction Help:** Volunteers needed to help solicit "family themed" donations from local vendors and to place follow-up phone calls to last year's donors. If you would like to help, please stop by the volunteer office anytime or email us at [hcsauction@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:hcsauction@hillcrestcs.org).

**Box Tops Needed:** Support upper elementary ASB by saving "Box Tops" and turning them into your child's classroom.

**HCS Art:** Don't forget to check [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com) to view your children's artwork. Get the code from your child's teacher.

**Looking for PFA Board Members:** For the month of March, PFA is taking applications for the 2008-2009 school year. The committee will make decisions in April and the new officers will attend their first meeting in May. Applications and job descriptions can be found on the PFA Bulletin Board next

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

*Kathy Horan, Principal*

### SAT Prep Classes Offered at HCS April 5 – May 10

As spring approaches, not only should all students be focusing on their grades, but they should also be looking ahead toward college. Although freshmen and sophomores especially may think that college is a long way off, their senior year will come sooner than they think. If the seniors were asked to give the underclassmen one piece of advice, most would tell them to keep their grades up, so that they will have options when they sit down to write their college applications. Every year, at least one senior will think, "If only I had..." Plan now, that you will not be that future senior.

In approximately seven months, current juniors will be writing their applications for college. Many of them will be submitting high school transcripts which will show their grades only through the end of this spring semester. Is that an exciting proposition or a horrifying nightmare? There is still enough time to make a strong showing in this second semester. Don't slack off; persevere and put forth your best efforts on every assignment! Juniors should also be preparing to take the SAT and ACT exams this spring.

If you are interested in attending these sessions, please make a reservation with Mrs. Malcolm. Juniors and Sophomores are welcome.

Taking the SAT exam has always been stressful because students know that their scores on this test will often determine where they can apply to college. The SAT test includes a verbal section which tests reading comprehension, sentence completion (which involves knowledge of vocabulary), sentence error correction (hooray for those grammar lessons) and timed writing i.e. writing a first draft of an original essay. The math sections will test students' knowledge of number and operations, algebra and functions, geometry and measurement, and data analysis, statistics, and probability.

To help students prepare, HCS will offer six sessions where students will learn test taking skills, take practice tests, and receive coaching on the math and essay sections of the test. The first session currently scheduled for Saturday April 5, will be devoted to taking a practice test which will begin at 8:30 A.M. The tutorial sessions will be held on six Saturday afternoons from 2:00 – 5:00 P.M. beginning on April 12. In addition, students will meet for 30 minute vocabulary sessions Monday and Wednesday afternoons during this six week period.

If you are interested in attending these sessions, please make a reservation with Mrs. Malcolm by calling her at (805) 497-7501 ext. 204, or sending her an email at [lmalcolm@hillcrestcs.org](mailto:lmalcolm@hillcrestcs.org). Juniors as well as sophomores who want to get a head start are encouraged to attend these sessions and to plan on taking this test in June. There will be a nominal charge of \$85.00 which will include books and materials as well as provide a small stipend for the instructors.



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*by Mark Kempf*

**Activities, Athletics Admissions**

**Winter Sports Banquet:**

Last Saturday evening showcased the talented community of young athletes that make up Hillcrest Christian School. The Lord has truly blessed Hillcrest with young people and their families who look to glorify HIM here. The presentation began by honoring two graduates from the class of 2000 who represented the first two inductees into the Hillcrest Christian High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Kim Haigh and Jenna Meyers graduated from Hillcrest with scholarships to play collegiate volleyball. Kim Haigh played at Concordia University in Irvine, CA, and Jenna Meyers played at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. Jenna Meyers represented both inductees in her speech to the young athletes challenging them to work hard for the Lord and encouraging them to see what great things can happen when you do. She focused on the unique opportunity of a small school Christian education and the benefits that come from a firm foundation in Christ.

Hillcrest honored five basketball teams, coaches, and volunteers who were recognized for individual and team accomplishments!! Great job Hillcrest!!!!!!



**Jenna Meyers & Kim Haigh**

**Varsity Boys' Basketball**



**Michael Lubin**

Most Improved: Brian Kim  
Hillcrest Coaches' Award:  
Andy Hernandez  
Most Outstanding: Michael Lubin  
Omega League 1<sup>st</sup> All  
League: Michael Lubin  
Omega League All Star  
Team: Michael Lubin

**7th & 8th Boys' Basketball**



**Cody Cordell**

Most Improved: Seth Kendall  
HCS Coaches' Award:  
Michael Alexander  
Most Outstanding: Cody Cordell

**Cheerleaders**



**Emily Green**

Emily Green: Teddy Bear  
Feel good Award  
Maddy Valero: Puppy Loyalty Award  
Sierra Townes : Play Monkey  
Energy and Fun Award  
Kassi Berg: Lion's Courage to  
do the right thing Award

**5th & 6th Girls' Basketball**



**MacKenna Kelleher**

Most Improved: Jennifer Bitterly  
& Breanna Jackson  
Hillcrest Coaches' Award:  
MacKenna Kelleher  
Most Inspirational : Nikkie Werner  
I Corinthians 10:31: Morga Ross  
& Meagan Holloway  
Proverbs 20:6: Arianna Macaluso &  
R'Mani Gamble

**Varsity Girls' Basketball**



**Hannah Rhodes**

Most Improved: Kyli Keslar  
Hillcrest Coaches' Award:  
Lindsay Luebbert  
Most Outstanding : Hannah Rhodes  
Omega League 1<sup>st</sup> All  
League: Hannah Rhodes  
Omega League All Star  
Team: Hannah Rhodes

**5th & 6th Boys' Basketball**



**Teddy Rettinger**

Most Improved – Lucas Vieira  
Hillcrest Coaches' Award – Sammy  
Rettinger & Alex Smith  
Most Outstanding – Teddy Rettinger



## Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss

Who is the creator of the Whos? It is none other than Theodor Seuss Geisel, born March 2, 1904. He is perhaps America's greatest children's author, possessing the name cherished by millions throughout the last century. His greatest works include *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*. He wrote a total of 44 books in all, some of which have been made into feature films. On March 3, Hillcrest's primary teachers celebrated his birthday by dressing like the famous doctor or his characters while reading his books to children in the lower elementary classes.

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## Are You Engaged? cont.

to their friends and their teacher.

**Get involved.** Attend your child's school events. Attend PFA meetings. Participate in fund raising efforts like the upcoming auction event on May 17. Volunteer for work days and help with field trips. Assist the teacher. Donate resources. Attend chapels. Getting involved also allows for expressing concerns – directly to those who need to hear them, not through gossip in the hallways or in the parking lot. The possibilities to get involved in a positive way are endless.

**Know your school officials – all of them**, but especially your child's teacher. I recently had a school dad who took me to lunch with no agenda – but to get to know the Head of School. I don't always need a lunch to do that, but I did appreciate it. How about taking your teacher or principal/director to lunch or inviting him or her over for dinner? Teachers and principals or directors are serious partners in the business of raising your child. Get to know them.

**Hold children accountable to the tasks of education.** The teachers greatly appreciate your engagement in simply holding your child accountable for homework, projects, and following school rules. This is fundamental and requires daily diligence on your part to develop your child's responsibility.

**So, how do you rate? Are you engaged or unengaged?** In a few years, your child will be on his or her own. The child the Lord has blessed you with is worth your engagement efforts. There are still many weeks left of the school year. Jean-Luc Picard has another favorite saying. When it comes to school engagement, make every attempt to "make it so." ■

## NORMAN'S ON CAMPUS

You won't want to miss this last opportunity to try on and purchase uniform items on campus this year on Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 2:30 - 6:00 P.M.

## AUCTION NEWS

### HILLCREST HOEDOWN SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008

Along with great family fun, proceeds from this event will benefit the entire school. We are hoping for the largest family participation in the history of Hillcrest. In order to help all of our classes get involved, we are offering the following rewards for outstanding participation:

#### 100% PARTICIPATION TICKET SALES:

1<sup>st</sup> class to have 100% participation in "Hoedown Ticket Sales" by April 17<sup>th</sup> will receive a free dress day for the entire class. The teacher of that class will receive free admission to Hillcrest Hoedown for his/her immediate family.

All other classes that reach 100% participation in "Hoedown Ticket Sales" by April 17<sup>th</sup> will receive an ice cream party, and the teacher will receive one free adult ticket to the Hoedown.

#### FAMILY INVITATION CONTEST:

The class who invites the most friends and family (that don't attend Hillcrest) who purchase tickets by April 17<sup>th</sup> will win a free dress day for the entire class.

#### PROJECT RAFFLE:

The class with the most "Project Raffle Tickets" sold will receive a pizza party.

Buy Your Tickets Online  
[www.hillcrestcs.org](http://www.hillcrestcs.org)

