

# ARCHBISHOP WILLIAMS

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE *MARY LOU SADOWSKI*

Welcome to School Year 2009-2010! Due to Labor Day, this year school did start later than other years but it seemed like no time before the cycle of school life fell into its normal routine. Freshmen entered as our newest class and in this short time, seem if not comfortable, certainly very familiar. Sophomores are happy not to be the 'new kids' any longer, but they have no time to dwell on that since this is a busier year with their six major subjects plus a Fine Arts elective. There will be no doubt for Juniors that they are in a college preparatory school as Guidance counselors work with them once a week on the college process from application to SAT prep, with much search and application done on-line. And last but not least, our seniors, who having heard over the past three years how fast these years will go by, may be wondering if they really will get through all the deadlines while making certain their grades are the very best they can be. For each level of students, the concerns may be different, but there is no doubt that students' growth and success are the focus of our talented staff of educators. Here's to another good year.

Every month on the first of the month, a copy of the

Principal's newsletter will be posted on the website and an alert to the posting will be made through our Parent Reach notification system. New for us this year, the website posting provides a solution to a few situations that have needed attention. The first is a faster and easier outreach to families and the second is addressing the need to be more 'green'. Even with a regular recycling program, the sea of paper seems an endless waste. As with anything new, there may be some kinks to work out in going to the web. We ask for your patience. Of more importance, if you do not have access to a computer at home, your student can access any computer here and print a copy. There will also be a limited supply of copies of the newsletter and any accompanying flyers available in the Main Office.

October will be a busy month here at school. Do check the Up-to-Date section on this newsletter and use the calendar from the Handbook so as not to miss out. As the weather turns colder, and after our very rainy spring and summer, the foliage promises to be outstanding this fall. Do take some time to enjoy God's magnificent autumn palette. ♦

### Up To Date

- **Oct. 1**  
November SAT registration deadline  
Back to School Night 6:30-7:30
- **Oct. 2**  
Sophomore Retreat Day
- **Oct. 5**  
Mid-Quarterly Reports
- **Oct. 7**  
AWHS College Fair
- Parent Support Board—7:15 PM
- **Oct. 9**  
STEM Workshop
- **Oct. 12**  
Columbus Day  
No School
- **Oct. 14**  
TESTING DAY Gr. 9-10-11  
11:30 Dismissal  
College Visiting Day-Seniors.
- **Oct 17**  
Homecoming 1 PM Game
- **Oct. 22**  
Picture Re-Takes
- **Oct. 23**  
Freshman Retreat Day
- **Oct. 24**  
ACT—AWHS is a test center.
- **Oct. 25**  
OPEN HOUSE 12 PM—2 PM
- **Oct. 29**  
Black and Orange Day
- **Oct. 30**
- No Classes
- Registration Deadline for December Test



## campus Ministry

### JOSEPH ONDUS

In July, twenty-two of our seniors attended the peer ministry retreat at Regis College. These students were selected by their junior teachers and the Campus Ministry team to be part of the peer ministry program for the 2009-2010 school year. The retreat gave these students the opportunity to learn some basic skills in ministry leadership. There was plenty of time for them to bond as a group, as well as share their personal faith stories. It was a very spiritual and energetic week.

The peer ministers came to school in September ready to help lead the freshman orientation day. The peer ministers sponsored homerooms, and they helped the students get ready for their "Archie's experience." The day ended with a prayer service planned and led by the peer ministers. Currently, the peer ministers are preparing for the all important school-wide retreats for the underclasses.

On Friday during the first week of school, Fr. Wally was

the celebrant for our Mass of the Holy Spirit. It was at this liturgy that our peer ministers were formally installed into their leadership positions. We are forming a liturgical choir this year that is open to all students. We are also looking for student musicians. Students who are interested in this may get service hours for their participation in this important ministry to our school community.

Students who completed service hours during the summer must have their paper work completed by November 3, 2009. Students who do not turn these summer hours in by this deadline will not be able to count these hours. Students who are looking for some service possibilities should check the school website under Campus Ministry. We keep it updated on the various projects that are happening in the school community.

The Campus Ministers will visit the freshman theology classes in the coming weeks to introduce them to our Campus Ministry Program. We will also explain our service program, as well as service opportunities. ♦

### DEAN OF STUDENTS *MERYL BAXTER*

We ask your help in supporting our Cell Phone Policy. Cell phone use, particularly as it applies to Texting, has become an epidemic in all high schools including ours. Analysis of cell phones taken from our students reveals that many are texting dozens of times, in class, throughout the school day. Obviously, there is a negative impact in terms of student concentration. Our policy is simple; Cell Phones are to be turned off and left in the student's lockers. They cannot be used in the buildings at any time; before, during or after school. For more information on this subject, please consult the Student/Parent Handbook. ♦

### ACADEMIC DEAN *JANE FUNDERBURK*

It has been a smooth opening of school from my perspective as Academic Dean. I consider the partnership between school and home essential to the best possible student outcome and am looking forward to working with all of you to help your child reach his or her highest academic potential in school year 2009-2010.

At the beginning of each year, I ask parents to help me ensure success for all students by overseeing and encouraging the following: 1) **READING:** Encourage your child to always have a book handy. Reading is key to academic success both in the classroom and on standardized tests. 2) **ATTENDANCE:** Everyday in every class important instruction takes place that should not be

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### PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP NOTICES



It is time again for our annual Holiday Craft Fair. You can help make this a success and get volunteer hours at the same time.

For more details on how you can help as well information on how to purchase Craft Fair tickets please:

[<<Click Here.>>](#)

The AWHs Tuition Raffle is also underway. Win \$4,800.00 Cash!!! Ticket price is \$50.00 and only 300 tickets will be sold. Ticket Order Deadline – Monday, November 30th, 2009. For more details and a raffle form please:

[<<Click Here.>>](#)

ACADEMIC DEAN, CONTINUED

missed unless your child is ill. 3) MAKE UP WORK: Should a student be ill, it is important to make up all work missed in a timely manner. 4) HOMEWORK: Students should be doing approximately thirty minutes/subject of homework each night. 5) EXTRA HELP: If your son or daughter is having trouble in a class, please insist that he/she seek extra help from the teacher 6) COMMUNICATION: Keep an eye on the school calendar for academic benchmarks such as mid-quarterly reports and report cards. Please do not hesitate to contact the classroom teachers via e-mail or voice mail with any questions or concerns about your child's academic progress.

As Academic Dean, I take pride in the fact that our students continue to be recognized outside the Archbishop Williams community for academic excellence. Most recently, the CollegeBoard announced that eight members of our most recent graduates received AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, or AP Scholar with Distinction awards for their high performance on three or more AP tests. In addition, eleven students currently in grades 10-12 participated in Boston University's "CityLab" program for a week last July. "CityLab" is an academic enrichment program at Boston University School of Medicine that provides an opportunity for students to perform lab-based biotech research using state of the art laboratory technology. All participants from AWHs have been invited to continue their "CityLab" studies through this current school year through "CityLab's 'Scholars'" program. At your leisure, I invite you to peruse our website under News and Events to read the press releases on this and other accolades our students have earned. ♦



**Year Book Information and Due Dates**

**Underclassmen Parents:**

- Buy your yearbooks by Thanksgiving for a discounted price of \$70. The Yearbook Staff's goal is to get everyone in the book at least 2 times. See your son and/or daughter involved in many events.
- The price will go up in the spring (\$80) and when they arrive in May (\$90).

**Senior Parents:**

- Show how proud you are of your graduating son or daughter! Send a personal message to your senior with baby pictures or other significant photos in the yearbook. Visit [www.jostensadservices.com](http://www.jostensadservices.com) for step-by-step guidelines. Design your parent ad early! DUE DATE: Tuesday, December 1. Email Ms Dillon with questions ([tdillon@awhs.org](mailto:tdillon@awhs.org))



GUIDANCE NEWS *PERRY LARKIN*

Our seniors have met with their counselors already to talk about the college admissions process. We are continuing to meet with them individually. This will be a busy time of year for them. Seniors are reminded to pay close attention to the particular deadlines that will be upcoming. On the 21st of September the seniors met with over 70 college representatives in the gym during the first of two college fairs that we have here at Williams for our seniors. We will have another college fair for our seniors on October 7th. In addition, the seniors were encouraged to go on to the Family Connections part of the Naviance Guidance System. Through this program the seniors will be able to access their individual guidance college application process from home. They will be able to view their own SAT and PSAT scores as well as their GPA's. They will be able to add or delete from their individual list of prospective colleges as well as see how they compare with past applicants to those schools with regards to SAT and GPA scores. There is much more information available through this program, including a career component, we hope that all of our seniors will take advantage of this opportunity.

The guidance counselors have begun to see the juniors through the junior guidance program. We will meet with approximately half of the juniors each semester. The purpose of the junior guidance class

**GUIDANCE NEWS , CONTINUED**

is to introduce the juniors to the college admissions process.

We will be seeing all of the sophomores, as they will be introduced to the career information system in the Naviance Program.

And we have seen all of our freshmen students to meet them and to introduce them to the Guidance Program here at Williams. The Guidance Counselors are assigned to the freshmen alphabetically with Ms. McDonald meeting those freshmen with last names A through D; Mr. Homer--- F through McManus; and Mr. Larkin--- Milne through Z.

And finally, Wednesday, October 14th is our school testing day. Our seniors will not be in school on that day and they are encouraged to make plans to visit a college. Our freshmen will be taking the Explore test, which has an academic, as well as a career component. Both our sophomores and our juniors will take the PSAT's as a preparation for the collegeboard tests to come at the end of junior year. As a note to parents, all students should be finished by approximately 11:00 am on the 14th. And, as always if we can be of any help, please do not hesitate to call. ♦



## Homecoming Football Game

Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM

Bishops vs. Watertown

**ATHLETIC NEWS JOSEPH FRANCIS**

I encourage all students to participate in the 9th Annual MIAA Sportsmanship Essay/Multimedia Contest. Entries are asked to address the question of, "How their choices impact sportsmanship?" in a literary entry no more than 500 words or a multimedia entry no longer than 3 minutes. More information on this contest may be found at [www.miaa.net](http://www.miaa.net)

Attention all parents of female students: The AWHHS Girls Hockey program is looking for a few extra players for the upcoming season. No prior experience is necessary to join this varsity team. All girls Grades 9-12 are welcome. Please contact Mr. Francis in the athletic office for more information.

As the fall sports season has begun I'd like to take this opportunity to point out one important Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) rule that governs high school athletics.

MIAA Rule 45, also known as the "Bona Fide Team Member Rule", or "Loyalty to the High School Team Rule", which reads:

"A bona fide team member of the school team is a student who is consistently present for, and actively participates in, all high school team sessions. Bona fide members of a school team are precluded from missing a high school practice or competition in order to participate in a non-school athletic event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. Any student who violates this standard is ineligible for the next two contests or two weeks (whichever is greater) immediately upon confirmation of the violation."

In short, if your son or daughter plans to play for another team (in any sport) during the same season in which they play for an Archbishop Williams sports team at any level, he or she is not allowed to miss a tryout, practice, or competition to attend that out-of-school team's event.

Many thanks to all parents and student-athletes who attended our Fall Sports Meet the Coaches Night last month. Similar meetings will be held during the winter and spring sports seasons. ♦