

August 2009

CURRENTS

Freshmen, what will your first day be like?

When do you start?

Your first day of classes as freshmen will be Wednesday, Sept. 9. On that day, you will be the only students in the building, and you will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. Bus transportation will be available that day, both before and after school.

their course expectations. This will list their grading policy as well as what they expect you to do in their class. This will also include a list of supplies you will need for this class. We want your first day to be as

pleasant as possible, but if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Greico, the Enrollment Director, or Ms. Smith, the Freshman Counselor.

We look forward to seeing you on September 9!

Where do you go?

When you get to St. Mary's in the morning, you will report to homeroom. The lists will be posted in the hallway.

What do you need to bring?

Five dollars and a book bag/back pack. During homeroom, you will be given a locker assignment and will be able to purchase your school lock for \$5. (All locks for lockers MUST be purchased through the school.) This will be done in homeroom. You will also receive a folder with paper and a pen to use for the rest of the day.

When you meet with your teachers, they will give you a few things. First, your textbooks. Also, they will be giving you

The First Two Weeks of School				
Mon., Sept. 7 No School Labor Day	Tue., Sept. 8 No School Faculty/Staff Orientation 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Wed., Sept. 9 A-Day FRESHMEN ONLY 11:30 a.m. DISMISSAL Faculty/Staff Meetings 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	Thur., Sept. 10 A-Day ALL STUDENTS FULL DAY	Fri., Sept. 11 B-Day ALL STUDENTS FULL DAY
Mon., Sept. 14 C-Day Portrait/Student ID Pictures Opening Liturgy Guest Speaker Parents-Back-to-School Night 6pm	Tue., Sept. 15 C-Day NHS Meeting 2:30 p.m. Fall Play Auditions 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.	Wed., Sept. 16 D-Day Principal's Ad Board Meeting 2:30 p.m. Fall Play Auditions 3:15 - 5 p.m.	Thur., Sept. 17 E-Day SOUL Meeting 2:30pm	Fri., Sept. 18 F-Day Fall Play Callbacks 2:30-5 p.m. Opening Dance 8-11 p.m.

Fall Sport Start Dates

One of the best ways to make friends in high school is to join an organization. St. Mary's High School has many fine groups to join such as the Dance Club, Retreat Peer Ministry, Student Senate, and athletic teams.

Those who are interested in playing sports during the Fall Season should be aware of the following start dates and information:

Boys Soccer

Monday, Aug. 24, from 9-11:30 a.m. at Keysa Park in Lancaster. The team will practice daily at the same time and place. All players must have the proper equipment: soccer spikes,

shin guards, hat, and water bottle. Coach Franjoine can be reached at afranjoine@aol.com.

Varsity Football

Monday, Aug. 17, at 8 a.m. on the football fields at St. Mary's. Equipment should be picked up in advance. Coach Kling can be reached at coachkling@roadrunner.com.

JV Football

Monday, Aug. 17, at 8 a.m. on the football fields at St. Mary's. Equipment should be picked up in advance. Coach Szeffler can be reached at jimszeffler@roadrunner.com.

Boys Varsity Volleyball

Monday, Aug. 24, at a time to be announced at St. Mary's. Contact Mr. Gill at dgill@smhlancers.org for more details.

Boys Cross-Country

Monday, Aug. 24, at 3 p.m. at Shelter #1 at Westwood Park in Lancaster. Contact Coach Ward at dickward@roadrunner.com.

Boys Golf

Monday, Aug. 24, at Walden Driving Range from 1-2:30 p.m. Contact Coach

(Continued on page 4)

From the Health Office

Fall Sports

Students interested in playing a fall sport must:

1. Complete and return the Interval Health History form, the blue form enclosed with this issue of *Currents*. This must be completed by the student's parent/guardian and returned to the Health Office by the dates listed below. *This form may be faxed directly to the Health Office at 683-4958.*

Sport	Interval Health History (IHH) must be completed by parent/guardian and returned to the Health Office by this date
Football/Cheerleading	August 10
Soccer	August 12
Other Fall Sports	August 17

2. Have a current physical (completed within one year of the sport start date) on file in the Health Office prior to August 1st.

Failure to comply will result in not being able to start practice with the rest of the team. Extra forms are available in the Main Office and on the school website under the "Health" and "Athletics" section.

Transportation information

Information regarding transportation is sent to parents from the public school district at the end of August.

This information is not sent to St. Mary's High School.

If you do not receive your bus information, or if you have questions or problems with the arrangements, please call the Transportation Department of your school district.

Incoming freshmen from Buffalo will receive their bus passes when they come for orientation. Upperclassmen will get theirs on the first day of school.

Remember: Students are never allowed to ride a bus from a school district other than their own. Public school districts are only insured for their own residents.

Annual Screening

Your student's health is important to their achievement in school. There are health screenings that the school nurse will begin in September in Physical Education classes.

All incoming freshmen receive scoliosis screening. All students will have their heights and weights measured. Students new to Lancaster Schools and 10th grade students receive vision and hearing screening. Please remind your student to wear contacts or have his/her glasses on a regular basis. This will give us the correct results in our testing and save you unnecessary visits to your eye doctor. You will be notified in writing if your student has any difficulty with the screenings. If, at anytime during the school year, you feel that your student is having difficulty, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Murphy.

If you have any questions, please call the school nurse, Mrs. Murphy, at 683-4824, ext.20.

Policy Regarding Medication in School

Forms are available in the Main Office and the Health Office and on the school website under the "Health" section.

All medication, including *non-prescription drugs such as Tylenol, Motrin, etc.* given in school *must be prescribed by*

a licensed medical doctor.

A written request from the physician must be on file. This request must indicate the dosage and frequency of the prescribed drug.

A written request from the parent to administer medication must be on file.

The parent must assume responsibility to have the medication delivered to the Health Office in a *properly labeled original container.*

Policy Regarding Hand Sanitizer Use

The use of Hand Sanitizer has been approved by our Chief Medical Officer for use in our school. He did advise that hand washing with soap and water is best, but he did approve the use of the hand sanitizer for use when soap and water is not readily available.

If any parents/guardians object to the use of hand sanitizer for their students, please send in a note requesting that to the Health Office, and we will make faculty/staff aware.

Below are a few links for information regarding hand sanitizer use:

- www.schoolhealthservicesny.com/uploads/Alcohol%2520Based%2520Hand%2520Sanitizers.pdf
- www.schoolhealthservicesny.com/uploads/Memo%20on%20hand%20sanitizers.pdf

Walk-a-Thon to benefit Student Senate Scholarship

At their summer meeting, members of the Student Senate voted to use proceeds from the 2009 Walk-a-Thon to continue the Student Senate Scholarship that was created in 2006.

St. Mary's High School will hold its annual Walk-a-Thon on Tuesday, Sept. 29 (rain date, Wednesday, Sept. 30).

This Student Senate Scholarship will be awarded to an incoming freshman in the Class of 2014.

The student will receive a yearly scholarship for the four years they attend St. Mary's High School. The actual amount of the scholarship will be based on the success of the Walk-a-Thon.

In addition to the Student Senate Scholarship, money raised in the Walk-a-

Thon will be used to benefit the St. Mary's classes and for school activities.

Included in this mailing, students will find a letter from Mr. Peter Herr, Student Senate moderator, about the Walk-a-Thon with a pledge sheet. Pledges are due Monday, Sept. 21.

Currents

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Editor – Keith Kidder

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School Supply List

The annual ritual of School Supply Shopping has begun, as area stores have started their sales and promotions. For many families, the treks to KMart, Target, or Wal-Mart will take place as the students prepare for the new school year. For the St. Mary's students, the store visits will

also begin.

In an effort to assist families in their back-to-school shopping, here is a **PARTIAL** list of supplies needed by the different departments.

Please note two items – Individual teachers will have additional requirements

for their classes. These lists will be passed out the first day of class.

Also, students will be receiving an assignment notebook from St. Mary's High School on their first day of school. Thus, there is no need to purchase a separate one.

Needed for all classes

- pens
- pencils
- loose leaf paper

English Classes

English 9 Regents

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 5 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- 3-subject notebook

English 9 Honors

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 6 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- folder with pockets

English 10 Regents

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 2 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- folder with pockets

English 10 Honors

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 5 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- folder with pockets

English 11 Regents

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 6 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- high-lighter

AP English Literature

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 2 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- folder with pockets
- high-lighter
- Post-It flags

English 12 Regents

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with 5 dividers (only to be used for English class)
- 3-subject notebook

AP English Language

- 3-ring binder (any size - only to be used for English class)

- high-lighter
- Post-It flags

Foreign Language Classes

Spanish I

- 1½–2 inch binder
- at least 5 tab dividers (number determined by teacher)
- book cover
- pocket dictionary (recommended)
- 3-ring pencil case for pens and pencils

Spanish II

- 2-inch binder with 8 dividers
- book cover
- ultra fine point Sharpie (1 each green, red, black) or equivalent (gel pens are OK)
- 3-ring pencil case for pens

Spanish III

- 2-inch binder with 8 tab dividers
- book cover

French I, II, and III

- 1½–2 inch binder with 5 dividers
- book cover
- pocket dictionary (recommended)

Health Classes

- 1-subject notebook
- folder

Math Classes

All Math Classes

- Graphing Calculator (preferably TI83/84 Plus)
- 3-5 subject spiral notebooks
- pencils with erasers

Integrated Algebra A

- 1½ inch binder

Integrated Algebra B

- nothing additional

Integrated Geometry A

- folder with pockets

Integrated Geometry B

- 1½ inch binder

Integrated Geometry Honors

- folder with pockets

Algebra II/Trig A, Algebra II/Trig Honors, Algebra II B

- nothing additional

Pre-Calculus & Pre-Calculus Honors

- 1½ inch binder

AP Calculus

- folder with pockets

AP Statistics

- binder (any size) with dividers

Religion Classes

Freshmen

- 1-inch 3-ring binder
- high-lighter

Sophomores

- spiral notebook
- a Bible at home (if student does not have a Bible at home the school will supply one)

Juniors & Seniors

- 1-inch 3-ring binder

Science Classes

Earth Science

- 3-5 subject spiral bound notebook (for science only)
- 2 pocket folder or a three ring binder (for hand-outs)
- multicolored ink pen (at least 4 different colors)
- graph paper
- ruler
- calculator (same one used for math and a basic function calculator)

Living Environment - A

- 1½-inch 3-ring binder
- colored pencils
- 2 pocket folder
- calculator (same one used in math class)

Living Environment - B

- at least 2-inch 3-ring binder with at least 4 dividers
- one-subject spiral bound notebook with punched holes to fit into binder
- straight edge
- calculator (basic functions, nothing fancy)

General Chemistry

- at least 2-inch 3-ring binder with at least 4 dividers
- one-subject spiral bound notebook with punched holes to fit into binder
- straight edge
- calculator (basic functions, but graphing calculator from math is good)

Nice to Have, but Not Required:

- colored pencils
- Sharpie marker, black
- high-lighters
- pocket folders

Regents Chemistry, Regents Chemistry Honors, Advanced Chemistry

- 2-inch 3-ring binder with dividers
- calculator (Non-graphing calculator required for Regents Exam)
- graph Paper

Physics

- 3-5 spiral bound notebook (used only for physics)
- 2 pocket folder or 3-ring binder for hand-outs
- protractor
- ruler

(Continued on page 4)

School Supply List *(continued from page 3)*

- graph paper
- calculator (graphing calculator used in math class)

Environmental Science

- spiral bound notebook

- 2 pocket folder
- colored pencils

Social Studies Classes

All Classes

- 2-inch 3-ring binder

Parents-Go-to-School Night is Monday, Sept. 14

St. Mary's High School will hold its annual Parents-Go-to-School Night on Monday, Sept. 14, beginning at 6 p.m.

This night is designed to allow parents the opportunity to meet with their students' teachers, to learn more about the classes, homework assignments, and grading policies.

In addition to the teacher meetings, parents will also be introduced to the Parent Guild officers as well as the on-line system students and parents can use to check on academic progress.

The evening will conclude with refreshments.

Hope to see you on September 14!

09-10 Vacation Schedule

To assist families planning for the 2009-10 school year, here is a list of dates to be aware of.

Please note that this is tentative and subject to change:

- Sept. 9 – Half-day for Freshmen
- Sept. 10 – Full Day for all students
- Sept. 14 – Picture Day
- Oct. 12 – Columbus Day

- Nov. 11 – Veterans Day
- Nov. 26 & 27 – Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 23 to Jan. 1 – Christmas Break
- Feb. 15-19 – Winter Break
- March 19 – Principal's Holiday
- April 1-5 – Easter Break
- April 19-23 – Spring Break
- May 28-31 – Memorial Day Weekend
- June 7 – Last Day of Classes

Fall Sport Start Dates *(continued from page 1)*

Rzemek at mrzemek@smhlancers.org.

Girls Cross-Country

Monday, Aug. 24, at 3 p.m. at Shelter #1 at Westwood Park in Lancaster. Contact Coach Ward at dickward@roadrunner.com.

Girls JV Volleyball

Monday, Aug. 24, from 3-6 p.m. in the Athletic Center at St. Mary's. Contact Coach Zureck at dzureck@roadrunner.com.

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Monday, Aug. 24, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the

Athletic Center at St. Mary's, Monday thru Saturday. Contact Coach Pieczynski at ivccs@aol.com.

Girls Varsity Soccer

Monday, Aug. 24, at a time to be announced. Contact Mr. Gill at dgill@smhlancers.org for more details.

Attention Freshmen, Transfers, & Parents

New Student Orientation
Tuesday, Sept. 1
6:30 p.m.

From the Tuition Office

August Work Crew

All those assigned to the August work crew should have received notification. The program begins Monday, Aug. 3, from 8 a.m. to noon each day.

Have you set up your FACTS account?

Those families who are new to FACTS and have not set up their account yet are asked to follow the link on the St. Mary's home web page: smhlancers.org. Those who have any problems with this should contact the Tuition Office immediately.

This must be completed before September for all families that have not prepaid.

Girls' VB, BB open gym times

Coach Pieczynski and the Girls Volleyball team invites all Varsity and JV players to Open Gym every Monday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. through August 17.

Coach Junik invites all girls interested in playing basketball to Open Gyms every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m.

Classic Car & Truck Show Chicken BBQ / Craft Show

*Home of the Art Clark Trophy
— Celebrating our 14th Year —*

Sunday, August 16th

12 noon to 4 p.m. • Rain or Shine!!

More information at 683-4824, ext. 28

Reduced Lunch Application Information

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. St. Mary’s High School offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$1.00; lunch costs \$2.50. Children from households that meet federal income guidelines (outlined below) are eligible for free meals or reduced price meals. Reduced price meals cost each eligible student \$.25 for lunch and \$.25 for breakfast. To apply for free or reduced price meals, submit a Direct Certification letter from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance OR complete the enclosed application, sign it, and return it to St. Mary’s High School as soon as possible. Please refer to the guidelines contained in this letter when completing the application. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information.

1. **Do I need to fill out an application for each child?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Do not fill out more than one application for your household.
2. **Who can get free meals?** Children in households getting Food Stamps or TANF and most foster children can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines. Each foster child must be listed on a separate application, with Part 2 completed and include an adult signature.
3. **Can homeless, runaway, and migrant children get free meals?** Please call St. Mary’s High School, the homeless liaison, or migrant coordinator to see if your child(ren) qualify, if you have not been informed that they will get free meals.
4. **Who can get reduced price meals?** Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, shown on this application.
5. **Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced price meals?** Please read the letter you received carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at 683-4824 and ask for Evelyn Skalski if you have questions..
6. **I get WIC; can my child(ren) get free meals?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
7. **Will the information I give be checked?** The school may ask you at any time during the school year to verify your eligibility. You will be notified, in writing, if you have been selected for Verification. School officials may ask you to send papers showing that your child should receive free or reduce price meals at the time you applied.
8. **If I don’t qualify now, may I apply later?** Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start getting Food Stamps, TANF, or other benefits. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals.
9. **What if I disagree with the school’s decision about my application?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Mrs. Rebecca Kranz, principal, St. Mary’s High School.
10. **May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
11. **Who should I include as members of my household?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.
12. **What if my income is not always the same?** List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1,000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1,000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.

Income Chart: The following chart lists income levels according to household size and income levels received either yearly, monthly, or weekly. If your total household income is the same or less than the amounts on the Income Chart below, your children may be eligible to receive free or reduced price meals.

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART
Effective from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010

Household Size	Annual	Month	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$ 835	\$ 771	\$386
2	26,955	2,247	1,124	1,037	519
3	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
4	40,793	3,400	1,700	1,569	785
5	47,712	3,976	1,988	1,836	918
6	54,631	4,553	2,277	2,102	1,051
7	61,550	5,130	2,565	2,368	1,184
8	68,469	5,706	2,853	2,634	1,317
For each additional family member add	6,919	577	289	267	134

(Continued on next page)



What if ...up to 26% of each purchase you made went to your favorite worthy cause?
 Shopping at hundreds of online stores helps St. Mary’s High School with each purchase!
 It’s all free & private. Join today and change online shopping for good. Go to igive.com for more information.



Reduced Lunch Application Information *(continued)*

How to Apply: To get free or reduced price meals for your children, you may submit a **Direct Certification letter received from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, OR carefully complete one application** for your household and return it to the designated office. If you now receive food stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children, or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children's names, the household food stamp, TANF, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member. All children with the same case number may be listed on the same application. Separate applications are required for children with different case numbers. If you do not list a food stamp, TANF, or FDPIR case number for all the children for whom you are applying, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member receives, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and that adult's social security number, or the word "none" if the adult does not have a social security number. An application that is not complete cannot be approved. Contact your local Department of Social Services for your food stamp or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application.

Reporting Changes: The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year. **You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive food stamps.**

Income Exclusions: The value of any childcare provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such childcare or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund, should not be considered as income for this program.

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. *To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY).* USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Meal Service to Children With Disabilities: Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations, as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities are defined to include functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. You must request the special meals from the school and provide the school with medical certification from a medical doctor. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical certification must contain.

Confidentiality: The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students' names and eligibility status, without parent/guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and federal, State, or local nutrition programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, *all* information contained in the free and reduced price application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA), including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC), the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and federal, State, or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA.

The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian.

We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Skalski, FSM
Food Service Manager

Please note – Forms must be returned to Mrs. Skalski, Food Service Manager, in the Cafeteria by September 15, 2009.

***Remember: All application information
will be held in the strictest confidence***

FAMILY APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS/MILK

To apply for free and reduced price meals for your children, read the instructions on the back, complete only one form per household, sign your name, and return it to St. Mary's High School. Call Evelyn Skalski (683-4824) if you need help. For additional names, list on a sheet of paper.

1. CHILDREN IN SCHOOL: (Complete a **separate** application for each foster child.)

Children's Names (Last, First, MI)	Grade/Teacher	School

2. FOSTER CHILD: If the above named child is the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court, check this box.
 List the child's personal use income: _____ (Write "0" if the child has no personal use income.) **Skip to Part 5.**

3. HOUSEHOLDS GETTING FOOD STAMPS OR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF): Complete this section and sign the application in Part 5 **OR** submit a Direct Certification letter from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Complete a separate application for children with a different case number or no case number. Write your case number as provided on your benefit letter, **not the number on your benefit card.**

Food Stamp Case #: _____ TANF/FDPIR Case# _____

4. HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS & TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME: If you did not give a food stamp or TANF case number, or submit a Direct Certification letter, complete this part and all of part 5.

Show how often each amount is received. See Examples →	CURRENT INCOME/PAY PERIOD			
	Examples: \$100.29/weekly, \$100.29/bi-weekly, \$100.29/2x per month, \$100.29/monthly. If pay period is not noted, the reviewing official will process the reported income amount as received WEEKLY.			
List the names of everyone in your household	Earnings from Work before deductions	Child Support, Alimony, Etc.	Payments from Pension or Retirement	Other Income
	Amount / How Often	Amount / How Often	Amount / How Often	Amount / How Often
1. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
2. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
3. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
4. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
5. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
6. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____
7. _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____

5. SIGNATURE: An adult household member **MUST** sign the application before it can be approved.

I certify that all of the information is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given for the school to receive federal funds; that school officials may verify the information and that deliberate misrepresentation of the information may subject me to prosecution under applicable State and federal laws and my children may lose meal benefits.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ SOCIAL SECURITY # _____ - _____ - _____

Home Telephone Work Telephone Mailing Address Zip Code

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: If Part 4 is completed, the adult who signs the application **must** provide his/her Social Security number.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

ANNUAL INCOME CONVERSION (ONLY CONVERT WHEN MULTIPLE FREQUENCIES ARE REPORTED ON APPLICATIONS):
 WEEKLY X 52; EVERY 2 WEEKS X 26; TWICE A MONTH X 24; MONTHLY X 12

Food Stamp, TANF, Foster Child

Income Household: Total Household Income / Frequency: _____ / _____ Household Size: _____

Application APPROVED for: Free Meals Reduced Price Meals
 Temporary Free (expires in 45 days) ___/___/___ Application DENIED

Date Notice Sent: _____ Signature of Reviewing Official: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for free and reduced price meals, submit a Direct Certification letter received from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance OR complete only one application for your household using the instructions. Sign the application and return the application to St. Mary's High School. Please complete a separate application for **each** foster child. Call the school if you need help (683-4824). Ensure that all information is provided. Failure to do so may result in denial of benefits for your child or unnecessary delay in approving your application.

PART 1 ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

- (1) Print the names of the children for whom you are applying on one application. (For Foster Children, see Part 2)
- (2) List their grade and school.

PART 2 HOUSEHOLDS WITH A FOSTER CHILD SHOULD COMPLETE THIS PART AND SIGN PART 5. A foster child is the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court. A separate application must be completed for each foster child.

- (1) List the foster child's monthly "personal use" income. ("Personal Use" income is money given by the welfare office identified by category for the child's personal use, such as an allowance and all other money the child gets, such as money from his/her family or money from the child's employment.) Write "0" if the foster child does not get "personal use" income. SKIP PART 4. Do not list any other children, household members or income, or a social security number.
- (2) A foster parent or other official representing the child must sign the application in PART 5.

PART 3 HOUSEHOLDS GETTING FOOD STAMPS, TANF, OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE THIS PART AND SIGN PART 5. COMPLETE A SEPARATE APPLICATION FOR A CHILD/CHILDREN WITH A DIFFERENT CASE NUMBER.

- (1) List a current Food Stamp case number, TANF, or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) number. Do not use the number on your benefit card. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the application in PART 5. SKIP PART 4. Do not list names of household members on income if you list a food stamp case number, TANF, or FDPIR number

PARTS 4&5 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE THESE PARTS AND ALL OF PART 5.

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are applying for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household members receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions, and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, 2 x per month. Changes in income during the school year no longer need to be reported.
- (3) The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursements for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TANF and At Risk Child Care Programs should not be considered as income for this program.
- (4) The application must include the social security number of the adult who signs PART 5 if Part 4 is completed. If the adult does not have a social security number, write "none". If you listed a food stamp, TANF or FDPIR number, or if you are applying for a foster child, a social security number is not needed.

OTHER BENEFITS: Your child may be eligible for benefits such as Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In order to determine if your child is eligible, program officials need information from your free and reduced price meal application. Your written consent is required before any information may be released. Please refer to attached parent Disclosure Letter and Consent Statement for information about other benefits.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Section 9 of the National School Lunch Act requires that unless your child's food stamp, TANF or FDPIR case number is provided, you must include the social security number of the adult household member signing the application, or indicate that the household member does not have a social security number. The disclosure of a social security number is voluntary. However, if a social security number is not given or an indication is not made that the signer does not have such a number, the application cannot be approved. The social security number may be used to identify the household member in carrying out efforts to verify the correctness of information stated on the application. These verification efforts may be carried out through program reviews, audits, and investigations and may include contacting employers to determine income, contacting a food stamp or welfare office to determine current certification for receipt of food stamps or other benefits, contacting the State employment security office to determine the amount of benefits received, and checking the documentation produced by household members to prove the amount of income received. These efforts may result in a loss or reduction of benefits, administrative claims, or legal actions if incorrect information is reported.

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the bases of race, color, national origin, sex, gender, or disability. To file a complaint, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 or (202)720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Counseling Corner

Kelly Smith (ksmith@smhlancers.org)

683-2349

TBA

Visit colleges this summer

NOW through fall is the time for seniors and their parents to visit the colleges they are considering. Whether home or away, families need to experience the campus and talk about how it will fit their student's needs.

Once you have viewed the website and read all you can about the school, call the admissions office to set up an appointment. This is the most important step in the college selection process and is vital in helping you and your student decide where to apply next fall.

Students met several times with Miss Smith, and each has a list of

potential schools.

Feel free to call with your ques-

tions. Miss Smith will be available throughout the summer.

DO IT NOW!!! – Register Now for Fall Tests

Students that are going to be seniors should go online now to register for these very important college entrance tests.

SAT (collegeboard.com)

Test Date	Test	Registration Deadline
October 10	SAT & Subject Tests	September 9
November 7	SAT & Subject Tests	October 1
December 5	SAT & Subject Tests	October 30
January 23	SAT & Subject Tests	December 15
March 13	SAT only	February 4
May 1	SAT & Subject Tests	March 25
June 5	SAT & Subject Tests	April 29

ACT (act.org)

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Applied
September 12	August 7	August 8 – 21
October 24	September 18	Sept. 19 – Oct. 2
December 12	November 6	November 7 – 20
February 6	January 5	January 6 – 15
April 10	March 5	March 6 – 19
June 12	May 7	May 8 – 21

Reminder:

Requests for changes to students' schedules may be made until August 1. No requests for changes will be honored after August 1.

Office Hours

Through Aug. 20 – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Aug. 24 through Opening Day – 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Note that the school will be closed

Friday, Aug. 21.
Those who need a meeting at another time, please call to make an appointment.

Mark Your Calendar!

Freshman Mixer & Ice Cream Social
Friday, August 14
6-9 p.m.

Orientation for Incoming Freshmen & Transfer Students & Parents
Tuesday, Sept. 1
6:30 p.m.

Art students in action again

Art teacher Miss Michelle Giomundo and her students will be on the road again this summer as they take part in the Chalk Walk Competition at the Lewiston Art Festival on August 8 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Festival will be taking place on Center Street in Lewiston.

Come out and support the St. Mary's students as they display their creations, and their talents, at this prestigious event.

From the Athletic Director

Parent/Athlete/Coach Communication Guide

My goal at St. Mary's is to create a positive environment for our students and your children, where academic and athletic excellence will become expected and will be achieved.

Our Philosophy

- Athletic and academic achievement requires a sincere commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators. For all of us to be successful, effective communication must occur.
- This St. Mary's Athletic Department and administration believes strongly in being accessible to parents and supportive of the coaching staff.
- We will continually attempt to improve communication with the students and parents. For our programs to be truly successful, it is necessary that everyone understand the focus and direction of the athletic program.

Your Expectations

A. *It is reasonable to expect your child's coach to inform you:*

1. When and where practices and games are held.
2. About his/her coaching philosophy.
3. About the expectations he/she has for all athletes on the squad as well as your individual child.
4. What is required to be part of the team, i.e., special equipment, off season conditioning, etc.
5. If your child is injured during participation in a practice or contest.
6. Whenever any disciplinary action results in your child being denied participation in a practice or contest.

B. *Typical concerns of parents that are appropriate to discuss with a coach are:*

1. Any noticeable downward trends in your child's academic performance.
2. How you can contribute to your child's skill improvement and development.

Our Expectations

A. *Coaches need parents to tell them:*

1. Any specific health concerns about your child, this should be expressed directly to the head coach at a mutually convenient time.

Dear Students and Parents:

I hope everyone's summer has been successful and enjoyable. We have been working hard at St. Mary's High School to have the building and athletic facilities in great shape for the new school year. The outdoor athletic complex continues to be improved with some new topsoil, seed, and re-sodding in areas of need. Extensive work was also done to our artificial turf baseball field, making it one of the best baseball diamonds in Western New York. The indoor athletic facilities are obviously in perfect shape due to our fantastic athletic center and the resurfacing of our court.

As we move through the summer I'm sure you are already anxious to begin or continue your career as a student-athlete here at St. Mary's. I encourage all returning and incoming students to try to participate in a sport while at St. Mary's. The memories and

friendships that are made are irreplaceable. Couple that with the enjoyment of competition and your experience as a St. Mary's student-athlete promises to be extremely rewarding.

St. Mary's student-athletes attack their academics and athletics with a pride, passion, and togetherness rarely found in other schools. It is a privilege for us to have you join the St. Mary's student-athlete family, as much as it is a privilege for you to be a

part of the rich tradition and spirit that goes along with being a student-athlete at St. Mary's.

***** REMINDER THAT ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL ON FILE IN THE HEALTH OFFICE AND FILL OUT THE HEALTH INTERVAL FORM BEFORE STARTING ANY SPORTS AT ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL *****

Sincerely,

Dan Gill

Director of Athletics



Sponsorship opportunity

St. Mary's is currently seeking corporate sponsors for the 2009-2010 school year. Our athletic sponsorship program aims to benefit our sponsors by giving them high visibility to all spectators at our numerous home-sporting events. St. Mary's estimates that 10,000-15,000 people annually come through our athletic facilities giving excellent exposure to our sponsors programs and services. Potential sponsorship benefits include:

- Event Exclusivity
- Category Exclusivity
- Visible On-field/Court signage
- Exposure in Event Advertising and Promotional Materials
- Potential Customized Marketing Promotions
- On court/field Promotions & Presentations
- Public Address Announcements
- Game Program Advertisements
- Recognition on School Web-Site

For more information, please contact Dan Gill at 683-4824 ext: 35 or at dgill@smhlancers.org

2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
- B. *If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, what procedure should you follow?*
1. Make an appointment with the coach. **Never** approach a coach before or after a game unless the coach requests this.
 2. If the coach cannot be reached, then call the Athletic Director to set up a meeting.
 3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before, during, or following a contest or practice. These can be busy and emotional times for both the parent and the coach and this period does not promote objective analysis of the situation.
- C. *What should you do if the meeting with the coach does not result in a resolution to the problem?*
1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
 2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Dress Code for 2009-10 school year

The purpose of the Dress Code is to teach self-discipline associated with personal hygiene and grooming and to encourage students to take pride in a personal appearance that would be acceptable in most modern business environments.

The following dress code is in effect from the beginning of homeroom until dismissal. Homeroom teachers will check dress code every morning and will immediately send anyone with questionable attire to the Discipline Office. Students are expected to be dressed in clean, properly-sized clothes that are well maintained.

No students will be allowed to attend class out of dress code which includes their haircut / style / color without an Out of Dress Code Pass from the Discipline Office. This dress code is also in effect during January and June exams.

Ladies

- Properly sized navy or khaki dress pants (with the "SMH" logo) purchased from Flynn & O'Hara are the only pants allowed for ladies. The pants may not be ripped or torn. Pants from American Eagle or Aeropostale are not allowed.
- A properly-sized blue or white Oxford buttoned blouse with a buttoned collar, long or short sleeve, tucked in, must be worn. The school recommends purchasing these from Flynn & O'Hara to ensure that you have the correct style. T-shirts worn under a dress shirt must be white with no lettering or design.
- The official St. Mary's High School Polo shirts may be worn all year except on Liturgy days. Club and athletic polo shirts are not allowed as part of the regular dress code. Polo shirts must be tucked in at all times. T-shirts worn under polo shirts may be solid navy, white, or gray. No lettering or design from the t-shirt may be visible.
- Embroidered St. Mary's sweatshirts, St. Mary's sweaters, St. Mary's fleeces, or solid navy blue, solid white, or solid gray sweaters may be worn over the dress shirt, a white, navy, or gray turtleneck, or the St. Mary's polo shirt. Thermal or long-sleeve tee shirts are not allowed. Club and athletic sweatshirts and fleeces are not allowed as part of the regular dress code.
- Turtleneck sweaters (solid navy, solid white, or solid gray) may be worn without a dress shirt / polo shirt underneath.
- Navy blue blazers or navy blue vests may be worn over the dress shirt, white St. Mary's polo shirt, or a white, navy, or gray turtleneck.
- Black, navy, white, or beige stockings or black, navy, gray, or white knee socks and shoes must be worn. No patterns, bows, buttons, or other designs are allowed on the socks/stockings.
- All girls are required to purchase the uniform skort that is available from Flynn &

Flynn & O'Hara now SMH uniform company

St. Mary's High School is pleased to announce that Flynn & O'Hara is now the official uniform company of the school.

Flynn & O'Hara will have in supply the uniform shirts, skorts, and pants that are part of the St. Mary's High School Dress Code.

To obtain your official St. Mary's

clothes, parents should:

- Visit their store at 5225 Sheridan Drive (corner of Evans) in Williamsville
- Call them at 634-1694
- Visit their website www.flynnohara.com
- Use the order form recently sent home to all students (call the school if you need another form)

O'Hara. The skort must be **no more than two inches above the knee**. They are only required to wear the uniform skort on Liturgy days or other special occasions requiring formal dress.

- Dress shoes must be worn cannot be backless, canvas, slippers, or boots.
- Shoes must be properly worn.

Gentlemen

- Properly sized navy or khaki dress pants worn with a solid brown or solid black colored belt. The school recommends purchasing the pants from Flynn & O'Hara to ensure that you have the correct style. Pants with rivets, sewn-on pockets, stripes, or ripped/torn cuffs are not to be worn. Pants may not be worn below the waistline. Pants from American Eagle or Aeropostale are not allowed.
- A properly-sized solid blue or white Oxford buttoned dress shirt with buttoned collar, fully buttoned and tucked in, and must be worn with a tie. Bow ties may be worn.
- The official St. Mary's High School Polo shirts may be worn all year except on Liturgy days. Club and athletic polo shirts are not allowed as part of the regular dress code. Polo shirts must be tucked in at all times. T-shirts worn under polo shirts may be solid navy, white, or gray. No lettering or design from the t-shirt may be visible.
- Embroidered St. Mary's sweatshirts, St. Mary's sweaters, St. Mary's fleeces, or solid navy blue, solid gray, or solid white sweaters may be worn over the dress shirt with tie, a white, blue, or gray turtleneck, or the St. Mary's polo shirt. Thermal or long-sleeve tee shirts are not allowed. Club and athletic sweatshirts and fleeces are not allowed as part of the regular dress code.
- Turtleneck sweaters (solid navy, solid white, or solid gray) may be worn without a dress shirt / polo shirt underneath.
- Navy blue blazers or navy blue vests may be worn over the dress shirt with tie, St. Mary's white polo shirt, or a white, blue, or gray turtleneck.
- T-shirts worn under a dress shirt must be white with no lettering or design.

- Solid brown or solid black dress shoes with socks must be worn.
- No make-up or nail polish may be worn.
- Dress shoes cannot be backless, canvas, slippers, or boots.
- Shoes must be properly worn.

The following rules apply to all students:

- No sandals or open-toed shoes may be worn.
- No outerwear may be worn.
- The only acceptable sweatshirts and fleeces are embroidered SMH or approved class sweatshirts (without hoods).
- Body piercing is limited to two earrings per ear for girls, no earrings for boys, including dress down days. Wearing a bandage over illegal piercings is not permitted.
- Visible tattoos and heavy metal chains are not allowed including dress down days.
- Long-sleeve shirts worn under short sleeve shirts are not allowed.
- No Capri pants or shorts may be worn.
- No gloves of any kind may be worn.
- No wristbands or sweatbands may be worn.
- Nothing sheer or see-through may ever be worn, including dress down days.
- Nothing sleeveless may ever be worn, including dress down days.
- Students are not allowed to have writing or drawings on their skin at any time.
- Sleeves on polo shirts may not be rolled and collars may not be flipped up.

Hair

- Hair should be kept neat, clean, and combed at all times. No bizarre haircuts or hair colors are permitted. There should be no spikes, puffs, Mohawks, etc. Boys' hair must be no longer than collar length, and the front must be at least one-finger's-width off of the eyebrows. No portion of the head will be shaved. Any bizarre hairstyle will result in daily detention until the problem is corrected.
- Students are expected to be clean-shaven on a daily basis. No facial hair is permitted. Sideburns must be trimmed,

(Continued on page 13)

2009 Summer Reading Assignment

English 9

English 9 students are to choose any **two** of the following; English 9 Honors students are to choose **three** of the following (see below for assignment).

- *Alas, Babylon* (Pat Frank) – A story about civilization and life after nuclear war
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* (Mildred Taylor) – This novel depicts the many dimensions of racism in the South during the 1930s. The Logans, an African-American family, struggle to keep their 400 acres during the Great Depression.
- *Summer of My German Soldier* (Bette Greene) – During World War II, a young American girl falls in love with a German prisoner of war as she helps him escape.
- *Ten Little Indians* – also titled *And Then There Were None* (Agatha Christie) – Mystery story of the murder of 10 strangers trapped on an island.
- *Ender's Game* (Orson Scott Card) – Science fiction tale of youth being trained for interstellar war against aliens.
- *The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon* (Stephen King) – On a six-mile hike on the Maine-New Hampshire branch of the Appala-

chian Trail, nine-year Trisha McFarland becomes lost in a wilderness maze full of peril and terror.

- *The Book Thief* (Markus Zusak) – It is 1939, Nazi Germany. Liesel Meminger's life is changed forever when she begins to steal, hide, and save books from Nazi bookburnings.
- *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (R.K. Rowling) – Book 6 in the Harry Potter series.

English 10

English 10 students are to choose any **two** of the following; English 10 Honors students are to choose **three** of the following (see below for assignment):

- *In the Middle of the Night* (Robert Cormier) – Years before Denny was born, his father was involved in a tragic accident. The family doesn't talk about it, but the tragedy continues to haunt the family. When Denny decides to learn more about the accident, he becomes entangled in its web.
- *A Night to Remember* (Walter Lord) – The author recounts the last hours of the *Titanic* from the perspective of many of the ship's passengers.

- *Rebecca* (Daphne du Maurier) – The classic story of the second Mrs. DeWinter, who followed the man she loved from Monte Carlo to his lavish country estate, Manderly. There, she is drawn into the brooding passions of a romance dead but not forgotten – for always, everywhere, is the evil, eternal presence of Rebecca.
- *Where Are the Children?* (Mary Higgins Clark) – This novel is a combination of mystery and murder in a Cape Cod setting.
- *Briar Rose* (Jane Yolen) – The story of Briar Rose (Sleeping Beauty) is linked to the Holocaust when a young woman promises her dying grandmother that she will return to Poland and discover the truth about her past.
- *House* (Frank Peretti & Ted Dekker) – A supernatural thriller by the famous pair of Christian writers that gives new meaning to the phrase "haunted house."
- *Friday Night Lights* (H.G. Bissinger) – Bissinger chronicles a season in the life of Odessa, Texas, and shows how single-minded devotion to the football

(Continued on page 14)

Dress Code (continued)

neat, and not extend below the earlobe.

Pride Day Dress

- Students may wear any official St. Mary's attire including class shirts, school sports t-shirts/sweatshirts, school sweatpants, school shorts, school hats.
- Solid navy pants or navy pants with white stripes down the leg may be worn.
- No jeans are allowed.
- Earring and facial hair regulation remains in effect.
- Sneakers or sandals may be worn if the student is wearing Pride Day Dress.

Liturgy Day Dress

To achieve a sense of unity in the celebration of important moments in the life of the St. Mary's community and to deepen our awareness of our Catholic faith, all students will attend all school liturgies and prayer services. On days when a liturgy is scheduled, students must follow the rules for "liturgy day dress:"

- No polo shirts will be allowed.
- Gentlemen are required to wear a dress shirt and tie as defined previously.
- Ladies are required to wear a dress shirt as defined previously and are required to wear a uniform skirt.
- Dress code sweaters, approved St. Mary's

sweatshirts, vests, blazers are permitted over the dress shirts.

This dress code may also be in effect for other special occasions and field trips. Announcements will be made in advance.

Jeans Day Dress

Throughout the school year, organizations may run a jeans day as a fundraiser for outside charities. These need to be proposed and approved through the Principal's Advisory Board.

On a jeans day, students may wear:

- Jeans — they may not be ripped/torn or excessively oversized.
 - Sweatpants, windpants, cargo pants, corduroy pants, Capri pants
 - Sneakers or sandals
- They may NOT wear:**
- Jean shorts or shorts of any kind
 - Jean skirts or skirts of any kind
 - Hats

Modesty will always be stressed. Earring and facial hair regulations remain in effect. If a student chooses not to participate, they must be in regular dress code.

The Dean of Student Affairs will make the final determination as to whether or not a student's attire violates the dress code. Modesty will be stressed. Any bi-

zarre appearance, in clothing or hair, is unacceptable.

Graduation Requirements Regarding Dress Code

The following policy must be adhered to during these events: the Baccalaureate Mass, Senior Awards Ceremony, and Graduation Ceremony. Failure to follow these rules will result in the student not being allowed to participate in that event. The graduation fee will not be refunded.

Because these are formal events hosted by the school, there will be strict adherence to the school dress code policy regarding hair, earrings, body-piercing, and facial hair. (Please see the Student Handbook.) Messages on caps/gowns are not permitted.

- Ladies must be modestly dressed in a dress, skirt/blouse, or a pants suit. Dress shoes or dress sandals must be worn. No flip-flops. No bizarre socks, stockings, or shoes may be worn.
- Gentlemen must wear dress pants, a dress shirt (preferably white) and tie, as well as dress shoes.

In all cases regarding these events, the final decision regarding participation will be decided by the Administration of the school.

Summer Reading Assignment (continued)

team shapes the community and inspires – and sometimes shatters – the teenagers who wear the Panthers' uniform.

- *Fahrenheit 451* (Ray Bradbury) – Bradbury's classic science fiction novel of censorship and defiance.
- *Castaway Kid* (R.B. Mitchell) – The true story of an abandoned kid who was one of the last "lifers" in an American orphanage.
- *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* (R.K. Rowling) – Book 7 in the Harry Potter series.
- *Brave New World* (Aldous Huxley) – In a chilling vision of the future, babies are produced in bottles and exist in a mechanized world without soul. This is a science fiction classic.

English 11 Regents

English 11 Regents students are to choose any **two** of the following (see below for assignment):

- *The Andromeda Strain* (Michael Crichton) – A frightening situation develops when deadly extraterrestrial bacteria invade human's environment.
- *Black Boy* (Richard Wright) – A sensitive and rebellious African-American youth survives a life of poverty, familial strife, and Southern bigotry to pursue his goal of becoming a writer in the North.
- *The Firm* (John Grisham) – A young law school graduate is hired by a Memphis law firm. He soon learns that things are not always as they appear to be.
- *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (Betty Smith) – Francie Nolan lives in turn-of-the-century Brooklyn where she struggles against all odds to survive and thrive.
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Mark Haddon) – This is the story of an autistic boy's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog.
- *My Sister's Keeper* (Jodi Picoult) – Anna was conceived as a bone marrow match for her sister Kate – a life and role that she has never challenged ... until now. This novel is the story of one family's struggle for survival at all human costs; it raises many questions, including: where does selfishness end and self-preservation begin?
- *A Raisin in the Sun* (Lorraine Hansberry) – This classic drama shows how the sudden appearance of money tears an African-American family apart.

- *Into Thin Air* (Jon Krakauer) – A first-person account of an expedition to Mt. Everest that turned from dream climb to nightmare.
- *Catch 22* (Joseph Heller) – In this satirical novel, Captain Yossarian confronts the hypocrisy of war and bureaucracy as he frantically attempts to survive.
- *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* (Jonathan Safran Foer) – Nine-year-old Oskar Schell lost his father in the World Trade Center collapse on September 11. He embarks on a "secret mission" to find the lock that matches a key that belonged to his father. This seemingly impossible task will bring him into contact with survivors of all sorts during this healing journey.
- *What Happened* (Peter Johnson) – This novel, written by a Canisius High School graduate and set in an all-boys Buffalo high school, is an account of a car accident that unfolds slowly from the voice of an unnamed narrator.
- *Dead Man Walking* (Sister Helen Prejean) – Sister Helen Prejean provides a gritty look at what happens in the final hours of a death-row inmate

AP Literature & Composition - Grade 11

- You must read *The Scarlet Letter* (Nathaniel Hawthorne).
- You must also choose any **two** from English 11 reading list (see below for assignment):

English 12

English 12 students are to choose any **two** of the following (see below for assignment):

- *Bleachers* (John Grisham) – Former high school football players return to their small town to mourn the death of their beloved coach.
- *Farewell to Arms* (Ernest Hemingway) – Set in Italy, this is a poignant love story taking place against the backdrop of World War I. A classic!
- *19 Minutes* (Jodi Picoult) – Sterling is an ordinary New Hampshire town where nothing ever happens – until the day its complacency is shattered by an act of violence.
- *The Bell Jar* (Sylvia Plath) – Plath's only novel tells the story of college student Esther Greenwood, her nervous breakdown and fight to regain both her sanity and her life. A classic!
- *The Great Santini* (Pat Conroy) – A novel

about the Meecham family: Bull, he's all Marine, fighter pilot, king of the clouds, and absolute ruler of his family; Lillian, wife and mother, beautiful, Southern bred, with a core of velvet steel; Ben, the oldest, a born athlete whose best never satisfies his father.

- *1984* (George Orwell) – The classic sci-fi novel. The year 1984 has come and gone, but Orwell's prophetic, nightmarish vision of the world we are becoming – written in 1949 – is timelier than ever.
- *Native Son* (Richard Wright) – For Bigger Thomas, an African-American man accused of a crime in the white man's world, there could be no extenuating circumstances, no explanations, only death.
- *In Cold Blood* (Truman Capote) – The documentary account of a 1959 murder in a small Kansas town.
- *The Perfect Storm* (Sebastian Junger) – Haunting premonitions did not save seven fishermen from the ferocious and deadly power of the sea.
- *The Things They Carried* (Tim O'Brien) – These stories follow a platoon of American soldiers through a variety of personal and military encounters during the Vietnam War.

AP Language - Grade 12

You must read *Eats Shoots & Leaves* (Lynne Truss). Assignment – there will be a punctuation test on the first Monday we are back in September (no written paper is to be done on this book.)

You must read *On Writing* (Stephen King) Choose any one from the English 12 reading list (see below for assignment):

Reading Assignments

Assignment for English 9 Regents *Only*

You are to choose Project A for one novel you have read and Project B for the second novel you have read.

For each project, you must:

- include the title and author of the book
- draw or cut out pictures from magazines, newspapers, etc.
- include a **minimum** of eight pictures (you are encouraged to include as many as are necessary to fully explain your points)

Project A:

Using pictures, create a poster on a main character from the book you have read.

(Continued on page 15)

Summer Reading Assignment (continued)

Choose a picture that you think might physically look like this character and place it in a prominent place on the poster. Label it with the character's name.

Choose pictures that illustrate character traits, situations, or experiences the character has gone through, or other items that might be important to the character, to create the rest of the poster.

In 1-4 sentences, tell either how the character is similar to you or how the character may be different from you. Attach this to the back of the poster.

Be prepared to discuss how these similarities or differences are revealed by the pictures you have chosen for your poster.

Project B:

- Using pictures, create a poster of the plot line (a time line of the major events of the story).
- On the plot line, include and label the climax (high point of action) of the story.
- Also on the poster, state the theme (or message or lesson learned from the story) in one sentence.
- Be prepared to discuss the theme and show how one or more major events from the story contributed to your understanding of this message.

Assignment for English 9 Honors, English 10, English 10 Honors, English 11, and English 12

In addition to completing the reading of the required number of required books (3 for Honors' classes; 2 for Regents classes) from your grade's list, you will keep a journal about the books you have chosen. For **each** book, you will need to complete **all seven journal entries**. The journal entries should be handwritten in a notebook – typed pages will not be accepted. Each entry (except for the vocabulary) should be 100-150 words long (yes, the teachers count the words). The journal should contain your own original work. When discussing the book, you should use specific references to the work to indicate you have completed the reading.

The first page of your journal must contain a list of the titles and authors of the books you read.

For **each** book, you must answer all seven journal topics:

- Select 10 unfamiliar words from the book. Look up each word in the dictionary, copy down the definition, and write your own sentence using the word.
- Relate an incident in the book to some-

thing you have experienced.

- Choose what you consider to be the most significant quotation from the book. Copy the quotation and discuss its meaning. (Note: the quotation itself does not count as part of the 100- 150 words.)
- Which character did you like the most? Why? Which character did you like the least? Why?
- Explain why you think this is an important book to read.
- Climax is the turning point of a story; it is the pivotal point where a revelation influences the outcome of the story. Which event is the story's climax? How is this a turning point for the characters?

• Overall, did you like the book? Why or why not?

Your journal should be handed to your English teacher on Monday, Sept. 14. The project will be graded, and the grade will count toward your first quarter English average. Journals will not be returned to students; they will be kept on file with the English Department. If students do not complete the summer reading assignment, they will be given a grade of incomplete for the first quarter, which will be removed only if the assignment is satisfactorily completed and submitted to the teacher.

Please be aware of the fact that this is a course requirement; failure to do the summer reading assignment will result in a failure for the course.

Assignment for AP English Literature and AP English Language

In AP English Literature and AP English Language, our focus will be the interpretation and analysis of literature. It is assumed that you can retell the plot of a story, so the summer reading assignment will involve interpreting and analyzing the three literary works you have chosen.

For **each** book you read, you will write a book analysis. In your book analysis, you will discuss the following topics:

- **Section One: an introduction.** This paragraph should include the author, title, and genre. It should also indicate the setting and theme of the work.
- **Section Two: a discussion of the author's writing style.** This involves syntax (sentence structure) and diction (word choice). When thinking about the author's style, you should consider the following questions: Is the language in the book simple or complex? Why

would the author write the story with this particular style? Be sure to give examples to illustrate the writing style.

- **Section Three: a discussion of the author's techniques.** In this section, discuss three literary techniques used in the work. There are many points to consider, and the following list cannot apply to all. (In addition, while reading, you may spot other devices that are not on this list.) Here are some examples: What is the author's point of view, and what effect does this have? Are there any intruding narrative devices such as letters, diaries, or flashbacks? How does the reader learn about the characters? How does the setting create the atmosphere? Is there any symbolism in this story? Is there any irony present?
- **Section Four: a conclusion.** In the conclusion, give an overall evaluation or recommendation about the work. Is it worthwhile to read? Is it a waste of time? Why?

In the paper, the keys are INTERPRETATION and ANALYSIS. Do not give a plot summary. You should discuss plot only to give specific examples as they pertain to your discussion of the book's elements. When writing this paper, keep in mind that it is a formal paper written for the college level. Impress the reader with your writing ability. The writing and interpretation in your paper should be your own original work. Even though there are four specific sections to each paper, do not number your sections; make smooth transitions between sections and write the papers in an essay format.

Each paper should be **three pages typed and double-spaced**, although it may be longer if you feel the need to elaborate. **Your three papers must be turned in to your English teacher on Monday, September 14.** These papers will be used to begin our literary discussions. These papers will not be returned to the student; they will be kept on file with the English Department. The grade, which counts toward your first quarter English average, is based on your completion of the assignment, the analysis of the literary work, and the writing skill displayed in the papers. If you do not complete the summer reading assignment, you will be given a grade of incomplete for the first quarter, which will be removed only if the assignment is satisfactorily completed and submitted to the teacher.

Wanted: student ADs

Attention all students:

Interested in being a student assistant athletic director?

The job would include:

- Helping at school sporting events.
- Working tournaments.
- Making sure uniforms are turned in on time.
- Cleaning up after sporting events.
- Gain valuable experience in athletics.
- Earn credit toward your service hours.

Those with questions should contact Mr. Gill in the Athletic Office.

Help us cut costs of *Currents*!

Did you know that each month St. Mary's High School spends about \$500 to mail out *Currents*? And that's in postage alone, not counting paper, toner, wear & tear on the copier, and the time to prepare the publication for mail.

To help us cut costs, we are inviting interested individuals to sign up to have *Currents* delivered to them via e-mail. Each month's issue of *Currents* would be

sent by the first of the month in a pdf version, from which readers could print out the whole issue or only the pages they need.

If you are interested in receiving *Currents* by e-mail, please e-mail Keith Kidder at kkidder@smhlancers.org, call him at 683-4824, ext. 15, or fill out the form below and return it to the St. Mary's Main Office.

Yes, send me my *Currents* by e-mail

Name _____

e-mail address _____

Signature _____

This e-mail address will be for school-use only. We will not share this address with any outside organization. If you have any questions, please contact Keith Kidder at kkidder@smhlancers.org

Please return this form to the St. Mary's High School Main Office.

August 2009 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Girls Basketball at Villanova Camp	27 Office Open 8am-1pm Baseball Camp 9am-12 noon Girls Basketball at Villanova Camp	28 Office Open 8am-1pm Baseball Camp 9am-12 noon	29 Office Open 8am-1pm Baseball Camp 9am-12 noon	30 Office Open 8am-1pm Baseball Camp 9am-12 noon	31 Office Open 8am-1pm Baseball Camp 9am-12 noon	1
2	3 Office Open 8am-1pm Volleyball Camp Grades 9-12 9am-2pm	4 Office Open 8am-1pm Volleyball Camp Grades 9-12 9am-2pm	5 Office Open 8am-1pm Volleyball Camp Grades 9-12 9am-2pm	6 Office Open 8am-1pm Volleyball Camp Grades 9-12 9am-2pm Senior Photos in Media Center	7 Office Open 8am-1pm Volleyball Camp Grades 9-12 9am-2pm Registration Deadline for Sept. 12 ACT	8
9	10 Office Open 8am-1pm	11 Office Open 8am-1pm	12 Office Open 8am-1pm	13 Office Open 8am-1pm	14 Office Open 8am-1pm Freshmen Mixer 6-9pm	15
16 Classic Car Show 12n-4pm	17 Office Open 8am-1pm	18 Office Open 8am-1pm	19 Office Open 8am-1pm	20 Office Open 8am-1pm	21 Office Closed	22
23	24 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	25 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	26 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	27 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	28 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	29
30	31 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	1 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm Incoming Freshmen / New Student Orientation 6:30pm	2 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	3 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	4 Office Open 7:30am-3:30pm	5

**EARN FREE SUPPLIES
at OFFICE DEPOT**

Every time you give our School ID number when buying qualifying school supplies, St. Mary's receives credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for Free Supplies!

The School ID for St. Mary's High School is 70073221

In the August issue of *Currents*

Football Camp



Assistant football coach, Advancement Director, and former Buffalo Bill Mark Kelso (right) has an attentive audience during the recent St. Mary's Football Camp

- Free / Reduced Lunch Application
- Departments list School Supplies
 - Start dates for Fall Sports
 - 2009-2010 Dress Code
- Summer Reading Assignment
 - August Calendar
 - And much more!

**For the latest news
on St. Mary's High School,
go to www.smhlancers.org**

Your Opportunities Await at
St. Mary's High School
142 Laverack Avenue
Lancaster, NY 14086-1849

