

SUMMIT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

SECONDARY SCOOP

ISSUE 3, FEBRUARY 16, 2010

MARK YOUR CALEDAR

- ◆ *Math Olympics in San Antonio—Feb 19*
- ◆ *Theater Arts rehearsal—Feb 20*
- ◆ *Free Casual Day—Feb 24*
- ◆ *9th Grade New Orleans Impact Trip—Mar 1-5*
- ◆ *Moonies Burger fundraiser—Mar 2*
- ◆ *Impact Casual—Mar 10*
- ◆ *\$1 Casual day for Science Club—Mar 11*
- ◆ *Early release—Mar 12 @ 11:00*
- ◆ *End of Term 3—Mar 12*
- ◆ *Spring Break—Mar 15-19*
- ◆ *12th Grade Bahamas Impact Trip—Mar 20-25*
- ◆ *Free Casual—Mar 24*
- ◆ *Theater Arts rehearsal—Mar 27*
- ◆ *Good Friday Holiday—Apr 2*
- ◆ *SAT—Apr 6 -9*
- ◆ *Moonies Burger fundraiser night—Apr 6*
- ◆ *11th Grade DC Impact Trip—Apr 11-17*
- ◆ *10th Grade Impact Trip—Apr 22-27*
- ◆ *Free Casual—Apr 28*

Dear Parents,

This issue of the “Scoop” is full of pertinent information for you and your student. There is an air of excitement at Summit about upcoming plans for next year, as well as communicating all the important events yet to come for this year.

Next Year

Next year we have some exciting changes planned for secondary. One of the changes is that we will be going to block scheduling for high school and a partial block for middle school (mornings only). Classes will be scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. We feel that the block schedule will allow teachers to teach subjects at a greater depth, while addressing fewer, yet more complex topics, and will expand students’ learning experience. Our teachers have been attending professional development seminars which help them develop a repertoire of strategies and activities to maximize student interest and learning.

In addition to block scheduling, we will be adopting the ACT college readiness standards which will narrow the scope, but lengthen the depth of what we teach. In the fall we will also be introducing two assessment tools, the EXPLORE for 8th or 9th grade and the PLAN for 10th grade, which target those same standards. In this way, we will be better able to assess each student’s progress in mastering age-appropriate, college readiness skills and develop strategies to address any weaknesses well before the time when students need to take the ACT college entrance assessment. In addition, we will be administering an end-of-course assessment in the spring that will target specific objectives taught in the particular class. None of the assessments affect a student’s grades. They are primarily tools that produce data based on benchmarks that will enable the school to improve teaching and learning for each student.

This Year

This year, we will again be having the **sex education** presentation by Austin LifeGuard. This is a biblically-based, abstinence-only, nonprofit organization. They have a formal curriculum for Middle School and another one for High School which will be presented the week of April 12th to 7th, 8th, and 9th graders in their Bible classes. Prior to that week, we will have a **Parent Information Night on April 6th at 7:00 pm** where Austin LifeGuard will explain the program and what parents need to do as follow up. If you attended the meeting last year, there is no need for you to come, but you are welcome. If you did not attend last year, please put this important date on your calendar. Summit Christian Academy believes that we partner with parents who have the main responsibility to educate their children. If you have any questions, please contact me.

In preparation for our dual credit speech class for next year, ACC will be bringing a mobile unit to the campus on **March 23**, from 8:00 to 10:00, to begin the ACC enrollment process for all our Sophomores and Juniors. They will be returning on **April 20**, from 8:00 to 11:45, to administer the ACC admissions test. Then, on **May 11**, from 8:00 to 11:00, they will return to do the advising which will complete the enrollment process. The students are then ready to register for our dual credit speech class. Please make every effort to have your student here on those days. If they miss any of this enrollment process, they will need to go to ACC to complete it on their own some day after school. It is a wonderful service that ACC is willing to give to our school. My hope is to get everyone enrolled in ACC and registered for the dual credit speech class before Summit’s school year is over. Oh yes, did I mention that our own Dr. Cortez will be teaching the class?



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For everyone who has a student who took the PSAT this fall or last fall, I would like to highlight a college and career resource that is available to you for free. I tell the students about this resource, but I want to make sure each of you have the information as well. The resource is called My College Quick Start produced online by the College Board. Topics within the resource are My Study Plan, My Personality, My Major and Career Matches, and My College Matches. Once you get to the site, there are many other resource including "Apply to a College." Students sign in at www.collegeboard.com/quickstart. Students need the student code from the upper, right hand corner of their PSAT score reports. I gave those reports back to the students before the Christmas break or right after the break. If you cannot locate the report, please let me know. I have a copy of each student's report in his/her cum folder.

I know that I have given you so much information here, but before I close I would like to remind you that this year's graduation is May 21st. It is important that all secondary students attend this function because the students are part of the ceremony. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Also, remember that students enrolling by March 1st are guaranteed a spot. If you enroll before April 1st, you receive \$50 off the enrollment fee. Let me know if you have any questions about anything. I am here to serve you.

Blessings,

Georgia