



FALCONS

Maroon & Blue

Sierra Lutheran High School

Monthly Parent Newsletter - That Informs Parents of Upcoming Events & Interesting Happenings at the School

Volume 8, Issue 8

Preparing students for today, tomorrow, and ETERNITY

April 2010

APRIL DATES

- 5-9 Easter Break
- 12 Classes Resume
- 15 BOOSTERS Meeting
- 16 Faculty Meeting
(students will be dismissed at 11:20)

Inside this issue:

News Update	1
E.D. Search	2
Tuition Assistance	2
We're Moving	2
65x4	3
Enrollment	3
Golf Team	3
New Campus Update	4
Student of the Month	4
College Corner	5
Student Government	6
Sierra Golf Classic	6

NEWS UPDATE-

SENIORS WIN 3rd ANNUAL LIP SYNC

On March 23rd, many SLHS students participated in our third annual lip sync. This year's song choices came from movies that were popular in the 1980's. This event has proven to be one of great fun for students and their parents. The students get to learn songs from the "old days" and the parents get to remember back to what was taking place when a particular song/movie was popular.

Our freshman class kicked off the night with their version of "The Danger Zone," a hit song from Tom Cruise's blockbuster, "Top Gun." The final performance was delivered by the faculty and their rendition of "Footloose."

Our three judges, Jamie McCormick (Bethlehem teacher), Tosca Renner (parent of two alumni) and Karon Brauer (Norm's wife) did a great job reviewing the performances and the scores were very close. However, the class of 2010 finished with the highest score and won bragging rights with their performance of "Ghostbusters."

On behalf of Sierra Lutheran High School, we would like to thank Bethlehem Lutheran School for allowing us to use their gym. We also thank our SLHS parents and friends for attending this activity, which has become a new school tradition.

UPCOMING YEAR-END EVENTS

As the year quickly comes to an end, we want to remind our families of two special events. The first is our annual Honors and Awards Night which takes place on Tuesday, May 18th at 6:30 PM. That evening we will honor a student in each of our respective courses such as geometry, algebra, English, etc. In addition, we will also pay tribute to the top student in each department such as the math department, science department and so forth. We invite all parents to attend and help us congratulate these well deserving students. If your student is receiving an award, you will receive an invitation in the mail informing you of such.

Secondly, please plan to attend our graduation ceremony on Friday, May 28th at 6:00 PM. Grace Community Church will

Ms. Conner

host our commencement service this year and we will have a short reception after the ceremony to praise our Lord and honor our graduates.

HONOR ROLL

Third quarter of the year tends to prove more challenging for most students. Christmas has passed; Easter break is weeks away and a majority of our students participate in sports, which puts great demands on student athletes. Often grades tend to deteriorate during the "3rd quarter slump," but not at SLHS. Over 60% of our students had a 3.0 or higher grade point average. Go to our website and read the names of all our honor roll students. GREAT JOB FALCONS!

April 16th – Faculty Meeting

We will follow a minimal day schedule on Friday, April 16th in order to have a faculty meeting in the afternoon. We will dismiss at 11:20 and we ask that parents please have your student(s) picked up by 11:30; there is no FAST on minimal days.

MAKE A CHANGE ON YOUR CALENDAR....

MURDER AT THE ORIENT EXPRESS

MAY 20th



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH REPORT

In the March newsletter, it was reported that the SLHS Board of Directors had asked Mr. Brian Underwood, currently the Director of External Affairs at Crean Lutheran High School in Irvine, CA, to become the next Executive Director of our school. Mr. Underwood had indicated a desire to accept the position, but reported that his wife had just been diagnosed with cancer and further tests would be necessary before he could make a final decision.

This past week, we received the very sad news that Mrs. (Allyson)

Underwood has Stage IV cancer in the spine and pelvis. As a result, the family is preparing for aggressive and extensive treatment of the disease, and is (understandably) unable to further consider relocating and committing to a new ministry venture in northwestern Nevada. The advanced stage of this disease, devoid of symptoms or diagnosis until this past month, has the Underwoods preparing, quite literally, for a life and death struggle. All SLHS families are strongly encouraged to lift up this family in prayer. Pray that God would grant a miraculous recovery. Pray for their two young children

(ages 11 and 2 ½), for both Allyson and Brian, and ask our Lord to grant them extra measures of His peace, strength, love, and comfort during the days ahead!

What does this mean for SLHS? At the moment, that is unclear. The Executive Director Search Committee and the Board of Directors will be meeting in the near future to determine the best course of action. They, too, covet your intercessions as they seek God's guidance for the future leadership of our beloved high school. As decisions are reached, the school community will be kept informed.

APRIL IS THE TIME FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS!

April 30th is always the deadline for SLHS families to submit applications for tuition assistance for the following year. Forms for both new and returning students are available in the school office. The difficult economic times in our nation will undoubtedly present serious challenges to the board's Tuition Assistance Committee as they strive to meet the number of requests anticipated.

We have an awesome God, however, and trust that He will guide and direct the process so that no student/family will be denied the opportunity to attend SLHS due to financial constraints.

A warning! Tuition assistance award notifications may be a bit later than usual this summer. Every year, effort is made to inform parents of their family's grant awards by the end of June. This June, however, is when the school

will be moving to its new campus site. If the challenges of that move (we must be totally out of the current facility by the end of June) make it impossible to complete all steps in the grant award notification process as punctually as in the past, please be patient. You will be informed of your family's tuition assistance allocations just as soon as possible.



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR ONE OF THE MOVING DATES??

Plans are developing for a series of "moving parties" on three Saturdays in June. The high school will need lots of help from students and parents on June 5th, 12th and 26th to move everything in the current facility up Highway 395 to the new site. Howard

Houghton, a member of Hilltop Community Church and husband of an SLHS board member,



has very generously agreed to provide leadership to these efforts.

If you are able to help, on at least one of those dates, please call the school office (782-0060). Tracey Torkeo has sign up sheets for all three dates. Also, let her know if you have a pickup, trailer, or hand dolly that might be used on that date. Finally, for those who really enjoy working with their hands, June 26th will be the date when help will be needed to assemble the new, large, student lockers for installation in the main classroom hallway. If it hasn't been completed by then, that day may also be used to disassemble the current student lockers that are in

the Multi-Purpose Room, and transport them to storage until the locker rooms are finished. THANKS FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO HELP WHENEVER YOU CAN!!

By the way, perhaps you noticed that there are no plans for moving on Saturday, June 19th. Why? That's the date for the 8th annual Sierra Golf Classic hosted by SLHS to raise money for families in need of tuition assistance. We hope you'll be participating in that wonderful event alongside our staff, board members, students, and other parents. Registration information will be available soon.

NEW CAMPUS UPDATES

Mr. Brauer



Another month of steady construction progress has been realized at the site for the permanent campus of SLHS. Builders remain confident that work on, around, and in, the buildings (except for the gym and locker rooms) will be completed in early May and that, following the various inspections, a certificate of occupancy will be received later that month.



During recent weeks, interior rooms have taken shape as wall board has gone up, been taped, and covered with paint. Sprinkler systems, heating and air conditioning units, skylights, wiring, and installation of all windows & exterior doors have been among the noticeable improvements taking place. In fact, the building is now secured and thus unavailable to "tour" for those who like to do so on occasion.

However, dates in May are being established to visit the new site. Barring unforeseen delays, students will be given an opportunity to see their new school on May 6th and 11th.



We'll use the new bus to transport half the student body one day over an extended lunch break, and the other half on the second date. Parents might like to circle May 23 on the calendar. Again, providing all goes according to the projected timeline, an Open House will be held on that Sunday afternoon. While the rooms will be without furniture at that point, it will give interested supporters of SLHS their first opportunity to tour the new facility. Further information about the Open House will be included in the May newsletter.



You might also be interested to know that several grant requests are being prepared to various foundations. They seek financial support for such things as the gymnasium (in general), scoreboards and bleachers for the gym, SMARTboards for the classrooms, science equipment for the science lab(s), and portable staging/backdrop/lighting/ music system enhancements, etc. for chapels and assemblies. Please add these efforts to the many other prayers requested on behalf of your high school at this exciting, yet complex, point in its brief history.

Student of the Month

There is one who walks among us who seems to retain an air of mystery, even as he nears the end of this senior year. What do we really know about Preston Lyons?

Preston came to SLHS as a subdued young man: quiet, shy, and unsure, but with a razor sharp and impeccably timed sense of humor. It's been said that it's the quiet ones you have to watch out for. And we have watched, indeed. We have watched as Preston has quietly made friends, as he quietly takes in instruction, quietly and thoughtfully observes what goes on around him and makes decisions about who he will be based on his quiet but strong and certain faith in Christ. He quietly goes about his business with purpose, conscientiously completing necessary tasks without seeking praise or recognition, quietly and humbly accepting correction, critique, or criticism, and quietly but obviously committing his life to the Lord.

Preston is a remarkable and impressive young man who has surprised and delighted us with his unique and captivating personality. Really, there is no air of mystery. There is an example of one who does what he does to the glory of God, and does so not with words, but with actions.

Congratulations, Preston!



College Corner

Dr. Seddon

ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration (extra fee)
June 12	May 7	May 21

SAT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Registration (extra fee)
May 1	March 25	April 8
June 5	April 29	May 13

Please take a moment to thank God for all the gifts and talents that he has given our students and for the fact that He has a perfect plan for each of them. Our students have been accepted to the following colleges (and some of them are facing difficult decisions as they finalize their plans for the future - thankfully we know that God will guide and direct those plans).

- Azusa Pacific University
- California Poly University, San Luis Obispo
- Concordia, Irvine
- Concordia, Portland
- Culinary Art Institute of California
- Marshall University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Tulane University
- Northern Arizona University
- University of California, Berkeley (wait list)
- University of California, Davis (wait list)
- University of Central Florida

- University of Nevada, Reno
- University of the Pacific
- University of Washington
- Westmont
- Whitman
- Whitworth

(and this list is not complete yet – praise God!!)

Juniors: We strongly recommend that you take both the SAT and ACT tests this spring. Parents and students should be spending a lot of time finding out about colleges, sifting through all the information available on-line, and praying about their futures. Spring break and summer vacation are great times to visit colleges, so that come the fall of your senior year you have a list of prospective schools narrowed down.

Sophomores: We recommend that you take the ACT exam this spring. You can compare the results of your ACT exams to the results on the PSAT test you took last fall to see if you score better on the logic-based SAT exam or the achievement-based ACT exam. Then you can focus on studying for the exam that you scored best on and retake that

exam your junior year to be able to report your very best scores to colleges and universities.

Anyone interested in visiting colleges over the summer? www.college-visits.com has organized college tour schedules.



Student Government

Mr. Garwood

Friday April 30th is the date for your teen to enjoy a classy night of “Fire and Ice” at Genoa Lakes Golf Club and Resort from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Prom night will begin with pictures and dinner music, with the buffet opening at 7:15. The menu for the evening will include Caesar salad, fruit salad, tortellini pasta salad, herb roasted potatoes, prime rib and a dessert. Beverages will include water, ice tea, lemonade, and coffee for those of us who choose to chaperone! The cost is less than last year, for which we are thankful, and will be \$40 per individual and \$75 per couple. To qualify as a couple the rule is “same school, different sex, or a guest of any sex.” We encourage guests to come and enjoy the evening with us, but expect them to abide by the same standards that embody the Christian life at SLHS. Guest forms are available from Mr. Garwood and are due back to Mr. Garwood by Friday April 16th, along with our final head count and all payments. Checks are made payable to Sierra Lutheran High School. We look forward to a wonderful evening.

PIP Hours—have a date with your spouse!

Please email me at pgarwood@yahoo.com, or call the school at 782-0060 or my cell phone at 247-5470 if you would like to chaperone the evening of Prom. It’s really easy and fun! Dress up and have a date with your spouse on us!

Student Government Campaign and Elections—Get involved!!

This April and May is the time for your teen to consider serving SLHS through involvement in Student Government. Letters of Intent to run for office will be made available on April 13th. Each year they learn to plan events such as prom and Fall Bash, Spirit Week, and also to raise funds (largely through pizza sales). We meet every Thursday at 7:30 am. All students are welcome to participate, but only elected officials may vote. This is a great experience, and though there is a time commitment, like all service, it pays off plenty in the end as students enjoy these activities and events and may also list their involvement in Student Government on college applications.

Tuesday Assembly

April 13 th	Student Government—Prom and elections information
April 20 th	Discipleship Groups
April 27 th	Class meetings
May 4 th	Student Government Campaign Speeches
May 11 th	Student Government General Elections and class meetings
May 18 th	Senior Farewell Speeches
May 25 th	Final Exams, no assembly

8th Annual Sierra Golf Classic Taking Shape

Sierra Lutheran High School is preparing to host the 8th Annual Sierra Golf Classic on June 19th at Carson Valley Golf Course. There are a number of opportunities to get involved with this event that raises funds for tuition assistance:

1. Become a part of the tournament committee! This year’s event is being chaired by teacher Thomas Craig, who invites all those interested to attend meetings to help plan the tournament. Meetings are held every other Monday night at 7 p.m. at the high school. The next meeting is on April 12th. This time may be used toward PIP hours.
2. Help on the day! There will be need for parent volunteers looking to fulfill PIP hours on the day of the tournament. If you have interest in helping out that day, please contact Mr. Craig so he can put your name down on the list.
3. Play golf (or find someone else to play golf)! The tournament can host 144 golfers and we are looking for people to sign up and play. The cost before May 31st is \$100 per golfer (which includes golf, lunch, tee prize, and more). If you are interested, check out the website or swing by the school for a registration sheet.
4. Donate prizes or find sponsors! The tournament also needs prizes donated for the raffle and also area businesses or families to become hole sponsors. If you would like to donate something, or know some one else who would, please contact Mr. Craig for more information.