

**GRADE 10 PA NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER 2009**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**Morning Coffee for 10th Grade Parents!**

Thursday, October 8, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  
Stonestreet Lounge

Peggy Payne, our Grade Dean, will be speaking about "what's ahead in 10th grade". Thank you to Carly Berk, who is organizing five morning coffee meetings this year for parents/guardians. In addition to providing a welcome opportunity for community building, the coffees will also aim to feature speakers on topics relevant to the BB&N journey.

**Book Group Meeting for 10th Grade Parents:**

Thursday, October 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Barbara Berenson's house in Newton

The 10th grade Book Group will be meeting to discuss the book *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz. The book won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2008. Everyone is welcome, (even if you have not read the book).

Please note: For our next book, *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout has been recommended. This book won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize.

Please RSVP to Susie at [smagdanz1@me.com](mailto:smagdanz1@me.com) <<mailto:smagdanz1@me.com>>

**Director's Chat with 10th Grade Parents**

Thursday, October 29, 8:00 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Please plan to attend this informative coffee with Upper School Director Jack Knapp, for parents/guardians of 10th grade students. Beverages will be provided by BB&N.

**First 10th Grade Parent Pot Luck Dinner  
November 7**

We are looking for 8 more families to host our first potluck dinner, which we are planning for November 7th. (We already have 2 families who have volunteered their homes). Remember, host families are not providing the food! We hope the rest of you will plan on attending. In the past this has proved to be a fun event.

**MARK YOUR 10th GRADERS' CALENDARS!**

## **GRADE 10 REQUIRED TO TAKE PSAT AT BB&N**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 at 8 a.m.

From the College Counseling Office: BB&N requires sophomores to take the PSAT, a practice test for the SAT, on campus at BB&N on Saturday, October 17 at 8 a.m. Sophomores are automatically registered for the test.

Please keep in mind that the goal of this test is to allow the students a chance to practice for the SAT in a low-stakes environment. We cannot emphasize enough that there is no need to take a preparation course or hire a tutor for this test. PSAT scores are not sent to colleges. Juniors who score extremely well on the test may be chosen for the National Merit Scholarship Competition or the National Achievement Scholarship Program, but the scores for sophomores are only for the student's use. In mid-December, we will receive the results of the PSATs and send them home along with a detailed letter about the standardized testing that will be on the horizon for your son or daughter. The results will allow students to see their strengths and highlight the areas that may need some work so that they may prepare for the SATs more efficiently.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GRADE 10 PA EFFORTS:**

We're off to a strong start, with the whole grade having already come together for FCD Night on September 16. We are still looking for parents to help with miscellaneous parent/student events.

If you would like to help:

- 1:) We would like to put together a planning committee for future 10th grade parent potluck dinners.
- 2:) Two volunteers are needed to organize the faculty appreciation breakfast on December 3
- 3:) Additional volunteers are needed to help with smaller, miscellaneous parent and/or student events.

Please contact: Laura Ulvestad [ruelalo@msn.com](mailto:ruelalo@msn.com) <<mailto:ruelalo@msn.com>> or Susie Magdanz [smagdanz1@me.com](mailto:smagdanz1@me.com) <<mailto:smagdanz1@me.com>>  
Grade 10 co-head representatives

### ***LAST BUT NEVER LEAST: THANK YOU!***

Thank you to all of the Grade 10 parents who contributed snacks and treats for the Grade 10 FCD Night. The students were very appreciative, as were the adult attendees!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please let us know!



## **Upper School PA Newsletter**

**October 2009**

Dear Upper School Parents:

The school year is off to a great start and the USPA is no exception! We just co-hosted with the Upper School our first meeting, 'Meet the Deans and Transitions and New Beginnings'. Each Upper School Dean spoke on their respective areas, highlighting upcoming events and expectations for the year. Then, Upper School Director Jack Knapp spoke, customizing Dr. Richard Light's ten tips for the successful student in the BB&N environment. Head of School Rebecca T. Upham closed the evening praising the work of Dr. Knapp after he announced his retirement at the end of this school year. The room was overflowing with parents and was a great kick-off to the myriad events we have scheduled this year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Aulet, Tammy McLeod, Maureen DiChiara, and Kasey Kaufman  
Your USPA Leadership Team

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**Next USPA Event: Thursday, October 22nd at 7pm**

**"Checking the Box: Changes to the Common App & How Your Child's Risky Behavior Might Affect the College Process"**

Dr. John Knight, the Director of the Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research (CeASAR) at Children's Hospital will talk about "Why Smart Kids Make Risky Choices: How Parents can Protect Your Teen's Life and Future". Please plan on joining us for another terrific evening.

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## **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Calling all volunteers for **One School-One World**.

This fabulous multicultural event, linking all three campuses will be held Saturday, November 14th at the Upper School from 11am-2pm. If you missed the first one, held in November 2007, it was a wild, colorful, exciting day, with hundreds coming together to be part of our extraordinary and diverse BB&N community. For this event, we need volunteers to do the following:

- One (or two) parent/s to work with Upper School Art Department exhibit
- Parents to organize Upper School food station
- A parent to help identify student performance pieces for Upper School center stage (we need three performances per campus).
- To encourage and identify parents who wish to have a cultural table at the event. (Examples: we had a Japan table, an India table, and a Mideastern table headed by parents. They had maps, photos, music, food, crafts.)

Please email Kate O'Kelly at [klokld@yahoo.com](mailto:klokld@yahoo.com) if you can volunteer. Thanks.

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## **Upcoming Events**

10/22 (Thur) USPA Event:  
Risky Behavior and the College Process

11/12 (Thur) USPA Event:  
State of the Upper School: How far we've come and where we are going

11/14 (Sat.)  
One School-One World

Please see our website for more details