

St. Peter's School Commission
High School and Junior High Report
Tuesday, October 11, 2011

1. We have four Parent-Teacher Conference Nights a year and the first is Tuesday, October 11, from 5:00 until 8:00 pm. This night is purposefully scheduled right after interim reports are mailed so that parents and teachers can partner in assisting students who received them. We schedule our conferences at 15-minute intervals. Parents may make conference appointments by emailing Mrs. Gregory at gregory.laura@myspartans.org or call her at 419-524-0979, ext. 6100.
2. World Food Day is Wednesday, October 12. Students will be asked to bring in non-perishable food items so that we may help stock our local Catholic Charities food pantry. Students will be permitted to be out of dress code on Wednesday, wearing one out of dress code item for each food item they bring to school. Food pantries are not permitted to accept food with expired dates.
3. October 12 is also the day of the PSAT for our juniors. This important test is a qualifying tool for the National Merit Scholarship Program.
4. October 13 and 14, a Thursday and Friday, are not school days. They are in-service days for our teachers. We encourage our upperclassmen to use these for college visit days. On Thursday, our teachers will attend four mini-workshops of their choosing covering topics that include Moodle, the iPad, Google Docs, Google Apps, Recognizing Depression in Students, and Understanding Students with Learning Disabilities in our Classrooms. On Friday, our teachers will work with Frank DiLallo and Thom Powers, the authors of a book entitled Peace Be With You. The day will train teachers in methods of catching, stopping, and preventing bullying.
5. Please come to the V.E. Room Theater on ground floor of the high school and junior high building to see the fall play *The Education of Angels*. Performances will be Friday, October 14, and Saturday, October 15, both at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$6 for general admission; \$5 senior and student admission. See attached flyer for more details.
6. On Thursday, October 20, our Bishop Leonard Blair will spend a good part of the afternoon with our senior class. He is making it a priority to visit all the seniors in Diocese of Toledo Catholic High Schools. He will bring other presenters with him and he has organized a panel discussion to include life-choice topics like married life and religious vocations.
7. A St. Peter's tradition you might enjoy is our senior class-sponsored Powder Puff Football Game on October 23 from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. at our Spartan Athletic Complex. This is a high school tournament that pits teacher-coached teams of freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior girls against each other for the win while the boys from each class handle the cheerleading duties. All school families, including junior high, are welcome to attend.
8. The National Evangelist Team (NET) of college-age and young adult retreat leaders will be in town later this month. Our sophomores will have their NET retreat day on October 25. The junior class NET retreat will follow on October 26. Students will be transported to the retreat site by school bus. We are grateful to Madison School District for working with us on bussing. More detail will be provided to the students in their religion classes.

9. An update on Fall Sports Tournaments: The Golf and Tennis (Girls) Teams have completed their seasons. Both Boys and Girls Cross Country sectional tournaments begin on Saturday, October 22, and will be held in Fremont. Our Girls Soccer Team will probably play their first sectional game on Tuesday, October 18, according to the OHSAA website. They will play Ontario at Mansfield Christian. Our Boys Soccer Team first sectional game will be played against Cardinal Stritch under the lights in Huron at 7:30 p.m. The Volleyball Team will play Crestline in their sectional match, also on Tuesday, October 18, at 7:15 p.m. in Ontario High School's gym. Go Spartans!
10. Those juniors and seniors who are academically eligible have received letters inviting them to fill out activity sheets that will allow them to be considered for the National Honor Society (NHS). The NHS information from our own updated policy book and the NHS Handbook are included in today's attachments, fyi. The induction ceremony, which is listed on the All-Event Calendar, is scheduled for Monday, November 21, from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. in the V.E. Room. Last year was the first year we tried an evening induction. Many more parents and family members were able to attend than in years past when we held the ceremony during school so we will continue to hold it in the evening.
11. I included the topic of investigating random drug testing programs in last month's report. I will share during our meeting the results of the correspondence I had with three of our Catholic Schools Office staffers since that time. Included in my attachment are policy book pages detailing our current process of handling such issues.
12. Our annual Kairos retreat for the senior class takes place on the Our Lady of Consolation Shrine campus in Carey, Ohio Wednesday, November 2, through Saturday, November 5. Please pray for the retreat candidates and team members in a special way on those days. Thank you!
13. Friday, November 11, will be a busy day. All students in grades 7 – 12 will attend the Veterans Day Parade. Our students who are band members will march in the parade. The annual Variety Show will begin that night at 8:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us for both activities!
14. We try to hold some type of House activity once a week. Last week we held House Mentor Group Lunch. Each of our six Houses is divided into four smaller groups with a teacher adviser. It is these mixed grade level small groups that joined for lunch in their teachers' classrooms. The purpose was simply to allow group members to meet and get to know one another. Much of the feedback I have received on our new House structure has been positive. We do have a concern about the seniors, however, because some of them are worried that House activities will cut into the traditional events that they have been looking forward to since they were freshmen. I think it is important to honor the seniors' feelings. They are our leaders. When a senior class leads well, things are good with the whole school. For this reason we will be careful to continue planning meaningful House activities but also to protect the perks, privileges, and traditions to which our seniors have grown accustomed.
15. The updated policy book has been posted on the website.
16. I look forward to further discussion about how best to improve communication. We are trying to provide more of it. The All-Event Calendar is in place and I think we should still use it but it must be supported with other methods. Tim Failor and I have both increased our parent emails. Same could go out in text form if commission members feel that would be more effective.