



Parent Network Volunteers Recuperate Over the Holidays!

It was a busy time for Parent Network volunteers as the school approached the holiday break.

For the Music of the World All School Colloquium on December 12th, the Parent Network organized an ethnic food luncheon for about 45 people, including dozens of musicians who were at school performing and conducting workshops. Over 25 NCP parents donated homemade ethnic dishes to be served that day. The variety, quality and quantity of the dishes were impressive. Our guests were thrilled. A huge thanks to all the Parent Network volunteers who helped coordinate and set up and serve. And thanks to all the parents who brought in a tasty dish.

Three days later, parent volunteers were at school chaperoning the student's annual Snow Ball Winter Dance.

And then it was time for more food. On Tuesday December 18th, the Parent Network hosted its annual Holiday Dessert Buffet Extravaganza for the NCP staff at school during the lunch hours. You got a sugar high, just walking past the teachers' lunchroom. Over 40 NCP parents brought in homemade and store bought desserts. Table after table in the room was filled with the most colorful and delightfully delicious assortments of sweets to rival any bakery. The staff attacked the food with smiles on their

faces. A big thanks to the Parent Network volunteers who put together the event and to those parents that were on hand to host and greet the staff...and to all the parents who baked, bought and donated the desserts. The staff is already counting down the days until this year's dessert extravaganza.

On the following day another group of Parent Network volunteers were at school serving even more food. Volunteers were helping out at the annual Alumni Speak event, setting up and serving pizza to the dozens of NCP alum, current students and parents who attended the event.

Then the Parent Network volunteers took a well-deserved winter break, along with the rest of the school!

But as soon as school was back in session after the new year, the Parent Network started 2008 by holding its monthly board meeting, which was well attended on January 10th and then providing a dozen parent chaperones to help out at the big Homecoming dance on January 12th. It was one of the biggest dances at NCP in quite awhile. A reported 500 plus students attended...all decked out in some very sharp looking attire.

Lots of activities are coming your way in the second semester. Parent Chaperones will be needed for the school's Valentine's Dance, Friday

February 8th at 7 pm at school.

Then a week later it's the music department's annual Ensemble Concert, featuring the concert level musicians in the Band, Orchestra, Chorus and Jazz Band...over 200 of our most talented students playing on Friday February 15th...please plan to attend, as the proceeds from this concert will help to offset some of the costs of the Parent Network's Music Advocacy And Awards Dinner (MAAAD) Committee's 3rd Annual Music Awards Dinner for these 200 plus top musicians and their families on May 27th.

The planning of this year's annual Parent Network's Junior Books Award's event is also moving forward at fast speed (May 23rd) along with the planning of a huge school wide fund raising event scheduled for Sunday May 18th at school, that will need lots of parent volunteers. It's a combined effort of Friends, the Parent Network and the Student Council.

Keep reading those e-mail's from us and don't hesitate to jump in and respond and volunteer when you see an activity that interests you and fits into your schedule. And of course we love to see veteran and new parents at our monthly meetings too. Your ideas and opinions at these meetings are very important to us.

Remember every parent and guardian of an NCP student, is automatically and officially a member of the NCP Parent Network. Don't forget our motto...."Horrify Your Child, Be An Active NCP Parent!"

Your participation as a volunteer is vital to the continued success of our school. It's fun and rewarding.

Come to our next Parent Network Meeting on Thursday February 7th at 7pm at school.

Have a great 2008!

Bob Solomon....President
878-9137 catvideos@hotmail.com

Kathy Kriston....Vice President
294-7751 orion582@aol.com

Lisa Shimada....Secretary
338-4077 lisa_Shimada@rush.edu

UPCOMING DATES

- January 21 No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 22-24 Exams
- January 25 End of Semester I, No school for students
- January 26 — February 9
We welcome exchange students from Korea Science Academy, Busan, Korea
- January 31 Twenty Hour Art Show
- February 1 NCP Dance Show
- February 7 Parent Network Meeting 7 pm
- February 8 Valentines Day Dance
- February 15 Annual Ensemble Concert

Leo Park, UROCK!

Mr. Leo Park is a gift to our Northside Community as he conducts and teaches in his classroom but also how he conducts himself as a model to all of us. Leo worked tirelessly on Northside's World Music Festival bringing together world-class musicians. He was able to persuade these musicians to perform at our World Music Festival for a fraction of their normal pay using his creative knowledge of musicians, his wonderful personality and pure grit. He organized his World Music students to be leaders for the event. He inspired other adults in the building to help with this great project including Mike Lill. Mike Lill single-handedly ran the sound for this large event. Nythia Rivera was also a very important part of the team helping to design the event.

Leo Park, U Rock! The dedication that you demonstrated during this event is also what you share with all of your students. Thanks Leo.

Northside's Playwrights bring Magic to the Pegasus Players Theater!

It would have been remarkable enough that four Northside students were winners in the 22nd Young Playwrights Festival, sponsored by Pegasus Players Theater. But two of the four, Molly McAndrew (*"A Rose in the Royal Court"*) and Sarah Winters (*"Daydream Nation"*) were grand prize winners. They won \$500 each, and both got to work with theater professionals over the summer, and to have their plays performed by professional actors and actresses. Sally, Molly, and fellow Mustangs Coleman Gailloretto (*"Kasari"*), a finalist, and Nathan Michaelson (*"Bourgeois Falls"*), an Honorable Mention winner, all worked with English teacher John Hahm last year. "I can't remember when we had the same teacher produce two grand prize winners in one year," quipped Alex Levy, artistic director of Pegasus Players Theater and the Young Playwrights Festival. (Actually, two of Mr. Hahm's students were grand prize winners in the 2002 YPF, as well.)



Illinois Certamen League

Northern Section

December 12, 2007 at Northside College Prep School

Novice Division (Latin I)

1st Place: Northside College Prep H.
S. – 585 points

2nd Place: Loyola Academy – 530
points

3rd Place: Carmel H. S. – 150 points

Lower Division (Latin II)

1st Place: Northside College Prep H.
S. – 665 points

2nd Place: New Trier High School– 280
points

3rd Place: Loyola Academy – 190
points

Upper Division (Latin III, IV, and V)

1st Place: Northside College Prep H.
S. – 620 points

2nd Place: Loyola Academy – 445
points

3rd Place: New Trier – 165 points

Serve and Learn in Guatemala Colloquium's Toy Drive

The Serve and Learn in Guatemala Colloquium, sponsored by Ms. Martha Mulligan, collected hundreds of toys and stuff animals, which were distributed to children in several villages in Guatemala. Mrs. Bobadilla, mother of colloquium member Kaity, delivered the toys to the children. Thank you Mrs. Bobadilla and your family for helping our colloquium make a difference in the lives of the children! This spring 19 students from this colloquium will travel to Guatemala and work with Habitat for Humanity to be homes for deserving families.



News from the Computer Science Department

The Computer Science Department was recently awarded nearly \$55,000 in grant money from the Office of Education –to- Careers. The award is a development grant to support continuing advances in the department's curriculum and resources. The grant makes it possible for the CS department to update software and textbooks necessary to remain current in the constantly evolving field of Computer Science.

The additional money and resources allow the CS department to offer some very unique and challenging experiences for our students. Logic and Hardware Design and Database Design are two courses that are an important cornerstone of the Computer Science department. The Logic and Hardware Design course is consistently acknowledged by university admissions offices as diverse as MIT, Carnegie Melon, Stanford, and Rensselaer Polytechnic as being a significant consideration in our students' applications. The monies also make possible our continued articulation with the Oracle Academy through the Database Design course. This is a college level course unique to Northside and is not typically offered at the high school level.

Also made possible, in March, our Computer Science department will participate in the 39th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education in Portland, Oregon. The SIGCSE conference is a very important event for computer science educators. The conference brings together academics and professionals from all over the world to discuss emerging issues in computer science education as well as best practices.

Service Learning Update

Sue Boeck, Service Learning Coach

Are you the parent of a senior? Does your child have at least 40 hours of Service Learning? During this semester I have been visiting advisories to remind students of this graduation requirement and answer questions about qualifying activities. If you or your child has questions, check out the *Student Life* link on the homepage, then click on *Service Learning*. Seniors need to complete their hours ASAP.

How about this for a Service Learning project? **Angie Delgado (905)** recently completed a project she called *InVest in Our Dogs*. Her project's goal was to raise awareness and funds for at least one K-9 Patrol dog that was in need of a protective vest.

Angie first conducted research into this issue, and learned that there was a long waiting list for vests worn by these service dogs. One vest costs \$825.00. She then developed an action plan, which involved raising awareness by distributing flyers and speaking at community events. Donations were received as a result of Angie's efforts, and she forwarded these to the Illinois Vest-A-Dog Organization. Her hard work was rewarded when she raised enough money to buy a vest for one dog. Angie had the honor of "vesting" the next patrol dog on the waiting list. As Angie said in her reflection, "I know that this project had an impact on my community...the dogs are vital to our protection. Words really cannot express what was going through my mind; all I can say is that I was happy and proud of my project".

Women's Volleyball Team raises money for cancer research.

Last month representatives from the Women's Volleyball team with their coaches Ms. Flores and Ms. Volesky, delivered a check for over \$7,000.00 to support Casey Patton, Be the Cure, and Children's Memorial Hospital. This money was raised during a one-day volleyball extravaganza!

The Falk Brain Tumor Center at Children's Memorial sees more than 100 newly admitted patients every year – more than any other brain tumor center in the Midwest. In all, they treat approximately 67 percent of children in the Chicago area diagnosed with brain tumors. In addition to providing comprehensive and sensitive care, they engage in laboratory and clinical research to develop new and safer treatments for children with brain cancers. Their research is firmly focused on important problems with immediate clinical significance, which can translate into breakthrough therapies. Thanks to donors like our volleyball team, Children's team can test new therapies, while simultaneously developing better ways to deliver them.



Northside's Debate team

The Northside College Prep Debate team continued its success last month by winning both the Varsity and Junior Varsity divisions of the Chicago Debate League's Mid-Season Classic, held at DePaul University's Lincoln Park campus on December 7th and 8th. Students compete for their school in teams of two, and in any given round debaters this year are responsible either for arguing a way to increase public health assistance in sub-Saharan Africa or for listening to another team's idea to increase assistance and finding flaws in that team's plan. Tournaments generally consist of 5-6 preliminary rounds, held over two days, plus elimination rounds. Generally, first-year debaters are placed in the Junior Varsity division, while returning debaters are required to compete at the Varsity level.

In the Varsity division Northside's Natalia Emanuel and Zlatana Alibegovic finished the preliminary rounds in 2nd place with a 6-0 record. In the quarterfinal round of the playoffs they defeated a team from Dunbar, and dispatched a team from Brooks in the semifinals. The final match was a close round, but Northside prevailed over King by a 3-0 decision. This is the first Varsity championship for Northside; having no returning

debaters last year - the first year of the program - prior to this year Northside did not send any teams into the Varsity division. Natalia Emanuel also placed 8th in the Varsity division for individual speaker points.

Northside's JV teams dominated that division of the tournament. With the top eight teams after preliminary competition making the elimination rounds, Northside finished first (Alma Aguila and Robin Tholin, winning all six preliminary rounds), second (Danielle Fiumefreddo and Kaitlin Renkosiak, 6-0), third (Betty Wahlborg and Rory Coursey, 6-0), fourth (Jacob Gruber and Jerry Wang, 6-0), fifth (Charlie Benandi and Jordan Garcia, 6-0), seventh (Andrea Ljevar and Sam Ocampo, 5-1), and eighth (Cole Frankel and Matt Castro, 5-1). As teams from the same school cannot debate each other during the elimination rounds, the 1st, 2nd, and 4th seed advanced without debating. Betty Wahlborg and Rory Coursey were victorious over the lone non-Northside team to make the playoffs, from Jones, in the quarterfinal round; this meant all four teams in the semifinal round (and thus both teams in the final round) were Northside teams, and so no further debates had to take place. Alma Aguila and Robin

Tholin took home their first JV championship and the third for Northside in the first three tournaments this season. Further, Northside won nine of the ten JV individual speaker awards, speaking not only to the quality of the debaters but also to the depth of the program.

It's a great rarity for a school to place seven teams in the quarterfinal round; league officials could only think of two occasions, both early in the league's history, where such an event had occurred. It's also seldom seen for the same school to win both the Varsity and JV divisions of the same tournament. To have it happen for the same school, at the same tournament, is a rarity that can only be explained through the hard work and preparation of the students involved. Congratulations to all the Northside debaters whose efforts paid off in such a dominating performance.

To receive more information about Northside's debate program, to find out how to join the team, or (for incoming freshmen and their parents) to find out about the new Debate course option for next year, please email Mr. Robert Berry at rberry@northsideprep.org.

Exam Schedule: January 22-24, 2008

Time	Tuesday Jan. 22	Wednesday Jan. 23	Thursday Jan. 24	Friday Jan. 25
8:30 – 10:00	Period 1	Period 4	Period 7 (7A)	Grades due by 9:00 am
10:20 – 11:50	Period 2 (2A)	Period 5	Period 8	
11:50 – 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1:00 – 2:30	Period 3 (3A)	Period 6 (6A)	Period 9 / Make – up exam	
2:45				

Please note, because of the holiday on 1/21 there is no scheduled make-up day. Students who miss their final exam must work with the teacher to find a time to make up the exam.

News from our Counseling Department

Attention Parents / Guardians of students taking AP (Advanced Placement) tests in May 2008: The teachers of AP classes at Northside will be reviewing their rosters with their students between February 1 and February 8, 2007. Shortly after that, the Counseling Office will place the order for AP tests. If a student has decided not to take the AP test associated with an AP class, the student should talk to his or her AP teacher and follow the instructions the AP teacher has to document this. It is important that the AP teachers know who is and who is not taking the AP test.

If your student is absent between February 1 and February 8, please have your student follow up with both his / her AP teacher and Mrs. Kato in the Counseling Office.

The default is that if a student is in a Northside AP class, he / she will take the AP test. However, this is not the case for **IVHS classes, independent study, college bridge classes, senior projects or self-study**. If a student wants to take an AP test for an IVHS class, independent study, college bridge class, senior project or self study, he / she should advise Mrs. Kato in the Counseling Office, by February 1, 2008.

No AP tests can be added or dropped after 3:30 PM on Friday, February 15, 2008. There will be no refunds or

credits processed after 3:30 PM on Friday, February 15, 2008. With a very few exceptions, student accounts were charged for the AP tests in the fall. You may have already paid for the AP tests. Many students paid for their AP tests at textbook distribution at the beginning of the school year. If you've already paid for an AP test and your student has decided not to take the AP test, and your student follows the instructions to drop the test by the deadline of 3:30 PM on Friday, February 15, 2008, you may be owed a refund. Any refunds will be paid after the tests are administered in May 2008.

ACT/SAT test dates and registration information

Parents: Information about ACT and SAT testing dates is presented on the Counseling Department page of Northside's website. This information includes the dates, instructions for registration, and information about fee waivers. There is also information for AP students who may be considering taking an SAT subject test.

To get to the Counseling Department page, first go to the school's website, northsideprep.org. At the school's main page, click on "**Student Life**," and then click on "**Counseling**." To access the information about ACT and SAT testing, click on "Taking the ACT or SAT."

Free supplies for Northside from Office Depot

When you shop at Office Depot, Northside can receive credits equal to 5% of your qualifying purchases if you present our school's ID.

Northside's ID Number is 70031171