

SETON HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

“In the tradition of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and through the charism of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Seton High School develops young women of faith, service and leadership within a Catholic Christian community and provides academic excellence to a diverse student population”.



DECEMBER 2009

LET US PRAY...

Eternal Lamp of Love,
Remind me often of how much radiance comes
From the glow of one small candle flame.
When my spiritual window is heavily clouded,
And your abiding love seems far from me,
Restore my belief in your vibrant presence.
When I doubt my ability to be a bearer of your light,
Shine your truth and wisdom into my faltering spirit.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Author Unknown

As we enter the season of Advent, we begin the time of waiting for the birth of our Savior. We hope each one will take time to reflect on this holy season.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Parent Conferences - November 30 and December 1

A reminder that parent conferences will be held on Monday, November 30 and Tuesday, December 1. Conferences have been prescheduled by request through Mrs. Debby Doll. Students will not return to classes from Thanksgiving break until Wednesday, December 2. Thanks to all parents who continue to partner with us in order to provide the best academic program for your daughter(s).

Student Awards Assembly - December 9

On Wednesday, December 9 we will recognize our students for excellence in academics. Awards will include academic pins earned during the 2008-2009 school year along with various awards earned since the spring of 2009. This assembly will be held at 8:00 a.m. in the auditorium and will last approximately 30 minutes. Parents are welcome to attend.

Advanced Placement Scholars

The College Board Advanced Placement Program has just announced that 21 Seton students have been honored for their performance on the AP tests.

Maureen Ray and Courtney Scherer have received the Scholar with Distinction Award. This award is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, or scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

The AP Scholar Award is granted to students who have received scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. We congratulate the following Seton students:

Meredith Cook	Sarah Hungler ('09)	Ashley Schramm ('09)
Julie Corbett	Mary Lange ('09)	Kelsey Smyth
Anastasia Gentry ('09)	Jayde Lively ('09)	Cassandra Volker ('09)
Carly Hartman	Katherine McClanahan	Stephanie Weber ('09)
Sarah Hensley	Ashlie Meyer	Margaret Welch
Emily Heyl	Jocelyn Miller ('09)	
Thao Hoang ('09)	Katherine Ritter ('09)	

First Semester Exams

Semester exams will be held on January 13, 14 and 15. Exams will be 90 minutes in length. Further information regarding these important exams will be disseminated to students through the Guidance department. Information will also be sent to parents in mid-December. Exams are a very important part of the academic program at Seton High School. Please look ahead and plan!

Lighthouse Youth Services Christmas Collection

This season Seton High School will partner with Lighthouse Youth Services as our Christmas project. Lighthouse is a non-profit organization that provides social services to youth in the Cincinnati area. We are partnering with Q102 in this endeavor. Students are asked to donate loose change and t-shirts will be available for \$9 with proceeds donated to Lighthouse. Q102 will also be hosting American Idol celebrity, Jason Castro, at Seton on December 10 to announce our total collection. Jason will be in Cincinnati on December 10 to host the "Jingle Ball" benefiting Lighthouse. He will make a special guest appearance and perform at Seton during this day. We welcome the opportunity to help Lighthouse in their mission and welcome Jason to Seton High School.

Christmas Holidays

Seton's Christmas break will begin at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, December 18. We will resume classes on Monday, January 4 at 7:45 a.m. We wish all of you the blessings of this holy season.

Hazard yet Forward!

Susan M. Gibbons
Principal

CAMPUS MINISTRY/COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS...

Seton students and staff members will celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception in an all school liturgy on December 8. On this day Fr. Chris Lack from St. Dominic Parish will commission the new Eucharistic ministers to serve the Seton community. Like Mary, we pray to “grow ever stronger in faith”.

Planning continues for the Advent Prayer Service as Campus Ministry students help the Seton community focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

Kairos Team #46 continues to make preparations for the January Kairos. Please continue to keep the retreatants and team members in your prayers as they plan for *God's Time*.

Thirty-six juniors have just returned from retreat at the Bergamo Spiritual Center in Dayton. Please continue to pray for them as they return home from retreat. Prayers are also requested for the two girls, Rossa and Violet that Seton has adopted.

Thanks to all those who continue to collect pop tabs and pink yogurt lids. Please continue your support throughout the school year. Special thanks to those who brought in coats for the coat drive. Your sacrifice will help keep our neighbors warm this winter.

“Holiday on the Hill” is the first weekend in December. The tree lighting will take place at Seton on Friday evening, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. Bring your family and join in the festivities.

On Saturday, December 5 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Seton High School's Volunteers of America Action Team will be hosting a Children's Holiday Fair in the Commons and multipurpose room in conjunction with “Holiday on the Hill”. This is a free fun family outing which will include pictures with Santa, cookie decorating, making arts and crafts and much more. Please join us.

Many Seton Saints will once again be going to Robert's Academy for our Adopt-A-Class Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 16. Seton has adopted two 4th grade classes and three 5th grade classes. Our students get as much out of this experience, if not more, than the students they adopt. They appreciate the time together, the sharing of stories, and truly seeing how much of an impact they can make on someone's life just by being present to them.

The Right to Life March in Washington, D.C. will take place the third week of January. The Saints for Life Club continues to make plans for the March. For more information on the March please email Mr. Al Kovacic at www.kovacica@setoncincinnati.org.

Many thanks to the staff and students who participated in the Habitat for Humanity house building for the Kane Family. It should be completed later this month and the family looks forward to living in their new home in the new year.

ACADEMICS...

Guidance Department

- **Freshmen** – During group guidance this month, freshmen will be receiving information about semester exams that will be given January 13-15. Counselors will discuss exam schedules and strategies for studying for these important tests. Students are strongly encouraged to begin the review process over the Christmas holidays. This month, freshmen will also receive the results of the Explore Test that the girls took in October. Students receive scores in four subject areas: English, math, reading and science. Each student will also receive a copy of the actual test booklet as well as an answer sheet that indicates her response to each item. The best way to learn from this standardized test is for the student to review carefully the questions she got wrong so that she can learn from them. The Explore also reports results of the interest inventory. Freshmen are strongly encouraged to explore careers that interest them on the Ohio Career Information System (see below).
- **Sophomores** – Recently, counselors met with sophomores in group guidance to return the results of the PLAN test. The results included scores in English, math, reading and science, as well as a projected ACT score that will be helpful for those students planning to apply to college. Please note that each student received a copy of the actual test booklet as well as an answer sheet that actually indicates her response to each item. Reviewing this sheet is one of the best ways for your daughter to begin preparing for the real ACT which she will take in the spring of her junior year. In addition, as part of the PLAN, students completed an interest inventory. The results of this inventory are reported on a “World-of-Work Map”. Sophomores are encouraged to begin looking seriously at potential careers and/or college majors. They are encouraged to explore these careers on the OCIS system (see article below). During this group guidance, sophomores also received a booklet with information about the Ohio Graduation Test that they will take in March.
- **Juniors** – Juniors will be meeting in group guidance with their counselors this month to receive their PSAT results. Scores are reported on a range from 20-80 in three areas: critical reading, math and writing. Scores are then converted to percentiles so that juniors can compare their performance to other college-bound students. All students receive a copy of the actual test booklet, as well as their own answer key. In addition, all students who take the PSAT receive access to My College QuickStart, an online personalized college and career planning kit. Students can receive an enhanced score report that allows them to review each test question, their answers, and the correct answer with an explanation. They will receive a customized SAT study plan, a starter list of colleges based on their home state and selected major. Access to My Road is also provided and enables students to take a personality test to learn about their personality type and identify their strengths. My Road also includes profiles of 68 academic fields, and the latest information on more than 3,500 four- and two-year colleges. After group guidance, students are encouraged to meet with their counselor individually to discuss their results.
- **Seniors** – Seniors have received several issues of the Senior Bulletin from the Guidance Department. The bulletins contain vital information on scholarships, application deadlines, job opportunities and other topics that concern them as seniors. The bulletins are also posted on the Guidance page of Seton’s website. We ask parents to review these bulletins with their daughters. Seniors have been told that they must submit any college

applications with a January 1, 2010 deadline to their counselor no later than December 8, 2009 to allow enough time for the counselors to process applications, transcripts and recommendations. Only through our combined efforts can we best assist our students with decisions that are very important to their future.

- **Financial Aid Program for College Bound Students.** Everyone is concerned about college costs. Both parents and students have questions about the FAFSA, scholarships, loans, etc. In order to help you and your daughter negotiate this challenging process, we invite you to a program for parents on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Kathy Kelly, Director of Financial Aid at the College Mount Saint Joseph, will be our presenter. She will give an overview of the financial aid process, and will be available to answer any questions or concerns you may have. We invite **parents** of both **juniors and seniors** to attend this program. Students will receive a reservation form for this program before Christmas break. Please return this form to Mrs. Mary Sies by Wednesday, January 6, 2010, or simply send an email indicating how many in your family plan to attend to siesm@setoncincinnati.org.

Also, in late November, counselors met with seniors in groups to review the financial aid process with them. Students received a booklet entitled How To Get Money for College, which provides an excellent overview of financial aid. Seniors also were given a copy of a booklet published by the federal government, Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid. This pamphlet is more detailed, and is a good resource book to keep on hand for questions that arise.

- **Ohio Career Information System** – All Seton students have free access to the Ohio Career Information System (OCIS), an internet program that students can access at home or at school. This service allows students to search for career/occupational information, information about financial aid and scholarships, as well as information about colleges, universities and other post-secondary schools like art and cosmetology schools. Parents and students can access OCIS at <http://ocis.ode.state.oh.us> (or through the Seton website, guidance link). Our user name is SetonHS (please note this is case sensitive), and our password is ohio03 (the last two digits are numbers). There is a wealth of information at this site. Students can get specific information about a career or college of interest to them, or they can do a “search” (called “sort”) by putting in characteristics of the job (like working with people) or the college (like located in Ohio); the program will then generate a list of careers or colleges that meet the student’s criteria. Please encourage your daughter to use this program and be sure to call your daughter’s counselor if you need any assistance with this program.

Art Department

Congratulations to the following art seniors who have their artwork on display at the College of Mount St. Joseph’s Selections ’09 High School Art Exhibition until December 4:

Emily Gardner – drawing
Lauren McGowan – photography

Caroline Short – watercolor
Jennifer Vogel – drawing

Drama Club

The Seton Players will be presenting Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown and CSI: Christmas Scene Investigators (a pair of one-act plays) on Saturday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Latin Club

The Latin Club will celebrate the Roman season of Saturnalia December 14-18 with songs, games, treats and special Latin translations. Also that week, Latin students will be visiting Roberts School for a Christmas party with the children. Beatus hodie nativitatis Jesus et Beatus Novus Annus!

Music Department

Seton/Elder Performance Series

Tickets for the Performing Arts Series Christmas Concert are on sale now. The Series Christmas concerts will be presented on Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 p.m. All tickets are \$6.00. An order form is available on the front page of Seton's website. The Freshman Christmas Concert will be held on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. The freshman concert is free! For more information, please contact Mary Sunderhaus at sunderhausm@setoncincinnati.org or 251-3324.

Science Club/Recycling

The Science Club is sponsoring a new recycling program at Seton. Abitibi is a full circle recycler, which means the paper you turn in for recycling today may be the paper you read tomorrow. We are encouraging everyone at Seton to place all paper and cardboard trash in the Abitibi cardboard boxes that are found in each room. We are also encouraging everyone to bring in their paper and cardboard from home. Our Abitibi yellow/green bin is behind the school by the garage entrance. The following are accepted: old mail; shredded paper; colored paper; paper towel and toilet paper tubes; cereal boxes any boxes that are not soiled with food; cardboard corrugated boxes; wrapping paper; all magazines—ANY PAPER or CARDBOARD except phone books. Staples are not a problem.

STUDENT LIFE...

Student Council

Student Council would like to thank all of the community for their help with raising \$10,000 in one week for Breast Cancer Awareness and Q102!! We could not have done it without you.

Student Council would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy Happy New Year!

Door Decorating Contest

Student Council is decorating the school for the Christmas Holiday. There is a door decorating contest. Each homeroom is decorating their classroom doors with different themes. Our favorite Elves are going to judge the doors on Thursday, December 17. Each class will have one winner. The winning homerooms will enjoy a donut breakfast when we return from Christmas break.

Junior/Senior Christmas Dance 2009

The Junior/Senior Christmas Dance will be held this year at The Farm on Friday, December 18 from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. December 18 is a full school day so students must be present in order to attend the dance that evening. Junior and Senior students will receive further information later this month.

2010 Yearbook

The 2010 yearbook is on sale now. Letters were mailed at the end of November regarding order information. The cost of this year's yearbook is \$70. Yearbooks must be ordered through Smart Pay at Taylor Publishing. If there is a question, please go to www.smart-pay.com or call customer service at (800) 853-1337.

Athletics Department

- Good luck to the Basketball, Bowling and Swimming and Diving teams. For schedules and results for all sports, please go to Seton's website (www.setoncincinnati.org) and click on Athletics.
- Seton's Grade School Volleyball Tournament – The 7th and 8th Grade Seton Volleyball Tournament will be held in December at Seton. Call or email Janine Boeing, Athletic Secretary, at 471-2600 ext. 185 or boeingj@setoncincinnati.org to register a 7th or 8th grade team.
- The next Seton Booster Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

MISCELLANEOUS...

Girls' Night Out

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendars now for a fun-filled night for women at Seton's Girls' Night Out being held Wednesday, January 14, 2010. The evening will include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, music by Excalibur, and all new exciting silent and oral PURSE auctions. If you like purse shopping you'll be in purse heaven! More details will come your way soon. (Must be 21 to attend.)

Balloon Bouquets

Balloon bouquets may be ordered for your daughter and delivered in her homeroom. Please email Mrs. Shawna McQuillan at mcquillans@setoncincinnati.org. Please allow 48 hours.

Setonsation

Seton's annual charity auction, Setonsation, is the school's largest fundraiser and benefits tuition assistance and scholarship programs. The event will be held on April 17, 2010. Although this seems a long way off, plans are well underway to make this another huge success.

Please consider helping with the auction in some way. Supporting Setonsation by volunteering, attending or contributing a gift is fantastic and appreciated. Another option is to help secure advertising for the catalog. This is an area where there is tremendous room for growth. If you know a business that might be interested in taking out an ad, please contact Cathy Cionni in the Development Office at 471-2600, ext. 108 or cionnic@setoncincinnati.org.

Spirit Shop

In addition to our normal hours, Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Tuesday mornings, 7:15-7:45 a.m., and Wednesdays after school from 2:30-3:00 p.m., during the month of December the Spirit Shop will be open Tuesday, December 8, Monday, December 14 and Tuesday, December 22 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now! Please park in the garage and enter through the connector.

Parents

The Main Office administrative assistants, Mrs. Doll and Mrs. Roos who work in Student Records, Admission and Attendance, and the school nurse, Mrs. Boles, request that you update all phone numbers, parent employment information and address changes through the Main Office when there are changes. If we need to reach you for any reason, it is imperative that the school has current information. Please call to update your daughter's information at 471-2600 ext. 100 or 101 or e-mail dolld@setoncincinnati.org, roosp@setoncincinnati.org or bolesj@setoncincinnati.org.

Weather Alert

If inclement weather necessitates a school closing, Seton follows the Oak Hills School District schedule. If Oak Hills is delayed or cancelled, Seton will also be delayed or cancelled. "Plan B" is a two-hour delay. School will begin two hours later than usual. Dismissal time will be the usual 2:34 p.m. dismissal time. "Plan A" is a one-hour delay and dismissal time is again the 2:34 p.m. normal dismissal time. Please listen to the TV and radio stations for announcements regarding a delay or cancellation due to inclement weather. Also, you will be notified via our telephone emergency system, Community Safe. You may also check Seton's website.

Moms and Dads Association

The Moms and Dads Association membership drive ends on Friday, December 4. Thanks to all of you who have already sent in your \$10.00.

Winter Safety Driving Tips

Now that the winter season is upon us, Mr. Dan Daum, Director of Security, would like to remind everyone of some safe driving tips:

- Think ahead and warm up your car. Clean off all snow and don't drive with frosted windows. **Don't be a peep-hole driver!**
- Make sure your heater and defroster are in good working order.
- Turn on your headlights and make sure they are clean and free of snow.
- Always wear your seatbelt.
- Easy does it when starting on icy or snowy surfaces. If you cannot get moving, first turn your wheels side to side a few times to push snow out of the way then steer straight ahead and ease forward (or backward) gently. Never let the speedometer go over 40 mph while trying to get un-stuck from snow or ice. Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels to help get traction.
- Aggressive starting, steering and braking can lead to skids and slides. Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which freeze first.

- Keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you. You should allow at least three times the usual distance to stop on snow or ice. **Anti-lock brakes will stop the vehicle in the direction of travel if constant pressure remains on the brake pedal.**
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills. Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- Watch out for pedestrians who will always be less likely to look out for you in bad winter weather.
- Always keep a full tank of gas.

Schoolbelles

The Schoolbelles Winter Sale is going on now. Now is the time to freshen your daughter's worn uniform. They are offering discounts from 25% to 50% off select items from November 15, 2009 through January 3, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Schoolbelles via email at www.schoolbelles.com.