



News & Notes



State of the School Address

As the month of January unfolds, the state of the state and the state of the union come to mind. Honestly, it's in the media, so it is hard to ignore. As our school year unfolds, it is time to set tuition rates and prepare the budget for the new year. These are difficult tasks given the state of the economy and the volatility of costs. I am encouraged by the gifts the school has received for both the current fund and Sterling Hall.

If I were to actually give the state of the school address, it would be very positive at this time except for all of the looming questions. How will we balance the budget? Where will the students come from? Should we raise tuition? Will the economy affect us down the road? Every year there are challenges that must be overcome and this year is no different. We have a competent staff and board that will wrestle (some sleeplessly) with the challenges for the new year. We all play a role in this school's future and I value your input and ideas as we make plans. God has walked before this school for many years and I am confident He will remain before us. Please pray for those involved in planning the details of the upcoming year.

Pam Tieszen

Counseling Services

Beginning in January, Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health Services, Inc. began to offer services on our campus. Brandy Koller is available for appointments each Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Services are free for children ages five to twenty one. Counseling sessions are available for depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, marital/family problems, childhood emotional/behavioral problems, evaluations and more. Additional information is available on their website, www.lcbhs.org.

Appointments can be made by calling Brandy at 665-4606 or 1-800-765-338. If you would like information regarding this service, contact Pam Tieszen at 925-4237, ext. 228 or ptieszen@freemanacademy.org.

Annual Visions Phonathon

Each spring, the administration conducts a phonathon in order to stay in touch with alumni living outside the Freeman community. The call involves updating contact information, answering questions about Freeman Academy, and inviting persons to make a financial contribution. Students, parents, staff, and alumni are needed to carry out this important mission! We need 4 callers each evening from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. the week of March 9 – 12. It's a great opportunity to visit with our constituents! Contact Pam Tieszen at ptieszen@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 228 to volunteer your time!



February 2009

I always turn to the sports pages first, which record people's accomplishments. The front page has nothing but man's failures.
Chief Justice Earl Warren

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.
Genesis 50:20

Inside this issue

Development News...	2
Instrumental News.....	2
Vocal News.....	3
Notes & Reminders	3
Calendar	4



Enclosures

- February Activity & Menu Calendars – subject to change
- Third Trimester Schedules
- November 20, 2008 Board Minutes



DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Schmeckfest Workers

Have you signed up to work at Schmeckfest? Freeman Academy's major fundraising event will be held on March 27 & 28 and April 3 & 4, 2009. The Freeman Academy Auxiliary plans and directs the activities held, but it takes the FA students, staff, parents, and the larger Freeman community to ensure a successful, enjoyable festival!

We need adults from each Freeman Academy family to help at least one day of each weekend. Opportunities are available in the kitchen, waiting on tables, or helping in demonstrations. Contact Vernetta Waltner, 925-4237, ext. 235 or vwaltner@freemanacademy.org for more information or to volunteer your time.

Students and staff are assigned specific job sites and shifts each of the four days of Schmeckfest. Since this event helps reduce tuition costs, each student is responsible to work his/her shifts EACH DAY during EACH WEEKEND.

Brochures are available in the school business office and at several businesses and the local banks. Tickets may also be ordered online at www.schmeckfesttickets.com.

Sterling Hall Pledges/Debt Reduction

The Harvest Challenge raised \$15,304.14 toward debt reduction on Sterling Hall. Harvest difficulties along with a sudden drop in commodity prices affected the impact that we had hoped for with this short-term project.

The fundraising committee for Sterling Hall is now in the process of securing persons who are willing to pledge a specific amount of money per year, for 10 years. This would erase payments on our USDA Rural Development/Merchants State Bank loans ahead of the scheduled 15 years, thus saving money paid in interest! We would welcome your support in this effort – supplying us with names to contact and/or making a personal pledge!

At this time we have a total of \$12,500 per year for 10 years pledged from 5 individuals. Contact any of the committee members with your input: Steve Schmeichel, Amy Waltner, Stewart Hofer, Dave Janssen, Dean Schrag, Carolyn Preheim, Tim Graber or Vernetta Waltner.



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

Middle School

Congratulations to seven Freeman Academy students for being selected by taped audition to participate in the 10th annual

Middle School All-State Band. Nine out of Freeman Academy's 19 band students in grades 6, 7, and 8 auditioned. One hundred percent of our eighth graders who auditioned earned a chair in one of the two All-State Bands: Honor Band and Festival Band. Two sixth graders were also chosen.

Students who played wind instruments were required to play a chromatic and two major scales and two difficult etudes. Percussionists were required to audition on snare drum (rudiments and an etude), mallets (marimba-chromatic and major scales, and an etude) and timpani (an etude). Students selected will rehearse March 6 and 7 concluding with an afternoon concert Saturday, March 7 at the T.F. Riggs High School in Pierre, SD.

Ben Brockmueller - 6th chair Honor Band, 8th grade, son of Lee & Marilyn Brockmueller.

Ben Carlson - 4th chair Honor Band, 8th grade, son of Brad & Kris Carlson

Matthew Graber - 1st chair Festival Band, 8th grade, son of Kerwin & Robin Graber

Clara Koerner - 2nd chair Festival Band, 6th grade, daughter of Todd & Suzanne Koerner

Christopher Miller - 3rd chair Festival Band, 8th grade, son of Craig & Jenelle Miller - 3 year All State Band participant

Brooklyn Ries - 4th chair Festival Band, 6th grade, daughter of Duane & Donna Ries

Caroline Schrag - 4th chair Honor Band, 8th grade, daughter of Dennis Lehmann & Eloise Schrag

High School

High school students are currently working on pep band and solo and ensemble music. Solo and ensemble contest will be held March 4 at the Vermillion High School.

Pep Band Schedule Change

Due to scheduling conflicts, the pep band will not play Thursday, February 12. The pep band, however, will play February 17 which was not listed previously.

Parent Volunteer Hours

Any parent who would like to help work with the instrumental music files and/or create a data base for the instrumental music should contact Donna Ries, 925-4237, ext. 242 or dries@freemanacademy.org.

NOTES & REMINDERS

FA Student & Directory Addition

Please welcome James Knight to the senior class. James is a dorm student during the week and travels home to his parents for the weekends. Please add their phone number/address to your family's directory: Mark and Vickie Anderson, 308 Donohoe Blvd., Yankton, SD 57078, phone number 665-2497.

BOOSTER CLUB ACTIVITIES

Papa Murphy's Pizza Night chairpersons are Brad and Kris Carlson. This event will be held on **Thursday, February 12** with serving from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Parents are needed to help with baking, serving, and clean-up. Please contact them at 648-3910 or krisbrad@svtv.com to volunteer!

Elizabeth Janssen, 925-4780 or Davejan@gwtc.net, will be chairing **FA's annual fruit sales**. Order sheets will be distributed to all students Feb. 5. Orders with payment are due Feb. 20 in the administration office. Fruit will be delivered Wednesday, March 11, for students/parents to pick up after school. All students are involved in these sales with prizes awarded to the top salespersons! The class w/ top sales receives a pizza party for those in the class that participated.

All of these fundraisers sponsored by the Booster Club will raise funds to help pay for the protective floor covering in Sterling Hall.

Bobcat Shirts and Blankets

Parents and other Bobcat boosters can order maroon polo shirts (\$26.50), denim shirts (\$25.25), or maroon dress shirts (\$39.00) with "Freeman Academy" stitched on the shoulder. Shirts can be viewed and ordered at home basketball games. February 12 will be the last opportunity to order. Contact Vernetta Waltner at vwaltner@freemanacademy.org or 321-7351 for more information.

A new item offered to Bobcat fans this year is a warm, fuzzy, maroon Bobcat blanket! They are also available for viewing and immediate purchase at the school business office. Cost is \$30.

VOCAL MUSIC



Region I Vocal/Piano Contest

Each year the Music Department participates in the Small Group/Ensemble Vocal/Piano Contest facilitated by Region I. **The contest is held in Yankton, SD on February 11.** Each member of the HS Concert Choir will participate in at least one ensemble that day. Students also sign up to take a vocal or piano solo. This year we have approximately 24 vocal soloists, 5 piano soloists and 9 ensembles/groups participating. When I receive the schedule, parents will receive a letter regarding transportation to and from contest that will require a response. Please keep your eyes open for the letter. I will also try to include the schedule complete with names.

South Dakota Music Educators Association (SDMEA) Winter Conference February 12-14

FA Concert Choir to sing at SDMEA Conference

The FA choir has been invited to present a 20 minute concert at the SDMEA conference in Brookings, SD. This is an annual conference designed to give music educators a "shot in the arm" in the middle of the year. Clinicians are invited to speak to conference members and choirs are invited to sing. The FA choir will sing at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 12, in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on the SDSU campus.

We will plan to leave campus by 6:30 a.m. on Thursday to reach our destination by 8:50 for rehearsal. All HS Concert Choir students are expected to be present. Dress will be concert attire. Students should bring money for lunch. Students will return to school after having lunch with an anticipated return time of 2:00 p.m.

Elementary Festival Honors Choir

South Dakota Music Educators Association (SDMEA) hosts an annual three-day winter conference on the campus of SDSU in Brookings, SD. The conference is held February 12-14. In conjunction with the conference, the **Elementary Festival Honors Choir** meets **Thursday, February 12**, to rehearse and then give a concert scheduled for **4:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) on the SDSU campus**. Two FA students will be participating in the Elementary Honors Choir: Clara Koerner, daughter of Suzanne and Todd Koerner, and Brooklyn Ries, daughter of Donna and Duane Ries. Selection is based on a taped audition sent in October. This concert is open to the public.

Festival of Men's Voices

A Festival of Men's Voices will also take place that evening, February 12, under the direction of Dr. Brad Holmes and Dr. Steven Grives. Six FA men will participate in the festival choir: Andrew Koerner, Carl Lehmann, Landon Miller, Aaron Tschetter, Caleb Epp, and Zachary Graber. The concert will take place at the PAC at 7:30 pm.

The High School Music Department will be sharing music at Oakview Terrace, Thursday, February 19 at 2:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* Subject to change

January

- 25 FA Music at Salem Zion (North) Church
- 26 NW College (O.City, IA) Rep—9:00 CH
CPMC Host Mtg. – 6:30 MH
One Act Play Public Performance – 7:30 PH
- 27 GBB/BBB @ Ethan, GJV 4:30, BJV 5:30,
Varsities follow
- 29 **12:50 Dismissal – NCA Work Day**
One Act Play Competition in Brandon
- 29-31 **BBB TVC Tournament**
- 29- Feb 1 MSC Admin/Bd. Conference – Pittsburg, PA
- 31 5/6 BBB @ Hurley – 9:00
- 31 HS All-State Band Auditions

February

- 2 5/6 BBB vs. I.W. (H) 4:30
7/8 BBB vs. I.W. (H) 6:30
- 3 Communications Mtg. – 10:00 CH
- 5 Fruit Sales Begin
5/6 BBB @ G.V. – 5:30
7/8 BBB @ G.V. – 5:30
BBB vs. Wagner (H) – 6:30
- 5-7 **State One Act Play**
- 6 GBB/BBB @ Viborg, GJV 4:00, BJV 5:30,
Varsities follow
- 7 7/8 BBB - G.V. Tourney – tba
- 10 **ESC Mtg. – 7:30 a.m. – Library**
Regional Career Fair @ Parker
2:50 Dismissal, 3:00 Staff Mtg.
- 11 **High School Vocal Contest – Yankton**

- 12 HS Choir Performs @ SDMEA - Brookings
Papa Murphy's Pizza—5:00—7:30 DH
GBB/BBB vs. I.W. (H) – GJV/BJV 5:00,
Varsities follow
- 12-14 State Music In-service @ SDSU
- 14 BBB Dakota Schoolers Border Classic –
Augustana
- 16 GBB/BBB @ Marion, GJV 4:00, BJV 5:00,
Varsities follow
- 17 GBB vs. Canistota (H) 6:15 – Parents' Night
- 19 **End of 2nd Trimester**
HS Music @ Oakview Terrace 2:00
7/8 BBB @ Centerville – 6:30
- 20 **No School – Teacher Record Day**
Fruit Sheets Due in the Admin. Office
5/6 BBB @ Freeman Elementary – 4:00
GBB/BBB @ G.V., GJV/BJV 5:00, Varsities follow
- 21 7/8 BBB – FA Tourney – 9:00 - SH and PH
5/6 BBB vs Marion (H) 10:30
Dining Extravaganza – 6:30 - DH
- 23 **GBB Districts**
- 24 **Prayer Mtg. – 6:30 CH**
Board Mtg. – 7:00 MH
- 26 **GBB Districts**
- 27 **Winter Beach Party – 4th-6th grade Girls – 4:00-
8:00 FH**
GBB Districts
- 28 Noodle Making - DH
7/8 BBB TVC Tourney – tba

March

- 2 **BBB Districts**
- 3 Communications Mtg—10:00—CH
BBB Districts
- 4 **High School Instrumental Contest – Vermillion**
- 5 **12:50 Dismissal—NCA Work Day**
BBB Districts

- GBB **Girls Basketball**
- BBB **Boys Basketball**
- GJV **Girls Junior Varsity**
- GV **Girls Varsity**
- BJV **Boys Junior Varsity**
- BV **Boys Varsity**

- ADM **Administration (Classroom Building)**
- CH **Chapel**
- FH **Frontier Hall (dormitory)**
- MH **Music Hall**
- PH **Pioneer Hall**
- SH **Sterling Hall**
- VisCtr **Visitor Center**
- Arbor **Aboretum**
- Amph **Amphitheater**

FREEMAN ACADEMY

*Where Faith & the Arts
Bring Learning to Life*

748 S Main Street
PO Box 1000
Freeman SD 57029

Phone: 605-925-4237
Fax: 605-925-4271
E-mail:
info@freemanacademy.org
Web:
www.freemanacademy.org



Dining Extravaganza



We've got a cure for the "Winter Time Blahs!" Dress up and step out to attend the Annual Dining Extravaganza on Freeman Academy's campus Saturday, February 16! This savory culinary event takes place at 6:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room which will be transformed by delightful dinner music, beautiful table settings, and sumptuous food prepared by local culinary chefs.

"AMICI" - Audrey and Ashley Graber, Kieran Waltner,

and Sara Brockmueller - will be providing dinner music. Local artisans will offer original art at the auction immediately following the meal.

Parent Volunteers are also needed to help with Dining Extravaganza!

Potential waiters/waitresses can contact Janette Epp at 925-7635 or 661-0342. Dishwashers are also needed and can contact Vernetta Waltner at 321-7351 or vwaltner@freemanacademy.org.

Dining Extravaganza is a fundraising event for the annual fund at Freeman Academy. Call 925-4237 to check on ticket information and availability.