



News & Notes



Exciting News!

God is great. I am encouraged this fall watching students and staff at work. We are nearly one-third of the way through our year. Here are a few random thoughts that come to mind when reflecting on the year thus far.

Hats off to Mr. Schrock who has taken on a new academic field sharing his knowledge in history and humanities with students. Getting students to read when there are many electronic devices competing for their time is a huge success. Students continue to check out many books from our library. Numerous new students are adapting to Freeman Academy, as staff serve above and beyond helping students adjust to our school system. The seniors lead a Bible study for their class each Monday at 7:30 a.m.

Chapel provides us with a time to relate to God and each other. We have been blessed with a wide variety of presentations, including Dr. Kenton Kaufman, who shared about his work at Mayo Clinic.

Praise God for the many ways students and staff continue growing and living at Freeman Academy!

Pam Tieszen

Check out the Online Store

Etch USA provides Freeman Academy etching on a variety of products. There is a display in the concession stand with items for purchase directly or through the link on our website. You may have them personalized at no extra cost. With the holidays approaching, these gift items provide a nice opportunity to spread school spirit.

Health Reminder

We continue to encourage good hygiene and hand washing at school. If students are running a fever, we ask that you keep them home during this flu season. Locker rooms are being cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis, but it is helpful if students empty their lockers each week for a more thorough cleaning.

Enclosures

- November Activity & Menu Calendars—subject to change
- Yuletide Banquet Ticket Order Forms—due November 25
- “Ashfall Fossil Beds” by Hannah Yoder
- 2nd Trimester Schedules including “B” week, late start, NCA early dismissal, staff mtg early dismissal, late start & early dismissal
- August 29, 2009 Board Minutes



November 2009

There can be no vulnerability without risk; there can be no community without vulnerability; there can be no peace – and ultimately no life – without community.

M. Scott Peck

Let love be genuine.
Romans 12:9a, NRSV

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Turner County Fair Purchases



Funds raised at the Turner County Fair this year were approximately \$13,800. We have purchased many new technology items for the classroom: digital camcorder, battery and bag, digital photo frame, two projectors, headphones, two DVD/VCRs, and a touch board (like a smart board). Funds will also be used for physics projects, the general fund and choir tour.

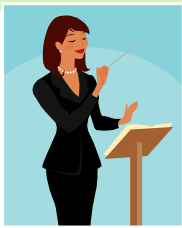
Benefit Auction

Be sure to reserve Saturday, November 21, to attend the Annual FA Benefit Auction to be held in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room! The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with a pork loin meal including dessert! Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. to give everyone a chance to view the auction items and to purchase tickets for the raffle tables.

The featured item on the sale is a beautiful copper fire pit donated by Dawn Stahl. Class baskets will be on display in the Link during the fall play and also at the area banks. Many of the “hot” items from past auctions will

also be offered: Ruth’s glazed donuts, June’s cheese pockets, Susan’s poppyseed rolls, LaVonne’s kuchens, pork bundles, beef bundles, Cheryl & Deb’s fabulous dinner, Moses’ rugs, and more! Watch for posters and brochures around town for more details.

The committee would welcome assistance in various areas during the auction. Please call Gary Tschetter (925-7901) – live auction, Kerwin Graber (925-7805) – raffle tables, or Linda Graber (925-7400) – meal prep and serving.



New Student Teacher

Hello Students, Parents, and Friends!

My name is Becky Murtha and I am student teaching this fall with Amy Hofer Vetch in the vocal music department. I am a 25 year-old native of Parkston, SD. My parents and two younger sisters still reside in Parkston, while my younger brother attends SDSU for Civil Engineering. Next August, I will be married to my wonderful fiancé who currently works as an Intensive Care Unit nurse in Reno, Nevada. This December, I will graduate from South Dakota State University in Brookings with a Bachelor of Music Education Degree. After I graduate, I hope to find a middle school/high school choral teaching job in southeastern South Dakota.

My musical training includes four years of college-level voice lessons and twelve years of piano lessons, including two years at the college level. At SDSU, I was a member of the auditioned concert choir and sang in many

performance groups including Opera Workshop and the Madrigal Dinner. I accompanied for college vocal lessons and for the campus Catholic Church I attended.

Because my student teaching requirements include both an elementary and middle/high school element, I spend the mornings each week in Mitchell teaching at L.B. Williams Elementary and then come to Freeman Academy for the afternoons. This schedule allows me an opportunity to work with the Freeman Academy 5th/6th grade students, the high school concert choir, and individual students in their private voice lessons. I’ve really enjoyed working with Amy so far this fall and know I’m going to learn many valuable teaching skills from her. Thanks to the school administration/faculty for allowing me to have this wonderful learning opportunity. I look forward to continuing working with the Freeman Academy students and faculty!

Blessings!

Becky Murtha



Notes & Reminders

School Postponements and Cancellations

In the event of inclement weather or other emergencies, school postponements and cancellations will be announced on WNAX radio (570 AM), KSFY TV, KELO TV, and

KDLT TV. The close line is also published on the KSFY and KELO web sites. The decision to postpone or cancel school is made by the president of the board and the superintendent/principal. Late starts allow students and staff more time for safe travels. **Remind your student drivers to allow extra travel time even on late start days.** Remember to create an emergency plan with your children in the event of any early dismissal due to inclement weather.

Music & Drama Notes

South Dakota All-State Chorus October 30-31

Congratulations to the following students who will be representing FA at the South Dakota All-State Chorus this year in Rapid City. Karina Ortman, soprano, daughter of Lori and Mark Ortman; Brittney Ries, alto, daughter of Donna and Duane Ries; Carl Lehmann, tenor, son of Eloise Schrag and Dennis Lehmann; and Aaron Tschetter, bass, son of Pam Tieszen and Gary Tschetter.

Aprille Hofer, daughter of Sylvia and Merlin Hofer, is the soprano alternate; Alicia Hofer, daughter of Marnette and Todd Hofer, is the alto alternate; and Caleb Epp, son of John and Beth Epp, is the tenor alternate.

The concert will be Saturday evening at 8:00 p.m. and is open to the public. General admission tickets will be on sale at the Rapid City Civic Center the day of the concert.

Church Visit

The FA Music Department (instrumentalists and choirs) will participate in worship at the Salem (South) Church on November 8 at 9:30 a.m. Choir members are expected to be there at 9:00 a.m. for warm-ups. Students should wear their choir attire.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is coming together. Come join us on November 7 and 9 for an evening celebrating the transformative power of the birth of our Savior. Curtain opens at 7:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$7/adults and \$3/students (K-12).

RESTORE (formerly VORP) Fundraiser

The Concert Choir will be participating in a joint concert with the University of Sioux Falls (USF) for the RESTORE fundraiser on Saturday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite Church. The FA choir will present several selections and then join the USF singers for a joint selection. The USF singers will also bring a portion of the concert. All choir members are required to be there unless they are participating in the Augie Band festival that evening.

Español Yuletide

Thurs. & Sat., Dec. 10 & 12, 6:30 p.m.

Each year the Creative Arts Department, with the help of the Freeman Academy Auxiliary, performs a Christmas concert with a dinner. Grades 5-12 participate in the choir and band selections. Grades 7-8 and members of the HS student body also assist with serving of the food.

We will have the entire event in the Pioneer Hall gym. Please note that this event is two evenings. The FA Auxiliary Social Committee is in charge of preparing the meal. Each year we ask parents/caregivers to contribute a salad or dessert, so be on the lookout for a mailing regarding your assignment and the day to bring it for the meal! There is also an opportunity for parent volunteer hours assisting in the kitchen. Please call Vernetta Waltner at 925-7620, if you are interested.

Parents, if you are planning on attending the Yuletide event as a guest we ask that you complete the enclosed order form and send it in, along with your payment, by November 25. Since there is limited seating we like to give the parents the first opportunity to make reservations prior to the public.

Augustana Band Festival

Ten Freeman Academy students have been selected to participate in the 52nd Annual Augustana Band Festival to be held November 13 and 14. The Grand Finale Concert will be at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Washington Pavilion. CONGRATULATIONS!



Karina Ortman – Honor Band – 2nd chair oboe
Lauren Unruh – Honor Band – 10th chair clarinet
Carl Lehmann – Honor Band – 1st chair alto saxophone
Brittney Ries – Honor Band – 5th chair trumpet
Lillie Koerner – Honor Band – 3rd chair French Horn
Kristin Waltner – Gold Band – 7th chair flute
André Eisenbeis – Gold Band – 10th chair clarinet
Libby Waltner – Gold Band – 1st chair bass clarinet
Aaron Tschetter – Gold Band – 3rd chair trombone
Aprille Hofer – Blue Band – 4th chair trumpet

Upcoming Events

* Subject to change

October

- 26 Augustana College Rep 2:15 pm CH
VB v O/R/R ~ Home 6:30 pm (Parents Night)
- 28 Coffee and Conversation 10:00 am FH
- 29 **Prayer Meeting CH 6:30 pm**
Board Meeting CH 7:00 pm
- 30-31 All-State Chorus & Orchestra in Rapid City
Private Reservation PH

November

- 3 Communications Mtg. CH 10:00 am
VB Districts @ Freeman
- 5-6 VB Districts @ Freeman
- 7 "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" HS Play
PH 7:00 pm
- 8 FA Choir @ South Church
- 9 "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" HS Play
PH 7:00 pm
- 10 District Oral Interp Competition @ DWU,
Mitchell
- 10 Enrollment-Steering Comm Mtg LIBR 7:30 am
**Early Dismissal 2:50 pm; Staff Meeting MH
3:00 pm**

- 11 **Community Service Day -Starts at 8:30 am**
- 12 Host Family Mtg CH 7:00 pm
- 13 **Community Service Snow Date**
- 13-14 Augie Band Festival
- 14 Restore Benefit @ North Church
- 16 Fall Sports Banquet DH 7:30 pm
- 17 **Regional Oral Interp @ DWU, Mitchell**
JH Quiz Bowl @ Baltic
- 19 Finance Committee Mtg MH 7:30 pm
- 19 **End of 1st Trimester**
- 20 **NCA workday - NO SCHOOL.**
Benefit Auction Prep DH Evening
State B Volleyball @ Watertown
- 21 **Benefit Auction DH 6:00 pm**
- 23 **Start of 2nd Trimester**
- 23 Yankton Honor Band
GBB practice begins
- 24 HS Quiz Bowl @ Baltic
Pvt Reserv PH Gym 4:00 pm
- 26-27 **Thanksgiving, - NO SCHOOL**
- 30 **Prayer Meeting CH 6:30 pm**
Board Meeting MH 7:00 pm
BBB practice begins

December

- 1 Communications Mtg CH 10:00 am
5/6 & 7/8 GBB @ Freeman 6:15 pm
- 3 7/8 GBB @ Centerville 6:00 pm
- 4-5 State Oral Interp @ Sioux Falls
- 9 SDSU College Rep DH 12:30 pm
- 10 **Yuletide - Grades 5-12 PH 6:30 pm**
- 11 GBB/BBB @ Alcester/Hudson 5:00 pm
- 12 **Yuletide - Grades 5-12 PH 6:30 pm**

- 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

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Bring Learning to Life*

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Calendar Reminders

- **November 7 & 9 "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"**
FA High School Play 7:00 p.m. Pioneer Hall
- **November 10 Early Dismissal 2:50 p.m.**
(Freeman Public School dismissal may differ)
- **November 11 Community Service Day - 8:30 a.m.**
start for all students
- **November 16 Fall Sports Banquet 7:30 p.m.**
Dining Room of Pioneer Hall
- **November 19 End of Trimester**
- **November 20 NCA Work Day – No School**
- **November 21 Benefit Auction 6:00 p.m. Dining**
Room of Pioneer Hall
- **November 26 & 27 Thanksgiving Vacation – No School**
- **December 10 & 12 Yuletide Concert & Dinner –**
reservations required 6:30 p.m. Pioneer Hall

Online Parent Gradebook Access

Parents are now able to access students' grades and attendance records online. A unique username and password will be given to parents interested in accessing the gradebook and attendance portal. The following link can be copied into a web browser to open the portal: http://www.freemanacademy.org:81/jmc/JMC_CGI_0910.dll?module=Parent

To request a username and password, please email Nicolle Hofer Timmerman at nhtimmerman@freemanacademy.org.