



News & Notes



Benefit Auction— November 6

Freeman Academy’s Annual Benefit Auction is scheduled for Saturday, November 6, in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. This informal, fun-filled evening starts at 6:00 p.m. with supper prepared by Dave Friesen and opportunities to bid on items in the Silent Auction and purchase raffle tickets. At 7:00 p.m. the Live Auction begins with Ken Wintersteen donating his expert service.

The feature raffle this year is for a Hot Air Balloon Ride for Two! Tickets can be purchased the night of the auction, at any home volleyball game or by contacting Kristi Hofer at hofers@unitelsd.com, on Facebook or at 729-2678. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The regular \$1 and \$5 raffle tables will still be part of the auction night activities.

The committee would like to suggest live auction donations of new items such as a gas grill, lawnmower, camping equipment, technology equipment, iPod, digital camera, Kitchen-Aid mixer, entertainment or travel packages, or homemade baked goods. Cash toward the purchase of these items would also be welcome and very much appreciated. Contact Delvonna Wentz at dwwentz@hotmail.com or 605-660-8369. Other committee members include Gary Tschetter, Kerwin Graber, Krista Graber and Kristi Hofer. Be sure to mark your calendars and invite your friends and relatives to attend!

Recognizing Amy Hofer Vetch

This past summer at the Honors Choir Concert in Brookings, Amy Hofer Vetch received the Encore Award. This award is voted on by music education peers and goes to an outstanding teacher in his/her field for more than five years. Amy has been teaching at Freeman Academy for eight years and taken numerous students to honors, state, regional and national choirs. We are fortunate to have Amy on our team at Freeman Academy. Congratulations to Amy!



Enclosures

- October Activity & Lunch Calendars—subject to change
- August 24, 2010 Board Minutes



October 2010

No longer [are we] concerned with being Catholic or Protestant or Anabaptist, but simply faithful disciples of a risen Lord, who still greets us with his
“Peace be with you.”

Walter Klaassen

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

John 20:21, NRSV

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Ways to Support Freeman Academy Through the Business Community



| Program Name | How to Sign Up | Freeman Academy Receives | You Receive |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| TARGET CARDS—Take Charge of Education | Complete store application or at www.target.com | 1% of your Target Visa or Target credit card purchases made at a Target store or at target.com ; 1/2% of Target Visa purchases elsewhere | Satisfaction that you are helping Freeman Academy's current fund |
| TRIP | Sign up by contacting Barb Yoder: mbyoder@goldenwest.net | Business discounts on gift cards | Difference of discount and face value goes into family tuition accounts |
| General Mills Box Tops | Bring box tops to collection basket in Adm. Bldg. entrance | Money to purchase items for classrooms, gym class, etc. | Well-supplied school |
| Land O'Lakes Milk Jug Caps | Bring caps to collection basket in Adm. Bldg. entrance | Money to purchase items for classrooms, gym class, etc. | Well-supplied school |
| Campbell's Labels | Bring qualifying point labels from various Campbell's | Points are totaled and teachers can purchase classroom items | Well-supplied school |

Dakota Step Scores Summary

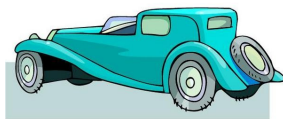
If you have a returning student in grade 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12, you will receive last year's Dakota Step Test Score results in your grade envelope at Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 22. Dakota Step is the test issued by the state of South Dakota to track "No Child Left Behind" and continues to test in the areas of reading and math at four general performance levels: below basic, basic, proficient and advanced. I want to report that our students performed well.

Almost all test scores are in the proficient or advanced categories in both math and reading. This is difficult to achieve given our small class sizes as one or two students can often skew the summary results for a class. Please contact Nathan Epp, testing co-ordinator, with any questions you might have. Congratulations to students, staff and parents on your achievements.

Notes & Reminders

Van Needed

It is time to retire our old, blue Dodge van, and we are seeking a newer van to transport small groups to activities. If you have a van you might like to donate, a gift-in-kind might be an alternative donation to Freeman Academy.



Volunteer Hours

If you are looking for volunteer hours, a few areas that can always use help are:

- cleaning up after sporting events – contact Don Carrier, head of maintenance
- driving bus to events – contact Nathan Epp, athletic director
- office support – contact Cindy Boese, admin. assist.

- dining hall assistance – contact Melinda Hora, food services director
All can be reached by calling 925-4237.

School Directories

Barring publication challenges, we are hoping to mail student/parent directories (one per family) soon. When you receive it, please check your family's information and e-mail Cindy Boese (cboese@freemanacademy.org) with changes or corrections. If any family would like to receive the directory by e-mail, rather than a hard copy, please notify Cindy of this as well.



Notes & Reminders, cont.

Turner County Fair Proceeds

This year's proceeds netted \$19,627.27. Thank you to the many parents and the organizing committee who assisted in the food booth. Proceeds are allocated to the general fund, choir tour, service trip, field trips, paying off the previous computer lease and a couple of digital projectors. Again, thank you for all your hard work!

Tuition Reduction Hours

The first three months of our fiscal year will end September 30. Any tuition reduction hours that have been worked from July 1 to September 30 may be turned in to the Business Office by October 8. This includes hours worked at the FA Turner County Fair food stand. Volunteer time sheets can be found on the web site under Resources-Parents-Forms.

Office Visits on Staff Meeting Days

If you or your children need to stop in the administration office to take care of business on an early dismissal (2:50) staff meeting day, we request that you or the student arrive by 2:30 p.m. in order for us to serve you better. This will enable the office staff to give you their full attention and still allow them to arrive at Music Hall on time for the staff meeting. Thank you.

Counseling Services



Counseling services continue to be offered on campus on Thursdays. These services are provided by Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health Services. Appointments can be made by calling directly to Lewis and Clark at 1-800-765-3382.

Fall Sports Banquet

The 2010 Fall Sports Banquet will be held November 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Dining Hall. This event recognizes student-athletes in grades 5-12 who participated in any Fall sports activity as well as recognizing the coaches and the involvement of the parents. We will again be having a potluck meal for this. If your student-athlete is in grades 10-12, please bring a main dish and if they are in grades 5-9, please bring a dessert. The school will provide table service and also water. Please contact Nathan if you have any questions.

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Mid-term for the first trimester is October 7. Mid-term report cards will be available at conferences, Friday,

October 22, 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. All conferences will be held in the Link, Band Room and Pioneer Hall Lobby. Parents of students in grades 5 and 6 will receive appointment times from Mrs. Schrag. Parents in grades 7 – 12 have no set appointment times and are asked to limit conferences to 5 minutes per teacher per student. If you need a lengthier conference, please schedule an appointment for an in-depth meeting with that particular teacher on another date. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated by the teachers and other parents.

Visiting Students Welcome Anytime at FA



The best way to experience the unique atmosphere at Freeman Academy is to spend a day on our campus attending classes, chapel, lunch and other activities! We encourage individual families to arrange for a complimentary day on campus for themselves or other interested students. Contact Bonnie Young at byoung@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 225. We look forward to your visit soon!

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 closeline 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 an early dismissal due to inclement weather.

New Student

Seulji "Stella" Kim, a junior from Korea, joined our student body on Sept. 13. She studied in Pennsylvania last year and is a friend of Janice Yu who attended FA last year as a sophomore. Stella is living in the campus dorm and states that she looks forward to experiencing a rural environment and making a lot of American friends. Please extend a warm welcome to Stella!

Cheerleader Advisor Needed

Freeman Academy is looking for a cheerleading advisor for the 2010-2011 Boys' Basketball season. If interested or if you have questions, contact Nathan Epp at 925-4237, ext. 233.

Music Department Notes



Instrumental Department

The instrumental students are busy preparing for both on-campus and off-campus activities. Freeman Academy students will be performing during the district volleyball tournaments at FA on November 2, 4, and 5.

The band's next appearance will be part of the Studio Subscription Series concert with Robert Verdi's "Saxophobia" on Monday, November 8. This will be a very entertaining as well as educational concert. Rob is a professional playing many different saxophones, and you and your friends won't want to miss this! (Please read Amy's article for more information including ticket information.)

Students are also preparing for church visits, All-State Orchestra auditions on October 14, Augustana Band Festival on November 12 and 13, Yankton Region I Honor Band Festival for students in grades 7-12 on November 22 (auditions due by October 15), and Middle School All-State Band in March (auditions due before Thanksgiving).

It shouldn't be hard for the middle school students to get their 100 minutes of weekly practice! Parents were sent detailed descriptions of each event by email earlier. Please contact Donna at dries@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 242 if you did not receive this information or with questions concerning these events.

All-State Chorus and Orchestra, Aberdeen, October 29-30, 2010

Each year FA participates in the SD High School All-State Chorus and Orchestra. Each school is invited to participate in this event and is allowed to bring a certain number of vocal quartets (based on school size). Freeman Academy is allowed to bring one quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass). Vocal auditions for this will take place Sept. 28 when a quartet will be selected to represent Freeman Academy. An alternate quartet will also be chosen in the event that a student is not able to attend because of selection for the orchestra, illness or ineligibility. Letters will be sent to the parents of the participants with additional information in early October. This concert is open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the concert venue.

Auditions

Vocal auditions are well underway for the various honors choirs. By the time you receive this, we will be finishing the South Dakota ACDA Jr. High Honors and National Honors auditions. Thank you for your continued interest in having students audition for these various outside opportunities. Also, many thanks for assisting your child in preparation for the auditions by helping them or supporting them through private lessons.

World Music Drumming in Grade 5-6 Music Class!

We are excited to be drumming again in the grade 5-6 class. World Music Drumming is a curriculum that has caught on fire in the US the past 5-10 years. Students learn about respect, teamwork, listening, complementing, creating, focus and equality while having a blast drumming. We also become more informed about other countries. Grades 5 and 6 will be participating in the October 21 Fall Concert with their Drum Circle! Parents, please have them wear black pants and a black shirt or blouse. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact me, Amy Hofer Vetch, at 925-4237, ext. 240 or ahofer@freemanacademy.org.

Church Visits

Sunday, Oct. 17, the Freeman Academy High School Music Department worships with Hutterthal Mennonite Church. Students should wear concert attire and be ready for vocal warm-ups at 9:00 a.m. The service commences at 9:45 a.m. Students are expected to stay through the service unless they have church obligations in their home church. Hutterthal Mennonite Church is located west of Freeman on Highway 44 at the following address: 27473 437th Ave.

Future church visits are scheduled for Nov. 7 at the Salem (South) Mennonite Church in rural east Freeman and Jan. 23 at Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite Church also in rural east Freeman.

Chamber Choir has an additional church visit on Nov. 14 at Calvary Baptist in Yankton. The Chamber Choir will sing for both services at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Students need to be at the church by 8:15 a.m. If you are interested in providing transportation as part of a carpool to Yankton, please contact Amy Hofer Vetch by Monday, Nov. 8.

Studio Subscription Series

Parents of the Concert Band please take note...

The 2010-2011 season is off to a great start. We opened our season with the **Public Domain** Tune Band. Our next concert features Robert Verdi from California and his show **Saxophobia** Monday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m. **This concert** will also feature the FA Concert Band!

Because this program is a part of the Studio Subscription Series, admission will be charged. However, immediate family (parents and siblings) of the concert band members will receive complimentary tickets. Tickets will be given to the band members to bring home. Please be sure to bring your tickets to the concert!

Tickets for the single event are \$12/adult and \$6/student (K-12). FA students receive free admission. A dessert reception will follow the concert. If you have any questions about the concert or the series, please feel free to contact Amy Hofer Vetch at 605-925-4237, ext. 240 or ahofer@freemanacademy.org.

Music Department Notes, cont.

Little Women (the Broadway musical) November 18 & 19 7:00 p.m.

The vocal department is putting together an exciting (newer) musical! Many may be familiar with Louisa May Alcott's book "Little Women" written in the 1860's, based loosely on the author's life with her sisters. The musical, with lyrics by Mindi Dickstein and music by Jason Howland, is based on the literary book.

The story revolves around the March family mother and sisters: Marmee, the mother who tries to hold the family together while her husband is away; Meg, the oldest and most romantic; Jo, the aspiring writer (we watch the story

unfold in her eyes); Beth, sweet and kind-hearted; and pretentious Amy.

The show will open Thursday, November 18, with a second show on Friday, November 19. Tickets may be purchased at the door: \$7/adult and \$3/student.

Fall Concert, Thursday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m.

The vocal department will present its fall concert on Thursday, October 21. Students in grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and high school choirs (concert and chamber) will share several selections. High school choir members should wear their choir attire. Students in grades 7-8 may wear nice dress clothes. Girls should wear a skirt or dress and boys should wear a button up shirt (tucked in) and nice slacks.

TRIP NEWS AND NOTES

DID YOU KNOW:

- ☐ That 25 different parties have each placed at least one TRIP order?
- ☐ That our TRIP orders average nearly \$8000 every two weeks?
- ☐ That in July and August alone, tuition credits of \$2277.95 were earned which will benefit 26 students?
- ☐ That Ampride cards can now be reloaded? Just return used cards to Barb.
- ☐ That you are now able to place your TRIP orders on-line? Contact Barb for instructions.
- ☐ That you can sign a disclaimer form to authorize your child to pick up your TRIP cards for you? However, you also need to communicate clearly with both your student and Barb so orders are handled per your wishes each time.

Strategic Planning Update

We want to share the first accomplishment of the planning process. Constituents attending the weekend sessions were asked to create an "ideal" profile that would explain Freeman Academy's present mission statement. The following profiles are the result of four highlighted segments of the statement, which is included for your information. These profiles will be used as the same group plus all board members construct profile statements on five critical areas: size/enrollment, personnel, curriculum, co-curricular activities and facilities. Watch for more updates in each parent newsletter this year. Please feel free to contact me, Vernetta Waltner, with any questions or comments you may have about this process.

Freeman Academy, as a part of Christ's church, **(1) integrates Christian principles into all learning** while maintaining a **(2) standard of excellence in academics, creative arts and athletics**. Freeman Academy is Mennonite in origin and doctrine but seeks to serve students of all Christian faiths. **(3) A safe, caring and nurturing atmosphere** prepares students to accept God's call to **(4) live a life of compassionate service and discipleship to Christ**.

1. Believing that Christ is our example in all that occurs at Freeman Academy, nurturing faculty and staff teach every student how to integrate Christ-centered thought and action into their lives. Board members and administration provide faith-infused opportunities to support and encourage this activity in academics, creative arts and athletics.

2. Freeman Academy challenges and engages students to identify, increase and develop aptitudes and abilities to maximize individual potential. Our students are ready to contribute their unique gifts to the world.

3. Our students, staff and faculty emulate Christ-like behavior by maintaining a safe, caring and nurturing atmosphere in which inappropriate behaviors are clearly defined, promptly identified, and mutually resolved through conflict resolution. All students and staff experience acceptance, freedom of expression and encouragement to grow emotionally, intellectually and spiritually.

4. Through the nurture and example of staff, Freeman Academy develops respectful, disciplined students in their life-long, spiritual journey of following Christ, regardless of vocation.

Upcoming Events

* Subject to change

September

- 27 **Late Start – 10:30 - NCA Teacher Day**
Soccer @ Mitchell Christian 5:00
Northwestern College Rep (St. Paul) 2:00 CH
Corporation Meeting (all parents welcome) 7:30 DH
- 28 Middle School Volleyball (H) Scotland 4:00
HS All-State Chorus Auditions 7:00 CH
- 29 Cross Country @ Parker 2:00
- 30 **Volleyball Tri-Valley Conf. Trny @ FA & @ Alc-Hudson**
Pvt Res VisCtr afternoon/evening

October

- 2 **Volleyball Tri-Valley Conf. Trny @ Centerville**
- 4 Volleyball (H) Marion 6:15
- 5 HS Art Trip to Sioux Falls 8:00-4:00
Communications Meeting 10:00 CH
- 6 **Cross Country Tri-Valley Conf. @ Irene 3:00**
- 7 **Mid-Term**
Volleyball (H) Centerville 5:00
Middle School Volleyball (H) Centerville 5:00
- 7-9 **State Soccer Trny @ Mitchell**
- 9 Volleyball Gayville-Volin @ Gayville TBA
- 10 Pvt Res VisCtr 1:00 - 5:00
- 11 **Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 Library**

- 12 **Early Dismissal 2:50; Staff Mtg. 3:00**
Middle School Volleyball Viborg-Hurley @ Viborg 5:00
Volleyball Viborg-Hurley @ Viborg 6:15
Strategic Planning 8:00 DH
- 13 **PSAT/NMSQT Testing 10th/11th Grades**
Region Cross Country Meet @ Freeman
Volleyball (H) Marty Indian 6:00
- 14-15 **All-State Orchestra Auditions at Sioux Falls**
- 17 **FA Music @ Hutterthal**
- 18 **Local Oral Interp.** (Evening) CH and possibly English Room
Middle School Volleyball (H) G/Volin 4:30
Pvt Res VisCtr 7:00 - 10:00
- 18-22 **Scholastic Book Fair**
- 19 Volleyball (H) Mitchell Christian 6:15
- 20 Lake Area Tech Rep 2:10 CH
- 21 **Fall Concert Grades 5-12 Vocal 7:30 PH**
- 22 **No School-Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, in Link, Band Room and PH Foyer 7:00-3:00**
- 22-23 Pvt Res DH Late Evening
- 23 Volleyball Andes Central Tourney TBA
Middle School Volleyball Tri-Valley Conf. Tournament @ Gayville TBA
State Cross Country @ Huron
- 25 **Late Start 10:30 NCA Work day**
Volleyball @ ORR 6:15
Board Meeting 7:00
- 26 University of Sioux Falls Rep 2:30 CH

- 28 All-State Chorus & Orchestra Leaving for Aberdeen
- 29 **Pastor Appreciation Day 9:00-11:00 in the Library**
- 29-30 **All-State Chorus & Orchestra in Aberdeen**

November

- 2, 4-5 **Volleyball District Tournament - Pep Band Plays**
- 5 **Community Service Day**
- 6 **Freeman Academy Benefit Auction 6:00 Dining Hall**
- 7 **FA Music @ Salem Mennonite Church**
- 25 Pvt. Reserv DH
Pvt Res (VisCtr)

- 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

- **September 27** NCA Late Start - 10:30 a.m. (for all students)

Corporation Meeting (all parents invited)
7:30 p.m. Dining Hall
- **October 12** Early Dismissal 2:50 p.m.;
Staff Meeting 3:00 p.m.
- **October 13** PSAT/NMSQT Testing for Grades 10 & 11
- **October 22** Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (No School)
- **October 25** NCA Late Start - 10:30 a.m. (for all students)