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Future Events

- ◆ 6/7 – 11 – A1 Bike Trip
- ◆ 6/7 – 16 – A2 & A3 Spring Intensives
- ◆ 6/16 – Graduation 7 pm
- ◆ 6/16 – Summer activities registration deadline
- ◆ 7/26 – 8/6 – GRS Summer Classes
- ◆ 9/1 – Fall Trip Orientations
- ◆ 9/7 – First Day of school for 2010-2011

News from Christina Beck, Head of School

Thank you

As reports of the key experiences currently underway roll in, I marvel at the generosity of the GRS community that has made all of this creativity, industry, adventure and academic exploration possible. I am engaged in a role playing campaign with 15 A2 and A3 boys. Every step taken in this games comes straight from the imagination of its participants. The cooking group is spread out over the full dining hall and in addition to their transformation of ingredients to sumptuous vittles, they are inventorying and efficiently stocking the kitchen. Yesterday we had the orchard planting group out at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the zoology class at the Minnesota Zoo. Farther afield, I've heard from Enrique that the Costa Rica group made their way to the Caribbean region and from Zach that as the Seattle group approached their campsite, "Washington is beautiful." Outside, the bike shelter is going up at a rapid pace and despite a gushing (broken) faucet, the progress is heartening. Speaking of bikes, how impressive the effort to get the entire A1 level prepared and organized to launch their 5-day bike trip. We'll share further updates on the rest of the spring intensives next week and plan to present to each other on Wednesday during school.

Please remember that next week consists of 3 half days. We'll dismiss at 1 p.m. unless your spring intensive guide has planned otherwise.

Farewell Reception for Karen Cedars

Also on Wednesday, June 16, we invite you to join us for a reception in honor of Karen Cedars. Please join us at 12:45 at the end of the school day. Karen will be out of the office between June 17 and 22, but will return for June 23-30.

Graduation: All are invited

The Faculty, Class of 2010 and Board of Directors invite you to
 Commencement Exercises
 Wednesday the sixteenth of June
 At seven o'clock in the evening

Weyerhauser Chapel
 Macalester College
 1600 Grand Avenue
 Saint Paul, Minnesota

Reception follows at Olin Hall

Graduation

This year's graduation ceremony will take place on Wednesday, June 16 beginning at 7 pm at the Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel at Macalester College. All graduating seniors must be at the chapel at 6:15 pm. Macalester College is located at 1600 Grand Ave. in St. Paul. The chapel is located a short walk from Grand Avenue. There is plenty of parking along Grand and Snelling. The reception planned and hosted by a Junior family will be held in the Orlin-Rice Science Center, a short walk from the chapel. Pictures will be taken directly after the ceremony. For more information, please contact Colleen Straiton at cstraiton@greatriverschool.org.

Final Three Days of School – June 14, 15 & 16

The final three days of school are all early release days. Students will be released at 1 pm unless other arrangements have been made. Several of the spring intensives have made arrangements to go a whole day or return in the evening of one of those days. If you have a student on one of those intensives, please make sure you know when your student is returning.

Creativity Action and Service for 2010-2011

Alan, a junior at GRS, is looking for an opportunity to volunteer or be an intern on Wednesday afternoons next fall for CAS. He is especially interested in working with computers and graphic design. If you have an opportunity for Alan to volunteer at your workplace or a connection that you think might help him find volunteer work at a graphic design firm, please contact Melanie at melanie@greatriverschool.org.

Outstanding Items – return the books or pay your bill

Each spring, we post a list of items that have not been returned – books – or bills that have not been paid. Seniors will not receive their diploma until their list is clear; students in grades 7 – 11 who do not take care of their outstanding items will have that list carried over to the next year. So, take care of it now! Ask your student to check the list at the front desk and clean out their backpack – the missing item might be there!

Summer Fun (d) Raising Help Needed

Have you ever been to the Saint's Game and parked next to Minnesota Wire? Known as Charity Park, those who help park cars there receive a generous \$200 for a 2-hour stint of work. We landed 5 nights of work in July, 6,7,8,9 and 10 from approximately 2 hours before game time to 15 minutes after the game starts. It is an easy task – waving cars in to the lot and taking money. For each evening, we need 5 people, two adults and 3 students. Next fall, students in 11th and 12th grades will be attending Nobel Conference at Gustavus Adolphus College in the fall. This fund raising opportunity will raise enough money to pay for most of the conference and transportation. However, all A3 teachers are away that week, so we are looking for 6 more adults and 12 more students. This is a very easy way to make \$1,000! If you are available to help for one or more nights, please contact Lydia at lmcanerney@greatriverschool.org. (Note: I will be on the bike trip, so can't get back to you until the 14th.)

Scholarships Available for 2010 Urban Scrubs Camp

UROC's MN Urban Area Health Education Center has a limited number of scholarships available for The Urban Scrubs Camp. The camp is a wonderful way for 9th through 12th grade students to learn about health-related careers. Students will participate in hands-on healthcare work, live on campus at Augsburg College and experience college life from August 1-5, 2010. For more information including the registration forms and scholarship info, please call Pam Cosby, Urban AHEC Executive Director, at 612/624-4541. Priority Deadline for scholarships is Friday June 4, 2010 but call now anyway (we just found out about this opportunity).

Information can also be found online at

http://www.healthforceminnesota.org/pages/Programs/K12_outreach/Scrubs-Camp-Info.html

Sponsored through a collaboration of University of Minnesota's Programs: Health Careers Center and MN

Urban Area Health Education Center, along with Cedar Riverside Partnership, Fairview Hospital, Augsburg College, and HealthForce Minnesota will introduce students to a variety of health careers.

Summer School for Credit Recovery

Some students may need to look to Summer School to complete credits not received this year unless other arrangements have been made. If that is the case, students must take classes in their “home district”. St. Paul Public School reserves spaces for its enrolled students first. If a student is not an SPPS student, the family will need to wait until the first day of summer school to see if there is space available for other students. Students can also contact the Minneapolis Public Schools if they are in the Mpls School District.

The SPPS process for enrolling a charter school student in summer school is call or show up on the first day of summer session, June 28 at up at the summer site closest to your home address to see if there are spaces open or to be put on a waiting list. (See the directory on the website: www.summerschool.spps.org/) If the school has space available, they will make a schedule for the student and he/she may be able to start class the next day. Eligible students with confirmed registration and enrollment in summer school will be provided with transportation bus routes and stops. The other option for credit recovery is through Alternative Learning Centers (ALC's). The ALC's most commonly used by GRS students are:

- Gordon Parks High School in St. Paul Public Schools
- Roseville Adult Learning Center in Roseville Area Schools
- Capitol View ALC in Northeast Metro 916 Intermediate School District
- Mounds View Public Schools ALC

Please visit the websites for the ALC in the school district closest to your home for school specific enrollment processes.

Driver's Education – fall 2010

Next fall, GRS will offer a Driver's Education class after school as we have for the past few years. Students who turn 15 by the end of the class are eligible to take the class. We will also offer a class in the spring if there are enough interested students. If students want to take Driver's Education this summer, It is offered through St. Paul Community Education in various locations in June and July. For information, students can check the information rack by the front desk for flyers.

Summer activities at GRS – registration form on the website and available at the front desk

This summer, from July 26 through August 6, GRS will offer several opportunities to try out some different activities. There will be three offerings. The cost varies with each offering ranging from \$150 for the Summer Jazz Ensemble and Steps to Broadway to \$250 for the Latin class. The registration form (found online or at the front desk) must be returned by June 16. Hope there will be something interesting for your student.

Steps To Broadway

Calling all singers, male and female! Still room for you to join this class July 26th. Have fun singing with your friends using favorite Musical songs. Find out what it is like to step onto the Broadway stage! See the flyers in the hallway rack or call Dorley @ (952) 346-8012. Don't waste your summer!

New Board Member Terms

As a follow up to a previous article about new board members, here are their terms for serving on the GRS Board of Directors. Welcome and congratulations. Serving three year terms will be John Haine and Elizabeth Childs; serving a two year term will be Leigh Hansen; serving a one year term will be Greg Bernstein. Teachers elected will all serve three year terms: Nelson Inz, Aaron Shackle and Brad Wildman.

Summer Reminder

Over the summer, if you purchase items with Box Tops on them (General Mills products), please clip them. This past year, we made nearly \$300 from Boxtops. Also, Kemps Select Milk Caps are a bonus for us – save them and turn them in. If you already buy these products, it is easy to save the marked caps or coupons and bring them in next fall. They are gold to us.

Registration for 2010-2011

This year, we hope to make the re-registration process smoother for all returning students. During July, we will have an open time for families to come in to review and update registration forms as well as electives for the 2010-2011 academic year. Watch for information once our new registrar is hired later this month.

Fall Dates to Remember

As you mark your calendar for the next school year, be sure to put a circle around Wednesday, September 1. This will be the orientation for fall trips for ALL students. Watch for a packing list and more information to come out in the August mailing. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 7. Over the summer, we will be sending out an electronic copy of the 2010-2011 GRS Directory. New families are especially looking forward to seeing this as they want to know who lives near them to start setting up or joining a carpool.

Sports Update

Athletic Information for next fall has been posted on the GRS website. Soccer and Volleyball for students in A2 and A3 begin in August 16. Soccer for students in A1 will begin following the fall trip, the third week of September. For more information, please go to the GRS Website and click on Athletics. The fall varsity soccer and volleyball schedules have been posted. The A1 soccer schedule is not yet available.