



**METRO-EAST
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL**

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Daniel S. Kostencki, Principal

“The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with Joy”

Psalm 126:3

Newsletter February 2010

Dear Parents, Students, and Friends:

If January is past, can spring be too far behind? I think that everyone that knows me knows that I really, really hate January. I know that February is still a winter month, but it has some realities that make it more bearable. For one, it is three days shorter than January, and usually by the end of the month you know that spring really is just around the corner. Also, we will begin the season of Lent during February and that, of course, is culminated with Easter and the hope of the resurrection and the promise of life everlasting. So, Happy February!

Our winter sports and activities are beginning to wind down. The boys bowling team has finished their season, and the girls will be competing at the Sectional level this weekend. The Dancer Knights continue to do well, though we have come to expect excellence from them. If your schedule allows, come out and support them as they head toward their State competition. We are proud of the Knights Boys Basketball team; for the first time the boys were the Champions at the recent Litchfield Tournament. Our student cheering section received the Spirit Award at the Litchfield Tournament for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Bob Schnietz was named the All-Tournament MVP, and Josh Verdun was named to the All-Tournament team. We are very proud of our student body for this award.

Our Drama kids are working on a performance of “13 Ways to Screw up a College Interview” and “Check Please”, two one act plays which will be presented at 7:00 p.m. on February 13th. Admission is \$3 Adults/ \$2 Students and Seniors. They will then start preparing for their annual Spring Musical which will be presented the weekend of April 30, May 1 and 2. The Friday and Saturday presentations will start at 7:00 p.m., and the Sunday afternoon presentation will be at 2:00 p.m. More information to come. Mr. Zach Schnare, our Art teacher, will serve as the director of this performance with Mr. Eric Hipple coordinating and directing the music.

The **Parents and Friends Organization** and the **MELHS Music Department** will be hosting their annual **Trivia Night** on Friday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m. in our Lutheran High Gymnasium. This event benefits the Fine Arts Department of Metro-East Lutheran High School. Proceeds will assist with the cost of the annual band and choir tour this spring. Put a team together and join in the fun. Teams are made up of no more than eight players and the cost is \$10.00 a person or \$80 a team. If you have not yet reserved a table contact Mr. Hipple or the office at 618-656-0043.

Registration and re-enrollment: Registration for the 2010-2011 school year is now open. The registration fee is \$250 if paid by March 15. After that date, the rate is \$300 until May 15, when it will increase to \$350. Unless you have already paid your registration fee, parents of current freshman, sophomore, and junior students will have the \$250 charge on their bill for this coming month as a reminder to pay by the March deadline. We encourage all parents to enroll their child for the coming year as soon as possible as this will assist our boards with planning and budgeting. Re-enrollment can be done through Renweb. Click on Re-enrollment under the Family Information tab and update your information online. A form is also available for download from www.melhs.org if you prefer to update your information that way.

New Tuition rates for 2010-2011: The Board of Directors set the tuition rate for the coming school year at their last regular meeting on January 28. The association member rate will be \$5,950.00 and the non-association rate is \$6,950.00.

Mid-term of the third quarter is Wednesday, February 3 and progress reports will be posted the end of the week. Please remember that the third quarter **parent/teacher conferences will be held on Monday, February 8, from 4:00 -7:00 p.m.** You can sign up that evening for a 5 minute time slot with the teachers. We made this change to mid-quarter so that if your child is experiencing any difficulty, this will be early enough for you and the teacher to work on strategies to help overcome those concerns.

We look forward to our primary social event of the winter season—our annual **Snowball Coronation and Dance**, hosted by our Student Council. February 16, 17, 18, and 19 is the Snowball Spirit Week with the Coronation and Dance being held on Saturday, February 20. This year's theme is *Walkin' On Sunshine*. Dress up days for Spirit Week will be Tuesday – Grade School Pride, Wednesday – A Day in the Sun, Thursday – Shay Day, and Friday will be Class Clash Day.

The 2009 Snowball Court members are freshmen – Jessica Jump and Jordan Dupy, sophomores - Mackenzie Gottlob and Matt Horton, juniors – Courtney Downing and Fabian Janda, and seniors – Jasmine Giannuzzi, Katie Keirn, Aino Pekkarinen, Kevin Covarrubias, Robert Schnietz, and Joshua Verdun. Tickets are \$9.00 per person for the coronation and dance and \$4.00 for the coronation only. We invite and encourage family and friends to attend this beautiful event.

Open House – Once again Lutheran High will be hosting two open house events during the month of February. They will be held on Sunday, February 14 and Sunday, February 28. Both events will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We look forward to meeting and greeting new families at these upcoming events. These are opportunities for families to learn more about our school. If you know of any families who might be interested, please share this information with them. Postcards with the details are available in the office.

Spring Craft Fair – Our annual Spring Craft Fair is scheduled for March 13 and 14. Mrs. Susan Jump is the chairman of the craft fair this year. If you know of anyone who is interested in a booth, Mrs. Jump can be contacted at 466-7078. As always, we have a need for parents to work the concession stand during the craft fair. If you can work a shift, please call the high school office at 656-0043. **The PAFs organization also sponsors a bake sale during the craft fair weekend. Donations are needed and greatly appreciated. If every family would donate one or more items to the bake sale that would be awesome! Thank you for any help that you can give, as we make an incredible amount of money on these donations. Cookies, mini loaves of bread, items that can be packaged in small amounts or sizes are great sellers!!!** Remember the craft fairs are important fundraisers for our school.

Wednesday, March 3, our National Honor Society will be hosting a **school-wide blood drive** for students 16 and older. The drive will run from 8am to 1pm. Last year, we had 35 first time donors! Although we will have students working the canteen, we are in need of parents to run the registration desk. We are also hoping for donations of various food items (such as bagels in the morning) for the donors. If you are interested, please email or call Mrs. Vicki Gillespie.

The purpose of Metro-East Lutheran High School is to provide a quality Christ-centered education in an environment that enables students to find identity, meaning, purpose, and power to live out their varying roles as the people of God in a complex changing society.

The Metro-East Lutheran High School Mission Statement

In Service to our Lord,

Dan Kostencki
Principal