

The Bruin Beat

February 2012

A Letter from the Principal

David G. Stec

Let me begin by wishing you and your family the blessings of a new year filled with health and happiness. We are steadily moving through this academic school year. It is amazing that we have a semester under our belt and spring will be here before we know it. At the recent Elementary Art Festival, I had the opportunity to thank the parents and families for their continued support of their children's efforts. I cannot state enough the critical role that you, as parents, play in the lives of your children. When parents care about what goes on at school and get involved, your children reap those benefits. I want you to know how important you are to our Padua family and I encourage you to voice your opinions, questions, and concerns to me. In addition, I am grateful for all the efforts of Padua's **Music Association, Athletic Boosters, and Parents Club**. The work of these groups provides important services that we would be otherwise unable to provide. Those of you who have enjoyed our concerts, athletic contests, and events like the Elementary Art show know what I mean. Please keep buying and selling our raffle tickets. It is a small way to have a big impact.

Speaking of things that are important, as we begin the second semester, course registration for next year becomes our priority. As in the past, course registration will be accomplished online by each student through the NetClassroom portal. All parents should have their student access information for NetClassroom. If you do not have this information or are having difficulty using this technology, please email our Registrar at **sbrizius@paduafranciscan.com**. Students will receive specific information, instructions, and course registration forms from the Guidance Department according to the following schedule: Monday, January 30 – current juniors; Monday, February 6 – current sophomores; Monday, February 13 – current freshmen.

It is important to note that each class has its own week and that their online registration must be completed no later than the Thursday evening of that week; for example, juniors must complete their registration by Thursday February 2nd, or they will be closed out from registration. In addition, all students must return a parent-signed registration form which has been downloaded from Netclassroom. The course registration form is to be given to the Guidance Department no later than the following Monday morning. This form is essential because it includes a signature approval by the parent and also allows for the timely completion of next year's Master schedule to guarantee your child's enrollment for the 2012-13 school year. Students are not considered registered until this form has been received in Guidance. I urge you to work with your child in the important process of making appropriate course selections. Please feel free to contact your child's counselor or teachers if they can be of assistance. Keep in mind that it may not be possible to make changes later due to class size restrictions and limitations of course offerings. Registration online is a true college experience and provides an important learning opportunity for our students.

High school curriculum is constantly being altered, and, as such, maintaining a strong curriculum requires revision and change. Two new additions next year are courses specific to the MedTrack

program. *Honors Advanced Science Seminar* (HASS) is the capstone science course for the MedTrack program and is only available to MedTrack students. Also, *Bioethics and Franciscan Life Issues* will be the choice of senior MedTrack students in lieu of Christian Lifestyles. Additionally, next year, in line with the Diocesan mandate and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Padua Franciscan will begin offering the first of 6 new theology core curriculum offerings. The new course is entitled *Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture*, which replaces our former Old Testament course. I will outline the theology changes in greater detail at a later date. Padua's Course Description Book is available online at www.paduafranciscan.com. I encourage you to view full details about these improvements in the document, and if you have any questions, contact the Guidance Department or me.

I encourage you to continue to use our online grading program to monitor your students' work. You will be able to view both the first semester and second semester grades until February 6th. At that time, to avoid extra navigational steps and confusion, we will only show the second semester grades. If there are any questions or concerns about this, please call the school and speak to our Registrar, Mrs. Brizius. In addition, Mrs. Brizius is more than happy to help you with any concerns or navigational questions you may have about NetClassroom.

Enclosed is your child's 1st semester report card. Please take time to review it with your son or daughter to recognize successes and to address any areas of concern. An integral part of the new year is the word "resolution." The word really means to "solve again." Often we need to recommit ourselves to solutions we already know. The same is true in education. A re-dedication by your son or daughter to review regularly, always do their homework, and put their best efforts forward in the classroom are often the solutions that are needed to correct inconsistent grades. Encourage him or her to take advantage of the "clean slate" offered by the new semester and get off to a good start! Please contact teachers and counselors if you need some clarification, advice, or assistance in helping your child to succeed. A reminder that tutoring is available in the library during all periods of the day and every teacher maintains a tutorial schedule to give extra assistance to those students who need additional guidance. I am amazed at how seldom students who struggle in a class attend tutorials. That is often the puzzle piece that is missing for success.

As we move forward into this third quarter of the year, please make plans to attend our **Parent-Teacher Conferences** March 1st from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., which will be held at the mid-point of the third quarter. Even though our grades are online, nothing can replace the ability to speak with a teacher in person. As always, your student is encouraged to attend with you. Please note that there is **No School on March 2nd**.

This year's **Christmas for Others (CFO)** was a huge success—both in monetary gifts as well as in student involvement and service. Our total receipts of over \$25,500 represent **the highest** total in the history of the campaign. This money was distributed to many worthy area charities such as Habitat for Humanity and St. Francis School in Cleveland. In addition, student collection and distribution of coats, baby items, and blankets brings us even closer to those we seek to serve with this effort. My thanks to Ms. Roseanna Cook, Ms. Elizabeth Oles, and Key Club for their hard work in organizing another wonderful CFO. And a special thanks to our entire community. You certainly were "All in!"

I hope you have had a chance to view our new website and are following us on Facebook and Twitter. Links are found on our homepage at www.paduafranciscan.com. Lastly, if you're looking for an enjoyable evening of great fun, plan on joining us for our Winter One Acts. I still have random moments of laughter from past events. Performances begin on February 2nd and will run through the weekend of February 4th. To reserve your tickets in advance, check our website for a downloadable pre-sale ticket order form and return it to the General Office.

May God bless you, and as always, thank you for all that you do for Padua Franciscan High School. **Go Bruins!**

FROM THE PARENTS CLUB . . .

Happy New Year to all! Join us as we prepare to “spring” into the second semester of the school year!

The next meeting on our calendar will be on Monday, February 13th, in the cafeteria. Bring your thoughts and ideas for the spring events, including the annual Father/Daughter Dance. We are looking to put a committee together to plan this annual event, and others, so join us at our coffee social as we brainstorm (and plan)!

Don't forget our Annual Fashion Show Luncheon on March 4th at St. Michael's Woodside.

**Also, please note that meeting dates are subject to change from those listed in the Bruin planner. Please consult the Bruin Beat or the website for the most current information.

FROM THE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS . . .

SAVE THE DATE: Boosters **Night at the Races** is March 24, 2012, at Padua. Please join us for a fun evening and help support our athletic programs and all student athletes. To purchase tickets, horses, or advertisement space in the program, pick up a form in the Athletic Office. If you would like to volunteer that evening to help sell raffle tickets, sideboards, or as race window workers, please contact Judi Plescia at j_plescia@yahoo.com. If you have Chinese raffle baskets, donations, or any other questions, please contact Erika Wolf at twolf06@att.net.

Run for Your Life is scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., rain or shine, at the Berea Fairgrounds. We will need the most walkers this year in order to win \$5,000 for Padua athletics! More details to follow.

Show your Padua Pride and purchase Padua apparel, sold at all weekend basketball games.

Please join us for our **next Boosters meeting** in the school cafeteria on February 28, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE MUSIC ASSOCIATION . . .

We would like to wish all students who are participating in the **OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest** on January 28 the best of luck. Many hours are being spent preparing the selections that will be performed before a judge. Good luck Bruins!

The next **Instrumental Concert** will be held on Sunday, February 26, in the gym. The next **Vocal Concert** will be held on Sunday, March 4, also in the gym. Both concerts will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Padua Tuition Raffle Tickets are still available. Don't miss out on your chance to win up to \$5,000 off your Padua Tuition for next school year. Contact Cheryl Gryniewicz at 440.884.2820 for information and tickets.

The Padua Music Association is looking for volunteers to join a committee for next year's **Holiday Craft Fair**. If interested, please contact Cheryl Gryniewicz at 440.884.2820. Music parents, please be on the lookout for an email regarding this committee.

Please join us for our next meeting on February 21, at 7:00 p.m., in the band room. New faces and new ideas are always welcome!

FROM THE REGISTRAR . . .

All parents should have login information for NetClassroom. Please contact Mrs. Brizius at sbrizius@paduafranciscan.com if you need help with accessing or using the grade program. You will need access to NetClassroom for course registration in January and February.

Important dates for Course Registration 2012-2013:

Class of 2013 Online registration: Jan. 30-Feb. 2; Paper forms due to Guidance: Feb. 6

Class of 2014 Online registration: Feb. 6-Feb. 9; Paper forms due to Guidance: Feb. 13

Class of 2015 Online registration: Feb. 13-Feb. 16; Paper forms due to Guidance: Feb. 20

All forms and information are available at paduafranciscan.com/Academics/Course Registration 2012-2013.

Registration is a two-step process this year: **Step one** you will complete, print, and sign the Elective Preference Rank Sheet and the appropriate Course Registration form for submission to Guidance. **Step two** you will login to NetClassroom/Registration to electronically select courses. Please contact your child's guidance counselor if you have questions about which courses to select. Contact Mrs. Brizius, the Registrar, if you have technical issues with the forms or accessing NetClassroom.

ANNUAL FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON

Our annual **Fashion Show and Luncheon** will be held Sunday, March 4, 2012, at St. Michael Woodside on Mill Road in Broadview Hts. This gala luncheon is famous for Chinese Raffle baskets donated by faculty, staff, and families. We welcome donations of any type but ethnic, hobby, sports or family ideas are encouraged. This year we will also have 50/50 raffles. Join us to relax and enjoy Mother's Day or springtime early with grandmothers, daughters, aunts and sisters from 12-3:30 p.m. Contact Linda Baznik, otlinda2002@yahoo.com, 216-642-9499, for information. Donation contact is Kathy Schley, gokey@roadrunner.com, 440-655-1499, and tickets are available for \$30 each from Nadia Jantonio, nsjtigger@sbcglobal.net.

PADUA FRANCISCAN HIGH SCHOOL

2012 CAR RAFFLE

ENTER TO WIN A BRAND NEW 2012

CHEVY CRUZE

\$10 PER RAFFLE TICKET

Tickets may be purchased online at paduafranciscan.com.
Drawing to be held during the Sunday, April 29, performance

OF PADUA'S SPRING MUSICAL

VISIT PADUAFRANCISCAN.COM FOR MORE DETAILS



Cruze value
approx. \$18,199

Proceeds will be used to air condition the cafeteria and for student financial aid. The winner need not be present to win. Car must be titled to a person 18 years or older. Car pickup is the responsibility of the winner and must be claimed within 30 days. Sales and income taxes are the responsibility of the winner.

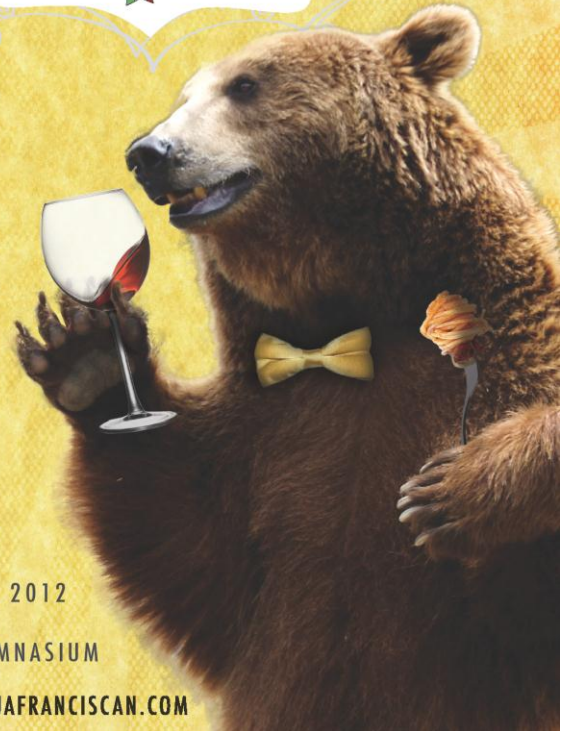
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OF STRONGSVILLE

Join US FOR

50 AND FORWARD

Celebrazione
Bruin  Benefit

Every
BRUIN CELEBRATE!



SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012

6:00 P.M.

PADUA FRANCISCAN GYMNASIUM

PURCHASE TICKETS AT PADUAFRANCISCAN.COM