

# Ann Arbor Academy Newsletter

## Mid Fall 2011

Dear Academy Families,



We are in the thick of the semester already, and it's gone very fast! We have had some great work out of the students, and sending out the recent progress reports was a pleasure. There are a lot of talented, hard working young people in this school, and they are successfully learning how to learn.

We've had our first trip of the school year, to Quebec City and Montreal, which was a big success. Students got to observe a UNESCO World Heritage Site up close, learn to navigate the train and a different language, and they had a lot of fun on top of it all. Thank you to the chaperones – Peter, Joannah, and Chad, for making this happen.

We have a busy time coming up, the details of which are covered in the rest of the newsletter. We have a lot of conferences to go to and one to present at, accreditation activities happening, and more football parking coming up. There's always something, so stay tuned!

*Meredith*

### **ISACS Kickoff Visit will be Wednesday, November 2**

Kevin Rooney, the coordinator for accreditation at ISACS, will be visiting our school on Wednesday, November 2, in order to coordinate the kickoff of our self-study. The self-study is a long term process in which we use the results of the survey many of you took this summer, as well as our own experiences and our strategic plan, to examine all aspects of the school.

There will be committees to work on all of this, so we'll keep you posted as we recruit people to help us out. Kevin will be here mostly in the afternoon, so feel free to stop by and say hello. If you'd like to be more closely involved with the accreditation process, perhaps as a member of the steering committee, please let me know, and we'll work on finding the best way for you to participate.

## **IDA, LDA, PFT and ISACS Conferences**

As part of our ongoing commitment to professional development, we're sending faculty to several conferences, all of which are in November. The parent committee has generously supported this, and we are very grateful. Here's a rundown of who's going where, and you can be assured that we use faculty meetings and professional development days to share what we have learned with each other. As always, we will use substitute teachers who are already teachers here, or who have been trained in special education, in order to keep the class material going as efficiently as possible. Also, please note that there is no school for students on November 4 and November 14.

November 3 – ISACS Conference – Meredith, Chad

November 4 – ISACS Conference – Meredith, Chad, Joannah, Peter, Johanna

November 9 – International Dyslexia Association – Meredith

November 10 & 11 – International Dyslexia Association – Johanna and Grant

November 14 – Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan – full faculty

November 15 – LDA of MI – Peter and Ramayan (presenting a workshop on using multisensory teaching techniques in a classroom of learners with different strengths) – Student Day at LDA as well, so three or four students will be invited to attend

November 16 – Preparing for Tomorrow Transitions Conference – Meredith and Peter (who will present on study skills) – Ann Arbor Academy helps to coordinate this conference and is a sponsor – all Academy juniors and seniors will attend

November 18 – ACT test administration training – Brian and Linda

## **Upcoming Events**

Friday, October 28, 1 – 3 pm – Halloween Party

Saturday, October 29, 9 am – noon – Football parking

Wednesday, November 2, afternoon – ISACS Kickoff Visit

Friday, November 4 – No school for students

Monday, November 7, 7 – 9 pm – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday, November 14 – No school for students

Thursday, November 17, 6:30 – 8:30 pm – LD College Fair at Community High

Saturday, November 26, time TBA – Football parking

Tuesday, November 22, 11:30 – 3 – Thanksgiving Feast and Turkey Bowl

Wednesday, November 23 – First day of Thanksgiving Break

Saturday, November 26, time TBA – Football parking (Go Buckeyes!)

Tuesday, November 29, 7 – 9 pm – Transitions Meeting for High School parents

Friday, December 16, 7 – 9 pm – Winter Performance Night