



# BISHOP CONNOLLY COUGAR NEWS

DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER

2011-2012

*"To be not only  
hearers but  
doers of the  
Word."  
- James 1:22*

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Hear from Bishop  
Connolly's Princi-  
pal, Christopher  
Myron

December/January  
Events

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## December/January Events

### December 7th:

MEFA College Financing  
Seminar 6PM  
BCHS Cafeteria

### December 8th:

School Liturgy — 1PM

### December 9-11th:

Rabbit Hole Drama Production  
Friday — 8PM  
Saturday — 2PM & 8PM  
Sunday — 4PM & 7:30PM

### December 12th:

Bullying Prevention Workshop

### December 21st:

Fine Arts Night — 7PM

### December 22nd:

Prayer Service — 1PM

### December 23rd —

**January 2nd:**  
NO SCHOOL:  
Christmas Break

### January 3rd:

Classes Resume

### January 13th:

2nd Quarter Ends

### January 16th:

NO SCHOOL: MLK Jr. Day

### January 17th-20th:

Midterm Exams

### January 22nd-24th:

Pro-Life March

### January 30th-Feb. 3rd:

Catholic Schools Week

## Principal's Message

*Dear Bishop Connolly Parents and Guardians,*

"I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs, and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world."

- Norman Vincent Peale

Our students at Bishop Connolly High School bring joy and peace to this world because they live Christ's message of faith, hope and love. I am grateful that the NHS successfully organized a *Blood Drive*, the Chorus shared their singing talents at the St. Mary's Education Fund Dinner, and the student body is positively participating in the *Christmas Card Raffle*, as well as supporting *The Giving Tree*. These are outward signs of the positive spirit inside Bishop Connolly High School.

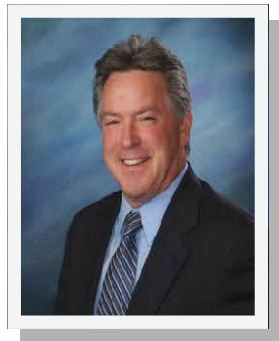
You are invited to pray with us this month as we celebrate the *Mass of the Immaculate Conception* on December 8th and gather together

for a Christmas prayer service on December 22th. Praying as a school community is a blessing we sometimes take for granted.

*Progress Reports* will be sent home on December 9, 2011. We will not have Parent-Teacher Conferences this quarter but you can still communicate with the teachers in the way that is most convenient for you. I suggest you make an appointment with teachers if your child is deficient in a subject.

God Bless,

Christopher Myron  
Principal



## Connolly News...

### Christmas Giving Tree:

Catholic Social Services is asking Bishop Connolly High School for help during this Christmas Season. CSS dropped off 200 child ornament tags to BCHS this past week. Each tag is labeled with a gift a child would like for Christmas. The tags are placed on two trees in the school, one in the main lobby and one in the cafeteria. Christmas is a time to celebrate and we, as a school, want to celebrate by giving to those that are less fortunate and need of help.

The gifts must be brought back to Bishop Connolly High School by December 14<sup>th</sup> unwrapped. This is a great opportunity to be not only be a hearer of the word, but a doer. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



### Financial Aid Applications:

Financial Aid Applications for the 2012-2013 school year will be available beginning December

5th. Please contact Ms. Keavy, our Business Manager, if you have any questions or concerns. The application deadline is February 17th, 2012.

### Class of 2012 Financial Aid Night:

A reminder to all seniors and their families that the MEFA Financial Aid Night will be held on **Wednesday, December 7th @ 6:30PM** in the BCHS cafeteria. This meeting will provide you with important information regarding the college financial aid process, and you will have the opportunity to have your questions answered. For more information, please contact the Guidance Office.

### Donations for the Red Carpet Gala:

The Gala Committee has been hard at work trying to put together a fun-filled evening but we are in need of your help! We are asking for any donations you could send in for our raffle baskets such as gift cards or small gift items. Please contact Mr. Tony Ciampanelli or Mrs. Debbie Arruda at (508) 676-1071 with any questions.

### Save the Date:

*BCHS Red Carpet Gala*  
March 10, 2012  
Fall River Cultural Center  
205 South Main Street  
Fall River, MA 02720

### Cougar Store Fleece:

Great News! Bishop Connolly has added a fleece jacket to the uniform. The fleece comes in the color red for school and can only be purchased through the Cougar Store. Please see Mrs. Arruda in the Cougar Store if you are interested in purchasing a fleece.



### Progress Reports:

Progress Reports will be mailed home on Friday, December 9th.



### Congratulations Stephanie Miranda:

Congratulations to Stephanie Miranda who attended the National Young Leaders State Conference (NYLSC) held in Boston, MA.

### Christmas Card Raffle Collection Days:

December 6th, December 13th, and December 20th. Keep up the good work!

### Student Incentives for Christmas Card Raffle:

- Top selling student on each collection day will be awarded a \$100.00 gift card.
- Each student who sells ten Christmas Cards and returns them on a collection day will receive a dress down day and be entered into the "Teacher Servant for a Day" Drawing.
- The top five Christmas Card Raffle sellers will receive a Limo Lunch Adventure Ride (destination and time to be determined later).
- Each class that achieves 100% participation (by selling the total number of cards distributed to that class) will earn \$1,000.00 toward their class fund.
- Grand Prize: The class that achieves the highest percentage of its quota will win an all expense paid field trip to Canobie Lake Park.



## *From the Guidance Office...*

### **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):**

The FAFSA application has already become available for download and can be filed any time after January 1st, 2012. This application is required of all college students who are applying for financial aid. Financial aid is awarded on a first come, first served basis, so it is advised to file the FAFSA as early in the new year as possible. Information regarding the FAFSA, as well as the online application, can be found at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>.

### **CSS Profile:**

The CSS Profile is an additional financial aid form that is mandated by a limited number of colleges/universities. The profile is for nonfederal student aid and can be used to address the unique financial needs of individual students. To view the list of colleges/universities that mandate the CSS Profile or to complete the online form, please visit <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com>.

### **Scholarships:**

Scholarship opportunities are updated regularly and posted in the Guidance Department. Students should check back often to stay on top of the applications that are made available to Bishop Connolly seniors.



## *Upcoming Dates...*

**February 17, 2012**

Financial Aid Application Deadline

**February 20– 24, 2012**

February Vacation

**February 29, 2012**

Parent/Teacher Conferences  
3PM-5PM & 6PM-8PM

### **REMINDER:**

Seniors with a college application deadline within the first two weeks of January must have their blue transcript release forms turned in to their guidance counselor by December 7th. Students with college application deadlines that fall outside of this timeline must have blue sheets turned into guidance no later than *two weeks* before the deadline.

### **ATTENTION AP STUDENTS:**

All students enrolled in an AP level class are required to take the AP Exam in May. Exams are scheduled from May 7th– May 18th, and the cost is \$87 for each exam. Payments can be made at your convenience but must be paid in full by Monday, April 23rd.

Please make checks payable to Bishop Connolly High School and remit payment to the Business Office. If you have any questions about the AP program, please contact Mrs. Rezendes in the Guidance Department at (508) 676-1071 ext. 356.

### **Midterm Exam Schedule:**

Midterm exams will last 90 minutes and be held during normal class blocks. *Exam days will be regular dismissal days. These are not half days.*

**January 17th:** G and F blocks

**January 18th:** E and D blocks

**January 19th:** C and B blocks

**January 20th:** A Block

## *Save the Date...*

**March 10, 2012**

*BCHS Red Carpet Gala*  
Fall River Cultural Center  
205 South Main Street  
Fall River, MA 02720

For more information please contact Mr. Anthony Ciampanelli or Mrs. Debbie Arruda at (508) 676-1071.