



BISHOP CONNOLLY HIGH SCHOOL

COUGAR NEWS

September, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, September 2,
2008 - First full day of
school

Thursday, September 11,
2008 - Parent Council
Meeting @ 6:30pm in the
library

Friday, September 12,
2008 - Opening of School
Liturgy @ 10:15am

Wednesday, September
17, 2008 - Back to School
Night for Parents @
6:30pm

Thursday, September 18,
2008 - Senior Leadership
Field Trip: Ropes Course

Friday, September 19,
2008 - Student Council
Elections for Grades 10,
11, 12

Thursday, September 25,
2008 - Leadership Work-
shop for Junior Girls



From the Principal

Greetings and welcome to the 2008-2009 academic year! School has barely begun, yet the campus is buzzing with activity:

THE CONNOLLY RENAISSANCE So much energy has been produced by the exciting changes taking place at BCHS that we feel that we are experiencing a re-birth. Inside this newsletter you may read in detail about some of the great new programs and plant renovations that are in progress.

NEW INFRASTRUCTURE Renovations to the building include the reconfiguration and restructuring of the school offices, the addition of a new school elevator and of a handicap accessible bathroom on the second floor of the school. Renovations to the campus include the refurbishing of the tennis courts, re-grading and providing drainage for the upper playing field, the planting of forty Cleveland Pear trees to the green in front of the school, and constructing plans for a new press box for the stadium.

NEW TECHNOLOGY BCHS is going wireless! The infrastructure for internet access from anywhere on campus will be completed by mid-September. In addition virtual science labs will be introduced in classes and forty new computers have been installed in the library and computer lab.

NEW LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS In August we held the first BCHS Leadership Institute. Twenty percent of the school participated. Seniors travel to Rehoboth for an off-campus leadership course this month, and by the end of the fall all of our junior and sophomore girls will have taken part in *Leadership for Ladies* led by nationally renowned facilitator, Deb Hult.

NEW ACADEMIC INITIATIVES A cutting edge, dual enrollment program with Bristol Community College has begun this semester. In addition, our Honors Program reaches full potential with the appointment of Mr. Haskell as its new director.

NEW ATHLETIC RELATIONSHIPS BCHS's entrance into the Mayflower League gives new life to our sports programs; this move, along with the addition of some exceptional new coaches enhances the quality of our program.

Most importantly, we have re-committed to our institutional mission of creating a community where every individual is "not only a hearer, but a doer of the Word" by re-invigorating our Campus Ministry and Christian Service components.

I hope that you will choose to become part of the Connolly Renaissance. If you'd like to get involved, call me at 508-676-1071 or send an e-mail to mscanlan@bishopconnolly.com.

God Bless you and yours,

HOW WE SPENT OUR



While most people spent their summer resting and relaxing, enjoying the sun and surf, at Bishop Connolly, we have been engaged in a whirlwind of activity. In June, the Diocese of Fall River decided to add eight rooms to the Cardinal Medeiros Residence and, in the process, completely renovate the main entrance of the school, refurbish all of the school offices, and extend handicap acces-

sibility to BCHS by adding an elevator, a bathroom and a new front entrance ramp. Needless to say, we are delighted with the proposed renovations, but moving EVERYTHING out of the office area and relocating the school offices was a complicated and difficult move. Fortunately, our maintenance and secretarial staffs are tremendously talented and hard working, and they, along

with our administrative team, accomplished the transition in a quick and orderly manner. The main entrance to the school for the next few months will be through the gym/auditorium foyer. We hope to be in our new offices in the second semester. Although the renovation has provided some difficulties, it has also created some wonderful advantages. Be-

BCHS and Bristol Community College Launch New Program

BCHS and Bristol Community College announce a new collaboration which will result in students being simultaneously enrolled in courses that meet at BCHS but which are actually BCC courses. Students enrolled in the classes will receive both high school and college credits.

When the entire program is up and running, some Connolly students will be able to achieve a year's worth of college credits by the time they graduate from high school. During the inaugural year of the program which begins this month, BCHS AP Calculus and AP History students will receive

three college credits for each semester of these courses. According to BCHS principal, Michael Scanlan, "The dual enrollment program with BCC offers our students a real world opportunity to challenge themselves with actual college work for college credit".

Technology Leaps Forward at Bishop Connolly

Education comprises certain universal values and bodies of knowledge. However, the delivery of instruction has changed significantly with the emergence of current advanced technologies and applications. BCHS has vaulted into the van-

guard of educational technology by committing to state-of-the-art resources for its students. Introducing wireless connectivity throughout the campus will enhance the ability of students to work, research and create anywhere on campus, in or out of the classroom. This flexibility

introduce new, on-line virtual and simulated laboratory experiences for science classes. In addition we have purchased forty new computers with Pentium IV Core 2 Duo processors and flat panel LCDs monitors to enhance our library and computer laboratory.

SUMMER VACATION

cause the construction undermines our current computer network infrastructure, the Diocese has agreed to fund our new school-wide wireless computer network. This allows the entire BCHS community to connect with the internet from anywhere in the school building.

Renovations have not been limited to the school itself. Thanks to a grant from the Donaldson Foundation,

this summer we have also completely rebuilt our tennis courts, refurbished and re-graded our football/soccer/lacrosse field and are currently in the process of adding a press box.

In addition, you have probably noticed that the main field in front of the school building boasts twenty-five new Cleveland Pear trees which were generously donated to us by Robert and Linda Ver-

roneau, owners of LPS, Inc. a commercial maintenance company and the parents of Chris Machie, Class of 2010. Also, as one of their parting gifts, last year's seniors added landscaping to the picnic area in the rear of the building and at the entrance on Elsbree Street.

So, although our summer vacation may not have been restful, it's been tremendously exciting and rewarding.



Teachers Go to School

About fifty percent of our teaching staff experienced life from the other side of the desk this summer. Ms. Harding, Harper and Purpera continued coursework for their masters' program at PC, Mr. Haskell attended the Seminar on Gifted Education at UConn to prepare him to take over the helm of the

Honors Program, science phenoms Mr. Boudria and Dr. Flavin and Director of Technology Mr. Giuntoli attended week-long workshops at St. Johnsbury. The entire History Department engaged in intense study this summer: Mr. Lauzon was awarded a prestigious NEH Grant to study

F.D.R. at Hyde Park, NY, Mr. Dos Santos continues to work on his PhD. at Columbia and Mr. Vieira attended the Gilder-Lehman Institute in Gettysburg, VA to study Lincoln. In addition, Mr. Silva completed a film class at RISD and Mrs. Shireman was awarded her MS in Math from PC.



AHERA Plan for Asbestos Abatement

AHERA PLAN

Every school is required by federal law to have a plan in place to protect the health and safety of students, teachers and other occupants of the school building from asbestos-containing materials.

We'd like to inform you that our facility has been inspected and is in compliance with federal regulations regarding asbestos.

The AHERA Management Plan is available in our school business office should you want to review it.





BCHS ATHLETICS ON THE MOVE

The 2008-2009 year brings some exciting news from the Bishop Connolly Athletic Department.

Beginning this year the Cougar athletic teams (with the exception of lacrosse which will remain in the Maritime League) will be competing in the Mayflower League (Division

Large). In addition to being a better fit for our teams, the Mayflower League will also provide BCHS with more league games than in previous years while maintaining traditional rivalry contests with Bishop Stang and Coyle and Cassidy.

Athletic Director Frank Sherman enthuses, "With our entrance into the Mayflower League, and the

exciting renovations to the tennis courts and the upper field, it's clear that the athletic program at BCHS is on the move".

In addition to the new league and the improvements to the fields, the Bishop Connolly Athletic Department welcomes a new full time sports trainer to the Cougar family, Brian Torres.

GO, COUGARS!



**Bishop Connolly High School
373 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720**

Permit Number

www.bishopconnolly.com

**Become Part of the Bishop Connolly Renaissance!
Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities.
Interested? Call Tony Ciampanelli at 508-676-1071, ext. 333.**

OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 at 1pm!

