

FRANCIS W. PARKER CHARTER ESSENTIAL SCHOOL
& THEODORE R. SIZER TEACHERS CENTER
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Friday Announcements

Friday, December 23, 2005

Dear Parker Families,

The run up to a much needed break brings equally needed fluctuations in the “normal” rhythms of our school. In some ways, we are a frugal place, where making the most of every resource we have, including time, is a well ingrained habit. We work hard, students and staff alike, and so there are times when we almost forget that we’re deep into the season where there is a tremendous amount of energy and other kinds of “work” that take our focus from day to day school matters. We look up and suddenly, it’s the week before winter break. If we’re not mindful, we can forget that for many students and adults, this is a heightened time, to say the least. We are so accustomed to utilizing every scrap of time, of fabric, of paper (when we’re at our best, anyway), and light, for the purpose of making academic progress. Working hard is not a bad habit to cultivate, either, as long as we look up and out sometimes, and remember there must be a winter equivalent to stopping to smell the roses.

This week, we were once again practically overwhelmed in all the best ways by the presence of our returning alumni, who spent Wednesday morning with Division 3 students and then visiting one another and their dear old school! With six classes of graduates now, we are seeing our very first classes return as college graduates, with new stories to tell about their experiences in the “real world”; looking for and thinking about work in ways that seemed so distant during high school days. It is amazing how our students have grown, and perhaps still more amazing that we continue to see them as our students. With each passing year it becomes clearer and clearer that the best alumni celebrations we have at our school are the ones that provide real time (and maybe a cookie and some good coffee!), for us to reconnect and sustain the relationships that were begun, nurtured, and sustained at Parker. It is striking to see how quickly our students move into deep conversation with one another, how they seek and find their former teachers for more than a casual hello, but for real talk. As a witness to this migration home and a participant in some of those moments, there is a quiet reaffirmation of the value we try to place on our relationships with one another. School can be a kind of home for the holidays.

I hope this holiday season and winter break is a time of peace in all our homes and hearts, and that the coming New Year is one in which we can remember together the power and good that comes from making time for what’s most important. When school reopens on January 5, we will welcome our students back and inaugurate what’s been termed “the busy season,” as the close of semester and gateways begin. It will be our challenge to retain some sense of having enough time when our pace once again quickens with the demands of school life and to find those roses we mean to smell along our way.

With best wishes for a peaceful and calm break,

Teri Schrader
Principal

******* Please Note Calendar Change *******

Students will return to school after the winter vacation on Thursday, January 5, 2006. This means the last day of school will be June 23rd, 2006 (or earlier depending on the number of snow days). Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Coffee with the Principal - Thursday, January 19, 2006

Please join me for coffee on Thursday, January 19 at 8:00 a.m. in my office. This will be a chance for informal conversation and an opportunity to have some of your questions answered and to meet some other Parker parents. For those of you whose schedule does not allow you to come in the morning please consider stopping by around 3:00 p.m.

Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher M.Ed., LICSW

John Mohrbacher M.Ed., LICSW, the “therapeutic tutor” who spoke to parents on November 8th about ways to help students keep up with the homework at Parker, was asked to consider offering a private, group course for students that would focus on improving student attention, personal organization and written work production. He has agreed to offer a five week program meeting on Saturdays at noon at Parker on **January 7, 21, 28, as well as February 4, and 11**. Two evening meetings will be arranged, one to meet each potential participant before the first group session and one to meet with each family to help them develop a weekly schedule for homework routines. The cost of each session will be \$60. If interested please contact John at 781-729-5050 or jo.mohrbacher@comcast.net. The focus of the workshops is described below:

Help Your Student Keep Up at Parker

What: A five week course designed for students who are lagging behind in homework! The course will directly teach strategies for training one’s attention, identifying one’s priorities, working consistently on one’s priorities, managing materials, and writing efficiently. The course will also use the “group therapy” modality to help students overcome some of the emotional obstacles to faithful homework production. Each of the students also will be asked to meet with John for an evening appointment on two different occasions: once in advance of the course to determine if the group is right for him and once during the course to develop a family agreement around homework production.

Each student will leave the course with a document detailing the strategies covered in the course, a cassette tape featuring relaxation/concentration techniques, and a “homework agreement.”

Each group meeting will dedicate some time to identifying and practicing the strategies mentioned above, as well as dedicating some time to discussing the personal and emotional obstacles to homework production.

Who: Six boys, grades 8 thru 10. Students admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each student will be interviewed before the first class to determine if the course is likely to help him.

John Mohrbacher is a “therapeutic tutor” who is familiar with the Parker academic philosophy and has worked with several Parker students through the years. As a therapeutic tutor, John uses three different avenues to help his clients:

1. Directly “remediate” information processing difficulties (i.e. improve reading, memory, attention, comprehension, planning ability, etc.);
2. Diminish the emotional problems that tend to develop around learning difficulties (i.e. deal with anxiety, despair, anger, etc.);
3. Teach effective learning strategies to deal with current schoolwork (help clients study for tests, write papers, develop projects, etc.).

When: Personal interviews with students in advance of the class will be arranged during December on Thursday and Friday evenings (at Life Management, 257 Ayer Rd., Harvard). The classes will meet on Saturdays at 12 noon for one hour and fifteen minutes on January 7th, 21st, 28th, as well as February 4th and 11th.

Cost: Each group meeting will cost \$60. Fees for the two individual sessions (also \$60 each) are payable at the end of those sessions. The fee for the five group sessions is payable in-full at the beginning of the first session.

Applications for Enrollment at Parker for September, 2006

We have begun to accept applications for enrollment at Parker in September, 2006! There are several ways that you can help our school with the enrollment process (you may count any time that you spend on any of the possibilities below as part of your Volunteer Hours):

* We still need more parents to help out at the Enrollment Information Sessions. You would be here from about 12:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. greeting visitors, answering questions, helping with snacks, etc.

Sunday, January 8

Sunday, January 22

Sunday, January 29 -- snow date if earlier session is postponed

* We need parents to post flyers in your town--in the library, Town Hall, stores, other public places. Just stop at the office window to pick up flyers.

Parents of Parker students of any age are encouraged to help with these tasks. The Information Sessions are especially good opportunities for our newest families to volunteer their help for the school. Teachers will also be asking students, especially 7th graders, for their help on the days of the Info Sessions.

One other important note -- if you have another child at home who will be applying to Parker, you do need to fill out an application form by the February 1 deadline. Please call the main office or stop by and ask for an application packet. The Information Session is not required for siblings although they are definitely welcome to attend if you wish.

If you can help please email, telephone or stop by the office and speak to Deborah Merriam, Academic Dean, deb@parker.org or (978) 772-3293. Thank you.

COMING SOON

January Gateways

We are working on a new system to inform families about Gateways this year. If your student is working towards a January Gateway, you will be receiving a letter in the mail next week informing you of the Gateway Exhibition day and time. With 100 children gatewaying at the mid-year, the schedule is tight. Please do your best to be available on the day and time in your letter. However, if this day and time just will not work for your family, please contact Deb Merriam at deb@parker.org or at 978 772 3293, ext. 152. Any questions, please feel free to contact Deb.

December, 2005

Monday, 26 - Friday, 30 - Holiday Recess

January, 2006

Tuesday, 3 and Wednesday, 4 - Faculty Planning, no classes

Thursday, 5 - Classes resume (Please note change of date)

Saturday, 7 - Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher, M.Ed., LICSW at Parker at noon

Sunday, 8 - Enrollment Information Session (1:00 - 4:00 p.m.)

Monday, 9 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 11 - Parker Road Race & Springfest meeting

Thursday, 12 - Parker/Wachusett Ski program begins

Monday, 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (no school)

Thursday, 19 - Coffee with the Principal at 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, 21 - Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher, M.Ed., LICSW at Parker at noon

Sunday, 22 - Enrollment Information Session (1:00 - 4:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, 25 - American Red Cross Community Blood Drive

CALENDAR

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES! (*Subject to change*)

January, 2006 (Continued)

Saturday, 28 - Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher, M.Ed., LICSW at Parker at noon
Sunday, 29 - Snow date for Enrollment Information Session (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)
Monday, 30 – Faculty Planning , no classes
Tuesday, 31 - New semester begins

February, 2006

Saturday, 4 - Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher, M.Ed., LICSW at Parker at noon
Monday, 6 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, 11 - Homework Workshop with John Mohrbacher, M.Ed., LICSW at Parker at noon
Friday, 17 - Gateway Celebration - Early Release (noon dismissal)
Monday, 20 - President's Day (no school)
Tuesday, 21 - Friday, 24 - Winter Recess

March, 2006

Thursday, 2 – Parker Matters Parenting Workshop – Assistant District Attorney Nora Mann – Internet Safety
Monday, 13 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 15 - Noon dismissal - Faculty Planning
TBA - Spring Conference Day (no classes)

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

A reminder to all of our Parker Volunteers:

Please would you remember to log in your hours on the website under the Volunteer section. We believe that there are some volunteers who have forgotten to log in their hours. If you would prefer to just call the office we will enter the information into the computer for you.

Thank you!

Many thanks to all the parents who baked for the Alumni day on Wednesday, the food was delicious and was enjoyed immensely by hungry college students!

To all the thoughtful parents and friends who bought goodies into the faculty room for everyone to enjoy, many thanks to you all. As you can imagine, they were much appreciated by all!

Thank you to the family of Michael Cicchetti for their donation of a large box of binders, to the family of Ryan Lekstrom for their donation of six boxes of mailing labels and to the family of Zach Allen for their donation of a box of colored paper. Many thanks to you all.

We would like to thank the Parker community for their generous donations to the NOW College Prep School in Baton Rouge that educates displaced students from Hurricane Katrina. We have sent the check of \$108 along with an extra \$217 from the money raised by the 7-9th grade dance by the Division One Spirit Committee. This money will be used to buy sports equipment for the NOW College Prep School. Thank you again for your donations to students in need!
Parker Outreach Committee

Many thanks to the parents who have picked up Admission flyers to advertise the Admissions process and upcoming Information Sessions. We still have quite a few towns that could be distributed if you would be interested in helping out.

CAN YOU HELP?

Dear Parker Community--Senior Project Mentor Wanted

I am currently a senior in the midst of exploring stop motion animation (think Wallace and Grommit). I am in need of a mentor who has experience in the field of stop motion animation or the use of video editing software. If you can help, or if you have a contact, PLEASE contact Ricky Yennaco at Rjay1818@yahoo.com. Any help or leads would be greatly appreciated!

TEACHER'S WISH LIST

Pencils!

WANTED

Dear Parker Community members with connections to science equipment! I am seeking a vacuum pump, bell jar, and vacuum plate for gas law demonstrations. If you have any connections, please let me know! Thanks, Heidi (heidik@parker.org)

DIVISION III

When we return from vacation, there will be three and a half weeks remaining in the semester. Students will be registering for new courses in the first week or two of January, once the second semester schedule has been designed. Information about second semester courses and registration will be provided when we return in January. Seniors should all have turned in their research summaries at the beginning of this week. Any students who have plans or hopes to be away for any major part of the third quarter should also have turned in release time proposals. The research phase of the project continues to early February, and students should be moving beyond initial background information to more intensive research into deeper questions about their topics.

This week's course updates are from Tricia Porter's A/H classes, *Art of the Essay* and *American Dream: American Dream*

This week students worked on developing a thesis based on their critical observations about The Great Gatsby. Students submitted an outline/draft for feedback on Friday. When they return, students will receive a few workshops on writing a formal analysis about literature. The paper is due between January 9-13th.

Art of the Essay

Students submitted an Analogy essay this week for feedback. When they return, students will decide on whether or not to revise the Classification or Analogy essay for formal assessment. Students have also begun to write informal topic journals to explore possible topics to write about for their final essay. When we return from break, students will work on revising past essays and composing a new final essay using the modes of development that we have learned in the course.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Arts and Humanities – Division I

This week we've been finishing up our discussions about the books in the Lowry Trilogy. Students are making more connections between these books and the real world as they learn more about different types of government. After the break, we will begin to make our study of government slightly more concrete as we jump into the formation of our own Constitution. We will be studying some of the tensions in the colonies that lead to the document that shapes our modern government.

Today we also celebrated the reading our students have been doing on Wednesdays with a "book bistro." Students made exhibits to attract other readers to their book and we shared snacks and beverages.

We hope all of our students can have a fun and restful break so they are ready to dive back into work in January!

Arts and Humanities – Division II

This week in Division 2 A/H many students completed a listening assessment on music from the Civil War era. Classes also spent some time in the library where students began research for their Civil War projects, culminating in research folders being due on Tuesday, January 31. All students will also be presenting their research topics in a gallery table format. Students should have a topic selected by winter break. Gateway students should continue to work toward their goals as outlined in their time line.

MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Math, Science and Technology – Division I

Students have been busy this week measuring the azimuth and altitude of the stars in their chosen constellation. The constellation observation assessment was due Thursday, December, 22. COW#7 was due Monday, December 19. Also, we have been learning how to compute scientific notation including units of light years, astronomical units, miles and kilometers. Do you know the distance in astronomical units between earth and the sun? Your student is learning to convert those distances into scientific notation. Students will be needing a tri-fold board and an empty copy paper box with lid by mid-January. Enjoy your winter break!

Math, Science and Technology – Division II

Students in Division II MST are continuing to plan their Biology lessons; after the break, each group will instruct the class on their chosen topic for a day. We are looking forward to some interesting, exciting lessons!

In Math, the unit on quadratic functions continues, with students now learning to factor the equations that they recently learned to develop. They are learning to view quadratic relationships from several different perspectives, with a goal of developing a sense of the most efficient way to approach a given scenario. The unit will continue after the break.

WELLNESS

Alan's Wellness class

In Alan's classes, students played ping pong, dodgeball and basketball this week. We continued to look at interpersonal communication and conflict. We practiced active listening with some role playing. Students handed in Phase one of their project on Friday. With our two snow days, we got off track a bit with our fitness work, but started up again on Thursday.

Deborah's Wellness class

This week in Deborah's Wellness classes, students explored the definition of violence, the color of conflict and distinguishing the differences between conflict and violence. Students were assigned the first phase of their assessment, the behavior change project. Students are to pick a communication style they would like to change or improve upon, as well as a person or group of people to practice with. The assignment is posted on the Parker web site under Division II, Deborah's Wellness class. This is due on the 20th, next Tuesday. In physical activity, students were kept moving with a combination of team hand ball, dodge ball and thunderball. Next week students will learn about responding to conflict through skits and reviewing six conflict resolution styles. In physical activity, students will continue with team hand ball, dodge ball and stress reduction with guided relaxation

Laura's Wellness class

Laura's classes: This week in Wellness we played floor hockey and in Health we discussed and practiced using active listening skills to de-escalate conflict situations. We will continue learning about conflict with the next lesson focusing on using "I" messages during conflicts. Have a happy holiday to all!!!

SPANISH

DIVISION I AÑO 1

Esta semana miramos Muzzy y aprendimos el vocabulario de la película.

This week we watched the movie "Muzzy," and learned some vocabulary from the film.

DIVISION I AÑO 2

Esta semana hemos aprendido direcciones, frases preposicionales y adverbiales, y vocabulario de la ciudad. También aprendimos más sobre Santiago de Chile. Empezamos con PODER 6 al fin de esta semana. En este PODER, aprendimos como conjugar verbos de raíces cambios e → ie y e → i, y también un poco sobre el sur de Chile y la cultura allí.

This week we've learned directions, prepositional and adverbial phrases, and city vocabulary. We also learned more about Santiago, Chile. We start PODER 6 at the end of this week. In this PODER, we'll be learning how to conjugate e → ie and e → I stem-changing verbs and also a little about the south of Chile and the culture there.

DIVISION I AÑO 3

Esta semana estuvimos trabajando en el proyecto de hablar : "Esbozo de mi pueblo". En este proyecto en clase, los estudiantes tuvieron que explicar como es "su barrio latino" contestando a preguntas específicas. La semana pasada las presentaciones oral fueron estupendas!!! FELICES FIESTAS A TODOS.

This week we've been working on the speaking Project: "Sketch of my town." In this project students had to explain what a Latino neighborhood is like and answer specific questions on the topic. Last week the oral presentations were stupendous! HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

DIVISION III:

Seguimos con las presentaciones en clase sobre distintos de la prensa local sobre los inmigrantes hispanohablantes. Los estudiantes estan informando a sus compañeros sobre muchos temas interesantes y planteando preguntas fantasticas de reflexion. El jueves y el viernes celebramos y compartimos aspectos culturales de estas fiestas que se celebran por todo el mundo. Ms. Waker (madre en Parker) sigue ayudandonos y nos trajo unos buñuelos tipicos de Mexico. ESPERO QUE TENGAIS UNAS VACACIONES MARAVILLOSAS. NOS VEMOS A LA VUELTA DE ESPAÑA!

We're continuing with the presentation in class about how different media outlets cover issues about Spanish-speaking immigrants. The students are teaching their peers about many interesting themes and putting forth fantastic reflective questions. Thursday and Friday we're celebrating and sharing about cultural aspects of the coming holidays from all over the world. Mrs. Walker (a Parker mother) will continue helping us by bringing us typical buñuelos (donut-like treats) from Mexico. I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A MARVELOUS VACATION. SEE YOU WHEN I GET BACK FROM SPAIN!

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Thanks again for the food coming into the Health office. The students are enjoying it. As usual, there is always a need for more crackers! - Shirley

LUNCH MENU - Week of January 2 and 9

Week of January 2

Thursday: Macaroni & Cheese, Broccoli, Bread & Butter, Fruit Dessert, Milk

Friday: Cheeseburger on Bun, French Fries, Lettuce & Tomato, Fruit Dessert, Milk

Week of January 9

Monday: Soft Taco Wraps, Lettuce & Tomato, Salsa & Sour Cream, Fruit Dessert, Milk

Tuesday: Chicken Pot Pie, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Roll & Butter, Fruit Dessert, Milk

Wednesday: PIZZA DAY: 2 slices, salad, fruit & milk for \$3.50, \$1.50 a slice, drinks and snacks also available

Thursday: French Toast, Sausage Patty, Orange Juice, Fruit Dessert, Milk

Friday: Hot Dogs on Bun, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Fruit Dessert, Milk

PARKER MODEL ROCKET CLUB

The Parker Model Rocket Club is looking for a flying field. If you have access to a clear field (few or no trees) that is at least 800 foot by 800 foot (about 16 acres) in size that you think would be available for the club to use for launching model rockets, please contact Steve Byan at stevebyan@mac.com or (978) 486-4241.

SPORTS UPDATE

Sports Schedule for Week of January 2, 2006

Date	Parker Team	Practice/Game	Location	Dismissal from class	Bus Leaves	Game Time	Pick-up
Mon., 1/2	Boys Varsity	Home vs. N.C. Charter	JC			4:30	6:00 at JC
	Girls Varsity	No practice					
	Boys JV	No practice					
	Girls JV	No practice					
	Boys MS	No practice					
	Girls MS	No practice					
Tues., 1/3	Boys Varsity	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls Varsity	Practice	LW			4:00	6:00 at LW
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls JV	No practice					
	Boys MS	No practice					
	Girls MS	No practice					
Weds., 1/4	Boys Varsity	Away vs. Essex	See website		2:30	3:45	6:15 at school
	Girls Varsity	Practice	OH			2:00	4:00 at OH
	Boys JV	Away vs. St. Bernards	See website		2:15	3:30	6:45 at school
	Girls JV	Away vs. St. Bernards	See website		2:15	5:00	6:45 at school
	Boys MS	No practice					
	Girls MS	No practice					
Thurs., 1/5	Boys Varsity	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls Varsity	Practice	JC			6:00 AM	
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls JV	Practice	LW			4:00	6:00 at LW
	Boys MS	Practice	School			4:45	6:00 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			3:30	4:45 at school
Fri., 1/6	Boys Varsity	Home vs. Bethany Christian	SMS			7:00	8:15 at SMS
	Girls Varsity	Home vs. Bethany Christian	SMS			5:30	6:45 at SMS
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			3:45	5:00 at SMS
	Girls JV	Practice	LW			4:00	6:00 at LW
	Boys MS	Practice	School			4:45	6:00 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			3:30	4:45 at school

School = Parker
 SMS = Shirley Middle School (Devens)
 LW = Lura White School (Shirley)

JC = Job Corps (Devens)
 OH = Orchard Hills (Lancaster)

Please contact Ben Benoit, Parker School Athletic Director, with any questions at (978) 772-3293 Ext. 114 or at bbenoit@parker.org.

**PARKER/WACHUSETT SKI PROGRAM
BEGINS THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2006!**

The ski program will begin Thursday, January 12th and run for six weeks. If school is canceled, skiing is also canceled. In the event of poor weather or other events that require cancellation, notice will be posted at the Parker School Office by 11:00 a.m. on the day in question and an email will be sent to the "Parker School List Server." If a cancellation occurs, it is the responsibility of the parent to arrange pick-up of the student and his/her equipment, at the end of the school day. Makeup sessions will be scheduled later in the season if cancellations occur.

Ski Passes

Students purchasing a Century Pass will receive a Confirmation Post Card from Wachusett Mountain in the next week or two. Bring the Post Card to the Customer Service desk at Wachusett before Friday, December 30 for your picture and to obtain your pass.

Students purchasing the six-session Parker lift pass and riding the bus will be given their lift pass on the bus each Thursday.

Departure and Return Times

The bus will leave Parker promptly at 3:40 p.m. It will be the students' responsibility to get their equipment and themselves onto the bus quickly after school. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each trip and verified before returning. No notice is required if a student is unable to attend for any reason. Any student who fails to make the bus on time will be assumed to have canceled, and will be required to make his/her own alternative arrangements to get home.

The bus will leave Wachusett Mountain for the return trip to Parker at 8:00 p.m. sharp. The buses will arrive at the Parker School at 8:30 p.m. - John Poikonen, Ski Program Coordinator

The school will not be open, so please - be on time (8:30 p.m.) picking-up your student!

NICARAGUA TRAVEL GROUP - FUNDRAISERS

ORGANIC COFFEE FOR SALE

Dear Parker Families,

To raise money for our service trip to Nicaragua, the Nicaragua travel group is selling organic, fair trade coffee. The price is \$10 for a 12 oz. Bag. We have light roast in whole bean form, dark roast and decaf in ground form. The bags will be sent home with your child or can be picked up in the office.

I would like ___bag(s) of whole bean light roast.

I would like ___bag(s) of ground dark roast.

I would like ___bag(s) of ground decaf.

Name: _____

Phone number: (____)_____

Child's name: _____

Child's Advisor: _____

Please drop off forms and money in the box in the front lobby. Thanks, the Nicaragua Travel Group

FOR THE COMMUNITY/NOTICE BOARD

Have a hand in stopping genocide for your New Year's Resolution

The Genocide Intervention Network needs your help!

Chad Hazlett, last week's Division 3 speaker, and member of the Genocide Intervention Network (GI-Net) is putting together an event for First Night in Boston this year. They are planning on setting up tables in front of the big venues, like the Hynes Convention Center and Symphony Hall. At these tables will be GI-Net staff and volunteers handing out business cards and answering questions people might have. As part of my senior project, I am working with GI-Net and, last Friday, I was present at their staff meeting. Part of this meeting was spent talking about the First Night event, and a way to get students involved. I told them that I would ask around at school to see if there was anyone who would be interested in helping out on New Year's Eve.

This event isn't fully developed yet, but here are the current details:

When: New Year's Eve (Between 7pm and Midnight)

Where: Boston

What: Handing out business cards and answering questions about the Genocide Intervention Network.

Chad and others from the GI-Net will provide training and free t-shirts to students ahead of time.

If this is something you would be interested in please talk to me, Greg Ricketts. If you would like more information, feel free to email Chad Hazlett who is coordinating this event (hazlett@genocideintervention.net).

Thanks,
Greg Ricketts

Help raise funds for Parker while shopping!

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for our school. It's super easy, and all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education® program. It's easy. Just visit target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school. So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target Visa or Target Card. A big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.

Attention all Parker Shoppers!!!!



If you shop online at Amazon please consider entering their website through the PEF page of the Parker website. A small percentage (typically 5%, to a maximum of \$10 per item) of any qualifying purchases you make during that visit to Amazon will be sent to the PEF by Amazon. There is no extra charge on your Amazon order - you pay the same prices as any other visitor. Please support the PEF!

LOST AND FOUND

- A disc with Division 2 MST coordinate geometry assessment on it. Please come to the office.
- A silver ring with stone in the middle
- A small brown leather glove with white fur lining.

Parker Essential Fund

Thank you for participating in the Parker Essential Fund (PEF) Fall fundraising drive. With your help we raised over \$23,000 to support educationally enriching activities at Parker.

In this school year, the PEF has awarded almost \$22,000 in grants for the following:

- SmartBoard - White board that can record writing and store as a computer file
- Night Skies Program: A traveling planetarium to supplement astronomy unit
- Chemistry Equipment - 13 DVDs to enhance understanding of complex subjects.
- Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing software
- Parker Model Rocket Club – Entrance fees for the TARC competition
- Junior Class Mosaic - Junior class community building project resulting in permanent art piece for school
- RAD Self-Defense Program for Seniors
- After Prom Party
- Reusable Dinnerware for Kitchen
- Cassette Voice Recorders
- Powerbook laptop for yearbook staff.
- World Book Encyclopedia 2006
- Parker School Tenth Anniversary Party
- Principal's Sunshine Fund
- Chess materials for choice block
- After school Yoga classes for faculty
- Projector screens for 15 classrooms and the gym
- Student Support Fund to provide financial assistance for field trips, sports fees, etc.

Thanks to your help, the PEF can continue to enhance the educational experiences of students at Parker.

PARKER ESSENTIAL FUND

**Great holiday Gift Idea
Give a P.A.R.K.E.R. Award!**

Trying to find just the right holiday gift to thank an advisor, teacher, coach or other staff member who has been particularly significant in your child's life? Or maybe you want to acknowledge your child's hard work in a special way. **A PARKER Award** is a meaningful way to bestow a gift that can help make a significant difference in the quality of education provided for Parker students.

**Give the gift that keeps on giving
P.A.R.K.E.R Award is the perfect solution for a holiday season.**

Simply fill out this form and drop it off with a check to PEF in any amount you desire. A special certificate will be sent to each Parker Award recipient from the Parker Essential Fund.

I would like to give a **P.A.R.K.E.R. Award** to

Name(s): _____

From: _____

Honored For: _____

Donation: \$ _____

Please make your check out to the Parker Essential Fund and return with this form to the PEF mailbox in the Parker School office. **Your contributions are tax deductible**

**Parker Appreciation and Recognition
for Keeping the Essential Standards Recipient**

April, 2006

Monday, 10 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, 14 - Early Release (noon dismissal)

Monday, 17 - Patriot's Day (no school)

Tuesday, 18 - Friday, 21- Spring Recess

May, 2006

Monday, 15 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 21 – 11th Annual Parker Road Race and Springfest

Friday, 26 - Early Release (noon dismissal)

Monday, 29 - Memorial Day (no school)

June, 2006

Wednesday, 7 - Noon dismissal - Graduation (6:00 p.m.)

Monday, 19 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, 23 - Last Day of Classes (or earlier)

Monday, 26, Tuesday, 27 and Wednesday, 28 - Faculty Work Days (or earlier)

