

**Friday Announcements**

**Date: June 11, 2004**

Congratulations to all the graduates of the Class of 2004. Graduation was a wonderful celebration, and we are proud of all the hard work and determination that got you there!

**The Class of 2004**

<b>Jennifer Bento</b>	<b>Glen Liasson</b>
<b>Allison Blood</b>	<b>Jared Lockwood</b>
<b>Daniel Brook</b>	<b>Jacob Mann</b>
<b>Max Callahan</b>	<b>Leah Maroni-Wagner</b>
<b>Elizabeth Chiarelli</b>	<b>Molly Mayerson</b>
<b>Brian Colby</b>	<b>Kerey McKenna</b>
<b>Erica Colby</b>	<b>Aurelia Moran</b>
<b>Gregory Colby</b>	<b>Jessica Nollet</b>
<b>Stephanie Colby</b>	<b>David Nyer</b>
<b>Bryce Coulombe</b>	<b>Maureen Priest</b>
<b>Kara Dalton</b>	<b>Amanda Purcell</b>
<b>Alison DeLargy</b>	<b>Michael Roper</b>
<b>Athena Drosos</b>	<b>Henry Schrader</b>
<b>Melissa Duncan</b>	<b>William Sisk</b>
<b>Elizabeth Farrell</b>	<b>Tom Sniezek</b>
<b>Matthew Geraghty</b>	<b>Rebecca Tenen</b>
<b>Adam Goddard</b>	<b>David Weiser</b>
<b>Ashley Goddard</b>	<b>Devon Wilton</b>
<b>Aaron Jurist-Schoen</b>	<b>Christopher Woo</b>

# THE BIG END IS COMING!!! And the CC Big End Committee has BIG PLANS!!!!

We need you to help us celebrate the end of Parker's 9th year. On Friday, June 18 (the last day of school) we have planned a day of special events. Starting with gateway celebrations at 9:00 a.m. we will then have year-book signing, a talent show, dunk tank, cotton candy machine and a Bar-B-Q.

## Parents are welcome to come for the Big End Celebration Dismissal is at NOON!

For the Bar-B-Q we need your help. We need stuff to make this happen and we need parent "chefs"

What can you do? All families need to contribute something to this event. Here is what you need to bring:

If your last name begins with:

You need to bring:

A,B .....Dessert - *easy to serve finger food only*

C,D ..... 10 Hamburgers/Veggie burgers  
(pre-formed burgers)

E,F,G,H .....Hot dogs (1 package each)

I,J,K,L .....Hot dog rolls (1 package each)

M,N .....Hamburger buns (1 package each)

O,P .....Chips, Pickles

Q,R .....Drinks (juices are great too!)

S,T .....Drinks (juices are great too!)

U,V,W,Y .....Cups, Napkins

Please bring these things in on Friday morning. Also we need some coolers - if you can loan us one for the day please drop it off on Thursday or first thing on Friday - (label it please and don't forget to pick it up at noon on Friday).

***SORRY – Students may NOT have visitors at the 'Big End.' Parents who work at the 'Big End' may bring younger siblings but must supervise them.***

**We NEED parents to help set up, cook and clean up.** Set up is from 9:30 a.m., cooking and serving from 10:30 a.m. and clean-up from 11:00 p.m. Dismissal is at noon.

If you can help for just an hour or the whole time please call Pat Tuzzolo at (978) 772-3293, or email: [pat@parker.org](mailto:pat@parker.org)

Thanks to P.E.F. we now have two gas grills for our BBQ!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Wes and Cheryl Coburn, Athol Rental Center, Inc., and Parker students James and Kayla Coburn for their very generous donation of the dunk tank and cotton candy machine for The Big End. We are most grateful to them for this added fun.

## CALENDAR

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

**June, 2004**

Tuesday, 15 - Thursday 17 – Junior Retreat

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

**Friday, 18 - Last Day of Classes - The Big End, noon dismissal**

Monday through Wednesday, 21 - 23 - Faculty Work Days

# Thank You!

*This year's Graduation Committee did a splendid job of organizing and conducting all the wonderfully beautiful and delicious details that helped make this graduation such a special Parker event. This year they had to deal with last minute medical challenges and more than enough meteorological ambiguity in addition to 95 degree heat! A special thanks to Donna Cheesman for spearheading the planning of the food committee. Thanks also go to all the junior families who cooked for this event and to the intrepid crew of volunteers who worked so hard on Wednesday evening: Nancy Lax, Anne Combs, Angela Wilde, Nancy Rines, Cheryl Chalke, Frank Whalen, Rick Muehlke, Lori McDermott, Maura Barstow, Joan Shankle, Mary Ellen Gordon, Deborah Mullen, Bernie Roop, Leslie Perrault, Diane Hill, Marcia Melanson, Margie and Marc Tessler, Maryellen Grady and Maeve, Melissa and Mark Fernau, Mimmu Hartiala Sloan, Anna Laura Sloan, Martha McLure and Parker students, Julia Gardner and John and Zach Pentland. When organizing such an event many, many individuals working together make it happen. If we inadvertently did not print your name, please know that we are most grateful for your contribution.*

*Special thanks to Marc Rines who shared his skills as a sound engineer and to Lori Purcell for making the class of 2004 banner – Pat*

**To the indomitable spirit of our parent volunteers that help in the office – we simply could not do it without you** – Thank you so much to those of you who come in every week to help with the Attendance and to those of you who come in at short notice and help on the desk answering telephones or other such things, your help is simply invaluable and we are most grateful!

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOG ALL VOLUNTEER HOURS ON OUR WEBSITE or give your hours to the office for them to enter.** The total number of hours contributed by our parents is noted in our annual report which we are in the process of preparing.

## CAN YOU HELP?

**Parker teacher, Janice Gallagher, is looking for housing near to Parker next year**, starting around August 10. The perfect place would be a 1-bedroom apartment (at least two rooms) in Ayer, Shirley, Harvard or North Leominster and would be \$650 or less with utilities included. If you know of anywhere that would fit the bill, please contact her at [janicekgallagher@yahoo.com](mailto:janicekgallagher@yahoo.com), or at (617) 699-9619.

### **Supplies needed for Division II Year-End Art Project:**

Division II would like to borrow wire cutters and pliers (they should be labeled so they can be returned) and would also like donations of wire coat hangers and twine for our year-end art project. Please drop off these supplies in the main office. Thanks for your help!

### **We are still looking for a mason out in the Parker community?**

We are having a little problem with the brick wall at the handicap entrance to the building beside the library. If you can help, please contact David Babineau at (978) 772-3293. Thanks very much.

# PARKER ESSENTIAL FUND

## P.A.R.K.E.R. Award

The end of the year is upon us! If you are looking for a meaningful way to thank an advisor, teachers or other staff members or you would like to acknowledge your child's hard work, *A Parker Award* is the perfect solution. Your contribution to the Parker Essential Fund is tax deductible and a lovely Parker Award certificate will be sent to the recipient.

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I would like to give a **P.A.R.K.E.R. Award (Parker Appreciation and Recognition for Keeping the Essential Standards - Recipient)** 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 and will help keep enhancing the quality of education provided for Parker students.**

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## PEF benefits from Amazon Purchases

Looking for some summer reading? Don't forget that PEF earns a referral fee every time someone accesses Amazon.com through the PEF web page and makes a purchase –

[http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/ParkerEssentialFund/Amazon/fundraising\\_as\\_an\\_amazon\\_associa.htm](http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/ParkerEssentialFund/Amazon/fundraising_as_an_amazon_associa.htm)).

The great thing about this program is we can benefit the school at no extra cost. There is no extra charge on your Amazon order - you pay the same prices as any other visitor. Instead of Amazon keeping all your money they donate a percentage (typically 5%, to a maximum of \$10 per item) of any qualifying purchases you make during that visit to PEF as a referral fee. All you'll need to do is visit the PEF web page and access the Amazon site there. You then do your shopping as you always do. It's that easy! Tell your friends and relatives to bookmark that page and then they'll be one click away from benefiting Parker students with every purchase.

There are no limits on how many times you may visit Amazon and order products from them using this link. There are some technical limits, so that you cannot use a Palm Pilot or Internet capable cell phone, even if it can read web pages. Standard Macs or PCs are fine. **But remember, we only get the referral fee on purchases made to Amazon on visits accessed through the PEF web page.** So bookmark that page –

[http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/ParkerEssentialFund/Amazon/fundraising\\_as\\_an\\_amazon\\_associa.htm](http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/ParkerEssentialFund/Amazon/fundraising_as_an_amazon_associa.htm)

or go to the Parker Web site ([www.parker.org](http://www.parker.org)) and click on the PEF link. Why not send your friends and relatives the link so Parker can benefit from their purchases as well.

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**DIVISION II SUMMER WRITING WORKSHOP**  
**CALL TRICIA OR LAURA at (978) 772-3293 IF INTERESTED**  
**OR EMAIL: [triciap@parker.org](mailto:triciap@parker.org)**

**Overview:**

Although it would make our jobs much easier, kids don't set their schedules for learning by our school schedule. Love it or hate it, this unpredictability is also what makes a small Essential School like ours work so well for our kids. Some students could deeply benefit from the opportunity to extend their progress in writing into the summer. For this reason, Parker is happy to announce a Summer Writing Workshop for students who have spent at least one year in Division II A/H and could benefit from a unique program designed to support students' progress to meet our rigorous standards in writing with more ease in the future. Internalizing the Division II A/H standards in writing is usually the final and most challenging accomplishment that students make on their way to becoming ready for success in Division III. Parker knows that just filling a classroom seat for credit in a traditional summer school program does not give students access to a deep understanding of the Parker's criteria for excellence in writing. Students who participate will have the opportunity to develop and complete an original essay to include in their Division II A/H portfolio. The workshop will support students in a small group setting to engage in the full process of writing: from topic brainstorming to editing an essay for a public audience. We will capitalize on the freedom that summer allows to explore original topics of personal interest, but also use the advantage of a small group setting to structure students' efforts to navigate the writing process with autonomy.

**Objectives:**

- To imagine and complete an original essay for a public audience.
- To think and act like an author when approaching reading and writing.
- To make progress in autonomy when approaching the Division II standards in writing.

**A student should attend if he/she:**

- has had difficulty getting a piece of writing to meet Division II standards without extensive comments by his/her assessor;
- works hard on each piece of writing, but makes little progress on the standard;
- avoids writing assignments and therefore makes little progress on the standard;
- has been recommended by an assessor;
- is moving on to Division III, but has not consistently met Division II writing standards with ease.
- needs a piece of writing that meets standards in his/her Division II A/H portfolio.

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, July 19 - July 30\*

\*Dates are subject to change based on schedule of final participants

**\*\*\*E-MAIL [triciap@parker.org](mailto:triciap@parker.org) TO SIGN UP\*\*\***

## **UPDATE FROM THE COLLEGE COUNSELOR**

Jennifer	Bento	Assumption College
Allison	Blood	Colby-Sawyer College
Daniel	Brook	Lyndon State College
Max	Callahan	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Elizabeth	Chiarelli	Smith College
Erica	Colby	St. Michael's College
Brian	Colby	University of Massachusetts Amherst
		University of Massachusetts Amherst
Gregory	Colby	Commonwealth College
Stephanie	Colby	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Bryce	Coulombe	University of Massachusetts Lowell
		University of Massachusetts Amherst
Kara	Dalton	Commonwealth College
Alison	DeLargy	Cornell University
Athena	Drosos	Clark University
Melissa	Duncan	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Elizabeth	Farrell	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Matthew	Geraghty	Dean College
Ashley	Goddard	Emmanuel College
Adam	Goddard	Warren Wilson College
Aaron	Jurist-Schoen	University of New Hampshire
Glenn	Liasson	Clark University
Jared	Lockwood	University of Vermont
Jacob	Mann	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Leah	Maroni-Wagner	Simmons College
Molly	Mayerson	Skidmore College
Kerey	McKenna	Connecticut College
Aurelia	Moran	Reed College
Jessica	Nollet	Mt. Holyoke College
		University of Massachusetts Amherst
David	Nyer	Commonwealth College
Maureen	Priest	Work and College
Amanda	Purcell	Clark University
Michael	Roper	New England Institute of Technology
Henry	Schrader	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
William	Sisk	University of Vermont
Tom	Snizek	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Rebecca	Tenen	Work and College
David	Weiser	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Devon	Wilton	Northeastern University
Christopher	Woo	Worcester Polytechnic Institute

## **PARKER ON-LINE TEACHER EVALUATION**

Calling all students! The first-ever Parker on-line teacher evaluation and survey is waiting for you to fill it out! This year, we are trying out collecting student opinions directly. We are asking each one of you to take this opportunity seriously. As you will read on the evaluation form, this is not a questionnaire designed to learn if you like your teachers, but to learn how well they responded to your learning needs.

To complete an evaluation, just go the school's web page and click on "surveys." When you get to the survey's page, click on "student survey." It will ask you for an identification number: just type in the first two letters of your first name and the first eight letters of your last name. Don't leave any spaces. If your last name is short don't worry! You will be asked to complete questions for two A/H teachers, two MST teachers, your Wellness teacher and Spanish teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to give us the student perspective. If you have any questions or problems, please see Nicky in the principal's office.

## ***JUNIOR RETREAT (Tuesday, June 15 – Thursday, June 17)***

On Tuesday, June 15 through Thursday, June 17, we will be taking the Parker Junior Advisories on a three-day, two-night retreat to the Vermont Academy (VA) Campus in Saxtons River, Vermont (about an hour and forty-five minutes from Parker). This will be an opportunity for these students, who next year will be seniors and the oldest students in the school, to spend some time together as a group away from the inherent distractions of the school environment. The activities we will engage in while there are intended to provide natural opportunities for students to come together as a group and begin to form a sense of community within the soon-to-be senior class.

We will be looking for parent volunteers to drive students to and from Vermont, as well as people who can lend us camping gear for the trip (especially tents).

Parents/Guardians of students in junior advisories should have received a packet of information about the trip from your student. If you did not receive that packet, please ask your student about it or stop by the office to pick one up.

## ***PARKER SCHOOL YEARBOOK***

### **PLEASE - bring in your Yearbook money now!**

Money is being collected for yearbooks through advisories. If your student is interested in receiving a yearbook at the Big End on the last day of school, please send in the appropriate amount of money (cash or check made out to Parker) with your student. Soft cover books are \$25 and Division I Yearbook is \$10.00.

## ***ARTS AND HUMANITIES (A/H)***

### **Division I A/H**

The year-end wrap-up is here! All student portfolios must be completed and handed in to be "invited" to the 'Big End' celebration. Each class has specified what is due in order to go. Please check the homework website for detailed information.

Does your student have books at home that belong to the school? Please be sure they are turned in before the end of the year to avoid being charged for missing books. Time to go through those bursting back-packs!

### **Division II A/H**

Congratulations to students who completed gateways this week from Division II to Division III A/H. We have had a great time learning from them about a range of fascinating topics. Students who were not participating in a gateway have manipulated a variety of materials to create a 3D art project that represents an important aspect of their Literature Circle novel. At home, students should be working on final revisions to complete work for their portfolio before the Big End.

## ***MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MST) UPDATE***

### **Division I MST**

During the week of June 14 – 18, students will be participating in an in-house art exhibition of their Vernal Pool posters. On Tuesday of next week, each MST class will tour another MST class to observe and evaluate each others work. Students will also be re-visiting the Vernal Pools this week, so remember to dress appropriately.

### **How can MST students avoid the Big Bummer???**

- 1) Complete all COWs #9 through #17!
- 2) Complete the Vernal Pool poster!
- 3) Complete your year-end portfolio!

### **MST Division II**

Friday, June 11 finished Division II Gateway week. Monday, June 14 is the last day of class during which students will be testing their egg protective structures.

### **Division II MST - Division II Families**

A packet of information was sent home with Division II students this week. The packet included information about what is happening next week and permission slips for climbing the Alpine Tower. Many advisories also sent home permission slips for advisory trips for next week. Please return all signed permission slips by Monday. The packet also contains a list of food to bring by advisory for the pancake breakfast next Wednesday. We still need parents to help with the breakfast. If you can give us some time on Wednesday morning, please contact Anthony.

## ***SPANISH UPDATE***

**David's 7th grade students** are working on R.O.S.A. #10 regarding time zones.

**David's 8th grade students** are completing their writing projects.

**Emily's fabulous students** are either gatewaying or working on grammar review projects. Felicidades!

**Damara's 8th grade students** are working on a culture project related to the book "When I Was Puerto Rican."

**Damara's 9th grade students** are either working on or doing their gateways. Bien Hecho y Felicidades!

## ***WELLNESS***

### **This week in Alan's classes:**

In Alan's classes, students viewed a video called "Grief and Healing" which discussed fear and hope with terminally ill people and their approach to death. We took a questionnaire on death which provoked some opinions and questions around this issue. Students used the rope swing, played four square, played soccer and ultimate Frisbee. Division II was interrupted due to gateways.

### **This week in Deborah's classes:**

As you know, this has been the Division II gateway week. Classes have consisted of badminton, croquet, the giant swing and reading. Students will complete course evaluations next week.

### **This week in Laura's classes:**

In Laura's classes this week, students braved the hot weather by playing a variety of outdoor games such as badminton, croquet, basketball, four square and softball. They also had the opportunity to play manhunt and swing on the rope swing. In Health class, we watched a video that reviewed the information that we have been learning about grief and interpersonal communication. We also read a story about the family of Amy Biehl and how they found hope and forgiveness after her death in South Africa.

Laura will be out next week, June 14 - 18 for military duty. In Wellness classes, students will have substitutes for the week and will be playing man-hunt, and having a guest speaker on Sun Safety. If you need to speak with someone regarding your child, please call or email Mary Ann Gapinski ([maryann@parker.org](mailto:maryann@parker.org)). Thanks, it's been a great year!

## ***FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE***

Medications left here at the school for administration to students during the day, should be picked up by a parent or guardian on or before Friday, June 18. Parents will be receiving a letter which, if returned, will allow the students the

option to take home his or her own medication on the last day of school. If medication is not picked up, it will be disposed of per state guidelines by Wednesday, June 23. Thanks for your cooperation with this matter.

**Parents of incoming siblings:** Please remember that current immunization records and a copy of a current (within the past year) physical exam on all new students are due by Monday, August 16. These must be received by the nurse's office prior to registration.

**Thank you to all the registered nurses who helped staff and support the nurse's office this past year.** These nurses include: Cheryl Coburn, Emily Lambert, Jane Reed Matson and Jackie Roper. Thank you for the care and kindness they have shown Parker students!

## ***HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL***

Thank you to the members of the Health Advisory Council and their efforts toward strengthening the health and safety of our Parker Community. Please check the Parker website for Health Advisory Council meeting reports at: [http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/HealthAdvisoryCouncil/health\\_advisory\\_council.htm](http://www.parker.org/ParkerCommunity/HealthAdvisoryCouncil/health_advisory_council.htm). All parents, students and faculty are encouraged to join us in this important work next school year!

## ***LIBRARY NEWS***

*Many students and faculty have signed out books in the last few weeks. Please return all your books as soon as you can -- we need to clear your records for the summer! Many thanks, Laurie and Maura*

## ***SPORTS INFORMATION***

**Reminder to parents of student athletes:** A current physical exam (within the past 12 months) and a Sports Health Form (for the coaches' record) must both be on file in the nurse's office before your student can participate in any pre-season or regular season sports. This includes all practice sessions! These forms are available from the school nurse and should be returned to the nurse's office by the first day of practice or your child will not be permitted to participate in the practice. Thank you for your cooperation with this important MIAA regulation.

ALL uniforms are due back now! Please hand them in to your coach or give them directly to Ben.

Boys Varsity and JV Basketball players will have a meeting on Monday, June 14 at lunch with the new varsity coach in Room 26.

Cross Country – all those interested in running X-Country next fall will meet with Ben on Monday, June 14 in the gym at lunch-time.

**Coaches Needed for next year:**

- Girls Middle School Soccer
- Boys Middle School/JV Soccer
- JV Basketball
- MS Softball
- Varsity Baseball

All those interested, please contact Ben Benoit at school for more information (978) 772-3293 Ext. 114 or at home (978) 952-6959 or my email: [bbenoit@parker.org](mailto:bbenoit@parker.org).

***FOR THE PARKER COMMUNITY***

**House Rental Needed:** Parker family seeks rental, ideally Ayer or Shirley (will consider other towns), for July 1. Please call Jim at (978) 772-1541.

***LOST AND FOUND***

The Lost and Found box in the front hall is full of warm fleeces, jackets, shoes, sweaters, rings, keys, etc. Please check the Lost and Found Box and the office very soon, before we send it all to a charity. Thank you.

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**Host Families are Needed for 3 Weeks  
September 9 - 30, 2004**

A great program the entire family can enjoy!

**What would be required?**

- Any family, large or small, with high school age children
- Share your home and heart
- Provide a bed and meals
- Students will ride in with your carpool, Monday through Friday

**Program Basics:**

- September 9 through 30, 2004
- Students are from Spain and are 14 through 18 years old
- Students will shadow your son or daughter to their classes two days a week
- Students go on fully paid, organized trips three days a week
- Students are fully insured and have their own expense money
- Students do speak English

Let's find these kids a home now!

Please contact Sue Boswell at (978) 433-8623 or email: [hostandgo@charter.net](mailto:hostandgo@charter.net).

## ***FROM FRANK'S CAFE***

### **Menu for Week of June 14**

This is the week for all outstanding lunch money loans to be paid. Notices went out to students last Friday. Please ask your student if they have money owed and remind them to pay. Thanks from Frank's!

**Monday – Sloppy Joes (veggie option please ask)**

Potato Salad  
Cole Slaw  
Fruit Dessert  
Milk

**Tuesday – Personal Pan Pizza**

Garden Salad  
Fruit Dessert  
Milk

**Wednesday – No Pizza – Field trips**

**Thursday – Chicken or Egg Salad Subs**

Curly Fries  
Lettuce & Tomato  
Milk  
Fruit Dessert

**Friday – THE BIG END!**

**EAT DRINK & BE MERRY!**

**Prices will be as follows:** Complete meal \$3.50, milk available, 2%, chocolate and strawberry 10 oz. .50 Greek salad, Tuna salad, Chef salad or Hummus & Tabouleh salad \$2.50, peanut butter sandwiches, snacks and drinks also available, muffins, bagels & cream cheese, and cereal with milk available at break and lunch.