

# SEPTEMBER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## November 2009



Hello from September High School!

We've had quite a week! Last Monday, in case you haven't already heard, we broke our record for a fund raising event. Feed the Future 2009 more than double its total from last year. I am so grateful for everyone who participated in the event, and for those of you who brought tickets even though you couldn't come to help us get up to 80. We ended up selling 81 tickets which enabled us to receive another \$1000 from two donors. I would like to extend a special thanks to Merle Brinkman (board member and parent), Jill McIntyre (board member and parent of alum), and Alexis Valentine (your favorite Office Manager), the organizers of the event. This night was amazing. Over \$14,000 was raised for scholarships and the new van.

The other highlight from the week happened on Saturday when the September High School Board of Directors met for our annual retreat. Our board has been critical in the growth of the school over the last three years, and their hard work continued on Saturday. We specifically focused on aspects of the strategic plan that related to long-term planning and stability for the school. We reviewed and updated our plans around enrollment and fund development, and spent some time ensuring that we are prepared for a professional, fair, and transparent hiring process for the new principal. We left the meeting with renewed excitement and energy about the year ahead. The meeting reminded me of why the organization that accredits us, upon concluding their site visit last Spring, stated that we have one of the best, most active boards they have even seen at a school!

We look forward to seeing everyone at evaluations later this week! All the best, Dan

### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER



Daylight Savings Time Ends.....	early AM November 1 <sup>st</sup> (Sun)
SAT Registration Deadline for Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> test.....	October 30 (Fri)
Talks on Teens with Dan.....(6:30pm).....	November 4 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)
Veteran's Day Holiday.....(No Classes).....	November 11 <sup>th</sup> (Tues)
Thanksgiving Holiday Week .....	(No Classes).....November 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>
Classes Resume.....	November 30 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)
Winter Follies.....(Community Arts Bldg, 6:30pm).....	December 16 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)
Winter Break.....(No Classes).....	December 21 (Mon) – January 4 (Mon)
Classes Resume.....	January 5 (Tues)

### TALKS ON TEENS

Come hear Dan Fox talk, tell stories, and share tools that are sure to be of benefit for anyone involved with teens. This talk's topic is : **How To Connect With Your Teen While Still Being A Parent**. Talks on Teens is free and open to the public, so bring a friend and enjoy this entertaining and informative discussion. **Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Westby Community Arts Building at the NW corner of Canyon and 19<sup>th</sup>.

## NATURAL HIGHS "FINAL FRIDAYS" PRESENTS: SOBER HALLOWEEN "RAVE"



September High School is committed to providing healthy activities for teens to take part in that encourage sobriety. We are proud to be the host site for a series of events this year called "Final Fridays". Final Fridays are planned and implemented by a student-run committee made up of participants in the Natural Highs After Hour Arts courses.

On Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm, Boulder area teens are invited to join in the fun for dancing, art, food, Mate, pizza, Izzes, and good spooky fun. Final Fridays events are **FREE** and simply require students to sign in, be sober, and have a good time. For more info, contact [joy@septemberschool.org](mailto:joy@septemberschool.org)

### WISH "HOT" LIST

Thank you to everyone who helped us get materials from our recent wish list requests! Here are our top 5 current wishes – if you or someone you know may be able to fulfill these needs, be in touch!

1. Program – **Window Blinds / Panels** for classrooms (call for details), refill water jugs from Eldorado Springs.
2. Curriculum - **New Science Lab Tables** – 2 or 3 – call for dimensions and information.
3. Maintenance – **Window Insulation Kits** for weatherproofing, **Home Depot giftcards** for regular purchases.
4. Teachers – **coffee grinder** (for teacher's lounge), **disposable cups**, **cases of copy paper**.
5. Program - **Gift Cards** of varying small denominations for student attendance and achievement incentives.

### AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

Does your student need extra help with a specific subject or with general study and organization skills? Dan B. offers **FREE** tutoring sessions in his classroom on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:15pm - 4:15pm. We've found that starting off with a strong structure of support, such as planning to attend at least one of the two tutoring sessions each week is very helpful for students who are struggling academically. Dan B is also available for private tutoring and you can contact him at [danb@septemberschool.org](mailto:danb@septemberschool.org) to inquire about availability and rates.

### A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

We've had two successful Community Service events over the past month. Our Fall clean-up day saw almost 25 students, parents, and staff painting the main building, gardening, cleaning out the downstairs basement, and doing an Extreme Makeover on the Library. We really appreciate all the hard work everyone did making improving the look and functionality of the campus.

A week later we took nine people up to Camp Chief Ouray for a daylong project of clearing out slash. Now I always thought Slash was the guitarist from Guns N' Roses, but I learned another definition through this project: (noun) branches and other residue left on a forest floor after the cutting of timber. Camp Chief Ouray, where we've done our last two fall trips, has been devastated by pine beetles. The work we did clearing slash will make their cabin area space functional for their summer program. A special shout out to the people that dedicated nine hours on their Saturday to make this a success.



## FALL SEMESTER COLLEGE VISITS

A number of colleges and universities will be sending representatives to visit September High School during the month of November. Programs include: Fort Lewis College, Western State College, Mesa State College, Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, Colorado State University, Colorado Mountain College and Metro State University. Students can check on the kitchen programming board for details about dates and times. If you have an interest in additional programs that have not yet visited with us this year, please check in with Lena.

## ACT / SAT TEST DATE REMINDERS

Deadlines are approaching for the next ACT and SAT test dates. Students can pick up study guides for both tests in the main building or visit either website for more information and to register.

ACT Test Dates: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

SAT Test Dates [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Reg	Test Date	Regular Registration	Late Reg
December 12	November 6	November 20	December 5	October 30	November 12
February 6, 2010	January 5, 2010	January 15, 2010	January 23, 2010	December 15	December 30
April 10	March 5	March 19	March 13	February 4	February 18
June 12	May 7	May 21	May 1	March 25	April 8
			June 5	April 29	May 13

## "SNOW DAY" SCHOOL CLOSING POLICY

We follow BVSD (and specifically Boulder High School) on snow cancellations and delays. If Boulder High School is cancelled or delayed, so are we. Take note: students may be traveling some distance to school. If the weather is poor and you are not comfortable with having your teen on the road, we will always excuse the absence. To access information about school closings and delays please visit BVSD's website: [www.bvsd.org](http://www.bvsd.org) or call (303) 442-2430.

## WINTER FOLLIES NIGHT

Save the date! Wednesday, December 16th is our celebration of this semester's achievements in visual and performing arts! Winter Follies will once again occur here at our very own Westby Community Arts building beginning at 6:30pm. We'll be presenting student work in theater, art, and music and encourage families to bring an appetizer, dessert or beverage to enjoy that evening. We look forward to bringing the community together for this culmination of a semester of hard work by our students and staff.

Have a GREAT November and a Wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday !  
Stop by any time and see us!

