



SEPTEMBER HIGH SCHOOL

Back To School Newsletter 2008-2009

When you're at September High School, there's no better feeling than anticipating our favorite month and the start of the school year. We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our students and believe that the plans we have in place will make this our best year yet. We've expanded our programming to include lunchtime activities, free after school programs through After Hours Arts, and optional tutoring. We've also created additional staff resources for our students.

Lena's role has evolved into the Director of Student Programs. This will give her more time for developing trip programming, community collaboration ideas, and academic advising. Leslie, our school counselor, will now also be overseeing the Phoenix Program, which we've developed to give structured support to help struggling students be successful. If you have yet to meet Alexis, she is our new Administrative Assistant who has skillfully wrested control of the office from Lena. We are also excited to be bringing back Karen Wilding, who served as an administrator and school counselor for many years. She will be the professional development coach for our teachers, meeting with each of them regularly throughout the year to ensure that classroom experience for our students is meaningful, engaging and academically rigorous.

We've never had such a comprehensive infrastructure in place at the school and we are so excited to see how our students will flourish in this environment. But they are not the only piece that is missing. We are also excited to start down this journey with you, our parent group. September High School has experienced major growth in the last two years because of the many ways parents have found to be involved with the school. We've been thriving because you all have cared so much about this place. In fact, the growth mentioned above would not have been possible without substantial support from our parents. Thank you for making September High School what it is, and with your help, this year we will go even further.

- Dan Fox, Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

Teacher Retreat (Sept School Closed).....	Aug 25 - 26 (Mon & Tues)
Fall Registration Day.....	Aug 28 (Thurs)
Labor Day National Holiday.....	(No School).....Sept 1 (Mon)
First Day of Classes.....	Sept. 2 (Tues)
Art Slam.....	(4pm-8pm Community Arts Building).....Sept 4 (Thurs)
Family Potluck Gathering.....	(6pm Community Arts Building).....Sept. 17 (Wed)
Fall School Trip (Camp Chief Ouray).....	(Overnight All-School Trip).....Sept 24 – Sept 26 (Wed-Fri)
	Early Dismissal following School Trip

Welcome New Families!

September High School warmly welcomes our new families and students to the community! Joining our returning families this year are the families of Taylor Hills, Kelsi Sands, Natalie Dowse, Aaron Violette, Chloe Pachovis, Isaac Rosenberg, Annie Gruber, Joey Wilkerson, Zach Jacobs, Zach Noel, and Cassandra Montoya. We anticipate even more new families before the school year begins, so mark your calendars for the upcoming Family Potluck in September – Wednesday, Sept. 17th (see below for more information) to come together, meet new and returning families, and learn more about the upcoming school year.

2008-2009 Fall Registration

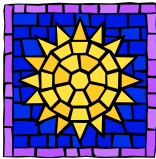
Registration paperwork is due in the main office! If you have not yet completed registration materials for the upcoming school year, please call or email today and make arrangements to have paperwork sent to you or stop by and pick up a packet. Registration for fall courses will take place on Thursday, August 28th in the Community Arts Building^{***}. All **Seniors** should arrive by 9am, check in with Alexis and get a registration number (and make sure all paperwork is in), and wait to meet with their advisor to determine any courses that they need to select. **Juniors** will complete this process beginning at 10:30 and **Sophomores and Freshmen** will register together beginning at 1pm. If you have any questions or concerns about the registration process (especially if this is your first time), please call or email Lena at your convenience.

*****important:** Families with an outstanding tuition balance from 07-08 must make their past due payments prior to registration. Call today for more information if you have any concerns about your tuition balance.

REMINDER: Colorado State Immunization Law – NEW requirements for 10th and 11th graders

To be compliant with Colorado Immunization Law, students must have valid and complete Certificate of Immunization or a Statement of Exemption Form on file with September High School. The state of CO has been implementing an additional immunization in stages and all students entering 10th or 11th grades must receive the adolescent **DTaP 6th dose** (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis) prior to the start of school. If you have any questions, please call Alexis in the main office or the Colorado Immunization Program at 303-692-2650.

FALL AFTER HOUR ARTS KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 4th



As a result of a lot of hard work, community support, and grant funding from Boulder's Youth Opportunity Advisory Board, the YMCA's Breakthrough Arts program and September High School's After Hour Arts program have joined forces to offer 15 **FREE** after school courses this fall. Class offerings include Ultimate Frisbee, Belly Dancing, Adobe Flash Animation, Stained Glass, Natural Highs and much, much more. To kick off the new semester, September High School will be hosting a public "**Art Slam**" to introduce some of the classes, concepts, and instructors in a fun way. Art Slam will be held at the Community Arts Building from 4pm to 8pm on Thursday, September 4th and is sponsored in part by Izze Beverage Co.



After Hour Arts courses are required for September High School students (1 credit per semester) unless the student is participating in other documented after school activities, employment, volunteer work, organized sports or other commitments. Sept School students will have the opportunity to register for AHA at fall registration, but if your student knows of a class they would like to take, please call or email early, as they will fill quickly! AHA classes begin Monday, Sept 8 and brochures are available at www.septemberschool.org or in the main office at September School.

Dan on the Radio

Start your Tuesdays off right by tuning in to KGNU, 88.5 FM for Parenting Solutions, featuring September High School Principal Dan Fox. Over the next five weeks, Dan will be on the radio discussing various topics related to parenting a teenager. These five minute segments will air sometime between 10:30AM and 10:45 AM each Tuesday.



PHOENIX PROGRAM To Launch This Fall

Through a generous grant from the William Donner Foundation, we are happy to announce the beginning of our Phoenix Program, a comprehensive approach to helping students who have struggled with substance problems get back on track and reawaken their love of learning. At September High School we insist on, and persist at, having a substance free campus. We are actively developing a healthier, positive peer culture and have created the Phoenix Program to provide a structured and supportive introduction to September High School for applicants with a history of substance problems. This program will have components specific to individual circumstances, but may include:

- Participation in an approved after school intensive outpatient program
- Weekly or biweekly meetings with the school counselor and/or an outside therapist
- Random drug tests (depending on circumstances)
- Restriction from leaving campus during the school day
- Probationary status at school, meaning no second chance if the Phoenix Program boundaries are violated

We are working with our students to increase everyone's level of respect and accountability within the community in order to create the best environment for our students to succeed and thrive. Please remind your students of our commitment to a substance free campus and join us throughout the year for parent discussion groups and other opportunities to increase our awareness and dialogue surrounding adolescent substance issues.

Events Committee Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in helping September High School through volunteering your time on a committee, consider lending your organizational, planning, or fundraising skills to the Events Committee this year. Events committee members are needed to help plan two major events this year – On October 13th we are planning a dinner event featuring a silent auction of a wide variety of exceptional items and an evening of dining and entertainment and The Dr. Michael Bradley Weekend Extravaganza at the end of February. Please consider lending a hand. There are many ways to be involved.

Family Potluck September 17th

Join us in the Community Arts Building Wednesday, September 17 at 6:00pm for a unique evening of excellent food, September School families, and information about the upcoming year. Both new and returning students and families are strongly encouraged to enjoy this great opportunity to meet one another and connect early in the school year. Alexis will be in touch with families about signing up for potluck items to bring AND our exciting September High School Family Cookbook that we hope can result from our collective culinary talents. Stay tuned for more information!



September High School Fall Trip

September High School students and staff will embark on our annual fall adventure from Sept 24 to Sept 26. This year we will be traveling to Camp Chief Ouray in Winter Park for a few days of community building. Trip packing lists and contact information will be sent out to families after the start of the school year and students will participate in trip planning during community class prior to departure. We're really looking forward to this new location and for the experiences our community will have to help get us off to a great start for the year.

Looking for a Tutor?

Dan Beliveau, our part-time Math Instructor, is available to tutor your teen in math or general study and organizational skills. In the past, students have been tutored as little as one hour per week or as much as an hour per day depending on need. Dan's rates are reasonable and he can be reached at 703-216-4630 for more information.