



# Highro- Glyphics

High School Weekly News

Thursday, March 8, 2012

## High School Administration Announcements

### ***Course Registration for 2012-13***

Registration is already underway. We ask that all families participate in the Course Registration Process even if they assume they will not return to CAC next year. The reason for this is two-fold. First, completing the registration process at CAC allows departing families to take an approved schedule with them as they transfer. This often eases the registration process at a new school. Second, every student who departs will be replaced by another student and while the course selections may vary, it is still useful to plan as if the student was remaining as we are better able to project the number of sections required for each course.

The timeline for registration is as follows:

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| March 7 – 13  | Students complete the registration forms, obtain their current teachers' signatures and obtain parent signatures approving the schedule.  |
| March 14      | All registration forms are due to the counseling office. These requests will be entered into our student information system.  |
| March 15 – 20 | Students interested in the full IB diploma program are encouraged to meet with the IB Coordinator to confirm their program of study.  |
| March 21      | Registration verification forms will be circulated. Students should confirm that what were entered into the student information system are, indeed, the courses they wish to take. If all courses are correct, students should sign and return the form. If any courses need to be corrected or changes are desired, the student should see the relevant teacher for a signature, obtain a further parent signature and return the form to the counseling office. |
| March 28      | All registration verification forms are due. No changes to course requests will be made past this date.   |
| Early June    | Schedules for the 2012-13 school year will be circulated and students wishing to make changes may do so before the end of term or within the first five days of the 2012-13 school year.  |

### ***Change to CAT System***

The administration K-12 has spent some time discussing the effectiveness of our current CAT system in disseminating information to the wider community. It was decided to try something new with CAT for the remainder of the year in the hopes of increasing communication and transparency. The remaining CAT meetings will run as scheduled but will be open forum meetings for anyone from the community who wishes to attend.

To prepare the agenda, we will do the following:

- 1) The Principal will publish an agenda two weeks before the upcoming CAT/Community Forum meeting in the weekly electronic publication (Highro-Glyphics for HS).
- 2) Community members wishing to add other items to the agenda are asked to contact their CAT representative within a week to share their agenda items. The CAT member, in turn, will collect and collate the agenda items to share with the Principal. Please note that only general agenda items are appropriate to a Community Forum. Please do not submit agenda items that only pertain to your son/daughter or a small group of students. Your CAT team member can help identify who you should raise those concerns to (e.g.: teacher, administration, etc.).
- 3) The Principal will publish the extended agenda (including the items raised by the community) in the weekly publication immediately preceding the CAT/Community Forum meeting.

### ***CAT/Community Forum Agenda for March 26<sup>th</sup>***

From the administration:

- 1) The administration would like feedback from parents regarding changing the format of parent teacher conference. Currently parent teacher conferences are done by appointment in teacher's classrooms. We are considering piloting first semester next year as an "arena style" conference in the ES Hall (much like Middle School does now). We are interested in hearing your thoughts on this matter. (10 minutes)
- 2) It has been brought to our attention that seating at graduation is an issue. Apparently no guidelines exist and/or have been communicated/enforced and, as such, securing seating is problematic. We are interested in hearing your input as to what rules/guidelines should be in place for reserving seating at the graduation ceremony. (10 minutes)
- 3) We would like to share these results of the awards survey with you and share the faculty point of view. We will not be seeking further input regarding awards at this time. We wish to share the survey results with you as a point of information and, then, in a future CAT or Parent Coffee meeting discuss the idea of awards in more detail. (10 minutes)

You need not comment on the above agenda items to your CAT representative at this time. The forum will be open and, as such, you can share your view to the larger group in person.

Should you have any additional agenda items to bring forward, please email or call your CAT representative no later than Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

A final agenda will be published in the March 22<sup>nd</sup> Highro-Glyphics.

The CAT representatives are as follows:

Grade 9 - Chris Giallongo – [thegsoverseas@gmail.com](mailto:thegsoverseas@gmail.com) – 23800630 / 01507891427  
 Grade 10 – Flavia Makram-Ebeid – [flaviame53@gmail.com](mailto:flaviame53@gmail.com) – 25083804 / 0123109335  
 Grade 11 – Elli Hadjievangelou – [panoselli@gmail.com](mailto:panoselli@gmail.com) – 27561519 / 0102187541  
 Grade 12 – Stephanie Butter – [fam\\_butter@hotmail.com](mailto:fam_butter@hotmail.com) - 25166430 / 0123794718  
 Member at Large – Natalie Usher – [usherfamily@gmail.com](mailto:usherfamily@gmail.com) – 25214095 / 0109283629  
 PTO Liaison - Saro Mathialagan – [sarosammi@gmail.com](mailto:sarosammi@gmail.com) – 23582155 / 0162970334

### ***K-12 Parent Coffee: Focus on Homework***

This month the three principals will come together to host a K-12 parent coffee in lieu of the usual separate divisional meetings. Please mark your calendars and join us on Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Elementary Hall for a K-12 coffee focusing on the issue of homework.

As you may know, this semester the faculty and staff of Cairo American College have been reading about "best practice" in the use of homework and have been reflecting on their own practice. Further, as divisions, groups have been discussing the development of a homework philosophy. This work will continue through March in the hopes of publishing a K-12 Homework Philosophy in April along with division specific guidelines.

We would like to include you in this process. To that end, this month's coffee will ask you to reflect on the same topics our faculty are currently discussing. We ask that you come to the coffee having already read the article reached by this link (<http://www.cacegypt.org/HS/PDF/vatHWarticle.pdf>). It is a synopsis of the reading we have required of our faculty and will help to give context to our time together. During the coffee we will ask parents to react to and discuss various statements of belief from the reading. Your thoughts will help us to understand the issue of homework from yet another perspective while the reading, itself, will familiarize you with the current research in homework "best practice."

We hope to see you on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

## ***Upcoming Events***

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| March 7 – 11  | ISST Basketball away  |
| March 14      | All course registration forms due                           |
| March 14      | K-12 Homework Coffee, 10:00 am, ES Hall                     |
| March 14 – 18 | Honor Band/Choir away                                       |
| March 15      | HS Play, 7:00 pm, Theater                                   |
| March 16      | CAT/Community Forum agenda items due to CAT representatives |
| March 26      | CAT/Community Forum meeting, 3:30 pm, Captan-Amr Room       |

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Joelle Basnight</i> | <i>Mike Schuetze</i>            |
| High School Principal  | High School Assistant Principal |

## **General Announcements**

### ***From the MHS Library***

The Hunger Games – This is your last chance to read the novel before the movie comes out!

The Cross-Generational Book Club will meet in the MHS Library at lunchtime to eat pizza and discuss the first book in Suzanne Collins's Hunger Games Trilogy on Wednesday, March 21. That still leaves you two weeks to read this intense YA novel. If you plan on attending, please sign up at the library circulation desk or send an email to Beau Cain at bcain@cacegypt.org so we will know how much pizza to buy! Students, staff, parents, teachers – all are invited to participate.

*Beau Cain*  
Head Librarian

### ***2012 International Festival***

Celebrate the World  
CAC - Saturday, 17 March - 11am to 3pm  
Food, fun, games, and entertainment  
Organized by the PTO and the Country Representatives

Tickets for the International Festival will go on sale on Sunday, March 11-Thursday, March 15 from 2:30 p.m. till 4:00 p.m. at the Elementary pick up area.

Entrance Ticket: LE 15 (includes LE 5 coupon)  
Coupon book of 10 coupons: LE 50  
Buy early and save, tickets on the day of the festival will cost LE 20.

### ***Book Fair Booth for the International Festival***

Don't miss the Book Fair at the International Festival, not only will you get this great chance to buy books for the upcoming holidays, you will also get a chance to purchase "The Atomic Weight of Secrets" and get your book signed by our very own CAC parent/author Eden Bowditch.

Remember to pass by and not miss this last chance at buying some great titles for ES, MS, HS & Adults. For any queries or suggestions please contact: *Suzanne Harrison* 0120 100 1007 [ssamoharrison@gmail.com](mailto:ssamoharrison@gmail.com) or *Sherine Elbanhawy* 0100 211 4215 [sherine.elbanhawy@gmail.com](mailto:sherine.elbanhawy@gmail.com)

### ***Theme Baskets***

This is our last week to announce about donations for Theme Baskets for the International Fair. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Samia Wadman at 0122-103-7880.

### ***Pictures***

Pictures wanted! Your students have already traveled and played great tournaments and now is the time to submit pictures of the season for the winter sports awards. **JV Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Tennis, JV Boys and Girls Soccer and Cross Country** we are looking for your pictures. Please drop off your flash drives or picture CD's to the Athletic department as soon as you can but no later than March 12. We will make sure they are returned to you if you include your name on them. If you only have a picture or two to submit you can email them to [lccywilson@gmail.com](mailto:lccywilson@gmail.com).

Thanks for your help,

*Booster Club*