

## **ISSUE # 5 – MAY 14, 2008**

### ***GENERAL ORDINARY ASSEMBLY***

We would like to inform SCCS members that the Ordinary Assembly will be held on WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria, with the following agenda:

1. Reading and approval last Assembly's minutes of December 05, 2007
2. Report from the Board President
3. Report from the Director
4. Report from the President of the Vigilance Council
5. Analysis and approval of Budget for 2008-2009

According to SCCS By laws, if a quorum is not met, the meeting will begin an hour later at 8:00 pm with the members who are present. Please remember that the April 2008 tuition must be paid to be able to participate in the ordinary assembly. (Art.9 inc. c)

### **FROM THE DIRECTOR**

*Mr. William McKelligott*

The 2007-2008 school year has been a very important year for Santa Cruz Cooperative School. We received a five year accreditation by the AdvancEd, which is the largest school accrediting agency in the world. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) is a part of this organization. This accreditation allows us to provide both the U.S. High School Diploma along with the Bolivian Bachillerato. SCCS is part of an organization that accredits over 24,000 schools in the United States, Latin American, U.S. Department of Defense and Private Schools world wide.

This year we had the opportunity to implement three major academic action plans.

The first plan deals with the implementation of a school wide writing program to help our students to succeed at the university and become productive professionals. Our staff has worked extensively to improve the writing abilities of our students and this program will continue with new phases over the next five years. The second major area for academic improvement is in the area of curriculum mapping. This new process will become electronic next year with the use of an online program, "Rubicon Atlas". Once this process is completed the curriculum for each grade level and subject will be made available to our parents on the website. This program is being used by many American Overseas Schools and U.S. schools. The third area is in the area of computer technology. We are in the process of expanding computer access to our students at school with new course offerings and providing more contact time during the school day for technology being incorporated as a part of the curriculum. Students will be able to use the computer on a regular as a part of the classroom activity.

The school has incorporated a new security service at the school. When I developed the initial phase of improving security in 2005 at the school, my emphasis was on building a physical system to provide protection for the school. The second phase has been initiated recently to provide the physical protection of students, staff, parents and visitors when they enter and leave the school campus. I have been working with security specialists in Bolivia, the United States and other parts of Latin America to develop our new security program. We are still in the initial phase of implementing this new program, but my major objective is to have a professional security staff working for the school. I will provide an update of the details once the new system is functioning completely.

May is an extremely busy month at SCCS. The seniors will be working with on their Senior Independent Project. From May 19-May 30, 2008. The students will be working different places to experience the professional work world.

***Please note the following dates that will be occurring at SCCS:  
May 21<sup>st</sup>. Early Dismissal at 11:30 A.M. for the Staff Bar-B-Q.***

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>. No School-Corpus Christi Holiday.**  
**May 27<sup>th</sup>. Mother's Day Breakfast for Primary School.**  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>. Mother's Day Breakfast for Secondary School**  
**June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Senior Independent Project Presentations**  
**June 4<sup>th</sup>. Director's Luncheon for Bachillers and Parents**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup>. Graduation for Class of June 2008**

The Ex-Alumni will be holding their annual gala on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. in the evening. If you are ex-alumni please attend this event to support your school and have an opportunity to meet former classmates. Please check out our website at [www.sccs.edu.bo](http://www.sccs.edu.bo) It is important to check email messages from SCCS.

I hope you and your family will have a pleasant vacation. For the parents and students of graduating class, I would like to congratulate you for the successful completion of this milestone. . For those returning to SCCS in August we will be starting classes on Thursday, August 7, 2008. I wish you and your families a pleasant vacation.

## **ELEMENTARY NEWS**

*Mrs. Susan Zapata*

**CHILDREN'S DAY** Elementary children celebrated Children's Day with refreshments from the Mother's Club.

**RECORDER CONCERT** The Baroque recorder group "Dulces Ayres" made a brief presentation to all the students in elementary school in April, finishing up their concert with a rendition of "The Pink Panther." The students really enjoyed this performance, thanks to Mrs. Eliana Castro's invitation.

**ELEMENTARY SCIENCE FAIR** All elementary students from first through fifth grades are participating in the science fair. These projects teach the students the scientific method, working with partner/s, research techniques and the importance of perseverance and follow-through. Almost all work is done in school under the supervision of the Science teacher with the assistance of the technology teachers. Project presentations and judging are Tuesday night, May 13 in the SCCS gym. All 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders must attend. Thanks to Mr. Gelbart and Ms Gilway for their work in organizing this important learning experience.

**MOTHER'S DAY** Our Jaguar Showcase will be on May 27 at 8:00 a.m. in the Primary Patio followed by refreshments in the gym.

**VACATION REMEDIAL CLASSES** Elementary students who have less than 70% in any class at the end of the year, or whose basic skills (oral and written English and math) are not at level, will attend remedial classes from Saturday June 7-June 18, including Saturday, June 14. These classes will focus specifically on skills and knowledge students did not acquire during the school year. Students with four or more grades lower than 70% will repeat the school year.

**VACATION CAMP** A vacation camp to reinforce English and enjoy art, technology and sports activities will be held in July at SCCS. Tuition will be approximately \$130 and must be paid by May 22 for the camp to take place. Help your child review AND have fun before classes begin again in August. If there is enough interest, there will also be a class for students entering pre-kinder in August.

**ELEMENTARY KNOWLEDGE BOWL** The Knowledge Bowl was held April 17 in the school cafeteria. 18 students qualified for the contest, six from each grade level, 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. Team 2 was the winning team this year: Naomi Andrade and Jessie Nielsen from 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Jose Carlos Paz and Jesse Atkin from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Carlos Nunez y Luis Peredo from 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Congratulations to all the participants and thanks to Mr. Besanceney for organizing this event!

## **SECONDARY SCHOOL**

*Mr. Cory Carson*

**Important dates:**

May 30 to June 4 - HS Final Exams  
June 4 - Last day for MS Students  
June 6 - Report Cards  
June 7 to 18 - Secondary Remediation (Grades 6 – 12)  
June 19 - Summer School Report Cards Issued  
August 7 - First day of classes school year 2008-2009

I have been so excited to return to SCCS this past school year and re-acquaint myself with the staff, students and parental community. The support that I have received this year has been phenomenal and I would like to thank our community for providing me with the ways and means necessary to seek ways to make the secondary school of SCCS a more positive, respectful, focused environment in which to work and study.

I would like to thank and congratulate the numerous students who stepped up this year and who provided positive leadership within our classrooms, on the field/court and within our community. This is the face of SCCS that I would like to see grow and flourish; one that eventually we could proudly say that all of our students make their positive contributions to. We need to be particularly proud of the efforts made in athletics and arts this past year. Our teams were for the most part competitive, sportsmanlike and many of our teams won championships. The Arts Department worked hard to bring more presentations, performances and demonstrations of the excellent work / progress being made by those of our artistically, musically inclined student population. We would like to see continued support and positive growth in the areas of the arts here at SCCS.

As we look back over this school year we have seen many positive changes here on the secondary side of campus. As a staff we are working hard to forge a common set of expectations, both academically and behaviorally for our students. This is important for the school as it allows us to identify areas of weakness and develop strategies to correct as well as allowing us to identify areas of strength and seek ways to further build upon them. This has been facilitated by a process of revising our student handbooks, developing separate handbooks for Middle and High School that speak to the unique differences in the educational process at each level, but that also speak to specific needs and concerns of the students as well. The major handbook modifications were presented over two evenings in April and have since been emailed out to the parent community and discussed and shared with the student body.

We welcome Mr. Nicolaas Mostert as our Dean of Students for the next school year. He will be working primarily in the areas where students are in need of academic and behavioral support, as well as in issues of attendance and tardies. He will work with staff, students and parents to facilitate positive growth within our student body.

We have made modifications to our schedule to develop a Flex block into our schedule across secondary. This time already existed in the Middle school but we are expanding to include the High School. This time will be flexible and allow us to complete a number of objectives that include assemblies, study hall (HS), continued SSR (MS), activities, parent teacher conference preparation, small group, class and school level discussions, activities and events. We are excited about the opportunities this will allow for meeting the socio-emotional, developmental, and more personal needs of each of our students. It will be a work in progress that we seek to improve on a continual basis, but it is certainly a step in the right direction.

These are but a few of the positive accomplishments and modifications we have achieved this year. With your support these changes can continue and we can truly “cooperatively” build a better, brighter SCCS.

Have a great Summer.

## **ELEMENTARY COUNSELOR**

*Vanessa Krawiec*

### **Five Ways to Instill Good Character Traits In Your Children**

Parents influence children's character more than anyone. Here are five ways to help children become what you want them to be:

1. Be a good example! Children imitate you. Make sure your actions back up your words.
2. Talk about your values, and ask your child about hers. Talk about issues like drugs and cheating.
3. Use others as examples. Identify famous people who have the traits you want your child to have. Read together about what made them the way they are.
4. Ask your child what she might do to help others, to be more respectful, more self-disciplined, etc. Help her make those character traits a habit.
5. Parents' approval means a lot to children. When your child shows a good character trait, praise her! Make a chart to show her progress on traits you're trying to build.

## **SECONDARY COUNSELOR**

*Mr. Mike Vande Loo*

### **PROTEGE TU CORAZON**

We have had a successful year of character education development through the Protégé tu Corazon workshops for all students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grades. Feedback has been extremely positive and has led to thought provoking ideas and concepts for SCCS to share together and talk about. It has been encouraging to see the moral development of the students and see them participating as much as they have in these workshops.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> parents were invited to attend a Protegé tu Corazon workshop with their child. A variety of topics were discussed regarding the moral development our children, and communication between parents and teenagers. We had a great turnout on the first night, and excellent feedback from parents. It is only through parent and student participation that these events can be successful, and we encourage even more parents and students to attend these parent-child workshops next year.

I would like to give a big thanks to Carla Gorriti, the members of the Mothers' Club, and other parents who helped make this event happen and be so successful.

By working together with the school, and being able to talk to your child about issues currently being discussed here at SCCS in the Protégé tu Corazon workshops, we can continue to form a great partnership for the overall character development of all children here at SCCS.

## **LIBRARY**

*Ms. Josie Hanneman*

### **End of year schedule**

The end of the school year is fast approaching. In the library this means quiet study time for exams and searching high and low for overdue books. The last day to check out books from the SCCS library is May 12<sup>th</sup>. If you or members of your family have library books out, please return them to the library by May 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to find your books, please report this to Mrs. Antelo in the library, then proceed to the business office to pay for the lost materials.

This is a time of intense study for our seniors, and other grades, as well. Because of this we like to keep the library as quiet as possible to allow them to properly study their materials before tests. For seniors and other students with final exams, there will be quiet hours in the library from May 7<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for making SCCS's Library Media Center such a great success this year. The books, computers, databases, magazines and study areas were widely used by every grade, parents and alumni. Books and magazines have been ordered for next year, and we look forward to their continued use.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

*Mr. Orlando Taja*

## **FUN RUN RESULTS**

The SCCS Physical Education Department would like to congratulate this year's Fun Run winners and thank everyone involved in making this event a success. We would especially like to thank the Mother's Club for an outstanding job once again. The winner's for this year's event are:

<b>PRE-KINDER</b>	Andres Cardozo & Ariana Bedoya
<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Rodrigo Llorente & Ana Julia Gutierrez
<b>LOWER ELEMENTARY</b>	Christian Algorañaz & Antoinette Germain
<b>UPPER ELEMENTARY</b>	Carlos Nuñez & Jana Paola Algorañaz
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>	Milan Marinkovic & Hailey White
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>	Pablo Taborga & Sofia Sotelo
<b>STAFF</b>	Pascual Mamani & Josie Hanneman
<b>PARENTS</b>	Dario Arias & Kate Baranck

At this time we would also like to thank our wonderful sponsors who once again made excellent donations for our winners and the raffle. Without their contributions we could not produce such an enjoyable event for the SCCS family.

BANCO ECONOMICO	ENERBOL	PALACIO DE LAS GORRAS
YAMA BOLIVIA	TERMECO	ACEITE RICO
DESTELLOS	FLOREXOTICA	LOS HIERROS
BANCO DE CREDITO	SEMILLAS MONICA	FRIDOLIN
BITS & CREAM	SALTO	TRIPLEX
CERAMICA NORTE	HANSA LTDA.	OVANDO S.A.
RIBEPAR	COTAS	OPTICAS PAUKER
JOYERIA PARIS	DATEC	UIMPEX TRAVEL
EL ARRIERO	ANAVIN TRAVEL	CASA JERUSALEM
FOTO RELIEVE	BANCO GANADERO	HERBALIFE
YUASA	MANJAR DE ORO	COSMET
CANDELABRO	NUEVA CHINA	LOS LOMITOS
IMBA		