

# Quick Notes

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

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## School Calendar

Tuesday	Sept. 15	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>Early Learner and Lower Elementary Gatherings</b> Katlyn, Tulie, and Ruth Ann (in art room) Beth (in Beth's room)
Wednesday	Sept. 16	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (mini corn dogs, chips, chocolate pudding, lemonade)
Thursday	Sept. 17	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	<b>Middle &amp; Upper Elementary Gatherings</b> Katie and Lena (in Lena's room) Kim and Betsy (in Kim's room)
Friday	Sept. 18	10:30 a.m.	Class Name Skits- Basketball Court – Parents Welcome
Monday	Sept. 21	6:15 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	Sept. 23	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Pizza Day (12:05-12:45 for Middle School) - Parents Welcome No pizza day for Seminar students.
Thursday	Sept. 24	7:00 p.m.	<b>Middle School Gatherings</b> (in Emilie's room)
Wednesday	Sept. 30	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (chicken nuggets, chips, brownies, lemonade)
Monday	Oct. 5		No Classes - School Closed for Staff In-Service Day
Wednesday	Oct. 7	12:15-12:45 p.m.	Lunch-A-Month (12:05-12:45 for middle school) - Parents Welcome (pancake & sausage on a stick, syrup, cooked apples, cookie, lemonade)

## Notes from the Director (Holly)

"The objective of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."  
- Robert Maynard Hutchins

Welcome to Community School's 2009-10 school year! Our faculty and staff are eager to begin another year of challenging our students to pursue their natural love of learning. As parents and caregivers, we encourage you to join us in our quest for knowledge, dialogue, and understanding. *Quick Notes*, classroom blogs and newsletters, Gatherings, and conference days are excellent ways to stay in tune with your child's education. Outside of school, make time to read with your child, have family meals as often as possible, set age-appropriate bedtimes, and offer healthy breakfast foods before school. As a community, we can set the stage for each child's success!

<p><b>Used Clothing &amp; School Supply Drive</b></p> 	<p>Community School, along with Community High School and the United Way of Roanoke Valley, will be collecting new or gently used clothing and school supplies for school-aged children during the week of Sept.14-18. If you have items to donate, please place them in the collection box outside of the main office.</p>
<p><b>Quick Notes</b></p>	<p>In order to save on paper and copying costs, beginning on September 15, <i>Quick Notes</i> will only be available via e-mail or on Community School's website. You can request an e-mail copy of <i>Quick Notes</i> by e-mailing <a href="mailto:carissa@communityschool.net">carissa@communityschool.net</a>. <i>Quick Notes</i> will be posted on our school website by 5:00 p.m. each Tuesday.</p>
<p><b>Gatherings</b></p> <p>Don't miss Gatherings, the CS version of Back to School Night. These meetings are your opportunity to learn what your child will be doing in school this year.</p>	<p>Gatherings are evenings for parents to learn more about their child's level. Team teachers will conduct the evening discussions and will talk about the curriculum for the level, schedules, and Fall Festival trips. They will go over details regarding fruit break, lunch, field trips, and homework appropriate for the level. Gatherings are also an opportunity to meet the enrichment (Spanish, art, music, computer, and drama) teachers and learn about their programs. As these are informational meetings that involve staff and parents, they are for <b>adults only and childcare is not provided</b>. Please check the calendar section of <i>Quick Notes</i> for dates, times, and locations.</p>
<p><b>Parent Packets</b></p>	<p>We will distribute Family Address Lists during Gatherings. Please watch for your Parent Packet including this item and other important information. In the interim, you can read the current Parent Handbook on our website at <a href="http://www.communityschool.net/pdfs/parenthandbook.pdf">http://www.communityschool.net/pdfs/parenthandbook.pdf</a>.</p>
<p><b>Pizza, Milk &amp; Lunch-A-Month Orders</b></p>	<p>The first Lunch-A-Month day is September 16. You may order pizza or Lunch-A-Month for all or part of the year or pay as you go. If you are interested in prepaying for the year, please turn in your pizza, milk, and Lunch-A-Month orders and payments to the office. Family members can send money for extra slices if they wish to join their child for lunch on Pizza Day, \$1 per slice. Additional order forms are available in the office.</p>
<p><b>American Freestyle Karate Classes</b></p> <p>First meeting: Sept. 16</p> <p>Jennifer is looking forward to sharing this wonderful sport with Community School and hopes you can join her!</p>	<p>This year CS middle school teacher Jennifer will be offering classes in life skills and self-defense. Through the study of American Freestyle Karate students will learn about confidence, responsibility, and respect. All students from six years of age and up are welcome. The class will meet from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays (excluding the Fall Festival and Thanksgiving week) through January at the Superkicks Leadership Academy in Salem. Jennifer will provide transportation to and from the academy. The cost for the semester is \$240. This fee includes a uniform, uniform patches, membership in the American Freestyle Karate Association, and belt graduation fee. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 16. This will be an open house for all who are interested. Space is limited, so please pre-register your student by e-mailing (<a href="mailto:jenniferha@communityschool.net">jenniferha@communityschool.net</a>). If there are enough interested students, Jennifer will add a class on Fridays.</p>

<p><b>Class Name Skits Fri., Sept. 18</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. on the basketball court</p>	<p>Parents - Join the fun on Friday, September 18, at 10:30 a.m. as the classes perform brief skits revealing their class names for the year. The skits will take place on the basketball court adjoining the elementary building. The classes will perform their skits in the following order: Katlyn, Tulie, Ruth Ann, Beth, Katie, Lena, Kim, Betsy, Katrina, Linda, Emilie, and Seminar. Class names are a big secret, so please do not ask your child to reveal anything before the skit!</p>
<p><b>Girls Sports Clinic</b></p> <p>Date: Sept. 19</p>	<p>Hollins University is hosting the 2009 Girls Sports Clinic on Saturday, September 19, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The clinic is open to girls ages 7-13, and the entry fee is \$12. For more information and to register, go to <a href="http://www.CommonwealthGames.org">www.CommonwealthGames.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Tuition Payment Due by Sept. 20</b></p>	<p>If you are paying on the monthly installment plan, your third tuition payment is due by September 20. Contact Sue (<a href="mailto:sue@communityschool.net">sue@communityschool.net</a>) with questions about your account.</p>
<p><b>Everyone Can Be "Tech Support" for CS</b></p>	<p>When you shop online, please remember that our technology program will benefit from items purchased at Amazon.com if you use our portal at <a href="http://www.communityschool.net/giving_amazon.html">http://www.communityschool.net/giving_amazon.html</a> .</p> <p>Please bookmark this page and consider using our Amazon portal for your online purchases. Amazon sells much more than just books, and while the only cost to you will be a couple of extra mouse clicks, you can be tech support for CS! Ask your family and friends if they would also consider supporting us in this simple manner. In the past, we have purchased digital cameras, microphones, flash drives for student use, software, and books. In these difficult economic times, this is a way you can help put technology in the hands of our students with items that you would be purchasing anyway. Amazon offers free shipping on many orders over \$25. Many thanks for your support! Lelia</p>
<p><b>Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!</b></p>	<p>We extend sincere thanks to our volunteers from our rainy Parent Workday (August 22). Your hard work spreading mulch, cleaning flower beds, washing chairs and helping spruce up the campus for the students' return is deeply appreciated. We hope to have monthly Parent Workdays, so please watch <i>Quick Notes</i> for more information.</p>
<p><b>Before School Care/ After School Care</b></p> <p>Between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m., you can reach After School by calling 400-1922.</p>	<p>Before School Care (BSC) for all children will be in the art room (old Boxwoods House first floor, front classroom) from 7:00 to 8:15 a.m. Parents, we ask that you please walk your students to Before School. No staff will be on duty outside between 7:00 and 8:15 a.m., and children are not allowed to be outside prior to 8:15 a.m.</p> <p>After School (ASP) will be outside or in the art room. After School attendance will be taken at 3:45 p.m. Snack will be served at 4:15. All parents will need to sign out their children when they pick them up. All children must be picked up by 6:00 p.m. Parents will be billed monthly for Before and After School services.</p>

<p><b>Attendance and School Hours</b></p> <p>In the event that a student is chronically late to school or absent, you will be contacted by your child's teacher and/or the school administrator to determine the reason and establish a plan to be on time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students need to arrive to school on time each day. <b>School begins at 8:45 a.m.</b></li> <li>❖ If a student arrives at school after the 8:45 bell, his/her parent or guardian will need to walk the child to the main office and have a class admit slip completed by an office staff member. If the child is six years old or younger, the parent or guardian will need to accompany the child to the classroom. Parents or guardians of children seven years old or older are required to visually monitor the child's entrance into the classroom. Without disrupting classroom activities, the student will need to give the class admit slip to the teacher.</li> <li>❖ Consistent and daily attendance is very important in the educational life of a child.</li> <li>❖ Attendance is taken every day and monitored by the classroom teacher.</li> <li>❖ Excessive tardiness and/or absences may impact a student's placement in the upcoming school year.</li> <li>❖ If a student needs to be picked up during the school day, please notify the teacher in advance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Morning Drop Off &amp; Afternoon Pick Up Logistics</b></p> <p>Always drive slowly and watch out for children!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ School begins at 8:45 a.m. Students may begin to arrive at 8:15 a.m.</li> <li>❖ School ends at 3:15 p.m.</li> <li>❖ Drivers should be in line to drop off and pick up students at the end of the driveway close to school. Staff members will assist students to and from their vehicles.</li> <li>❖ If you wish to park, please use the parking area to the left of the driveway. <b><i>Do not</i></b> block traffic flow in the pick-up zone or the fire lane.</li> <li>❖ <b><i>If there is a change in who is picking up your child, you must notify the office in advance. We will not release your child unless we have heard <u>directly</u> from a parent. Proper identification will be required of the person picking up your child.</i></b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Parent Representatives to the Board of Trustees</b></p>	<p>Nominations requested for Early Learner/Elementary and Middle School Representatives to Community School's Board of Trustees. This can be a self-nomination, or you can nominate someone you think would serve well. If this interests you or you would like to nominate someone, please contact Holly at 563-5036 or hollyh@communityschool.net.</p>