

*October 27, 2009*

### *Word from the Superintendent*



I had the pleasure of meeting with our math and literacy coaches last week for a dinner meeting, and they had so many powerful insights to share. These coaches are our district's new approach to professional development. Instead of pulling teachers out of the classroom to attend workshops, we are sending our own expert teachers into classrooms to share ideas and model best practices with colleagues.

I heard the story of one child who was withdrawn and quiet. His teacher learned a new instructional strategy for math that incorporated the use of beads to learn counting, and he came alive in the class thanks to his teacher, who had an open door and open mind to collaboration.

The coaches described a classroom that incorporates Power Teaching, guided math stations, and specific strategies that focus on reaching the economically disadvantaged children who comprise the majority of the class. These students are inspired because their teacher is focused on what they are learning, not what he is teaching.

The coaches reminded me that teaching is performing, entertaining, motivating, and inspiring. They recognized already they have become better teachers by working with colleagues because as they provide that sense of collaboration and modeling, they are becoming inspired, motivated, and entertained by the teachers and students they are working with.

The second I walk into a classroom I can feel the energy and enthusiasm generated by our master teachers. Early in the morning and late in the evening, I see teachers working in their classrooms, preparing to make the next day special for students. As educators, we need to ask ourselves if we are growing every day to become better and if we are setting the same high standards for ourselves that we set for our students. Now more than ever we must help each other be the best we can for our students. Now more than ever results matter.

- Joe Padasak

## *Lenfest Scholars Named from CASHS*



CASD is proud to have six Lenfest Scholars among the Class of 2010. The following students will receive [Lenfest College Scholarships](#) of up to \$12,000 per year for four years at an approved U.S. college or university thanks to the generosity and ongoing commitment of the Lenfest Foundation to education: Autumn Bowers, Antonio Cuesta, Andy Dessel, Branka Miric, Sarah Moore, and Megan Snider.

## *Student Sick Day Policy*



As we continue to see slightly elevated absenteeism in our schools due to illness, now is a good time to review the district's policy on returning to school after being home sick. Most importantly, students should not return to school until they've recovered and are without a fever for at least 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medications.

Students who have been out sick need to bring a note from a parent or guardian verifying the absence was due to illness. As a general rule, a doctor's note isn't required for a student to return to school even if he or she has been out for three or more days.

A doctor's note for absences is only needed when a principal has required such a note because a student has had repeated absences or has falsified absence excuses. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

## *2009 Homecoming Royalty Crowned*



Congratulations to Emily Madeira and ConRoy Smith, who were crowned Homecoming king and queen at halftime of the Trojan football game on Friday evening. Additional members of the Homecoming court included Lindsay Baumgardner, Cristi Forrester, Paige Plasterer, Christa Sipes, Scott Morrison, Chris Posten, Blake Stahl, and Jonathan DeSalis.

## *First Ever Trojan Alumni Tent a Success*



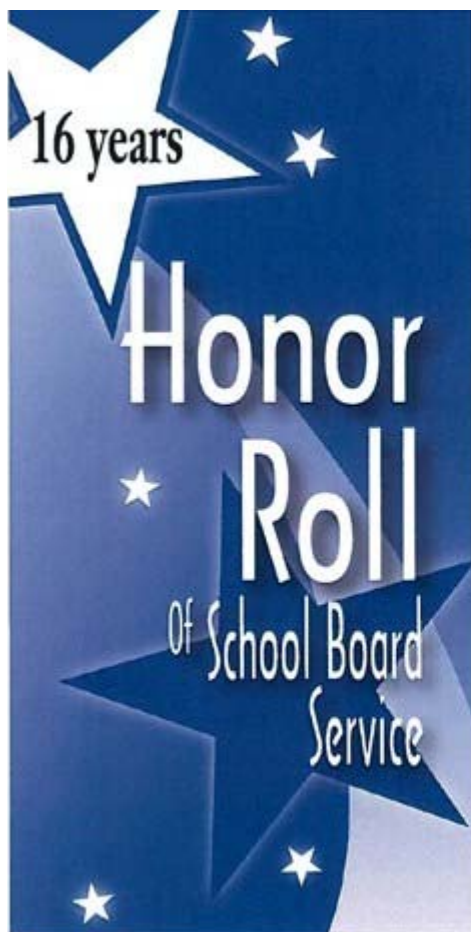
New this year to Homecoming, CASHS student council and the National Honor Society sponsored a Trojan Huddle Alumni Tent in the courtyard between the school and end zone. Alumni were able to sign a guest book, look at old photos and yearbooks, and enjoy refreshments. It was a great place for old friends to reconnect and children and parents to celebrate together.

The tent hosted 62 attendees (1940s-2, 50s-1, 60s-8, 70s-15, 80s-11, 90s-8, 00s-17) who traveled from as far as Virginia. Among the schools represented by the 2000s alumni were Shippensburg University, Hagerstown Community College, Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh, Virginia Tech,

and Temple. Eight alumni were current CASD employees.

### *Thank You to CASD Board Member Fred Rice*

Serving on the school board is perhaps one of the most difficult public service positions one can hold. It requires countless volunteer hours dedicated to supporting education and making informed decisions that affect thousands of children and our community. Chambersburg is fortunate to have such a dedicated community and civic leader as Fred Rice serving on our school board for the last 16 years. Congratulations and thank you, Mr. Rice!



The Board of Directors of the  
Pennsylvania School Boards Association  
proudly presents this  
**Certificate of Appreciation**  
to school director

**Fred E. Rice**

**Chambersburg Area SD**

in recognition of the unique role of school board service  
and the long-term contributions of individuals who bring  
their energy, talent and values to the guidance of youth  
and public education in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

October 2009  
PASA-PSBA  
School Leadership Conference  
Hershey



*[Signature]*  
PSBA President

*[Signature]*  
PSBA Executive Director

### *CASD Prepares for Teacher Contract Negotiations*



According to the timeline established by state law, CASD will begin contract negotiations with the teacher's association this January. Often school districts and teacher associations enter into discussions before this time, known as "early-bird" negotiations, and last spring, the district and association leadership discussed an "early-bird" contract.

**Unfortunately, we could not come to an agreement with the association on the terms of the contract extension. Therefore, we will move forward with a complete reexamination of the [current teacher contract](#) (2006-2010), including salaries, benefits, working conditions, contract duration, and other contract elements, to prepare for the January negotiations.**

**This is a difficult time to negotiate a new contract because our schools are feeling the most serious effects of the global recession that developed in 2008.**

Every year at this time, school districts finalize the previous year's budget and prepare the annual financial report. The reality is CASD received approximately \$3.5 million less in investment income, earned income tax revenue, and transfer tax revenue than budgeted. Our investments generated less interest income, our community members made less money and therefore paid less in taxes, and real estate transferred less often than in previous years, which generated less revenue for our schools.

**Under state law known as Act 1, which establishes the budget timeline for all school districts, we had to prepare the 2008-2009 budget in 2007, well before the global financial collapse. As a result, our budget did not and could not reflect a realistic picture of revenue.**

**Last school year the district took drastic measures to counteract this revenue shortfall by limiting expenditures, implementing a hiring freeze, and eliminating some positions and programs for the 2009-2010 school year. These measures helped to contain the budget shortfall, and if these steps were not taken, we would have an even greater deficit to address.**

In addition to the deficit from 2008-2009, CASD will receive approximately \$520,000 less than budgeted from the state for the 2009-2010 school year. The additional money given to school districts was largely supplemented by stimulus money, most of which can only be used to add new programs in special education and Title I schools, limiting the ability of the district to use these funds to pay for programs already in place.

**Personnel salaries and benefits account for approximately 65% of expenditures and therefore the teacher contract drives the majority of the district budget. Quality teachers are the most important investment this community makes in the education of its children, and it is the district's responsibility to ensure there is a highly qualified and highly effective teacher in every classroom.**

**A solid contract that attracts and retains quality teachers is the best use of taxpayer money, and the district is committed to working with the association to provide such a contract that is responsible and fair under the current budget realities.**

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### *Driver Ed Fee for Students*

CASD's driver education program consists of classroom theory, simulation, and behind-the-wheel driving. Starting this school year, there will be a \$50 fee for the optional behind-the-wheel component to defer the costs of fuel, insurance, vehicle lease, maintenance, inspection, and registration. Students may still





take the classroom and simulation portions for free.

Students interested in participating in the behind-the-wheel component should see one of the driver education instructors. Checks and money orders may be made payable to CASHS-Driver Ed Dept. Instructors will be able to accept payment at time of scheduling and must receive it before the first lesson.

This program's benefits include the opportunities for students to take the driving exam in a relaxed, familiar environment with an instructor they know and for students' families to receive reduced automobile insurance rates.

### *October Students of the Month*



Delmy Ramirez, 3rd grade, Stevens  
 Maggie Myers, 5th grade, Marion  
 Dalton Strite, 5th grade, New Franklin  
 Leah Wolfinger, 6th grade, CAMS  
 Lily Nolan, 7th grade, CAMS  
 Julie Diehl, 8th grade, Faust  
 Manuel Espinoza, 9th grade, Faust  
 Mindy Hoover, 10th grade, FCCTC  
 Matthew McIntyre, 10th grade, FCCTC  
 Matthew Maple, 11th grade, CASHS  
 Krystal Swasey, 12th grade, CASHS

### *Technology Director Earns Doctorate*



Congratulations to Mark Long, who recently completed his Ed.D. from Nova Southeastern University of Florida. His dissertation, "Evaluation of Two Software Programs for Primary Reading Instruction," was approved by his doctoral committee. Mark has been a CASD employee since 1996. Prior to serving as director of technology, he was an elementary teacher at Portico and Hamilton Heights.

### *H1N1 Flu Resources Posted*



A new web page, [www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/h1n1](http://www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/h1n1), has been set up with resources for the H1N1 flu, including letters sent home to students' families, tips for staying healthy, and updates from the Centers for Disease Control, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This information is for all members of the CASD community.

## *Halloween Hike Planned at Caledonia*



Project TEAM will be sponsoring a Halloween hike at Caledonia State Park on Saturday, October 31, complete with lunch and a DJ. This family-oriented event will raise money for maintaining and expanding the Project TEAM program, which provides students with an opportunity to connect with and help the local community and nonprofit organizations at large.

For more information about the hike, please see the [attached flyer](#) or contact Linsey Covert at 267-4479 or [coverlin@chambersburg.k12.pa.us](mailto:coverlin@chambersburg.k12.pa.us).

## *FFA Claims Awards at National Conference*



CASD Future Farmers of America students competed at the National FFA Conference in Indianapolis, Ind., on October 20-24. The agriculture sales team placed ninth in the national competition. Team members were Casi Foster, Josh Funk, Heather Hartman, Braton Moore, and team alternate Mikayla Moore, with Faust agricultural education teacher Lisa Shaw as coach.

The national FFA Agriculture Sales Career Development Event is a competitive activity in which students had to sell an agricultural product while working as a team by demonstrating positive group dynamics, problem solving, data analysis, decision making, and oral and written communication skills.

In addition, Melinda Cordell and Ben Cashell received the American Farmer Degree for completing at least three years of agriculture education instruction, earning at least \$7,500 and productively investing at least \$1,500, and working 2,250 hours on their supervised experience project. Melinda's project was dairy herd and Ben's project was poultry.

## *Students Hear from State Legislator*



State Rep. Rob Kauffman was a guest speaker in Joshua Sherman's civics classes Monday at CASHS. Rep. Kauffman, who serves portions of Franklin and Cumberland counties, chatted with students about the structure and function of state government and its branches, the role of Harrisburg lawmakers, the importance of freedom of the press, and a variety of other topics.

The students, who are all seniors, asked the fifth-year Republican legislator questions about education mandates, standardized testing, the state budget, and how to get involved in politics. The students are currently working on a unit about state and local government in Mr. Sherman's classes.

"I want people to understand that their state representatives are approachable," said Kauffman. "I want that to excite interest and curiosity in state government."

## *Curriculum Connections*



Over the past few weeks, the 4-Sights were given at both the elementary and secondary levels. The 4-Sights exams will be given twice more this year and provide teachers with invaluable data that highlights the areas in which students are struggling with reading and math.

The 4-Sights are possibly the best-known example of formative assessment, a type of assessment used to determine student strengths and weaknesses so educators can design instruction that targets needed areas of growth and enrichment. This may take the form of ungraded tests, quizzes, pre-tests, reviews, exit activities, or homework strategies.

The use of formative assessment is like the use of scrimmages in sports. Although the final score of the scrimmage match won't hurt the team in the regular season, the coach and players learn information to guide future practices and games. Likewise, formative assessment will indicate how to alter our instruction to meet the needs of our students. When the time comes, students will have the skills they need to succeed.

### *Watt's Up by Connie Kelley, CASD Energy Manager*



October is Energy Awareness Month! [Click here](#) to read Connie's Watt's Up for October, which includes our top three electric savers in the district (large and small buildings), best practices for energy conservation in your office or workplace, and information on how to save electricity at home.

### *Scenes from Homecoming Variety Show and Powder Puff Game*



View the complete [Homecoming variety show and powder puff football game photo gallery](#).



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## Web Wisdom: Website Report Cards



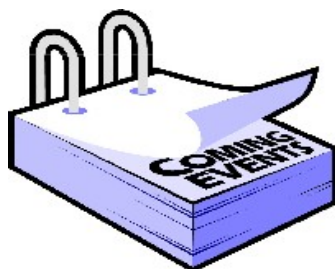
The CASD website receives hundreds of thousands of visits every month and has become the major source of school information for parents, students, and community members thanks to the hundreds of people who maintain web pages across the district. (See [the top 100 visited CASD web pages.](#))

Take a look at the reports from our schools below to see what people are reading and how much web traffic is being generated. Each building's web team leader is listed in parentheses.

[CASHS](#) (Gloria Weagly)  
[Faust](#) (Cyndi Nape)  
[CAMS](#) (Joanne Hammond)  
[Andrew Buchanan](#) (Linda Timmons)  
[Ben Chambers](#) (Ellen Henry)  
[Coldbrook](#) (Wendy Rines)  
[Falling Spring](#) (Roni Gingrich)  
[Fayetteville](#) (Julie Brown)  
[Grandview](#) (Kay Reed)  
[Guilford Hills](#) (Kim Anderson)  
[Hamilton Heights](#) (Janie Nuley)  
[Lurgan](#) (Kathy McCleary)  
[Marion](#) (Robin Wilson)  
[New Franklin](#) (Elizabeth Meighan)  
[Scotland](#) (Shannon Raines)  
[South Hamilton](#) (Cheryl Day)  
[Stevens](#) (Laurie Porter)

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## District Calendar Review



Franklin County College and Career Night: 10/27  
 School board meeting: 10/28  
 SATs at Faust: 11/7  
 Parent advisory council meeting: 11/9

[Complete district calendar](#)



For information about school board business, including meeting agendas and documents, visit [BoardDocs](#) under the school board link on the district website.

*Do you have news to share about a student achievement or upcoming school event? If so, visit [www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/sharethenews](http://www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/sharethenews) and use the form provided to submit the information. It's that easy!*

*Questions or comments about the CASD eNewsletter? E-mail [casdnews@chambersburg.k12.pa.us](mailto:casdnews@chambersburg.k12.pa.us).*

*Recent issues of eCASD News are available at [www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/communications](http://www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us/communications).*



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Women's Center  
757 Norland Ave., Suite 103  
(717) 217-6750

**Shippensburg**  
Shippensburg Health  
Services  
46 Walnut Bottom Rd  
(717) 530-5333

**Greencastle**  
Greencastle Health  
Services  
50 Eastern Ave., Suite 145  
(717) 597-5537

**Waynesboro**  
Waynesboro Health  
Center  
12525 North Welty Rd  
(717) 765-3435

**Waynesboro**  
Waynesboro Hospital  
501 East Main St  
(717) 765-3404



[www.SummitHealth.org](http://www.SummitHealth.org)



Chambersburg Area School District  
435 Stanley Avenue  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
[www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us](http://www.chambersburg.k12.pa.us)  
(717) 263-9281

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