



A Newsletter for the Parents of Silver Lake Regional High School Students

# THE LAKER BEACON

www.slrsd.org

December 2009/January 2010

I hope that you all had a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with your families and you are looking forward to the holidays ahead. The holidays are a time of celebration with family and friends. It is also a time of year when we celebrate student accomplishments. Seventeen of our students earned the distinction of Advanced Placement Scholar. This award is based on student achievement in AP classes and the AP exams. Seniors **Emily Finney** and **Sara Duval** were recently named Commended Scholars for their performance on the PSAT taken in October of 2008. Junior **Brett Roche** is a finalist in the statewide Sportsmanship Essay contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association. On November 17, one hundred twenty-eight students were recognized at the Scholar Athlete Awards Ceremony for their achievements in the classroom and on the athletic fields. Four hundred seventeen students were treated to breakfast for their scholastic achievements on December 4. This quarterly event is sponsored by the Silver Lake Regional High School chapter of the National Honor Society.

This January, at the end of second term, all students will be taking mid-year exams. Exams will be administered over a four day period. The first day of exams will be a full day of school and the last three days will be dedicated solely to the exams. Busses will pick up students at the usual time on these days, but dismissal will be at 10:40 AM during the exams. The exams count as ten percent of the final grade. In an effort to help you better track student achievement, a semester (mid-year) grade is posted on Term 2 report cards. The complete mid-year exam schedule is located in this newsletter.

Please check our school website, the sign in the front of the building, newsletters, and phone calls to stay abreast of your child's education. As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call, write, or email us here at school. I wish you all a happy, safe and healthy holiday season.

## Planning for Graduation

The planning process has begun for the Commencement Exercises (graduation) for the class of 2010. Graduation Day

is June 5, 2010 at 11:00 AM on Anthony F. Sirrico Field. A committee comprised of students, teachers, parents, administrators, and the principal's secretary, Mrs. Lewis, is currently being formed to plan the graduation ceremony. If you are interested in serving on this important *ad hoc* committee, please contact me via email, [rkelley@slrsd.org](mailto:rkelley@slrsd.org), at your earliest convenience. Our first meeting will be January 8, 2010 at 7:45 AM.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Kelley  
Principal



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## Art Department

### ART ALL-STATE NOMINATIONS

Two of our junior art students will be nominated in December for the ART ALL-STATE program. Mrs. Napolitano will select two deserving students according to the quality of their art work, ability to work within a group and creativity. Students who are nominated must submit art work, letters of recommendation and a student statement. In March they will go through an interview process. Students accepted to ART ALL-STATE will find out in May. The ART ALL-STATE program is designed to further the students' experience in art. Selected students will work together with their peers and professional artists to create artwork during the workshop. The workshop sessions encourage discussions about creating work in a variety of media, evaluating art, and possible careers in the arts. Silver Lake art students have participated in the ART ALL-STATE program for many years.

### Scholastic Art Awards

In January, our art students will have the opportunity to participate in the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards. Mrs. Napolitano and Mrs. Close will select and submit exceptional work created by their students. Winning work will be on display at the State Transportation building in Boston's Theater District in January and February 2010. Art students will view the exhibit during a field trip in February.

### Still Life Paintings

Art I students spent the second half of quarter 1 creating a series of seven 6"x6" still life paintings, examples of which are seen on the calendar page. Students studied color mixing, value, form, texture, and techniques used to create the illusion of depth in an image. Having completed these paintings many students are choosing to submit their works to a regional art show in Norwich, CT, held at the NAC Gallery [www.norwicharts.org](http://www.norwicharts.org).

The show features 6"x6" artworks from amateur and professional artists throughout the area. Works will be on display and available for sale during the month of December. Works seen in the December calendar section of this newsletter were created by **Abby Carroll, Andrew DeWolf, Jeremy Duval, Samantha Dyar, Mia Frattasio, Jesse Napolitano, Alisha Record, and Kim Whitney.**

## Multi-Sport Boosters at Silver Lake

Multi-Sport Boosters (MSB) has been formed as a means to support the costs of the athletic teams that are no longer funded at SLRHS this 2009/2010 school year. We are dedicated to financially supporting these sports at the high school through the means of fundraising/donations. MSB's primary mission is to ensure the continuation of and to maintain the positive athletic development experience our youths now enjoy.

At present we represent the following sports: Boys & Girls Lacrosse, Wrestling, Swimming, and Gymnastics. Current records indicate that 140+ of our student body participate in one or more of these sports. We encourage and invite all members of our Silver Lake Regional School District to be part of this mission and help support our school and students achieve their goals.

MSB meets monthly at the school and all information and goings on can be easily accessed by visiting our link on the high school web site, [www.slrhsd.org/slrhs](http://www.slrhsd.org/slrhs). Click on the "Information" tab and then the MSB link. Any and all support is greatly appreciated.

## Guidance Department

### Senior Reminders

Please remember the following dates:

December 15th, 2009: Deadline for registering for January 23rd SAT (Hosted at Silver Lake).

Please continue to check in guidance for scholarship information. Although local scholarship information is not received until early March, there are a number of national and regional scholarships coming in weekly. Seniors are encouraged to check often!

### PSAT Information

PSAT results are in! Each student who took the PSAT in October will receive a detailed score report as well as their test booklet to review their exam. Counselors will distribute results with students and parents via appointments and go over how to interpret the data. Be sure to contact your counselor to make an appointment.

## SAT Preparation

Kaplan Test Prep will again be offering a SAT test preparation course here at Silver Lake. Parents of juniors should be receiving a direct mailing from Kaplan on the details. The classes will be held on Thursday nights and select Saturdays from February 6th to April 15th. For further information contact Kaplan at 1-800-KAP-TEST or their website: [www.kaptest.com/college](http://www.kaptest.com/college).

Kaplan will also be offering a **FREE** Practice SAT on January 9th here at Silver Lake from 8:00 AM to approximately 12:45 PM for 11th grade students. Be sure to sign up for this all important exam in guidance. Test Results will be distributed on Tuesday February 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Large Group Room with a small presentation on how to interpret and improve scores. For additional information, please contact your student's counselor. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to get ready for the real thing this spring!

## HOBY Ambassadors

Sophomores **William Tringali** and **Taylor Grifa** have been selected to represent Silver Lake at the 2010 Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar to be held May 28-30, 2010 at Bentley University in Waltham. The HOBY award is a unique and highly interactive weekend program. The purpose is to introduce high school sophomores to distinguished leaders of the community from various sectors, such as business, technology, education, government, arts, science, media, and non-profit. Through intense but informal panel discussions, HOBY participants get a realistic look at their nation, its people, and their own role in the world community. Our ambassadors will enhance their leadership skills and discover that they are not alone in their desire to lead and to make their schools and communities a better place.

## AP Scholars

Seventeen students at Silver Lake Regional High School have earned AP Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the nearly 1.7 million students worldwide who

took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams. Six students qualified for the AP Scholars with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are: **Ryan Brenner, Jacob Fahey, Emily Finney, Zarah Sikora, Alexander Turcotte and Caroline Ward.**

Five students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are: **Douglas Dromey, Michael Moura, Robert Moura, Jacqueline Neves and Sarah Rogers.**

Seventeen students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are: **Christine Aghjayan, Justin Barbas, Christopher Bernabeo, Alec Casavant, Lauren Coneeny, Taylor DeOgburn, Brittany Hall, Alexander Hamlet, Victor Hult, Brianna Johnson, Briana Kelly, Nolan Lantieri, Thomas Nova, Ashley Odell, Timothy Parker, Nicholas Teceno and Christina Worton.**

## Key Club

Greetings from the Silver Lake Key Club! This month, we will have our Holiday Gift Drive. We will collect monetary donations to buy clothes and gifts for three teenagers in need. Please encourage your classes and your teachers to participate! As we have done in the past, we are still collecting snap tops and dresses, which you can drop off in 2310. In November, Key Club and National Honor Society joined to have their yearly food drive. We donated to three local shelters this year and filled all three with many boxes! Thank you so much for making this another successful year! Our meetings are held every Thursday right after school in the Large Group Room, so come and join us! New members are always welcomed!

## Sociology Department

### Sociology's 2nd Annual Cultural Awareness Day

On October 27, the Sociology classes of Ms. Schweer held the 2nd annual Cultural Awareness Day. Students had a chance to interact with a very interesting panel of speakers representing different parts of the world, and even a different

region of the United States, in one case. This year, our panel included: **Diletta Riccitelli** who is an exchange student from Italy, Andy Shefflin of Weymouth who discussed his visits to Ecuador, **Bhishma Patel** who was born in India, **Aya Soufan** who is from Lebanon, Mrs. Gill who grew up in the Netherlands, Italy, and Belgium, **Silke Kistner** who is from Germany, **Alyssa Thongpaitoon** who is from Thailand, **Fjoreta Ruseni** who was born in Albania, and **Emily Brown** who lived in Nevada until last year when she moved to the Silver Lake area. The panel discussed cultural differences they experienced when they first moved here, or when they went to another country for the first time. Cultural differences in language, religion, traditions, food, teenage life, education, and the treatment of women were noted. The class came away with a better understanding of the vast differences between cultures and that the “American way” is not the only way of doing things.

## National Honor Society

The National Honor Society Induction was a success, with special thanks to Mr. Blette for being our guest speaker. The new 55 members were inducted and have already attended their first meeting, they learned of their responsibilities and upcoming service projects, such as the food drive, Polar Plunge, Cystic Fibrosis Walk, and more.

The NHS teamed up with the Key Club to make the food drive from November 16-20th a huge success. Both clubs helped to organize and collect food. It was an important service project to help out people in need at this time of the year. As December and January near, the NHS will be planning some fundraising opportunities for scholarships for graduating seniors.



*Fuselage prototype for a ¼ scale aircraft being built by the engineering students.*

The extra curricular aviation project “Supervolo” is being engineered and built by pre-engineering students in the

engineering lab. Recently many members of the community joined us during the “Community Showcase” event. Some of the engineering students were working on designing, drawing, and laser cutting parts for this ¼ scale aircraft. They fielded questions about the process and ran demonstrations for the visitors. Students from all three engineering courses (Drafting 1, Principles of Engineering, and Civil Engineering & Architecture) as well as students from Mr. Scott’s night school CAD class are involved.

## Library News

### Beyond Print

Be sure to check out the digital media collection available through the public libraries. With a valid library card and a quick tutorial, you can download digital books to your MP3 player or iPod. Visit <http://www.slrds.org/slrhs/library> to find a link to your local public library.

Our school library offers students books in a variety of formats including several choices of audio books. Many of the audio books in our collection were donated by the family of Jesse Cooper. The audio book formats we have include cassettes, CDs, and the new format of playaway. Playaways are special players that are preloaded with the book. There is no lengthy downloading nor the need to have a cassette or CD player. Each unit is compact in size, non-erasable, and made of sturdy material. Visit the school library to see the titles we have available in our audio book collection. Here is a sampling of some of the titles in our collection.

### Cassette Format:

*The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*Faultline* by Janet Tashjian

*Revenge of the Whale* by Nathaniel Philbrick

### CD Format:

*Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman

*Founding Fathers* by Joseph J. Ellis

*In the Heart of the Sea* by Nathaniel Philbrick

*Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick

### Playaway Format:

*Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown

*Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo

*Walden* by Henry David Thoreau

## **Career & Technical Education**

### **Exploratory Program**

As the first semester of school comes to an end in January, first year CTE students in the Exploratory Program will be narrowing down their interests to be placed in a program major. In addition to building a cedar shingled shed in carpentry or learning their way around an industrial kitchen in Culinary Arts, students will be utilizing Career Cruising, a computer software based program that assists students in career exploration. Initially students will complete a career interest survey, which provides individual specific feedback on jobs and careers that match a student's interests, likes, and skills. During the second semester, students will begin working in Career Cruising on an individual career plan that will be reviewed annually with Ms. Weeks.

### **Senior Co-Op**

The Cooperative Education Program (Co-Op) offers senior students the opportunity to broaden their educational experience with a genuine work site placement during school hours. Students who meet the requirements for Co-Op are able to leave school during shop in to work in the field while also getting paid. This allows students to gain additional skills that can only be developed with on-the-job training as well help them to develop a strong work ethic. Questions can be directed to Ms. Weeks (x1026)

## **Career & Technical Education**

### **OPEN HOUSE**

**Tuesday, February 9th**

**7:00pm**

The CTE Department is excited to host its annual Open House for prospective students and parents. All 8th grade families from Kingston, Halifax, Plympton, and surrounding communities are encouraged to attend. The evening will begin with a short presentation at 7:00 PM in the Large Group Room, followed by an open house in the CTE wing of the building. Questions about the program or the application process can be answered that evening or by calling the CTE office at 781-585-3844 ext.2005.

**Students and parents should carefully read this schedule.**

1. Between January 26 and January 29, 2010, **final examinations** will be administered to students in all **semester long classes** and **mid-year exams** in all **year long classes**.

Tuesday - January 26                      Period 6 (full day of school)

Wednesday - January 27                  Periods 1 & 2

Thursday - January 28                    Periods 3 & 4

Friday - January 29                        Periods 5 & 7

2. **Student attendance** is mandatory for all review periods, and examination periods.
3. Students must remain in their examination room for the entire period.
4. **Final examination grades for semester classes are worth 20% of the total average. Mid-Year grades are worth 10% of the total average.**
5. **Students absent** from a regularly scheduled exam must obtain proper authorization from their housemaster before they will be allowed to make it up.
6. **Students late** to an examination must obtain a tardy slip from the attendance office prior to entering their class. Students who are tardy will not be allowed additional time to complete the exam or activity. If students are **more than ten minutes late**, they must see their housemaster to reschedule the make-up of the exam.
7. In the event of **school cancellation**, all exams will be held according to schedule but moved ahead one day.

EXAMPLE: No school on Tuesday, Tuesday's exams will be held on Wednesday, Wednesday's exams will be held Thursday, etc.

8. Mid-Year and final exams must be administered during the scheduled exam time.

**Existing Freshman English and Algebra I Final Exam Schedules will remain in effect.**

## Mid-Year/Final Examination Schedule Semester I

Assumes No Snow Days

<b><u>Monday, January 25, 2010</u></b>	Full Day – Review - (Day 4)
<b><u>Tuesday, January 26, 2010</u></b>	(Full Day – Day 5)
7:30 - 8:20	Period 3
8:24 – 9:13	Period 1
9:17 – 10:07	Period 2
10:11 – 11:00	Period 4
11:00 – 12:28	Period 7
12:30 – 1:58	Period 6 exam
<b><u>Wednesday, January 27, 2010</u></b>	(Exams 7:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.)
7:30 - 9:00	Period 1 exam
9:10 - 10:40	Period 2 exam
10:40	Dismissal to buses
10:45 - 12:15	Make up period
12:28 - 1:58	Make up period
1:58	No buses provided for this dismissal
<b><u>Thursday, January 28, 2010</u></b>	(Exams 7:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.)
7:30 - 9:00	Period 3 exam
9:10 - 10:40	Period 4 exam
10:40	Dismissal to buses
10:45 - 12:15	Make up period
12:28 - 1:58	Make up period
1:58	No buses provided for this dismissal
<b><u>Friday, January 29, 2010</u></b>	(Exams 7:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.)
7:30 - 9:00	Period 5 exam
9:10 - 10:40	Period 7 exam
10:40	Dismissal to buses
10:45 - 12:15	Make up period
12:28 - 1:58	Make up period
1:58	No buses provided for this dismissal



# December 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
 Abbey Carroll		1	2 Faculty Meeting	3	4 Honors Breakfast	5 SATs (not at Silver Lake)
6  Alisha Record	7 PTO Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9 Financial Aid Night 6:30 PM	10 School Committee 7:00 PM SLRHS	11 Academic Progress Reports	12 Hanukkah
13  Andrew DeWolf	14	15	16	17	18 Winter Concert 7:00 PM	19
20  Jeremy Duval	21 Winter Solstice  School Council Meeting 4:00 PM	22	23	24  Holiday Vacation (Dec 24-Jan 1)	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa
27  Jesse Napolitano	28	29	30	31  Kim Whitney	 Samantha Dyar	 Mia Frattasio

Winter

# January 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 PTO Meeting 7:00 PM  Classes Resume	5	6  Faculty Meeting	7	8  Graduation Planning Committee 7:45 AM	9
10	11 School Council Meeting 7:00 PM	12	13	14 School Committee SLRMS 7:00 PM	15 Silver Lake 's Got Talent 7:00 PM	16
17	18  Martin Luther King Day No School	19 Teacher Development Day No school for students	20	21	22	23 SATs at Silver Lake
24	25	26 Mid Year Exams	27 Mid Year Exams	28 Mid Year Exams	29 Term 2 Ends Mid Year Exams	30

## NUMBERS TO REMEMBER



Department	Fax Number	Phone Number	Extension
<b>Silver Lake Regional High School</b>	781-585-6544	781-585-3844	
Principal Richard Kelley			1005
Mr. Mulcahy, Housemaster			1007
Mrs. Lewis, Principal's Secretary			1002
<b>Career &amp; Technical Education</b>	781-585-2835		
Mr. Glass, CTE Director			2402
Mrs. Hayhurst, Secretary			2005
<b>Department Chairs</b>			
Mrs. Afanasiw: English			2412
Mr. Sawyer: Math			2413
Mr. Blette: Social Studies			2411
Ms. DePasqua: Fine and Practical Arts			2440
Mrs. Hines: Foreign Language			2419
Mrs. Poole: Science			2414
<b>Athletic Office</b>	781-585-2614		
Mr. Johnson, Athletic Director			1500
Mrs. Armstrong, Secretary			1501
<b>Guidance Office</b>	781-585-6587		
Mr. Garofalo (All Grades A-B)			1023
Mr. Perrone (All Grades C-Gri)			1027
Mrs. Cranshaw (All Grades Gu-Ni)			1025
Ms. Kaczynski (All Grades No-Z)			1029
Ms. Weeks, CTE Students			1026
Mrs. Richards, Adjustment Counselor			1024
Mr. Daly, School Psychologist			2427
Mrs. Messier, Secretary			1022
<b>Nurse</b>			1013
<b>Attendance Office</b>	781-585-6544		1001/1055
<b>Bus Company</b>		781-293-5182	