



## **Academy Prep Center of Tampa Family Newsletter**

August 18, 2006, Page 1

# From A.P. Teachers:

Parents, please continue to keep up with your student's progress! Ensure homework is completed and that he or she understands what is going on in class. It is also highly beneficial to remain in regular contact with teachers. Student planners are a great tool for you to use. Your efforts, in combination with those of our highly skilled staff, will guarantee success!



# Family Volunteers



Academy Prep needs your help! If you are available to help for 30 minutes during **breakfast**, an hour for **lunch**, and/or for **study hall** beginning in September, please contact Miss MacKinnon at x129. Sign-Up sheets are also available in the front office. The contributions made by our families are invaluable to both the Academy Prep staff and students!

# New Activities This Year...

We are proud and excited to announce that our new extracurricular activities are off to a great start! Students were given the opportunity to pick their Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday activities. Students chose from **Band, Intramurals, Karate, Step, Chorus, Photojournalism, Art Intensive, Volleyball, Dance, Chess, Team Cobra** and **Spanish Club**. On Tuesdays students will remain with their classes while they enjoy activities provided by our community partners. Tuesday activities include **Focus on Success sponsored by Poe Financial, Merrill Lynch, Bush/Ross Attorneys and Smith Barney; Social Skills with the Junior League of Tampa; and Video Production with TECO Gallery of Children's Art**. Our teachers are working hard to ensure this year will be full of fun. Parents and family members can look forward to a variety of performances this year!





## Academy Prep Center of Tampa Family Newsletter

August 18, 2006, Page 2

# Mentoring Matters

Our mentoring initiative, started from our business collaboration with J C Newman Cigar Co., has resulted in extremely positive feedback from both our students and their mentors. These volunteers assist our students with study skills, problem solving, life skills, and help in academic subject areas. *And* mentors have shared that they feel they have gotten much reward and enjoyment from the students.



7th grader, Randall Raines, and Eric Newman during one of the preliminary meetings.

Mentoring at Academy Prep will start during the second semester of 7th grade and continue through 8th grade. The work will focus on getting ready for high school, critical life skills, and academic support. In order to match our remaining 8th graders, Academy Prep has invited all of our current mentors, and members of the Tampa Bay business community who have expressed an interest in mentoring, to a lunch on campus with our eighth graders next Thursday, August 24th.

One-on-one mentoring meetings with Academy Prep students occur only during the school day and on campus. Occasionally, we will have group activities for mentors and students that may occur off campus. We will keep you informed on the progress of our mentoring. For questions call Chris Humboldt, who coordinates the mentoring initiative, at 813.248.5600 ext 138.



## Higher Ground

**The 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will participate in numerous character shaping activities this year. Many of these activities will take place on Wednesday afternoon during Higher Ground, a class that will combine volunteerism, high school prep, and the exploration of many social issues! This class is special for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders because it requires them to apply the skills they have learned.**



# Academy Prep Center of Tampa Family Newsletter

August 18, 2006, Page 3



## Baseball Clinic

During all PE classes next week, students will participate in a mini baseball/softball clinic. Our PE instructors will concentrate on fundamental elements and form. Students are encouraged to bring their own gloves. Play ball!

## Dress Code

Please ensure that your student complies with the Academy Prep dress code. Students seem to be having the biggest issues with **BELTS** and appropriate length **SOCKS**. Belts must be worn with any bottoms that have loops. Socks should be white and visible at least 3 inches above the ankle.

### Acceptable



### Unacceptable



## Pool Trips

8<sup>th</sup> grade boys, 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys will be going to Cuscaden pool every Tuesday afternoon. On Friday afternoons, members of our newly formed band will go to Cuscaden pool. All students who are going to the pool must have a signed release submitted to the office prior to swimming. Students who are scheduled for the pool should bring a plastic bag (grocery bags are fine) with bathing suit and towel to school on the corresponding day. Any students who are not prepared will have to sit out for the day.

### Important Dates & Activities

August 24	Thursday Faculty Meeting (Volunteer Opportunities!!)
September 4	Labor Day – No School
September 8	Student Progress Reports
September 9	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip (Mandatory) (Volunteer Opportunities!!)
September 11	Student/Parent/Teacher conferences, 2:30 – 5:30 pm
September 12	Study Hall Begins (Volunteer Opportunities!!)