



Dear Parents and Students,

If you are traveling by SHG, you can probably feel the energy and spirit of Homecoming Week all the way out to the street. Student participation in the daily dress themes has been fun, entertaining, and enthusiastic. Hopefully, everyone remembered to buy a ticket for the dance on Saturday! Part of the week’s celebration includes a pep rally at West Campus on September 30. We are all eager for a “home coming” to our facilities at West. Progress is visible each day but it is not ready yet (but the pep rally will be there)! Please continue to pray for the building project and the success of the campaign. The prayer service on Monday 9/26 offered inspiration on a variety of levels: personal reflection on what “paradise” means to me; the witness of faith given by the student preachers; the quiet, prayerful reverence of the students; and the content offered in songs, slides, and proclamations. All combined, Homecoming is a GREAT TRADITION.

ACT scores for the Class of 2011 are attached below. It is a five year history. To interpret the chart, note the school scores (Sacred Heart-Griffin) side by side with the State scores. Our SHG students did well. The composite of 24.6 is tremendous. It is a verification of the academic excellence which we claim in our mission.

Table 1: Five Year Trends - Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Total Tested		English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State
2007	165	140,483	24.7	20.2	24.4	20.4	25.2	20.5	24.0	20.4	24.7	20.5
2008	199	143,734	24.8	20.4	23.7	20.7	24.4	20.6	23.0	20.5	24.1	20.7
2009	205	143,791	24.2	20.5	23.8	20.7	24.8	20.8	23.8	20.7	24.3	20.8
2010	201	145,520	24.3	20.3	23.2	20.7	24.7	20.8	23.5	20.5	24.1	20.7
2011	184	144,469	25.3	20.6	23.9	20.9	24.8	20.8	23.9	20.7	24.6	20.9

Parent involvement is another one of our claims of excellence. You are a significant factor in SHG’s success. You are invited to Parent-Teacher conferences on October 27 and 28. You must sign up in advance. See the details later in the newsletter. Drop-in conferences DO NOT work in our system.

Many people ask about our enrollment. We have:

200 Freshmen 218 Sophomores 162 Juniors 193 Seniors **Total: 773**

404 males / 369 females 90% Catholic / 10% Other Faith Traditions

October is filled with events that support our academic program and our faith community. Continue to read this newsletter and daily announcements for details about the Mother Daughter Mass and Brunch, SHG Works, P-T Conferences, Red Ribbon Week, Test Day, AdvancED Quality Review (Oct. 18), College Fair for juniors and seniors, Mega-Raffle, and RenWeb for Quarter 1 grades after Oct. 18.

October is Respect Life month. It is also the month of the Rosary (a strong Dominican tradition) and praying for peace, and the month when nature transforms from green to the splendid autumn array of colors. God is everywhere... and most importantly, in each one of us.

Wishing you blessings...

Sister Margaret Joanne



Academic Excellence in a Community of Faith

October, 2011

Around the School ...

We Are Proud of You!

Congratulations to the following seniors who were selected to the 2011 Homecoming Court: Brigid Cavanagh, Meredith Favero, Jennifer Fliege, Camille Garcia, Kassidy Gietl, Sadie Hamilton, Lauren Lanzotti, Hannah Perrin, Leslie Staten, Elizabeth Stauffer, Neal Aherin, Donovan Davis, Billy Fleischli, Kyle Hartwig, Matt Janes, Carter Pranger, Joel Rogers, Alex Sepanski, Pat Smith, and Peter Staab.

Congratulations to the following students on their selection as the 2011-2012 Student Ambassadors: **Freshmen** - Haley Bentel, Erin Faloon, Nic Farris, Miranda Koehler, Meghan Kramp, Marissa Miller, Sophia Mounce, Cody Prosperini, Madeline Reavy, Sam Rogers, Emily Sestak, Trevor Turley, and Alex Yarnik; **Sophomores** - Lia Barkmeier, Nick DiNello, Connor Etheridge, Allyson Ihlenfeldt, Mitch Kerr, Ted Luker, Sarah Miller, Matt O'Shea, Steve Sartore, and Tim Zock; **Juniors** - Jenna Erikson, Tori Faulkner, Aly Gossard, Brittany Hays, Matt Mannion, Meredith McClain, Gabrielle McDermott, McKenzie Moredock, Anna Rushing, and Caitlin Tatarek; and **Seniors** - Brigid Cavanagh, Kevin Cavanagh, Victoria Farris, Billy Fleischli, Megan Haley, Abigale Millburg, Stephanie Minder, Mary Schrenk, and Maitlan Sullivan.

2011 Student Officers

Congratulations to the following 2011 Student Council and Class Officers: **STUDENT COUNCIL** - Billy Fleischli, President; Brigid Cavanagh, Vice President; Patrick Smith, Vice-President; and George Sames, Secretary; **SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS** - Meredith Favero, President; with Luke Ackerman, Connor Bland, Sadie Hamilton, Lauren Lanzotti, Josh Megginson, and Hannah Perrin; **JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS** - Ryan Fleischli, President; with Paige Brinker, Lauren Frank, Olivia Gobble, Sam Mounce, Anthony Nestler, and Caitlin Tatarek; **SOPHOMORE CLASS OFFICERS** - Dominic Aiello, President; with Hannah Bitzer, Connor Etheridge, Audrey Lanzotti, Sarah Miller, and Chris Overton; and **FRESHMEN CLASS OFFICERS** - Ben Sestak, President; with Ian Davis, Ben Eck, Megan Fassero, Dani Healy, Tim Oh, and Ryleigh Taylor.

****Medical Alert****

If your student has a medical condition that might require first aid or emergency treatment, please make this information known in writing and turn it in to the main office attention Principal. Health records are checked, but sometimes all the information is not on the form. If a student must take medication during the school day, a parent must sign a medication release form. These forms are available in the main office. Medications must be left in the office and must have identification.

Service

Opportunities for service are listed on the Sacred Heart-Griffin website and the Service Bulletin Board. There is a list of agencies that are in need of ongoing help throughout the year and a calendar of those events coming up in the near future. Please consult these areas on a regular basis. Many people in the community rely on us. Students and parents are reminded that twenty hours of service are **required each year** from every SHG student.

Birth Certificates

Thank you to all the parents who have submitted birth certificates for their students at SHG. E-mail reminders were sent to those who have not yet provided a birth certificate. Birth certificates must be received no later than **Tuesday, October 4**. After that date, students will receive a detention daily as a reminder to bring their birth certificate. We will copy it and return it immediately. This is an Illinois State Board of Education requirement we must comply with so please send it in as soon as possible.

Mega-Raffle Sellers

Please turn in you SOLD tickets to the Advancement Office as you get them sold. The Early Bird Drawing is **Friday, October 7 at 7:30 a.m.** on Sports Radio 1450 WFMB/AM. The week of the Early Bird is going to be very busy with processing tickets so we would like to process as many as we can ahead of time.

Capital Area Education Fair

The annual Capital Area Education Fair is to be held on **Wednesday, October 5** at the Orr Building on the Illinois State Fairgrounds. This is the time when students can speak with college representatives from throughout the country. The designated time for Sacred Heart-Griffin juniors and seniors will be from **12:30-2:00 p.m.** Juniors and seniors will be dismissed at the end of fourth hour (**12:18 p.m.**). ATTENDANCE AND "REPORT-IN" ARE MANDATORY!

School-Wide Testing Day

All Sacred Heart-Griffin students will participate in our yearly school-wide testing program designed to assess achievement levels and career interests. These tests will be held the morning of **Wednesday, October 12.** Testing will begin promptly at **8:00 a.m.** with dismissal at **11:00 a.m.** Attendance will be taken and students **MUST** be in dress code. The following tests will be given:

Freshmen	STS
Sophomores	PLAN
Juniors	PSAT
Seniors	Workshops on College and Career planning

Mother/Daughter Mass and Brunch

The Sacred Heart-Griffin Annual Mother/Daughter Mass and Brunch is scheduled for **Sunday, October 23.** Mass will be celebrated at **11:00 a.m.** in the Motherhouse Chapel followed by a luncheon in the school Commons catered by Island Bay Yacht Club. Cost for the brunch is \$15.00 per person. Invitations will be e-mailed to the home of all SHG girls. Please RSVP to 787-1595.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for **Thursday, October 27** and **Friday, October 28.** Teachers schedule conferences with parents/guardians through the included form and with the help of your student(s). IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO TAKE THE FORM TO THE TEACHER OR TEACHERS YOU WISH TO SPEAK WITH. The teacher will schedule a time in the session of your indicated preference. Time requests will be honored on the basis of first required, first scheduled. Forms are also available in the main office. Parents may check their student's grades through RenWeb. E-mail RENWEBQUESTIONS@SHG.ORG for questions you may have.

Sacred Heart-Griffin Blood Drive

Each school year, Sacred Heart-Griffin participates in the High School Blood Drive Challenge. The area high school who donates the most blood throughout the school year receives a \$1000 scholarship for a senior student. Family and friends of SHG are invited to come donate at our school's blood drives on **November 21, February 28, and April 24.** If you cannot come to the school on those dates, please mention when donating at the Central Illinois Community Blood Bank that you are donating for SHG's High School Blood Drive Challenge. This will count toward our high school challenge.

Science Olympiad Needs You!

The Sacred Heart-Griffin Science Olympiad teams are forming and are in need of experts in some of the areas of competition. Science Olympiad is a competition that includes 23 different events. Some of the events require building and testing devices while others require preparation for testing in various areas of physics, chemistry, biology, and earth science. If you have background/interest in any of the following areas, your help in preparing

our students would be greatly appreciated. Help is especially needed in the areas of engineering, building musical instruments, rocks and minerals, forensics, water quality, bacteria, forestry, disease transmission, respiratory, excretory and digestive systems, and building rubber band powered airplanes/helicopters.

If you would like to become involved with this great opportunity for students to explore science outside the classroom walls, please contact Mrs. Donna Brayfield at brayfield@shg.org or call the school at 217-787-1595 and leave contact information. To learn more about Science Olympiad, go to the national website at www.soinc.org.

Colored Glass Collection

It is here again ... a colored glass collection by the City of Springfield. All colors of glass – clear, brown, green, and blue will be accepted. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 8** and bring your colored glass to the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Parking Lot 21 (Gate 11 at 8th and Sangamon). Collection is open to all area residents, not just city residents.

Dance Shoes Needed!

The Sacred Heart-Griffin music department is in need of dance shoes. If you have used “Character Shoes” and would like to donate them to the music department, please drop them off at the main office.

Spain, France and Italy

July 16-27, 2012

Join SHG students and faculty on a trip to Spain, France and Italy in July of 2012! Trip includes airfare, breakfast, dinner, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, guided tours, admission to sites, and full-time courier. Contact Mrs. Rebecca Budde at budde@shg.org for more information or log on to the trip website at <http://www.eftours.com/preview-tour.aspx?pt=BU-1075221>.

Thank You!

Sacred Heart-Griffin has received \$4,075 from the Harvest of Thanks, Springtime of Hope Endowment for tuition assistance. Many of you contributed to this endowment through the diocese. Thank you for helping students throughout the diocese.

OCTOBER PARENT NEWSLETTER
GUIDANCE OFFICE
COLLEGE PLANNING UPDATE

The Guidance Office staff visited all the senior English classes the first week of September to discuss the college application process. They were re-introduced to Family Connection by Naviance, a web-based system designed especially for students and parents.

Seniors were also given an unofficial copy of his/her transcript. Students were encouraged to begin personal statements and resumes that are included with many college applications. Students should allow at least two weeks notice when requesting a letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor. A copy of the student's resume is a helpful aid for teachers and counselors in writing letters of recommendation.

Students have begun applying to colleges. We process all transcript requests within a few days of receipt in our office. Please allow at least two weeks for the receipt and processing of that transcript at the college/university. Many of these colleges receive thousands of applications and get backlogged as we get closer to application deadlines. The status of your application can often be checked online or a letter/postcard is sent verifying that all materials have been received. Feel free to call the admissions office of the university to verify receipt of all the application materials.

The Guidance Office staff has recently attended meetings regarding information on the state universities in Illinois. The priority filing deadline for the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign is November 1. Illinois State and Northern Illinois University have a postmarked date of November 15. What is a priority filing date? First consideration is given to applications received by the priority filing date. If space allows, applications received after the priority filing date will be considered. We highly encourage students to complete his/her application by the priority filing date. In order to ensure ample processing time, we recommend that requests for transcripts and completion of secondary school reports be received in the Guidance Department two weeks prior to the priority filing deadlines.

Many of the regional colleges will be sending representatives this fall to talk with the students. Please check scheduled visits in Family Connection for a complete listing. In addition, juniors and seniors will attend the Capital Education Fair on October 5. Over 100 colleges/universities will send a representative to this fair. Parents may attend. The National Association for College Admission Counseling also sponsors fairs throughout the country. St. Louis University will host a national college fair on Sunday, October 16 from 12-3 p.m. On Monday, October 10 a college fair will be held at Navy Pier in Chicago. For those students interested in pursuing an education and career in the visual and related arts, Roosevelt University in Chicago will host a college fair on October 5. We will post a listing of participating universities in the Guidance Office closer to the date.

One of the best ways to get a feel for a college is to visit. Many colleges/universities offer "College Visit Days". These often require registration. Check the website of the college for dates and times. The SHG policy regarding missing school for a college day is listed on page 9 of the handbook.

It is never too early to start looking into scholarships to help fund your student's college education. Please check the SHG website for local and national scholarship information as well as using the Naviance Scholarship tool sponsored by Sallie Mae.

Thank you to the parents and students who attended our College Planning Information Meeting on September 14. We hope it helps you to navigate through the process a little more smoothly. We encourage students and parents to use our College Counseling Center. Please call Mrs. Heckman to schedule an appointment to work on Naviance or discuss your student's college/university decision. As always, please contact us if you need additional assistance.

SHG PREVENTION

Keep up-to-date on the SHG Prevention program by going to:

www.shg.org > students > prevention

Updated every week with interesting articles, pictures, and upcoming events!

RED RIBBON WEEK

Red Ribbon Week is founded in memory of Enrique Camerena, an undercover DEA officer tortured and killed while investigating a Mexican undercover drug ring. His family and friends began to wear red ribbons in support of Camerena's career. The ribbons serve as a show of united support for education regarding the dangers associated with drug trafficking and an awareness of substance abuse.

SHG's Red Ribbon Week will be recognized **October 24th-27th**. Members of SHG's F.I.R.E. (Friends in Resistance Education) club will be kicking off Red Ribbon Week by participating in Prevention First's **Red Ribbon Run/Walk** on **Saturday, October 22nd**. Anyone interested in joining our team can find race forms at: <https://www.prevention.org/Support/RedRibbonRun.asp>. Support prevention programs in Springfield!

Throughout the week, students will be able to obtain their own ribbons, participate in contests, and learn about the different ways in which people abuse substances (both legal & illegal). In addition, the Secretary of State's office will be making DUI materials available to our students. The goals of SHG's Red Ribbon Week are to support the students making healthy decisions and educate all students about the risks associated with substance use.

Parents, did you know that **you** are the NUMBER ONE most powerful influence on your child's attitude towards alcohol and drugs? Research has shown that appropriate parental monitoring can reduce future drug use among teens that may be prone to using (such as those who suffer from depression, cannot control emotions, etc.). For resources on what you can do as a parent, as well as drug research and laws, please visit the Office of National Drug Control Policy at www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov

OPERATION SNOWBALL

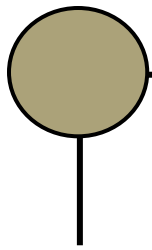
"Operation Snowball acts as a prevention (not therapy) program for youth... to offer a variety of resources on healthy lifestyles, leadership and communication skills, and an opportunity to meet other people in their communities who share the ideals of a drug-free life. Snowballs, as they are commonly referred to, usually happen over an entire weekend in the form of a lock-in... Typically there are speakers and presentations..., as well as discussion groups to process the information. And, of course, there are plenty of fun activities" *—from www.os-iti.org*

Teenagers from all over Sangamon County participate in Operation Snowball throughout the year—most events average about 300 students. **Glenwood High School is hosting the first Operation Snowball of the year on November 5th-6th**. Forms for all interested students are available outside of Ms. Benson's office.

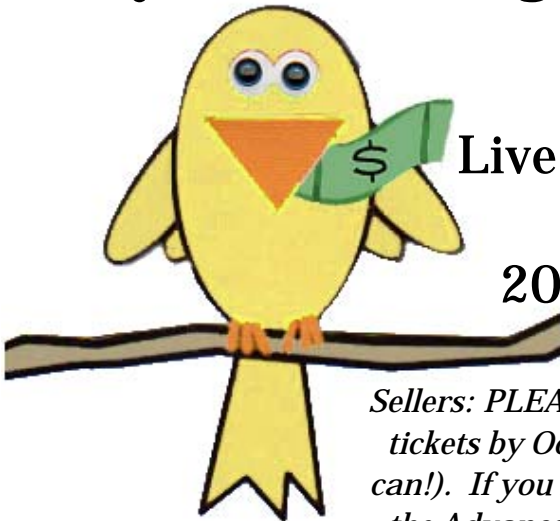
October 2011

Sacred Heart-Griffin High School Office of Advancement

787-9732



Get your tickets now for the Early Bird Drawing!



October 7

Live on Sports Radio
1450 AM

20—\$500 prizes!

Sellers: PLEASE be sure to turn in your tickets by October 6 (or earlier if you can!). If you need more tickets, contact the Advancement Office at 787-9732.

Join us for the Grand Prize Drawing!

NEW THIS YEAR!—Mid-America Advertising will provide breakfast for those who come to the Grand Prize Drawing and Seller Incentive Drawing on October 31. Join us starting at 7:00 a.m. at 100 East Hazel Dell Road to see if you are a winner!

Save the Date:

Friday, October 7—

Early Bird Raffle Drawing
Live on Sports Radio 1450 AM;
20—\$500 prizes will be
awarded!

Monday, October 31—

Mega-Raffle Grand Prize Draw-
ing at Mid-America Advertising
and Live on Sports Radio 1450
AM

Wednesday, November 16—

6th Annual Dessert & Dazzle;
Hosted by the SHG Choral Arts
Department at Hoogland Center
for the Arts

Thursday, November 17—

Preview Night for 7th and 8th
graders and their parents/
guardians.

Saturday, February 11—

Booster Club event

Sunday, March 4—

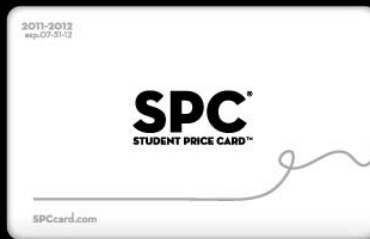
53rd Annual Mostaccioli Dinner

*For more information about
any of our events or to
volunteer to help, please contact
the Office of Advancement at
787-9732 or e-mail
Jennifer Bettis at*

**For more information
on SHG Black & Gold
Discount Cards,
contact your coach
or moderator!**

BUY ONE WHILE WE HAVE THEM!

SPC cards are available in the Advancement office for \$5. Quantities are limited!



SPC CARD

GETS STUDENTS INSTANT DEALS
EVERY TIME* THEY SHOP!

INSTANT DEALS WHEN YOU SHOP AT THE FOLLOWING STORES IN ILLINOIS:

American Eagle
Banana Republic
Forever 21
Gap
Manchu Wok
New York & Company
Sketchers
XXI Forever
and MANY MORE to come.

aerie
Choice Hotels
G by Guess
Heritage 1981
Motel 6
Pizza Hut
The Body Shop



17th Annual

SHG MEGA Raffle

1st Prize - \$100,000

2nd Prize - \$10,000

3rd Prize - \$3,000

4th - 10th Prizes - \$1,000

11th - 20th Prizes - \$500

21st - 50th Prizes - \$250

EARLY BIRD DRAWING

Friday, October 7, 2011

Live on Sports Radio 1450

20 - \$500 Prizes Awarded

(Early Bird winners are included
in the Grand Prize Drawing.)



GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

Monday, October 31, 2011

Mid-America Advertising

100 East Hazel Dell Road

Live on Sports Radio 1450

Breakfast begins at 7 a.m.

(Need not be present to win)



The SHG Mega Raffle is sponsored in part by the following underwriters:

AAA Automotive Services; Mid-America Advertising; Staab Funeral Home; Staten Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, LLC;
Bangert Plumbing - Ryan Bangert, '95; Gooch & Associates and Quicksilver Mailing Services

ONLY 4,200 TICKETS SOLD!

To purchase a ticket over the telephone, for more information or for questions, please call (217) 787-9732.

Or you can PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.SHG.ORG

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Seller Number _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION (please check one)

Check made out to SHG Raffle Cash

Money Order Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

_____ Tickets @ \$100 each = \$ _____

*Over the past 16 years Sacred Heart-Griffin High School has awarded almost \$2.5 million to 1202 winners.
The Raffle benefits the students at SHG, and \$1,000 will be donated to each of the Springfield-area Catholic grade schools.*

Sacred Heart-Griffin High School | 1200 W. Washington St. | Springfield, IL 62702 | (217) 787-9732 | www.shg.org

*Please be our guest at
Sacred Heart-Griffin's 6th Annual*

Dessert & Dazzle

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

HOOGLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Reservations required for assigned seating.

RSVP to the Advancement Office:

(217) 787-9732 or ashcraft@shg.org

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE SHG VOCAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE

There's no place like home

7th and 8th graders are invited to our open house!

Let *your* yellow brick road lead you
to Sacred Heart-Griffin High School for:

Preview Night 2011

Thursday, November 17

Registration: 6:30 p.m.

Program: 7 p.m.

Come see our home!

There's no place like it.

We've got brains, heart, courage and more!

Let us show you!



SACRED HEART-GRIFFIN HIGH SCHOOL

2011 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 27

Friday, October 28

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 27 from **3:00-8:00 P.M.** and continue on Friday, October 28 from **12:00-6:00 P.M.** Teachers schedule appointments with you through this form and with the help of your daughter/son.

It is the responsibility of the student to take this form to the teacher or teachers you wish to see. The teacher will schedule a time in the session of your indicated preference. If an appointment cannot be scheduled at a mutually convenient time, please call for an appointment outside of these conference periods.

Time requests will be honored on the basis of first requested, first scheduled. To avoid conflicts and in fairness to other parents, both parent and teacher are asked to stay within the assigned times for the conference.

Please indicate the preferred time frames as follows: (1) first choice; and (2) second choice. Indicate if there is a time slot that is impossible.

Time Preference:

_____ October 27, 3:00 - 8:00

_____ October 28, 12:00 - 6:00

Parent Schedule

Parent(s): Complete This Section	Teacher(s): Complete This Section
STUDENT'S NAME	<u>Date:</u> <u>Time: From-To:</u> <u>Room No</u>
<u>Request to See Teacher(s)</u>	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<u>Request to See Guidance Counselor</u>	
_____	_____
_____	_____

October, 2011

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
2 National Life Chain (2:00-3:30)	3	4	5 Capital Area Education Fair (12:18 DISMISSAL for juniors/seniors)	6	7 SHG Mega-Raffle Early Bird Drawing	8 SHG Works
9 SHG Works	10 NO SCHOOL IMEA Auditions	11	12 (11:00 DISMISSAL) School-Wide Testing Day	13	14 END OF 1ST QUARTER	15
16	17	18 Girls Kairos	19 Girls Kairos	20 Girls Kairos	21 Girls Kairos	22 Red Ribbon Run
23 Mother/Daughter Mass & Brunch (11:00)	24 Red Ribbon Week	25 Red Ribbon Week	26 Red Ribbon Week	27 EARLY DISMISSAL Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:00-8:00) Red Ribbon Week	28 NO CLASSES (Parent/Teacher Conferences) (12:00-6:00)	29
30	31 SHG Mega-Raffle Drawing Jostens meeting w/ Seniors (graduation)					