

## Important Dates:

- ⊙ **August 24**—New Student—First Day of School—**Half Day 12pm Dismissal**
- ⊙ August 25—First Full Day of School, All Students
- ⊙ August 26—College Panel—Hosted by College Counselor Lynn Welbourn—6:30pm
- ⊙ **September 3**—Service Learning—**Half Day of School 12pm Dismissal** for Labor Day Holiday weekend
- ⊙ **September 6**—**Labor Day Holiday, No School**
- ⊙ September 8—Final Form Service Learning Fair
- ⊙ September 15—Board of Trustees Meeting 6:00pm
- ⊙ September 16—Reach the Beach Pep Rally
- ⊙ September 17—2nd Annual Mountain Day
- ⊙ September 17-18 Reach the Beach Relay Race, team Salem competes
- ⊙ September 22—Transition 101 High School to Adulthood Workshop 6:30pm, all parents invited.
- ⊙ September 28—Picture Day, ID photos taken of all students
- ⊙ **September 29—Half Day of School, 12pm Dismissal.** Faculty professional development half day.
- ⊙ September 29—**Back to School Night, Pot Luck Supper** — all parents and families invited, 6:00—8:00 pm.

## News and Notes

The Salem Academy Newsletter is published weekly in an effort to keep parents and members of the larger community aware of news and events at the school. Parents, please be sure to ask your children for the Friday Folder, and provide the school with an up-to-date email address for the 2010-2011 school year.

**Welcome from Rachel Hunt and Stephanie Callahan:** Head of School, Rachel Hunt and Head of Lower School, Stephanie Callahan welcome all students and parents to the 2010-2011 school year. Parents, please know that you can contact Ms. Hunt (*for Upper School*), Mrs. Callahan (*for Lower School*) or your student's Connections teacher with any questions or concerns throughout the school year.

*School Phone: (978) 744-2105, Rachel Hunt, ext. 102 & Stephanie Callahan ext. 146*

**The 2010-2011 Salem Academy school year** opened Tuesday, August 24th with full enrollment of 308 students in grades six through twelve and 175 students on the waiting lists. Salem Academy is now in its 7th year and 2nd year in its second five year charter.

**The SFC (School, Family, Community) Team** is Salem Academy's parents' association involves parents into the school community as volunteers. Please keep posted for additional information regarding monthly meeting times and locations.

**Parents are invited to Coffee and Conversation** with the administration. This drop-in event will be held once each month, alternating mornings and evenings. Don't miss our first events: *Upper School Sept. 8th @ 7:30am ~ Lower School Sept. 9th @ 7:30am.*

**School Athletics for the Fall:** Salem Academy will be kicking off the school year with offerings in Soccer and Cross Country Running for grades 6—12. Sign-ups for students are at RM112 in the Lower School and at RM147 in the Upper School. Please note, all students who wish to participate must have an updated physical on file in the nurse's office. Practices will begin following the Labor Day Holiday weekend.

### **REACH for College: College Panel for 11th & 12th Grade Students and Parents**

A College Panel for Final Form students and parents was held on Thursday, August 26th, 2010 hosted by Salem Academy's College Counselor Lynn Welbourn. Local College Admission Counselors met with more than 30 parents and students discussing topics about enrollment, student interest, applications and essay writing.

The college panel reported that many students seem to be applying to more colleges solely for admittance purposes, which can make it difficult for colleges to determine sincere interest in their institution. The counselors are encouraging students to demonstrate their interest by attending college admission events, visiting campuses, experiencing campus tours, interviewing with admission staff and responding to college mailings and surveys.

Another topic noted was the development

of student essays for admission. Several colleges now allow for a student to choose their own essay topics as part of the application to the school. The panel noted, "If the students are bored while writing on the topic, or they can't find enough to write, then it's probably not a good topic." Also, "to stay away from extremely sad (ie. someone's death) or dramatic episodes." The panel suggested, topics that students find a depth of interest in are worth the time to edit, evaluate, and will more than likely reflect the student's genuine passion and interest, giving admission counselors a sense of getting to know the student.

It is important to have both students and parents involved in the college decision process. Lynn Welbourn will be posting updates of college counselor visits happening at Salem Academy this Fall.



### Connections Class Mile Fundraiser

Salem Academy has formed a team to run in the longest relay race in the United States this September. The race is 208 miles, winding through New Hampshire from Cannon Mountain Ski Resort in Franconia to Hampton Beach State Park in Hampton Beach. SACS teachers, administrators, parents, trustees, and community members make up the 12 member team.

Not only is the race a team-builder and a fitness initiative, but it is also an important fundraiser.

To start the fundraiser off on the right foot, each Connections class is asked to sponsor a mile. Individual donors, families, groups, businesses and area organizations will also be asked to sponsor miles.

If every student brings in \$5 or \$10 we will meet our Connections class goals.

Please send in your Connections class donation promptly by filling out and returning the bottom portion. *Checks can be made out to: Salem Academy Charter School.* Connections classes who complete a mile donation will earn a sports-themed dress down day.

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Student donor \_\_\_\_\_

Connections Class Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

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For more information go to [salemacademycs.org](http://salemacademycs.org) to link to our Reach The Beach web page!