



EDUCATING THE HEARTS AND MINDS
OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIVES OF
LEARNING, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE

September 2006

REFLECTIONS From REFLECTIONS Marcus Hurlbut

Dear Friends,

I hope this first Tartan of the 2006-2007 school year finds you and your family still basking in the warm glow of a wonderful summer experience. Given the pace of life from September to June, these precious summer months are a welcome respite for those of us fortunate enough to be able to take a little time off to recharge our batteries and to prepare for the coming year.

As you have been away from school this summer, there have been many on our faculty and staff who have remained here on campus and who deserve our deep and abiding respect and appreciation for their many efforts to ready the school for another year. In addition to summer school, summer camp, our first-ever summer of Breakthrough San Juan Capistrano, Special Camp for Special Kids, and numerous other programs, the summer has also seen the on-going challenge of simultaneously managing various construction and renovation projects. Led by the tireless and extraordinarily capable team of David Bush, Nancy Jones, Alvaro Barriga, and Lynn Ozonian, a phenomenal amount of work has been done to our physical plant in the past two months. The Pasternack Field House and the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center are nearing completion, our Upper School building has undergone a major refurbishing, the La Novia parking lot has been completely redesigned, a new space has been created for our Learning Center (the second floor of Campaigne Center), the Middle School science labs have been relocated to the second floor of the Gateway Building, classrooms have been painted, floors have been refinished, fields have been reseeded, books have been ordered, and on and on it goes. We are truly blessed to have so many dedicated and talented members of our staff who understand the need to devote endless hours during the "downtime" of the year to set the stage for the main event – the start of another school year.

And speaking of being blessed, September and the start of a new school year affords us all with the golden opportunity to begin anew, to initiate new ideas and projects, and to rethink our goals and aspirations. Recently, I was part of a conversation that explored the difference between success and significance. While this discussion might invite a lot of semantic jousting, I have always felt that schools should move in the direction of striving to make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Of course there are always the benchmarks of "success" by which schools are measured. I am frequently asked: Just exactly how do you know if you are being successful as a school? Are college acceptances, standardized test scores, games won, honors received, money raised, buildings built, etc. the measure? There is of course nothing wrong with striving to do well in everything we do, but in the end, I believe that great schools have always been more about striving for significance than for success, more for making a difference than for achieving measurable accomplishments.

The challenge of course is to define what this "significance" actually looks like. For me, it is imbedded in the hidden curriculum of schools, a curriculum

Reflections (continued on page 3)

SUMMER PROGRAMS



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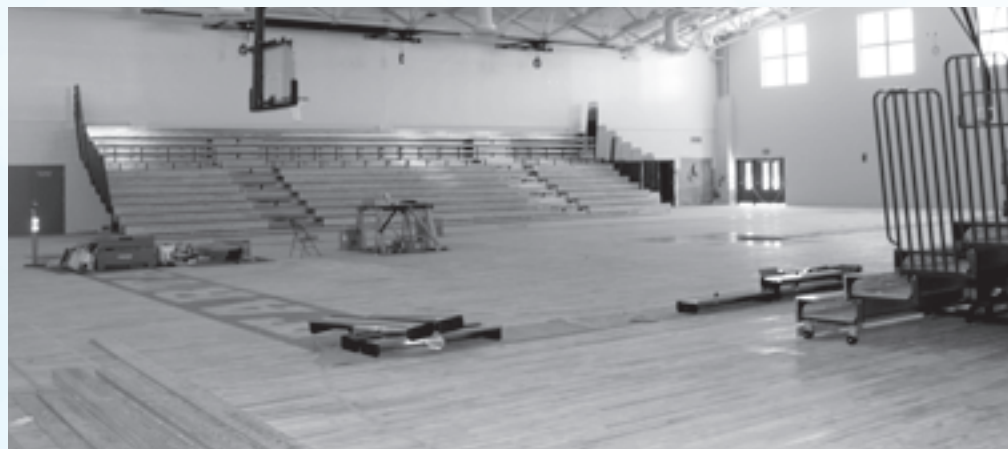
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CELEBRATE! THANK YOU LEGACY DONORS!

On September 5, 2006, St. Margaret's Episcopal School will dedicate and bless the largest building projects in our history: the Pasternack Field House and the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center. We will dedicate these new facilities during the traditional opening ceremony on the first day of school. The St. Margaret's Episcopal School community would like to thank our generous donors for their support of the Legacy Campaign which allowed our school to fully fund the Pasternack Field House, the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center, the expansion of the chaplain offices in the church administration building, the re-design of the La Novia parking lot, and the renovation of the Upper School classroom building.

Tours of the Pasternack Field House and the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center will be offered on Saturday, September 9 during the PTF's Tartan Family Roundup. The tours and the upcoming Back to School Nights will provide an opportunity for the SMES community to witness the enhancements made to our entire campus and to discover how the completion of Phase I of the campus master plan will benefit all members of our community. For example, with the completion of the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center, the Middle School science department will relocate to the college-level science labs on the second floor of the Gateway Building. The Lower School will benefit from larger spaces for music and improved spaces for science, and all grade levels will benefit from the dedicated space for the new Learning Center on the second floor of the Campaign Center.

Please join the St. Margaret's students, faculty, and staff in recognizing and thanking the many generous donors whose philanthropic support brought these projects to fruition for the benefit and enjoyment of the entire St. Margaret's community for many years to come. For further information regarding the Legacy Campaign or the schedule of tours of the new buildings, please call the Advancement Office at (949) 661-0108, ext. 252.



that emphasizes fairness and honor, respect and integrity, and charts its way through the establishment of clear and morally sound priorities. There is so much pressure today to define success by what is quantifiable, and yet, it is my sense that when all is said and done, schools that are truly successful are those that make a genuine difference in the lives of those they serve.

As we begin this new and exciting school year, my sincere hope is that the experiences that lie ahead will be truly significant for you and your family. We will be ready to join with you in this wonderful work when the cycle begins again on September 5. See you soon.

Warm regards,

Marcus D. Hurlbut

JUNIOR AWARD WINNERS

On May, 26, 2006 at the Upper School Awards Ceremony these SMES juniors received awards based on combinations of characteristics such as excellence in scholastic ability, strong leadership, extracurricular activities, and involvement in their community.

Top Row (L to R)

Mark Adams – Harvard Book Award

Megan Ichinose – Smith Book Award

Kaitlin Massey – Williams College Book Award

Adrienne Baker – Dominic Ondryas Memorial Award

Bottom Row (L to R)

Brian Shen – RPI Medal

Justine Li – Colgate Book Award

Lindy Tolbert – Middlebury Book Award

Not pictured: Piper Miller – University of Pennsylvania Book Award



BREAKTHROUGH SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO



SUMMER SESSION 2006



SPECIAL CAMP



Welcome to St. Margaret's — New Administrators



RYAN DAHLEM

I am pleased to be the new director of admission and financial aid at St. Margaret's. I formerly worked as the associate director of admission at Stanford University, where I oversaw the admission process for Stanford's thirty-five varsity sports and partnered with the mathematics faculty to recruit exceptional young mathematicians. Before assuming my post at

Stanford, I taught mathematics at University High School in Irvine and led the wrestling team to numerous league championships as head coach. I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Stanford University and my Master's degree in Education from Harvard University. In my spare time, I am an avid mountaineer and I recently climbed Cerro Aconcagua in Argentina, the highest mountain in the Western Hemisphere at 22,841 feet, as well as Vinson Massif, the tallest peak in Antarctica.

I am thrilled to join the St. Margaret's community and I look forward to welcoming new students and families in my role as director of admission. As director of financial aid, I am passionate about ensuring that students and families from a variety of backgrounds have access to the incredible opportunities available at St. Margaret's.



TRACY LINYARD

Teaching and learning are two of my greatest passions. Throughout my life, I have been fascinated by how people learn and with how much information is obtainable for us to know and understand. I have been involved in the field of education for 22 years, beginning as a preschool teacher at the University of California, Davis and

then teaching across the elementary levels (K-6) in Maryland and in San Diego. I attended UC Davis and the University of Maryland for my Bachelor's degree in Psychology. I earned my credential while in Maryland and then returned to California where I attained my California credential and my Master's degree in Curriculum Instruction and Design from UCSD. I went on to complete my Administrative Credential at the University of San Diego. I also have my CLAD and GATE credentials and have worked extensively with students from all walks of life. For the past five years I have been the principal of Kumeyaay Elementary in San Diego, a wonderful school of approximately 500 students. It is my privilege to work with children and to help them along in their learning journey.

The greatest love of my life is my son, Taylor. He will be entering fourth grade this year. He decided not to attend St. Margaret's until Middle School because he likes to keep my roles as mom and principal separate - who can blame him? We both enjoy spending time at the beach and at our house in Big Bear, where we love to off-road on the jeep trails and hike through the forest (okay, I love the hiking and drag my poor son along for company). We are both voracious readers and have a weakness for chocolate (no nuts -which simply dilute the chocolate experience!). Everyone needs a hobby and my obsession is quilting. I've only been quilting for about five years, but I am definitely hooked. Drop by the office to see the ever-changing quilts on my walls.

I am excited to be here at St. Margaret's. I know this is going to be an incredible school year. I look forward to meeting everyone and to working with our wonderful students.



SUSIE MAGA

It has been thirteen years since I started working at St. Margaret's. During this time, I have had tremendous opportunities to teach sixth through tenth grade physical education, to be the Upper School activities director, the senior class dean, the Upper School associate athletic director, and to coach softball and boys' and girls'

volleyball. Recently, I was thrilled to become the interim director of athletics.

The new Pasternack Field House will assist in bringing the athletic and physical education departments together. There will now be a K-12 physical education program and a 6-12 athletic program, both under the same umbrella. With an outstanding leadership staff, the SMES athletic and physical education programs will be strengthened and will accomplish and achieve more for the students while maintaining the excellent standards that have been a tradition at SMES. My goal is to blend these departments so they will run efficiently as one cohesive group. This will allow the athletic and physical education department to offer our students the best programs possible and set the stage for extraordinary achievements.

I was born and raised in Southern California and attended Millikan High School in Long Beach. At Westmont College in Santa Barbara, I earned my Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology. After graduating from Westmont, I taught physical education classes

Welcome to St. Margaret's — New Administrators

and was the assistant coach to the Westmont College girls' volleyball team. At Azusa Pacific University, I coached softball and taught physical education while I pursued my Master's degree in Education. In 1994, I married Mike Maga, a soccer player from Westmont College. We have two boys – Jake, who is in the third grade and Matthew, who is in the first grade. The Maga family resides in San Clemente, and as you can guess, love sports and live an active lifestyle.



DARLA MAGANA

I am very happy to be joining the fine library team at SMES, and I plan to continue to support all the fabulous library traditions that SMES students look forward to each year. Beyond this, my immediate goal for the library program is to develop and implement an information literacy curriculum that will more fully prepare students to succeed in school and in the world

after graduation. I hope to work closely with the classroom teachers to ensure that the library becomes an extension of their classrooms, offering students more meaningful opportunities to access, evaluate, and use information. I am looking for more student input into how to improve the library by starting a student advisory team.

I am very excited to be at SMES and have a variety of professional experiences. I started my career as a high school English teacher and for the past thirteen years, I have worked as a high school librarian-teacher in Saddleback Valley USD. I served one year as a district library coordinator during which I oversaw the K-12 library programs and created a district-wide information literacy curriculum. I also taught classes at the college level on various librarianship topics including children's literature, young adult literature and information sources, cataloging, introduction to librarianship, and school library administration. My proudest professional moment was being recognized as Teacher of the Year for SVUSD—a distinction never given to a librarian-teacher before.

I am the mother of one son, Marek, who is four years old and very excited to be joining the SMES community as a pre-kindergarten. My husband Andy and I have been long time San Juan Capistrano residents and I am quite thrilled to now be working in my home community. I hope my shorter commute to work will allow me to spend more time on my favorite pastime—reading!



DR. REGINA MCDUFFIE

I am honored to be appointed as the academic dean of St. Margaret's Episcopal School. I am anxious to talk with teachers, parents, students, and other community members to learn more about the wonderful work that is taking place at this school. It is my goal this year to learn everything I can about St. Margaret's history, traditions, and current practices. I also

look forward to establishing a process for on-going review and evaluation of the curriculum from preschool to grade 12. It is my hope that I will collaborate with and support teachers in their professional growth and development.

A love of learning was instilled in me by my parents and my educational experiences at St. Clare's of Assisi Elementary School and Cardinal Spellman High School in the Bronx, New York. I always enjoyed going to school to learn new things and to socialize with friends. After earning my Bachelor's degree in History from Fordham University, I obtained a position as a reading teacher at Blessed Sacrament Elementary School. Upon earning my Master's degree in History from the City University, I decided to take a position as a social studies teacher at Fordham Preparatory School where I taught for seven years. While at Fordham Prep, I enrolled in Fordham's PhD program in Language, Literacy and Learning. I wrote my doctoral dissertation on "Web Page Design as a Tool for Cognitive Development and Metacognitive Awareness in Social Studies Education." After completing my dissertation, I decided to pursue a position in education administration and became the social studies and business coordinator for the Bedford Central School District in Westchester County, New York.

My husband Christopher is a middle school principal, and we have two children – Colin, age 11 and Megan, age 7. My family and I enjoy traveling and boating. In New York we enjoyed boating on the Hudson River and now look forward to exploring Mission Bay in San Diego. We have had the opportunity to travel extensively in the United States, the Caribbean, and Mexico. Last year we ventured to Europe and spent two weeks in Italy. Every year we found ourselves returning to Southern California, the place we loved the most. A year ago we made the decision to relocate. Although I miss family and friends in New York, and the white-tailed deer greeting me each morning on my lawn, I am welcomed by the warm and friendly atmosphere at SMES. And the beautiful beaches and constant sunshine are a good replacement for the white-tailed deer.

SMES WELCOMES NEW FACULTY & STAFF

FACULTY MEMBERS (as of August 21, 2006)

SAMANTHA BELL – Lower School First Grade Teacher
M.A. – Education; Pepperdine University
B.A. – Communications & Spanish; Denison University
Samantha brings to St. Margaret's an eclectic background in teaching. With a degree in Communications and Spanish, Samantha began her teaching career teaching Spanish at Lake Shore Preparatory School in Chicago, Illinois, where she also taught art in the after school program, was head life guard, and a swim teacher.

JEN BINGENHEIMER – Wee Tartan Center
B.S. – Organizational Leadership; Biola University
Preschool and Administration Certificate
Jen joins the Wee Tartan Infant-Toddler Center as a lead teacher. She is an experienced preschool classroom teacher and has served as an assistant director.

JUDETH CHOI – Theatre Arts
M.F.A. – Dramatic Writing; NYU, Tisch School of the Arts
B.A. – Theatre Studies; Yale University
Judeth's experience includes serving as site project manager for "The Story Project," where she developed and taught a program for mentor teachers who would serve the community in this after school program. She has also served as facilitation director for the Shakespeare Festival in Los Angeles, where she developed and executed after school programs for children who study and create songs, poetry, and perform from Shakespeare's sonnets.

ANGELA CUNNINGHAM – Middle School Art
B.F.A. – Laguna College of Art & Design
We are pleased to have Angela join our visual arts program. Most recently Angela has taught at Laguna College of Art & Design, Saddleback College, and at San Clemente Art Supply.

TIARA DOBBERTEN – Wee Tartan Center
ECE Certificate
New to our Wee Tartan Center, Tiara is not new to infant/toddler education and we are pleased she is joining our teaching staff this year.

LORI DONCHAK – Middle School English
M.S. – Management; Northwestern University
B.S. – Education; Northwestern University
Lori has served many roles in her affiliation with St. Margaret's, beginning in our library and then moving to become a long-term and standing substitute teacher. As a member of our parent body, Lori has been very active volunteer at the school. We are pleased that she is now a member of our regular teaching staff in the Middle School.

JAMES EARNEST – Middle School Latin
B.A., M.A. – Classics; University of California, Irvine
James comes to us with over four years teaching experience at the college and junior college level, as well as experience teaching English as a second language in Japan.

EDMUND HERLIHY – Upper School Science
B.A. – Environmental Studies; Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
Anxious to start a career in education, Edmund will serve as our Upper School science intern this year.

GREG HIGDON – Middle School Latin
B.A. – Classics; Pitzer College, Claremont
Greg joined our Middle School teaching faculty in January of this year. Prior to joining St. Margaret's, he taught sixth and eighth grade Latin at Grace Classical Academy.

JASON HITCHENS – Upper School History/Varsity Football
B.A. – Social Science; Portland State University
A credentialed teacher, Jason joins St. Margaret's well qualified to teach Upper School history and to take over the leadership of our varsity football program. He has coached at Mater Dei High School, Villa Park High School, Santa Margarita High School, and El Modena High School where he also taught Modern World History through Honors, American History Honors, Psychology, and Economics.

JENI JOHNSON – Middle School English
M.A. – Secondary Education; Loyola Marymount University
B.A. – American Literature and Culture; University of California, Los Angeles
Coming to St. Margaret's from Teach for America, Los Angeles, Jeni also comes with outstanding recommendations from those who oversee this remarkable program. She has taught Middle School English and reading at Mt. Vernon Middle School in Los Angeles and served as the Professional Learning Community Facilitator during her time with the program, providing mentoring and support for teachers new to the program.

COLLEEN O'LEARY – Lower School Third Grade Teacher
B.A. – Liberal Studies; California State University, Fullerton
Kelly began her career in elementary education, teaching third and sixth grades. Colleen has also taught math in the College for Kids program at Saddleback College.

KELLY PIERCE – Upper School Math
B.S. – Mathematics; California State University, Long Beach
Kelly has taught Math Analysis, Honors Calculus, AP Calculus, Honors Algebra II and Trigonometry since 2000, first at Calvary Chapel High School and most recently at Fairmont Preparatory Academy. A Club Soccer coach with the Mission Viejo Soccer Club, Kelly assisted Johnny Marmelstein with our girls' soccer program this past season.

GENE WIE – All-School Strings
M.F.A. – Music; University of California, Irvine
B.S. – Information & Computer Science; University of California, Irvine
An experienced concert master, conductor, lecturer, teacher, and accomplished musician himself (Viola, Violin and Clarinet), Gene will join our faculty in the fall to develop the school's string program.

SMES WELCOMES NEW FACULTY & STAFF

STEPHANIE WINDES – Middle School Math

B.S. – Biology; California State University, Stanislaus
Stephanie joins our math department with more than six years of experience within the public school system where she taught high school mathematics at Buena Park High School. She is recipient of a TASEL-M grant, is a respected presenter, and has written math curriculum for paraprofessional training being offered by the Orange County Department of Education.

DEREK MANTEY – Athletic Department – Trainer

M.S. – Kinesiology; Kansas State University
An experienced athletic trainer, Derek joined our athletic department this summer.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

PATRICIA JO (PJ) ELLIOTT – Middle School Teaching Assistant

HEATHER FORQUER – Lower School Teaching Assistant

CINDY JOHNSON – ECDC Teaching Assistant

CANDYCE MARZULLO – Lower School Teaching Assistant

KRISTI WHITNEY – Wee Tartan Infant/Toddler Center

WANDA VANDER WENDE – Lower School Teaching Assistant

ADMINISTRATORS

DIOSA ADAMS – Director – Breakthrough San Juan Capistrano

B.S. – Communications Studies/Human Relations; University of Texas, Austin
Diosa Adams who joined our staff in March of this year taking over the leadership of the school's Breakthrough San Juan Capistrano program was a teacher in the Breakthrough Austin program and most recently was a founding teacher of High Tech Middle School in San Diego. She has been involved in community service much of her career beginning as an intern with the Austin Community Development Corp (now known as People Fund).

GABRIELLE MCCOLGAN – Associate Director of College Counseling

M.M. – Vocal Performance; San Francisco Conservatory of Music

B.A. – History; Yale University

Gabrielle has served as an assistant director of admission at both Stanford University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Already busy at work, she is a great addition to the College Counseling team.

DIANE SELTZER – Associate Director of Admission

M.A. – Counseling; University of San Diego

B.S. – Education - Early Childhood Education; Salem State College, Salem, MA

A credentialed teacher, Diane followed Judy Haidinger, as director of admission at La Jolla Country Day School. Prior to that she served as director of public relations & admission for Saint John's International School in Waterloo, Belgium.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

SUMMER CRABTREE – Alumni & Annual Giving Assistant; Athletic Department Assistant; PE Teacher and Girls' Lacrosse Coach

A.B. – English; Princeton University

Summer is as multi-talented as the roles we are asking her to fill. A varsity college Lacrosse player at Princeton, Summer also played on the United States Under-19 World Cup Lacrosse Team in 1999, participated in the Make-a-Wish Triathlon in 2001, and continues to play on the Tricheck Post-Collegiate Lacrosse Team.

RYAN HUBERS – Information Technology

M.B.A. – University of California, Irvine

B.S. – Telecommunications; DeVry University

Ryan brings wonderful experience from industry to his role as technology support specialist.

JOANNE PATE – Administrative Assistant to the Academic Dean

B.A. – Intercultural Communications; Vanguard University

An experienced office manager with extensive accounting background, Joanne will be working with Dr. McDuffie to support our faculty and the entire academic program at St. Margaret's.

RYAN RUPPE – Information Technology

B.S. – Business Administration; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Ryan's major at Cal Poly was in management information systems with a minor in graphic communications. We are pleased that he is joining us to manage the school's website.

IAN TACQUARD – Campaign & Development Associate

BS – Political Science; University of Oregon

An alumnus of St. Margaret's, Ian takes on a new role serving as an administrative associate to the director of advancement and to the newly defined position of assistant headmaster for development.

SUPPORT STAFF

FRANCISCO NAVA – Buildings & Grounds

LUIS NAVA – Buildings & Grounds

KRISTINE NEWTON – Campus Services

— Early Childhood Development Center —

ECDC GEARS UP FOR NAEYC ACCREDITATION

Last year the rest of the SMES school community was involved in a self-study and a review for WASC accreditation. This year it's our turn! St. Margaret's ECDC was one of the first centers in Orange County to achieve accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children in 1987. Beginning this year, centers wishing to receive accreditation must adhere to a newly revised set of criteria. The ECDC teachers met this summer to start the intense self-study process. We share a renewed commitment to the quality that our children and families deserve.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN NAEYC ACCREDITED PROGRAM?

NAEYC-accredited programs must demonstrate a commitment to providing a high quality program for young children and their families. While the NAEYC accreditation process examines the total program, the greatest emphasis is placed on the quality of interactions among staff and children and the developmental appropriateness of the curriculum—what really happens to the children. Health and safety, staffing, staff qualifications, physical environment, and administration are all reviewed during accreditation, but primary consideration is given to the nature of the child's experience.

The program then engages in an extensive self-study based on the Academy's Criteria for High Quality Early Childhood Program. The accuracy of the program's self-study is verified during a site visit to the program by NAEYC validators. The validated self-study, including the program director's responses to the validation visit, is reviewed by a national commission composed of recognized experts in child care and early childhood education, judged to be in substantial compliance with the academy's criteria, and granted accreditation for a five-year period. (Previously accreditation was granted every three years.)

The early childhood program must agree to act upon the commission's suggestions regarding areas needing improvement and to submit annual written reports documenting improvements, and continued compliance.

WHAT ARE THE NAEYC EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION CRITERIA?

Ensuring the quality of children's daily experiences in early childhood programs and promoting positive child outcomes is

the heart of the new NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria.

The program standards and accreditation criteria are based on a conceptual framework with four areas of focus. The primary focus area is children, which incorporates five early childhood program standards (relationships, curriculum, teaching, health, and assessment of child progress), each advancing children's growth in realms of learning and development. Achieving excellence requires early childhood programs to have an effective and durable support structure. This support structure promotes program accountability and makes it possible for classroom life to be consistently nurturing and filled with learning opportunities for each child—and for this high level of quality to be sustained over time. This caliber of program quality depends on Teaching Staff, Partnerships, and Administration - the three additional focus areas - which encompass five additional program standards (teachers, families, community relationships, physical environment, and leadership and management).

The ten program standards and their criteria uphold a standard-bearer system and support NAEYC Accreditation as an agent for improving the quality of early childhood programs for all children. Accreditation as standard-bearer denotes that NAEYC Accreditation sets the norm for what it means to be a high-quality early childhood program and that the standards and criteria established for NAEYC-accredited programs contribute to children's optimal development and learning.

Collectively, the ten NAEYC Early Childhood Program standards represent essential, interlocking elements of high-quality programs for all children from birth through kindergarten.

The program standards and criteria are evidence-based and grounded in six explicit values:

- The uniqueness of childhood as a developmental phase
- The essential contribution to optimal child learning and development of reciprocal, respectful relationships with children and their families
- The distinctive opportunity from birth through kindergarten to support children's intellectual, language, and social-emotional development

Early Childhood Development Center (continued on page 9)

Early Childhood Development Center (continued)

- The essential role of partnerships with families and communities
- The significance of a strong program infrastructure in providing high-quality care and education
- The importance of the quality of children's lives in the present, not only as preparation for the future

These values, in combination with the evidence-based criteria, reiterate the association's core belief that children are the ultimate beneficiaries of NAEYC accreditation. In combination with other elements of NAEYC's reinvented early childhood program accreditation system, the early childhood program standards and accreditation criteria strive to ensure that young children in NAEYC-accredited programs receive consistently high-quality care and education that contributes to their positive learning and development.

Ingrid Andrews

Director of ECDC

== Lower School ==

Welcome back Lower School families! I hope each of you has had a wonderful summer break. We are so excited about the coming school year. My first month has been a productive one. I've had the opportunity to meet many students and families through summer school. It's a pleasure to see our students enjoying so many enrichment programs and their summer learning opportunities. I am really looking forward to meeting all of you and to a fantastic school year.

This is a time of change and growth for the Lower School. We are strongly committed to building and improving the academic and special subject programs here at St. Margaret's and to developing new classroom and school-wide supports for all learners. We have new classroom space for our music programs and a real science lab for our science classes. These new facilities will give us more flexibility and access for all our students. We are beginning the work of integrating technology into the classrooms so that our students begin to see their use of computers and other technology as tools for learning. Last year the Learning Center began serving students with academic needs in reading, writing, and mathematics. We will continue to develop, improve, and revise those interventions so that the children receive the support they require to be successful in their grade level curriculum. Additionally, we are developing ways to meet the needs of our strongest students by providing consistent and ongoing academic instruction that meets their individual needs through small

group, computer, and individualized learning.

Things have changed in education and in our world. We live in a global society where each and every one of us has responsibilities both within and beyond our local communities. If the students whose educational lives we have been entrusted with are to meet the needs of this even more complicated world in which we live, then what we do in the classroom and how we do it needs to keep pace with those needs. This is going to be a year of reflection, planning, and change, not status quo. I hope that you will become a part of that change. Take an avid interest in your child's education. Attend our parent coffees and engage in open and respectful discussion about teaching and learning. Share your concerns with me and your child's teacher. We will be asking ourselves hard questions and working to build an even stronger program that continues to meet the academic, spiritual, social, and emotional needs of our students. I am looking forward to the challenges and new experiences St. Margaret's will bring. I know this will be a fantastic year and I invite you to join us on this incredible journey.

Tracy Linyard

Lower School Principal

CONGRATULATIONS TO SMES SOCAPS SPELLING BEE CONTESTANT!

KENLEY FARACE REPRESENTED ST. MARGARET'S ON
MAY 15, 2006 AT THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS'
SPELLING BEE. THE CONTEST INCLUDED STUDENTS IN
GRADES THREE THROUGH EIGHT. KENLEY TOOK THIRD
PLACE IN THE COMPETITION.



= Middle School

The start of a new school year brings the opportunity to start fresh and establish new routines and patterns of behavior. Parents of adolescents face the daunting challenge of allowing their emerging teenager the chance to develop independence and experience the successes and failures that come along with that independence. A new school year is the perfect time to review the ways that you have been involved in your child's school career and to take a calibrated step back and allow your child to step forward.

The job description of a parent of an adolescent should resemble that of a consultant rather than a manager. You should be there to celebrate in their successes and to empathize with their struggles, but not to manage every minute of their day and solve their daily problems. This year, as your child faces the hurdles of school life - the low test grade, forgotten uniform item, late homework assignment, denial from an accelerated class, argument with a friend - instead of contacting the teacher, coach, or parent, I ask you to consider whether or not this is an issue best addressed by your child. Sit down with your child and assist them in designing a plan for how they will approach the particular situation. Empower them with the technique and the words to address the concern on their own. Regardless of the outcome, you will have made tremendous strides in helping your child face the next challenge with confidence and a sense that they can advocate on their own behalf.

Over the summer, I read Dr. Madeline Levine's *The Price of Privilege* and found it to be a fascinating book about how material advantage and parental involvement can have a negative impact on a child's development of a healthy self. Dr. Levine explains that pressure for the perfect GPA and an ideal college resume has impacted our ability to allow kids to fail and develop the skills needed to face the inevitable challenges of life. When the motivation for success is more external than internal, we run the risk of creating kids who have an underdeveloped sense of self. "In healthy development, the self develops in tandem with self-management skills, and choices are increasingly experienced as coming from within. Without this internal touchstone, kids are vulnerable to peer pressure and their own confusion about whose values are actually driving their life choices." At the grade level coffee's this fall we will be presenting and discussing ways parents can work with their children to help them develop a healthy sense of self.

During the course of the year I look forward to getting to know each student and family better. Please mark the upcoming Back to School Night and grade level coffees on your calendars. I thank you for entrusting your children to our school and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Sincerely,

Jeannine Clarke
Middle School Principal

SMES SPONSORS SAN JUAN SUMMER NITES



On Wednesday, August 16, St. Margaret's Episcopal School sponsored the San Juan Summer Nites Concert in partnership with the City of San Juan Capistrano and the Chamber of Commerce. Held in San Juan Capistrano's Historic Town Center Park, the evening brought faculty, staff, students, and parents together with friends and local businesses in our community for a fun night of music and fellowship. The next concert in the city's series will be held on September 20, 2006 and will feature the country and western band "Doo Wah Riders."



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our new and reconfigured Upper School campus delights and astonishes me every day. Although we have been warned to stay out of the construction site for safety reasons, I've been able to concoct legitimate reasons to visit the site two or three times a day. Be prepared to be impressed; the additions and changes are outstanding. The space I've been given for this article doesn't allow me to fully detail the impact that our new buildings will have on our program, but I will attempt a brief overview.

The eleven new classrooms/labs in the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center are spacious and perfectly designed for learning. The exterior of our revitalized common living area has functional and graceful features as well as many unique areas that our students will find inviting. The Tartan Center alone represents an enormous new resource for the entire school. This roomy meeting place is adjacent to the new courtyard and will undoubtedly be well-used by many campus organizations. We expect that our seniors will happily encamp there when it is not in use for other purposes.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the changes will be the consolidation of our Upper School campus into a more cohesive, centralized location. Students will no longer have to trek over to the Gateway Building for science classes. Academic classes will not be conducted in the second floor of the Campaigne Center or in Wallace Hall. Our science teachers are eager to move into the five new labs in the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center. Our math teachers, led by able department chair Heather Murray, will be teaching in close proximity, allowing better communication and the sharing of resources. We will always be a part of, and have a need for the overall SMES campus, but we also now have a secure sense of location and space for the Upper School.

Of course, we are also continually refining and improving our academic and co-curricular program. I am excited to share just a few of the invigorating developments in store for all of us in the 2006-2007 school year. We've added a new science course, Astronomy, that is the brainchild of John Bennet and Dr. Robert McDaniel. Kudos to these gentlemen for their initiative. I am delighted to report that our performing arts program has been significantly improved with the addition of two new positions and two newly dedicated classrooms. We've expanded our all-school music program by hiring Gene Wie, who is an experienced concert master, conductor, lecturer, teacher, and an accomplished musician. Last year we operated our drama program without the benefit of an Upper School drama coach. Judeth Choi will join the Middle and Upper School performing arts department. She comes to us with rich and varied experience in drama. Finally, with the reassignment of classrooms made available by the new building,

we've been able to give Marek Cantor's Lower School music classes a classroom worthy of her excellent program. These are long-awaited and breathtaking enhancements!

Our Middle School Athletic and Physical Education program has been re-imagined and re-designed in a way that will significantly improve the lives of Upper School students and coaches. Essentially, all Middle School interscholastic athletic team practices will take place before 3:00 p.m. This leaves the entire facility available to the Upper School after 3:15 p.m., except for Middle School home games. When we combine this structural change with the incredible new Pasternack Field House, our athletes will be able to practice earlier and get home sooner, which is clearly an improved situation.

By now you have received a letter from us outlining the new drop-off and pick-up area for the Upper School. I appreciated your patience and cooperation this past year during construction. Parents will no longer need to creep slowly through Ortega Business Center with your student to the drop-off zone. You will be happy to know that the area directly in front of the Pasternack Field House is dedicated solely to Upper School student drop-off and pick-up. The lot will be easy and quick to use; this alone represents a huge relief for all involved.

Thank you so much for completing the parent survey. I am happy to report that between 40 and 60 percent of parents at each grade level completed the survey. We will be analyzing data with the leadership of the Upper School and our new Academic Dean, Dr. Regina McDuffie. Your candid feedback will help us identify issues, deal with problems, and ultimately better serve your child.

In my enthusiasm, I've exceeded my allotted space for this message and I have so much more to tell you. Please mark the upcoming Back to School Night and grade level coffees on your calendars. At these events I will be sharing in more detail our goals for the year and how parents can help.

Thank you for entrusting your children to our school and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

David Boyle
Upper School Principal

Church Chimes

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WELCOMES YOU!

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sundays

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist

with Sunday School Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program
Preschool through 5th Grades,

Youth Group (6th-12th grades), Choir Nursery care for infants and toddlers

Extended Education opportunities for Youth and Children begin at 9:00 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME

11:15 AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

7 AM Holy Eucharist

Youth Group

Youth Group for both Middle School and Upper School youth meets Sunday mornings in the Middle School during the 9:30 AM service.

For more information about upcoming Youth Group activities, please contact Fr. Reggie Payne-Wiens (rpayne-wiens@smes.org), Fr. Rick Tiff (rick.tiff@smes.org), or Fr. Mark Forbes (mark.forbes@smes.org).

Newcomer's Welcome Event

If you would like to learn more about St. Margaret's, you are welcome to join the

Clergy and Vestry of St. Margaret's or a special Newcomer Welcome on Saturday, September 16 from 4-6 PM, in the church courtyard.

Please RSVP to the church office: 661-0110 or church@stmarg.org.

St. Margaret's Friends of Music

All are welcome to join St. Margaret's Friends of Music for Choral Evensong on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 PM.

This will be their opening program for the 2006-2007 Concert Season.

All are welcome to join them for the reception following the program.

Childcare is provided.

The Reverend Canon Robert Edwards, Rector/Head School Chaplain

The Reverend Keith Yamamoto, Associate/School chaplain

The Reverend Reggie Payne-Wiens, Assisting/School Chaplain

The Reverend Mark Forbes, Assisting/School chaplain

The Reverend Rick Tiff, Assisting/School Chaplain

The Reverend Doran Tregarthen, Assisting

Linda Morales, Church Secretary: 949.661.0110

What's With All These Stanford People?

I've heard the buzz about St. Margaret's bringing in two new administrators from Stanford University's admission office, in addition to myself, with the hiring of Mr. Dahlem in the admission office and Ms. McColgan in college counseling. Of course I'm thrilled about having more colleagues on campus who have experience with highly selective college admissions, especially at Stanford. However, the question that I've heard asked the most is, "Does this mean that St. Margaret's students will have an 'in' at Stanford?" The truth is that admission to Stanford is and will continue to be exceptionally competitive; although, having three former Stanford admission officers on campus does bring positive attention and recognition of St. Margaret's with admission officers at Stanford and other colleges and universities. That being said, Ms. McColgan and I will use our experience as former college admission officers to provide wise and honest counsel to our students as they put together their lists of colleges that truly match their interests, talents, and skills.

The college counselors are excited for the new academic year. Here are some dates and events that parents and students should be aware of:

We have scheduled meetings for parents early in the school year. The first is a coffee on **Wednesday, September 13 at 8:00 a.m.** for parents of seniors. This will be a "nuts and bolts of the college process" for senior parents. The same information will be presented in an evening meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. for parents who find that time more convenient.

Parents of underclass students (grades 9, 10, and 11) are invited to a meeting with the college counselors on **Wednesday, October 11 at 8:00 a.m.** Again, we will present the same information in an evening meeting at 7:00 p.m. All of the meetings will be held in the Tartan Center, which is located on the first floor of the DeYoung Family Math and Science Center.

Please make regular visits to the college counseling website (www.smes.org/college) for the most current information from the college counselors. The site is updated almost daily during the fall and includes a schedule for colleges visiting St. Margaret's, college information sessions in the area, information on standardized tests, and other helpful information.

Roland M. Allen, Director of College Counseling



Roland Allen (second from right) and Gabrielle McColgan, Associate Director of College Counseling, share their expertise in the Summer College Counseling Workshop.

APRIL, 2006

PRESCHOOL

Maddie Barkate
Daniel Lew
Christopher Mullen
Alette Segerstrom
Shea Marie Tomaselli

LOWER SCHOOL

Nikki Leigh Greuel
Marissa Mitchell
Brock Ethridge
Annika Lambach
Dominique Lawrence
Myles Stapelberg
Alain Kassarian
Shelby Nicholas
Christopher Prynne
Garrett Sciortino
Preston Ellis
Lisa Takada
Eri Takada

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hayden deCarion
Oliver deCarion
Colin Johnson
Sara Ledbetter
Ariana Mozafari
Graham Phillips
Kelly Knutson
Carina Prynne

UPPER SCHOOL

Eunice Chung
Clara Karger
Georgina Lean
David Mothander
Michael Schneider
Mao Takada
Julie Goldberg
Camilla Wade-West
Jessica Zavalza
Caitlin Macatee
Julian Lean
Callan Smith
Drake Vlautin

MAY, 2006

PRESCHOOL

Shaudeh Farjami
Veronica Guerinot
Will Kieckhafer
Katie Stephens

LOWER SCHOOL

Jay Phansalkar
Auston Locke
Paige Kenerson
Megan Phansalkar
Cameron Hill
Christopher Helm
Katie Vandermost
Eric Walsh

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Scott Hansen

UPPER SCHOOL

Sebecha Dhillon
Sarah Fahim
Nicholas Mann
Katherine McGraw

I am very happy to be the new Library Director at SMES. I am so impressed by the past success of the library program. The SMES Library is obviously a place in which students feel comfortable and go to in order to meet their academic, personal, and reading needs. I see that my role at SMES is to build on that success to ensure that students are effective users of ideas, information, and technology and to promote a lifelong love of reading and learning. To that end, be on the lookout for some of these exciting changes to the Library Program.

One change you will certainly notice is the new Library website. Our Web Librarian, Karen Angus, has developed a student centered website that offers, among other things, links and paths to help students meet curricular needs, become more information literate, and share reading interests and viewpoints. This new dynamic web presence is a big step in helping us expand the library beyond the walls and better meet the needs of our students and families. Check it out!

You should also see a bit of a change in how students view the library. My vision for the library is to have it be a unique classroom on campus. Learning that happens in the library is hands-on, process oriented, and transformational—driven not just by student's academic needs but by real-life and/or personal needs as well. Although students will always be welcomed to use the space to do homework or type reports, I'll be working to help them better understand the total value of a library as a place of life-long learning.

Finally, I'm planning on starting some new programs such as a student advisory team. This group of student volunteers will have input in book purchases, programs and activities, and other library decisions. I think student input will help to make the library a much more integral part of the learning process at SMES. I'm also planning on offering some parent education programs. Topics we might explore are internet safety and family book discussions.

So, as you can see, we have some great new things planned for the library this year, but we will also be repeating all the programs and activities that SMES students have enjoyed in the past, such as Teen Read Week, Banned Books Week, National Library Week and much more! Look to the new library website for more details on these.

I am so excited to be a part of the SMES community. I'm looking forward to meeting and working with both students and parents and encourage you to contact me with questions or thoughts.

Peace,

Darla Magana

Director of Library/Media Center

ANNUAL FUND 2006-2007 CO-CHAIRS

We are delighted to welcome the co-chairs of the 2006-2007 Annual Fund: Karch and Janna Kiraly, parents of Kristian '09 and Kory '10. If you are a fan of the Olympics, volleyball and beach volleyball, you already know the name – pronounced KEY-rye.

Our co-chair is known as “the winningest player in volleyball history.” Karch is the only player to win Olympic medals in both indoor and beach volleyball (Olympic Gold in Indoor Volleyball in 1984 and 1988, and Olympic Gold in Beach Volleyball in 1996.) He is also, at age 45, the oldest player to compete at the highest level, having won at least one tournament in 24 of the 27 seasons he has played over four decades (1978-2006).

Not surprisingly, Karch and Janna met in college via volleyball. She was a player at Pepperdine; he at UCLA. Their love for the game continues and has spread throughout the family. While Janna still enjoys recreational games on the beach, sons Kristian and Kory are members of SMES volleyball team. And we are excited to also announce that Karch will be the head volleyball coach for the Upper School for the 2007 season!

After Kristian and Kory attended SMES for Preschool and kindergarten, the Kiralys decided to home school for a few years and take advantage of the many travel opportunities available to them via Karch's career. While studying they were able to travel internationally as well as extensively in the United States. Kristian and Kory attended the Olympics in Atlanta, Sydney, Australia and Athens, Greece and took camping trips, visiting a large percentage of the National Parks in the western United States.

When the time came for a return to traditional school, the family visited several schools in the area. They loved what they saw at SMES. They always knew that SMES was strong academically but were most impressed with the emphasis on developing well-rounded young adults.

Karch and Janna have very positive feelings about the value of SMES for their sons and other students. They are strong supporters of the Annual Fund, the most universal and important of the school's fund-raising programs, and strongly encourage all parents to participate. Annual Fund provides support for the many extras – arts, sports, clubs and other activities which, combined with academics, give every SMES student an exceptional education in preparation for college and the larger world.

As you see Karch and Janna in meetings and around campus at the beginning of the new school year, please greet our Annual Fund Co-Chairs, and when Annual Fund month begins in October, please join them in supporting our community!

ANNUAL FUND 2005-2006 WRAP-UP

Sincere thanks to the many members of our school community who participated in Annual Fund 2005-2006 and especially to Class Captains and to Co-Chairs Carol and Jon Demorest (Jessica '05 and Tyler '07). The final total for 2005-2006 is \$961,291. Parent participation increased by nearly 10% from 68.1% to 78%. Dollars raised increased in every category (parents, alumni, grandparents, parents of alumni, faculty/staff, friends.)

WHAT IS THE ANNUAL FUND??

The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of all fundraising programs at St. Margaret's Episcopal School. We ask for participation from every parent, faculty member, and staff member. Many grandparents, parents of alumni, alumni, and friends of the school also choose to participate.

The Annual Fund supports the school's yearly operating expenses. Your Annual Fund contributions and tuition are our only two consistent sources of operating revenue. Like other independent schools, St. Margaret's does not receive government funding or support at any level.

The Annual Fund exists at virtually every independent school. Tuition alone does not cover the cost of an education and the available resources and activities. Consider, too, that gifts to Annual Fund are tax deductible.

Your Annual Fund participation is the single most important way to express your support for your children's education and your belief in the importance of a St. Margaret's education.

THE ANNUAL FUND 2006-2007 GOALS FOR THE YEAR:

Dollar goal: \$1,002,007

Participation: 85% or greater participation from every grade.

The Annual Fund needs your support. October is Annual Fund month. When you receive your Annual Fund letter, please respond with a gift or a pledge; pledges must be paid in full by May 31 (new date). Gifts of every amount are welcome. We urge you to give according to your family's capability. No gift is too large, and the only gift that is too small is no gift at all!



The 2006-2007 Annual Fund co-chairs Karch and Janna Kiraly with sons Kristian '09 (left) and Kory '10.

WHAT IS THE PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP (PTF)?

The Parent Teacher Fellowship is a volunteer organization that provides support, services and fundraising to strengthen and enrich St. Margaret's Episcopal School (SMES). Our members are dedicated parent volunteers, teachers, staff, and administrators. The cooperative spirit among our members fosters the sense of family that characterizes the SMES community.

The PTF provides parent volunteers for numerous activities and events. Among our responsibilities are:

- Managing and serving the Lunch Program (Grades 1-12)
- Bringing unique cultural arts programs to campus (all divisions)
- Planning and manning Tartan Faire and Scholastic Book Fair (all divisions and families)
- Hosting friend-raising and friend-and-fundraising events (primarily for adults)
- Managing the *Shop and Support SMES* program
- Welcoming new families via our host family/buddy program
- Providing each division with parent coordinators and class parents
- Providing hospitality for many school events and meetings

In addition, PTF supports the library, athletics, and the arts directly through Friends of the Library, Booster Club, and Arts Alliance organizations. Parent volunteers are essential to the success of the PTF and the many programs and activities that enrich our children's educational experience at St. Margaret's.

TIME, TALENT, TREASURE — What this means to the PTF

Very simply, those who are able to volunteer their time are the backbone of the PTF. The dedication of individuals who are willing to show up and make things happen ensures that our students are served hot lunch, find books just for them at the book sale, participate in cultural arts programs and a host of other activities and events. Parents who can contribute a particular talent are encouraged to do so; if, by occupation or avocation, you are qualified to offer anything from legal advice to event planning, from computer skills to origami, we hope you share your capabilities with us. Finally, in addition to your Annual Fund gift to St. Margaret's Episcopal School, if you are able to make a financial commitment to PTF programs or special events, we'd treasure your support. All of these things are equally important in the creation of a solid, workable foundation upon which to build a sound engine of progress...and anything, everything you bring to us comes back to you tenfold, through your children and through the enrichment of our independent school community.

WHAT DOES PTF DO WITH THE MONEY FROM FRIEND-AND-FUNDRAISERS?

The customary sources of funds are the Spring Fundraiser, the Lunch Program, Library Luncheon and SaSS. All funds, less a prudent reserve, are granted back to the school. The PTF solicits grant requests from faculty, staff and administration for an April 1 deadline. All requests contain an explanation of the grant's goals, the scope of the effort, and a budget specifying how the funds will be spent, and are first reviewed by the Associate Headmaster to ensure that they meet the needs of the school.

WELCOME NEW PTF PRESIDENT



St. Margaret's Episcopal School has always been in my family's plans. The very first time I met with the former Director of Admission Judy Haidinger, my family and I fell in love with the school. Shortly after, my family and I moved to San Juan Capistrano to be closer to the school.

My husband Tom and I have two daughters – Shea, who is thirteen years old and in eighth grade and Julia, who is twelve years old and is beginning Middle School. Both girls have attended SMES since kindergarten. They love their school and friends, and adore and trust their teachers and administrators; SMES is a home away from home.

I was born in Valencia, Spain and came to the United States in the first grade. In college I double majored in Journalism and Graphic Design and have owned a design and advertising firm for the past fourteen years. My life includes involvement in many community organizations, including Mission Hospital's Valiant Woman, Laguna Art Museum, Human Options, and Acres of Love. With extended family spread across the globe, we are frequent travelers.

I have found my involvement with the PTF to be a very rewarding experience that has allowed me to meet incredible parents who have become my dear friends over the years. I encourage all parents to become involved in our community of parents in any way that best suits them. That is how the SMES community is built. When my two daughters first enrolled at St. Margaret's nine years ago, I became involved as a volunteer and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the teachers, administrators, and other parent volunteers from preschool through high school. My role as a PTF volunteer over the years has enriched my family's experience and connection to the school community in so many amazing ways. As the president of the PTF this year, I am inviting you to consider participating as a volunteer. Our school thrives because our parents care and invest their time and talents to make a difference in the lives of our children, their classmates, and future generations of Tartans to follow!

When I look around me, everything that my children enjoy was built by those that came before me. I want to be part of the legacy not only because it is my hope that my grandchildren will be a part of SMES but because it is way to thank those that did this for my children. Nothing is more important than our children's lives, their growth and education, the world we shape for them, and the legacy we will bequeath them. With this in mind, the PTF at St. Margaret's works in partnership with the faculty, staff, and parents to provide volunteer and financial support to help the school fulfill its mission of educating the hearts and minds of our children for lives of learning, leadership, and service.

As we embark upon the 2006-2007 school year together, and on behalf of the Parent Teacher Fellowship, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new members of our school community and to all the returning families of St. Margaret's Episcopal School.

Margarita Solazzo
PTF President

THE PTF ANNUAL WELCOME BACK COFFEE



Tuesday, September 12, 2006
8:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. in Sillers Hall

Enjoy a fabulous light breakfast with old and new friends and find out about all the exiting PTF programs and opportunities for the coming school year! As always, this is a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet each other, reinforce existing friendships, and develop new ones. PTF board members and other volunteers will be available with information about all the upcoming events and programs.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Please join us after you drop off your students
and feel free to bring your younger children with you.

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