



BECK
ACADEMY
of
International Studies

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Knighly News

A Beck Academy PTSA Publication

Volume 8 Issue 5

May 2008

Turret Flashes

By Principal Dr. Brodie Bricker

The end of this school year completes a two year transition of relocating into our new facilities. The dust has settled, and we are feeling at home as we continue to address the needs of our growing student population. We have added four more portables as we anticipate that our student body will grow to 1100 for the coming school year.

May is a busy month at Beck Academy. Student Appreciation Day is scheduled for May 30th. The PTSA will be asking for your help with this event. Please review the information in your student's planner for more details.

The Student Awards Day programs will be held by grade level and are scheduled for the last ½ days of school. The 8th grade program will be on June 2nd, the 7th grade program will be on June 3rd, and the 6th grade program will be on June 4th. All programs will begin at 8:30am in the gym.

I want to thank the parents and volunteers that have made this year a successful one. We are proud of our students and their accomplishments, and the support you give us as we continue to make a difference in our students' lives each day. Please note the upcoming dates in August as we get ready to start another year. I hope you will take advantage of the opportunities to support and be involved at Beck Academy. The dates will be listed in your student's report card letter.

We appreciate your support as we continue to wind down another successful school year and plan for the 2008-2009 school year.

Sincerely,
J. Brodie Bricker,
PhD, Principal



*Have a safe
and fun
summer!*

See you August 19!

Roundtable Talk

By PTSA President Lawrie Haasis

We are winding down and have almost completed our second year of Beck Academy at the new location. We still have lots to do, but it has been a successful year. We will finish up the year with end of course exams, Student Appreciation Day, Award days and many other things will fill our days at Beck during the final weeks of May. Be sure to see page six and mark your calendars accordingly!

We are proud to announce that we are once again an award winning school. First of all, let me congratulate Heather Simon, our Teacher of the Year and Beth Daniels, our Volunteer of the Year. You can read more about them on page 4.

At the State PTA convention in Charleston, we won first place for Communications. Thank you to Julie Turner for her hard work on the newsletter and to Andi Fansher for her endless work keeping us all up to date with the e-news and the electronic bulletin board. We will miss you both next year. We were finalists in Family/Community Involvement award as well as being a finalist in our Enrichment program. We also received awards for reaching 100% membership and 1000 member club, as well as receiving the Gold Leaf Association for reaching all the goals assigned to us by the SCPTA.

I just want to take this time to thank each and every one of you for a great year. We have accomplished a lot and couldn't have done it without the constant efforts, endless hours, lots of donations, and just a lot of commitment and support. We asked and you all came through, every time!! It has been a pleasure to serve as Beck's PTSA president this year and I leave knowing that next year's board will all be in good hands with Judy Erickson running the show. Be sure to introduce yourself to Judy if you don't know her already and if you continue to give her the support you all gave the board this year it will be another great year at Beck.

Enjoy a relaxing and safe summer and spend time with your children. They grow up way too fast!!

Lawrie K Haasis

Beck Academy Art Show and Spring Chorus Concert

Tuesday, May 27 - 5:00 p.m.



- Student artwork from first and second semester art classes
 - Guest judge to present awards
 - New This Year: Staff & Faculty Division

Stay on for the Spring Chorus Concert at 6:30!!

Business Partner of the Year

Beth Daniel, Volunteer Coordinator

We are very proud to name Tom Bacunaesse at Green Pond Plants as our Business Partner of the Year. He has gone beyond the call of duty to help us with all our plants sales this year.

Tom has been a business partner with Beck Academy for a couple of years. He provides plants at cost and then allows us to mark them up and keep the profits. This year we raised money through plants sales for PTSA and Beck Athletics. Our fundraisers are simple because of him and his business. For Beck's Big Event he brings the plants to us, unloads them and then takes back the plants that do not sell. For our Poinsettia Sale he delivered the plants to the school. He even delivered the plants directly to the businesses with large orders!

Tom has no children attending Beck Academy. When he was approached to be a business partner, he gladly accepted and has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

If you have any plant needs this planting season, please visit Green Pond Plants. It is located at the Farmer's Market on Rutherford Rd. He has a wide variety of vegetables, herbs, perennials, and annuals as well as hanging baskets and garden accessories. Do you have a specific need or a hard to find plant? Feel free to call him at 292-2188.

We look forward to many years working with Tom and his Green Pond Plant business. We know we can also count on him and we look forward to more fundraisers with him in the future !

Thanks to Tom for helping us have such a successful fundraising year. Congratulations on being named the 2007-2008 Beck Academy business partner of the year!

Volunteer News

Beth Daniel, Volunteer Coordinator

As the year is quickly coming to an end, it's hard to believe all the accomplishments our volunteers made this year. As our student population grew, so did our needs. Luckily, we never had a problem filling a need and I thank each of you for making my job as coordinator easy.

I also want to thank the faculty and staff for the fantastic coffee they hosted at the end of April for volunteers. We all really enjoyed the event and the door prizes. The faculty and staff of Beck Academy shows its volunteers so much appreciation! It makes Beck a great environment to volunteer.



Volunteer of the Year—Beth Daniel



Congratulations to our volunteer coordinator, Beth Daniel. Beth has been named our Beck Academy Volunteer of the Year for 2007-2008. We are honored to recognize all that Beth has done on behalf of Beck Academy.

Beth always steps up to the plate when no one else wants to do the job and does it with efficiency and enthusiasm. She never complains. She has been a “right hand” for PTA President Lawrie Haasis and we are grateful for her hard work.

She has served on the Beck PTSA Board as our Volunteer Coordinator as well as serving on the Student Involvement Committee (SIC). She has been a true asset to Beck and we look forward to having her around for 3 more years. Thank you, Beth, for all your hard work and dedication to our children.

Teacher of the Year—Heather Simon

The 2007-2008 Teacher of the Year is Heather Simon. Heather is a second year teacher at Beck Academy.

Heather was the September Knight in Shining Armor and was instrumental in winning a contest that netted over \$25,000 worth of instruments for Beck Academy.

We are proud of her accomplishments and thankful for her vision for the Beck Academy music program.



Heather Simon with some of her students.

Dr. Bricker Wins National Award For Community Collaboration

Dr. Brodie Bricker, principal, has won the 2008 MetLife Foundation Ambassadors In Education Award. The national award program recognizes the most collaborative public school principals in 25 cities, including Greenville. All middle and high school principals in the Greenville County Schools were eligible. Several of Dr. Bricker’s colleagues and community members nominated him for the Award last month.

“Thanks to Dr. Bricker’s community relations efforts, struggling students are tutored by top engineers and university students,” said Royanne McWaters-Baer, also of Beck Academy, and one of many who nominated him for the Award. As a result of these efforts and others, Beck Academy has moved up two levels on the state report card and our students are learning to recognize the value of family and community.”

Dr. Bricker will receive his award at the beginning of the Chorus Concert on Tuesday, May 27. In addition to a \$5,000 grant, he will receive a crystal apple to signify his achievement. His award-winning community engagement practices will be profiled as a resource for other schools and communities across the country. Way to go, Dr. Bricker!

Upcoming Events

Beck PTSA General Meeting

May 27 ó 11:30 a.m.

Media Center

The following business will be conducted at the meeting:

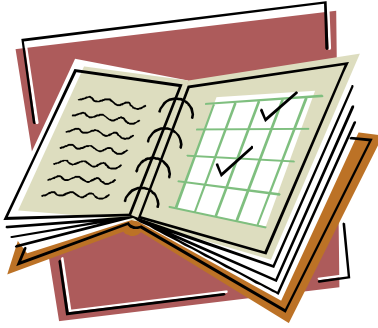
- Present and vote on the spending of excess funds
- Present & discuss the new budget from the committee
 - Vote on the new budget
- Present recommendations for officers from the committee
 - Vote of the officers
 - Installation of the new officers

A luncheon for the Outgoing Board Members and the Incoming Board Members will follow the meeting. R.S.V.P for lunch to lawrie3@aol.com.

Recommended Officers for 2008-2009

President: Judy Erickson
First Vice President: Leslie Gaines
Second Vice President: Beth Daniel
Secretary: Helen Vanvick
Treasurer: Joni Algary

End of the Year Events—Mark Your Calendars!



May 23-29 - Student body campaign and elections

May 26 - No School for Students - Teacher Workday

May 27 - PTSA Meeting, 11:30, Media Center

May 27 - Met Life Ambassadors in Education Grant Presentation, Choral Concert and Art Show, 6:30 pm

May 28 - "Fabulous Fifty" Auction

May 28 - 6th Grade Career Day

May 29 - Library Helper Field Trip

May 30 - Student Appreciation Day

June 2, 3, 4 - Half-Days and Awards Days (8th, 7th, 6th)

Beck Clothes Closet in Need of Items!

Don't throw away those "uniforms!" Help us restock our Clothes Closet.

We are always in need of clothes. If your student has outgrown his or her dress code clothes and the items are in good shape, please donate them to the Beck dress code closet. All sizes are needed.

Donations can be dropped off at the Beck office during school hours.

Thank you!



Celia Myron and Sue Poole - Our Knights in Shining Armor!

Celia Myron was named the Knight in Shining Armor for the month of April. Celia is the Cafeteria Manager. She works with all school activities providing support in food and all the little extra's that are needed. Congratulations Celia!

In May, Sue Poole was named the Knight in Shining Armor. Sue is our Media clerk. She was recognized for always going the extra mile in helping students, faculty and parents with media services.

Getting to know Sue Poole:

What was your first car? 1964 Ford Falcon

What is your favorite movie? No one favorite but I did like Shall We Dance

Are you reading anything now? Mercy by Jodi Picoult

What's something that no one knows about you? I am an open book!

What kind of music do you like? Almost any kind except "very country" country

What is your favorite TV show? Movies-especially Lifetime and Hallmark

What are your hobbies? Reading

What do you like about Beck? The diversity of the students & the wonderful people I work with.



A Red Carpet Affair



On Friday, May 16, eighth graders enjoyed "A Red Carpet Affair" as they began to say their farewells to Beck Academy. The students were dressed in their finest, and danced non-stop from the minute they arrived until the dance ended.

A special thanks to all the parents who volunteered food, door prizes, and time. The decorations were beautiful and it was a great night for both the students and the staff.

As one parent observed, the best part of the dance was watching the kids try to keep up with Mrs. Tweed on the dance floor!

Thanks to Jeanie Gilmer and her committee for a night to remember!



Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

Beck Academy's Teacher and Staff Appreciation week was celebrated May fifth through May ninth with a week of "Knights Delights." Teachers and staff members received breakfast on Monday, dessert on Wednesday, mailbox treats throughout the week, and lunch from Midtown Gourmet Deli on Friday. Door prizes were also given during the week. A huge thank you is given to the following community businesses for their many contributions and support of Beck during Teacher Appreciation Week:

Midtown Gourmet Deli
Wash Me! Autowash
Port City Java
Posh Jewelry Design
Chick-Fil-A

Thank you to all the wonderful Beck parents for your endless efforts, time spent and donations delivered. We asked and you came through, EVERY time!! A special thank you to Pam Welsch and Martha Armstrong for coordinating the week and doing it with ease.

Beck Academy Wins!

Beck Academy received several awards from the South Carolina PTA. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen!

- Winner—Communications Award
- Finalist—Middle school Enrichment Program Award
- Finalist—Middle School Family/Community Involvement Award
- Gold Award –Oak leaf Award for meeting goals
- Platinum Award –Palmetto Award for membership



Reflections Contest Winners



2007-2008 THEME "I Can Make A Difference By..."

BECK ACADEMY WINNERS

Literature

- 1st Place Andrew Crocker
- 2nd Place Alexandra Miller
- 3rd Place Danielle Gaafary
- 1st Honorable Mention Jane Baer
- 2nd Honorable Mention Emma Dilworth

Photography

- 1st Place "Stunning Sun" by Katherine Brown
- 2nd Place "Fuchsia Fairytale" by Katherine Brown
- 3rd Place "Dawn Flowers" by Katherine Brown

Musical Composition

- 1st Place Max Kirkpatrick
- 2nd Place Caroline Templeton
- 3rd Place Anna Prochaska

Art

- 1st Place Anna Barrett
- 2nd Place Jay Davis

State of South Carolina
Reflections Contest Winners
2007-2008

Musical Composition -Middle/Junior High
Max Kirkpatrick Honorable Mention

BECK ACADEMY
of
International Studies

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Principal
Dr. Brodie Bricker

Assistant Principals
Mr. Chad Dowden
Mr. Charles Strickland
Ms. Vicki Tweed

Special Ed Administrator
Mr. Jason Warren

IB Coordinator
Mrs. Dee Davis

PISA President
Mrs. Lawrie Hassis

Newsletter Editor
Mrs. Julie Turner

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To the Parents of:

We're on the Web!
www.greenville.k12.sc.us/beck



Beck Student Appreciation Day

MAY 30TH
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Volunteers needed! Please contact Kim Lennon if you can help. Call 987-0798 or email her at: klennon10@charter.net.

Please watch for emails and/or flyers in your child's book bag requesting bake sale goodies and items needed for various events.