



KAUFFMAN  
SCHOLARS, INC.

parent

P.U.L.S.E.

Parents  
Waiting  
Long-term for  
Scholar  
Excellence

What's  
Coming Up

### Class 1

**Class 1 College Readiness Conference - CANCELLED**  
for January 2009

**Class 1 Parent Meeting**  
Saturday, February 7, 2009  
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

### Class 2

**Class 2 Parent Meeting**  
Saturday, February 7, 2009  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

### Class 3

**Class 3 Parent Meeting**  
Thursday, February 19, 2009  
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**KS:** Wyandotte High School  
**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

### Class 4

**- NEW DATE & LOCATION -**

**Class 4 Parent Meeting**  
Saturday, January 24, 2009  
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**KS:** Jack Reardon Convention Center  
**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

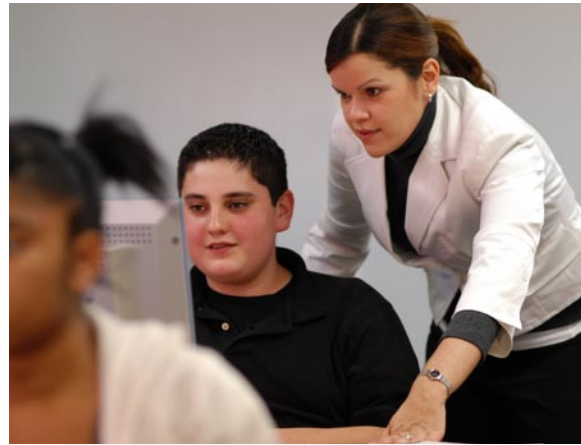
**Class 4 Make-up Session for January**  
Tuesday, January 27, 2009  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
**KS:** Donnelly College  
**MO:** Westport High School

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## Parents, AEA is Key for Scholars

**Why is it so important for Kauffman Scholars to participate fully in our Academic Enrichment Academy (AEA)?**

attending AEA at Westport High School in Kansas City, Missouri. There are 153 Class 5 Scholars at Donnelly, and 186 Class 5 Scholars at Westport High.



At AEA, Scholars have a great chance to get to know their peers from other schools in the area. At Donnelly, there are Scholars attending from Argentine, Arrowhead, Central, Coronado, Eisenhower, Northwest, Rosedale, Sumner Academy and West.

At Westport High School, Scholars are attending from Academie Lafayette, Allen Village, Banneker, Brookside, Carver, Central, Clark ACE, Derrick Thomas, East, Foreign Language Academy, Franklin, Garcia, Garfield, Genesis, Gladstone, Hartman, JA Rogers, KCMSA, Knotts, Lee A. Tolbert, Lincoln, McCoy, Melcher, Northeast, Nowlin, Paige, Renaissance, Richardson, Scoula Vita Nuova, Trailwoods, UCLA, University Academy, Wendell Phillips, Westport, Wheatley, Whittier, and Woodland.

AEA is a central part of the journey of every Kauffman Scholar toward becoming a college graduate! Parents, please support your Scholar in keeping up their attendance at AEA.

KSI has high expectations for our Scholars! At AEA, Scholars improve their academic skills and build life skills through a curriculum especially developed by KSI.

This year, there are 174 Class 4 Scholars attending AEA at Donnelly College in Kansas City, Kansas, and 143 Class 4 Scholars

## Kauffman Scholars Inc. Welcomes Class 5—the Largest Class Ever!

More than 2,500 family and friends burst into applause as the 338 members of Class 5 began their remarkable journey as Kauffman Scholars in a formal induction ceremony in Exhibit Hall at the Metropolitan Community College on Saturday, August 16, 2008.

Class 5 is the largest class of new Scholars ever inducted, and the first to be chosen through a random selection process. The process was applied because the number of applicants reached 478; now, well over 100 young people remain on a waiting list with the hope that one day they too will become Kauffman Scholars.



"This year, greater numbers of students and parents than ever before took advantage of the

Continued on page 4  
September - December 2008



## A Message From Our President & CEO

### Looking Forward with Optimism

Greetings, Parents –

As we come to the close of 2008, we can all agree that it has been a year like none other: a historic primary campaign and a historic presidential election. Yet, we have also watched and worried as the stock market grew increasingly unstable, large companies collapsed, and the threat of layoffs became more common.

With all the challenges we face, there is much cause to enter 2009 with optimism. As parents, this is another classic opportunity to serve as a role model for our children, by choosing optimism instead of pessimism. Living with optimism is a quality that can be learned. Optimists who also have the quality of resilience – the ability to bounce back and keep trying when times get tough – are among the most successful people in the world.

*“Making your mark on the world is hard. If it were easy, everybody would do it. But it’s not. It takes patience, it takes commitment, and it comes with plenty of failure along the way. The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won’t. It’s whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.”*

PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA

As adults dealing with challenges, let’s not ignore that our children are facing their own personal challenges each day: keeping their grades up in school, dealing with peers, facing the emotional and physical changes that adolescence brings. The journey from adolescence to adulthood is difficult, and the words and actions of parents can present a model of hope and determination that helps young people believe in themselves and hang in there to make it through tough times. Remind your child that a problem doesn’t last forever, and there is the opportunity to learn from mistakes.

The power of positive reinforcement is a great tool for parents to build confidence and courage in our young people. Encourage your sons and daughters to reach out to help others, whether it’s through mentoring a younger student or participating in community service projects. The old saying is true – when we help others we help ourselves, by taking the focus off our own problems and using our strength and resources to help someone less fortunate.

The future is always uncertain; yet, as we enter 2009, let us go forward with optimism and belief in our potential and the potential of our young people. Happy New Year!

Best regards,

R. Stephen Green, Ed.D.

## Inclement Weather Protocol Parents MUST Know

Parents it’s that time of the year again. During the winter there will be times when the weather creates situations in which KSI must cancel classes or change normal operating hours. Please keep the following policy for inclement weather on hand!

### All Day Closures

When classes are cancelled in the KCMO school district or KCK USD 500, After School Enrichment Academy (AEA) will also be cancelled. KSI cancellation information will be included on local television stations. Parents may also call the **Parent Information Line at 816-932-1244** to check the status of classes. Cancellation information will be available at 6:00 a.m. on that day.

### Early Release Before the Start of AEA

When schools in either district dismiss early, AEA classes will be cancelled for that day. Parents will be notified so they can expect their Scholars to get home by their normal transportation means or make other appropriate arrangements.

### Early Release During AEA

If necessary, AEA may close early due to changes in weather conditions after the start of classes. Parents will be notified to arrange for an early pick-up of their students.

### Saturday Enrichment Academy (SEA)

When a forecast of wintry weather is available on Friday, the decision to cancel SEA will be made by KSI by 9:00 a.m. on that day. If a forecast or incidence of bad weather is not known until the morning of SEA, the decision to cancel classes will be made by 6:00 a.m.

Parents may call the **Parent Information Line at 816-932-1244**, which will have a recorded message informing parents of the cancellation.

### Scholars 2 Leaders (S2L)

A Scholars2Leaders staff member will inform all S2L students when their meeting has been cancelled thru the scholars G-Mail account and by the voice messaging system. If Scholars have any questions about cancellation, they must contact their High School or College Coaches.



## My Thoughts

**Pam Harris**  
Director of Parent  
Engagement

*As you reflect upon the past year, think about the positive things that have happened in your life and not the negative ones. Be grateful that you are a part of a wonderful family that truly cares about you and your scholar. I want to encourage you to continue to support and lift up your scholar. The Scholars are working hard and we can see it every day. As I was contemplating my message to you for this issue of Parent P.U.L.S.E., I ran across this article that I thought was so fitting for you during this time. It's called "Encouraging Your Child through the Tough Times." I hope you will enjoy it as much as I did. Until 2009, may you and your family be blessed.*

# Encouraging Your Child Through the Tough Times

All parents want their children to do well in school. We post their hand-drawn pictures on the refrigerator and hang ceramic handprints on the wall. At grade time, we make a fuss over good or bad reports.

As children move through the academic system and come of age through the maturing process, they occasionally stumble and perhaps falter on the road to educational success. An important parental function is to be there for our kids when they encounter obstacles to their learning progress and guide them over or around these barriers to success.

If you are concerned about helping your child get high grades in school, the following tips may be helpful.

1. **Talk about it.** Don't expect your child to know what is expected or how you feel about the good or bad grades that come home at report time. Be clear in setting a reasonable standard. While you want to emphasize that careless neglect of studies will lead to loss of privileges (such as telephone, computer, or television), you should highlight the positives of earning good grades and what rewards may be expected.
2. **Write it down.** Post a chart on the refrigerator for young children, or make a contract with high school kids that rewards high marks with driving or social privileges. Whatever your system is, make a written copy so students can check it any time, especially if the guidelines are detailed or complex, such as awarding \$5 per A, \$4 per B, and nothing per C or lower. Ignoring children's school grades means they will likely not care either.
3. **Offer a reward.** As indicated above, rewards may be tangible, such as dollar amounts, or they may be intangible, like privileges. Be reasonable in assessing the value of your student's academic performance, keeping in mind that some kids are natural scholars while others are clearly the opposite.
4. **Gear studies to your child's aptitude.** If your son loves sports, order a software program that uses professional game clips or players' names to endorse a learning method. For kids who love the outdoors, suggest they ask for extra credit assignments connected to nature study. Look for ways to link personal interests to school progress.
5. **Get involved.** Volunteer at school. Studies show that parents who help out at their child's school tend to see improved grades in their children's report cards. You also may want to suggest that the teacher adopt a rewards program (using books, ice cream, fast food, etc.) as an incentive to prompt high achievement levels.
6. **Give hugs.** Recent research indicates that kids still like Mom and Dad to hug or embrace them, but not in front of their friends. Parents remain the most influential people in their kids' lives, so be a good role model in valuing education, reading for leisure, and praising academic success.

Kids are naturally curious and love to learn about things that interest them. Tap this quality to motivate your children to strive for excellence. Both you and they will benefit.

Written by *Rose Halas*

## Introducing KSI Parent Coordinators

**Tammy Biggs** and **Janette Lockridge** have joined KSI to assist the parent engagement program as Parent Coordinators. Tammy and Janette work with staff and parents to help organize workshops and community service events, and to keep parents up to date about upcoming activities. Tammy works at the AEA at Westport High School in Kansas City, Missouri, and Janette works at the AEA at Donnelly College in Kansas City, Kansas. As Parent Coordinators, both work to research information helpful to specific issues raised

by parents, such as tips on helping with homework, budgeting in their family, or how to talk with their teen.

Tammy has a professional background in the mortgage industry, but was in search of an opportunity to get involved with youth, their parents, and education. "My heart is with education and training," she said. "I have a strong belief in the need to take interest in the youth of today." Tammy is originally from Springfield, Missouri, and



**Janette Lockridge** **Tammy Biggs**

has been in the Kansas City area since 1994. For the past three years, she has been involved with the YouthFriends organization. Tammy earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, and her MBA from Baker University. "I hope to make use of my

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## KSI Welcomes Class 5, *continued*

opportunity to apply to become Kauffman Scholars," said Dr. Steve Green, President and CEO of KSI. "Over 700 students came to our recruiting events. With the induction of Class 5, now there are more than 1,300 Kauffman Scholars in the metropolitan area. We expect our Scholars to reach out to other young people and encourage their success by setting an excellent example."

During the ceremony, the packed audience heard videotaped remarks from the late Ewing Marion Kauffman, founder of the Project Choice program that inspired the creation of Kauffman Scholars Inc. Mr. Kauffman stated, "If you give these students hope for the future, if they know somebody cares for them, you'll be surprised at what they can achieve."

Dr. Carl Schramm, President and CEO of the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, delivered a stirring videotaped message, followed by remarks about the Kauffman Legacy from Mr. Andres M. Dominguez, Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City Program Officer. The keynote address was delivered by Kansas City entrepreneur Mr. Danny O'Neill, owner of The Roasterie Inc., a specialty coffee roasting company based in Kansas City, Missouri.

Class 5 Scholars closed the festive ceremony by taking the Kauffman Scholars "Pledge to Myself" led by Dr. Green... ending with the words, "Today, I pledge to believe in me."

## Parent Coordinators, *continued*

management background as I serve the parents of Kauffman Scholars," Tammy observed. "My primary goal is to enhance their experience as we journey through their child's education on their way to college."

Janette provides community health education and outreach in the areas of health and wellness, in addition to her work as Parent Coordinator. "I have a strong desire to provide parents with an array of resources to create opportunities that will enhance their scholar's academic success," said Janette. In recent years, she has owned and managed two companies – Lockridge

Marketing and WellWorks, Corporate Wellness Services, LLC. In addition to being an entrepreneur, Janette has worked in health care management at several area hospitals and clinics. She is the mother of two boys, ages 7 and 10, who attend schools in the Kansas City, Kansas USD500 School District.

"We are very pleased to have Janette and Tammy on board to assist our parents," said Pam Harris, Director of Parent Engagement. "Their contributions will help us provide more resources to support our parents and Scholars."

## Class 4

### Class 4 High School Readiness Conference

REQUIRED FOR BOTH PARENTS AND SCHOLARS - CLASS 4 ONLY  
Saturday, February 14, 2009  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Paseo Academy

## Class 5

– NEW DATE & LOCATION –

### Class 5 Parent Meeting

Saturday, January 24, 2009  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**KS:** Jack Reardon Convention Center  
**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

### Class 5 Make-up Session for January

Tuesday, January 27, 2009  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
**KS:** Donnelly College  
**MO:** Westport High School

### Class 5 Parent Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2009  
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.  
**KS:** Wyandotte High School  
**MO:** Robert J. Mohart Center (formerly the Linwood Multipurpose Center)

### Class 5 Make-up Session for January

Thursday, February 26, 2009  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
**KS:** Donnelly College  
**MO:** Westport High School

Kauffman Scholars, Inc. admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin and without regard to other protected status as provided in its Non-Discrimination Policy.



**KAUFFMAN**  
SCHOLARS, INC.

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