

What's
Coming Up

Kauffman Scholars, Inc.
plans are underway to help support
the children and families in Haiti.
More information forthcoming.
Stay tuned!

Class 1

Parent Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2010
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Robert J. Mohart Center

Class 2

Parent Meeting
Saturday, February 6, 2010
Paseo Performing Arts Academy
(Auditorium) 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

March - Spring Break
No Parent Meeting

Class 3

Parent Meeting
Saturday, February 6, 2010
Paseo Performing Arts Academy
(Auditorium) 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

March - Spring Break
No Parent Meeting

Class 4

Parent Meeting
Saturday, February 18, 2010
Jack Reardon Convention Center
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

March - Spring Break
No Parent Meeting

NEW DATE for Scholars!
C4 Saturday Academic
Enrichment Academy (SAEA)
Saturday, January 23, 2010
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Calendar continued on back.

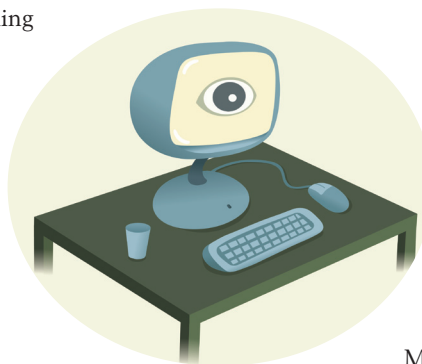
Tips for Class 5 & Class 6 Parents

Middle School Parents: Tips for keeping your child safe online

Class 5 and Class 6 parents, your middle school students are likely to know much more about the Internet than you can imagine! While the Internet is a great tool for doing research and gaining information, it can be very dangerous to the safety of young people. **Limit your student's time on the computer, and set the following rules for use:**

- ◆ Never share names, schools, ages, phone numbers, or addresses
- ◆ Never send pictures to strangers
- ◆ Keep passwords private (except to parents)

Visit age-appropriate sites. Find sites that promote learning, creativity, and that deepen



your kids' interests. Also check out popular Web sites before your kids visit them. **Social networks like MySpace or Facebook are not meant for middle school kids.**

If they wouldn't do it in real life, they shouldn't do it online. Don't say mean things, and no cheating in games or at school.

Have some rules about time and place. Set limits on the amount of time kids spend online. Don't let them Instant Message during homework. Restrict time and sites for online gaming.

Make sure kids know to tell a trusted adult if anything suspicious, cruel, or scary happens. They need to know they won't get in trouble.

This information is taken from *common sense media, Internet Safety Tips for Middle School Kids*. Watch for more Cyber Tips!

Tips for Class 4 Parents

Expect Changes During Freshman Year

Parents of Class 4 Scholars, it is likely you are seeing confusing changes in your Scholars. These changes are generally normal phases in their development; but remember, each individual teen has their own individual personality that will

continue to influence their behavior. Keep the relationship you have with your student strong by keeping the special bond between you at the top of your mind even as you help your teen deal with some of the following issues.

- Struggle with sense of identity
- Interests and clothing style influenced by peer group
- Moodiness
- Improved ability to use speech to express one's self
- Realization that parents are not perfect; identification of their faults
- Less affection shown to parents, with occasional rudeness
- Complaints that parents interfere with independence

Continued on page 4



A Message From Our President & CEO

Greetings, Parents,

All Good Wishes for the New Year!

When you make your New Year's resolutions, I encourage you to put spending time with your children high on the list. Young people value the gift of your caring and attention more than they like to admit. Knowing you are proud of their accomplishments, and that you will support them if they stumble, gives young people the motivation to do their best when others are tempting them to stray down the wrong path.

Consider this powerful example given by Class 1 Scholar Rene Martinez, and reported in an article on Kauffman Scholars Inc. in a national publication named Youth Today:

"Kauffman Scholars might have saved Rene Martinez's life. On a Friday night in March 2009, Martinez was attending a Quinceañera (a 15th birthday party) when some of his friends invited him to go to another party. Martinez declined, because the next day he had to attend his Saturday morning class for Kauffman Scholars, in which he had been involved since seventh grade. His friends who went to the party ended up fighting a pair of youths at a park in nearby Independence, Mo. They went at the request of an associate who was challenged to a fight by his ex-girlfriend's boyfriend for sending the girl a text message. At the end of the fight, a youth who had accompanied the boyfriend lay mortally wounded, shot several times. Police said the slain youth had no connection to the fight. Now, four youths – including Martinez's friends – face trial for murder. Martinez's experience shows one way that college access programs that engage youth can help keep them away from violence. "I probably would have been there [at the shooting], because I would have been at that party that they were going to," he said. "I didn't go because I had Kauffman the next day."

As parents and caring adults, we have a responsibility to use our great influence over our children to help them believe in their own potential. We must tell our children who they are and what they can become; because if we don't tell them, someone else will – and that someone may be a gang member or drug dealer.

Remember that the Kauffman Scholars organization is your partner in this journey, and we must work together to succeed. As Oprah Winfrey said, "Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

Best regards,

Dr. Steve Green
KSI President and CEO

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 #33 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.

Get the Most from Sophomore Year.

Parents, during sophomore year it is very important to support your student in getting good grades and continuing to become more mature by participation in leadership activities. Following are some tips on how you can help your Scholar:

▲ **Review academic progress reports and quarterly report cards.**

If you have concerns contact teachers directly through email or through department telephones, and request a meeting to talk with the teacher in person.

▲ **Encourage your student to get involved in a variety of activities**

and to develop leadership skills through after-school activities and in Kauffman Scholars' programs.

▲ In the spring, **discuss the classes your student will select for Junior year**, keeping in mind teacher recommendations, graduation requirements, and college preparation. Talk with



your child's guidance counselor or KSI High School Coach if you need more information.

▲ **Learn about the names of the college entrance tests**

your student will take. **Remember these three in particular:**

PSAT – This is the short form for Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test. This is a practice test for the SAT, and it is useful for Sophomores and Juniors.

ACT and SAT - These letters are short form for the American College Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Both tests are designed to

measure a student's level of knowledge in basic areas such as math, science, English and social studies. Colleges may require the results of either the ACT or SAT before granting admission.

The more information you have, the more you can support your Scholar!

Saving Money Now for College Applications



Parents, remember that your child's college applications will require fees, and KSI does not pay for application fees. While your student is in the junior year is an excellent time to begin saving additional money for fees. Take a look at the following ideas for making saving easier, from author Terri Seymour.

- 1 Cut out the soda and drink more water!
You'd be surprised how much you will save.
- 2 Get movies from the library instead of renting them.
- 3 Same with books, borrow instead of buy. We usually only read them once anyway.
- 4 Toss all your change in a "piggy bank" of some kind and let it accumulate for a few months or longer.
It really does add up.
- 5 Keep your car tuned up and your tires with the right amount of air to save money on gas.

There are several ways to get a fee waiver when applying to college. If you come from a low-income family and feel that paying an application fee would be a hardship, then you can get your application fee waived by most colleges. You need to

include with each application a signed statement from your guidance counselor which confirms that you and your family cannot afford to pay application fees. Some colleges include fee-waiver forms with their applications; some high schools have their own forms or use those provided by the National Association for College Admission Counseling or by the College Board. However, it doesn't really matter how or where the request is written. Your counselor can simply jot a note on school stationery if he or she doesn't have an official fee-waiver document.

While colleges rarely provide hard-and-fast guidelines stating who is eligible and who is not, typically it is families with a household income under about \$40,000. However, depending on the size of the family and various extenuating circumstances, that figure can fluctuate, and eligibility is generally left to the discretion of the guidance counselor.

The point of fee waivers is to ease a student's burden due to financial hardship, and they are not meant for those who simply don't feel like shelling out the extra dough, so only make the request if you truly need to. (Every once in a while, admission officials catch a student using a fee waiver who doesn't deserve one, and this *can* impact admission outcomes.)

"Expect Changes", Continued from page 1

- Tendency to return to childish behavior, particularly when stressed
- Mostly interested in present, with limited thoughts of the future
- Intellectual interests expand and gain in importance
- Greater ability to do work (physical, mental, emotional)
- Concerns regarding physical and sexual attractiveness to others
- Rule and limit testing

Of course, these are just a few of the many changes taking place in your student. When times seem tough, this is a time when your child needs your support and understanding!

Information from the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry website.

Tips for **Class 1** Parents

Advice for College Parents



Many Class 1 parents and guardians are experiencing first hand the changes that take place for the entire family when a son or daughter leaves home to go to college. Emory University psychology professor Marshall Duke helps parents know what to expect during their child's college years. Here is some of his advice for adjusting to changes at home...

▲ You won't be able to wait for them to come home—or leave.

"Your child will arrive home with a whole new set of habits, particularly when it comes to food and sleep.

▲ All of your lives will change.

"Younger sisters or brothers may be quite happy to see the older child leave home. Younger children who usually have stayed in their rooms may suddenly appear at the dinner table.

▲ Don't change your child's room.

"Your college student's room is his or her 'home base'—try not to change it

very much during the first semester away. Freshmen in particular can go through some very difficult times. Give them a 'safe haven.' "

▲ When a problem arises, "move like your feet are stuck in molasses."

"The temptation is to rush in when a child calls home with a problem. Remember that many resources exist at college to help students cope with various situations. Express support, but give your children time to solve their own problems—it will benefit them.

Class 5

Saturday, January 30, 2010
High School Readiness Conference
Paseo Performing Arts Academy
(Auditorium)
4747 Flora Ave., Kansas City, MO.
Begins 8:00 a.m.

February Parent Meeting
Saturday, February 27, 2010
Wyandotte High School
(Auditorium)
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

March - Spring Break
No Parent Meeting

Class 6

January Parent Meeting
Saturday, January 23, 2010
Wyandotte High School
(Auditorium)
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

February Parent Meeting
Saturday, February 27, 2010
Wyandotte High School
(Auditorium)
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

March - Spring Break
No Parent Meeting

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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