This is the third in a series of quarterly newsletters to our community. In these messages we hope to keep our students’ parents and their neighbors up to date on what’s happening in our schools. And there are always new things happening. Whenever we make changes to anything that we do, the goal is always to provide our children with an interesting, challenging educational experience.

Inside this issue:

- Latch Key Program 1
- School Climate to be Addressed 2
- Superintendent’s Report 2
- Curriculum Director’s Report 3
- Business Manager’s Report 4
- Treasurer’s report 4
- Student Highlights 5
- 2008-09 Calendar 7
- Sports 8

LAKE, VILLAGE, DISTRICT ANNOUNCE JOINT LATCH KEY PROGRAM

The City of Sheffield Lake and the Village of Sheffield will team up with the SSL City Schools to provide a new in-school “latchkey” program for school-aged children of working parents. The latchkey collaboration is the first fruit of regular monthly meetings at which S-SL Superintendent Will Folger, Sheffield Lake Mayor John Piskura and Mayor John Hunter of Sheffield Village look for ways to work together for the good of the whole community.

“We’re discussing a lot of different things where we can help each other for the good of the community,” Mayor Hunter said. “We’ve talked about ways of getting sanitary sewer service to the schools, bike and walking trails and some other things like that. The first thing we’re going to do is a latch-key program.”

“We started talking about this last fall and Mayor Hunter joined us after he took office,” Piskura said. “It became more urgent when St. Thomas’ closing was announced. A lot of people have asked about it since then.

Previously, St. Thomas The Apostle Elementary, scheduled to close at the end of the school year, had the only in-school latchkey program. Only preschool, for three and four year old children, and day care for children aged six weeks and older will remain at St. Thomas.

The city and Village will contract with the YMCA of Greater Cleveland to direct the program, and the school district will provide facilities at Knollwood and Tennyson.

“IT will be at no cost to the District,” Folger said. “Our hope is to provide the community with a much needed service.”

Tentative fees will be $20 registration; full time, AM and PM, five days a week will be $70 for two weeks; full time AM only $25 for two weeks, full time PM only $55; and the daily rate will be $9. The fees will be adjusted based on a sliding fee schedule for those families who qualify. The program will only be available on the days that school is in session.

“We are all very excited to see this program come to be. Hopefully more partnerships are in the future,” Folger said.

TENNYSON HONORED AS BUILDING OF DISTINCTION

This award highlights schools in which a high percentage of students with disabilities is achieving academic success. Tennyson exceeded the program’s rigorous criteria on the 2006-07 Ohio Achievement Tests in reading and mathematics. Tennyson also has been rated an “Excellent School” for five consecutive years by the state, and was honored at the Office for Exceptional Children’s statewide Special Education Leadership Conference Jan. 16-17 in Columbus. A banner proclaiming Tennyson’s School of Distinction status was presented by State School Board Member John Bender, and an Ohio House of Representatives Proclamation (signed by Representatives Matt Lundy and Joe Kozuura as well as Speaker of the House Jon Husted) was presented by Rep. Lundy to the Tennyson staff on April 11.
IMPROVING SCHOOL CULTURE TO BE A PRIORITY

2008-2009 STARTING TIMES REVISED

The start and finish times for the 2008-2009 school year have been reviewed and revised in an attempt to improve learning. Multiple studies have shown that teenagers do not get enough sleep and learn better later in the day. With that in mind, the tentative times are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Arrival</th>
<th>Tardy Bell</th>
<th>Dismissal Bell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brookside</td>
<td>7:55</td>
<td>8:05</td>
<td>3:09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMS</td>
<td>7:35</td>
<td>7:55</td>
<td>2:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestlawn</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barr</td>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennyson</td>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>8:40</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knollwood</td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>8:50</td>
<td>3:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AM Kindergarten</td>
<td>8:50</td>
<td></td>
<td>11:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM Kindergarten</td>
<td>2:40</td>
<td></td>
<td>3:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students learn best later in the day. The schedule should reflect that fact.

SCHOOL DRESS

In our last issue we discussed and showed examples of our proposed 'almost a uniform' for daily in-class wear. We are still working on standardizing student apparel with a focus on saving parents’ money, making outsiders easier to notice and improving our academic culture. We are still considering a possible January 2009 start, and will have more on this in our next issue.

GRAD CEREMONY RE-VISITED

Beginning with the class of 2011, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian positions will again be recognized during the annual Brookside graduation ceremony. The positions, which reflect the students who graduate first and second in their classes, were not recognized this past year. Because of fairness and notification concerns, the positions will not be recognized this year or the next two years. The Top Ten Percent of the class will continue to be recognized as per long standing policy.

BARR/FORESTLAWN RESTRUCTURING

All is in place for the Barr/Forestlawn Restructuring move. Starting in the fall of 2008, Barr Elementary will house all the fourth grade students and Forestlawn will be the fifth grade building.

This restructuring was done primarily for academic reasons including improved curricular offerings and opportunities. Consolidating the fourth and fifth grades in one building each will facilitate programs for both special ed. and gifted students, and make fifth graders’ transition to SMS as sixth graders much easier.

Students who attended kindergarten through third grade together will no longer be split up for grades four and five, then reunited in grade 6 at SMS. We think kids will be positively affected by this change. Teachers will be able to coordinate programs and utilize resources, team teaching and intervention programs better, and take better advantage of teachers’ individual strengths at both grade levels. The move is a result of nearly three years of study and discussion. Improving learning for our students is the ultimate goal.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

We are currently accepting Open Enrollment applications. The signup period runs from the return of Spring Break until the end of June. Some grades will be closed due to numbers. Spots will be filled on a first come basis. Waiting lists will be established.

The social environment has a tremendous impact on learning. A student needs to be comfortable and respected. Stress is counterproductive to learning.

KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

Kindergarten signup for the 2008-2009 school year is continuing. Tentative plans call for four half day classes and three all day, every day classes. Student enrollment will eventually dictate the number of offerings.

Since the state does not require nor reimburse the local district for the all day program, there is a sliding fee schedule for those families interested in the program. If the family qualifies for the free lunch program, the annual cost of the program is $1000. If the family qualifies for the reduced lunch program, then the cost is $1500. The normal fee is $2000 for the year. The fees are used to pay for the costs of the program.

It is easier to remediate a child at the beginning of his or her educational journey, than at the end.
PREPARING STUDENTS’ FUTURE IS OUR GOAL

24-7 SCHOOL ACCESS PROGRAM TO BE IMPLEMENTED

In the 2008-2009 school year we will bring the schools to the community--24 hours a day, seven days a week--through the power of technology. Parents will have online access to what’s going on in their children’s education, much as they already have online banking, news and shopping. Now that most families have access to the internet, the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Schools want to take advantage of that by offering new home-school connections through our district webpage, sheffield.k12.oh.us: Beginning next school year our webpage will offer online access to all district forms (applications, emergency medical forms, etc.), parental access to their child’s or children’s current grades, daily access to your child’s homework assignments, daily access to video podcasts for each classroom teacher--students’ podcasts, too, daily access to a teacher’s SMART-board lessons, and the ability to communicate with classroom teachers via email.

The purpose of the 24-7 concept is to link families with schools via the internet and use the information technologies available to us to provide up-to-date information on the students’ progress as well as on school events. Parents and students will have the ability to track their performance on a timely basis. Our new online gradebook, Pinnacle Plus, will provide direct feedback to students and parents in the form of real time class progress reports and report cards.

Pinnacle Plus is a comprehensive system that automates student grading, attendance and behavior reports. It helps make student performance information accessible, secure and accurate. The new software will also allow teachers and school office staff to spend more of their time on the real business of education.

Beginning in August, parents will not have to wait until progress reports and report cards are sent home to learn how their children are performing in school.

Our Technology program takes a backseat to no district in the area.

The goal is to make it possible for both parents and children to communicate more quickly and effectively with the school and ultimately become more directly involved in the learning process.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS REVISED

On April 14, the Board of Education approved an new graduation requirements two years before the rest of Ohio. Governor Ted Strickland asked the Ohio Department of Education to require 25 credits for graduation instead of 21, beginning with the class of 2014: including four credits in math, science and English; and five credits from a combination of foreign language, fine arts, business, technology or career technical courses. The 25 credit requirements also include at least one credit (or two semesters) of fine arts between grades 7 and 12, plus three electives.

Our experience has always been that when we raise expectations, our students rise to the challenge, so we’ve instituted those changes for this year’s incoming freshman class, the class of 2012. (Brookside students who attend JVS will not have to meet the new changes until 2014.)

We’ve adopted High Schools That Work’s motto: ‘Using Rigor, Relevance and Relationships to Improve Student Achievement,’ so we’ve opted to challenge Brookside students sooner than the rest of the state. We were already requiring 23 credits for graduation, so an increase to 25 credits should be an easier step for our kids to make.

The increased number of four-year course requirements will impact our school culture primarily by making the senior year more meaningful. Seniors will no longer be able to fulfill math, science and language requirements in three years, then “cruise” through a senior year with only electives on their schedules.

While that was a nice way for seniors to emphasize the social aspects of their last year, our research shows that kids pay dearly for that easy schedule when they get to college: With a year of “breeze” courses to reinforce bad study habits, too many academically rusty high school graduates can’t cope with the increased expectations of college. We don’t want our college freshmen to need remedial courses to meet those demands.

We hope increasing seniors’ course work demands will set a more rigorous academic tone for underclassmen. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors tend to follow seniors’ examples, resulting in Brookside graduates better prepared for adult life and higher educational careers.

As part of our effort to improve school culture, teachers and principals in all of our schools have been working to meet the needs our students will have in the 21st century. We’re reviewing all the strengths and weaknesses of our academic efforts, analyzing our own data along with Ohio Achievement and Graduation Test data to make improvements. We’re redesigning our grading system to include standards-based report cards. We’re collecting feedback from students, parents and community stakeholders about cultural changes like campus wear. We’re evaluating and revising texts and methods to integrate 21st century learning skills and tools.

Students in grades 3-8 completed Ohio Achievement Tests during the week of April 28-May 2. We want to thank AMVETS Post 55 for donating breakfast for the kids all week, and our teachers, who did a great job preparing the students for success. We’ll send individual test results home as soon as we receive them from the testing company, around June 15.
Treasurer’s Report

Don Breon, Treasurer

As we near June 30th, the end of our fiscal year, we are able to report that the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake CSD is in sound financial condition.

We have repaid the $720,000.00 State Advance as well as our Energy Conservation Notes and are now debt free. We have returned the School Districts Per Pupil Expenditures to well under the statewide average EPP and in line with neighboring school districts. (See Chart) During the five years FY 98 through FY 02 the School District’s EPP not only exceed the statewide average but it also exceeded most neighboring school districts. Since the nearly $1.2 million in cuts implemented for the FY 2005/2006 school year OUR EPP has remained under the state wide average.

The School District had the good fortune to receive unanticipated tangible personal property tax revenue from Ford Motor Company and has taken steps to save money on our health insurance coverage. These funds have allowed the School District to make much needed facilities upgrades, replace worn out buses and update our technology and curriculum.

Sound finances are just one of the many positive happenings in our School District that leads to Cardinal Pride Community Wide is alive and ongoing.

S-SL FINANCIAL STABILITY CONTINUES

The following comparison reflects the cost of educating a student in our district compared to neighboring districts over the past ten years. It is our intention to provide our students with the best possible education while still be good stewards of the community’s funds.

EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 98</th>
<th>FY 99</th>
<th>FY 00</th>
<th>FY 01</th>
<th>FY 02</th>
<th>FY 03</th>
<th>FY 04</th>
<th>FY 05</th>
<th>FY 06</th>
<th>FY 07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Ave.</td>
<td>6,225</td>
<td>6,640</td>
<td>7,055</td>
<td>7,574</td>
<td>8,065</td>
<td>8,418</td>
<td>8,757</td>
<td>9,019</td>
<td>9,344</td>
<td>9,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-SL</td>
<td>6,778</td>
<td>7,349</td>
<td>8,154</td>
<td>8,022</td>
<td>8,413</td>
<td>8,111</td>
<td>8,270</td>
<td>8,306</td>
<td>8,484</td>
<td>8,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avon Lake</td>
<td>6,658</td>
<td>6,747</td>
<td>8,267</td>
<td>7,735</td>
<td>8,299</td>
<td>8,406</td>
<td>9,397</td>
<td>9,799</td>
<td>9,571</td>
<td>9,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avon</td>
<td>5,401</td>
<td>5,449</td>
<td>6,391</td>
<td>6,582</td>
<td>7,094</td>
<td>6,501</td>
<td>7,366</td>
<td>7,264</td>
<td>7,465</td>
<td>7,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elyria</td>
<td>6,222</td>
<td>6,390</td>
<td>7,789</td>
<td>7,105</td>
<td>8,103</td>
<td>8,771</td>
<td>9,136</td>
<td>9,775</td>
<td>9,527</td>
<td>9,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorain</td>
<td>7,083</td>
<td>7,464</td>
<td>8,623</td>
<td>8,435</td>
<td>8,555</td>
<td>9,034</td>
<td>9,988</td>
<td>10,317</td>
<td>11,109</td>
<td>10,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midview</td>
<td>5,127</td>
<td>4,997</td>
<td>6,409</td>
<td>6,099</td>
<td>6,479</td>
<td>7,117</td>
<td>6,860</td>
<td>7,052</td>
<td>7,707</td>
<td>7,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ridge.</td>
<td>6,013</td>
<td>6,721</td>
<td>7,709</td>
<td>7,589</td>
<td>7,576</td>
<td>7,560</td>
<td>8,028</td>
<td>7,915</td>
<td>8,025</td>
<td>8,558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUMMER MAINTENANCE PLAN ANNOUNCED

Tentative summer maintenance plans have been announced. Although subject to change, the following reflects our current plans. The projects are being paid for out of unpaid back tax collections, savings resulting from changes in the makeup of our insurance consortium, and our annual permanent improvement funds.

BHS Showers  
Technology updates  
BHS doors  
Tennyson Boiler Room  
North ditch and catch basins  
BHS - Boiler room, two mechanical rooms  
Bathrooms renovations  
Security cameras throughout the district  
Home bleacher foundation  
Home bleachers  
Baseball field drainage  
Softball field drainage  
Roofing throughout the district  
BOE sump lines  
BOE entrance walk and stoop - concrete  
BHS gym floor refinishing  
BOE parking lot  
Student Parking lot  
SMS - Harris Rd Parking  
BHS south drive  
Floor Scrubber upgrade  
Mower upgrade  
SMS sewer plant fencing  
BHS Cafeteria/hallway  
BHS band room roofing  
Air Condition District Computer labs  
Football field drainage

We are not an affluent community, despite what the Ohio School Facilities Committee suggests in its assistance priority ranking. Because of this fact, we must work extremely hard to be good stewards of the community’s funds and to get the greatest return on our resources.

We are not an affluent community, despite what the Ohio School Facilities Committee suggests in its assistance priority ranking. Because of this fact, we must work extremely hard to be good stewards of the community’s funds and to get the greatest return on our resources.

Kitchen Equipment  
Cafeteria, /Kitchen/, library air conditioning  
Concrete bus garage floor  
BHS rear parking lot  
BHS gym Sound system  
BHS gym ventilation  
BHS Stage Lighting  
Football field / baseball field Irrigation  
Engineering / MKC for bid projects  
Tractor  
BHS North/East entrance - concrete  
District Doors  
Skid Steer  
Bus Garage Repairs / expansion  
Band bleachers  
Visitor  bleachers  
Delivery truck  
Barr sewer facility  
SMS sewer facility

The physical environment greatly impacts learning. Distractions should be minimal. Simplicity and safety should be emphasized.
TERI VIGG ACCEPTED TO THE MARTIN ESSEX SCHOOL

Brookside Junior Teri Vigg has won acceptance to the Martin Essex School For the Gifted. Vigg’s acceptance was announced March 31 by Mary Ellen Carras, Coordinator of programs for gifted students at the Educational Service Center of Lorain County.

Only 65 high school juniors (out of Ohio’s 611 school districts) win invitations to the prestigious summer program on The Ohio State University’s main campus in Columbus. The summer program provides an environment where a diverse group of gifted students live, learn and work together, facilitating personal and interpersonal growth. Essex School programs are taught by OSU professors. They challenge high school juniors intellectually by allowing them to explore a broad spectrum of subject areas and social issues.

I’m proud to represent Brookside High School at the Martin Essex School,” Vigg said. “I hope to leave a lasting impression and be an example for future applicants.”

Vigg is the second BHS student to win an invitation to attend the Essex School for the Gifted. The first was Dan Griffith in 2005. Last year Joely Hildebrand was named an alternate. Only one Lorain County school has won more than two Essex Scholarship awards, while among our neighboring districts, Avon has had one Essex scholar and Avon Lake has had none.

BHS juniors Tristan Maiers and Monica Raible, both 17, have been named to the Cleveland Clinic’s prestigious summer Science Internship Program. They’ll do individually structured, full-time, science-related research at the Cleveland Clinic or one of its affiliated community hospitals or family health centers. Savannah Klingshirn, the first BHS student to attend for the Clinic summer program, will return as an advisor and counselor to this year’s interns.

Raible (3.9 GPA) hopes to major in biology or neuroscience at Oberlin College. Maiers (4.0 GPA) hopes to major in pharmaceutical development at either the University of Toledo or Ohio Northern University. Raible said, “This internship is going to open up so many doors for me, it’s just incredible!” Maiers said, “Not many people my age can say they’ve worked under professionals with standards as high as the Cleveland Clinic’s. A once in a lifetime opportunity!”

TRISTAN MAIERS AND MONICA RAIBLE-CLEVELAND CLINIC INTERNS

Sheffield Middle School seventh graders Jessica Cerney, Taylor Byers and Shelby Kerstetter have recently won competitive honors. Jessica Cerney won the annual SMS Science Fair and represented her school at the Mohican District Science Day at Ashland University. She won the Naval Science Award, presented by the U.S. Navy, and the Wil Research award, which carries with it a $100 U.S. Savings Bond.

JESSICA CERNEY—SCIENCE FAIR

Taylor Byers and Shelby Kerstetter were honored at the regional Power of the Pen Competition. Taylor Byers won a $100 U.S. Savings Bond and will represent SMS at the state writing contest May 23 in Columbus. Shelby Kerstetter was named an official alternate and also will compete in Columbus. Both girls are also eligible to submit poems.

Author of the winning poem will be recognized at the state contest and awarded a $100 savings bond.
ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL EXTRACURRICULARS, CLUBS NOW SAME AS FOR SPORTS

Last fall the school board revised a number of policies, including student eligibility for extracurricular activities, clubs and organizations. The District eliminated eligibility discrepancies between activities, negating student attitudes amounting to “well, if I get kicked off the team for low grades, I’ll just do some other activity.”

The academic eligibility standards required by the Ohio High School Athletic Association now apply to all extracurricular activities and clubs. Students must maintain the same OHSAA-approved academic standards to be eligible for Drama Club, Chess Club, band or choir as for all sports teams:

“In order to be eligible in grades 9-12, a student must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period. Furthermore, during the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent, each of which counts toward graduation...A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed 75% of those subjects carried the preceding grading period...A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in 75% of those subjects in which the student received grades.”

Simply put, to be eligible to participate in sports and all other extracurricular activities, students must maintain passing grades in a full schedule of courses.

NO BULLYING WILL BE TOLERATED

The board also approved new policies on intimidation and bullying. The new policy defines bullying as harassment, intimidation or as any intentional written, verbal or physical act toward another particular student (more than once) that causes any mental or physical harm. That includes ridicule, humiliation, intimidation by physical violence or attacks, name calling, ‘putdowns,’ threats, thefts of money and/or possessions, exclusion from the peer group, or spreading rumors.

The new policy on bullying requires students, teachers and other school staff members to report incidents of harassment. It requires administrators to investigate and document incidents, and to notify the parents of bullies as well as their victims’ parents. It asks parents or guardians to report suspected incidents to administrators.

The new policy includes “cyber bullying,” like posting slurs on web sites or using camera phones to take and post embarrassing photos. Retaliation in kind is also prohibited. The policy spells out investigation procedures, remedial actions, non-disciplinary and disciplinary interventions and strategies for protecting victims.

NEW SPORTS PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT GOVERNS PLAYERS AND FANS

Athletic policy changes include a new, required participation agreement that must be signed by both the student athlete and his/her parent or guardian.

It includes acknowledgement of and compliance with all training and transportation rules, fees and all insurance requirements. It says: “A ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support school activities, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious. Anyone not displaying good sportsmanship could be removed from the contest and possibly banned for the entire season or year.”

Revised athletic training rules ban violations of the student code of conduct, local, state and federal laws and prohibit the use of all illegal substances as well as tobacco. Team rules are in effect from the first day of practice through the sport’s post-season banquet. Student-athletes must not sell or offer for sale any alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, steroids, look-alike drugs, drug paraphernalia or tobacco products. Student athletes deemed guilty of a first offense “shall be denied participation privileges for one calendar year.” A second offense ends a student-athlete’s career at SMS or at BHS.

Student-athletes deemed guilty of using any of those substances face suspension from the team for the equivalent of 20 percent of the scheduled contests and mandatory participation in an assessment program from an outside agency, at the parents’ or guardians’ expense, on the first offense. Any second offense, including refusal or failure to complete the counseling and/or community service requirement for the first offense, brings a full year of non-participation. A third offense ends the student-athlete’s career at SMS or BHS. An SMS athlete’s punishment would not carry over to high school. At BHS, the process begins anew/

No country in the world does a better job of preparing the total individual for the demands of later life than our country.
We cannot limit our young people’s future in anticipation of assistance from Columbus. We must move forward locally while continuing to push at the state level.

I do not know of any ideal time to sacrifice. I only know that our young people are worth it.

Together we can accomplish so much more. wv
CARDINAL ATHLETIC NEWS: NEW COACHES...JODI LYONS ACADEMIC ALL STATE

In the last month the School Board hired new head coaches for three BHS varsity teams; Keith Grabowski, who had great success when he was head football coach at Amherst, among other assignments, will be our head football and weight lifting coach. He is also joining our faculty in the BHS English Department. Jeff Keith, who teaches at all four elementary schools and also serves as head coach of the boys’ varsity track team, will be our new varsity girls’ basketball coach. BHS math teacher Kate Golden will take over as our new head coach of the boys’ soccer team.

Senior Jodi Lyons was named Academic All-Ohio by the Ohio High School Basketball Association, one of only four Division II players to make the list. Jodi, president of Brookside’s National Honor Society, posted a 4.1 G.P.A. at BHS and LCCC while averaging 11.1 points per game for the Lady Cardinals. She also led our first-time ever girls’ soccer team in goals scored last fall. Jodi will continue her academic and athletic careers as a premed student next fall at Case Western Reserve University.

There are many skills beyond reading, writing, and arithmetic necessary to make a person successful in today’s world. Extra-curricular activities such as music, sports, and the arts, which promote collaboration and teamwork, are essential in the preparation of the total person for today’s world.