

Newsletter

ABOUT YOUR SCHOOLS

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March 2011

Hall of Fame Inductees - Academic and Athletic

Four new members were inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame in December and five persons were added to the Athletic Hall of Fame this past January. This is the seventh year of Exeter's Academic Hall, while the Athletic Hall was initiated in 1990.

There are three different categories of academic awards. They are: (1) student category – a successful ETSD alumnus who graduated at least 15 years ago and brought credit to Exeter in his/her career; (2) faculty/staff category – must have had a positive impact on the lives of students and retired or moved to another position; and (3) community member – an individual who is providing outstanding volunteer service to ETSD or has provided it in the past.

The 2010 inductees are: alumni Matthew C. Acker, M.D. and Sonja Regelman; retired teacher Craig Long; and former board member Dr. Frank Beidler.

Matthew Acker, M.D., is a 1982 Exeter graduate who while in high school was a member of N.H.S., Key Club, and basketball and baseball teams. He graduated cum laude from Harvard University and received his medical degree from Thomas Jefferson Medical College. Currently, a partner with the Huntingdon Valley Anesthesia Associates, Dr. Acker has served as the Medical Director of the Holy Redeemer Ambulatory Surgery Center since 1999.

Sonja Regelman, a 1992 graduate, was a member of the theatre club, liter-

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ETJHS Group Assists with Anti-Bullying

Eric Flamm, Principal

Episodes of bullying are growing in number and complexity across the country, and bullying is an issue that school districts must address. In 2008, the General Assembly of Pennsylvania amended the Pennsylvania School Code to require each school entity to adopt or amend its existing policy relating to bullying. Exeter Junior High has adopted the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program to promote empathy and to help teachers, students, and staff members address bullying and the effects bullying has on students. Junior high staff members recognize the need to "bridge the gap" between teachers and students regarding issues of bullying in our school.

Student Advocates for Exeter (S.A.F.E.) was created at the junior high to serve as a liaison group between students and teachers and to help teachers become aware of bullying issues that they may have been overlooking. Vice Principal John Arty and Social Studies teacher Dena Burkhart along with members of the Olweus core committee came together to create the group and to make sure students and staff members are well-informed. Burkhart advises the group and meets monthly with approximately fifteen students from each grade level who were selected to participate by their homeroom teachers. The students discuss what is working as well as how the Olweus program might be improved, share major issues students believe occur in our school, and serve

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Study Leads Reiffon Students to Paper Crane Wish



After studying Japan and reading "Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes," students in Karen Timura's fifth grade class have been making paper cranes and discussing "senbazuru" which is the thousand crane wish for recovery from illness. The Reiffon students are donating their paper cranes to a student who hopes to share the wish with seriously-ill children in hospitals.

Teachers Generate Goals Based On Reflective Practice Activity

Eric Flamm, ETJHS Principal

The classroom teacher is most important in affecting individual student success in school (Marzano, Pickering, & Pollock, 2001). In other words, the teacher is the variable, and it is critical that our teachers are the best they can be. With this in mind, ETJHS teachers were asked at mid-year to reflect on their own practices in three separate but related classroom activities: routine events (i.e. posting learning goals), addressing content (i.e. helping students interact with new knowledge), and on-the-spot strategies (i.e. methods of engaging students) and to set a goal for the second semester related to one of the three areas. This reflective practice based on Dr. Robert Marzano's book, "The Art and Science of Teaching: A Comprehensive Framework for Effective Instruction," is designed to highlight effective practice and to provide methods to help teachers address a variety of situations in their classrooms.

Teachers were provided with a packet that included a series of questions each asking what the teacher typically does to address a different classroom issue or situation. After each question, best practice is described and both teacher and student evidence is listed. A rating scale is provided for teachers to assess themselves on each strategy. Though teachers were not asked to submit their self-evaluation, each was asked to submit a sheet on which they indicated a second-semester goal, which of the three areas the goal addresses, and the specific question the goal targets. Completing the activity not only has helped teachers to generate a specific goal, but also has helped to create a common language that faculty members and administrators can use to discuss instruction. The over-arching goal is to increase student learning.

ETJHS Anti-Bullying *(continued from page 1)*

as leaders in the building with whom other students can talk about issues that may be occurring.

S.A.F.E students also take part in numerous activities. Recently, 8th grade S.A.F.E students visited Boyertown Area School District, where they watched a musical production by the Walnut Street Theatre called, "No Easy Road to Freedom" and attended workshops run by guidance counselors from a variety of schools. The activities enabled students to meet peers from other schools and to work together to solve bullying issues. Students took part in a forum where they were able to speak about bullying in each of their respective schools and to gain insight into what can be done to decrease bullying episodes.

At Exeter Junior High School, one goal is to ensure that students receive a high-quality education without the interference of bullying and that all students can come to school feeling safe and secure. The S.A.F.E. group is helping to achieve this goal.



Eighth grade members of the Junior High "Student Advocates for Exeter" (S.A.F.E.)

Preview of the 2011-12 School Calendar



The board approved the school calendar for the **2011-2012** school term. School will begin the week before Labor Day. These are the beginning and ending dates for the term and dates when school will not be in session for students. The complete Activities Calendar, including early dismissals, will be mailed to households in August and available on the district website this summer.

Aug 29	First student day
Sept 2-5	Labor Day vacation for students
Oct 10	Inservice - schools closed
Nov 23	Inservice & Elem. P. Conf. – no school for students
Nov 24-28	Thanksgiving vacation for students
Dec 23-Jan 2	Winter Holiday
Jan 16	Martin Luther King Holiday & Inservice
Feb 17	Inservice - schools closed
Feb 20	Presidents' Holiday
March 9	Inservice & Elem. P. Conf. – no school for students
April 2-9*	Spring vacation for students
May 28	Memorial Day Holiday
June 11	Last student day

**Days that could be used as inclement weather make-up days if needed are (in this order): April 2, April 3, April 4, April 5.*

Academic and Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees *(continued from page 1)*

ary magazine, band, and orchestra. She earned a B.A. in communications at Ursinus and a M.A. in writing and publishing from Emerson. She has a successful career as an editor and has edited best-selling books for educators.

Craig Long taught biological sciences at ETSHS from 1969 to 2005, specializing in A.P. Biology and Human Physiology. He exemplified the word “dedication” and inspired many students with his demand for academic excellence. Craig currently serves as a supervisor in Windsor Township.

Dr. Frank Beidler was a distinguished member of the ETSD board of education spanning a period from 1953 to 1971. With educational foresight he advocated for Exeter to move from a ten-grade school system to a K-12 district. He volunteered in many community activities and organizations, while his top priority was always ensuring that Exeter students would receive the best education possible.

To submit a name for nomination to the 2011 Academic Hall of Fame, a Nomination Form must be completed. One can be obtained by contacting Don Cramer at 610-779-0700 ext. 1027 or dwcramer@exeter.k12.pa.us. Completed nomination forms must be submitted by August 15.

The five alumni inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame are: Tim Godek, Derrick Acker, Dr. James Barrer, Sharon (Amarell) Shuman, and Chris Sudock.

Tim Godek, a 1982 graduate, was an outstanding jump specialist on the track and field team and basketball player. He won state gold medals in the high jump and swept the major local invitational meets in his senior year. He was a member of the track team and basketball team at Franklin & Marshall College where he still holds the indoor high jump record.

Derrick Acker, a 1983 graduate, was an all-around standout at Exeter as a three-year member of the varsity football, basketball and baseball teams. He started at quarterback and earned all-league honors. He was a starting middle infielder in baseball all three

seasons and earned all-league honors. At Columbia University Derrick played second base, third base, and outfield during a four-year career. He has been a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation since 1995.

Sharon (Ammarell) Shuman, a 1979 graduate, was an all-around athlete who starred on the tennis, basketball and softball teams. She played on the varsity basketball team from 1977 to 1979, which won the Berks and District 3 titles in 1977. Sharon was a key member of the girls’ tennis program, which won three titles. She played collegiate tennis at Juniata College and participated in the NCAA Division III women’s national singles championships in 1983.

Dr. James Barrer, a 1972 graduate, was an outstanding basketball and tennis player. Jim started at point

guard for three seasons which included Exeter’s first appearance in the District 3 tournament and Exeter’s only unbeaten Berks championship team. In tennis, he played either No. 1 or 2 singles and No. 1 doubles all four seasons. Jim, an orthodontist who has a practice in West Reading, resides in Crestwood with his wife and three sons.

Chris Sudock, a 1982 graduate, was an outstanding football player who, in his senior year, was named to the all-county first-team offense and first-team defense. He was also a member of the basketball and track and field teams. While at Bloomsburg University, he played varsity football until suffering a career-ending injury. Chris, a detective who resides in Connecticut, is in his 25th year with the Connecticut State Police where he has had a decorated career.

Change in Immunization Requirements

The new immunization requirements starting August 1, 2011 are as follows:

For attendance in ALL GRADE LEVELS:

- 4 doses of tetanus* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of diphtheria* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 3 doses of polio
- 2 doses of measles**
- 2 doses of mumps**
- 1 dose of rubella (German measles)**
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or history of disease

*Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td

**Usually given as MMR

In addition to those vaccines listed above, students **ATTENDING 7TH GRADE** in 2011-12 will need the following:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) (if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

These requirements allow for medical reasons and religious beliefs. If your child is exempt from immunizations, he/she may be removed from school during an outbreak. Pennsylvania’s school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA.CODE Ch 23. For more information contact your healthcare provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH.



Snow and Ice Cause Changes in Calendar

Schools will now be in session on Monday, April 25

Due to the need to utilize five inclement weather days (up to and including February 22 when this issue went to print), the following changes are necessary:

- April 20-21 - schools will be in session (make-up days # 1 & 2 as indicated on Activities Calendar)
- April 25 - schools will be in session (new make-up day # 3)
- June 10 - schools will be in session - last student day (now make-up day # 4)
- June 13 - will become an Act 80 day (professional development day for staff)

Please note: any additional day(s) that schools need to be closed will result in the last student day moving to the week of June 13.

Early Spring Happenings

March

- 8 School Board Workshop mtg., 7 p.m., Adm. Bldg.
- 9 Elem Parent Conferences
- 9 Sr. Citizen Breakfast and Show, 8:15 a.m., SHS café/aud.
- 10 Early Dismissal/Secondary Inservice, sec. @ 11:30, Gr 5-6 @ 12:15, K-4 @ 1 p.m.
- 10 Elem Parent Conferences
- 10-12 SHS All School Musical, 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Morning Elem. Parent Conference/ Secondary Inservice (A.M.)
No school for students
- 14-25 PSSA Math & Reading - grs. 3-8, 11
- 15 School Board Voting mtg., 7 p.m., Adm. Bldg.
- 28-Apr 1 PSSA Writing - grs. 5, 8, 11
- 28 SHS Orchestra Guest Artist Concert, 7 p.m.

April

- 4-8 PSSA Science - grs. 4, 8, 11
- 6 SHS Marching Band Pasta & Concert
- 12 School Board Workshop mtg., 7 p.m., Adm. Bldg.

SHS Musical Show

Curtains

March 10-12 7:30 p.m.

Curtains is a murder-mystery musical that debuted on Broadway in 2007, garnering eight Tony award nominations.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and senior citizens. The ticket order form is on the district web site and is available in the SHS office and Admin. Bldg. The completed form and payment may be dropped off at the SHS office and tickets will be at the will-call table the night of the performance.

Orchestra

Guest Artist Concert

International artists Barrage will be heading to ETSHS to work with and perform for our string students and community on Monday, March 28th, 2011. Barrage has toured all over the world, performing for thousands of sold-out audiences over the last decade. Students in grades four through twelve will participate in a rehearsal with members of Barrage and then perform with them in the evening concert at 7 p.m. For ticket information e-mail: bsmishler@exeter.k12.pa.us

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