



The Orlando Lutheran A C A D E M Y

*A Christ-Centered Learning Community
Dedicated to Integrity, Excellence, Service*

THE CRUSADER COMMUNICATOR

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IN THIS EDITION:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Principal's Message -
"Hail to the Volunteers of OLA"❑ Word for the Week❑ Town Hall Meeting Information❑ Spirit Night at Buffalo Wild Wings❑ Honor Society Tapping Ceremony❑ Class Meetings Wednesday❑ PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES❑ College Application Program (CAP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Next Week's Lunch Menu❑ Haiti Relief Project❑ Garage Sale Mar. 12 & 13❑ Spring Drama Production 4/10 & 11❑ OLA Recycling Projects❑ Athletic Department News❑ Game Schedule❑ OLA Gear and Decals |
|---|--|

Hail to the Volunteers of OLA

The first-ever OLA Winter Carnival is now history. What an exciting weekend right here on our campus! The weather could have cooperated more on Saturday; but our students, families and the community had a great time. The success of an event such as this depends completely upon the volunteers behind the scenes. Have you ever stopped to consider what would our school be like without the volunteer efforts of our families, parents and students?

How would we be able to successfully run an event like the OLA Winter Carnival without the tireless energy and enthusiasm of a Jena Eggert?

Where would the volunteers for all of our events come from without the unrelenting email encouragement of a Kathy Hardy?

Have you been witness to the many different causes for OLA that a Tina Crampton leads because of her love for OLA?

Are you aware of the amount of professional plumbing hours that a Mark Jarman has donated to OLA?

What kind of shape would our baseball diamond be in without the efforts of a Dave Stephens, Mike Patrick, and Carl Santiago?

Do you know how many hours processing thank you letters to our supporters that a Carolyn Duda has volunteered?

Where would our Crusader Club be without the dedication of a Francesca Knutson?

These are just some of our fantastic volunteers that came to mind as I wrote this article. There are many, many more, too many to name in this space. If your name was not on this list I know that you will not be offended because you volunteer not for recognition but for your love of OLA! Your contribution to the ministry at OLA is crucial to not only tasks getting accomplished but to the way that people feel about our school. For your contribution of countless volunteer hours throughout the year I say thank you. People notice your spirit and want to be a part of what is going on. You are a significant part of what makes our school great.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (New International Version): ¹¹It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

*Jeffrey R. Knutson
Principal*

Word for the Week: ORGANIZATION

Town Hall Meeting Information:

Dear OLA Families,

We were encouraged by how many families joined us for the Town Hall Meeting on Monday, February 15. While we certainly do not have all the answers yet, we wanted to share the information we currently know with the entire OLA family. The hope is that you will join us in prayer over the situation and be knowledgeable enough to refute any rumors you may encounter. If you were not able to join the meeting, it is difficult to summarize all the information that was presented and even harder to capture the spirit in the room, but highlights of what was shared that night are as follows.

Since our last Town Hall meeting, people have asked what the magnitude is of the financial problem OLA faces. The financial magnitude of our problem is in the \$800K range. This is a large amount of money to fundraise, which usually requires a focused and structured effort to accomplish. It is not raised by car washes and bake sales, rather from asking large donors first and then reaching out to the population at large. At this time, the Board has been working on the "silent phase". Applying the "80/20 rule" where 80% of money raised typically comes from 20% of the people, we approached the likely 20% for their support to help OLA. The results to date from this group are not strong enough to give us confidence that we can raise the \$800,000.

We are also pursuing a sale/leaseback option with Valencia Community College. These conversations are still in the discovery phase but seem somewhat promising. This was not the first option pursued by the Board as it would give a definite life span to OLA on the Econ location, however it may buy us some time to continue ministry until OLA can move to another campus or until another entity is ready to launch a Lutheran High School ministry.

We are working to know with certainty within 30 days on these possibilities. So by March 15, we hope to have a definitive answer on whether the school can open for the 2010-2011 school year and re-registration can be commenced.

Please keep all these options in your prayers. Your Board of Directors is working to explore every viable option that is in the best interest of OLA, its teachers, and its students.

David Duda

President, Board of Directors

SPIRIT NIGHT @ Buffalo Wild Wings - The next Spirit Night at Buffalo Wild Wings is Tuesday, March 2nd (tomorrow!). Remind your friends and family to come to the Buffalo Wild Wings at Waterford Lakes from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Come eat dinner, enjoy fellowship, and support The Orlando Lutheran Academy! 20% of your bill goes back to a specific department, class, team or group hosting for the month. For March all proceeds will benefit the Junior Class Prom Committee. Show your Crusader Pride and be prepared to eat some wings!

Wednesday will be the tapping ceremony for National Honor Society and then class meetings in the afternoon from 2:34 to 3:02.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: *Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday evening and Friday morning on March 4th and 5th. The conferences will take place in the gym. All teachers will be available on a first come, first served basis. No appointment is necessary.*

- On Thursday, March 4th there will be a full day of school. The parent and teacher conferences will begin with the first session from 4:00 p.m. until 5:00. There will be a one hour break for dinner and conferences will resume from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- On Friday, March 5th there will be no school for the day and the parent-teacher conferences will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Parents are encouraged to attend to gain valuable insight into how their student is performing in school. Teachers will be available to go over the student's grades and progress.

College Application Program (CAP): The final activity for this school year for the CAP program is the ACT practice test for the 10th Grade. That practice test date is Saturday, March 20 at 8:30 a.m. Thank you to Mrs. Kallina for all her work with grades 8-12 this school year and sharing valuable information with the students and parents.

Lunch Menu for March 8-12:

Monday – Papa John Pizza

Tuesday – Cheeseburger, Macaroni Salad, Tater Tots, Melon

Wednesday – Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Garden Salad

Thursday – All Beef Hot Dog, Tater Tots, Pears, Pudding

Friday – Chick-fil-A

Please Help With Haiti Relief Project: The senior class of Orlando Lutheran Academy needs your help with donations towards the "Save Haiti Campaign." All donations will be shipped weekly to Haiti. Please ask your family, friends and neighbors to bring in canned foods (check expiration dates), clothes and/or money to your class advisors. Each class is to bring in the items to the class advisors and pick ups of the items will be made weekly. Thank you for helping with this important effort!

Garage Sale sponsored by the 8th Grade: There will be a garage sale on March 12 and 13, from 8 AM to 3 PM in the cafeteria. Mrs. Crampton will be available all week and needs 8th grade parent volunteers to organize, sell and take down. Do your spring cleaning OLA families – it's amazing what people will buy! This will help pay for 8th grade graduation and other expenses! What doesn't sale we will donate to charity and have it picked up. If you need to contact me, please feel free to call me at home, 407-366-3032 or on my cell at 407-448-6023. Tina Crampton

2010 Spring Drama Production: The Orlando Lutheran Academy 2010 Spring Drama Production "Love Thy Neighbor" will be Saturday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 11th at 12:30 p.m. at the

St. Luke's Lutheran School auditorium (2025 West State Road 426, Oviedo). Admission is \$5 on Saturday and \$7 on Sunday. **(See separate attachment with drama production poster!)**

Meet Leona Crump, the neighborhood's judgmental homeowner, as she gets ready to meet her new neighbors. See what happens when Leona's worst fears come to life when an odd-ball "hill-folk" family moves in across the street. They don't quite meet Leona's expectations! This wonderful comedy will keep you laughing from the beginning to end. Come out and support the OLA Drama Club and the graduating members final curtain call!

OLA Recycling Projects: Collections continue for aluminum cans, old Christmas light strings or wire, old cell phones, empty ink cartridges, etc. We also collect Box Tops for Education labels. Publix will double your box tops! Check it out! Please send in your box top labels by the middle of March to be sent off for this school year and then we will continue to collect for next year. If you have any questions, call Tina Crampton 407-448-6023

Athletic Department News

Williamson takes over Crusader Football program - After 3 years rebuilding the Crusader Football program, Head Coach Mike Viera stepped down from that position in January and former Assistant Head Coach Pat Williamson stepped in to take over football program beginning with spring practices for the 2010 season.

The Crusaders went 21-9 during Viera's tenure as head coach and finished 3rd in the district this past season in OLA's first year of district competition.

Coach Williamson is currently a Physical Education teacher at OLA, as well as the Strength and Conditioning / Recruiting Coordinator and Coach for OLA's male and female student-athletes. Williamson is an A.F.P.A. Certified Strength and Conditioning instructor.

"I feel I can speak for our principal when I say Coach Viera has done such a wonderful job of changing the culture and expectations for success over the past 3 years at OLA. He and Coach Williamson have worked long hours to bring us out of the shadows. We look forward to "Coach Pat" leading us towards the next step," said athletic director Bryan Fulford.

Crusaders Capture Conference Championship; Disappointment in District

Semifinals - The varsity boys basketball team captured the Mid-Florida Christian Conference Championship for the 2nd time in 3 seasons with a 74-36 victory over Merritt Island Christian on Jan 25, 2010.

Going undefeated in league games this year, OLA has only loss 1 conference game over the last 3 seasons. Mid-Florida Christian Conference opponents include Merritt Island Christian, Covenant Christian (Palm Bay), Brevard Christian, Temple Christian (Titusville), and Brevard HEAT.

The team finished the regular season 16-8 and won the opening round of the FHSAA Class 1A District 6 tournament Tuesday Feb 9 with a 60-44 victory over Agape Christian before losing a hard fought district semifinal game against rival Faith Christian 63-61.

"We have so many things to be thankful for this season. I'm proud of the leadership of our seniors, and thank them and their teammates for all they have given this program and school community," said head coach Bryan Fulford.

Crusaders Sign National Letters of Intent - Orlando Lutheran Academy seniors **Faysal Shafaat** and **Jacob Hardy** have signed their National Letters of Intents to play football at the University Tennessee Chattanooga and Army, respectively.

Shafaat (6'5", 230) played TE/DE for the Crusaders (7-3) this past season and caught 35 passes for 537 yards and 5 touchdowns in a primary running offense. On defense, he recorded 10.1 tackles per game, 20 sacks in the season, 1 INT and 3 fumble recoveries. He was recently selected to the First Team of the Lutheran Football Coaches of America All-American Team. Shafaat is currently playing forward for the varsity boys basketball team and is averaging 15.6ppg and 11.7rpg for the Crusaders.

Hardy (6'4" 240) played OT/DE this past season and recorded 72 tackles, 7 sacks, 3 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries and scored 1 TD during the season.

Congratulations to Faysal & Jacob !

Game Schedule:

Tuesday, March 2 Boys Varsity Baseball at home vs. Foundation Academy at 7:00
Friday, March 5 Boys Varsity Baseball @ Central Florida Christian Academy at 4:00
Boys & Girls Varsity Track at the Trinity Prep Invitational starting at 4:00

Come Check it Out! Stop by the office and check out the poster for “**Crusader Gear**” and show your support for OLA Athletics!!! Be sure to notice all the good-looking clothing models! Quality embroidered and reasonably priced Crusader Hoodies, Hats, Shirts and much more are available at our on-line store. **Simply go to embroidery-solutions.com, select “corporate clients” and then choose “Orlando Lutheran Crusader Gear.”** A portion of every sale goes to your favorite OLA team!!

Personalized Crusader Decals: Displaying a personalized Orlando Lutheran Academy decal is a great way to show your support for your child and our school. We have decals for all of the different sports programs as well as art, band, and choir. The decals may be personalized with the students name and number, and are available for only \$10.00 (the “The Orlando Lutheran Academy” decal is only \$5.00). You may purchase your decals through the school office or by contacting Carolyn Duda at dduda@cfl.rr.com or 407-971-8766. Order yours today! Order Forms available online.

For the latest news, pictures and recognitions for each OLA team go to OLA web-site/ Student Activites/ Athletics/ Athletic Headlines. For game schedules and directions for each OLA team go to OLA web-site/ Student Activites/ Athletics/ Athletic Calendar.

The Orlando Lutheran Academy 2009-2010 Theme:

“Renewing Minds, Transforming Lives, Living Faith”

“Romans 12:2”



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