



20 January 2017

*Planning Ahead*

Tuesday, 24 January – Regents Exam in **Global History & Geography**, 9:00 a.m.

Regents Exam in **English Language Arts (CC)**, 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 25 January – Regents Exam in **Living Environment**, 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, 26 January – Regents Exam in **U.S. History & Government**, 9:00 a.m.

Regents Exam in **Algebra 1 (CC)**, 1:00 p.m.

Friday, 27 January – End of 2nd Quarter

Saturday, 28 January – **MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon**. Lancaster Co., PA

Monday, 30 January – **Half-year Celebration**.

Wednesday, 1 February – **2017 Science Fair** introduced. 9:00 a.m. **Parents welcome.**

Thursday, 9 February – **MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon**. Lancaster Co., PA

Friday, 10 February – **2017 Science Fair** proposals due

Monday, 20 February – **Presidents' Day**. **No school. (NOTE: This is a change. Last week's date was wrong!)**

Thursday, February 23 – **MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon**. Lancaster Co., PA

*The Land of the Free*

Today we witnessed one of the hallmarks of our constitutional democracy as the leadership of our country was peacefully transferred from one president to another. In attendance were the outgoing President Obama with Michelle and former presidents Bush, Clinton, and Carter with their wives.

Also in evidence were examples of our freedoms. As an estimated one million people gathered for the event, we exercised our right to freely assemble. While some of those assembling were celebrating the inauguration of President Trump, others were protesting his positions on immigration, global warming, and homosexual marriage – freedom of expression. Meanwhile, on stage, a Jewish rabbi gave a reading and Dr. Samuel Rodriguez prayed a prayer "in the name of Jesus," demonstrating our freedom of religion. Of course the news media covered all of this – both the events in support of the new president as well as the demonstrations opposing him – as guaranteed by our freedom of the press.

We practice these same freedoms each day as we assemble for school. We are permitted to gather as a group without fear of the police coming in and breaking it up. We teach the truth of God's word, even when contrary to the laws of our land with respect to the right to life and godly marriage. Each day we begin with a worship time and periodically publish news about what happens here in the "Footsteps" newsletter.

When it does not violate conscience, we cooperate with rules of our state and city. We require immunizations and permission forms for medications; we have school for 180 days; we sort our trash and follow the state guidelines for our curriculum. But if and when we are asked to do or teach something contrary to God's word, we as a faculty and school board regularly pray that we will have the courage to "obey God rather than men."

Thanking God, with you, for our country and its freedoms,  
James E. Gochnauer, Principal