

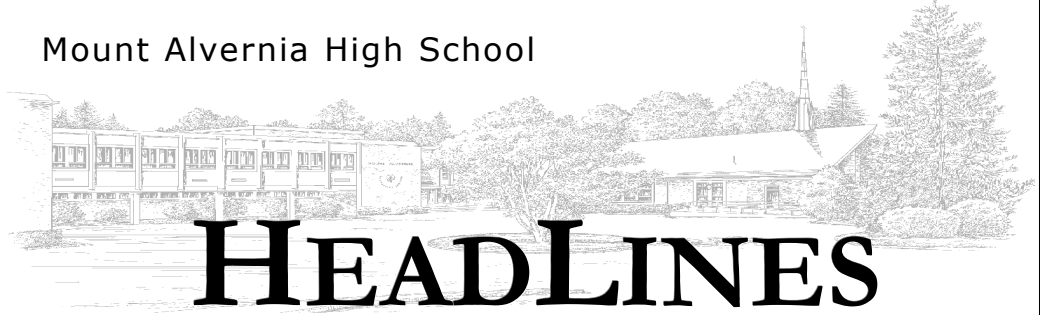
February, 2010

Volume 11, Issue 5

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Mount Alvernia High School



Dear Parents,

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.
John Quincy Adams.

The very essence of leadership is that you have to have a vision.

Rev. Theodore Hesburgh

They lived centuries apart and their roles were very different; however, these two men understood the essence of good leadership. One was the son of a Founding Father, a scholar, a diplomat, a Secretary of State, the sixth president of the United States and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The other is a priest, a former chair of the Civil Rights Commission, a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the past president of the University of Notre Dame.

Their many accomplishments were shaped by what inspired them and their observations on leadership came from their experiences. They both realized that leadership is not just management. There are non-quantifiable elements to it. It motivates. It energizes. It encompasses. It is ethical. It is hopeful. It strives and it exists within a frame.

Mount Alvernia's frame is summed up in its philosophy. We believe in God and that life has a purpose; that purpose is to choose the good and that education should help discern what is good. It is this overarching principle that informs everything we do.

You recently received a letter from Sr. Suzanne Fondini, mfc, provincial minister of the Missionary Franciscan Sisters, announcing that Ms. Eileen McLaughlin has been appointed the new head of school as of July 1, 2010.

I am delighted that Eileen will assume this role. She knows first hand the mission of this very special school. As the English department chair and the chair of the NEASC self-study in 2007-2008, she demonstrated a superior intellect, an enthusiastic spirit, a collegial manner and an authentic vision for Mount Alvernia.

It is a gift to know in your heart when it is time to move on to other things. An added gift is the opportunity to see in your successor a person who will lead in the spirit of Adams and Hesburgh. Mount Alvernia is fortunate to have a person of Eileen's caliber become the new head of school in July.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Kent".

Kathleen Kent
Head of School

PROGRESS REPORTS

Senior Class progress reports will be issued on February 10, 2010. The progress reports for all other grades will be mailed home on February 26, 2010.

REPORT CARD CONFERENCES

Thursday, February 4th is report card conference day. Parents will be able to pick up students' report cards between the hours of **12:30 and 2:30 p.m. or 6 and 8 p.m.** You can pick up the report card in the chapel lobby and then feel free to visit any of your daughters' teachers in their classrooms.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

All tuition matters should be handled through Mrs. Morley at extension 12. If you have any questions, please call her.

SNOW DAYS

If we need to close school due to inclement weather, the announcement will be made on television channels 4, 5, 7 and 25. The announcement will also be in the greeting on the telephone at 617-969-2260 and if possible it will be posted on the website www.mountalverniah.org. We will also use our rapid communication system to notify parents. Please **do not** call the convent to see if school has been cancelled.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

30 hours of community service are required for students in grade 8 through 12 each year. 15 hours of that community service should be completed by February 23. If you have any questions, please contact Sr. Julie at extension 15.

COFFEE WITH THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Everyone is welcome to join Mrs. Kent in the dining room for coffee and conversation from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 12.

We return to regular uniforms on March 1.

EARLY DISMISSALS/NO SCHOOL

Thursday, February 4 11:30 Dismissal
Report card conferences
After noon study hall not available

Friday, February 5 11:30 Dismissal
Faculty meeting
Afternoon study hall not available. Building will close at 11:45.

February 15 through 19 Winter Break

NO SCHOOL !

The Winter Windfall **day off will be on Friday, March 19th.** Congratulations everyone and thank you to all who supported this event.

MARCH STUDENT ART SHOW

Mrs. Erin Loparo cordially invites all students, families and the Mt. Alvernia community at large to our March Student Art Show! The creative work of art students in grades 7-11 will be on display the first week of March 2010. Please mark your calendars and **JOIN US** for our **ART OPENING RECEPTION** on **THURSDAY NIGHT, MARCH 4** anytime between **6:30-8:30 p.m.** Artwork will be on exhibit in the main foyer and near the dining hall. Come celebrate M.A.'s artistic talent and enjoy refreshments.

Thank you to everyone who sent in gifts and goodies for the staff to enjoy over the holidays. We appreciate your thoughtfulness

Happy Valentines Day to all of our students and their families.

Please remember no flower deliveries will be accepted at school for students

