

Allen Academy educates young people – intellectually, aesthetically, socially, physically, and morally – so they become responsible, contributing citizens and fulfilled individuals.

AUGUST 11, 2011

## Message from the Head of School

### 2011 marks Allen Academy's 125th year



The coming school year will be a special one for Allen Academy. This year at Homecoming, we will celebrate the school's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Started as Madison Academy in 1886 in Madisonville, the school has been a vital part of the Bryan-College Station community ever since.

**We will hold our homecoming celebration on October 21-22.** Early plans include an Allen Ram football game, performances by various student groups, tours of the newly remodeled Special Events Center, class reunions, a time capsule dedication, and special activities and fun competitions for returning Allen Academy graduates and their families.

### **Alumni Challenge for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Allen Academy**

We are offering a challenge to all former students of Allen Academy to try to muster the most support from their respective graduating class. Special recognition will be given to the graduating classes who have:

- the most classmates present
- attending classmates who traveled the greatest number of combined miles to attend
- the former cadet who can still wear his or her original Allen "military-style" uniform.

We will recognize former Allen Academy athletes including state champion team members during the half time at the Ram football game. We will have a special recognition for all current and former faculty and staff members of Allen Academy.

We will be welcoming back our Alumni from every era and hope that you will join us for the celebration.

Look for additional information on Facebook and via mail and email as the fall approaches.

John P. Rouse  
Head of School

## The new special events and alumni center

We are in the process of renovating and expanding our gym this summer. We have installed a new hardwood floor; we've added a large stage for performances and programs; and we're expanding the facility on either side to add fitness center space and a new Alumni Center, where we will showcase alumni memorabilia and accomplishments.



We will also be creating an alumni walk between the right side of the building and our new football field and track. We hope to dedicate this area during our homecoming celebration. We are still looking for partners for this project.



If you are interested in getting involved, contact Dave Bliss at 979-776-0731 or [dbliss@allenacademy.org](mailto:dbliss@allenacademy.org) or Mike Terry at [mterry@allenacademy.org](mailto:mterry@allenacademy.org).

## Allen Achievers

### Spring 2011 AP Results Show Strengths

As a college preparatory institution, our students' advanced placement (AP) exam scores serve as an important barometer of our success. This past May, we had 25 students take a total of 49 AP exams. Sixty (60) percent of those students scored a three or higher on those tests. This can be compared to the state of Texas in which 48.7% of the students taking AP exams scored a three or higher. In the spring of 2010, 42.9% of the Allen Academy students who took AP tests scored a three or higher.

## Allen Academy has Five Students recognized as AP School Scholars

The College Board recognizes students on two different levels for their outstanding AP exam scores. AP School Scholar recognition goes to students who receive scores of three or higher on three or more exams.

### Allen Academy School Scholars for 2011 are:

James Brien  
Grace Haines  
Mackenzie Malechek

AP Scholar with Distinction recognition goes to students who score a three or higher on five or more exams.

### Allen Academy School Scholars with Distinction for 2011 are:

Sarah Brien  
Marissa Gregurek

## Allen Graduates

**This year, the class of 2011 graduated on campus.** Despite the heat and the rain, the school celebrated the students' achievements and heard from several speakers, including Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance, who said "I know well the quality of Allen students, and I would happily admit every one of these graduates to Texas Tech." It was high praise from one of our state's top education executives.

### Our graduates will attend:

Texas A&M University (4), Texas A&M-Galveston, Texas Tech University, University of Texas, University of Mississippi/Croft Institute of International Studies, University of Houston/Moores School of Music, University of Washington-Seattle (2), St. Edwards University, University of Texas-Arlington, University of Illinois, University of Texas-San Antonio, University of Georgia, and University of Texas-Dallas.



## Alumnae returns to Allen to coach volleyball

Former Allen Academy volleyball star Gretchen French Wilganowski '01 joins the coaching staff this fall to lead the girls in T\*CAL volleyball competition. After graduating from Allen, Gretchen attended the University of Oklahoma on a volleyball scholarship. She has since coached club volleyball, BVJVA 12's and 18's, 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball at A&M Consolidated Middle School and held private lessons. She resides in College Station with her husband and two sons.

## Alumni Notes & News

If you have notes and news you would like to share in our new monthly e-newsletter, please email them to Mike Terry ([mterry@allenacademy.org](mailto:mterry@allenacademy.org)).

We will be running them here each month. Our deadline will be the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month. All of us look forward to hearing from you.

## Giving to Allen

Charitable giving is an important way Allen funds its programs. Tuition covers much of what we do (including paying teacher salaries), but contributions help us do more. With charitable giving we build new classrooms like those in the planned Science and Technology Building. It allows us to create new spaces such as the expanded special events and alumni center. It helps us fund curricular programs, offer financial aid to qualifying families and cover the gap between tuition and expenses most private schools incur.

A sustainable independent school must have a strong annual giving and endowment program. Well-funded endowments reduce the burden on schools to continually fundraise. Currently, we do not have an endowment program. Establishing one is a strategic priority for Allen, and we need everyone's help.

If you are interested in supporting Allen, there are many tax-deductible ways to do it including contributions to our ongoing capital improvement plan, financial aid support, annual fund and planned giving to a general endowment fund.

Allen Academy has made an educational impact for 125 years. With your help we can continue this legacy well into the future.

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