Welcome to Michael Obel-Omia, Head of the Hunting Valley Campus

Welcome to the Valley Voice

The Valley Voice, the Hunting Valley newsletter of the University School Parents' Association (USPA), is developed by parents and staff to provide information of interest and import to US families. The Valley Voice is not intended to report on school events (sporting events, school club competitions, winners of speaking contests, etc.) as these are covered through other publications (US News, the website and the US Journal). Look for the newsletter every month through February, and bi-monthly thereafter.

The left column of the front page will always have the important dates for the Hunting Valley campus that month. Inside you will find individual class boxes with information of interest for that class. We strongly encourage you to visit the intranet website http://upper.us.edu for daily announcements, athletic events, college visits, and much more.

As we welcome Michael Obel-Omia, new Head of the Hunting Valley Campus, we look forward to a new and exciting year. The editors welcome your feedback, questions and comments.

The USPA

The USPA offers parents a great opportunity to meet each other, stay informed about issues and events at school, support students, and support the school. USPA general meetings are held throughout the academic year, and are open to all parents. The general meeting format includes a guest speaker (sometimes students) addressing a current topic of interest to Hunting Valley parents and a brief business update. There will be also periodic updates from Michael Obel-Omia, Head of the Hunting Valley Campus, and Margaret Mason, Dean of Students.

A calendar of USPA-sponsored events and meetings appears in the University School Directory and on the US intranet website, http://upper.us.edu. All USPA officers and committee chairs are also listed in the US Directory. If you are interested in volunteering for any of the USPA activities or committees, please call or email the committee or event chair or you may contact Terry Stoller, USPA President. We welcome your involvement.
Senior Section

Friday, September 1
11th and 12th Grade Parent Welcome Back Coffee
Smythe Pavilion 8:00-10:00 a.m.

College Visits
Check the website, http://upper.us.edu, for a comprehensive, up-to-date schedule of colleges visiting the Cleveland area.

Junior Section

Friday, September 1
11th and 12th Grade Parent Welcome Back Coffee
Smythe Pavilion, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Sophomore Section

Required Summer Reading
- Grendel by John Gardner and Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser plus two other books from Summer Reading List.
- Also read Time/Newsweek or other sources of current events to help with the research paper which will be assigned early in the academic year.

Thursday, August 31
10th Grade Parent Welcome Back Coffee, Smythe Pavilion, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Friday September 8
9th and 10th grade Mixer (Casual) from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. at the Hunting Valley campus. Tickets are $5.00.

Saturday, September 16
Homecoming Dance (Date/Coat/Tie Required) from 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. at the Hunting Valley campus.

Homecoming

Join us at the 117th University School Homecoming on Saturday, September 16 at the Hunting Valley campus. Festivities kick off at 11:00 a.m. with the Fall Family Festival and Homecoming Picnic. All ages will enjoy the inflatable rock wall, magicians, jugglers, the Euclid Beach Rocket Car, the USPA Prep Shop, the US Jazz Band, and a buffet of hot dogs, fruit, pasta, apple cider, and the ubiquitous Prepper Chili! The varsity soccer team plays at 10:00 a.m., JV soccer at noon and varsity football plays at 2:00 p.m. If you can volunteer just one hour of your time (between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.) to help monitor the inflatable attractions, please contact Judy Shapiro at jbsapiro@thesapirolaw.com or 216-561-0831 (h) or 216-403-8474 (cell).

Where to get that answer...

There are four ways to get any information you might need about the Hunting Valley campus: the internet, the intranet, the US Directory/Handbook, and Janice Kalman, the Hunting Valley Receptionist at 216-831-2200.

1. www.us.edu – (internet) the public website for US; general information, college visits, athletic schedules, and directions to games.

2. http://upper.us.edu – (intranet) the website for parents where you will find a wealth of information (postings of school events, daily announcements, and much, much more).

3. US Directory/Handbook – includes all US students, all US faculty and their email addresses, the academic program, school calendar, athletic information, dress code, driving and parking procedures. The Directory/Handbook is mailed to parents before school starts. All students are given a copy of the Upper School Handbook (excluding the directory) during the first week of school.

4. Janice Kalman, 216-831-2200, Hunting Valley Campus receptionist is an invaluable resource for boys and parents. Please note, if switchboard is closed and you have an emergency, you may bypass the switchboard by calling 216-831-1984 ext. 7334 or 7332.
Founders’ Day

Founders’ Day will be held Friday, September 22. US students gather for a day of fun, camaraderie, and friendly competition among houses. Middle School boys join their Upper School housemates at the Hunting Valley campus for games such as battle ball, tug-of-war, capture the flag, earth ball relay, and soccer. A picnic lunch will be provided.

Parent Night

Parent Night
Wednesday, September 20, 6:45 p.m.

A night you will not want to miss! When you arrive at school, you will get a copy of your son’s class schedule and a map. You will then run from one end of the building to the other, attending all of your son’s classes. By the end of the evening, you will have put a face to the name of your son’s fine teachers, heard about each course curriculum, and wish your son had recess. There will be tables set up in the Dining Hall with all of the activities in which your son can get involved. Browse the tables, have coffee and cookies, and enjoy the evening.

Blazer Bargains

Need a new blazer? A sale of gently used blazers, shirts and ties will be held at the Hunting Valley campus in the Lower Commons from 9:00 a.m. until noon on Wednesday, August 30 and from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Thursday, August 31. Blazers will be $30.00.

Donations of clean blazers, shirts, and US ties may be dropped off to Jeff Starrett in the Alumni Office from August 18 through Wednesday, August 30. Please also consider donating eighth grade white slacks for inclusion in the spring sale at the Shaker Heights campus.

All proceeds from the Blazer Bargain sales benefit the USPA. If you have any questions or if you would be interested in helping the day of the sale, please contact Noelle Whitehouse at ntwhitehouse@sbcglobal.net, or 216-831-8843.

Freshman Section

Required Summer Reading

- Into Thin Air - Jon Krakauer
- Lord of the Flies - William Golding

Saturday, August 26

Varsity Football vs. Hawken, 2:00 p.m. at home. Encourage your son to attend this game; he’ll meet new classmates and upperclassmen from his House.

Wednesday, August 30

- 9th Grade and New Parent Welcome Program
  9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Callow Room.
  Formal program begins at 9:00 a.m. and will include discussions about the grading system, parent conferences, extracurricular activities, the House system, communications between school and home, and social activities, among other useful information. There will be a questions-and-answer session.
- The Prep Shop will be open and the Blue Blazer Bargain Sale will be taking place in the Lower Commons from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Friday, September 8

9th and 10th Grade Mixer
8:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the Hunting Valley campus. This is a great way for 9th and 10th graders to find a date for Homecoming! Although no dates are required for the mixer, dates are required for Homecoming, so encourage your son to attend! Tickets are $5.00.

Saturday, September 16

- Homecoming Game and Festivities - 11:00 a.m., Smythe Pavilion & Athletic Fields on the Hunting Valley campus
- Homecoming Dance - 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. at the Hunting Valley campus. This is a date-only dance.
  Coats and ties are required.
ANNUAL “FUNd” FACTS
Did You Know?

... US Parents generously donated more than $271,000 to the 2005-06 Annual Fund!

... That those extra funds enabled the school, among many other things,
• to make improvements to Hunting Valley classrooms including smart board and computer upgrades;
• to fund faculty development to keep your son’s teachers up-to-date in their subjects through travel and continuing education opportunities during the school year and over the summer; and
• to buy books and materials that keep the Wean Research Library a state-of-the-art facility!

And Did You Also Know...

... The 2006-2007 Annual Fund is critically important to the quality of your son’s education this year!!!

Please make a gift or pledge today. Our goal is 100% Parent Participation! You may give online (www.us.edu) or call 216-831-1984 x 7316.

The Prep Shop

The Prep Shop supplies apparel and non-apparel items bearing the US logo for all members, friends, and fans of the University School community. The Prep Shop is located near the Stouffer Dining Hall and is run by the USPA. Students and parents are welcome to shop during the lunch period, Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Prep Shop will be open during Orientation on August 30, Homecoming on September 16 and Parent Night on September 20. Payments are made by cash or by school charge.

Any student who has lettered in a varsity sport can order the varsity letter jackets through the Prep Shop. Samples are available for sizing. Each jacket is a custom order since it includes the boy’s name, class year, and individual sports. If a student has not lettered in a sport but expects to do so before he graduates, space is left for adding the sport when the time comes! If you would like to order a jacket in time for the holidays, please order in September. Don’t wait until the November Sports Dessert award ceremony, which will place you in the holiday rush.

The Prep Shop is staffed by parent volunteers, and opportunities are still available. Please contact Kelly Biggar at 440-442-9866, biggarmb@adelphia.net or Olivia Demas at 330-659-3001, OliviaPD@aol.com with your suggestions, orders, or questions. You can view and order items in the Prep Shop collection online at www.us.edu.

SMILE on Wednesday, September 13
Wear a white shirt, school tie, khaki slacks & blue blazer

All boys are required to be photographed. School photographs will be taken on Wednesday, September 13. You are not obligated to purchase a photo package. Photographs are used by the school for student ID cards and composites for each grade level. Parents should have received Life Touch Studios information and a payment envelope in the August mailing. If you would like a photo package, the payment must be sent in on the day the pictures are taken. Make-up photos will be taken on September 20, and retakes will be scheduled after receiving the photo packets.

PACT

Parents Aware Communicating Together (PACT) is a volunteer committee of parents from the CCIS schools that focuses on fostering a safe, healthy and chemical-free environment for students. Over the last 25 years, PACT has published the Common Sense Courier and sponsored several speakers, providing parents with resources and information on parenting teens. PACT is also responsible for producing The Road Map for Parents and Teens, a handbook providing information and resources on diverse parenting and adolescent issues. Please visit the PACT website at www.ccis-ohio.org/PACT for more information and to download the current issue of The Road Map. The Hunting Valley campus has one PACT representative: Ann Sords, 440-247-2026 or annsords@aol.com. Contact her if you have questions or would like to become involved with PACT.