



This past Friday evening the National Honor Society (NHS) Vespers was held at the school as a result of rain during the day and the potential of rain at the beach. They served the supper at the back of the school and then came inside to participate in worship in the chapel. After singing, the devotional by **Brian Fellows** and a couple of skits, the 110 students were dismissed to go home. If your son or daughter was not there to enjoy the program, the meal and the fellowship, let them know how much they missed by not attending and encourage them to attend as many of these functions as possible during the school year.

On the heels of that event, we had the annual Dedication Convocation on *Sabbath, August 23*. The speaker for the event was **Pastor Alden Ho**, an International Youth Evangelist. He gripped our hearts and minds with eternal concepts as he urged us to “Guard our Hearts.” During his message he drew us once again to recognize that we are within just a brief period of time until Christ will actually leave His work in the Most Holy Place and return to take His children home. The pastor warned the congregation that not one in twenty of the youth are prepared for Christ’s second coming. It behooves all, young and old, to make their final preparation now so that we are fully committed to Him moment by moment.

The Andrews Academy theme for this year is “Guard your Heart.” The concept comes from Proverbs 4:23: “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” **Mr. Tom Baker** led the congregation in unveiling the new banner which is a very beautiful tapestry nicely done by **Mrs. Karen Atkins**. During the service there were six people who read Proverbs 4:23 from scripture each in a different language. **David Carnero** read in Spanish; **Charles Liu** read in Chinese; **Mrs. Lynne Brantley** read in Filipino; **Givan Hinds** gave the text in German; **Brian Park** read it in Korean; and finally **Ellen Mbungu** read it in English.

We are saddened to announce that **Mr. Rocco Maccarone** and his wife **Tina** have accepted a call to Weimar Center in Northern California and will be leaving Andrews Academy sometime in mid-September for their new appointment. **Mr. Maccarone** has been such a positive influence on our campus, going so quietly about his work—never complaining about anything and always working towards improving whatever the task called for. In addition to making the campus look beautiful, he provided a role model for us as we began to notice how we could do things better in our own classrooms or in our own

departments. When there were things that we could not accomplish on our own, we would ask for his help and he would either do it or show us how it could be done.

One of the biggest things about **Mr. Maccarone** that we will miss is the interaction that he had with the students. He led by example. Students, faculty and staff noticed that ability and are so pleased that we were able to know him and his wife for a brief period of time. We can hardly wait until Christ comes again and we will never have to part again. In the meantime, we want to wish the Maccarones God’s speed as they go to other vineyards to share the gospel in the same manner and with the same commitment that we have experienced right here in Michigan.

The Sabbath morning dedication experience was extended by the annual Parents Positively Involved (PPI) potluck dinner which took place immediately after the conclusion of the service. The commons was packed with perhaps more than 300 people eating the good food prepared through the fine cooking of our Adventist parents. All enjoyed the opportunity to eat and fellowship together in such a fine traditional setting. A very special thank you goes to **Mrs. Donita Jardine** and her PPI team for arranging the occasion with such finesse. Some may have left without picking up their bowls and dishes. These are in the main academy office waiting for you! The **PPI officers** would like to extend a special thanks to all those who helped to make the Sabbath potluck a success.

About 125 Andrews Academy students returned to the Academy on Saturday night for a Student Association sponsored vespers. After enjoying the closing of the Sabbath together, the students were dismissed to enjoy some ice cream along with socialization. Some students played soccer under the lights on the academy parking lot; others played volleyball or basketball in the gymnasium. The games interesting most of the students were played in the commons. Those games included musical chairs and House on Fire. All of the games were emceed by **Marcelo Caceres** and every person involved had a good time.

Once again, please invite your son or daughter to be a part of this experience. They will not be able to gain such wholesome opportunities anywhere else. We all realize how very important it is to train up a child in the way that he/she should go. This is a part of the training. Let them taste and see that it is good.

At the beginning of the school year is always good time to emphasize attendance. I would like to take you through each step so that you are aware of how the process works. **Ms. Tammie Lindsey**, Assistant to the Principal, will have the primary responsibility for attendance this year.

- The teacher records any absences or tardies.
- That record is entered on computer daily.
- Notes/phone calls from parents or prearranged absence cards allow the absence/tardy to be entered as excused.
- A notice for unexcused absences/tardies is generated and placed in the student's locker. *It is the student's responsibility to check the locker daily so that he/she will know if a tardy or absence is on the record.*
- The daily absence list is posted on the bulletin board in the commons.
- A third avenue to determine a tardy or absence is to check online at <academy.andrews.edu>.
- The student and parent have 48 hours to respond before the absence or tardy is considered accurate. (It is most unlikely that a parent would be able to respond to an absence or tardy recorded in the middle of the day since that student is under the direct supervision of the faculty/staff of the school during those hours.)
- If there are errors generated from appointments after the first period of the day, then it becomes the prerogative of the faculty/staff to give a rationale for the absence/ tardy of the student. After the 48-hour grace period, it is considered correct and is not changed.
- Each Wednesday an attendance history of what has occurred the previous week is sent home to the parent/guardian with the *AA Weekly*. This is only a history and really is non-negotiable at that time.

Please understand that at any step in the above process an error could occur. Also understand that we attempt to do our work carefully so the errors that do occur are minimized.

Just incidentally, it is the preference of the academy that a pre-arranged absence be written prior to any pre-scheduled appointment that would interfere with the normal class schedule. Forms for this can be obtained in the academy office and need to be signed by the parent/guardian first, followed by the principal or the assistant to the principal, and then all of the teachers for the classes missed. This should then be submitted to the office 24 hours prior to the absence.

There are a number of avenues that the parent/guardian could utilize in responding to an absence/tardy of the student. Please select the one that is best for you as the occasion dictates within the 48-hour time allotted.

- A call could be made to 471-3138 giving the rationale why the student is unable to make it to school that day or unable to arrive on time.

- A note could be sent to the school stating why the student was unable to make it to school that day or unable to arrive on time.

- An email could be sent to tammie@andrews.edu, or academy@andrews.edu or faxed to 471-6368.

There are 21 points that are automatically allotted to each student when the semester begins. Students who end the semester with 19-21 points are given an A; 15-18 points receive a B; 08-14 points deserves a C; 01-07 points obtain a D; and any value of 0 or below is failing. Students lose 1 point if they are tardy to class; 2 points if they are tardy or absent to morning devotions/assembly; and 3 points if they are absent to a class. The attendance **does not** become a part of their current or cumulative grade point average (GPA).

If the attendance score falls to 0 or below, then ideally the student is issued an additional 5 points and is placed on a citizenship probationary status for 60 school days. On a probationary status the following consequences occur: 1) any scholarship monies for the student during that semester are nullified; 2) the student is removed from elected or appointed class or organization office; and 3) the student cannot participate in overnight trips or tours. If you should have any questions regarding the attendance policy, please contact **Ms. Tammie Lindsey**, Assistant to the Principal, or **Mr. Cleon White**, Principal.

- ☞ All sophomore and junior students have been in the process of nominations for class officers for this current week. Those names are posted in display case for at least five school days and then voted on during the next class meeting on *September 5*.
- ☞ The annual school picnic takes place at Warren Dunes State Park on *September 3*. Swimming will take place only at specific times in a specific location if no warning flags are posted with a lifeguard present. Only appropriate swimwear using the AU pool guidelines are acceptable.
- ☞ The annual Student Association campout leaves campus on the afternoon of *September 5* and returns the afternoon of *September 7*. Money and permission forms must be submitted not later than *September 2*.