

January 15, 2009

Dear Parents:

Wow! This has certainly been an eventful year. This is the year for celebrating the things that work and for changing the things that need to be changed. 2009 will usher in a new President who has a clear vision for our nation's future. We will soon celebrate the inauguration of our first African American president and are all very excited to be a part of this historical event. What a wonderful experience for our children to experience in their lifetime.

Central Florida Prep, already a wonderful school, continues to change with the paradigm, changing what needs to be changed, while keeping those things that work. We continue to produce high achieving, well rounded students who dream big dreams for their futures. We assist these students as they prepare for life by providing a quality program and teachers who help their students strive to become high achievers. In the classroom, our teachers help students become the best that they can be by instilling within them the notion that "just getting by" is not an acceptable standard. Not only do we teach our students to think outside of the box, but also we help to develop in them skills that will enable them to become leaders in their communities, manage profitable companies, develop new technologies, and one day make clear decisions for our nation's future.

In our high school, we continue to have an agreement with Valencia Community College that allows our students to attend college and earn high school credit at the same time. Many of our students take advantage of this program. We also continue to offer Advanced Placement (AP) and honors classes. Last year 85% of our students who participated in the Advanced Placement program on our campus earned college credit after taking the National AP exam given by the College Board in May. These are very impressive results indeed. CFP continues to offer a hands-on science program that includes: Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry, Honors Physics, Honors Marine Science, Zoology, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology, to name but a few. As a result of these programs, we are seeing an increase in students who qualify for the Bright Futures Program. These are all things that are WORKING at CFP.

One thing that needs to be improved upon is SPORTS! Currently, we offer team sports for students in grades 4 – 8. For next year, CFP is proud to announce that we have begun the process to join the FHSAA, (Florida High School Athletic Association). We have also hired a wonderful football coach who has many years experience working with young athletes. We are very excited to offer a variety of team sports for our school students. This is going to be a great year! Adding sports will enhance the already great education our students are receiving. We also have a new sports mascot, the Mariner, and our motto is “Stay the Course.” It is only fitting for our student body to adopt this new motto, especially in these times when it is even more relevant.

Our middle school program continues to blossom this year. Academically, our middle school students have the opportunity to take high school level courses, which allows them to advance to the levels commensurate with their abilities. We have added a middle school pre-AP class this year that will ready many of our students for high school AP classes. These courses are both enriching and fun; they use a hands-on curriculum. Additionally, we have expanded the sports offered in our middle school this year. We added soccer, girls and boys basketball, tennis and golf. Without a doubt, our best asset is our teaching staff. They are dedicated professionals who are experienced in dealing with the individual learning styles of children, while helping them cultivate an attitude of cross-cultural awareness.

The word is out on our elementary program. Our enrollment has increased, and we currently have a waiting list for many grades. Our elementary program provides the strong academic background necessary for success in middle and high school. We have always prided ourselves with having a very progressive educational program. The guided reading program was expanded to fourth grade this year and enhances our current curriculum of vocabulary building, writing, and comprehension. In addition, implemented a new writing program, which helps our students develop the writing skills necessary to communicate in this communication driven society. Our teachers use a thematic approach to education, which allows our students to integrate their academic skills in every aspect of our education.

Our Montessori Pre-K/kindergarten programs continue to be the finest in the area, with a faculty second to none. Our teachers continue to produce well-rounded eager learners who consistently test in the above average range on standardized testing. Montessori is the perfect foundation for a lifetime of learning.

At CFP we have always been proud of the fact that while our student/teacher ratio is one-half of that of other private schools, our tuition is highly competitive. It has always been our desire to provide the best education, at the most affordable price, to anyone with the desire to learn. Currently, we have the lowest tuition of any private secular school with a comparable student/teacher ratio in Central Florida. Even in these difficult budgetary times, student achievement will always stand out first and foremost in the minds of the staff, teachers, and administration at CFP. We will always strive to raise the academic and social ceiling for our students. As a not-for-profit school, we rely heavily on your fundraising efforts through the PTO. We thank you for your diligent efforts to help enhance the quality of our program through your efforts of fundraising and time.

We will not have tuition increases this year, as we take the time to recover our economy. We sincerely hope that this will be helpful as you plan for another school year. In order to plan accurately for next year, we need to know your re-enrollment plans as soon as possible. To that end, we ask that you fill out your re-enrollment forms and return them to the business office (Chip Coburn) as soon as possible. Our enrollment will continue through February 2, at which time we will open enrollment to our waiting list and to the public.

To secure a spot for your child for the 2009-2010 school year, a 10% non-refundable deposit of the upcoming tuition is required at the time of re-enrollment.

We sincerely hope that you will continue to be a part of the Central Florida Prep family. It is our desire to continue the traditions set forth by our founding director, Bob Flanders, and to keep his vision and founding principle of “giving each child what he or she needs” alive.

Sincerely,

Rowena Flanders-Ramos
Director
Central Florida Preparatory School
GO MARINERS! PLAY SPORTS!