

**2011-12 PACA  
 Parent Education Program**

As the Parents' Association of Columbus Academy (PACA), we are proud to support the school's Ethics and Character initiative through our Parent Education Program this year. Bringing ethical awareness to the forefront of our CA community is a worthy goal, and will take the combined efforts of faculty, administration and parents.

Our featured speaker during the first semester will be Paula Mirk, Director of Education for the Institute for Global Ethics, on Wednesday evening, October 12th. Ms. Mirk will conduct a two-hour workshop providing parents with practical tools for helping their children make ethical choices. Division-specific coffees hosted by the Division Heads and CA's Ethical Literacy team will follow Ms. Mirk's presentation so that parents can discuss what they learned and how it applies to CA in a more intimate, age-specific environment.

In addition to Paula Mirk, we will be taking advantage of some of our "in-house" talent. Stacy Nockowitz, Middle School librarian, will be conducting a parent workshop on digital citizenship; counselors Suzanne Ritter and Megan Webster will be addressing Upper School parents on helping students manage risky behaviors; and Kristen Oeth, Lower School librarian, and JoAnne Adams, Physical Education Chair, will be sharing thoughts on how to build your child's character through play and sports.

I hope you will mark these dates on your calendar and plan to join us as we strive to take Columbus Academy's "ethical fitness" to a new level.

Sincerely,  
 Susan Levine, Jan Anasis and Nicky Robie  
**PACA Parent Education Committee**

**Parent S.E.E.D. Program:**

There are many ways for parents to support their kids and become involved at CA. One of these is through participation in Parent S.E.E.D. (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity). Over coffee or light dinner at school, in a casual and confidential setting, parents get to know one another and discuss topics in diversity. There is no fee to participate, and all parents are invited to come to the first meeting and then decide if you'd like to commit for the year. Monthly meetings are for two hours, and all materials are provided. Among the topics to be addressed through books, articles, videos and speakers are: being the "other," the role of family, individuality vs. conformity, racism, sexuality, and the power of one to affect change. The morning group meets at 8 a.m. and the evening group at 6 p.m. S.E.E.D. will meet nine times during the 2011/12 school year as follows:

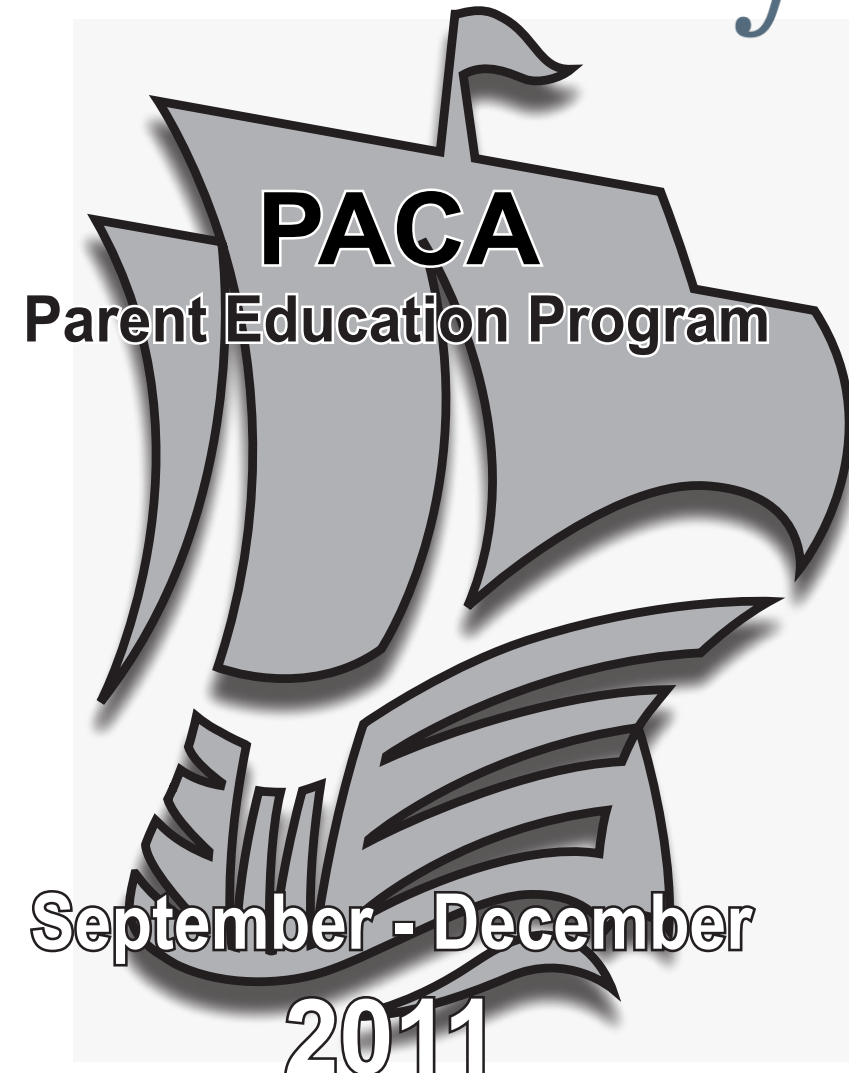
- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Tue., Sept. 13 | Wed., Jan. 11 |
| Tue., Oct. 18  | Thu., Feb. 9  |
| Tue., Nov. 8   | Thu., Mar. 1  |
| Tue., Dec. 6   | Tue., Apr. 10 |
| Tue., May 8    |               |

Please contact facilitator: Joyce Simson P'08 ([jrs@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jrs@ix.netcom.com) 614-252-1260) with questions and to register.

**Columbus Academy Parent Education Mission Statement**

The Columbus Academy Parent Education Program is designed to provide tools and information to parents that enable them to fully support the teachers and administration as they foster qualities of character, citizenship and intellectual development in our students. We believe that informed parents who work collaboratively with teachers and administration in an environment of trust and mutual respect are the most effective and involved school partners.

# Columbus Academy



# PACA

## Parent Education Programs

### September:

**20th** 8 am - "Digital Citizenship : Where Character and Technology Meet"  
For: MS/US parents Presenter: Stacy Nockowitz  
Location: Middle School Library

*Ms. Nockowitz will cover the newest trends in technology that your children may be exposed to or are engaging in. She will discuss the latest research and offer practical advice about online etiquette, how kids can stay safe and how to handle sensitive issues such as cyberbullying.*

**21st** 7 pm - "Digital Citizenship : Where Character and Technology Meet"  
For: MS/US parents Presenter: Stacy Nockowitz  
Location: Middle School Library

*Same program as above for an evening audience. Note: Ms. Nockowitz will also be conducting Middle School and Upper School student assemblies on the topic of digital citizenship on similar timing to facilitate family discussion.*

**27th** 7 pm - "Risky Behaviors : How to Help Guide Your Child Through the Social and Emotional Challenges of High School"  
For: 9th grade parents, but all US parents welcome  
Presenters: US Counselor Megan Webster and MS Psychologist Dr. Suzanne Ritter  
Location: Theatre Lobby

*Ms. Webster and Dr. Ritter will discuss the social and emotional challenges your children will face during their high school years including the temptations of alcohol, drugs, sex and unsafe driving. They will explore how parents can help their children develop coping strategies that keep them safe.*

### October:

**6th** 8 am - PACA Board Meeting  
For: All Columbus Academy parents welcome Location: Dining Hall  
*This morning will be dedicated to a PACA Board business meeting*

## Paula Mirk

### Director of Education, Institute for Global Ethics



**12th** 7 pm - "Good Kids, Tough Choices : Raising Ethical Children in the 21st Century"  
For: All Columbus Academy parents  
Location: Schoedinger Theatre

*Ms. Mirk will lead an interactive two-hour session that examines how ethics factor into raising children today and IGE's role in helping Columbus Academy strengthen the culture of integrity at our school. She also will explore ways that parents and families can reinforce their own commitment to ethics and character at home.*

**26th** 8 am - Upper School Parent Coffee  
hosted by Shane MacElhiney  
Location: Dining Hall

*Led by Mr. Tim Leet and members of Columbus Academy's Ethical Literacy Team, this coffee will allow parents the opportunity to discuss and put to work key messages from Paula Mirk's presentation. Parents will work through potential ethical issues that their children could be facing and understand how they can help them make the best decisions. Attendance at the October 12th presentation is not necessary to attend the coffee.*

**27th** 8 am - Middle School Parent Coffee hosted by Karla Long  
Location: Dining Hall

*Led by Mr. Tim Leet and members of Columbus Academy's Ethical Literacy Team, this coffee will allow parents the opportunity to discuss and put to work key messages from Paula Mirk's presentation. Parents will work through potential ethical issues that their children could be facing and understand how they can help them make the best decisions. Attendance at the October 12th presentation is not necessary to attend the coffee.*

### November:

**2nd** 8 am - PACA General Meeting  
For: All Columbus Academy parents Location: Dining Hall

*Special Guests: Ms. Jessica Sneeringer and Mr. Dominic Facciolla will give an overview of "Arts and Athletics" at Columbus Academy.*

**14th** 8 am - Lower School Parent Coffee  
hosted by Dan Vorenberg  
Location: Dining Hall

*Led by Mr. Tim Leet and members of Columbus Academy's Ethical Literacy Team, this coffee will allow parents the opportunity to discuss and put to work key messages from Paula Mirk's presentation. Parents will work through potential ethical issues that their children could be facing and understand how they can help them make the best decisions. Attendance at the October 12th presentation is not necessary to attend the coffee.*

### December:

**5th** 8 am - " Building Character Through Play and Sports"  
For: LS parents Presenters: Kristen Oeth and JoAnne Adams  
Location: LS Library

*Ms. Oeth and Ms. Adams will discuss the critical role of play in your child's development. They will explore with parents the benefits of board games, sports and other family activities in helping your child develop a sense of fair play and sportsmanship that can last a lifetime. Additionally, Ms. Adams will share tips on how to help your children get the most from their early sports experiences.*