

2007-2008 Coffee House Series

These discussion opportunities are designed to provide information to parents, allow parents to meet with fellow parents and allow direct dialogue with the school administration. The coffee house discussions will be held in the Nancy Russell Auditorium at NSA, will start at 8:15 a.m. and conclude no later than 9:15 a.m.

Each meeting will begin with a brief overview of school items and then move to discussion of the published discussion topic.

Lower School Coffee House topics for 2007-08

October 15

Fostering Friendships (Early School – 1st Grade)

What can be done to support children in their social development at home and at school? Some children seem to make friends with ease and for some it's a more difficult process. How should the adults in their lives facilitate social interactions?

November 19

Getting a Handle on Homework (Grades K – 4)

What should "doing homework" entail? How long should it take and how much involvement should be required from parents? How can parents make this a successful and happy time?

January 7

Stressful Social Scenarios (Grades 4-7)

Children don't always get along. What should parents do when social interactions aren't going smoothly? At what point and how should they intervene?

February 11

Compromised in Cyberspace (Grades 5-7)

What can parents do to ensure their children's safety when they're at home? There are dangers in unexpected places. Really, how easy is it to track our children when they're online?

March 10

Not Enough Hours in the DAY! (Grades 3-7)

There are many activities vying for the attention and participation of today's children. How do the adults in their lives help them balance what they *want* to do with what they *must* do in a way that's healthy? Parent involvement in setting limits is vital as children begin to practice setting priorities in their lives.

April 14

Ready for Responsibility – Doesn't it Just Happen??? (All grades)

Helping children develop independence and responsibility is one of the biggest challenges facing parents today. How do parents work towards this from an early age?

Upper School Coffee House topics for 2007-08

October 22

Moving On (8th grade and parents of new students)

The transition from Lower to Upper School is an exciting time in a child's life, one that brings with it some significant challenges. How can parents partner with the faculty and administration to ensure that their children are making the most of their new environment?

November 26

What's a Parent to Do? How Can My Child Do All This Homework? (Grades 8-12)

As parents with a vested interest in the development of their children, knowing how and when to help with homework and other forms of independent learning can be tricky. What purposes does individual learning serve, and when is it appropriate for parents and other adults to become involved?

January 14

Too Much to Do and Not Enough Time (Grades 8-12)

Students at NSA have opportunities to involve themselves in a wide variety of activities both in and out of school. As developing adolescents continue to assert their independence in making choices that effect their lives, how can adults ensure that these young people are maintaining a healthy balance?

February 11

Compromised in Cyberspace (Grades 8-12)

The Internet has become an ever-present entity in our lives, particularly the lives of our youth. The Web can certainly be a useful tool, but with it come some potential dangers. What precautions can we take to ensure the safety of our children? How quickly can something really happen?

March 17

Making Good Choices and Limiting Risks (Grades 8-12)

Children's access to drugs and alcohol continues to increase every year. What can parents and educators do to help our children make the healthiest choices possible?

April 21

Going, Going, Gone! (12th Grade)

Parents and their children have been preparing for this moment for nearly two decades, and yet this tremendously exciting time can also be one of anxiety. How can parents continue to prepare themselves and their soon-to-be graduates for the upcoming months as Commencement approaches?