

**Canoe to School 2011 and “Senior Sojourn”**  
*Doane Academy seniors come to class by boat,  
after class trip featuring park restoration service project*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Burlington City, NJ - **September 7, 2011** – Some seniors get to drive to their first day of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. At Doane Academy, the seniors arrive by canoe. Everyone is welcome to join the festivities on the Riverbank Wednesday September 7, with the seniors’ landing expected for 8:30am.

The first day of school is the culmination of a three-day “Senior Sojourn” featuring canoeing and class bonding. Previous sojourns have pushed the envelope with hiking and biking. The Class of 2012 opted for a community service project in Frenchtown, PA.

The seniors had already adopted the park clean-up project before Hurricane Irene worsened conditions there.

“Every year we like to add some new dimensions to this long-standing tradition,” says Headmaster John F. McGee, “in addition to taking advantage of our fortunate position on the Delaware River.”

Waiting for the seniors on the riverbank will be their families and all of their schoolmates, from Pre Kindergarten to the Junior Class. A bagpiper and the Doane Academy band will greet the paddlers as they arrive, escorted by state police boats. Upon landing, the school year will begin with a riverfront chapel ceremony.

For the seniors, the end of the Sojourn is the beginning of a much larger journey through the school year and life together.

“You get to know people on a deeper level without even realizing it,” says senior Mary Brodowski, Captain of the Doane women’s soccer, basketball and softball teams. “No other school starts the year like we do.”

This year’s canoe trip to school will be the 12<sup>th</sup> since the journey began with the Headmaster and Student Council President paddling to the first day of school in 2000. It has since become not only a Doane tradition but a Burlington tradition to watch the school’s senior class arrive by boat.



**Who:** Doane Class of 2012

**What:** Senior Sojourn and canoe landing for first day of school

**When:** Seniors arrive 8:30am on September 7.

**Where:** The riverbank portion of 350 Riverbank Burlington, NJ

**Contact**

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**About Doane Academy**

Doane Academy, est. 1837, is an independent, Episcopal school located in Burlington, NJ, next to the Burlington-Bristol Bridge. Doane’s college preparatory curriculum, Pre-Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, challenges students to develop leadership and character. At Doane Academy students are known, loved and strongly encouraged to reach their full, unique potential.

# DOANE *academy* est. 1837

## Schedule of Events

### *Monday, September 5 (Labor Day)*

6am – 9am Sunrise Hot Air Balloon Ride at Balloons Aloft,  
Pittstown, NJ  
njballoon.com (CANCELED/POSTPONED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER)



10:30am-1:30pm Canoe Outing and Lunch at Tinicum Park, Milford, NJ

7:30pm Hike/Kayaking conditions permitting at Lake Nockamixon/Tohikan Creek

9:00pm Fireside Senior Meeting

### *Tuesday, September 6*

9am – 2pm Service Project: Park Restoration in Frenchtown, PA

3pm-5:30pm Canoe trip down Neshaminy Creek

6pm Dinner with parents at Red Dragon Canoe Club, Edgewater Park, NJ

9pm – 12am Senior Bonfire and Election of Class Officers

### *Wednesday, September 7*

8:30am Seniors Arrive at Doane Academy

8:45am Opening Chapel Service on the Riverfront

9:15am Classes Commence



*Doane students welcome  
the seniors*



*Doane Academy Band*