



**Hilltop Notes**  
for the CHS Community  
10.25.21



**PTSCO Website**

CHS PTSCO (Parent, Teacher, Student, Community Organization) has a brand new website! Please be sure to check it out [at this link](#) and bookmark it on your browser. The website includes information about upcoming PTSCO events, club sports teams, meeting schedules and more! Questions? Contact PTSCO President, Mauree Chapman at [chsclass2019@gmail.com](mailto:chsclass2019@gmail.com).

**Sectional Play-Offs Continue This Week!**

Our CHS Soccer teams have had exciting games and great success so far in the sectionals. Be sure to visit CHS on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see some of the highlights!

Here are the sectional contests this week:

**10/25 Boys Soccer**, Sectional Semi-Final vs. East Aurora, 7:30pm Spark Adams Field in Kenmore.

**10/26 Girls Soccer**, Sectional Semi-Final vs. Springville, 5:30pm at Williamsville North

**10/28 Boys Volleyball**, Sectional Quarterfinals (this date is still tentative. We are waiting for final details from the section)

**10/29 Girls Volleyball**, Sectional Quarterfinals vs. Lakeshore, 6:00pm at City Honors (sectional contests from the semi-finals forward include an admission charge. In addition, the Buffalo Schools have just modified their policy regarding spectators to volleyball events -see below)

**Girls Varsity Swim**

Congratulations to our girls varsity swim and dive team which captured the All-High title on Friday. Keara Cotter doubled with wins in the 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle events, and CHS took first place in all 12 events, nine individual and three relays. Altogether City Honors collected 221 points with the 12 golds, six silvers and four bronzes. Other CHS first-place finishes were by: Makaila Hall (100 freestyle), Ava Whitley-Grassi (50 free), Kerrington Clouser (100 backstroke), Grace Rivera (200 individual medley), Amelia Colder (100 butterfly) and Andrea Merzianu (1-meter diving). Thank you to Coach Yager for everything she did for our swimmers this season!

**Attention Grade 5/6 Families**

A reminder that our 'Trunk or Treat' even for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking place on October 30<sup>th</sup>! [Follow this link](#) to a flyer to find out more about the event and how you can help to make it a special day. Thank you to all of our grade level PTSCO representatives for making this possible for our students!

**BPS Indoor Sport Spectator Procedures Amended**

The Buffalo Public Schools will now authorize parent and family spectators ONLY for remaining volleyball events. All students attending the contest must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Any student who arrives without a parent or guardian will be denied entry. Temperature checks, the completion of a health questionnaire, masking, and social distancing will be required at all District indoor athletic events. Upon admission, all safety protocols must be strictly adhered to by the spectators pursuant to this policy and the Buffalo Athletics COVID safety plan. If a spectator is not

feeling well, please stay home. This policy is subject to modifications and changes at the discretion of the District. Questions? Email temporary district athletic director, Michael House at [mjhouse@buffaloschools.org](mailto:mjhouse@buffaloschools.org).

### **CHS Masterminds Team**

Do you know the CHS team that has won their league the past two years? Has been to the state finals twice and has won a state championship? It's our Masterminds team! Grade 9-12 students are invited to come to an informational meeting this Wednesday in room 219. This team is open to any high school student. If you love trivia and you love many different subjects, you'll love this team. No prior experience needed! Questions? Contact Mr. Howson at [jhowson@buffaloschools.org](mailto:jhowson@buffaloschools.org)

### **Fosdick Street**

Parents- please drive slowly and patiently on Fosdick Street. As this is a city street, school personnel are prohibited from directing traffic on the street. Expect congestion during pick-up and drop-off times and proceed cautiously and carefully for the safety of our students.

### **Pelion Garden Potluck**

Due to rain forecasts for Tuesday, the Pelion Garden potluck has been moved to Thursday. Please visit [Pelion's Facebook page](#) for more information or contact Ms. Caesandra at [peliongarden@gmail.com](mailto:peliongarden@gmail.com)

### **Reporting COVID Cases in Your Household**

Please email news of any COVID cases in your household to Ms. McDow, assistant principal, and Nurse Cammarata. These staff members are managing our COVID safety initiatives and response. They can outline next steps for your family as it pertains to school. It is important that you email Ms. McDow ([cmcdow@buffaloschools.org](mailto:cmcdow@buffaloschools.org)) and Nurse Cammarata ([dcammarata@shccares.com](mailto:dcammarata@shccares.com)) as this will allow them to receive your communication outside of school hours and provide the quickest possible response. **Please do not leave voicemails or messages in the main office.**

As we move indoors more and more due to the cold weather, the COVID virus has a greater opportunity to jump from person to person. We are emphasizing good safety practices with our students including distancing, proper mask wearing and hygiene. Please stress these practices with your child at home and with family members. We strongly encourage anyone in your household approved by your family doctor and eligible to receive the flu and COVID vaccines to receive them as soon as possible, if they have not already. These steps will help to keep our students and staff in school where they need to be!

### **Food Deliveries**

For the safety of all in our school building, parents and students are asked not to send food deliveries to the school. These deliveries will be turned away. Free breakfast and lunch is provided to all of our students at the school.

### **Student Support Days**

As a part of our continued efforts to support good mental health awareness and well-being among our students, the CHS Student Support Team will be utilizing a monthly class period for students to focus on these issues and recenter themselves amidst the hustle and bustle of being an adolescent. The first of these sessions will be held the first week in November 5 during social studies classes. All

grades will be participating. We will be rotating subjects each month to ensure one area is not giving up their teaching time repeatedly. Our theme for the Fall is self-care. We will be providing social studies teachers with a short video and activities. We realize self-care looks different for everyone, but the goal is to have a calm environment where students can take time and reflect on the importance of self-care.

### **Halloween**

As is our tradition at CHS, students are permitted to wear a costume to school on October 29 with some very important boundaries. **If we are to continue this tradition, it is important that students and families are respectful of these boundaries.**

-All costumes must comply with the school district's code of conduct.

-No masks may be worn with the exception of masks designed for COVID safety. No mask may cover the entire face.

-No fake blood, no real blood, nothing too scary or unpleasant. No fake weapons, no real weapons.

-Nothing too serious. Keep it fun and creative but appropriate to a school setting. Make a teacher or classmate smile!

### **Cardinal Craze Week**

Cardinal Craze Week is City Honors' spirit week. Dr. Kresse has been meeting with student council representatives to try to determine how we can continue this fun tradition while modifying it fit the district's requirements for health and safety amidst COVID. Large groups activities are the most challenging thing to work around. Given the complexity of starting this school year and the need to adjust Cardinal Craze Week to fit with district guidelines, we are planning to hold Cardinal Craze week in February. Student representatives also thought this would be a great way to break up the monotony of what can be the toughest part of winter. We will be sure to keep our school community posted as the plans for this week become more defined.

### **NYS Dignity Act (DASA)**

New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. The Dignity Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010 and took effect on July 1, 2012. Learn more about the Dignity Act and how it works [at this link](#) and [this link](#).

### **CHS Speech and Debate Starts the Season with Big Win**

Last Saturday, your City Honors Speech and Debate Team won the 1st tournament of the year, scoring a school record amount of points in the process, while competing against several schools from the Buffalo and Rochester region!

Led by senior debate captains Roman Rogalski and Holden Endres, who took 1st and 2nd place respectively in Lincoln Douglass debate, junior debater Julia Chiriboga finished 3rd in LD, while Public Forum sophomore debaters Trinity Barnes / Tydeja Kemp finished 1st, sister team of Charlotte and Amelia Colder placed 2nd, and juniors Zach Biniszkiwicz / Jake Baldwin took 3rd in this partner event.



In the Speech categories, junior Phoebe Lawton placed 1st in Oral Interpretation, while sophomore Annika Wilewicz finished 3rd in her very first tournament appearance in Dramatic Interpretation after junior Liam Rio placed 1st in the same event. In the underclassmen event of Declamation, first time sophomore participants Nin Lay and Sophia Bensch finished 1st and 2nd respectively.

The team victory was nothing short of dominant! The next league tournament is scheduled for 10/30.

### **Media Release**

From time-to-time, CHS or the Buffalo Schools like to share good news about our students on social media or with media outlets. **ALL CHS families** are asked to fill out [this one question survey](#) to let us know your preference should the opportunity arise for your child to appear in good news article. Thank you for completing this form!

### **Jesse Ketchum Medal Winners**

Congratulations to the following grade nine centaurs who became a part of a BPS tradition since 1873 when they were awarded with the Jesse Ketchum Medal last week at a special ceremony based on their outstanding academic performance during grade eight:

Ria Yagielski (Gold Medal)

Mohammed Sabir (Silver Medal)

Katie Goodwin (Bronze Medal)

Calieb Walker (Bronze Medal)

Samura Osmani (Bronze Medal)

MD Mia (Bronze Medal)

### **Boys Basketball**

Coach Badger will hold a second organizational meeting for all boys in grades 7-12 interested in JV or varsity basketball on November 5 at 3:30pm in the LGI Room. This meeting is for boys who missed the first meeting. Questions? Contact coach at [dbadger2@buffaloschools.org](mailto:dbadger2@buffaloschools.org).

### **Youth Alliance for Education**

The Youth Alliance for Education or YAE is an organization run by students for students. In monthly meetings, students discuss the changes they want to see in their schools, and as an organization we work to make it happen! If you have ideas for how to make schools in WNY more inclusive, welcoming, and respectful towards all students, join us! We want to hear from as many Western New York students as possible so whether you can make it to all the meetings or only one, please fill out our quick application: [https://ubgse.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9t7BiMUoaxL1c6G](https://ubgse.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9t7BiMUoaxL1c6G)

All fall meetings will be held virtually via Zoom.

To learn more about the alliance and how to apply please visit [ed.buffalo.edu/yae](http://ed.buffalo.edu/yae), or contact [GSEOutreach@buffalo.edu](mailto:GSEOutreach@buffalo.edu). [Follow us on Instagram @youth\\_alliance\\_for\\_education](#)

### **COVID Testing**

30% of staff and students at CHS will continue to be randomly tested for COVID each month pursuant to current district procedures. This year, CHS will conduct the more accurate and less

invasive 24- hour turnaround mandatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19. **We encourage all staff and students to participate in testing in order to reduce the number of times individuals will need to be tested.** Families are asked to [use this link](#) to provide consent to include their child in the pool of students to be tested.

### **Daily COVID-19 Health Screener**

Families should complete the daily health screener once again each day BEFORE their child leaves for school. [This link will take you to this year's screener.](#) Families are encouraged to paste the link into the 'reminder' app on their smart phone to alert you each morning.

### **When You Need A Helping Hand**

**BPS Staff and Family Helpline:** The Buffalo Public Schools have established a 'Staff and Family Helpline' at 716-816-7100 to provide answers within 24 hours to our most frequently asked questions in the areas of Technology, Mental/Physical Wellness, Instruction and Professional Development, Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives (CLRI), Multilingual, Elementary and High School needs, Food Services, Child Care, and Volunteerism. If you need assistance in any of these areas, please contact the hotline number.

**The CHS Student Support Team (SST):** If you are seeking additional support or assistance, please do not hesitate to make a referral to the CHS SST. The Request for Assistance Form can be found [at this link](#). Once your form is submitted, a member of the SST will be in contact with you.

**Mental Health Supports:** Here is a [quick reference guide](#) which provides contact information for mental health support from the Buffalo Public Schools and our partner organizations.

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## ***Connect with CHS!***

*Click on the following links to better connect with the CHS Community*

[CHS Website](#)

[CHS on Facebook](#)

[CHS on Twitter](#)

[CHS on Instagram](#)

[Pelion Outdoor Classroom at City Honors](#)

[Easy/No Cost Ways to Support City Honors](#)

[Fosdick Field Restoration Project](#)

[City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation](#)

[CHS PTSCO \(Parent, Teacher, Student, Community Organization\)](#)

*Children are endangered by underage house parties and underage drinking. Concerned adults, teachers, students and friends can call 24 hours a day in Erie County to report planned underage drinking parties; underage drinking parties in progress or other activities that may be harmful to the health, safety and welfare of young people. The tip line (1-800-851-1932) is ANONYMOUS, CONFIDENTIAL and free. Erie County now has a "Social Host Law" that holds adults accountable for allowing minors to drink. [LEARN MORE](#)*