



**Hilltop Notes**  
for the CHS Community  
11.14.21



**Keep Our CHS Students and Staff in School- Keep Our Families Safe!**

CHS Families and Staff: We strongly encourage you to consult with your family doctor about having everyone five and older in your household vaccinated for COVID/receive a COVID booster where applicable. Need more reasons to get vaccinated? [Read more from the CDC](#). This is a critical matter for our school to function and to keep our community safe!



**Parent-Teacher Conference Night**

CHS will hold a virtual Parent-Teacher Conference Night on **Thursday, December 2**, from 5:00pm-7:00pm. This conference night allows parents an opportunity to dialogue with teachers about the classes where their child(ren) have the greatest need. Information will be shared shortly on how parents can register for the conferences and access teacher Teams links successfully.

The length of this event does not allow for parents to conference with every one of their child's teachers so parents should prioritize when scheduling conferences. However, all teachers are provided with Conference and Planning (C&P) periods each day as well as teacher office hours at the end of the school day should you need to conference with a teacher throughout the course of the school year. We appreciate parent involvement and support!

**CHS Team Wins Big at UB Hack-a-thon**

Last Saturday and Sunday, seniors Elliot Paterson, Logan Head, Jacob Rivera and Brennan Overhoff won \$1,000 with their machine learning project at the UB Hack-a-thon. They beat out several high school and college teams to win the "Best Freshman Hack" category. Congrats Centaur hackers!

**CHS Girls Swim Finishes Strong at Sectionals**

Centaur swimmers had an amazing night at sectionals this past week. Amelia Colder earned a heat win and best time in the 200 free. The 200 medley relay, 200 free relay and 400 free relay all earned best times as well. What a way to end the season! Congrats to Grace Rivera, Keara Cotter, Lily Hauser-Howells and Julia Russom who represented CHS at Sectionals.

**Save-the-Date**

Wednesday, January 12 will be City Honors Night at Griddle and Greens on Elmwood Avenue. You can support the CHS Class of 2023 and this great locally owned business by enjoying a meal from Griddle & Greens on January 12. We'll provide reminders as we approach this date. [Learn more now at this flyer](#).

**School Photo Retake Day**

**Wednesday, November 17** is school picture retake day. If your child was absent last picture day,

or were unhappy with their first photo, please plan on having their photo retaken Wednesday. This will be the final opportunity to retake photos. **Even if students will not appear in the yearbook, they will have their photo taken for emergency response purposes.** Students participating in re-takes may participate during the start of their lunch period or during a study hall, but should not be leaving classes to have photographs taken.

Digital proofs of retakes will be emailed to parents and guardians for review and purchase of prints. No money should be brought to school for photos. Prints will be mailed directly to families by our photo vendor, Jostens. Please [visit this link](#) for instructions to edit and order your child's photos.

### **Fun-vember Continues This Week!**

**The third theme day of the month will be Wednesday, November 17.** Students can vote for the third theme day in their Schoology 'Recent Activity' feed right now. Almost 500 of our students voted last week and 443 dressed for hat and sunglasses day! The voting will end 7<sup>th</sup> period tomorrow (11/15), and we'll announce the winning theme at the start of 8<sup>th</sup> period Monday.

The CHS Student Council will be launching our annual **Fall Food Drive** this week to help those most in need in our city. This year's drive will benefit the Buffalo City Mission. **Students will have the opportunity to decide what Dr. Kresse and our faculty will wear for a special theme day on December 1 if they meet food drive goals set by student council.** More information will be coming this week about the food drive and the goals, but for now, student council is looking for our students to provide good ideas for dressing up our staff and Dr. Kresse! Students can share their ideas as a part of this week's theme day ballot.

### **If You Shop Amazon This Holiday Season, Please Send Some of What You Spend Back to Buffalo**

As we work toward our city's recovery from the pandemic, we **strongly** encourage you to support local businesses. However, if you need to use Amazon, please consider sending some of your expenditure back to Buffalo. Amazon will give a portion of every purchase you make to the City Honors Foundation through the Amazon Smile program. There is no additional charge to you. You just need to be sure to register here and choose "City Honors Foundation" as your charity. If you use Amazon through an App on your phone, you must be sure to designate the City Honors Foundation as your charity of choice on the App as well. If you have grandparents and other family members who would like to support City Honors, please encourage them to make the City Honors Foundation their charity of choice through Amazon Smile as well. [Learn more and register at this link.](#)

After each purchase, you should see a notification letting you know a portion of your purchase has been sent to the CHS Foundation. If you have registered with Amazon Smile in the past, it is a good idea to check once a year to verify you are still registered for Amazon Smile in your Amazon settings.

### **Still Time to Join CHS Winter Sports!**

Students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to contact the following coaches for information about joining their teams:

<b>Varsity Boys and Girls Bowling</b>	Mr. Krause	<a href="mailto:ajkrause@buffaloschools.org">ajkrause@buffaloschools.org</a>
<b>Varsity Boys Swimming</b>	Mrs. Mrugala	<a href="mailto:klmrugala@buffaloschools.org">klmrugala@buffaloschools.org</a>
<b>Varsity Cheer</b>	Ms. Kehrs	<a href="mailto:skehr@mail.niagara.edu">skehr@mail.niagara.edu</a>

<b>Varsity Girls Basketball</b>	Mrs. Juergens	kjuergens@buffaloschools.org
<b>JV Girls Basketball</b>	Ms. Simon	lisimon@roadrunner.com
<b>Varsity Boys Basketball</b>	Mr. Badger	dbadger2@buffaloschools.org
<b>JV Boys Basketball</b>	Mr. Heil	pheil@buffaloschools.org

**A reminder: 7th or 8th graders** wishing to play JV or Varsity Sports must pass the NYS Athletic Placement Process (APP). Please email Mrs. Juergens ([kjuergens@buffaloschools.org](mailto:kjuergens@buffaloschools.org)) for questions.

-The temporary district athletic director, Mr. House, has informed us that modified sports have been cancelled this winter due to the transportation shortage. Questions should be directed to [mjhouse@buffaloschools.org](mailto:mjhouse@buffaloschools.org).

-Unified Bowling will be coached by Mr. Krause but will not begin until mid-winter. Mr. Krause will post information on how students can join this team closer to the start of the Unified Bowling season. Not familiar with Unified sports? [Learn more here](#).

### **Advice About Vaping**

BPS Parent Centers is excited to announce the start of a new partnership with the University at Buffalo Department of Pediatrics. In our new monthly virtual series, "Advice From a Pediatrician", we will explore topics including vaping, healthy eating, contraception, abuse, and much more!

Join us LIVE on the *BPS Parent Centers Facebook Page*, Thursday, November 18th at 6:00pm for our first session, "What You Need to Know About Vaping: Advice From a Pediatrician". Dr. Daevina Charles, of the UB Pediatric Residency Program, will explain what vaping really is and the effects it can have on users. Get all your questions about vaping answered during a live Q&A.

### **Push Buffalo After School Program**

The Grant Street Neighborhood Center (GSNC) would like to welcome City Honors students to join our annual after-school program. This year our program will be held in-person and will be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Our program will be held from the hours of 4 PM to 6 PM and will be featuring a variety of classes. Youth will be able to explore classes in African diaspora, esports, hip-hop, videography, and many more opportunities. We are looking to accept youth in the age range of 12-22. Please contact Da'Von McCune at [DaVon@pushbuffalo.org](mailto:DaVon@pushbuffalo.org) to learn more about our after-school program and organization's mission.

### **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!

### **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](#)*