



**Hilltop Notes**  
for the CHS Community  
11.7.21



**All CHS Age Groups Now Eligible for COVID Vaccination**

The CDC has extended its COVID vaccination recommendation to students who are ages 5-11. If your child(ren) at CHS has not yet received a COVID vaccination, please consider doing so as soon as possible after consulting with your family doctor. All members of your household five and above are encouraged to do the same. Vaccinations reduce the chance you will contract COVID and if you do, significantly reduce the odds of hospitalization and death. In addition, vaccinated students are not required to quarantine in cases of close contact. This helps to keep our children in school and learning! If already vaccinated for COVID, check with your family doctor to see if you are due for a booster.

Please don't forget to get your regular fall flu shot too!

**Veterans Day**

There is no school on **Thursday, November 11** in Observance of Veterans Day. Students who attend school on-time and each day that school is open, learn more. Please support our work in educating your child by sending them to school on November 12.

Families interested in recognizing our veterans are invited to Forest Lawn cemetery the morning of November 11<sup>th</sup> where the Erie County American Legion will host its annual ceremony to honor and salute veterans. At 8:00 a.m., flags will be placed on the graves of veterans buried in the Field of Valor and in the American Legion section of Forest Lawn. At 9:00 a.m., the ceremony will begin in front of the American Legion Memorial Monument in the Veterans section, near the Main Street Gates. All are welcome to attend.

**Now is the Time to Join a CHS Winter Sport!**

Participating in sports is a great way to stay physically and mentally healthy throughout the winter months. You don't have to be the best at a sport to join, you just need to have the best enthusiasm and willingness to learn! 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	ajkrause@buffaloschools.org
<b>Varsity Boys Swimming</b>	Mrs. Mrugala	klmrugala@buffaloschools.org
<b>Varsity Cheer</b>	Ms. Kehrs	kehrs@niagara.edu
<b>Varsity Girls Basketball</b>	Mrs. Juergens	kjuergens@buffaloschools.org
<b>JV Girls Basketball</b>	TBA- Contact Mrs. Juergens	kjuergens@buffaloschools.org
<b>Varsity Boys Basketball</b>	Mr. Badger	dbadger2@buffaloschools.org
<b>JV Boys Basketball</b>	Mr. Heil	pheil@buffaloschools.org

**7th or 8th graders** wishing to play JV or Varsity Sports must pass the NYS Athletic Placement Process (APP). Mrs. Juergens will be conducting the APP **after school on Tuesday (11/9) in the CHS gymnasium**. Please email Mrs. Juergens (kjuergens@buffaloschools.org) if you plan to attend the APP as families must complete brief paperwork prior to the testing.

The following sports have a mid-winter start. We will share more information as their start approaches:

**-Middle School Swimming**

**-Unified Bowling**

We are awaiting word from the district regarding whether the **boys and girls modified basketball** teams will resume this winter.

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

The CHS Student Council has declared this month 'Funvember' and is organizing each Wednesday in November as a 'flash' theme day. Students are asked come to school each Wednesday dressed to match the theme. Our student body will decide the theme for each week!

**The second theme day of the month will be Wednesday, November 10.** Students can vote for the second theme day in their Schoology 'Recent Activity' feed right now. We've had over 300 students vote already for this week's theme and the three options are running within a few votes of each other! The voting will end 7<sup>th</sup> period tomorrow (11/8), and we'll announce the winning theme at the start of 8<sup>th</sup> period Monday.

### **CHS Foundation Continues to ReTree the Hilltop**

Thank you to the CHS Foundation which donated four new trees this past week to continue its reforestation efforts at our campus. One of the trees was planted in memory of Suzanne Kreuzer, mother of Mike Kreuzer '92. Mike has provided over a decade of service to the school as a Foundation Board member and president.

Thank you also to Dore Landscape which donated two additional trees in memory of Dr. Kresse's father, Bob Kresse.

Two Red Oaks, two White Oaks and two Cornus Mas were planted.

Please keep an eye on your mailbox over the next few weeks as the CHS Foundation launches its Annual Fund appeal. When all members of the CHS community make a donation to the Annual Fund, our students win!

### **CHS Speech & Debate Captures Top Prize Again as New Team Members Begin to Shine**

The City Honors Speech and Debate team turned in another stellar performance on 10/30, placing 1st overall in team standings at the 2nd Genesee Valley Forensics League Invitational.

The Varsity Lincoln Douglass Debate group placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd, as Roman Rogalski, Julia Chiriboga and Cia Courtney swept their category! Roman is also now qualified for the State tournament after only his second competition of the season. In her very first tournament ever, Sali Sylla



placed 1st and earned a half qualification point towards States.

Liam Cobb and Sebastian Cole received a half qualification point for their 1st place finish in Varsity Public Forum Debate, while the dynamic sister duo of senior Amelia and freshmen Charlotte Colder placed 3rd. In Novice PFD, first timers Nathan Lloyd & Aidan Becker placed 3rd.

On the Speech side, Shoshanna Hertz placed 1st in Original Oratory and Liam Rio took 2nd in Dramatic Interpretation. Lauren Foster earned a half qual in Oral Interpretation by placing 1st, while Phoebe Lawton took 3rd. In the underclassmen category of Declamation, Elizabeth Patrone placed 1st in her very first tournament while also picking up a State half qual and Nin Lay is now fully qualified for the State tournament after finishing 2nd!

Congratulations to an awesome team performance! Our next tournament is 11/13, where the team will look to continue their hot start to the season!

### **Attention Grade 10 Students**

Do you have loads of Centaur pride? Are you interested in seeing how a non-profit charity board works? Are you willing to help raise and allocate funds for our students? Serving as a student board member on the City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation board of directors might be for you!

The CH/FMP Foundation is currently looking to add a grade 10 student to its board of directors with the expectation that this student will serve a three-year term on the board until graduation. Students have served on the Foundation's board of directors since it was established in 1996 and have been an important part of the success of the Foundation in helping to see that all students have what they need to succeed at CHS. Student board members must be willing to attend one board meeting per month and join to work of a subcommittee on the Foundation. Learn more about the work of the CH/FMP Foundation [at this link](#). Complete the student application [at this link](#).

Questions about serving on the board can be directed to Dr. VanRemmen, Mrs. Banas, Dr. Kresse, Eamon Langdon '24 or Liam Rio '23.

### **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) and Nurse Cammarata (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](#)*