



Hilltop Notes

for the CHS Community

12.10.23



CHS Calendar Reminders

12/13 During all lunches	CHS Winter Bazaar
12/13 6:30pm	CHS Choral and Orchestra Winter Concert
12/14 6:30pm	CHS Band Winter Concert
12/19 7:00pm	Grade 10 Parent Zoom Meeting: IB Personal Project
12/25-1/1	Winter Recess
1/3 5:30-6:30	PTSCO In-Person Meeting at CHS
1/12 9:00am	44th Annual Keeping the Dream Alive Assembly
1/12 & 1/13	MLK Jr. Basketball Invitational at CHS
1/15	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- No School
1/23-1/26	January Regents Exams- Students in grade 9-12 report only for exams. Regular days of school for students in grades 5-8.

Mr. Mueckl Day: School Closed April 8 Due to Solar Eclipse!

Dear BPS Community: This letter is meant to inform you that Buffalo Public Schools will be closed on Monday, April 8, 2024, due to a historic solar eclipse expected in the Western New York Region. The eclipse is predicted to coincide with student dismissal and increased tourism which may impact traffic and roadways. Please be aware that all other school districts in the Western New York Region will also be closed on this date. In the event additional instructional time is required, the district may convert June 26, 2024, and/or June 27, 2024, into instructional days to meet New York State's minimum standards. Your understanding and support in prioritizing the safety and well-being of our students is greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Dr. Tonja M. Williams

Now is the Time to Purchase an Ad in the CHS Yearbook

Want to honor your graduating senior? Interested in getting some additional visibility for your business? Please consider purchasing an advertisement in this year's CHS Yearbook. Adverts can be purchased [at this link](#). Contact Mr. Hecker at ETHecker@buffaloschools.org for any questions.

PTSCO to Meet at CHS on January 3

PTSCO will meet on January 3 at 5:30pm in the LGI (large Group Instruction) Room. To add items to the agenda, please send them to Elizabeth Garner Masarik at emasarik@brockport.edu at least three days prior to our meeting. For more information about PTSCO, upcoming events, and meeting agendas please go to chsptsco.org.

WNY Lacrosse Foundation Holding Winter Warm-up Program*

Girls and Boys in grades 2-8 can try lacrosse or get ready for the upcoming season by joining our Winter Warm-up Program. The fee for the program is \$75. More information can be obtained by contacting Chris Mathias at wnylacrossefoundation@gmail.com. Families can also inquire about fee waivers and equipment if they are economically disadvantaged.

Remember: We have districtwide BPS lacrosse teams for students in grades 7-12 at both the varsity and JV levels for both boys and girls. Many CHS students participate on these teams. Lacrosse is a growing sport in our district!

City Honors is now on Threads!

If you are on the Threads social media app, you can now find City Honors there too at @CityHonorsSchool or on your browser: www.threads.net/@cityhonorsschool

ACEing Autism*

ACEing Autism is on a mission to help children with autism to grow, develop and benefit from social connections and fitness through affordable tennis programming, uniquely meeting individual needs while filling a national void for this growing and underserved population. ACEing Autism Buffalo begins its winter session January 13 and is looking for students who would like to participate as athletes as well as students with established backgrounds in playing tennis who would like to serve as volunteer coaches. To learn more and register, visit Aceing Autism Buffalo's website [at this link](#) or contact Kathy Connelly at buffalo@aceingautism.org or 716.480.9588.

CHS Winter Concerts

CHS Annual Winter Concerts will be taking place next week on Wednesday (12/13) and Thursday (12/14) at 6:30pm in the CHS Auditorium. Stop by the Hilltop on Wednesday to see the combined Chorus & Orchestra Concert, and come back the next night, Thursday, for the Band Concert! Our students have incredible music planned that will warm you up this winter season!

CHS Girls Soccer Recognized by NYSPHSAA

Congrats to the ENTIRE Centaur Girls Soccer team which was recently recognized by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association with the Scholar-Athlete Award for an exceptional standard of performance in both the classroom and on the athletic field!

Congrats also to Lilah Penchaszadeh '24 (2nd Team) and Jane Kellet '26 (Honorable Mention) who were recently honored at the Section VI banquet for the All-WNY Soccer Team. And let's not forget Coach Jason Milne who was named "Coach of the Year" by Section VI!

Need Tutoring or Test Prep Help?

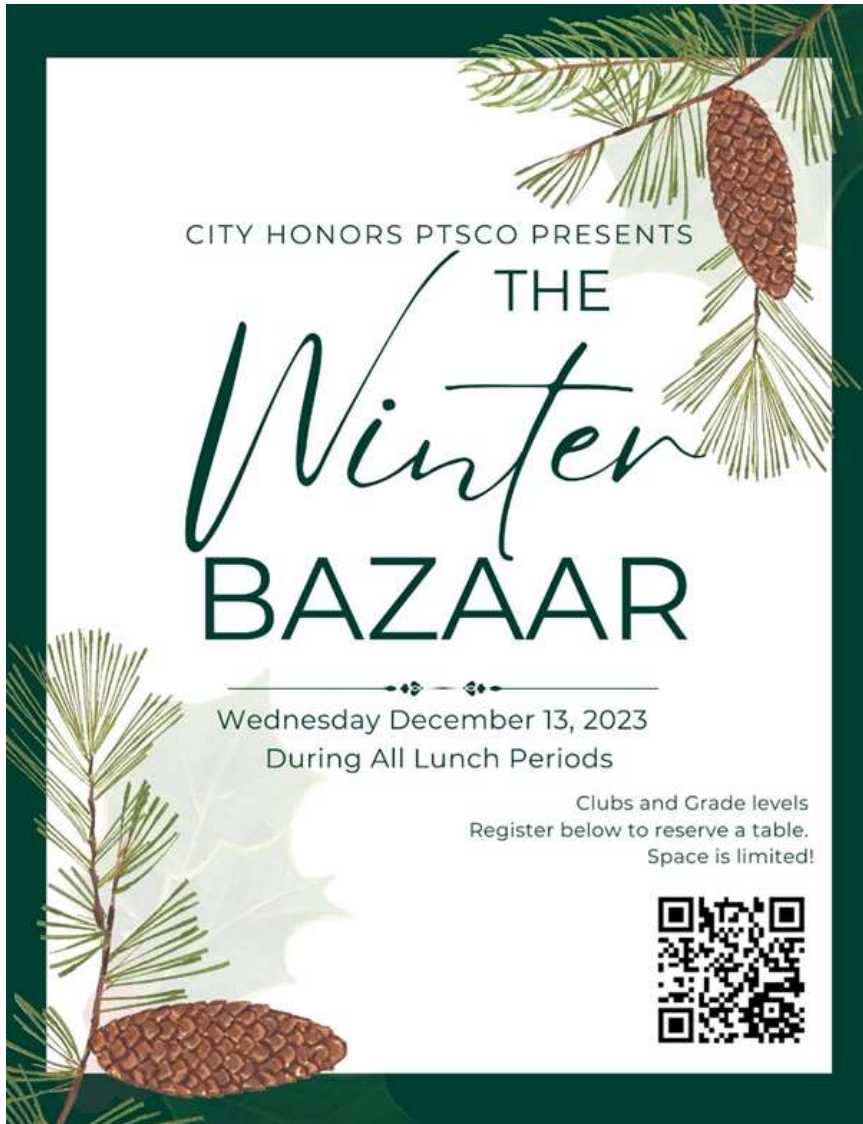
The CHS School Counselors have compiled a detailed listing of both free and for-hire academic and test prep tutoring services [at this link](#). Do you know of another valuable tutoring resource in our community? Email Mrs. Wright at acwilliams@buffaloschools.org and we'll add it to our list.

Annual CHS Winter Bazaar is This Wednesday!

Our students will experience a Winter Marketplace with shopping tables, seasonal activities, and merriment from City Honors Clubs and grade levels. The bazaar will take place during all lunch periods on December 13. Questions? Contact PTSCO representatives:

- Jennifer Cox at cox.jennifer@gmail.com

- Kate Sellers at katetrey@verizon.net



Update from Pelion Outdoor Classroom at CHS **Corporate Donations from Tops and Dash's**

Just a friendly reminder that all Dash's receipts can be redeemed for garden funding. Please put them in an envelope in the Pelion mailbox at CHS or bring them to any of our public events. Also, Tops loyalty card program captures and consolidates tiny donations from shoppers who have registered City Honors School at Fosdick-Masten Park on their bonus card--it's automatic when purchasing store brands. <https://www.topsmarkets.com/education/> Please help us inform others to maximize the feasting season.

Pelion Outdoor Cookie Exchange

Join us Thursday, December 21st from 5-7:30pm for merriment and COOKIES! Our 3rd Pelion Outdoor Cookie Exchange is open to everyone! Bring 2 dozen; take home a cookie platter. There will be hot cocoa on the camp stove, cider, singing, door prizes, and other surprises. Holiday sweaters, puppers, alumni, and grammas are always welcome too!

We've created a cookie [sign up](#) just to limit too many duplicate dozens and get a general headcount. ***No time to bake?*** Please bring bags of marshmallows, cocoa packets, a jug of coffee, water, milk, cider, candy canes, or other festive treats. Rain Date: 22 DEC same everything else. If you'd like to see the pics from last year's event, please visit the Pelion facebook photo album or [Instagram](#) post.

Sharing Fence Line Facelift with Contacts

Pelion is fundraising through SeedMoney to fill our front fence with over 50 portraits of our volunteers and students and repair the entire fence on all sides. We've raised enough for the front repairs so far. Social media continues to put limits on our sharing unless we pay (most recently they required \$42) to boost our public posts. Therefore, we are requesting parents and fans *share the request to email contacts*. Thank you for sharing and/or donating <https://donate.seedmoney.org/9590/portrait-fence-at-pelion-outdoor-classroom> We believe adding the portraits may do the following: slow traffic in front of the school/intersection, encourage more community/student/parent involvement, share the story of who has built the garden over this last dozen years, and help us conquer the damage winter has done to our fence!.

SANTAUOR Ornament Raffle

Pelion Garden Club and Apiary Club will share a table during the CHS Winter Bazaar. We are offering a limited quantity of our Autumn wildflower honey in 3 sizes ranging from \$2-15 as well as some seeds and decals. We are also raffling \$1 tickets to win a Santaur ornament. The winner will be drawn during the announcements at the end of the day.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Tentative--if our fundraising check (from SeedMoney/see above) arrives in time, Pelion will host a volunteer session on JAN15th to install the fence portraits, complete fence repairs and do a litter blitz around campus. It will be FREEZING and some skilled assistance will make the session go quickly and with less stress. Would any parents like to organize hot cider and muffins for the volunteers? If you'd like to help please connect with Ms.Caesandra peliongarden@gmail.com or 716-803-5566

** Please Note: Announcements in this newsletter marked with * mean the activity is not organized by City Honors School or the Buffalo Public Schools. The school and school district neither endorse nor sponsor the organization or activity represented in this material. The distribution of this material is provided as a community service.*

Reminders for Our Families During This Time of COVID

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

Free COVID Testing: The ECDOH offers free, walk in rapid ID Now and PCR testing at 608 William St Buffalo, NY from 9AM-3PM and at 3359 Broadway Cheektowaga, NY at 8AM-PM M-F. [Click on this link](#) for more information on these sites.

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.

Connect with CHS!

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

[CHS Website](#)

[CHS on Facebook](#)

[CHS on Threads](#)

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

[New York State Dignity Act \(DASA\) Information](#)

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](#)