



**Hilltop Notes**  
for the CHS Community  
12.5.21



*14 Days to go until the holiday break!*

*Please send us your child to school each and every day that they are asymptomatic!*

**Alert: Centaur in Need of Help**

Mrs. Leslie Bolden has worked as a teacher-assistant at City Honors for many years. On Wednesday, November 17, Mrs. Bolden and her husband lost everything in a fire. Their house and all of its contents have been completely destroyed. Mrs. Bolden is currently staying in a hotel, while her husband recuperates at ECMC from severe burns. Losing everything right before the holidays has been extremely stressful and any amount you can donate will help them to rebuild their lives. Please consider donating to one of the kindest, most loving women we have at City Honors [at this link](#). Thank you for showing that Centaurs support Centaurs!

**PTSCO Winter Bazaar is Back!**

Please save the date: On Friday, December 17, PTSCO will once again hold the annual CHS Winter Bazaar in the school atrium during all lunch periods. Although we will be unable to host adult visitors, school organizations will once again set up tables and students will be able to visit them to purchase small gifts to benefit school organizations or to have some fun. More information will be coming shortly from PTSCO. Questions? Contact Maureen Chapman at [chsclass2019@gmail.com](mailto:chsclass2019@gmail.com).

**Student Council Raises the Stakes!**

Families probably already know that every non-perishable food item students bring to homeroom until December 17 benefits the Buffalo City Mission AND will earn their grade level a point toward winning 'The Rock of Mt. Pelion' during Cardinal Craze week in February. **BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE!** Depending upon how much food the entire student body brings in, students can make Dr. Kresse, our teachers and staff wear some special outfits **on December 20**. Here's how it works:

**2,000 donations:** Dr Kresse will dress up in ONE of these costumes

- Stay Puft Marshmallow Man
- A Giant Taco
- Buddy the Elf

(Students are voting **right now** at their Schoology 'Recent Activity' Feed. If your child has not voted, encourage them to do so! Voting ends Monday at 3:00pm)

**3,000 donations:** The following staff will dress in one of these themes to celebrate! Crazy hair, mix and match, fake mustache, or backwards clothes!

Mrs Coats, Mrs Castillo, Mrs DePasquale, Mrs Gillotti, Mrs Allman, Mrs Vinkle, Mrs Colston, Ms Berneski, Ms Saxon, Mr Mueckl, Ms Wellington, Ms Serwon, Ms Coffey

**5,000 donations:** These staff will dress in the following outfits to celebrate!

- Mrs Juergens and Mrs Yager– Mike and Sully from Monsters Inc.
- Ms DiMare – Triceratops
- Mr Ross – Scarecrow
- Mr Richards – Sombrero Bills
- Mr Belge – Mrs Belge
- Mr Welton – Snowman
- Ms Mrugala – Harry Potter
- Mrs Przybyla – Elf
- Ms Reiss – Disco
- Ms Morris – Community Superhero
- Ms Weaver – Among Us Imposter
- Ms Czyz – Grizzly Bear
- Ms Meher – will dress in a Saree

**8,000 donations:** These staff will dress with mystery costumes or mystery themes to celebrate!  
(Costumes will remain top secret until December 20!)

- Ms Jennings
  - Mr Paterson
  - Ms Cardwell
  - Mrs Root
  - Mrs Dylewski
  - Mr Hecker
- Additional anonymous teachers will dress as elves (can you guess who?)

**10,000 donations:** the entire Math Department will dress as Santa and his Elves and will greet students as they arrive to school in the Atrium from inside a Winter Holiday Snow Globe at 7:55AM on December 20th.

**Student Council has already collected about 1500 items, so let's get going and hit the rest of these goals by December 17 Centaurs!!!!**

### **Pelion Outdoor Classroom to Hold Cookie Exchange**

On Thursday, December 16 from 4:00-5:35, show your sharing spirit by participating in the **outdoor** cookie exchange at Pelion Outdoor Classroom! Bring at least 2 dozen "cookies" and/or an equivalent no-bake contribution such as: jugs of water, cider, coffee or bags of candy canes or chocolate etc. Label your container and consider bringing a pair of tongs or spatula. We will provide platters for you to assemble your take-away cache and we'll offer hot cider and cocoa too. DRESS COZY; we will be outside! Alumni, grammas, and pooches-in-festive-sweaters are all welcome. Questions? email [peliongarden@gmail.com](mailto:peliongarden@gmail.com)

### **CHS Trivia Night**

The CHS Class of '22 will be holding CHS Trivia Night on December 17th. Parents, students, teachers, and friends of all grades levels are all invited to compete in this super fun new CHS tradition that

started during the pandemic. On your own, or in a team, you are bound to have an amazing night full of fun and puzzling trivia! You can enjoy the event in the comfort of your own home, as it will be held on zoom.

To buy a ticket or make a donation to this year's senior class, [visit this link](#) and to let us know who is on your team of up to 5 people, send an email to [aaronweinmann15@gmail.com](mailto:aaronweinmann15@gmail.com). Good luck and may the best trivia master win!

### **CHS Tutoring Club**

Attention high school and middle school students interested in joining the CHS Tutoring Club! We will meet once a week after school. High school students will be helping middle school students with any homework, projects, studying, or mentoring necessary. This is a great opportunity for CAS experiences for IB juniors and seniors as well! Everyone is welcome to join the informational meeting on Thursday, December 9th after school! Thank you!

Attention **Middle and High School** Students...

**Looking to Improve Your Academics or Help Other Students?**

**Join CHS Tutoring Club!**

Middle Schoolers:	High Schoolers:
-connect with the older students	-help out the younger students with knowledge acquired through years at CHS
-receive helpful advice	-gain CAS experiences
-have some extra academic support	

The first **informational meeting** for everybody will be Thursday, December 9th after school in room 313 until 3:20pm (ride home will be needed).

For questions, contact:

1. Mrs. Davies ([Edavies@buffaloschools.org](mailto:Edavies@buffaloschools.org))
2. Andreea Merzianu ([amerzianu@gmail.com](mailto:amerzianu@gmail.com))



### **Winter Lacrosse Program for Girls**

The WNY Lacrosse Foundation plans to offer a winter lacrosse program for Girls as a tune up for the Spring Season. We will have a combined Modified/JV Team (Grades 8,9,10) entered in the Sahlen's Winter League. Games will be held Sundays at Sahlen's Sports Park in Elma January 9th - February 27th. Games will be afternoon or early evening. The schedule will be posted when available - we will practice at the Nardin Indoor Athletic Complex - Practice dates: December 5,12,19,26 & 27. Do not worry about missing practice(s) - this is just an opportunity to get the girls some extra playing time.

(Of course we encourage girls to attend as many practices and games as possible !!)  
There is no cost for the Winter program - however we will (probably) ask the girls to help create a fundraising idea to help offset cost. Please share with friends - Register soon so we can be sure we have enough players: <http://www.wnylacrossefoundation.org/clubteams/2729592-girls-winter-league-modified--jv> Email Coaches Natalie or Edwin with any questions: n.alvut02@gmail.com or santos.r.edwin@gmail.com

### **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!

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

[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](#)*