



Hilltop Notes

for the CHS Community
3.24.24



CHS Calendar Reminders

3/25 & 3/26	8 th Grade Trip to Buff State Planetarium
3/26 8:30am	"On School-Time" SAT for all Grade 11 students
3/27 7:00pm	CHS Junior Musical
3/29-4/8	Spring Break
4/8	Total Solar Eclipse
4/10 5:30pm	PTSCO Monthly Meeting (Via Google Meet at this link)
4/17 5:30pm-7:30pm	I See IB Night
4/18 3:30-4:30	CHS SBMT Meeting
4/19 11:00am	CHS Wellness Team Meeting
4/24	Early Release Day
4/25	Superintendent's Conference Day- No School

Eclipse Glasses

Buffalo will experience a total solar eclipse on April 8. The last time this happened in Buffalo was in 1925! Our students have been studying about the eclipse in science classes for the past few months. Every student at CHS will be given a set of eclipse glasses this week provided by the Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium at Buffalo State University, M&T Bank and the BPS Science Department. It is important that your entire family have glasses. You should NEVER look directly at the sun through binoculars, a telescope or with your unaided eye, without proper safety filters. Learn more about the eclipse and purchase more sets of glasses from the Planetarium [at this link](#). Glasses are also available for free at all public libraries.

Free National Geographic Live Student Vouchers*

Kleinhans Music Hall has donated 12 student vouchers to CHS for the National Geographic Live presentation by Kiliian Yuan on April 2 at 7:00pm. Journey with Killi to understand the indigenous peoples of the Arctic and their relationship to the various animals who co-exist on this frigid land! Tickets are available on a first-come first serve basis in the main office. Parents must send a note to

the main office confirming their child will attend the event in order for a student to receive a voucher. This is a great spring break activity! More information about the event and additional tickets can be purchased [at this link](#).

Autism Acceptance Spirit Week is Here!

March 25th-March 28th is Autism Acceptance Spirit Week on the Hilltop. There are special activities planned throughout this week that means so much to our students at CHS. There will also be a 'Celebrate Minds of All Kinds' sale during all lunches featuring fidgets, ribbons, stickers, keychains, and more! On Wednesday and Thursday, we'll be hosting an inclusive friendship bracelet make and take event where students can create a friendship bracelet for \$1 to either keep or share. Raffle tickets are being sold during all lunches this week for \$2.00 each for a chance to win 4 tickets to see any Buffalo Bisons Baseball game! All proceeds will benefit the CHS STARS Program (STudents with Autism Rising to Success). All students and staff are encouraged to participate in these special theme days this week:

Autism Acceptance Spirit Week



Monday, 3/25 – Thursday, 3/28

Magnificent Mind Monday (3/25): Autism is a neurological variation, which means the brains of autistic people work a little differently than allistic (non-autistic) people. Celebrate how wonderful it is that all our minds work in different ways by **wearing a fun hat!**

Sensory Friendly Tuesday (3/26): Autistic people often have a variety of sensory sensitivities. **Dress up in your most comfy (school appropriate) clothes**, use as much natural light in your classroom instead of fluorescent lights as possible, and/or wear sunglasses.

What's Your Passion Wednesday (3/27): One characteristic of autism is an incredibly focused passion for a topic of interest. What are you passionate about? **Dress to show something you love!**

Neurodiversity Thursday (3/28): To celebrate the beauty and diverse spectrum of the human mind, **wear rainbow and/or tie-dyed gear!**

2024-25 CHS School-Based Budget

Each spring, BPS allocates staffing and supply funds to each school for the upcoming school year. Schools must budget within that allocation. Over the past month, Dr. Kresse has presented the proposed budget at meetings of the Site Based Management Team, Building Committee, PTSCO, the CHS Foundation and to the CHS Faculty. Due to reduced allocations experienced by all buildings in the district, as well as some staffing costs unique to our building, there are required reductions for the upcoming school year. Although the school principal must submit a proposed budget to the school district this week, there is a possibility for the budget to change later this spring depending on the final New York State budget and other variables. All School Based Budget documents and information have been posted at the bottom of the [Family Resources](#) section of our school website.

Reminder: Mayor's Summer Youth Applications Due March 29!*

A reminder to all students 14 years and older planning to apply for the Mayor's Summer Youth paid internship program: You must complete your application by Friday March 29. There are several documents you must upload so do not wait until the last minute. Read more about the application process [at this link](#).

Eric Pitman Summer Workshop in Computational Science at BNMC*

All grade 9-12 students are eligible to apply to participate in the Eric Pitman Summer Workshop in Computational Science from June 27-July 3, 2024 at the University at Buffalo Center for Computational Research at 701 Ellicott Street right around the corner from CHS. This workshop is for any student interested in Bioinformatics, genome sequencing and high performance computing. Best of all it is completely FREE and lunch is provided daily. Participating students will have hands-on experience sequencing bacterial DNA from local water samples, and performing bioinformatic data analysis using computer programming and AI. Students will also spend time talking with computer science and data professionals and touring locations on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. Students do not need a background in computing but they do need a good foundation in math and science and a willingness to learn some computing. Learn more about the workshop and apply [at this link](#).

Home and Careers Club Postponed Due to Cupcake Takeover

Home and Careers Club will not meet again until April 11th due to space issues in room 3. The 8th graders are building and storing their cupcake challenge displays and the room is packed. Thank you for your understanding!

Kudos to the CHS Student Council!

Thank you to the following Centaurs from the CHS Student Council who volunteered this past Saturday at the Fruitbelt Neighborhood Spring Fling. These students exhibited the IB Learner Profile trait of "Caring" by helping to create a special day for young children. They also exhibited the trait of being "Risktakers" by meeting new people, trying a new experience and braving the winter/spring weather early on a Saturday morning! Thank you to:

Nafisa Neha

Ornob NFN

Sierra Huffnagle

Patrick Marren

Martita Robinson

Zoey Hlubin

Faiza Islam
Tara Land
Eh Ywa Tamla
Mi Jaw Rott
Evelyn Patrone
Zaima Islam

Pelion Outdoor Classroom is Having a Totality Awesome Picnic on April 8!*

Sandwiches, Games, Crafts, Selfies, Bubbles! If you like all that, join us for our Totality Awesome Picnic at the Pelion Outdoor Classroom at CHS on April 8 from 2-5pm. Limited glasses will be available, but best to bring your own by picking them up at any public library for free.

Help Pelion get the garden ready for eclipse visitors. Join us Saturday, April 6 from 10:00am to noon in order to set-up decorations, benches, games and cleanup litter around our street and school.

Contact Ms. Caesandra, Garden Coordinator, at 716-803-5566 or peliongarden@gmail.com if you can assist. Learn more and follow Pelion Outdoor Classroom at: <https://www.facebook.com/PelionGarden>

CHS Model United Nations Team Shines at UB

Congratulations to The City Honors Model UN Delegation that represented both Brazil and Mexico at The 76th Annual Model UN Conference at UB North!!! Out of a record number 830 students that participated in the conference representing a record 73 countries, City Honors finished in 5th place representing Mexico and in 8th place representing Brazil! Great Job Centaurs and thank you to Mr. Ross who dedicates so much time preparing our student for this valuable experience!





SRP Centaurs Receive Top Awards for Their Work at WHJ STEAM Fair

This past Saturday, some members of the Science Research Program participated in the Willie Hutch Jones S.T.E.A.M. fair at Buffalo State University.

City Honors students swept the individual division taking 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. City Honors also took home the 1st place prize in the Team Division.

Both 1st place winners in the individual and team competition earned an all expense paid trip to the Cleveland Science Expo over the break.

Individual Projects

1st – Poppy Marrano: “An Investigation of FDA Authorized E-Cigarette Products”

2nd – Faith Floyd: “Sickle Cell Anemia: Challenges & Possible Drug Targets”

3rd – Sanjida Kalim: “The Speed of Light: the Relationship between Velocity, Frequency, & Wavelength”

Team Projects

1st – Hasan Jamil & Emmet King: “An Analysis of Confiscated Electronic Vape Products Collected from Schools in WNY”

** 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

Tutoring and 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.

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](#)