



## **Hilltop Notes** for the CHS Community 5.8.22



### **Join CHS Arts & Culture Trip to NYC**

Attention all parents and students in grades 8-11, are you interested in attending an arts and culture trip in New York City this Fall? If so, I will be holding an information night on Wednesday, May 18th, at 6:00pm in the school auditorium!

Please note that the trip is currently awaiting approval from the district, but I will be holding a meeting to discuss the itinerary, dates, and all things NYC, so should the trip be approved, we can collect a deposit and allow families to sign up. If approved, this will be our fourth time heading down to NYC for an awe-inspiring arts weekend.

If approved, the dates for the trip will be November 10-13, 2022. The trip includes two Broadway musicals (exciting show announcements coming soon!), two Museums, as well as an interactive arts workshop with a Broadway performer, and so much more! Parents are welcome to join their children on this trip as well!

Please plan on arriving 5 minutes early on May 18th so we can start the meeting promptly. If unable to attend, I will also offer the meeting digitally on Zoom. **To attend digitally, please email [jamoses@buffaloschools.org](mailto:jamoses@buffaloschools.org)**. See you on May 18<sup>th</sup>!

Mr. Moses  
CHS IB Middle Years Coordinator  
Theory of Knowledge Teacher

### **CHS Speech and Debate Reaches New Heights at State Tournament**



**SPEECH & DEBATE**  
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The City Honors Speech and Debate team competed at the New York State championship tournament the weekend of 4/29-5/1. Over the 3 day tournament, our school competed against 61 schools with 828 individual students all striving to make the finals and earn a medal.

In the category of Varsity Lincoln Douglas debate senior Captain Holden Endres placed 5th amongst 20 competitors, while senior Anyiang Yak placed 6th. CHS has never had TWO students make it that far in the same category.

In the novice section of the same debate category, freshman, and first-year competitor Salimata Sylla, made it all the way to Day 3 of the quarter-finals and finished 6th out of 41 total students!

On the Speech side of competition, sophomore Sophia Bensch advanced to the FINALS after 7 grueling rounds and earned the very first Speech medal for our school in the category of Declamation! Competing against 63 students, Sophia placed 3rd overall in the category, earning the bronze trophy!

Other students who qualified and competed in this prestigious tournament included: Senior Captains Roman Rogalski, Sebastian Cole and Shoshana Hertz; Juniors Julia Chiriboga, (Captain) Liam Cobb, Amelia Colder, Ciah Courtney, John Lonke and Liam Rio; Sophomores Annika Wilewicz, Tiahnee Porter, Ayeenza Modassar, Zach LoFaro-O'Neill, Xiamora Lahmaar, Abby Kennedy, Tydeja Kemp, Trinity Barnes and Madoka Aldstadt; Freshman Charlotte Colder.

The Speech and Debate team is truly a group effort and each member works hard to prepare one another for competition. Any individual's success would not be possible without the help, support and dedication of their teammates throughout the season. Congratulations to an outstanding team effort and season!

Thank you to team coach and advisor, Mr. Belge for his commitment to this year-long program that helps our students develop in important ways and to socialize. Thank you also to the City Honors Foundation which provides major ongoing funding to the program. Students who will be in grades 9-12 next school year and are interested in joining the CHS Speech and Debate Team should keep an eye out for announcements in the fall. Speech and Debate offers nine different categories students can select from and works well with other activities.

### **CHS Mock Trial Honored by Erie County Bar Association**

The City Honors Mock Trial Team was honored at the Erie County Bar Association Law Day Luncheon on Tuesday, and presented with the trophy for winning its second straight Erie County Championship! The trophy will be displayed at CHS outside the main office for the next year. Thank you to the City Honors Foundation for sponsoring the team. Good luck to the Team in the upcoming State regionals!



Shown in the photo at the Law Day Luncheon from left to right are Grace Laughlin, Ciah Courtney, Aaron Weinman, Charlie Nowak, Manuneethy Anpalagan, Nathan Lloyd, Liam Rio, Timothy Tidd, Connor Wyckoff, Annika Wilewicz, Sumaia Alam, Liam Cobb, and Attorney Coach Henry Nowak.

### **Reminder: May/June Exams for Students in Grade 8-12**

The CHS IB/AP Exam Schedule can be found [at this link](#).

The CHS Regents Exam schedule can be found [at this link](#).

### **A Few Notes:**

-The Buffalo Public Schools will be issuing a communication shortly to answer questions about the BPS school calendar and Regents exams.

**-Students are expected to attend school each day and all classes during times that they are not participating IB or AP exams.** If an exam conflicts with a student's lunch period, we will be sure all students receive an opportunity to eat lunch.

-Students in grades 9-12 should only report to the school for scheduled Regents exams June 15-23. There are no regular classes for these students during Regents testing. Students in grade 8 will continue to come to school for the full school day June 15-23 even if they have a Regents exam.

-Communication devices are strictly prohibited during all exams. Students will be expected to use

their locker to store communication devices, notebooks, purses and bookbags for duration of exams. Students may bring only water and writing utensils to the examination room. All other materials will be provided to the students including a scientific and/or graphing calculator, protractors, compasses, rulers, and scrap paper ( if applicable).

-In addition to the normal COVID reporting procedures outlined at the bottom of *The Hilltop Notes* each week, parents of students diagnosed with COVID must immediately contact the appropriate testing coordinator. IB has contingency procedures that must be followed for this situation and, for AP, the exam will be rescheduled to the late date.

### **Need to Contact a Testing Coordinator?**

**AP:** Mrs. Allman (csmallman@buffaloschools.org)

**IB:** Mrs. Banas (ebanas@buffaloschools.org)

**Regents:** Mrs. Hannah (ahannah@buffaloschools.org)

### **CHS Annual Fund**

The 2021-22 CHS Annual Fund continues to receive donations from CHS families, alumni and friends of the school. Thank you to all families and staff who have already sent in their donations or have given through the United Way or SEFA. You can make your family's donation and learn more about the CHS Annual Fund [at this link](#). When EVERY CHS family contributes to the Annual Fund, EVERY student at CHS benefits!

### **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!

**Reporting COVID Cases in Your Household:** Please email news of any COVID cases in your household to Ms. Hamilton, one of our three assistant principals, as well as Nurse Cammarata. These staff members are managing our COVID safety initiatives and response. It is important that you email Ms. Hamilton (thamilton@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. They will need to know your child's name, grade, if they are vaccinated, and both when the student started having symptoms and when they tested positive (if this has occurred.) They will outline next steps for your family as it pertains to school. **Please do not leave voicemails or messages in the main office.**

During 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!

**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.

**COVID Testing at School:** COVID-19 testing is a great way to monitor and contain the spread of the virus. The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) has ended its partnership with Buffalo Homecare, Inc., and Quadrant Biosciences, Inc. Laboratory for in-school COVID testing. Buffalo Schools is awaiting information on who the new provider of this surveillance screening will be. In the interim, we are sharing that the Erie County Department of Health now offers walk-in sites for COVID testing at the following locations: 608 William Street, Buffalo (Erie County Health Clinics) and 3359 Broadway, Cheektowaga (Erie County Emergency Training and Operations Center).

Thank you for working with us to help fulfill our goal of keeping our buildings safe and open for instruction.

**Daily COVID-19 Health Screener:** Families and staff should complete the daily health screener once again each day BEFORE they leave 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](#)*