



Hilltop Notes
for the CHS Community
6.18.23



Calendar Reminders

6/19 Juneteenth, NO SCHOOL

6/21 8th Grade Moving Up Day (9:00am), 8th Grade Family Luncheon & Dance (11:00am)

6/22 Last Day of Classes for Students in Grades 5-8

6/22 Graduation, Kleinhans Music Hall

9/8 First Day of Classes for the '23-'24 School Year

Regents Exams Continue This Week

Regents Exams have been held since 1865, providing students in New York State with the opportunity to prove their skills to colleges and scholarship officers as well as to validate that their diplomas meet an objective higher standard than just class grades. Students are encouraged to get a good night's rest before all exams and a full & healthy breakfast. Please review all dates and times [at this link](#) to be sure your child arrives on-time to all remaining exams. Morning exams report at 8:00 AM, Afternoon Exams Report at Noon.

Is Your Child Leaving Us?

If your child will not be attending City Honors next school year, it is critical at this point that you contact your child's CHS school counselor as soon as your plans are confirmed. Your child's transfer to another school is not complete in eyes of the New York State Education Department until you have notified our school in writing that you are withdrawing your child and provided confirmation of enrollment in their new school. Emails for our school counselors can be found [at this link](#).

New CHS Bell Schedule

In May of this year, the BPS Board of Education voted to place City Honors in "Tier 2" of the new BPS bell schedule system. This has resulted in the start and end to our school day being pushed back a bit. All parents and students should become familiar with the new bell schedule [at this link](#). Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about our new bell schedule:

Q: *Will shelter and supervision still continue to be provided before and after the start of the school day for families who want to avoid AM and PM congestion?*

A: Yes! We know this is important to families. We will add the exact times to the schedule this summer as soon as we confirm them with affected labor partners.

Q: *Will high school music ensembles continue to meet prior to the start of the school day?*

A: Yes, high school ensembles will need to continue to meet prior to the school day. Moving the ensembles into the school day would require that our bell schedule add “folding lunch periods” into the school day and an extra period added. In order to achieve this, we would need approval from the Buffalo Teacher Federation and would need to complete an extensive process to be sure that our staffing can support an extra period in the school day. Our administrative team plans to explore this with the teacher members of the Building Committee this year, but it cannot be ready for the fall of '23.

Q: *Why was a minute added to passing time for students?*

A: Our school building is a very large complex. Some students must make their way from one end of the building to the other or up several floors between classes in just four minutes. Our hope is that adding a minute to passing time will reduce the number of students who are tardy to class and provide time for students to use the restroom so they do not need to leave class to do so. We will carefully monitor tardy rates in our student information system next school year to see if this adjustment has had a positive impact.

Want to learn more or have questions about the new bell schedule? Dr. Kresse will be holding a Teams Live Meeting on Tuesday (6/20) night at 6:30pm. You can [use this link](#) to join the meeting. Want to know more about why BPS changed the bell schedules for its buildings? Watch the brief informational video [at this link](#).

Grade 5-8 Locker and Cubbie Clean Out

Grade 5-8 students will be cleaning out their lockers and cubbies this week. Please be sure to send your child to school with a bag to accommodate anything they will need to bring home.

Should You Send Your Grade 5-8 Child to School This Week?

Yes!!! Why? These are legal days of attendance in our district and teachers will be:

- returning assignments
- providing time for some students to make up past due work
- tying up loose ends related to student grades
- discussing the curricula of their classes for the fall
- reviewing the CHS summer reading lists
- reflecting upon the successes of the school year
- holding celebratory activities.

CHS Summer Reading

The CHS Grade 5-12 Summer Reading Lists were released last month and distributed to all students in their ELA classes. Parents are asked to access the summer reading lists [at this link](#) in order to support your child’s reading, to understand what your child should do while they are reading and how the texts will be used when we resume school in the fall.

'Music Enrichment Camp' at CHS Still Taking Campers

BPS will be holding a Music Enrichment Camp at CHS for August 21-25 from 8:00 to 3:00 daily. There is space for **100 BAND, STRING, OR CHORAL STUDENTS** currently in grades 7-11. All students must commit to the entire week of the program. Students will be chosen first-come, first-serve.

Breakfast and lunch will be available to all participating students. Students attending this camp will work with music specialists to enhance their individual and ensemble performance skills.

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Youth Leadership Buffalo*

The Youth Leadership Buffalo program is open to high school students grades 10 to 12 from all areas of Western New York. City Honors students have participated in this program since 1994. This program equips students with networking and communication skills, while allowing them to explore and learn new ways to lead in varying aspects of our WNY community. Students admitted to the program will have the opportunity to learn through visiting different locations and hearing from experts in varying fields.

Students who have interest in learning more about service, leadership, and our community are encouraged to apply for admission to our upcoming 2024 Youth Leadership class.

More information and the youth leadership application can be found [at this link](#). Questions can be directed to Asia Alexander at asia@leadershipbuffalo.org.

CHS Middle School Mathletes Multiply Awards

On June 13, Mr. Welton took CHS middle school math league students to the math league banquet. Our students won 3rd place, 2nd place, 1st place and the overall Championship. CHS students ended up with 5 trophies, everyone got medallions and the top three finishers won Galaxy Tablets. Team members included: Damien Eagles (3rd place), Bayena Habeeb-Williams, Nickolas Hanif (2nd place), Payten Howard, Saifan Howlader, Charles Marabella (1st place), Noah Sonubi, Samina Subah. Thank you to Mr. Welton for coaching the team and making math exciting for all of our middle school students!



CHS Talent Show Update

The CHS Talent Show held June 9 was a huge success and raised almost \$2,000 for the Class of 2023 to help them pay the last of their senior class bills and keep senior dues low! Thank you to Mr. Sharratt, Mrs. Branquist, Mr. Kaderbeck and all of the other staff and parent volunteers who helped to make this night of fun and fundraising possible for our students!

Centaurs Win WNY Chemistry Olympiad

Congratulations to sophomores Ria Yagielski and Fahim Rahman. Both Chemistry students tied for the highest score for students enrolled in Regents Chemistry. The Chemistry Olympiad is a local, national, and international competition designed to stimulate and promote achievement in high school chemistry. Students compete by taking an exam sponsored by the American Chemical Society. The winners were celebrated at the WNY American Chemical Society Education Awards banquet on May 16th and received monetary awards.

CHS Girls Varsity Swim Still Registering for the Fall

Any CHS girls currently in 6th -11th grade who are interested in swimming on the CHS Girls Swim Team in the Fall of 2023 should complete the interest form found [at this link](#). If you have any

questions, please email Mrs. Yager at jmyager@buffaloschools.org

Missed the CHS Boys Volleyball Information Meeting?

Boys currently in grades 6-11 who were unable to attend the volleyball organizational meeting but are interested in playing volleyball for CHS or trying volleyball this summer should contact Coach Loughran at CCLoughran@buffaloschools.org. Coach can connect you to summer clinics and team workouts. CHS offers both varsity and junior varsity boys volleyball teams.



CHS Track & Field Runs Wild at the Class A Championships

On Saturday May 27th, members of the City Honors Track and field team participated in the Class A Championship meet at Williamsville South.

Henry Peterson and Felix Hatton finished 1st and 2nd in the 3200m respectively, with Felix setting a PR in the process. He also set a new personal record in the 1600m and earned a qualifying time for Sectionals. Sharmu Puang ran a personal best in the 110 hurdles which also qualified him to run at Sectionals.

The boys 4x400m relay team with member Andrew Worley, Vurabari Bagia, Forrest Denz and Elijah Donlon, set a new school record of 3:48s, also earning a chance to compete in Sectionals.

On the girls side, Uma Bhattacharjee won the 200m and finished 3rd in the 100m. Brynne Walentynowicz had great performances in the 100 and 400 hurdles.

Both Uma and Brynne also ran in the 4x100m relay along with Zoe Mcfoy and Olivia Brooks, tying a school record. All the girls earned qualifying times for sectionals for their performances in their events.

Frances Teaman added a great performance in the triple jump!

8th Graders Lookin' Sharp in their Class of '27 Hoodies!

Every 8th grade student gets a personalized class hoodie. This is a City Honors Tradition that dates to 2015. Tazra Rakib '27 poses with her design for the 8th Grade Class Hoodie. Tazra designed the graphic, font and layout for this year's 8th Grade Hoodie. Tazra is an artist and she also operates her own homemade jewelry business. (photo credit: Sanjida Kalam '27)



Thank you to all of PTSCO and Cristina Garcia Glover for coordinating this year's 8th Grade Hoodie project and student design contest. 8th Grade Hoodies for each and every student are made possible by CHS PTSCO and the generosity of 8th grade parents who contribute "class dues" to help us do the little extra things that make school more enjoyable and memorable for students. If history is any guide, you will see many of this year's 8th graders still wearing their hoodie in 2027 and beyond!

A reminder to all 8th grade parents, if you have not purchased your tickets to the Family Luncheon and Dance after the Moving Up Day Ceremony on Wednesday, please contact Mr. Sharratt at jsharratt@buffaloschools.org as soon as possible. All family members are invited to this fun event where our 8th grade families can be together in the same space to celebrate!

Summer Arts Institute 2023



Instrumental Camp - July 24-28, 2023

Instrumental Camp is an exciting opportunity for students in grade 7-9 and 10-12 to continue their musical development in an intensive 1-week camp. Students will experience working in a large ensemble, chamber groups, work on music theory, and have a chance to learn piano, guitar, and African drumming.



Vocal Camp - July 24-28, 2023

Vocal Camp is designed for students from grades 7-12 to participate in traditional choral music ensembles and other vocal and foundational music experiences. Students will participate in choral and small group ensemble rehearsals, musical literacy courses, sight reading courses, and movement courses to include yoga and Dalcroze Eurythmics. All ability levels and voice types welcome!



Musical Theater Camp - July 31-Aug 4, 2023

Musical Theater Camp immerses students in all aspects of a theatrical production. Instruction will include vocal lessons, dance lessons, and acting lessons. This camp is designed for students in grades 7-9 and 10-12. Musical Theater Camp is a fun, exciting, and supportive environment for students with a focus on developing their love and passion for the theater.



Jazz Camp - July 31 - August 4, 2023

Jazz Camp is an opportunity for students in grades 7-9 and 10-12 to play in a big band and small combos. The students will study jazz theory, improvisation, and participate in a jazz composition exercise in addition to a jazz combo. Jazz camp is designed for experienced secondary school musicians who are proficient on their primary instrument and are able to perform in a traditional big band.

The Summer Arts Institute is designed for students in grades 7 - 12. Participants will be immersed in music rehearsals, lectures, master classes, seminars and ensemble performance. Registration Cost is \$200 per week

Visit music.buffalostate.edu to register online

For more information and to register, call Rick Fleming at (716) 878-6504 or email: flemrvt@BuffaloState.edu



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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Buffalo State College
music.buffalostate.edu

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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 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](#)