



Hilltop Notes
for the CHS Community
7.20.23



Calendar Reminders

- 8/21-8/25 BPS Music Enrichment Camp at CHS
8/21 First day of fall sports team practices
9/8 First Day of Classes for the '23-'24 School Year

'Music Enrichment Camp' at CHS Still Taking Campers Entering Grades 7-12

BPS will be holding a Music Enrichment Camp at CHS for August 21-25 from 8:00 to 3:00 daily. As of 7/20, there are 22 seats left. This camp is for **BAND, STRINGS, OR CHORAL STUDENTS** entering grades 7-12. All students must commit to the entire week of the program. Students focusing on band or orchestra must be currently playing the instruments and must bring their own instruments. Breakfast and lunch will be available to all participating students. NFTA bus passes will be provided. Students attending this camp will work with music specialists to enhance their individual and ensemble performance skills. Click [HERE](#) to register.

How to Join Fall Sports at CHS

Does your child have interest in joining a CHS grade 7-12 Fall sports team? Please [follow this link](#) to understand the steps you need to take to get them enrolled! The first day of team practices is August 21. The athletic readiness test for students in grades 7 and 8 will be held on July 30 and August 1 at CHS. All students in grades 7/8 must pass this test once in order to play JV or Varsity sports while in grade 7/8. More information is included [at this link](#).

CHS Summer Strength & Conditioning at Delaware Rose Garden

Coach Van Remmen will be holding strength and conditioning sessions through August 11th. This is a great way to stay in shape as we approach the start of the season for Fall sports! These sessions are open to any student, grades 5-12. Sessions will be held at Delaware Park Rose Garden. Days and times will vary (3 – 5 days per week, Monday – Saturday). Coach Van Remmen connects with all students and families who register via Remind to let them know the weekly schedule. Workouts are tailored to individual experience and will involve both running and strength training. If interested in participating, please complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/r/1jmyqwBmAS>.

Please don't hesitate to send Coach Van Remmen a message on Remind (<https://www.remind.com/join/chs-sc2023> or @chs-sc2023) or email at mcvanremmen@buffaloschools.org.

CHS Summer Strength & Conditioning at CHS Gymnasium

The Buffalo Athletics Department is offering a Strength and Conditioning camp at City Honors School for students in grades 9-12. The camp runs from July 10th-August 11th, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Interested students may register [here](#). Questions? Contact Coach Matos at dmatos@buffaloschools.org.

Save the Date!!!

The CHS 'Family Welcome Back Night' will be held Friday, September 22, 2023, on the Hilltop, 5:00-8:00 pm. This annual start-of-school bonding event for CHS Families is organized by PTSCO. All CHS families are invited!

- Learn more about various clubs, activities, and parent committees
- Join a tour of [Pelion Outdoor Classroom](#), Take Part in Pelion's Garden Chokeberry Challenge, or snap a Sunflower Selfie
- Shop Chiron's Corner Bookstore
- Enjoy some of the Best food from Local food trucks in Buffalo.

Learn more about CHS PTSCO and volunteer [at this link](#).

Attention all CHS Clubs, Sports Teams and Activities

It's time to showcase, recruit, and highlight all the great CHS clubs, sports, and committees for the 2023-2024 School Year. Would you like to have an informational table at the Family Welcome Back Night on Friday, September 22? Be sure to decorate your table, have all relevant information displayed, and be staffed with students/advisors available to answer questions. Interested parties should contact cityhonorspicnic@gmail.com to reserve a table in the atrium.

CHS Cross Country 2023 Season

The Cross Country Season will begin August 21st! There are several exciting and fun activities already planned for the Fall 2023 season! Any student in grades 7th – 12th interested in participating in Cross Country, please complete the following form as soon as possible:
<https://forms.office.com/r/DhbnXE0qPV>

A reminder that physicals must be updated and on file with the nurse. Students in 7th or 8th grade must pass the Athletic Placement Process (APP) in order to participate. Questions regarding the APP can be sent to Coach Van Remmen at mcvanremmen@buffaloschools.org.

CHS PTSCO PRESENTS
Family Welcome Back Night

ENJOY DINNER ON THE HILLTOP
SIGN-UP FOR CLUBS & ACTIVITIES
SHOP CHIRON'S CORNER
SUNFLOWER SELFIES @PELION GARDEN

FRIDAY SEPT. 22 | **CITY HONORS**
186 E North Street
Buffalo, NY 14204

5:00 - 8:00 PM
We need volunteers
cityhonorspicnic@gmail.com

CHS Summer Reading and Supply Lists

Has your child started their CHS Summer Reading yet? The CHS Grade 5-12 Summer Reading Lists were released in May 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.

Supply lists for grade 5-8 can be found at the Fall 2023 Back-to-School tab of the [CHS Parent Resources Page](#).

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.

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](#).

** 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 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](#)