



**Hilltop Notes**  
for the CHS Community  
8.7.23



**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
- 9/13 Parent Get Acquainted Night (6:00-8:00pm)
- 9/22 Family Welcome Back Night (5:00-8:00pm)

**Be Sure Your BPS Laptop is Ready for the New School Year**

Students should be fully charging and starting up their BPS laptops at least once a week so they can load updates. If you notice your laptop is not working properly, do not wait until school starts to resolve the issue. BPS Information Technology Helpdesk information can be found [at this link](#) or information about in-person assistance for your device at the BPS CIT Center can be found [at this link](#). **Beat the rush and get your BPS device up and running now!**



If your child is new to BPS or has a BPS Ipad, they will be issued their new BPS device when they arrive at the start of the school year.

**Help Us Find Our Next Grade 6 ELA Teacher!**

We've extended the posting for a new Grade 6 English Language Arts teacher. If you know someone who is an outstanding elementary educator and has a passion for English Language Arts, please refer them to the posting and application [at this link](#). It's a great time to join our district! The Buffalo Schools offer the most competitive salary and benefit package in WNY including lifetime health care for teachers who join the district prior to 2026. This posting closes August 14.

**Start the School Year Out in Some Great New CHS Gear**

Whether your child plays volleyball or tennis for CHS or whether you just want to support our Centaurs, please be sure to check out the links below to two temporary online stores. You can find team-specific CHS volleyball and tennis gear at these stores or sharp looking CHS gear that is not sport specific. All proceeds will benefit our teams!

[CHS Volleyball Gear Store](#)

[CHS Tennis Gear Store](#)

## Free Physicals Available for Fall Sports

**BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

# PLANNING TO PLAY SPORTS @ BPS?



**STUDENT-ATHLETES MUST HAVE AN UPDATED PHYSICAL (DATED WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS) TO PARTICIPATE**

## LIMITED FALL SPORTS PHYSICAL APPOINTMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT BPS SCHOOL SITES

**\*VACCINATIONS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE\***

### MUST PRE-REGISTER

Appointments available 8:30-2pm

<b>EAST HUB</b>	<b>NORTH HUB</b>	<b>WEST HUB</b>
<b>August 15, 2023</b>	<b>August 16, 2023</b>	<b>August 22, 2023</b>
<b>@ EAST 309</b>	<b>@ BPS 366 BENNETT</b>	<b>@ HUTCH TECH</b>
for Student-Athletes at	for Student-Athletes at	for Student-Athletes at
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• East</li><li>• DaVinci</li><li>• Burgard</li><li>• MST</li><li>• South Park</li><li>• Emerson</li><li>• Buffalo Culinary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bennett</li><li>• Research Lab</li><li>• Middle Early College</li><li>• City Honors</li><li>• McKinley</li><li>• Performing Arts</li><li>• Olmsted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Riverside</li><li>• Lafayette</li><li>• I-PREP</li><li>• Hutch Tech</li></ul>

**HOW TO REGISTER**



**Use camera to scan QR code above or**  **to register**



And don't forget that if your child is entering grades 7-12 and would like to join a fall sport at CHS, 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. All students in grades 7/8 must pass an athletic readiness test once in order to play JV or Varsity sports while in grade 7/8. More information is included [at this link](#).

### **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](mailto:cityhonorspicnic@gmail.com) to reserve a table in the atrium.

### **CHS Cross Country 2023 Season**

The Cross Country Season will begin August 21<sup>st</sup>! There are several exciting and fun activities already planned for the Fall 2023 season! Any student in grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mcvanremmen@buffaloschools.org).

### **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.

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](mailto:cityhonorspicnic@gmail.com)

CITY HONORS SCHOOL  
BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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](#).

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*\* 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.*

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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.

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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](#)*