



Hilltop Notes
for the CHS Community
9.20.21



Attention Grade 9-12 Vocalists!

Chorale is our advanced level vocal music ensemble at CHS. This is a credit-bearing ensemble for students who love to sing, want to understand music better and train their voices as an instrument. Chorale meets three times a cycle at 7:30am and performs in special concerts around the area including adjudicated competitions. Students with interest in auditioning should fill out the form using the QR code at the right or [at this link](#). Questions? Contact Mrs. Saxon at kesaxon@buffaloschools.org or stop by room 114.



Join CHS African Dance and Drum Troupe

The nationally known CHS African Dance and Drum Troupe will be holding an informational meeting on Tuesday, September 21st from 3:00-3:45pm in Mrs. Franke's room (330). All grade levels are welcome to attend. Whether you want to be a part of dancing or drumming, we can teach you how! Students in grades 5-8 should have parental permission to stay after school. This must be sent to Mrs. Franke. Questions? Contact Mrs. Franke at svircillo-franke@buffaloschools.org or see the following students: Sha-nai Jackson, Janasia Ziemba, Jeanelle Stephens.

WNY Service Academy Night

The Western New York Virtual Service Academy Night will be held on Thursday, September 30th at 6pm hosted by the offices of Congressman Brian Higgins and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. There will be representatives from the Naval Academy, West Point, the Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy available virtually to answer questions and provide an overview of what you might expect as a cadet at one of our nation's prestigious Service Academies. Education at all of the Service Academies are **fully funded** and **graduates of the academies are highly sought after by employers**.

Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to attend if you would like to know more about the service academies or if you plan to seek a nomination from either office. The application process to these academies differs from the traditional college application process so students should attend this meeting to develop an understanding of the process. Parents, teachers and school counselors are welcome to participate as well. Registration is required. Please RSVP here: (<https://forms.gle/ptvjaZ1oyk3d1qwV8>)

Be sure to check your email for zoom meeting details which will be sent out to all those who have registered by the evening of September 29th. The speaker panel begins promptly at 6:00 PM followed by a question and answer session. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the Buffalo Offices of Sen. Gillibrand (716-854-9725) or Rep. Higgins (716-852-3501).

CHS Band Orientation Meetings

All students in CHS band will have an orientation meeting on Thursday, September 23 in room 110:

Grade 9-12 Students: 7:30am

Grade 5/6 Students (during lunch): 11:55-12:15

Grades 7/8 (during lunch): 11:05-11:25

All band students must attend this meeting. Attendance will be taken. Questions? Please contact Mrs. Steiner at: asteiner@buffaloschools.org

Join CHS Multicultural Club

The City Honors Multicultural club will begin meeting on Wednesdays in Mr. O'Neil-White's room (118) at 3:00pm. Students interested in discussing issues of social justice, race, culture, ethnicity and much more, are encouraged to consider joining our club! This club is for students in grades 9-12. Questions? Contact Mr. O'Neil-White at wjo'neil-white@buffaloschools.org.

Attention All Grade 10 and 11 Families

The Buffalo Public Schools will be administering the PSAT on **October 13** for **all grade 10 and 11 students**. The Buffalo Schools cover the cost of taking this test for all of our students. The PSAT not only serves a diagnostic to help students prepare for the SAT, for 11th grade students the PSAT serves as the **National Merit Qualifying Test**. Based on performance, 11th graders may earn a spot in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Regardless of whether students are selected for the National Merit Competition, a strong performance on the PSAT may bring attention from college admissions and scholarship officers, so we encourage our students to give their best effort.

Courier College Prep will be offering an in-person PSAT Workshop for City Honors students at CHS on September 30th. This workshop will help prepare students who will sit for the PSAT on October 13th. The class will be taught by Brian Eldridge, a leading SAT/ACT tutor, certified college counselor and founder of Courier College Prep. This session will run a little over two hours. The cost is \$20 per student. The City Honors Foundation will cover fees for students who have documented financial fees. Students are encouraged to register early as seats and fee waivers are limited. More details on this PSAT workshop, contact information for Mr. Eldridge and the registration form can be [found at this link](#).

All questions about the PSAT should be directed to your child's school counselor. All questions about the PSAT seminar should be directed to Courier College Prep.

Laptop Distribution

The Buffalo Schools have notified us that any student who did not receive their device during their schools' distribution because they were absent or there was an issue with the device will receive a notification from the district IT office when the device will be available for pickup at the Center for Innovation, Technology and Training (1515 S. Park Avenue). Questions may be directed to the district family helpline at 816-7100

CHS Garden and Apiary Clubs

Garden Club has resumed at Pelion Outdoor Classroom and we are open to everyone! However, we must be able to practice social distancing, therefore at the 5th and 6th grade level, we are alternating weeks. We ask that students attend only ONE of their grade level sessions for the week--not both. Grades 7-12 are meeting weekly. Garden Club ENDS at 3:45pm. Any students not picked up by 4pm will be walked to the front steps of the building. Students MUST have the cell phone number of the person collecting them. Parents of Middle School students must notify Ms. Caesandra if they plan to attend: caesandra@gmail.com



Garden Club ends at 3:45pm

5th Grade Dates
22 & 23 SEPT
6 & 7 OCT
20 & 21 OCT

6th Grade Dates
29 & 30 SEPT
13 & 14 OCT
27 & 28 OCT

7th-12th Grades
21 SEPT 5 OCT
28 SEPT 12 OCT
19 OCT

Pelion Garden Club Meet-Ups Fall 2021



If you are a parent who would enjoy co-facilitating Garden Club and are available some afternoons, please contact Ms. Caesandra directly 716-803-5566 (help is needed from 2:30-3:50pm). Current Lead Parent Volunteer is Ellen Barnum.

Apiary (Bee Care) Club Dates:

24 Sept
1 Oct
15 Oct

(Apiary Club is open to students in grades 9-12. More dates TBD. Please email Ms. Caesandra if you have interest in Apiary Club)

All Members of the School Community Should Save These Dates:

2 or 3 October = Honey Harvesting Day (weather contingent)
26 October = 3 Sisters Potluck
5-13 November = Putting the Garden to Bed Activities

[Follow this link to more information](#) about Pelion Outdoor Classroom.

COVID Testing

30% of staff and students at CHS will continue to be randomly tested for COVID each week pursuant to current district procedures. This year, CHS will conduct the more accurate and less invasive 24-hour turnaround mandatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19. **We encourage all staff and students to participate in testing in order to reduce the number of times individuals will need to be tested.** Families are asked to [use this link](#) to provide consent to include their child in the pool of students to be tested.

Daily COVID-19 Health Screener

Families should complete the daily health screener once again each day BEFORE their child leaves 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.

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](#)

[PTSCO Minutes and 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](#)