



Hilltop Notes
for the CHS Community
12.13.21



8 days to go until the holiday break!
Please send us your child to school each and every day that they are asymptomatic!

Attention Grade 10 & 11 Families

10th and 11th grade students are now able to access their October PSAT scores by logging into their College Board account! Students should use the login information they used to create their account for the AP classroom. School counselors have also shared this information with our students via Schoology. Questions? Please contact your child's school counselor.

Calling All Volunteers!

City Honors PTSCO is excited to be hosting the Winter Bazaar on **Friday, December 17th**. The event will take place during all the lunch periods in the Atrium. The Winter Bazaar will be a fun and festive afternoon for the students with collective sales for grades 5-10, and all funds collected will be evenly distributed to all of the classes. The 11th and 12th grades are able to manage their own tables and already have plans in place. There will be baked goods, festive candy, small toys/fidgets and more! The event will be scaled back from years past due to COVID restrictions but we are hoping to provide a little boost of cheer to the students who have been working so hard this year!

We need donations please! Donations can be food or small items/trinkets. If food, all food items must be individually wrapped. Although we will be unable to host adult visitors, school clubs will be manning each table and students will be able to visit them to purchase small gifts.

Donations can be dropped off to the atrium on the morning of Friday 12/17. If you are unable to drop off that morning or if you are interested in donating money directly for items to be purchased by PTSCO and sold, please contact Megan Stewart at meganstewart415@gmail.com to make alternative arrangements.

Volunteers are needed for setup and cleanup. Donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate and/or volunteer for setup/cleanup, please contact Megan Stewart at meganstewart415@gmail.com

Shop Chiron's Corner Bookstore This Holiday Season

'Chiron's Corner' is our school bookstore. Named for our beloved school mascot, Chiron the Centaur, the bookstore offers a wide array of City Honors clothing, spirit items and school supplies. New styles are arriving each season. You can view many of our items [at our webpage](#) and [submit orders at this link](#). Once your order is received and filled, you will be contacted to coordinate a curbside pickup. Questions? Contact Mrs. Frischholz, CHS Business Teacher at efrischholz@buffaloschools.org (716) 816-4230 x1005. All proceeds from Chiron's Corner benefit special programming for the [STARS Program at CHS](#). Thank you!

CHS Girls Soccer

Coach Milne will be holding a meeting in the LGI room this coming Wednesday the 15th for ALL girls considering JV or Varsity Soccer for 2022. If you plan on playing or are considering, please make a point of being there. Should last 10-15 minutes. Questions? Contact Coach Milne at jasonmilne76@gmail.com

Student Drop-offs

Parents, this is a reminder that the school parking lots and entry to the school lots are for staff traffic only. Please do not attempt to use these areas for student drop-off as this creates a very dangerous situation. All student drop-offs should take place on Fosdick Street. Please enter Fosdick Street with a spirit of patience and caution. Thank you!

Student Council Food Drive Update

The CHS student body and staff have donated over 2,000 non-perishable food items so far to benefit the Buffalo City Mission. This means Dr. Kresse must get dressed up on December 20! What costume did the student body vote for Dr. Kresse to wear? Here are the results:

28% voted Buddy the Elf

31% voted Giant Taco

41% voted Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man

Looks like Dr. Kresse will be roaming the halls as a monster marshmallow on December 20! But don't stop here CHS, there are more incentives our students can meet by the last day of the drive on December 17. Keep bringing those donations in to your homerooms!

3,000 donations: The following staff will dress in one of these themes to celebrate! Crazy hair, mix and match, fake mustache, or backwards clothes!

Mrs Coats, Mrs Castillo, Mrs DePasquale, Mrs Gillotti, Mrs Allman, Mrs Vinkle, Mrs Colston, Ms Berneski, Ms Saxon, Mr Mueckl, Ms Wellington, Ms Serwon, Ms Coffey

5,000 donations: These staff will dress in the following outfits to celebrate!

- Mrs Juergens and Mrs Yager – Mike and Sully from Monsters Inc.
- Ms DiMare – Triceratops
- Mr Ross – Scarecrow
- Mr Richards – Sombrero Bills
- Mr Belge – Mrs Belge
- Mr Welton – Snowman
- Ms Mrugala – Harry Potter
- Mrs Przybyla – Elf
- Ms Reiss – Disco
- Ms Morris – Community Superhero
- Ms Weaver – Among Us Imposter
- Ms Czyz – Grizzly Bear

- Ms Meher – will dress in a Saree

8,000 donations: These staff will dress with mystery costumes or mystery themes to celebrate!
(Costumes will remain top secret until December 20!)

- Ms Jennings
- Mr Paterson
- Ms Cardwell
- Mrs Root
- Mrs Dylewski
- Mr Hecker

-Additional anonymous teachers will dress as elves (can you guess who?)

10,000 donations: the entire Math Department will dress as Santa and his Elves and will greet students as they arrive to school in the Atrium from inside a Winter Holiday Snow Globe at 7:55AM on December 20th.

Laptop Charging

This is a gentle reminder for all students to charge their laptops at home each night before coming to school. In some first period classrooms, we do not have enough outlets to accommodate charging needs and instruction is delayed for students waiting to charge. Thank you!

Congratulations Mrs. Zheng

Last night the University at Buffalo Confucius Institute honored our very own Mrs. Zheng with their 'Distinguished Educator Award'. Mrs. Zheng was the founding teacher of the CHS Mandarin in 2007. Since then, she been instrumental in growing the program to the largest and most comprehensive Mandarin language program in Western New York. Mrs. Zheng was the first New York State certified and tenured Mandarin teacher in WNY. She is also the first IB Mandarin teacher in the region. She designed the curriculum for Mandarin studies in the Buffalo Schools and has mentored countless student teachers who are now serving as Mandarin teachers in our area and other parts of New York State. Many of her students each year continue with their Mandarin studies at the college level. Mrs. Zheng is known for challenging her students but for caring for them and constantly learning new techniques to bring to the classroom. **Thank you and congratulations Mrs. Zheng!**

42nd Annual Keeping the Dream Alive Assembly

Attention students of City Honors! This is a call for proposals for this year's 42nd Keeping the Dream Alive program. We need your help to ensure this prestigious tradition continues to honor Martin Luther King Jr and keep his dream alive! We are looking for submissions from students & faculty to recite poetry, perform skits, sing a song, produce a multimedia presentation, film a short movie or show off their artistic skills. You can perform solo, with a group, or even as a whole class. Involved in an extracurricular club? - speak to your advisor about becoming part of this annual tradition! Be sure your idea celebrates what MLK stood for and that you contact a faculty member or teacher to be your advisor. Proposals can be picked up in Mr. Belge's room 316 and due back for consideration by Tuesday, December 21st!

The City Honors community is invited to a "KDA Kick-off Meeting." The 42nd annual Keeping the Dream Alive Assembly is just around the corner. Join our meeting to find out how we plan to produce the event this year, and learn about all the different ways people can contribute and participate.

If you are part of a group that would like to perform or present for the assembly, this meeting is highly recommended. Because of COVID-19 safety procedures, we will once again use a non-traditional format; we won't be able to all be in the auditorium together at the same time. However, we believe that our alternate format provides some "silver linings" for performers and presenters and inspires you to dream of new ideas for the assembly that have never been done before.

The **"KDA Kick-off Meeting"** is this Tuesday at 5:30PM and will be hosted by Kennedy Rutledge '22 and Kaori Segars '22. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

This assembly celebrates the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and serves as a powerful reminder to our school community that we each have a role in building bridges among people from varying racial and economic backgrounds within our city and nation. The ceremony includes performances, readings, and presentations of the Keeping the Dream Alive Awards and was originally established by long time teacher-aide at City Honors, Mrs. Irene McVay. Let's come together once again to pay tribute to Mrs. McVay's legacy as we honor the ideals and sentiments expressed by Dr. King and ensure this tradition continues!

This assembly as well as the CHS African Dance and Drum Troupe and CLRI (Cultural and Linguistically Responsive Initiatives) at CHS receive funding through the City Honors Foundation's 'Irene T. McVay Legacy Fund.'

CHS Speech and Debate Results: December 4th

The City Honors Speech and Debate team won their tournament held on Saturday, December 4th in their tightest contested battle yet. Despite only 12 students competing against 9 schools from the Buffalo, Rochester and Albany regions, City Honors placed 1st overall in team standings, earning 67 points - just a mere 2 points ahead of the 2nd place team from Albany!

Amongst the categories of Speech, sophomores Ayeeza Modasserand and Faith Floyd took 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in Declamation. Sophomore Annika Wilewicz placed 2nd in Dramatic Interpretation, while senior captain Shoshanna Hertz finished 2nd in Original Oratory.

In the category of Public Forum Debate, Captains Liam Cobb and Sebastian Cole placed 2nd and became qualified for the NYS tournament this spring!

Finally, it was a clean sweep in Varsity Lincoln Douglass Debate, as senior captain Holden Endres finished 1st (also qualifying for the state tournament), Anyiang Yak placed 2nd and Ciah Courtney took 3rd place to finish out the standings!

Congratulations on an amazing team performance! We'll be sure to update you on the results from this past weekend in the next issue of *The Hilltop Notes*.

Volunteers Needed to Benefit the Children of the Fruitbelt

The Fruitbelt Coalition is in need of Volunteers to sort the toys into age appropriate lots on Monday; December 13 from 2PM-6PM

Tuesday; December 14 from 2PM-8:30PM

Wednesday; December 15 from 2PM-8:30PM

at the Church of the Latter-Day Saints at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Goodell Streets.

The actual dates the toys will be distributed are December 16th.; 17th; and 18th. from 10AM-3PM by appointment. Those interested may call the office with additional questions and or registration at 716.893.6428

CHS Trivia Night

A reminder that the CHS Class of '22 will be holding 'CHS Trivia Night' on December 17th. Parents, students, teachers, and friends of all grades levels are all invited to compete in this super fun new CHS tradition that started during the pandemic. On your own, or in a team, you are bound to have an amazing night full of fun and puzzling trivia! You can enjoy the event in the comfort of your own home, as it will be held on zoom.

To buy a ticket or make a donation to this year's senior class, [visit this link](#) and to let us know who is on your team of up to 5 people, send an email to aaronweinmann15@gmail.com. Good luck and may the best trivia master win!

Keep Our CHS Students and Staff in School- Keep Our Families Safe!

CHS Families and Staff: 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. McDow, assistant principal, and Nurse Cammarata. These staff members are managing our COVID safety initiatives and response. They can outline next steps for your family as it pertains to school. It is important that you email Ms. McDow (cmcdow@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. **Please do not leave voicemails or messages in the main office.**

As we move indoors more and more due to the 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!

COVID Testing

30% of staff and students at CHS will continue to be randomly tested for COVID each month 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](#)

[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](#)