

View From The Hill



A monthly PTSCO publication for the families and staff of City Honors School at Fosdick-Masten Park

MARCH 2009



From the Principal

Dr. William Kresse

To City Honors Parents and Community

Welcome to the new monthly format for the *View From The Hill* (VFTH)! Working with the CHS Parent, Teacher, Student, Community Organization (PTSCO), we switched from our previous quarterly format so that families will receive timely information from PTSCO, the school administration, and other groups affiliated with the school. I recently sent a letter to all CHS families requesting an official e-mail address to be used for communications between school and home. Once this list is active, we plan to bring families this publication via e-mail to save paper and expense as well as to increase convenience. If you have not sent in the PTSCO membership form and contribution with your family e-mail, please do so as soon as possible.

Reconstruction is moving along as scheduled. The foundation to the annex is being completed, and structural steel is starting to rise. In the existing building, the demolition work is concluding. Remodeling and installation of new electrical, HVAC, and communication systems has begun. I have been giving monthly tours to student, parent, and alumni leadership groups and now invite any member of the school community to sign up for these monthly tours. If you have interest, please contact Mrs. Fulton in the main office at 816-3130. Slots on the tours are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

On March 27, we will hold the annual PTSCO silent auction at School #56. This event is not only a crucial fundraiser for PTSCO, it is a great evening of fun and community building. I hope to see you there!



City Honors School
AT FOSDICK-MASTEN PARK

City Honors School Named A 2009 Magnet School of Excellence

The Magnet Schools of America has chosen City Honors School as one of its Magnet Schools of Excellence for 2009. This is the top category of awards given by Magnet Schools of America and is based on a commitment to high academic standards, curriculum innovation, successful desegregation/diversity efforts, and the consistent delivery of high quality education to students. Only 52 magnet schools, out of the thousands in the United States, were chosen to receive this accolade in 2009. CHS is now in competition for a \$5,000 first place prize and three \$2,500 second place prizes.

The awards and prizes will be given out at the Magnet Schools of America Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, at the end of April.

IB Updates

from **Elissa M. Banas, Esq.**
**International Baccalaureate
Diploma Program Coordinator**

IB Math SL or IB Math Studies: What's Right for You?

Ever wonder what the difference is between City Honors' two IB Math courses? Well, wonder no longer; here are short descriptions of both courses.

IB Math Studies is a course that explores higher mathematics for students planning on going to college. It is a course for students whose majors may not necessarily involve mathematics, but it is designed for motivated students who are hard workers and critical thinkers. This course offers a unique perspective upon high school mathematics while adding a higher level of understanding to a variety of

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The City Honors Players at School 8 present "Urinetown"

Special Dinner Theatre Show:

Friday, March 6 6:00 PM

\$25 to benefit Macedonia Foundation

Dinner provided by students and staff from Emerson School of Hospitality Performances:

Saturday, March 7 7:30 PM \$5

Sunday, March 8 2:30 PM \$5

Thursday, March 5 - Friday, March 13

New York State Math Assessment
for Middle School

Grade 5: March 5 & 6 - Periods 1 & 2

Grade 6: March 9 & 10 - Periods 2 & 3

Grade 7: March 10 & 11 - Periods 1 & 2

Grade 8: March 12 & 13 - Periods 1, 2, & 3

Monday, March 9 4:00 - 8:00 PM

Anderson's School Spirit

North Buffalo location on Delaware Ave

Sponsored by the Class of 2010

Wednesday March 11 or Thursday March 12

Eat at Gramma Mora's 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM

A portion of proceeds donated to CHS

Thursday, March 19 at School 8

3:45 PM SBMT

5:30 PM Junior Class College Night

6:30 PM PTSCO Meeting

Tuesday, March 24

Early Release Day

Wednesday, March 25

No School - Superintendent's Conference Day

Friday, March 27 6:30 PM

School 56: Annual PTSCO Auction

Thursday, April 23 5:00 PM

School 56: Get to Know Your PTSCO

Middle School parents especially invited

to learn more about CHS's home-school association and give input into future direction



THE ANNUAL PTSCO AUCTION! Fri March 27 6:30 PM

Featuring theme baskets and single items donated by local businesses and cultural organizations and the CHS community. A **Wii** system and **iPod Touch** will be raffled off! Complimentary homemade desserts will be served. The festivities will be hosted by the inimitable Mr. William Cochrane, CHS history teacher extraordinaire!

AUCTION KICK OFF Wed March 11 or Thurs March 12

Please also join us on for a meal at Gramma Mora's!
A portion of the proceeds of your check will be donated to CHS.
Raffle tickets for the Wii and iPod Touch will be on sale.

Want to help with the auction?

Please contact Karen Sansone at 818-0513 or kkaren17@roadrunner.com

Target 'Take Charge of Education' Program

Help our students in a no-cost, no-effort manner!

All you have to do is to use or obtain a Target® Visa® or Target® card. CHS will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase you make. Just visit target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate City Honors as your Take Charge of Education school. So, if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better! Grandparents, alumni, neighbors, and friends can take part, too, so pass this message on.

Order Your 2009 CHS Yearbook Now!

Parents, if you are interested in ordering a personal or business ad, please send in your order as soon as possible. The Yearbook Committee needs all the copy and text as soon as possible and can assist anyone with the designing of their ads. Ad costs are:

1/8 page	\$ 40
1/4 page	\$ 75
1/2 page	\$ 150
Full page	\$ 300

The ad section has expanded greatly to keep down the cost of the yearbook. The price of the yearbook this year is the same as it was in 2004!

Speaking of the yearbook, if you have not ordered your yearbook yet, do so soon! We have a lot fewer books this year so pre-ordering is very important. Visit the City Honors Web site (www.cityhonors.org) and click on the link, "Purchase your 2009 YEARBOOK!"

Don't miss out on the memories of high school!
Questions? Contact Ms. St. George at 472-9259 or cstgeorge@buffaloschools.org.

- Ms. Cheryl St. George
Yearbook Advisor

Don't forget...keep checking on reconstruction progress at CHS!



IB UPDATE

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topics. The major topics covered include: Set and number theory, Logic, Probability, Statistics, Geometry and trigonometry, Functions, Financial Mathematics, and Differential Calculus.

IB Mathematics SL (formerly known as IB Math Studies) is a course for students who already possess knowledge of basic mathematical concepts and who are equipped with the skills needed to apply simple mathematical techniques correctly. The majority of students will expect to need a sound mathematical background as they prepare for future studies in subjects such as chemistry, economics, psychology, and business administration. Topics covered include: Algebra, Functions & Equations, Circular Functions & Trigonometry, Matrices, Vectors, Statistics & Probability, and Calculus.

While both courses are challenging, IB Math SL is considered the more difficult math course.

The IB Diploma Program Continues to Grow

For the second year in a row, more than 50% of current sophomores have applied to take on the rigors of the IB Diploma Program. This constitutes a 15% jump in numbers from a few years ago. Approximately 90 members of the Junior and Senior class used to take part in the program. That number has now increased to over 120 11th and 12th graders.

CHS SWING SCHOOLS

5-8 GRADES: SCHOOL #56
716 West Delavan Avenue
Buffalo NY 14222
716.816.3350

9-12 GRADES: SCHOOL #8
167 East Utica Avenue
Buffalo NY 14208
716.816.3130

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For a complete listing of the PTSCO Board, please visit www.cityhonors.org and click on "Community"

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View From The Hill

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Submissions for the next newsletter should be sent by Monday, March 23 to Andrea Szalanski at aszalanski@aol.com

Questions? Call Andrea at 867-8602