

View From The Hill



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

FEBRUARY 2011



"BUILDING YOUR FUTURE"

Buffalo Public Schools
College, Career and Scholarship Fair
Saturday, February 5, 2011 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
BPS 307 East High School
820 Northampton Street

Reminders!
College Goal Sunday offers FAFSA completion seminars.
Meet with university and college representatives.
Need more information?
www.buffaloschools.org



College, Scholarship and Career Fair Coming Soon!

On Saturday, February 5, the district will hold its annual BPS College, Career, and Scholarship Fair at East High School, located at 820 Northampton Street.

The Fair will run from 10 AM until 1 PM and presents an opportunity for students and their parents to visit with numerous college and university representatives and to attend various workshops geared to preparing for college entrance. Health Care Professionals will also be conducting interactive workshops, and certified income tax preparers will be available to assist with tax filing for parents, free of charge.

Representatives from College Goal Sunday will also be available to assist parents in the completion of FAFSA forms.

Online pre-registration and further information is available on the district website, www.buffaloschools.org.

Please note: No student will be allowed admittance without a parent or guardian.

Main Street Bus Update

There is an effort to reinstate the 8B Main Street bus which was discontinued. This bus would stop on Michigan Avenue rather than Main and Summer, and be much closer for students getting on and off for school. Petitions are being circulated. For more information, contact Ca-rin L. Miles at 716.541.1775, cell 716.465.5795, fax 716.852.2761 or email at cmiles@thepartnership.org.

Parent Resources on CHS Website

Don't forget to check the Parent Resources section of the City Honors Website for useful information: <http://www.cityhonors.org/page/forms-for-parents/> or **click here**.
Just added: links to the school lunch menu and the pay for your lunch online system.
Also added: the Free/Reduced Lunch application.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 2

Early Release
Grades 5-8 11:00 AM, Grades 9-12 Noon

SPEAKER SERIES 9:20 - 11:00 AM

Gerald Strickland, Jr. - Partner, HHL Architects
Periods 2 & 3 in the Auditorium
Community members may reserve a ticket to attend by calling: 716.816.4235.

Tuesday, February 15

PTSCO Meeting 5:30 PM
Junior Class 6:30 - 8:00 PM
College Planning Kick-off
10th grade parents 6:45 - 7:45 PM
IB Diploma Informational Meeting

Friday, February 18

10th Grade Students Applications for IB Diploma Program due

Monday, February 21 - Friday, February 25

No school - February Break

Monday, February 28

Classes resume

Tuesday, March 1

AP Registration Due (see page 11 for details)

Thursday, March 10 - Sunday, March 13

CHS Musical - "South Pacific"

Wednesday, March 16

Early Release Day 11:00 AM

PTSCO Board and Grade Reps - Page 12

PTSCO Membership Form - Page 13

*For many more important dates
please consult
the main school calendar
www.cityhonors.org
on a regular basis*

Dear City Honors School Community,

Greetings from Tom Harris and Ben Little, owners and cabinet makers at the Schoolhouse Gallery and Cabinet Shops located in East Aurora, NY. Tom and I are both Roycroft Master Artisans and were thrilled to be chosen by City Honors Foundation to create a line of furniture for the recent project at your school. In keeping with old Roycroft traditions we created and constructed each piece in a partnership between "our Heads, our Hearts, and our Hands". This is similar to the way the original Roycrofters worked under the leadership of Elbert Hubbard in the late 1800's and early 1900's in East Aurora, New York.

Over the past two years Tom and I spent hundreds of hours creating thousands of parts that eventually went into the new Arts and Craft style pieces of furniture you see around the school. We created: library tables; dictionary and atlas stands; the library circulation desk; computer desks; waste can surrounds and covers for many areas of the school as well as the new reception desk in the Main Office.

Many individuals, families and organizations contributed the dollars necessary to make this project possible. Thanks to all of you as well as Mrs. Holden, Dr. Kresse, Mr. Benz and all the members of the City Honors Foundation Committee for placing your trust and faith in our work. We have truly enjoyed working on this project.

We want the students to understand the significance of this work, what it means to us, and others who made all this possible for you and future generations of students. We would hope that you will respect the furniture and all the work that has gone into it. You all have something very special at City Honors School.

We expect that this new furniture will help create in each of you a respect for things made from Heads, Hearts and Hands and also a sense for local history and timelessness.

Hoping this work has an impact on your education,

Ben Little and Tom Harris, Roycroft Master Artisans
January 2011

SOUTH PACIFIC

You are invited to the CHS 2011 Musical!

PERFORMANCES

Friday, March 11 7:00 PM
Saturday, March 12 2:00 & 7:00 PM
Sunday, March 13 2:00 PM

TICKET PRICES

Adults / \$7.50 Students / \$5.00

Attention 8th Grade Parents!



The Boston Trip is fast approaching! By now, each student attending the trip should have paid, or earned through fundraising opportunities, \$200. Our February payment is due to our travel agent shortly. In order to ensure your child's place on the trip, payments must be made according to the following schedule:
February 10: 3rd deposit of \$100 is due
March 10: Final deposit is due

There will be a mandatory meeting regarding the trip, for both parents and students. This will be scheduled the last week of March or the first week of April.

Parents who are not receiving information regarding the class trip should contact:
Sarah Johnson 716.316.1197
Sarah Gunther 716.931.1395

Help Needed for PTSCO Auction

PTSCO needs volunteers for the upcoming CHS PTSCO Auction (March or April); especially needed are a few parents to co-chair the committee. If you are able, contact Beth Gosch at bgosch1@verizon.net.

2011 Middle School commUnity build: Institute for Inclusion Applications

The National Federation for Just Communities of WNY has provided applications for the 2011 Middle School "commUnity build: Institute for Inclusion." This weekend-long, residential diversity and leadership retreat program will take place March 11-13 at St. Bonaventure University in Olean, NY. At the institute, students explore diversity/inclusion issues related to the questions: "What values are central to a thriving community?" and "How do we put those values to work for the betterment of us all?"

No more than 5 nominations will be reviewed from each school; nominees need to reflect the diverse WNY region. Applicants must be certain of their availability to attend as space is limited. Not all applicants are accepted. There is no cost to attend and transportation is provided to and from Buffalo. The retreat is fully staffed and supervised by trained facilitators.

The application deadline is Wednesday, February 16. A copy of the brochure and application form are available from www.nfjcwny.org. The forms may be returned by mail or fax to 716.852.0046. For additional information call the NFJC office at 716.853.9596 or email mrummenie@nfjcwny.org.

Applicants will be notified of the acceptance decision via mail during the week of February 28 and additional information for those chosen regarding workshop attendance (times, items to pack, medical forms) will be provided at that time.



The Grand Lodge of New York Knights of Pythias, is an international, non-sectarian fraternal order, established in 1864 in Washington, DC, by Justus H. Rathbone, the first fraternal order to be chartered by an Act of Congress.

The Youth Commission of the Grand Lodge is sponsoring two contests, a Poster Contest, and an Essay Contest, as well as an Academic Achievement Award.

For all the details, contact Norman Green or David Stanger, The Knights of Pythias, 2347 Jericho Turnpike, Garden City Park, NY 11040 or email youthcommissionny@pythias.org. Go to <http://pythias.org/YouthComm/> or [click here](#).

Early Release Day Transportation Alert

In order to accommodate all transportation requests on early release days, please have your child turn in the request a few days in advance. This will ensure that all passes are accurate and completed in time for the early release day.

Applebee's Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

To Support the 8th and 10th Grades

Sunday March 20, 2011 8 - 10 AM

Two breakfast seatings at 8 AM and 9 AM

2656 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, NY 14216

Price: Tickets are \$5 each
(Cash or check made out to PTSCO)

Menu: Three pancakes, two pieces of bacon and juice or coffee

If you would like to join us, please contact
Tammy Hyzy at 716.825.1015

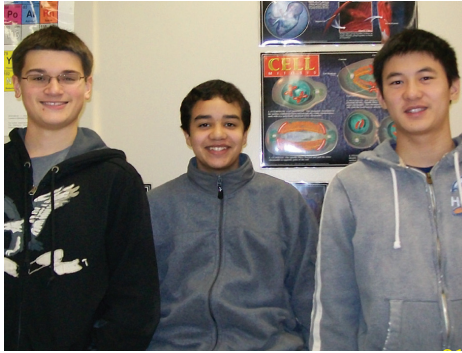
SNOW DAYS!

For official school closings, including weather related events, please remember to tune to WBEN NewsRadio 930AM. NewsRadio 930AM is the official station for school closings.

Great News from the CHS Science Research Program

Kelly Ann Hyla

Biology Teacher and Science Research Program Coordinator



Freshmen from left to right: Jordan Tick, Francisco Botello, and Yankang Yang.

This year the City Honor Science research Program has accepted three new freshmen into the full immersion science research program in conjunction with Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Hauptman-Woodward Institute. After an intensive morning class and one-on-one interviews with the mentors, three students were selected: Francisco Botello will be in the Flow Cytometry lab of Dr. Hans Minderman at Roswell Park, Yankang Yang will be in the Molecular Biology lab of Dr. Joseph Lau at Roswell Park, and Jordan Tick will be in the bioinformatics lab of Dr. William Duax at Hauptman-Woodward. CONGRATULATIONS!

Additionally, senior Miriam Frisch was selected as a semifinalist in the INTEL Science Talent Search Scholarship Competition. Miriam has worked in Dr. Joseph Lau's lab at Roswell Park for the last 3 years and is currently studying the role of sialyltransferase ST6Gal-1 in regulating hematopoiesis using cyclophosphamide myelosuppression as a model. She will receive \$1000 for being a semifinalist as will the science research program.



Senior Miriam Frisch at the 2010 Ying Tri Regions Science and Engineering Fair, Syracuse NY.

Flag Essay Contest

The Katharine Pratt Horton Buffalo Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is sponsoring a "Flag of the U.S.A. Contest" for 5th and 6th grade students. The purpose of the contest is to make our youth aware of their responsibility to our country and to instill in them the honor and respect that is due the symbol – the Flag of the United States of America. Students are eligible to enter the contest and compete for recognition and monetary prizes. The winning essay from our area will be entered into competition at the state level.

Contest Rules: Essay title should be "What the Flag of the U.S.A. Means to Me." Length: 250 to 500 words. Please attach a cover sheet with the following information: the student's name, address, phone number and grade level, along with the school name and address and the principal's and teacher's name and email. Essays cannot be returned. Each school will select ONE essay from all submitted, that best exemplifies the contest, and send it along with a list of names of students who wrote the essays. An individual certificate will be issued for each student who participates.

The finalists will be recognized at a Flag Day Awards ceremony to be held at the DAR Chapter House, 477 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 2:00 PM.

Essays should be returned to Mrs. Fulton in the guidance office by March 1. Essays received after the deadline or with more than 500 words will be disqualified. Please remember essays cannot be returned.

Student Council News

Sharon A. Bertucci
Student Council Advisor

The Student Council would like to thank all those who donated canned goods to support their holiday drive in the month of December. Many boxes of non-perishable food items, along with \$30 in Tops gift cards, were delivered to the Macedonia Food Pantry. Proceeds from bake sales also supported the food drive.

Student Council will be conducting a clothing drive during the months of January and February. Students are encouraged to bring in "gently" used clothing to be donated to the Macedonia Clothing Closet.

Student Council is currently planning for "March Madness," a City Honors tradition of pre-spring fun filled spirited events.

All students are welcome to attend the Tuesday morning meetings held in the Museum Room.

Wine Tasting

To benefit the
City Honors Crew Team
(Adults only, please!)

March 26
7:00 - 9:00 PM
West Side Rowing Club

For more info:
Lori Joyce at
lajinbuf@aol.com



History Seminar

On Wednesday, January 12, Dr. Michael Frisch, a Professor of American Studies and History at UB (as well as the father of City Honors senior, Mimi) came to City Honors as part of our annual speaker series. Dr. Frisch gave a presentation to the 5th and 6th grade classes, as well as a students from just about every other grade level, on how oral history is being transformed in the 21st Century.



History teacher John McTigue, Dr. Michael Frisch, and Mimi Frisch '11



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING STUDIES

Georgetown University's Summer Programs for high school students afford students the opportunity to get ahead and to make plans for the future while expanding their horizons and finding their passions.

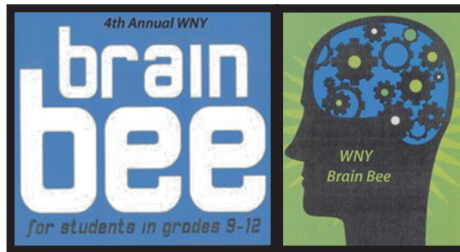
Whether they would like to earn college credit, explore a new interest, or simply experience the vibrancy and stimulation of university life, students are certain to find a program at Georgetown that sets them apart from others and leaves a lasting impression for years to come. Each summer at Georgetown, highly motivated high school students participate in college classes and advance their academic skills through a variety of challenging learning experiences lasting from eight to ten weeks. Students have the unique opportunity to learn from acclaimed Georgetown faculty and alumni including former and current members of Congress, well-known journalists and authors, and national security leaders. Programs include:

- Accelerated Institutes
- Summer College Courses
- College Fundamental
- Summer Honors Intensive
- Advanced Prep Scholars
- College Prep

Georgetown is accepting applications for our summer programs, and programs fill up quickly. All materials are available at <http://summer.georgetown.edu>. or by calling 202.687.8600.

Information about this as well as other summer programs is available on the City Honors School website under 'Counseling and Guidance Center' and in the Guidance Office.

Fourth Annual WNY Brain Bee



Are you a student who is thinking about pursuing a career in science or medicine? If so, please consider participating in the WNY Brain Bee competition. This is an oral neuroscience competition for high school students (Grade 9-12) on February 19, 2011, from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Canisius College. The WNY Brain Bee competition will test students' knowledge on human brain topics such as anatomy, sensation, movement, learning, stress, and neurological diseases.

Students can prepare for the competition by studying the free publication "Brain Facts" (see below). A Brain Bee Prep Class will also be offered in February at Canisius College.

The first place winner will be eligible to represent WNY in the National Brain Bee competition in Baltimore, MD on March 18-19, 2011. A travel stipend will be awarded to the winner to cover travel expenses for the student and adult companion. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will also be awarded cash prizes.

New this year, students who earn 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be invited to join a neuroscience research laboratory at Canisius College or University at Buffalo for one week this summer as a research intern.

The registration deadline is February 12. Find "WNY Brain Bee" on Facebook, or email Elizabeth Hogan, Ph.D. at hogane@canisius.edu.

For more information on the WNY Brain Bee
<http://www3.canisius.edu/~hogane/wnybrainbee.html> or **click here**.

For more information on the National Brain Bee
http://www.internationalbrainbee.com/ntl_bee.html/united_states.html or **click here**.

Prepare for the competition by studying "Brain Facts"
<http://www.sfn.org/index.aspx?pagename=brainfacts> or **click here**.

CITY HONORS SCHOOL AT FOSDICK-MASTEN PARK

186 East North Street Buffalo NY 14204

MAIN OFFICE 716.816.4230 FAX 716.888.7145

www.cityhonors.org

WANTED

**Donations of
unframed/unmounted prints
and posters to enhance our
Buffalo History, Arts & Heritage Gallery
in the McVay Cafe (school cafeteria).**

Anyone who may have items to donate or wants to contribute toward plakmounting costs should contact IB Diploma Program coordinator Mrs. Banas at 716.816.4235 or ebanas@buffaloschools.org

IMPORTANT INFO!

Transportation and Parking Around City Honors School

Our traffic, parking, and entry patterns have changed significantly to increase student safety.

- **Please do not attempt to drive in the main parking lot during the start of school or at dismissal. Parent drop-off/pick-up of students is now on Fosdick Street.**
- Please make every effort to **enter Fosdick Street from the south** when dropping off your child so that they can exit the vehicle at the curb. **Please do not stop in the middle of Fosdick Street** when dropping off students.
- Visitor parking is now on Fosdick Street.
- Yellow bus drop-off/pick-up is now on Masten Avenue.
- NFTA end-of-school-day Specials will continue to line up on North Street.
- The parking lot on North Street now has one entrance/exit and one direction through the lot. The entrance to the lot is on North Street.
- The main parking lot is not for student drop-off or pick-up. There is no entry, except for handicapped visitor, faculty, and staff parking from 6:00 AM to 3:00 PM on school days.
- Handicapped visitor parking and an access ramp are in the main parking lot.
- Visitors should enter through the main entrance on Fosdick Street where an attendant will screen and buzz in visitors. Please do not ask people inside the building to open other entrances because this practice compromises the safety of our students.
- **Middle school parents must enter the building to sign students out in the auditorium** if they are picking them up at the end of the day. Students in Grades 9 – 12 being picked up at dismissal should wait in the main entrance vestibule until their parent arrives on Fosdick Street to pick them up.
- Please continue to drive cautiously and carefully around our school building.

Thank you!

Introducing...

A monthly series showcasing new staff for the 2010-2011 School Year

Brittany Montante

**STARS High School
Social Studies Teacher**



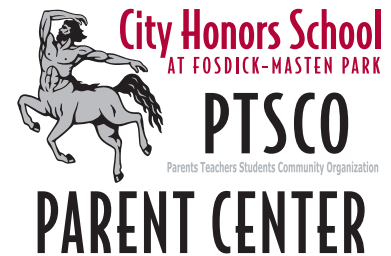
I am the new STARS (STudents with Autism Rising to Success) social studies teacher in the high school. I teach global history, high school social studies and economics/government. I am a graduate of Niagara University with my Bachelor's degree in Special and Adolescent education, with a specific focus in social studies. Presently, I am attending Niagara University in preparation for my Master's degree in literacy. I feel very lucky to be teaching at City Honors where I am able to help

students discover how exciting it is to study history. Outside of school, I enjoy reading, going to the movies, listening to music and spending time with my friends and family. Some of my favorites include the television show *Friends*, the movie *It's a Wonderful Life* and country music.

As I stated before, I feel very lucky to be teaching at City Honors. Since my first day, the administration, faculty, staff and students have been very welcoming and have helped to make my first few months at City Honors wonderful. I have been able to become involved in the City Honors community through chaperoning the Hilltop Hop, proctoring the admissions tests, and attending City Honors basketball games. As the school year continues, I look forward to becoming more involved in the City Honors community and getting to know more of the fabulous students that I am privileged to teach.

**Location:
Ground floor
5th Grade wing**

**Beginning in February:
Room will be open
Friday mornings
8 – 9:30 AM**



Jennifer Cornacchio, the CHS Parent Facilitator, is pleased to announce that the Parent Center will be open starting in February, on Friday mornings from 8 – 9:30 AM. Stop by for coffee and to meet with other parents.

The room also houses DPCC and Parent University offerings as well as the Writing Center with Dr. Biernat. We would like parents to feel welcome to use this room.

Jennifer Cornacchio will also host Special Interest Forums. These forums can address academic and social issues identified by parents, teachers, administrators, and students. Some issues may include: study skills, parenting, media influence, and bullying.

Please let Jennifer Cornacchio know how these forums and the Parent Center can serve you: jhcornacchio@verizon.net or 716.882.2582.

Additional suggestions, concerns, and constructive feedback to the administration relating to curricula, grading, classroom management policies, etc.—including your very valuable observations as to what's working well—can be communicated via email to the Parent Voice Committee through Elizabeth Giles, Committee Chair, at elizmgiles@yahoo.com.

The committee will field and organize input from CHS parents (who have a unique perspective from the front lines) and present it to administrators in an effective and timely way, bolstered by the context of what other parents have been saying. Anyone interested in joining the committee can also contact Elizabeth.

Introducing...

A monthly series showcasing new staff for the 2010-2011 School Year

Bill Lyon 11th & 12th grade IB and Regents Physics Teacher



It is my pleasure to join City Honors as the new Physics instructor. I teach 11th and 12th grade IB and Regents Physics. I spent my undergraduate years at SUNY Geneseo working towards my B.A. in Physics and Astronomy. At Geneseo, I had the opportunity to teach freshman lab students. This was when I discovered my passion for teaching. As a result, I decided to pursue my Masters in Secondary Education at Niagara University.

When I am not teaching, I enjoy snowboarding, playing soccer, and spending time with friends and family. I am thankful to all the faculty and staff, administration, students, and parents who have made my first few months at CHS great. In addition to chaperoning Ski Club, I eagerly look forward to being more involved in the City Honors community.

News from the Writing Center

Nancy Biernat

Seniors, the deadline for the IB Extended Essay is drawing near. Please take advantage of the Writing Center for editing. Dr. Biernat can make suggestions in terms of flow, grammar and spelling. Even though these things are not counted in the grading of the essay, a good overall impression always makes a difference to the reader!

The Writing Center is located near the Cafeteria in Room 23 and is open Mondays and Thursdays from 11 AM to 1:30 PM.

Happy Valentine's Day!

The newspaper has a few **Buffalo Dining Decks** left for sale. Why not give a deck for Valentine's Day?

Contact Ms. St. George at cstgeorge@buffaloschools.org
Decks cost \$20.

Make checks payable to CHS. The proceeds will help the school newspaper, *Silent Noise*.

Carnations for Valentine's Day on sale February 7 - 11!

IB Corner

Elissa Banas, Esq. International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Coordinator

The Learner Profile

The aim of the International Baccalaureate is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. To that end, the IB has developed the learner profile. The learner profile is made up of ten traits that all IB learners should strive to develop. Each month or so, a different trait is introduced and City Honors teachers post in their classrooms. They are asked to incorporate the learner profile of the month into their lessons when appropriate.

Thinkers is the trait for February. IB Learners strive to be THINKERS. They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Important Information for IB Diploma Seniors

Mrs. Banas will be visiting Senior IB Theory of Knowledge classes on Thursday, February 3 and Friday, February 4. At that time, she will be going over the final information seniors need for their Extended Essays (what the cover page should look like, formatting reminders, etc.). It is extremely important that students not miss class that day.

On Friday, February 11, IB Diploma Seniors must bring two copies of their final extended essay papers to Mrs. Banas. In order to make sure the papers are ready for submission to IB examiners, it is critically important that these papers be turned in on that Friday. If a student knows he/she is going to be absent, he/she

should make arrangements to turn it in earlier. If he/she is sick that day, the student should have someone deliver the two copies of the paper to City Honors by 2:30 PM that day.

A reminder that all CAS hours and related reflections MUST be completed and input into the online ManageBac system by Friday, March 4.

Important news for IB Diploma Juniors
IB Diploma Juniors who do not have at least 50 documented hours (and associated reflections) in the ManageBac website system by May 27, 2011, will be transitioned out of the IB Diploma Program.

Attention sophomores and their parents!

It's time to decide whether to pursue the IB Diploma during your junior and senior years at City Honors! IB Diploma Program Coordinator, Mrs. Elissa Banas, will be giving a presentation about the program in the 10th grade AP Literature classes on **Monday, February 7** and **Tuesday, February 8**.

Applications for the program will be given to interested students at that time. Additionally, she will present to all interested 10th grade parents after the PTSCO meeting on **Tuesday, February 15 at 6:45 PM** in the auditorium. Applications for the program are due to Mrs. Banas by 3:00 PM on **Friday, February 18**.



IB DIPLOMA CLASS OF 2011 EXTENDED ESSAY 2010-11 TIMELINE

Feb 11 HAND IN FINAL ESSAY to Mrs. Banas – two good copies. You have been given plenty of time to revise/fix/rewrite based on your discussion with your advisor in December, so this essay should be excellent.

BACK UP YOUR PAPER ON A CD OR FLASH DRIVE!

Need More IB Information?

Check out the City Honors International Baccalaureate blog
www.ibcityhonors.blogspot.com
Click here for the latest info on all things IB

District Parent Coordinating Committee News

Mine Dosluoglu DPCC Representative

The District Parenting Coordinating Council (DPCC) held its monthly meeting on January 4 at Stanley Makowski School #99. There were two important guest speakers at the session.

First, BPS superintendent Dr. James Williams gave insights on the Race to the Top initiative. The NY state is allocating \$700 million to understand the problems in our education system. Buffalo is only getting \$9 million out of it and state mandates how to use this allocation. Funds will be mainly used for research purposes and the Superintendent expressed that BPS budget already has a \$22 million deficit. This new allocation is not going to help the deficit or directly benefit the students.

The Board of Education has been having Town Hall meetings provide information and hear the concerns of individual parents about their children's education. The next Town Hall meeting is going to be held in March. If you want to

learn about the BPS in depth or have any concerns please come to the meeting. It will be announced through ConnectEd the week of the meeting.

The second speaker, the president of Buffalo Teachers Federation Phil Rumore, gave a short talk about how BTF works together with the District and agrees on most issues about giving the best education to our children. In order to take this partnership further he suggested monthly meetings should be established among teacher, parent, and district representatives to raise and discuss issues regarding our schools, students and district decisions.

Finally, the Parent Network of WNY has workshops coming up that might be of interest. All the workshops take place at EPIC Center on 1000 Main Street. You can call 716.332.4170 or register at www.parentnetworkwny.org.

All workshops are free
at EPIC Center on 1000 Main Street
February 10: Love is a Powerful Vitamin

Promote an understanding of the power of love in your child's life

March 4: Parent Advocacy
The Who, What, When, Why, and How

March 8: Special Education Part 1
What is it all about?

March 22: Special Education Part 2
What is it all about?

Two events held by DDAWNY
(Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY)

February 5: Got Teenagers?
Internet Safety, Social Media
at Central Library 9 AM - 12PM

March 5: How to Find Resources
at Central Library 9 AM - 12PM

Men's Cross Country Wrap Up

The boy's varsity cross country team had a highly successful season finishing 14-1. The season was highlighted by sophomore Seamus Degan's 13:43 time (the sixth best time ever by a CHS runner) at the 2.5 mile Delaware Park course. The team continues to garner accolades as twenty team members helped CHS qualify for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association's Scholar/Athlete Team Award. The student athletes achieved a team average of above 90% for their first quarter grades during the varsity cross country season.

The students who have helped the team achieve this academic honor were: Tala Mon; Charles Wingfelder; Daniel Saviola; Steven Szymanski; Nicholas Barlow; Seamus Degan; Nicholas Tourjje; Konrad Pawlak; Michael Cornacchio; Yousef Jaber; Jordan Sims; Elliott King; Stephen Valeri; Christopher Cieslik; Judson Fisher; Marcus Herring; Andrew Roche; Ameen Salem; Arthur Burgin; and Dillon Pershyn. Congratulations, Centaur harriers, on your academic and athletic success!

All WNY Senior Scholar Athlete Team

Many City Honors seniors were recognized for their academic and athletic success during the Fall season by being named to the Ad-Pro All Western New York Senior Scholar Athlete Team. In order to qualify, seniors must have maintained a 90 or above average throughout their high school career and have been a starter or important reserve on their Fall Varsity Athletic Team. Of the more than 600 applicants, 4 City Honors Seniors were named to the 122 member First Team receiving a sweatshirt and having their pictures appear in the December 31, 2010 *The Buffalo News*. They were: Nikolas Albarran, Soccer; Dana Hogan, Cross Country; Sarah Miller, Cross Country; and Steven Szymanski, Cross Country.

Named to the Senior Scholar Athlete Honorable Mention Team were: Barina Banuna, Cross Country; Nicholas Barlow, Cross Country; Dillon Pershyn, Cross Country; Patrick Ishimwe, Soccer; Helen Koessler, Cross Country; Andrew Roche, Cross Country; Daniel Saviola, Cross Country; Nicholas Tourjje, Cross Country; and Charles Wingfelder, Cross Country.

Congratulations to all our Centaur Senior Scholar Athletes!

Spring Sport Tryouts

Varsity Spring Sports will hold tryouts in early March. The Buffalo Public Schools sponsors Varsity Tennis (Coed), Varsity and Modified Track and Field (Coed), Varsity Baseball, and Varsity Softball. All students interested in a spring sport must meet district eligibility requirements which include a current athletic physical. Students (or parents) should check with school nurse as soon as possible to determine if they are medically cleared to try out for a team. Spring coaches will hold organizational meetings in February.

Please see the head coach of the sport you are interested in or check with your Physical Education Teacher for more information and to see if you meet eligibility requirements.





Girls on the Run of Buffalo is a non-profit organization whose mission is to use the power of running to educate and motivate girls in 3rd through 8th grades, preparing them for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. Our unique curriculum combines discussing important topics each week that address many issues girls are going through today and combines them with a fun running activity that reinforces the message. Each week, their running increases and after the program, all girls participate in a season-ending 5K race where they are encouraged to run, walk or skip to the finish line!

Girls of ALL fitness levels are welcome and encouraged to participate and do not need to have any prior track or running experience to be included in this program. Our core curriculum addresses many aspects of girls' development – including their physical, emotional, mental and social well-being. Our unique lessons will provide girls with the tools to make positive decisions, increase self-esteem, address bullying and its effect on others and more importantly, help get our girls moving in a fun, positive and safe environment!! Visit www.gotrbuffalo.org to learn more!

Girls on the Run of Buffalo at City Honors School

- The Spring program will begin the week of March 28 and run until the week of June 6. The New Balance Girls on the Run 5k will be held on June 15.
- The program will meet afterschool 2 days/week for 1.5 hours after dismissal. Days and times will be decided once the group is filled.
- The program fee is \$150 per girl - financial aid is available for any girl who cannot afford the program.
- All girls receive an official Girls on the Run t-shirt, their 5K registration, a 5K race t-shirt, a healthy snack at each session and the opportunity to be a part of a very unique and positive program!
- Registration will open on February 15. The group size is limited to 15 girls. To register online for the program please visit our website at <http://www.gotrbuffalo.org>. Payment is necessary to secure your spot and registration is based on a first come-first serve order. You can also pick up a registration form in the school office and mail along with payment to Girls on the Run of Buffalo, PO Box 1271, Buffalo, NY 14213.

Our program will focus on building self-esteem and improving a girl's emotional and physical health. During the 12-week program, girls are empowered with greater self-awareness, a sense of achievement and a foundation in team building to help them become strong, contented and self-confident young women. Each session will be led by a trained coach who will guide and mentor the girls through a fun and uplifting curriculum. We will teach specific life lessons such as dealing with peer pressure, bullying and how words and actions can hurt others, respecting yourself, making healthy decisions, and contributing to the community. Along the way, the girls train together to walk or run in a 5K (3.1 mile) event. We are not a typical track program as our program encourages girls to run, walk, hop, skip and jump throughout practice and all the way to the finish line. Girls of all abilities are welcome to become part of our team. Class size is limited to 15 girls so please sign up soon – any questions, please email Girls on the Run of Buffalo Council Director, Katie Joyce at katiej@gotrbuffalo.org or 716.400.1019.

Free Tax Assistance

The University at Buffalo chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the national honor society for accounting and finance students, will offer free tax preparation services this year at North and South UB campus sites. Both locations will offer free tax preparation services to individuals and families with an annual income below \$49,000.

Free tax preparation services will be offered on the following Saturdays and Sundays from 10 AM to 4:30 PM as follows:

UB South Campus:

109 Allen Hall
February 12,13, 19, 20, 26, 27
March 5,6

UB North Campus:

106 Jacobs Management Center
John H. Shellum Room
March 26, 27
April 2,3,9, 10

What to bring:

- Proof of identification – government issued ID
- Social Security card (ORIGINAL) – all taxpayers, spouses and dependents must bring original social security cards; dependents need not be present
- Date of birth for you, spouse and dependents
- Wage and earning statement(s), Forms W-2 and 1099, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- A copy of last year's federal and state tax returns if available
- Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit, if desired

Frequently asked questions as well as maps and directions can be found online at mgt.buffalo.edu/freetaxprep.

Additional questions can be directed to mgt-freetaxprep@buffalo.edu or 716.748.9823 and a volunteer will respond within 48 hours.

Box Tops for Education

PTSCO is continuing to earn funds which support CHS student activities.

Be sure to send in your Boxtops. Even better...at the online Boxtops Marketplace you can earn boxtops for City Honors when you shop online!

For details go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/marketplace/Default.aspx> or **click here**.

2011 Yearbooks

Cheryl St. George
Yearbook Advisor

We have 50 yearbooks looking for a good home! Please go online and pre-order a copy of the **2011 Legend** today? Prices will be going up soon.

To order, go to <http://www.yearbooks.biz> or go on to the CHS Web page and click on the Ordering Yearbooks link on the right hand side.

The yearbook committee is also accepting ads, both personal and business, for the **2011 Legend**.

Please contact Ms. St. George as soon as possible at cstgeorge@buffalaloschools.org. The deadline for ordering yearbooks and ads is March 1.

CLASS OF 2011


Students who have not paid senior dues in full should given the remaining funds to Mr. Cooney.

Please watch for correspondence from school. Graduation information and order forms will be coming in late February and March.

THE incomeTAXi IS COMING!

FREE TAX PREPARATION East High School

820 Northampton St., Buffalo, NY 14211



Sat., Feb. 5, 2011
10am-2pm

Call 211 or
1-888-696-9211 for an appointment.

Make sure to bring:


- All your W2s
- Last year's tax form if you have it
- Photo ID
- SS#

Attention Parents:

- Information on financial aid for college
- Parent's tax return needed!!
- Call 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment!!

- For Incomes up to \$49,000 with standard deduction
- For more information call 839-8524

Sponsored by: **DAEMEN** COLLEGE
Center for Sustainable Communities & Civic Engagement



Creating Assets, Savings & Hope
A Coalition of Over 60 Organizations
An initiative of the United Way of
Buffalo & Erie County

Check out
www.cityhonors.org
for all the
up-to-date info
you need!

Yearbook Senior Pages

Cheryl St. George
Yearbook Advisor

Attention Class of 2011 & parents: We have only 50 pages for the senior page section this year. These are available on a first come first serve basis! Seniors may choose either a half or a third page for their senior page and fun pose. There is a template for the senior to use.

A half page is \$50 and a third of a page is \$33. (Payable to CHS Yearbook)

We are offering BIG discounts off senior pages to parents who place a Congratulations to Grad or business ad.

New this year is the ability for parents to make/place an ad online - you will pay online directly to Herff Jones.

Our goal is to sell 20 pages of ads. We are counting on your support!

- Full Page Ad \$300 =**
Free Senior Half Page
(Savings of \$50)
- Half Page Ad \$155 =**
Free Senior Third of Page
(Savings of \$33)
- OR
- Quarter Page Ad \$85 =**
\$35 off of a Senior Half Page (\$100 total)
- Eighth Page Ad \$40 =**
\$ 8 off of a Senior Third of Page (\$65 total)
- DEADLINE IS MARCH 1!**
- For more info contact:
Ms. St.George at 716.816.4230
or cstgeorge@buffalaloschools.org

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Counseling and Guidance Center News

Junior Class: The College Planning Kick Off will take place at City Honors in the LGI Room on February 15 at 6:30 PM. The school counselors will discuss the college application process at this meeting and all juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend. Packets will be available containing valuable information to help with the college search and application process.

The **National College Fair** will take place at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center on Tuesday, March 29 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 6:00 - 8:30 PM) and Wednesday, March 30 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM). This is an opportunity to visit with over 200 college representatives and to also attend free workshops. Log on to **www.buffalocollegefair.com** for more information. The school counselors will take 45 juniors to the College Fair during the school day on March 29. A sign-up sheet will be available and seats will be filled on a first come basis.

Standardized Test Information

The Buffalo Public Schools will again pay for all 11th grade students to take the May 7 S.A.T. School Counselors will register all 11th graders for this exam. Students wishing to take the March 12 or June 4 S.A.T. will need to log on to **www.collegeboard.com** to register. The School Counselors will only register 11th grade students for the May S.A.T. Students eligible for a fee waiver should see their School Counselor.

For test tips, S.A.T. test preparation and other valuable information, students and parents can log on to **www.collegeboard.com**. Tips are also located on the Counseling and Guidance Center page of the City Honors website.

Students and parents can also log on to **www.actstudent.org** for information on the A.C.T. exam, testing dates, test preparation and college guidance. The A.C.T. will be given on April 9 and June 11.

Course Request Forms: This month, counselors will be meeting with all 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th graders to discuss course selection for the 2011-2012 school year. Course Request Forms

will be sent home with students for parental review and signature. Parents are encouraged to discuss course selections with their child, make adjustments if necessary and return the Course Request Form to their school counselor. Please contact your child's school counselor if you have any questions or if you would like to schedule an appointment. Staffing and class offerings are determined by course requests. Therefore, students are committed to taking the classes next school year that they select on the Course Request Form this Spring.

AP Registration: If your child is enrolled in an AP course this year you should have received an AP Registration Form in the mail (10th, 11th and some 12th graders). These forms are due back to the School Counseling office on March 1. All City Honors students taking an AP Course are required to take the corresponding AP Exam. This is an opportunity for students to earn college credit. Students can view past AP exams and receive test preparation by logging on to **www.collegeboard.com**. Several publishing companies produce AP test preparation books that students can purchase to help them prepare.

Your chance to earn college credit!

A vast majority of colleges will accept an AP score of 3 or higher to award college credit or advanced placement (AP scores range from 1-5). A significant majority also give credit for IB Higher Level (HL) courses where a student has earned a 5 or above (IB scores range from 1-7). Each year, more colleges and universities award credit for IB courses. IB Standard Level (SL) grades are also increasingly receiving college credit and advanced placement.

Students/parents should note the policy for awarding credit and advanced placement when researching colleges. Colleges vary on the AP/IB score required and the college courses that can be substituted or waived. Earning College Credit for International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement courses cannot only cut the cost of earning a college degree, but can also afford the student greater flexibility when scheduling their college courses.

AP/IB credits can also provide the student advanced status, which may allow him/her to register for his/her courses before classmates in the same cohort. Students who receive their IB Diploma may earn 30 credit hours and sophomore standing when they begin college. Early and diligent preparation for AP and IB exams can lead to higher AP/IB scores and, in turn, result in a student earning those associated benefits. Finally, colleges and universities DO look at how a student finishes up his/her senior year. Seniors should continue to work hard after admission as colleges have rescinded admission offers based upon poor performance/attendance the second half of senior year.

Scholarship Information: Folders containing this information are available in the guidance office and many are also on the City Honors Website in the Counseling and Guidance Center section of the website.

Financial Aid: City Honors held a Financial Aid Night for seniors on January 6. The handouts and Power Point Presentation are available on the City Honors website in the Counseling and Guidance Center office.

SUNY's Statewide Student Financial Aid Day will be held locally at Buffalo State College on February 12 and will begin at 9:00 AM. Detailed information can be found at **http://www.buffalostate.edu/financialaid/** or **www.suny.edu/studentevents**. To register, scroll down to Buffalo State College and Click on the REGISTER NOW button.

Need help completing your FAFSA? The annual Buffalo Public School College, Career and Scholarship Fair will take place on Saturday, February 5 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at East High School. Designed to help students and their families navigate the college application process, along with making them aware of post high school career opportunities, the fair brings in college representatives and community partners to assist with the FAFSA.



City Honors School

AT FOSDICK-MASTEN PARK

PTSCO

Parents Teachers Students Community Organization

CHS PTSCO Board

2010-2011

PRESIDENT

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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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Calendar

Official PTSCO Calendar of Events that are supported and/or sponsored by PTSCO

SEPTEMBER
Welcome Back Staff Breakfast (100-120 people)
Welcome Back Picnic (900 dinners)
PTSCO meeting
Parent-Teacher Get Acquainted Night (Informational Membership Table)

OCTOBER
5th and 6th Grade Ice Cream Social/ Haunted Lockers
Senior Class Breakfast (Junior Parents)
PTSCO Meeting

NOVEMBER
PTSCO meeting
City Honors School Open House
Alumni Connect (Reception)

December
Winter Bazaar
Teacher Appreciation Holiday Breakfast
PTSCO Meeting
Parent Teacher Conferences (Informational Membership Table)

JANUARY
PTSCO Meeting
Senior Class Financial Aid Night

FEBRUARY
PTSCO Meeting
Junior Class College Night

MARCH
PTSCO Meeting
Annual PTSCO Auction

APRIL
PTSCO Meeting
New Student Orientations

MAY
Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
PTSCO Meeting

JUNE
After Prom Celebrations
Moving Up Day Dance
PTSCO Meeting

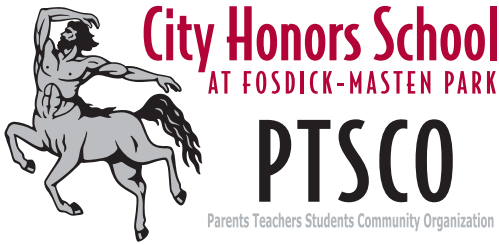
Retiring Staff Gifts

JULY
Interview Panels

AUGUST
New Teacher Reception
PTSCO Board Member and Grade Level Representation Meeting

View From The Hill is a publication by the Parent, Teacher, Student Organization (PTSCO) of City Honors School

Layout/Production: Kathy Corff Rogers
Submissions for the next newsletter should be sent by **February 15** to Amy Bisantz at bisantz@buffalo.edu



MEMBERSHIP FORM

By joining the PTSCO, you will help to fill many needs at City Honors School that might otherwise go unmet. All the money raised by PTSCO in memberships goes right back to the students and teachers in the form of grants that supports educational enrichment, promoting strong relationships, extracurricular activities, and competitions.

- Member** \$15 - \$25
 Sustaining Member \$26 - \$50
 Booster \$51 - \$75
 Patron \$76 - \$100
 Gold Patron \$101 - \$499
 Lifetime (as long as children remain at CHS) \$500 and up

PLEASE MAKE CHECK AND/OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO "PTSCO"

Please send this form and payment to:
 PTSCO c/o City Honors School 186 East North Street Buffalo, NY 14204
 Or, drop it off at school office.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ **CHECK** **MONEY ORDER** **CASH**

CHS PARENT, GUARDIAN OR STAFF NAME(S)

 LAST FIRST

 MAILING ADDRESS (P.O. BOX OR NUMBER AND STREET)

 CITY STATE ZIP CODE

 HOME PHONE CELL PHONE

 E-MAIL

NAME OF STUDENT(S) - please include surname if different from above

 GRADE HOMEROOM

 GRADE HOMEROOM

 GRADE HOMEROOM