



NEWSLETTER

Bringing Township High School District 211 News to the Community • February/March 2017

A message from the Superintendent ...

One-to-One program update

The Board of Education recently authorized the continued use of iPad devices as a central element for teachers and students within our instructional program. Our recommendation to continue using iPads over other devices resulted from months of analysis, site visits, and focus groups with students, parents and teachers. This comprehensive analysis provided an important organizational review of our use of the iPad device and I want to share several key elements as we look to the coming years.

Through our community engagement meetings and other communications with parents and teachers, we are aware that the iPad can distract attention. For the past two years, the settings on iPad devices issued have significantly limited access to many distracting applications reported to us. In addition, we met directly with Apple executives and engineers to facilitate teacher-controlled settings that teachers can easily apply to restrict student access to the information being taught. If you have questions about the restriction settings, please contact the technology department chair at your school.

Within focus group meetings, we heard strong support from students, parents and teachers in favor of the iPad. Each iPad device provides students a powerful tool that is now deeply embedded in our instructional program. Students regularly describe the benefit of having all of their materials in a single device. The ability to utilize electronic communication and storage applications will assist students into their future.

continued on back

Summer School registration

High School District 211's Summer School 2017 is just around the corner. It provides great opportunities for growth, enrichment, or pursuit of new interests. Catalogs outlining summer school course offerings should arrive in the mail around the middle of March.

Registration begins for all students attending Conant, Hoffman Estates, and Schaumburg High Schools on Monday, April 10. Registration begins for all students attending Fremd and Palatine High Schools on Wednesday, April 12. Registration for all incoming freshmen (current 8th grade

students) will begin on Monday, April 17.

Summer school classes begin on Wednesday, May 31, with first semester ending Wednesday, June 21. Second semester classes begin on Thursday, June 22, and end on Tuesday, July 18. **No classes will be held on Fridays, and July 3 and 4.**

Courses are described in the summer school catalog. The fee for most courses is \$140 per semester and bus transportation is \$35 per semester.

For additional information about summer school, please contact your child's high school.

Incoming freshmen follow-up

Incoming freshman students (Class of 2021) have completed placement examinations, and high school student services directors have met with junior high school teachers to review placement decisions. At these meetings, directors and teachers reviewed examination results and performance in junior high school classes and together determined courses students will take as freshmen in high school.

Testing results were shared in December during high school incoming freshmen night programs, while course placement and elective assignments were mailed in late January. Final class schedules will be mailed at a later date. If you or your child have questions related to academic programming, please contact the student services director at the high school your child will attend in the fall.

School Breakfast – the best start to the day National School Breakfast Week is March 6-10, 2017

Studies consistently confirm that eating breakfast helps students succeed in school. Beginning the day with breakfast not only improves classroom performance, test scores and grades, concentration, and provides more energy, but it also decreases behavior problems, tardiness, and absenteeism. Coaches also encourage their student-athletes to observe proper nutrition.

Many children do not have time to eat breakfast at home, or simply are not hungry early in the morning. For many students, eating breakfast at school is the perfect solution.

School breakfast is a healthy, nutritious meal and is often more economical than eating at home. District 211 schools offer a

hot breakfast or cereal, milk, fruit, and fruit juice for \$1.45 every morning. Breakfast is available before school and throughout most of the morning.

Because teenagers have special nutritional needs (children gain about 20% of adult height and 50% of adult weight during adolescence), it is crucial they receive proper nutrition. Eating a healthy breakfast helps to provide some of the much-needed calories and nutrients, and research shows that eating breakfast helps prevent teens from becoming overweight.

Encourage your child to begin the day with a healthy meal – *breakfast is the best start to a productive day at school!*

Did you know ...

High School District 211 encourages the safest learning environment possible; this includes providing resources for students, teachers, and parents to know how to respond in a medical emergency. The Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois High School Association sponsor a CPR training video available here: <https://adc.d211.org/information/health/cpr-training/>.

iPads ...

continued from front

We heard resoundingly from students and teachers that the iPad seamlessly empowers their ability to communicate effectively with individual students or an entire class. Typical examples of communication included the following: course assignments and due dates; feedback on assignments; formal and informal study sessions; instructional materials for students who miss class; supplemental learning activities; and easy access to information about events shared by a class, team or club.

Like all professions, investing in the continuous development of our teachers and our effectiveness is a priority. Through our recent comprehensive review, our students, parents and teachers have affirmed the use of the iPad as a critical instructional tool and we now strive to continue working together to maximize the efficiency, utility and benefit of the iPad devices among our faculty and students.




Daniel E. Cates
Superintendent

Dates to Remember

- February 16** Board of Education meeting (7:30 p.m., G.A. McElroy Administration Center)
- February 20** Presidents' Day – No School
- February 21** Student Late-Start Day
- March 6-10** National School Breakfast Week
- March 7** Student Late-Start day
- March 10** End of 9-Week Grading Period
- March 12** Daylight Saving Time begins (set clocks ahead 1 hour)
- March 16** Board of Education meeting (7:30 p.m., G.A. McElroy Administration Center)
- March 21** Student Late-Start Day
- March 24** Spring vacation begins at close of school
- April 3** Classes resume after spring vacation

Note: Board meeting dates may be changed by vote of the Board of Education.

 If you require assistance while visiting the G.A. McElroy Administration Center, please contact Matthew Hildebrand, director of administrative services, at (847) 755-6626.

For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, please access the following TTD/TTY telephone number at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center: (847) 755-6654.

D211 seeking summer internship hosts for students

High School District 211 would like to partner with businesses in the community to help prepare our students for their future careers. Do you own or manage a local business that could benefit from a high school intern for the summer?

One way to collaborate is to offer a summer internship to our students. A high school internship is a unique opportunity for a student to gain invaluable knowledge, experience, and confidence in future college and career decisions. Each internship is flexible and based on the mutually agreed upon conditions between the company and the student. It can range anywhere from two weeks to two months in length.

High school internships can be paid or unpaid – though, if they are unpaid, they're usually subject to labor guidelines. In the United States, federal law mandates that unpaid interns must not benefit the company economically or be used to displace the work done by paid employees. The primary purpose of a high school internship is to get experience in a job field. Internships focus on giving the intern the best training possible to help them in the future by rotating the responsibilities, shadowing a professional, and integrating them into the work force of the company.

District 211 appreciates the time and effort it takes to host an intern. The District has made the process as streamlined as possible. The host needs to have work for the intern to do as well as skills to teach the intern aside from the basic employability skills. The host needs to designate a supervisor or mentor, set aside a physical space, and give an orientation of the business to the student. It can provide leadership opportunities for your employees, while also giving the company a chance to evaluate prospective employees for the future and to partner with the community.

District 211 high school students are mature and computer savvy and can provide valuable insights and a fresh perspective. The high school internship and career exploration program is a valuable hands-on learning experience which cannot be replicated in the classroom. District 211 hopes to be able to collaborate with businesses to positively impact communities by developing creative solutions that will shape the future.

To be an internship host, contact **Jan Brottman**, career advisor coordinator for District 211 (jbrottman@d211.org), or complete the form at: <https://goo.gl/forms/UasgE2ysMv7W9lbu2>.

Graduation dates announced

Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2017 will be held on the following dates:

Hoffman Estates High School

Thursday, May 18, 2017
6:00 p.m., at Willow Creek Auditorium

Palatine High School

Sunday, May 21, 2017
2:00 p.m., at the school

James B. Conant High School

Monday, May 22, 2017
7:30 p.m., at Sears Centre

William Fremd High School

Tuesday, May 23, 2017
7:30 p.m., at Sears Centre

Schaumburg High School

Wednesday, May 24, 2017
7:30 p.m., at Sears Centre

Combined Ceremonies

(Alternative High School, North Campus,
and Higgins Education Center)
Thursday, May 18, 2017
7:00 p.m., at Hoffman Estates High School

Sophomore class ring selection

It is time for sophomore students to order class rings. A representative from Jostens will be visiting your school this spring to take student orders. The representative will supply ring information for students and order dates will be posted at each school. Parents are encouraged to review styles and prices with their child prior to order dates. Rings will be available for distribution at schools in the fall.

Class ring purchases are optional and may be made from vendors other than those chosen by school committees. Please contact your school's activity director if you have any questions regarding class rings.



"Township High School District 211 serves the educational needs of the community inspiring all students to successfully contribute to the world."

Adopted by the Board of Education; August 18, 2016

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211

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Daniel E. Cates, Superintendent

Website: adc.d211.org



The Superintendent's Newsletter is published every 4½ weeks throughout the school year for persons interested in James B. Conant, William Fremd, Hoffman Estates, Palatine, and Schaumburg High Schools and Higgins Education Center and North Campus alternative schools.

