



# 211 NEWSLETTER

October/November 2016

## From the principal:

We have just completed the first nine weeks of school and the report card you are receiving is a measure of academic progress so far. The grades earned are not part of the student's permanent record, but are an indication of their effort up to now. If your student is not meeting your expectations, now is the time to get him or her back on track. Contact your student's teachers and consult with them on specific strategies to improve performance. Help your student establish short-term goals and reasonable targets. Encourage him or her to meet with teachers to get help – our teachers are always willing to offer additional assistance for students when needed. It is also important to praise positive performance. What was it about the performance that pleased you; was it the effort and hard work that allowed your student to earn the grade? Was it for their perseverance and attitude toward learning, their regular daily attendance? According to Carol Dweck, Stanford University psychologist and author of the book *Mindset*, we should be thoughtful in providing our feedback so it reflects on the effort and attitudes not the end result.

For those that need additional assistance we have several opportunities available. Our media center is open after school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, teachers are always willing to assist and tutors are available in departmental offices all periods. All of this is a bit different this year as we are working to complete our media center renovation; however students simply need to ask their teachers for help and we will find a way to assist them. One of the mindsets of success that Dr. Dweck points out in her book is the students ability and desire to persevere and to stick to it in order to complete their learning, much like a good golfer goes to the range to fine tune and improve their swing.

Hopefully this letter will find its way home before our annual college night on October 19th. I encourage any and all PHS students to attend college night and while it is especially important for our Juniors and Seniors, our Freshmen and Sophomores can learn a lot by taking the time to talk to a few college reps. It may help them to understand what courses to take, what career pathway they might want to pursue, what AP level or Dual Credit classes they should take and why, or what unique admission requirements a college or program might have. Some students have waited until senior year to explore these questions only to find out that they should have or could have taken a class here at PHS that they needed for admission to the school or program. Palatine High School has been the permanent host of this district-wide college night which makes it more convenient to our students and parents so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain information that may help guide your high school experience.

Go Pirates!

Gary Steiger  
Principal



## COAT AND HAT POLICY

Now that the weather is turning cooler your student will be required to keep hats and coats in their locker. The following is a list of articles of clothing that **ARE** and **ARE NOT** acceptable.

### ACCEPTABLE:

- SWEATSHIRT (PULLOVERS, ZIPPER, BUTTON DOWN)
- HOODED SWEATSHIRT HOODS DOWN
- FLANNEL SHIRTS

- WARM-UP JACKETS WITH MATCHING PANTS (JACKETS MUST NOT BE LONGER THAN MID-THIGH)
- PALATINE SCHOOL ISSUED TEAM/SQUAD WARM-UP JACKETS
- HEADWEAR NEEDED FOR RELIGIOUS OR MEDICAL PURPOSES

### NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- HATS, BANDANNAS, CAPS, HEADBANDS, WRISTBANDS
- WINTER COATS
- OUTDOOR STYLE WINDBREAKERS AND JACKETS
- HEAVY QUILTED FLANNEL JACKET SHIRTS
- ANY TYPE OF JACKET THAT IS DESIGNED FOR OUTER WEAR

**If you have any questions regarding this policy or any special circumstances we need to be aware of, please contact your student's administrator for further information.**

## Off Campus, Parking and Study Hall

Students have the opportunity to earn many privileges at Palatine High School; some of these include the ability to park on campus, have an option study hall period and off campus permission. All of these privileges are earned through academic performance and behavior. Any student who has passed all of his/her classes, demonstrates good attendance and overall good student citizenship will be allowed to apply for these privileges. Students not meeting expectations may lose these privileges and will be assigned to a study hall where they can receive assistance and instruction to help them meet expectations.

## School Climate Survey

High School District 211 will administer the Comprehensive School Climate Inventory (CSCI), a tool used to survey school climate and meet a survey mandate by the Illinois State Board of Education. The CSCI survey will provide meaningful data to District 211, including an overview of school climate, in-depth profiles regarding rating patterns, detailed findings on an item-by-item basis, and recommendations for translating the results into action steps. Parents, students, and staff will be asked to complete the 20-minute survey, which is available in both English and Spanish. The parent survey will be available November 28 – January 16 on the school and District 211 website.

## Homecoming Court

*Freshman Attendants*

Abby Patton and Juan Para

*Sophomore Attendants*

Ghislanie Robledo and Jorge Corona

*Junior Attendants*

Victoria Drabik and Marcos Lozada

*Senior Attendants*

Diana Medina and Carlos Chihuahua

*Queen and King*

Kendall Kane and Zach Oles

## dates to remember

Oct. 19	Report Cards Mailed/ Emailed
Oct. 27	Trick-or-Treat Festival 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 15	Fall Sports Awards 7:00 p.m., Gymnasium
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Holiday No School
Dec. 23	Winter Vacation begins at close of school
Jan. 10	School Resumes after Winter Vacation


### Attn: Parents/Guardians of Seniors

The FAFSA application (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available on October 1, 2016 – this is a change from previous years. You will use your 2015 tax information when completing the FAFSA application. I would encourage ALL families of senior students to complete this application regardless of your financial profile; individual colleges/universities use this information for potential institution based aid or scholarships. Additionally, direct student loans are given through the completion of the FAFSA (all college freshmen are eligible for a direct student loan of \$5500 with a completed FAFSA). It is recommended that families complete this application ASAP to be fully considered for potential aid. The application is free by using this link: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

\*\*\* Before you complete the FAFSA application one parent and the student should obtain a FSA ID# in order to electronically sign the FAFSA application. The site to create an FSA ID is: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>.

\*\*\* Scholarship information is posted on the Student Services website. From the PHS homepage click on the “Academics” tab at the top and then click on “Student Services.”

If you have any questions please contact your son's/daughter's counselor or Mrs. O'Brien on the White Team.

 If you require assistance while visiting our school, please contact the principal's office at (847) 755-1600. For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, please access the following TTD/TTY telephone number: (847) 755-1654.

This *Principal's Newsletter* is computer-designed and photocopied at school on recycled paper for Palatine High School parents.  
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## Academic Corner ... Business Education

This year the Business Education department at Palatine High School celebrated the achievements of our first Business Incubator class. This year-long class applies practical business concepts to help student teams create and develop a viable business idea. This class requires over 30 engaged and knowledgeable volunteers to come in and work with our students. Each team is taught by a series of practicing business professionals and is assigned a mentor who has many successful and applicable business experiences. The class culminates with a district-wide competition for real seed money, privately raised by many investors into our very own District 211 Foundation. Palatine High School is proud of our DeoTech team comprised of Kosta Plevritis, Anthony Portera, Drake Roberts, and Anthony Tamras who not only won the competition, but also garnered \$25,000 seed money for their idea in May. They successfully beat out teams from Fremd, Conant, Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates, and one other competitive team from Palatine. Special recognition goes to Palatine parent and Community Champion Eric Wasowicz who recruited and scheduled all of the professional volunteers needed for this class to be successful.

This is just one class of many comprehensive courses offered in the Business Education department at Palatine High School. Our courses begin with our Business Explorations class which not only offers Consumer Education graduation credit, but also covers a wide variety of business topics which include entrepreneurship, business management, accounting, financial planning, investing, risk management, business ethics, and marketing. We offer a dual credit course, Technology Applications, which gives students valid computer skills that are necessary in today's business field such as Microsoft Excel 2016, database management, web page design, and Microsoft Word 2016 production and design tools. Our more specialized areas of the curriculum are represented by our full courses in Practices in Entrepreneurship (taught in conjunction with the Family and Consumer Science department to create A Latte Sweets, our student-run bakery), Business Management, Business Law, Sports Marketing or Music and Entertainment Marketing, Financial Accounting and our weighted grade class, Managerial Accounting.

We recognize our committed business students by initiating them into our school's chapter of National Business Honor Society. Students of junior and senior status, who have taken three semesters of business courses with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and a business grade point average of 3.5 and above qualify for this honor. We also invite all students to join our competitive business club, which competes at the local, state, and national level through the Business Professionals of America organization. Students who have an interest in Web Page Design can join our Web Page Design Club and help faculty and staff design and maintain their web pages for their class, department, club, or sport. Finally, we are also pleased to offer an opportunity for students looking to explore the world of investing. Our award-winning Investing Club, sponsored through the Magnetar Academy, hosts an annual competition in the spring at Soldier Field. Since our chapter's inception, students have won \$1,500.00 for the club through their efforts and a \$1000 college scholarship through Magnetar Academy. Through a wide variety of course and club offerings, we prepare students to compete in today's global economy and competitive college atmosphere.

Follow us @PHSBusinessEd and @PirateIncubator for pictures and up-to-date announcements.

## I-Compete Program

The 10th year of the I-Compete Passport Program has just begun its fall season and will be preparing ideas for our spring session that will start second semester. We are excited to once again be working with members of the Palatine Opportunity Center, and our 50 high school mentors who have been selected to work with the I-Compete Passport Program Mentees this year. These mentees consist of about 60 first through seventh grade students from District 15 to attend athletic events, activity events, open gym nights, a Trunk or Treat event at Falcon Park this fall and other events throughout the school year. At the events, the grade schoolers are paired with a mentor and do activities to get to know each other and build positive relationships. They have and will attend soccer, volleyball, football, basketball, wrestling, gymnastics,

swimming, the dance show, variety show, FCCLA Club skills events, robotics club and foreign exchange club and more! All of the students in this program will start to learn more about the variety of programs offered here at Palatine and see what being in high school is really like! The best part about the program is the full circle aspect we now have; the mentors of the children in our community most often were once the mentees! It's a great joy to see so many high school students giving back to the community service program that once helped them as children.

**Kris Stary**

I-Compete Sponsor  
Family, Career & Community Leaders  
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Future Educators of America Sponsor

