

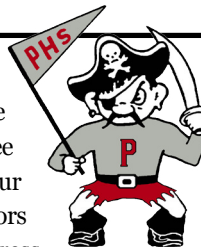


211 NEWSLETTER

October 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

The school year has gotten off to a great start. It's hard to believe we are closing in on the half-way point of the first semester. It was good to see so many of you at our annual Open House in August. Your support of your student's education and your demonstration of its importance are key factors in their success. We are at the first major checkpoint of the year and in-progress grade reports are available through the student portal. Hopefully, this is information that can help you guide your son's or daughter's progress. If a concern has been brought to your attention, please take a moment to follow up with your student's teacher or counselor. Don't forget that you have regular and easy access through the parent portal anytime you want. In addition, most of our teachers are using Schoology as our learning management system and you can follow along yourself during the year. It is important for students to stay on track and maintain their academic focus. Many studies suggest that successful students have "Grit" or "Curiosity" or the right "Mindset" or have mastered "Executive Functioning" skills and that these are just as important, if not more than, their natural ability. So what is the best way for our students to achieve success if there are all these various ideas?



I believe it is you, and a combination of your student's ability to stick to the task at hand, to believe in their ability to accomplish it, to avoid distractions and to practice the skill, but most importantly it is your guidance and effort to demonstrate the importance of their class work, and in the power of hard work and the desire to learn, and learn from our mistakes. Students should understand the importance of working hard in class and challenging themselves at school to provide themselves with options when they graduate so they can pursue the career of their dreams. They should try challenging classes, classes in their potential career field, classes that may provide them with a certificate or possible college credit in that field, classes they are curious about. High school is a time to allow for these options and to develop those traits associated with Grit and Mindset that will allow our students to be successful in the future.

One of the other most important factors in determining student success is regular daily attendance. Completing homework and having a regular study routine are important factors in establishing that growth mindset; however, sometimes that just isn't enough and students need additional assistance. Our teachers are always happy to find time to help their students before or after class. We also have tutoring centers available before school and after school, as well as resource centers in the math, science and English departments throughout the day. The media center is open before and after school. It is our desire to work together with you and your student to find all the resources they need to help them reach their full potential.

Go Pirates!

Gary Steiger
Principal

dates to remember

- Oct. 5 - 7 Fall Play, Altergott Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 11 District 211 College Night, Palatine High School, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14 Incoming Freshman Testing
- Oct. 20 Fall Improv Show, Altergott Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 26 Trick-or-Treat Festival, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 2 - 4 Dance Show, Altergott Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 4 Booster Fall Craft Fair, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

TEACHER INSTITUTE DAYS FOR 2017-2018

- Tuesday, October 10, 2017
- Monday, January 8, 2018

MORNING WORK SESSIONS: Tuesdays

- October 3, 2017
- October 17, 2017
- November 7, 2017
- January 23, 2018
- February 6, 2018
- February 20, 2018
- March 6, 2018
- April 17, 2018

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY INFORMATION

Safety and security are of utmost importance at Palatine High School. Students or parents who hear or witness something which they think might jeopardize student or staff safety or security should share this information in a confidential way with an administrator, teacher, or counselor. This can be done in person or by contacting a staff member directly. Other alternatives include using the anonymous reporting system on the PHS website or contacting the Information Hotline at 847-755-1911.

SEMESTER GRADING SYSTEM

The semester grades students earn throughout their high school career play an important role in their choices after high school, including employment opportunities, college admissions, scholarships, etc. Similar to a typical collegiate grading system, the semester grading system allows students the full 18 weeks to demonstrate their abilities in a course as opposed to the previous 9-week (quarter) system. Semester grades are calculated over the 18-week semester, weighted at 80%, plus the final exam score weighted at 20%. The semester grade is the only grade shown on the official transcript for the student. The official transcript is the document that can be sent – with the student’s permission – to employers, universities, etc.

In-progress checkpoints are issued at 6 weeks and 12 weeks during the semester. These in-progress grades will match the in-progress grades available daily in Infinite Campus and also may have teacher comments. Teachers may design unique comments and have access to comments that go beyond the traditional academic comments. These comments span a variety of positive and needs improvement areas that are helpful skills that can be applied beyond the classroom. (sample comments available [here](#))

The comments are informational for parents and are not a part of the student’s official transcript, but do give parents insight about their child’s actions in the classroom beyond the academic skill performance found in the grade details.

TEST PREP COURSE FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE

A preparation course for the P.S.A.T. test will be offered this fall at Palatine High School. It will consist of six sessions, covering test-taking strategies, reading comprehension, and mathematical applications. There is no fee for this valuable experience!

Interested students may request information from Sue Duma, the scarlet team clerk, at the start of the 2017 - 2018 school year at 847-755-1670.

NEW HALL OF FAMERS FOR 2017

PHS wishes to congratulate Amy Laskowske, Robert Watson, Gerald A. McElroy and Gerry O’Brien for being named to Palatine High School’s Hall of Fame for their athletic accomplishments. These inductees will join Jim Stauner, Jodi Waddington, Chic Anderson, Stan Anderson, Chris Andriano, Anthony Attiah, Bill Bahnfleth, Al & Sally Berman, Elisa (Currins) Bragga, Pat Leaf-Burke, Bob Carroll, Dan Collins, Don Crandall, Kathy Crandall, Steve Currins, Lori (Erickson) Delgado, Alan Eck, John Ellis, Angela (Zemla) Ferrazza, Charley Feutz, Harvey Foster, Bob Frisk, David Hasbach, Josh Heffernan, Annie Hernandez, Joe Johnson, Claudia (Becque) Johnston, Dr. Richard Kolze, Marianne (Nance) Kozak, Ron Kozlicki, Jenny Kraeger, Keri (Nelson) Krause, Bill Lange, Brian McKay, Kevin McKenna, Andy Merutka, Katlin Millen, Fred Miller, Ed Molitor, Vikki (Simonis) Moran, Bud Nangle, Seth Norton, Donna O’Brien, Sandy Oldham, Nicole Pauly, Joe Petricca, Rich Pietrini, Alison (Wimer) Pinchot, Greg Plank, Ed Richardson, Dr. Nancy Robb, Len Rohde, Louis Schager Jr., Carolyn (Currins) Scanlon, Jim Sobb, Kyle Sorensen, Karen Staab-Gates, Kim Staab, Erik (Dieckman) Taylor, Julie (Justmann) Trautt, Jennifer (Kleemann) Urick, Mark Visk, Daniel Wimer, the 1985 Girls Badminton State Championship Team, and the IHSA State Meet Competitors for Girls Cross Country 1989-1996.

Homecoming festivities featured the induction of Hall of Fame members at the varsity football game on Friday, September 15, 2017. A reception for family and friends was held prior to the game in the stadium. A commemorative plaque with their pictures will be on display in the Hall of Fame section of the main athletic hallway. Community members are welcome to view the Hall of Fame during athletic events and submit nominations for future members to the athletic office or online at <http://phs.d211.org/athletics/athletics-home/>

ACADEMIC CORNER ~ 2017-18 MUSICAL CHAIRS

The music department students are off and running with their performances for the school and the community. Marching Band students welcomed the parents outside the building on Open House Night on August 31; Orchestra students performed in the tent at noon on Saturday, September 16 for the Palatine Rotary’s Oktoberfest festival; and Midnight Blues is in rehearsals preparing for their many performances for community events such as the PHS Royal Rally and D211 Fun(d) Run, October 1 at Palatine High School. In addition, many of the band, orchestra, and choir students are busy preparing their ILMEA auditions for the District 7 festival. Students with a high ranking at this festival qualify for the All-State ensembles performing at the state music conference in January.

In our student spotlight, Isabel Kaegi, sophomore, is an ensemble member in the production of Trevor, a new musical in its pre-Broadway run. Danny Hollander, senior, is in the All-State production of Big Fish. The production will be performed in January at the Illinois Theater Festival hosted by Illinois State University. Many of the leading musicians in the PHS music program also perform in community ensembles such as the Schaumburg Youth Symphony Orchestra, Midwest Young Artists Orchestra, Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, Schaumburg Youth Choir, and Palatine Children’s Chorus. Those students include John Azpuru, Mark Burger, Annie Clement, Nikhil Devaguptapu, Anna Froehling, Ashley Hallier, Danny Hollander, Britta Kuusik, Lauren O’Toole, Brian Sonderegger, Mary Beth Stevens, Zoe Vukelich and Abigail Zuercher.

PHS STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Before and after school tutoring is available in the Student Success Center located in the Media Center.

Your source for:

- Tutoring in Math, English and Science: teachers available all day to answer your questions and help you unravel the mysteries of their subjects
- Computer access: 9 computers and a printer for your school-related needs
- Study space: room for quiet work – whether you are struggling or just want to get ahead

HOURS:

Before school: 7:10 – 8:00 a.m.
on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

During school: Periods 1-8 every school day

After school: 3:40 – 4:30 p.m.
on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

SWIM SUIT POLICY

Students are responsible for supplying their own swim suits. All suits must meet the following criteria.

GIRLS' SWIMSUIT REQUIREMENTS

One-piece suit that is supportive and fitted. No decorative holes or see through material (avoid light colors)

BOYS' SWIMSUIT REQUIREMENTS

Boxer style swimsuit with draw-string
Mesh inner lining required

RENTAL SUIT POLICY

Any student that needs to use a school issued suit (only if students' size is available) will check one out with their instructor for \$5.00 by the end of the first week of the swimming unit. That student is responsible for the suit until the end of the unit. That student will turn in the suit at the end of the last day in the pool to their instructor. If the suit is lost, an additional fee of \$15.00 will be charged to the student to cover the cost of the suit.

TOWELS

A towel will be supplied to use during the class period, although we encourage you to bring your own.

Contact the Physical Education Department
Chairman or Aquatic Director
for further clarification.

Mr. Paul Belo
Physical Education
Department Chair
847-755-1779

Mrs. Amy Brault
Aquatic Director
847-755-1778

HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL IS BACK FOR THE 22nd YEAR!

PHS Booster Club is once again sponsoring **Halloween Festival**. On **Thursday, October 26th, from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**, Palatine High School will host its 22nd annual Trick-or-Treat Festival. Children 10 years of age and younger along with a parent are welcome to attend. If you would like any further information regarding the Halloween Festival, please contact Gary Steiger, principal at 847-755-1610.

COMMIT TO THE PIRATE (CTTP)

Palatine High School implements and supports a behavioral system known as Commit to the PIRATE. This school-wide system teaches positive behaviors and reinforces and acknowledges students who demonstrate these behaviors. The behavior expectations of Integrity, Respect, and Achievement are taught to all students in the school through direct teaching from staff members. This teaching of expectations began during the first week of school with lessons during homeroom that were reinforced during our Welcome Back Assembly and is continued in monthly homeroom activities. Students who display our expectations are acknowledged by staff members. In addition to staff verbally recognizing students, students can be entered into monthly raffles to win prizes such as Homecoming tickets and gift cards.

Since implementing the Commit to the PIRATE program eight years ago, PHS has seen a reduction in office discipline referrals and a decrease in truancies. Commit to the Pirate continues to evolve and adapt our practices to our student needs. Our monthly lessons will be focused around themes created through collaboration with the Homeroom Committee, PTV, and our administration. Lessons will continue to be geared around CTTP's three main behavior expectations: Integrity, Respect, and Achievement. We will continue to push our students and staff to reach for their fullest potential and to develop a growth mindset.

CTTP's mission statement reads, ***PHS students and staff are committed to providing a safe, consistent, positive learning environment where everyone is valued and respected. PHS staff will teach and model the social, emotional, and academic expectations for all members of the PHS community.*** This continues to be our main purpose as a school-wide behavioral intervention system, and we look forward to seeing what new opportunities it will bring to our school community.

PALATINE HIGH SCHOOL PIRATE BOOSTER CLUB

The Palatine High School Pirate Booster Club is thrilled to embark on another year of supporting our PHS students, faculty and administration. Last year, we were able to award grants totaling over \$80,000 for classroom instructional materials, programs, services and initiatives that reach all PHS students. The Pirate Boosters also awarded thirteen \$1,000 scholarships to college-bound seniors who demonstrated strong involvement at the high school and in the Palatine community at-large. In total, the PHS Pirate Booster's was able to donate \$103,000 back to Palatine High School.

Being a part of the Boosters club allows parents, PHS alumni, and community members ways to be involved and help support the school in various activities throughout the year. The Pirate Boosters publish a bi-monthly newsletter to keep Booster members up-to-date on the many opportunities to get involved. Concessions for home football, basketball and other sporting events are provided by our volunteers, along with fundraising activities such as the Craft Fair, Dinner and Auction and various other events.

We invite all parents to join us in our mission to support our children. We are always looking for fresh new faces to volunteer. Please check out our volunteer opportunities here: <http://phspiriteboosters.com/volunteers/>

Lastly, visit our school store which is open throughout the school week during all lunch hours. Our online store is also available through our website (http://www.waistup.com/PHS_Pirate_Boosters/shop/home), so you can catch PHS spirit by stocking up on spirit wear from the convenience of your own home!

Visit the Pirate Boosters online at www.phspiriteboosters.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/phsboosters. For more information, email us at president@phspiriteboosters.com.