



TIMOTHY J. LITTLE  
PRINCIPAL

October 2017

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL:



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.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Little, Principal

## 211 COLLEGE NIGHT - OCTOBER 11

More than 200 colleges and universities will be represented at this annual event. This year’s College Night will be held at Palatine High School beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11.



If you require assistance while visiting our school, please contact the principal’s office at (847) 755-4600.

For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, please access the following TTD/TTY telephone number: (847) 755-4654.

## VERY INTERESTED PARENTS (V.I.P.) BOOSTER CLUB BEGIN A NEW YEAR

The V.I.P. is Schaumburg High School’s Parent Teacher Booster Club. A variety of fundraising efforts throughout the year allow the V.I.P. to support programs and events that advance our shared vision of “We Are SHS.” Programs such as the Prom Fashion Show, the Post-Prom Cruise, Saxon Store, student scholarships and mini-grants are all made possible through the dedication and generosity of our V.I.P. volunteers. We truly appreciate their commitment and dedication to our SHS community as they make a significant difference for our students. The V.I.P. invite you to their annual Fall Craft Fair, Saturday, September 30 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the SHS Cafeteria. What better way to be part of your student’s high school experience than by becoming a member and volunteering with the Very Interested Parents. Please see the SHS website for membership and contact information.

## PRIVILEGE OPTION PROGRAM

As students advance through Schaumburg High School, they may earn specific privileges through the Privilege Option Program. Examples of potential earned privileges include but are not limited to: unscheduled time, off-campus lunch opportunities, parking passes, and permission to attend dances, social events, and athletic events. Failure to demonstrate appropriate behavior, follow school rules, or meet academic criteria may result in loss of privileges and/or assigned time in the Loss of Privilege Room (LOP). Students must maintain a satisfactory discipline, academic, and attendance record in order to retain privileges.

Remember with this freedom, comes responsibility! Examples of losing privileges include but are not limited to the following: not meeting your college readiness benchmark, major and minor misconduct, excessive truancy, excessive tardiness and criteria outlined by our Privilege Option Program committee.

## STAR LAB

Did you know that SHS has a tutoring center that is dedicated to preparing students for the PSAT and SAT Exams? The STAR Lab (Students Targeting Assessment Readiness), is located in Room 5 and offers diagnostic testing and individual & group tutoring for the PSAT and SAT Exams every hour of the school day. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this service during their free periods. In addition to preparing for the College Boards PSAT/SAT Exams, SHS offers a variety of tutoring services for students. Specific content tutoring is offered through the English Department located in Room 202, and the Math and Science Departments located in Room 164 every hour of the school day. The STAR Lab is open daily from 7:00 am – 3:00 pm.

# dates to remember

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- Sept. 30 V.I.P. Craft Fair  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Oct. 3 Morning Work Session  
(Late Start) 8:50 a.m.
- Oct. 3 Marching Band Concert  
7:00 p.m. – Main Gym
- Oct. 9 Columbus Day – No School
- Oct. 10 Teacher Institute – No Classes
- Oct. 11 Early Dismissal  
11:50 a.m. Dismissal
- Oct. 11 College Night  
6:30 p.m. – Palatine H.S.
- Oct. 17 Morning Work Session (Late  
Start) 8:50 a.m.
- Oct. 20, 21 Variety Show  
7:00 p.m. – Auditorium
- Oct. 24 Fall Orchestra Concert  
7:00 p.m. – Main Gym
- Nov. 1 Dancing with the Saxon Stars  
7:00 p.m. – Main Gym
- Nov. 3 Early Dismissal  
11:50 a.m.
- Nov. 7 Morning Work Session (Late  
Start) 8:50 a.m.
- Nov. 8 Fall Sports Awards  
6:00 p.m. – Main Gym
- Nov. 16, 17, 18 Fall Play  
7:00 p.m. – Auditorium
- Nov. 22, 23, 24 Thanksgiving Holiday –  
No School
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## LEAVING THE SCHOOL CAMPUS

Students leaving the campus once they have arrived at school is a concern for us. Because most parents need to know the whereabouts of their children, and the assurance that they remain on campus, we have a policy that students must not leave the school premises after being dropped off at school. In addition, once students are dropped off on school grounds, they become our responsibility. Please stress to your students that once they arrive at school, they must remain on campus. Students may only leave the campus with the approval of an administrator or parent.

The only exception to this policy applies to students who have off-campus lunch privileges. Senior and junior students whose parents have signed off-campus permission forms may leave the school campus only during their scheduled lunch period. Students who have this privilege must exit and enter the building through Entrance 1 only. While doing so, they must scan their ID card every time they exit and reenter the building. This privilege can be revoked by an administrator if students do not meet the criteria of the Privilege Option Program, or it may be revoked by parents at any time. Our goal is to keep our students, your children, and safe while in our care.

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## LIMITED CELL PHONE USE POLICY

Students are allowed to use cell phones and any other electronic communication device in the Cafeteria, Media Center, Entrance 1 Hallway, Exit 2 Stairwell and Foyer during the school day. Cell phones and other electronic devices will not be allowed in any unauthorized area or individual classroom, except at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Students are expected to respect and follow the rules of the individual classroom teacher. If a student fails to respond appropriately to any staff member in relation to an electronic device, that student will be subject to disciplinary consequences. Electronic devices will not be allowed in any bathroom, locker room, office, or assembly. Any disruption to the learning environment as a result of a cell phone or other electronic device will be a violation and subject to disciplinary action.

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## PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism, especially internet plagiarism, has become a growing problem nationwide. Today's students have grown up using computers, but many are not aware of the ethics of how to use downloaded material and give proper credit for their sources. According to district policy, plagiarism can include "representing the work of others as one's own through verbal, written, graphic, electronic, or other means." Students are taught throughout their high school careers to properly credit researched material, including all internet sources.

Students who are under the impression that anything found on the internet can be freely used are mistaken. Parents may want to refer to the Academic Integrity brochure that is included with this mailing when discussing this topic with their students. As the consequences for plagiarism can significantly impact a student's grade, they need to clearly understand that copying/downloading any material without crediting the source is unacceptable.

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## WHAT CAN PARENTS DO ABOUT FAILING GRADES?

At one time or another, many teens have trouble keeping up with schoolwork. Most teens get back on track. A few, however, continue to fall behind. Experts say it's important to deal with problems right away. Here are some ways to prevent school failure:

- *Talk with your teen. Listen to his fears and concerns. Discuss possible causes of the trouble – along with possible solutions.*
- *Meet with teachers. Try to figure out the problem. Then talk about ways you can work together. Meeting with a guidance counselor may also help.*
- *Set boundaries. Make sure your teen knows what you expect of him, such as studying for at least an hour a day.*
- *Promote after-school activities. Students who feel connected to school may be more motivated to work.*
- *Encourage community service. Doing things for others can boost self-confidence and motivate teens.* *(Reprinted from the Parent Institute, Oct. 2001)*

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## ON-LINE PARENT ACCESS

High School District 211's On-line Parent Access program is designed to allow parents access to their child's attendance, schedule, report cards, mid-term grades, and demographic information for the current school year. The program also allows for communication between parent, counselor, and teachers regarding student progress. The program is intended for parent, not student, use.

For passwords and additional information, please contact your child's counselor.

*This Principal's Newsletter is computer-designed and photocopied at school on recycled paper for Schaumburg High School parents.*

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