



TIMOTHY JAY LITTLE  
PRINCIPAL

March 2016

## From the principal:



### Professional Learning Community Development at Schaumburg High School

Effective school improvement starts with a common understanding of a shared mission or purpose. We are guided and motivated by a fundamental belief that the work we do every day is done in the best interest of all of our students. Effective school improvement includes a professional's ability to participate in a collaborative process that reflects on current curriculum, best practices, and above all student achievement and performance.

A shared mission or purpose can create the right environment for true collaboration and professional growth. Successful collaboration that is centered on a common belief, that we do what is in the best interest of our students, strengthens the overall mission. To that end, Schaumburg High School has developed professional learning communities that are data driven and focused on student performance. Professional learning communities at Schaumburg High School are defined in the following manner:

"Professional Learning Communities are a group of teachers who meet regularly as a team to identify essential and valued student learning, **develop common formative assessments, analyze current achievement**, set achievement goals, share strategies, and create lessons to improve those levels."

Mike Schmoker, On Common Ground

Professional learning communities provide an opportunity for teachers to collaboratively identify what it is they want their students to learn, analyze whether or not their students know the material, and develop interventions both inside and outside the classroom if students don't know the material.

In a professional learning community, developing specific and measurable goals is critical to the process. The goals need to be strategic and specific, measurable, attainable, results oriented, and time bound. I believe in the possibility that true collaborative teams that have a shared mission and purpose can have a tremendous impact on both student performance and teacher instruction.

With the establishment of critical learning standards and the continued work in the development of common formative assessments in Mathematics, Science, and Reading that assess those standards, we are in a unique position to strengthen and improve our ability to share knowledge with teachers, students, and parents. The data derived from these formative assessments will allow us to track every student's performance in a timely manner. The immediacy of the delivery of data has enabled us to start the development of academic and socio-emotional interventions that would immediately impact student performance and better prepare our students for a changing world.

Sincerely,

Timothy Jay Little  
Principal

## College Entrance Exam and Statewide Testing in April

On April 19th, selected students will participate in either the Illinois State Board of Education required statewide assessment or the American College Testing (ACT). The testing date caused a change in the school calendar; April 19th is no longer a late start arrival.

While our school's juniors are participating in the ACT, any student enrolled in E101 English, E102 English, and E108 English will participate in the Partnership of Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) English Language Arts I tests. Junior students and English students (E101, E102 and E108) will be dismissed from school after the approximately 4-hour testing window. Bus transportation will be available to and from the school. Students who require testing accommodations that award extra time will have alternative transportation options.

### PARCC

The Partnership of Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is an interactive, computer-based benchmarked assessment of applied knowledge that is designed to measure students' performance on the Illinois Learning Standards. Students enrolled in E101 English I, E102 English I, and E108 English I, will participate in the English Language Arts I assessments on April 19th. Any student – irrelevant of grade – who is enrolled in M113 Algebra 1, M114 Algebra 1, M117 Algebra 1, or M147 Advanced Algebra 1 will participate in the Algebra I tests on different dates during a regular school day.

### ACT

The ACT is used by many colleges and universities for entrance examination purposes. There is no charge for the April 19th administration of the ACT. Each student will have the option to send results of the ACT to colleges and universities as part of the application process. I strongly encourage all of our juniors to take advantage of this opportunity; it is a great chance to participate in a free college admission test that could open the doors to many opportunities. Students may elect to take the ACT again on a national test date.

Students not participating in the ACT or PARCC tests, primarily sophomore and senior students, will not be in attendance on April 19, but should take this opportunity to pursue educational opportunities independently.

Included with this Newsletter is the  
*Drug and Alcohol Awareness* brochure. Please take  
some time to review it with your child(ren).

This Principal's Newsletter is computer-designed and photocopied at school on recycled paper for Schaumburg High School parents.  
Schaumburg High School  
1100 West Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, IL 60194-4197 • (847) 755-4600.



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

# DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 8 Late Start Classes Begin  
8:50 a.m.
- March 9 Winter Sports Awards  
Main Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- March 10 D211/54 Orchestra Concert  
7:00 p.m.
- March 16, 17 Band Aid Concert  
Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- March 18 Spring break begins at the  
end of the school day
- March 28 Non-Attendance  
No School
- March 29 School Resumes
- April 5 Late Start Classes Begin  
8:50 a.m.
- April 21, Musical  
22, 23 Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- April 28 Night of Percussion  
Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- May 7 Junior/Senior Prom  
Westin Chicago Northwest  
Hotel /Itasca - 6:00 p.m.
- May 12 World Language Awards  
Night  
Auxiliary Gym – 7:00 p.m.
- May 17 Spring Choral Concert  
Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- May 24 Band Awards Night  
Main Gym – 7:00 p.m.
- May 26 Spring Orchestra Concert  
Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.
- May 30 Memorial Day – No School
- June 1 Spring Sports Award  
Main Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- June 5 Graduation – Sears Centre



## Make a Point to Ask Your Teen Questions About Mid-Term Reports

Mid-term reports can give you some answers about how well your teen is doing in class. You'll learn even more if you ask some questions if you receive a report in the mail. Find a time to sit down and look over the mid-term report. Then ask your teen these questions.

- **Why do you think** you got this designation? This question is important whether your teen has a special comment or possibly failing designation.
- **What do you expect** for this marking period? Set goals that are high enough to be a challenge, but not so high that they are overwhelming.
- **What are you going** to do differently for the remainder of this period? Help your teen develop a specific plan for change. "I'm going to study math for 30 minutes each day."
- **How will we know** it's working before the end of the marking period? If your teen needs help, set up some times when you and the teachers can get back in touch. Your interest indicates to your teen that education is important and that you care about his/her success.

## Significant Saxons

- ◆ *Kudos to Saxon Pride Winners: Jannet Farias, Eric Krizizke, Mia McCloud, Kimberly Olvera, Alexis Orozco, Megan Rivas-Fox, Aliya Ross, Ramez Sayegh, Brett Schelling, Trevon Treadway, Leticia Trego.*
- ◆ Congratulations to February Senior-of-the-Month, **Simona Stalev** and March Senior-of-the-Month, **Jocelyn Huey**.

## Congratulations to...

- ✦ **Schaumburg Jazz Ensemble**, and **Jazz Quintet** received a Division I "Superior" rating this weekend at the North Shore Jazz Festival. The **Jazz Lab Band** and **Jazz Sextet** received a Division II "Excellent" rating.
- ✦ The Schaumburg Debate Team travelled to Cambridge, Massachusetts to compete at the Harvard National Debate Tournament. **Karolina Skarzynska, Srini Cherukuri, Hannah Hyman, Sarah Liu**, and **Kshitij Vashi** represented our squad as we advanced to Quarterfinals! What an amazing feat for our National-Qualifying Team!
- ✦ **Leilah Petit, Jemi Kim** and **Allen Lin** participated in the All-State/Honors Concert at Peoria Civic Center Carver Arena.
- ✦ Poms competed at State in Bloomington on January 29 and 30 and placed 16th. Team members include: **Madeline Artman, Lindsey Bach, Kaylee Bochenek, Kelsey Davis, Noelle Dewees, Kate Giglio, Amy Graham, Pooja Gundimeda, Samantha Holden, Erin Kelly, Lindsey Kokkinias, Rachael Metzger, Alison Ng, Abbigail Ouimet, Marissa Page, Nicole Picchi, Alaina Rieger, Sarah Rooney, Kayla Song, Kayla Danielle Trybus.**
- ✦ Cheer team qualified to participate at State Competition. Team members include: **Alyssa Coletta, Sonia Drent, Lauren Callison, Hayley Dombek, Jackie Williams, Christine De Ocampo, Deja Williams, Lindsey Gruszka, Kayla Gustafson, Hailey Hinton, Hailey Kaim, Olivia Leonard, Samantha Tyler, Natalie Mack, Alanna Tassarolo, Nicole Marrero-Cervoni, Brooke McNally, Lauren Monahan, Jenna Passialis, Destinee Patterson, Madeleine Schultz, Mary Claire Shaughnessy, Courtney Zeiler, Amie Santarinala, Gianna Bernardy, Alex Cook, Elizabeth Haffner.**

## Prom & Post Prom 2016

Plans for this year's prom are off to a great start. The final touches to make it the perfect night are well under way. We will be holding our Junior/Senior Prom at the Westin Chicago Northwest Hotel in Itasca from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight, Saturday, May 7th. This year's theme is "**Out of This Galaxy.**" Tickets will go on sale April 2, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the main hallway. The price of tickets will be \$120. Students will receive a prom packet with information and an application before spring break.

Post prom will again be held at Navy Pier. We will be cruising on the Odyssey from 1:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. Buses will be boarded from the Westin Chicago Northwest Hotel down to Navy Pier between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.

Prom information is on the Junior Club website, school website, and is being announced in the daily announcements.