



NEWSLETTER

Bringing Township High School District 211 News to the Community • January 2018

A message from the Superintendent ...

College & Career Pathways update

Students are now finalizing their course selections for the coming school year. We offer more than 700 courses and yet students have only four years to maximize their opportunities in pursuit of colleges and careers of their choosing.

To assist students and families with this important mission, our Strategic Plan emphasizes college and career exploration opportunities. Throughout the past two years, faculty members, administrators, and local business representatives who work in each of the 16 career clusters have collaborated to articulate college and career pathways within our District 211 curricula.

The career clusters include broad areas such as health science; architecture and construction; science, technology, engineering and math; manufacturing; or business management and administration. If you have interest in our career clusters, this link will be helpful: <http://www.d211careercluster.org/>.

To help design a career pathway, faculty representatives from all academic departments collaborate directly with professionals within a particular career cluster. Drawing upon existing courses in our curriculum, faculty members and career representatives design career pathways within a broader career cluster. For example, within the health sciences cluster, local health services professionals worked collaboratively with our faculty to define a sequence of courses and field experiences for career pathways such as patient wellness, medical research and development, and health information and management. Partnerships with business professionals help guide curricular improvements to develop skills students need in today's competitive market. After collaborating with local professionals across all 16 career clusters, our faculty

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Summer school dates set

Summer school dates have been approved by the Board of Education. The first semester of summer school will begin on Wednesday, May 30, 2018 and will continue through Wednesday, June 20, 2018. Second semester will start on Thursday, June 21, 2018, and will end on Monday, July 16, 2018. Summer school classes will not meet on Fridays (June 1, June 8, June 15, June 22, June 29, July 6, and July 13). There will be no classes on Wednesday, July 4 in observance of the federal Independence Day holiday.

Summer school is a great opportunity for educational growth and enrichment. Each year, over 11,000 students are enrolled.

Courses offer students opportunities to explore enrichment subjects, develop new interests, or complete required courses for graduation. Please plan your summer school schedule early. Remember, because summer school is a condensed program, **daily attendance is mandatory.**

Summer school course catalogs will be mailed in early March. Registration for summer classes begins on April 9, 2018 for Conant, Hoffman Estates, and Schaumburg High Schools and on April 11, 2018 for Fremd and Palatine High Schools. Counselors can assist students with the registration process.

Incoming freshmen update

All students entering 9th grade in a District 211 school during fall 2018 are required to take a placement test. On October 14, 2017, the incoming freshman class of 2022 took the PSAT 8/9 test, part of the SAT Suite of Assessments, as the required placement exam. Results of this test allow high schools to learn more about each student's strengths and abilities. Student services directors and junior high school teachers will review test scores and determine academic placement in January. Junior high school teacher recommendations are an essential part of High School District 211's placement process. This information also may be used

as criteria for placement in special programs, such as accelerated courses or developmental programs. Additionally, recommendations for summer school programs are made as a result of these test scores.

Placement test results and materials for student elective course selection were shared with parents in mid-December. Notification of student course placement will be mailed in mid-February. The deadline for requesting a change in elective course selection is February 2, 2018. If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact the student services director at the high school your child will attend in the fall.

Register online for Continuing Education classes

Classes begin the week of January 22, 2018. Registration began January 8, 2018. Registration can be completed online by visiting the District 211 website at <https://adc.d211.org>, clicking on "Continuing Education," and following the instructions to a secure registration service. Registration may also be completed by fax (847-755-6867); by mail; or in person at the G.A. McElroy

Administration Center, 1750 S. Roselle Road in Palatine, weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Catalogs with spring course offerings were mailed in late December, and also are available online at the District website: <https://adc.d211.org/academics-home/continuing-education-home/>. For more information, please call the Continuing Education office at 847-755-6820.

Did you know ...

High School District 211's website (<http://adc.d211.org>) and school websites will contain the most up-to-date information should a severe storm or other emergency require school to be closed. Additional information on severe cold can be found online at: <https://adc.d211.org/severecold>.

Pathways update ...

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has devised more than 40 career pathways and we anticipate completing 13 remaining pathways before the end of the school year.

We are currently piloting a Student Readiness Plan with 100 students in each of our high schools that will help students and parents become familiar with a student's chosen career pathway, and the Plan will be available to all students and parents in the fall of 2018. In speaking with groups of students, they quickly recognize and describe two benefits of career pathways. First, if a student connects with a career pathway, then the student has an advantage in applying to colleges or applying to employers. On the other hand, if a student finds out he or she does not like a career cluster or pathway, this saves them large amounts of time and money before having to pay college tuition. Career pathways are flexible and any student can easily select courses outside a pathway.

We all get better when we work together, and by partnering our faculty members with local employers, our career pathways help students make the greatest benefit from our comprehensive curricular offerings.



Daniel E. Cates
Superintendent



Dates to Remember

- January 15** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — **No School**
- January 18** Board of Education meeting (7:30 p.m., G.A. McElroy Administration Center)
- January 23** Student Late Start day
- February 3** GEMS Conference – Girls (5th/6th grade) in Engineering, Mathematics & Science (8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Conant High School)
- February 6** Student Late Start day
- February 15** Board of Education meeting (7:30 p.m., G.A. McElroy Administration Center)
- February 19** Presidents' Day — **No School**
- February 20** Student Late Start day

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.

New students and incoming freshmen need physical exams

State law requires that each incoming freshman submit a physical examination form and record of immunization before registration is complete. Physical exams must be completed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner within 12 months prior to the first day of school. The State of Illinois and the Department of Public Health mandate that all school physicals be submitted on a uniform form provided by the school; no other forms may be accepted. Forms completed by chiropractors must be co-signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner. For new students, physical exams should be completed before August registration. Without proof of a physical exam, a student's schedule will not be issued. An electronic version of the form is available on the District website at: <http://adc.d211.org/information/health/>.

Food Service prepayment available online

Parents can take advantage of the convenience of online credit card payment for their child's High School District 211 food service prepayment account. Utilization of the online prepayment system allows parents to better manage their child's food service account and make a deposit into their child's account using Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover. Online deposits made to your child's account will be available for same-day use within two hours from receipt of payment.

The online prepayment system can be accessed

District 211 Summer Athletic & Competitive Activity Physical Exam Requirements for Participation:

District 211 Summer Camps – Students wishing to participate in summer athletic camps, including poms and color guard, must provide evidence of an appropriate physical exam within the last 13 months. Physicals must be submitted to the school nurse's office prior to participation.

IHSA Participation (school year) – Students wishing to participate in interscholastic athletics, including poms and color guard, must provide evidence of an appropriate physical exam within the last 13 months. Students participating in fall sports must complete their physicals before practice begins on August 6, 2018 (football and golf) and August 8, 2018 (all other sports). Physical exam forms must be submitted to the school nurse's office prior to participation.

by logging into the Infinite Campus Parent Portal through the District 211 website (<https://adc.d211.org>) using your parent log-in credentials and clicking on the link for "Registration and Lunch Prepayment." The system allows parents to view their child's account balance, add funds to their account, and view their child's purchase history. A link which provides a description of many items available to students also is available. Questions or comments about the online prepayment system should be directed to Stacy Lenihan, director of food service, at 847-755-6680.

Winter weather warnings ... be prepared!

Because winter weather can be extreme, it is important to become familiar with weather terms used by the National Weather Service (NWS) to ensure that you and your family remain safe during extreme winter weather conditions.

A **winter storm watch** indicates that severe weather, such as heavy snow or ice, is possible. A **winter storm warning** indicates that severe winter weather conditions, such as heavy snow, ice storms, or blizzards are occurring, imminent, or highly likely. A **winter weather advisory** indicates that winter weather conditions will cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. Examples of winter weather advisories are **snow**

advisories, wind chill advisories, freezing rain/sleet advisories, and blowing/drifted snow advisories.

When the National Weather Service (NWS) declares that a **wind chill warning** will be in effect, school will be cancelled. When the NWS declares a **wind chill advisory** to be in effect, school will be conducted through the establishment of "Severe Cold Action" procedures. During a wind chill advisory, school will be in session and actions will be taken to safeguard students and minimize potential exposure to adverse conditions. More information on the District's severe cold response can be found online at <http://adc.d211.org/severecold>.



"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

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The Superintendent's Newsletter is published every 6 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.

