CCHS NEWSLETTER

(Published by CCHS and the CCHS Parents' Association)

Volume 22 – Number 1

SEPTEMBER 2004

PARENT ASSOCIATION

The CCHS Parents Association would like to welcome you back to another school year. We extend a special welcome to parents of freshmen and to all families new to CCHS. We hope that you had a restful and enjoyable summer.

The CCHS Parents Association (PA) exists to support the students, teachers, staff and administration at CCHS and to provide opportunities for parents of CCHS students to make connections through volunteer activities, speakers, forums and social events. Many activities are organized through parent representatives at the individual class levels while others are school-wide and can provide a chance to find out what lies ahead for your student and your family.

In the past years the PA has done a variety of things to enrich our school community. Twice a year we award grants to faculty, staff and community members who submit requests for programs, equipment and events that directly enrich the lives of the students and the community at CCHS. During the last school year we awarded over $40,000 in grants supporting departments and projects throughout the school.

What else do we do? Each year we conduct forums on various topics of interest to students and parents and sponsor or co-sponsor speakers of interest to the entire Concord-Carlisle community. We sponsor the Summer Opportunities Fair for the local community to learn about camps, travel, volunteer and other programs for students to consider for the summers. We work with the Class Parent Representatives to help coordinate the various class activities. We publish the student directory, Connections. We send out a weekly bulletin, Chit Chat, each Friday throughout the school year. We conduct the annual Direct Appeal Campaign to help fund grant requests. We work on Campus Beautification projects. We organize Faculty and Staff Appreciation events. Finally, through a very dedicated committee, we organize and run the Senior Safari, the annual all night graduation party held at the high school.

This year most of our evening meetings will be similar in format to the Principal's Coffees which are usually held on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in Room A-7. The PA will host evening coffees with members of the administration, faculty and staff so that parents can meet for informal discussions of topics of interest to the community. These will usually take place on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Library at CCHS. Notice of these meetings will be published in the newsletter and in the weekly Chit Chat sent on Fridays to all on the e-mail system.

All parents are welcome to participate in PA activities to whatever degree they are able. For some, this participation is primarily financial, through payment of PA and Class dues and contributions to the Direct Appeal Campaign in the Spring. For others, it may involve devoting large amounts of time to organizing a major event for the CCHS community. Some parents may occasionally bring refreshments to a meeting or help to chaperone a school event. All efforts, however large or small, are greatly appreciated and essential to the continued success of the PA.

SO, WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO NOW?

1. Fill out the membership form accompanying this letter and return it with your check for the appropriate amount to:
   Sarah Kussin - 51 Riverside Avenue -Concord MA 01742
2. Fill out the volunteer sign up form and return it to:
   Janine Penfield - 72 Adin Drive- Concord, MA 01742
3. If you are not yet signed up for the e-mail system, visit the list mail page **www.lists.ptg-concord.org/mailman/listinfo** and follow the instructions provided to sign up. This system is the primary means of dispersing information to parents and makes school to parent communications much more timely and effective. You will need your student's I.D. number in order to subscribe.
4. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**
   Back-to-School Night, Monday, September 27th, 7:00 p.m.
   Principal's Coffee, Monday, October 4th, 8:30 a.m.
   PA Coffee Evening, Monday, October 18th, 7:30 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the CCHS Parents Association please don't hesitate to call me at 978-287-5031.

Diane Campbell Payne
President, CCHS Parents' Association

WATCH THE MAIL FOR YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL PACKET.

PACKETS CONTAIN LOTS OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE OPENING OF SCHOOL.

NOTES FROM ART DULONG

As I write this it is actually early July and I am still anxiously awaiting the heat of the summer. I'm beginning to lose a little optimism about this year's summer. However, I am not losing any optimism about next year's school year; quite the contrary actually.

Last year was a very difficult year for me and for CCHS. Hopefully neither students nor parents really felt the level of strain that existed throughout the building. Beginning with last July's reductions due to lack of state funding, the local reductions voted in September, and then the ongoing contract negotiations the past school year was fraught with anxiety. Teachers and all support staff were remarkable in their ability to keep the stress in-house. For the most part, students and parents had no idea what the mood really was within the school. That was a testament to the professionalism of all support staff and teachers and the dedication of these people to the welfare of the students.

I am optimistically expecting this coming year to be wonderful. All of the issues from last year have been settled. Looking forward, we have hired a number of new staff that you will meet and learn more about as the year unfolds. The new staff includes 7 new science teachers as well as a French teacher, a social studies teacher, and an English teacher. We still have a few more hires to make as this is written. I know some folks have been worried about the turnover within the science department. I will freely acknowledge that replacing some of the folks who left through retirement or other life decisions has not been easy. However, we were incredibly fortunate to have a strong pool of candidates and I am very excited about the group of people we have hired. I am also pleased to announce that Wilson Flight, has agreed to stay on for one year teaching Earth Science half time. Wilson's presence in the school will be a benefit to both teachers and students.

I continue to be proud of the students who attend this school. The graduating class of 2004 was a terrific group of young people who left a significant mark on the culture of the school. The returning classes are also terrific. I feel extraordinarily lucky to be at CCHS at a time when the student body as a whole is so committed to personal excellence as well as being committed to creating a school they can be proud of. Whenever I speak to students I try to be clear with them that they inherit the excellence of the students who preceded them but they also create the excellence of the people who will follow them. Their time at CCHS does not stand in isolation from all others. The students we have returning seem to understand their responsibility to themselves and the community as a whole. Trust me when I say this is not common to all schools. The students who attend CCHS are special. I am proud to be here with them.

Of course, we do have the occasional student who gets in trouble. To deal with that, I depend on the parents cooperating with the Assistant Principals. Ms. Truslow and Dr. Weinstein have a very difficult job that your cooperation can make easier. Without doubt it is often difficult to be home with a student who is being punished in a way that they inevitably see as unfair viewing it, as they do, through the adolescent lens. I must say that the vast majority of the parents I am in contact with are supportive and understanding in some very difficult situations. I am ever grateful for that because it helps to reinforce the need for a continuously strong learning environment at the school.

I cannot close without mentioning one of the factors that gives me the most reason for optimism about next year. That is the continued support of the parent community in so many varied ways. The work parents do with, and for, each class is unique to CCHS and makes a tangible difference in the way students see themselves and see their own connection to the school. The work done by the Parents Association in raising funds, awarding grants, and facilitating communication adds immeasurably to the positive learning environment at the school and the support teachers feel. The work so many of you have done to beautify the campus is entirely visible and tangible. I cannot begin to tell you how many positive comments I receive about our entry area from visitors. These comments are meant for you.

I hope summer actually gets here with heat and humidity. (Yes, I will complain about it but it is part of the natural cycle that I need before September.) I hope everyone finds some time to relax and re-energize for the New Year. I am anxious to get it going. I know it will be a good one.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS – PLEASE TAKE NOTE

The parking in front of the school including around the islands and at times on the islands themselves, has become a safety issue. The Concord Police Department and Concord Fire Department ask that motorists obey and respect the **No Parking signs that are posted**. Should an emergency occur, it is important that emergency vehicles have access and not be impeded by illegally parked vehicles. The fine for parking in a No Parking zone is $15.00.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Scott Camilleri, Concord Police Department

CCHS SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Among the mandates contained in the educational reform legislation is a requirement that all schools have a council to serve in an advisory capacity to the principal. Each council is to assist the principal in adopting educational goals for the school; identifying the educational needs of students attending the school; reviewing the annual school budget; and formulating a school improvement plan.

At the Concord Public School and Concord-Carlisle Regional District each school advisory council will consist of at least nine members and should be broadly representative of the racial, ethnic, and role diversity of the school and the community. At CCHS Council members include: the school principal who serves as one of two co-chairs; four teachers at the school; five parents of students attending the school; one member of the junior class and one member of the senior class for the Concord-Carlisle High School; and other persons, not parents or teachers of students at the school, drawn from such groups or entities as municipal government, business and labor organizations, institutions of higher education, human services agencies, building support staff or other interested groups.

CURRENT PARENT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE ARE:

Ray Ferrara '04
Robert E. Stone '04
Jane Turner Michael '04, Co-Chair
Maureen Tarca '05
Jennifer Hart '05

We need to elect three parents to serve two-year terms.
Voting Deadline is August 31.
The following three people have been nominated to the School Advisory Council.
Please vote for three people and send your vote to Louisa Coleman at CCHS - 500 Walden Street - Concord, MA 01742

Robert Stone_____

Jane T. Michael_____

Ray Ferrara_____

SUBSCRIBING TO THE LIST SERVE:
Go to www.lists.ptg-concord.org/mailman/listinfo and click on the link to your child's class. If you have children in multiple classes, repeat the process for each child. READ and FOLLOW the INSTRUCTIONS provided. You will need to have your child's student I.D. handy when subscribing. When you subscribe, you will receive an auto-generated response which you MUST REPLY to in order TO ACTIVATE your SUBSCRIPTION. IF YOU DO NOT REPLY, YOUR SUBSCRIPTION REQUEST WILL SIMPLY DISAPPEAR FROM THE SYSTEM. PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ALONG TO ANYONE WHO HAS NOT SUBSCRIBED YET.

IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

This year, we will continue our practice of distributing attendance reports to students every two weeks. These reports indicate excused and unexcused absence for the previous two weeks. Please remind students to review their reports and submit any corrections to Mrs. Merry in the attendance office before the deadline. Students are asked to bring the reports home to parents to review. The distribution dates are noted in the monthly calendar section of this newsletter so that you will know when to expect the latest attendance report. Please read the attendance section of the Handbook for Students and Parents, which all students will receive the first day of school, so that you will be familiar with our attendance procedures. If your son or daughter must be absent, please remember to call the school (978) 318-1400 the day of each absence to inform our attendance office of the absence.

HANDBOOK FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS 2004-05

On the first day of the school year all students will receive a Handbook for Students and Parents 2004-05. This booklet is a legal document which all parents should insist that students share with them. It is important for both students and parents to read the document carefully. It contains all the rules and regulations about attendance, grade reporting, behavior, and a myriad of other useful information. It is a document to which teachers and administrators will often refer. Similar to the laws of the land, ignorance of the rules is never an excuse. Included below are a few things, in no particular order, that have changed slightly.

- Guests are no longer allowed on days preceding a long weekend or vacation.
- The transcript fee is $6.00.
- There is legally required language regarding the federal No Child Left Behind law.
- There are some legally required changes regarding health issues and immunization records
- The information regarding Community Service has been clarified.
- Some information regarding Open/Off Campus privileges has been clarified.
- A statement was added prohibiting gambling. (Yes, it became a problem)
- A statement was added prohibiting using the skateboard park during school hours. (Again, it became a problem.)
- There is new language around dance issues – printed here.

If, at a dance, a student is found to be in violation of any substance abuse regulation or if a student is involved in any activity that is a danger to others, that person and their date will be asked to leave the event with either their parent or via the police. The next school day the appropriate school consequences will be enforced according to handbook policies. In addition, the person in violation will be prohibited from participation in any dance, prom, or other school social event for a period of time to be determined by the principal, up to one year.

There are a few other small changes in wording. You should become familiar with the whole booklet. Please read it along with your child when you get it in September.

SENIOR WELLNESS PROJECT

The Health and Fitness requirements for senior year are completed through the Senior Wellness Project. Students must complete 50 hours of physical activity and write a report documenting their activities. They may select one of the following options:

(#1) Independent Project (#2) A Varsity Sport

You can help your son or daughter by reminding them they must complete and turn in the Senior Wellness Contract no later than September 24. Information packets will be handed out at the beginning of the school year during homeroom and are available in the Health and Fitness office on the 3rd floor of the library. Contract should be turned in to the "Senior Wellness Project" box outside the Health and Fitness office. If you have any questions, Ms. Slocum can be reached at (978) 318- 1417 X.380 or email [mailto:Nslocum@colonial.net]Nslocum@colonial.net.

STUDENT I.D. PICTURES

Each year, students are provided with student identification cards at no cost. The photographer who will be making the I.D. cards will be at the school on **Wednesday, September 29 and Thursday, September 30** to take the pictures.

When I.D. pictures are taken, students may order pictures if they wish. The photographer will send the information directly to your home prior to September 29th. Please note that there is absolutely no obligation to purchase any pictures. This is simply an opportunity that is provided when students are photographed for the free I.D. cards.

TRANSPORTATION FEE $50

School bus transportation is provided free of charge for all students who live farther than two miles from the school. Transportation schedules are printed in the local papers at the end of August. Buses arrive at CCHS at approximately 7:20 a.m. and depart the high school at approximately 2:10 p.m.

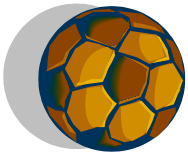
In addition to this transportation, a late bus, which departs the high school at 5:15 p.m., is available for all students who have a late bus pass. Students should listen to the Daily Bulletin for information about when to purchase a yearly or daily bus pass. A yearly bus pass fee is $50 and a daily bus pass fee is $1.

There is also on-campus parking for students who have a parking permit. Students should pay attention to the Daily Bulletin for information about when to purchase a parking permit. Parking permit fee is $50 for the year.

FALL SEASON STARTING DATES AND TIMES FOR CCHS ATHLETIC TEAMS.

SAVE THIS SHEET FOR REFERENCE

VARSITY AND JV FOOTBALL	Monday, August 23 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon … 3 days of conditioning practice. Tuesday, August 24 Wednesday, August 25 Thursday, August 26, Double sessions from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
FRESHMEN FOOTBALL	Monday, August 30 – Equipment and practice from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Tuesday, August 31 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Wednesday, September 1 and Thursday, September 2 - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 3 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
VARSITY AND JV BOYS SOCCER	Thursday, August 26 at Emerson Playground 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
FRESHMEN BOYS SOCCER	Thursday, August 26 and Friday, August 27 Emerson Playground – 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
VARSITY AND JV GIRLS SOCCER	Thursday, August 26 – Emerson Playground Track 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and afternoon, 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. CCHS.
FRESHMEN GIRLS SOCCER	Monday, August 30 – Emerson Playground – 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
VARSITY AND JV FIELD HOCKEY	Thursday, August 26 - 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at CCHS
FRESHMEN FIELD HOCKEY	*Tuesday, August 31 at 2:00 p.m. at CCHS **(This is a change from previous publication)*
VARSITY GOLF	Friday, August 27 – 3:30 p.m. – Concord Country Club. ***NO BLUE JEANS – COLLARED SHIRTS REQUIRED***.
VARSITY AND JV VOLLEYBALL	Thursday, August 26 – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. – CCHS Upper Gym
VARSITY BOYS CROSS C OUNTRY	Thursday, August 26 – 9:00 a.m. – Lower Gym Parking Lot at CCHS
VARSITY GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY	Friday, August 27 – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – Lower Gym Parking Lot at CCHS



CONCORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND CONCORD-CARLISLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2004-2005

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	**2**	3	4
5	**6**	**7**	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	**16**	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	**25**
26	27	28	29	30		

SEPTEMBER
1 Professional Day
2 Professional Day/Orientation
6 Labor Day
7 CLASSES BEGIN
16 Rosh Hashanah
25 Yom Kippur

September 2 – Orientation for 9th Grade and New CCHS Students
September 2 – First day for 6th Grade Students
September 7– First Day for all students - no school for 6th grade

FEBRUARY
21 Presidents' Day
21-25 February Recess
28 Classes Resume

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	26
27	**28**					

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	**11**	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

OCTOBER
11 Columbus Day

MARCH
24 Professional Day
25 Good Friday

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	**24**	**25**	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	**11**	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	**24**	**25**	**26**	27
28	29	30				

NOVEMBER
11 Veterans' Day
24 Half Day
25-26 Thanksgiving Recess

APRIL
18 Patriot's Day
18-22 April Recess
25 Classes Resume

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	23
24	**25**	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	**2**	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	**24**	**25**
26	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**	

DECEMBER
2 Professional Day
25 Christmas Day
24-31 Winter Recess

MAY
30 Memorial Day

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	**30**	31				

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	**3**	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	**17**	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

JANUARY
1 New Year's Day
3 Classes Resume
17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

JUNE
4 Graduation
***21 180th** Instructional Day
22-28 Snow Days
One Professional Day for teachers following last student day.

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	**4**
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	***21**	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SCHOOL COMMITTEES

Nicole Berkel	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee*	
Betsy Bilodeau,	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee*	*Concord School Committee – Chair*
Michael Fitzgerald	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee – Chair*	*Concord School Committee*
Jan McGinn	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee*	*Concord School Committee*
Rebecca Shannon	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee*	*ConcordSchool Committee – Vice Chair*
Patrick Sinnott	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee – Vice Chair*	
Jerry Wedge	*Concord-Carlisle School Committee*	*Concord School Committee*

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Brenda D. Finn, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John Flaherty, Director of Financial Services
Ms. Diana Rigby, Administrator, Student Support Services

SCHOOLS	TELEPHONE NUMBERS	SCHOOL HOURS	M-W-T-F	TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 24
Alcott Elementary School	978-318-1300	Kindergarten	9:00 -12:15	9:00 -12:15	9:00 -12:30
Thoreau Elementary School	978-318-1320	Elementary (1-5)	9:00 - 3:20	9:00 -12:15	9:00 -12:30
Willard Elementary School	978-318-1340				
Peabody Middle School	978-318-1360	Middle (6-8)	8:15 - 2:30	8:15 - 1:00	8:15 -11:40
Sanborn Middle School	978-318-1380				
Concord-Carlisle High School	978-318-1400	High (9-12)	7:35 - 2:05	7:35 - 2:05	7:30 -11:00

NO SCHOOL PROGRAMS

No school programs will be planned for the following dates or the preceding evenings: September 16 – September 25

SCHOOL YEAR

185th scheduled day is June 28th. This includes 5 days to cove "No School" contingencies. Classes will end upon completion of the 180th instructional day. A professional day for teachers follows the last day of instruction.

CANCELLATION OR DELAYED OPENING OF SCHOOLS

Announcements will be made on television stations WCVB-TV-5, WHDH-TV-7, WBZ-TV-4; radio stations WBZ, WHDH, WEEI, WRKO, WZOU-FM and WZLX-FM; and posted on the home page of colonial.net

Item: JED

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The Concord School Committee and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee believe strongly in the importance of regular attendance by all students. The Committees adhere to and are in full compliance with Chapter 76 of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which defines attendance regulations. Except in cases of illness and other unique circumstances, students are expected to be present when school is in session. The building principal will have the final authority in determining whether a student's absence is approved or unapproved. In the event of unapproved absences, disciplinary action, when appropriate, will occur as indicated in the appropriate student handbook.

Should a parent choose to keep a student out of school for a reason which is not approved, the school and individual teacher(s) will not assume responsibility for either preparing lessons in advance for the student or for providing individual tutoring or extensive individual help for the student when he or she returns. It will be the responsibility of the student and the parent to identify work that may be missed. While teachers will provide the normal range of assistance, it is the student's responsibility for making up that work.

ADOPTED: CSC 27May 1986
CCSC 27May 1986

PARKING NOTES

We really need everyone's cooperation in order to keep driveways passable. Please note that the handicapped parking spaces in front of the school cannot be used to pick up students. Likewise, parking – even if someone is in the vehicle and the motor is running is NOT ALLOWED around the circle in front of the school. Please, please do not park on the grass! Thank you very much for your co-operation.

PRINCIPAL'S COFFEES FOR PARENTS

The first Monday of each month, Arthur Dulong will host a Principal's Coffee for parents. These coffees provide an opportunity to learn about what is happening at the high school, to ask questions, and to offer suggestions. Typically, these coffees have been held on the first Monday morning of each month beginning in October and ending in May. Coffees are informal gatherings; everyone is invited!

The first Principal's Coffee of the year will be held on Monday, October 4th, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in room A-7.

***GuideLines* – A REGULAR FEATURE**

As part of each issue of the newsletter there is an insert entitled *GuideLines,* which is published by the Guidance Department. You will find some very helpful information each month.

SELECTIVE SERVICE

All males are required to register with Selective Service once they reach their eighteenth birthday. They can complete an online form at the Selective Service web site (www.sss.gov).

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS OR…

How do I know a trip is school-sponsored?

From time to time during the school year the school sponsors field trips. These may be related to a course or unit of study, and most often take place during the school day. An example of such a trip would be a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts by art classes or our freshman social studies classes.

In addition to curriculum-related field trips, CCHS also sponsors trips for CCHS clubs and activity groups and classes (freshmen, sophomore, etc.). Examples would include students going to a Rex Sox game or the Language Club going to a French restaurant for dinner. These trips usually take place during non-school hours. Exceptions would be competitions that require students to be present during part of the school day.

All school rules are in effect during all school-sponsored trips, and an adequate number of qualified school chaperones accompany and supervise the student group. In all cases, parents will receive information from the school personnel in charge of the trip. Students will be asked to have you sign a field trip permission form. In the case of foreign travel, parents are required to attend at least one orientation meeting at the school. If these things do not occur, check into the trip!

In past years, members of the senior class at CCHS have independently organized what they have referred to as a senior class trip to Montreal during ski season. **Please note that CCHS does not and will not sponsor an overnight trip to Montreal or any other location.**

There are several travel companies that offer packages to student groups, independently of the school. These include not only ski trips, but also trips to sunnier climates during vacation week. **CCHS does not sponsor or endorse them.**

If you have any questions as to whether a trip is sponsored by the school, do not hesitate to call Mr. Dulong's office 978-318-1417 x106 to inquire about it.

STUDENT PHYSICALS

Parents/guardians are reminded to have updated physical information on file with the school nurse. Remember, if your son or daughter is planning on playing sports, an updated physical form must be on file in the health office.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please email your CCHS Newsletter articles to Mrs. Coleman at lcoleman@colonial.net.

MESSAGE WINDOW FOR STUDENTS

Each day we receive many requests from parents to deliver messages to students. Since there is not a staff member available to deliver messages and because we do not interrupt classes, a message window was established in the main office. The names of students for whom there is a message are posted on the main office window opposite Mrs. Hammer's desk. If their name is posted, students should see Mrs. Hammer to pick up their message. Please remind your sons and daughters to check the message window in the main office.

THE NUMBER TO CALL IS 318-1417

To reach anyone at the high school, all you need to do is call 318-1417 (area code 978), and once the greeting begins, dial the extension of the person you wish to reach. If you do not know the person's extension, listen to the greeting. It will tell you how to access the directory.

HANDBOOKS

Parents, students will be receiving all of the CCHS Handbooks in homeroom as soon as they return. Handbooks are filled with information that you should know about. Ask your son or daughter for his/her handbook so you can read it.

COLLEGE MINI FAIRS BEGIN

Junior and senior students should listen to the announcements in homeroom as to the colleges that will be participating in our College Mini Fairs.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SUMMER SCHOOL GRADES

A reminder to all students who performed community service during the summer to submit your completion forms to Ms. Truslow and Dr. Weinstein. All summer school grades should be submitted to Mrs. Tessari in the Registrar's Office.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Health and learning go hand in hand. An unhealthy child has difficulty learning, and an undernourished child can not concentrate well. The value of adequate sleep, a healthy breakfast, physical exercise, fluids and hand washing cannot be underestimated.

Even with best practices, illness occurs. Early intervention will shorten illness-related absences and prevent the spread of illness.

A student should stay home if he/she:

- Has a temperature greater than 100° F.
- Has vomited or had diarrhea in the past 12 hours.
- Has been unable to eat or drink for any reason, including nausea.
- Has a contagious disease such as impetigo, strep throat, or chicken pox.
- Has a headache unrelieved by over the counter medications.
- Has physical injuries requiring pain medicine other than Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- Has wheezing or shortness of breath unrelieved by usual asthma medication.

If a student requires "over the counter" medications other than Tylenol, a physician's order must be obtained and parent consent given. If there are questions or concerns, please call 978-318-1414, ext. 121.

NEW LOCATION FOR THE **LOST AND FOUND BOX**

Many times throughout the school year, items such as backpacks, books (will be returned to departments); sneakers, jackets, CD players, and more are found and brought to the Lost and Found Box. This box will now be stored in a corner of the cafeteria and **NOT** in the main office. Items found will be placed in the box and kept for one month. At the end of each month, any clothing not claimed will be sent to Goodwill. All other items will be trashed.

Welcome Back to CCHS !
Seniors - Class 2005
Juniors - Class 2006
Sophomores - Class 2007

Welcome Freshmen Class 2008

HOW DOES A STUDENT EARN OPEN CAMPUS PRIVILEGES?

During the summer you will receive a note addressed to your child if they haven't yet qualified for open-campus. You also may have been asked to sign a permission slip earlier this spring. But your signature on that form doesn't mean that your child has open campus; it's just one of several criteria. Read on…

Freshmen and sophomores can't qualify for open campus. But they should be sure that they complete 10 hours of community service and to not do something that would cause them to be suspended during the fourth quarter of the sophomore year. Also, they must complete 50 academic credits by the beginning of their junior year.

In order to qualify for the open campus privilege during the first semester, a junior must have earned 50 academic credits, have no 4th quarter suspension from their sophomore year, have completed 10 hours of community service and have their parent's permission.

During the second semester, those juniors who have earned the open campus privilege may qualify to earn off-campus privileges during their lunch period (D, E or F only). In order to qualify for this privilege, a junior must have accrued no credit reductions from the first or second quarters, have not violated the open campus policy during the first or second quarters (an example of this would be to leave campus with an upper classman), and have earned 10 more community service hours for a total of 20 hours. Of course, parental permission is required for this additional privilege.

During their second semester, juniors should complete another 10 hours of community service, for a total of 30 hours, so that they will be eligible for senior open campus privileges.

In order to qualify for senior open and off-campus privileges, a junior must have completed a total of 30 hours of community service before his/her senior year, earned 75 academic credits and have not been suspended during the 4th quarter of their junior year. Parental permission is also required.

If a student does not qualify for open campus privileges during their junior or senior year, he/she will be put into directed studies until they meet all of the criteria. The program is designed to empower those students who have demonstrated a good use of their time and who are able to demonstrate progress toward meeting all of their graduation requirements.

NO ONE HAS OPEN OR OFF-CAMPUS PRIVILEGES UNTIL THE MAIN OFFICE NOTIFIES YOU IN WRITING THAT YOU HAVE MET ALL THE CRITERIA.

CHANGES TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Students are expected to earn 40 hours of community service in order to earn a Concord-Carlisle Regional High School diploma. As you may note from the article above, it's best if they begin to accrue those hours as a freshman. We wanted to highlight some details about the program that are important to remember:

1. How the school defines approved community service: All community service work must be done with a non-profit organization or a hospital; is performed for no pay; beneficial to the community at large; not associated with the teaching or promotion of any religion; separate from an activity for which a student is receiving academic credit or which is mandated by disciplinary action or the court.
2. We are no longer requiring the "blue" form to be approved before the activity has begun. However, students are then totally responsible for making sure that their activity fits the school's definition of community service.
3. The students must complete a "Community Service Completion Form," the yellow form, which must include a supervisor's name, signature and phone number on it in order to have it included in their total number of hours. A student's parent cannot act as the supervisor. The forms are in guidance and the main office.
4. The main office will update your child annually, in the spring, as to the number of hours the school has record of. If there is a discrepancy, your child needs to complete a Community Service Inquiry Form (kept in the main office). Once the situation has been researched, your child will receive notification of how the situation can be resolved in his/her homeroom.
5. The school will only accept forms for work done during the current school year and the preceding summer. If the form is not completed and handed in during that time frame, the hours will not be accepted.
6. We recommend that the student keeps photocopies of all Completion Forms in case there is a discrepancy.

Hope that helps to clarify any questions you may have. Please feel free to call your Class Administrator if you have any other questions. Class administrators are: Mr. Weinstein for the classes of 2005 and 2007 and Ms. Truslow for the classes of 2006 and 2008.

New Telephone System Information at the end of this newsletter.

Time to Get Your

Concord Carlisle High School

School Planner/Student Assignment Notebooks

2004 – 2005 School Year

Great for tracking school assignments AND full of information including the school calendar, class events, sporting events, dances, plays, meetings, school names and contact phone numbers – it is all here in an easy-to-use format. Get organized!! These planners are great for parents to have as well – helpful in keeping track of the kids and their schedules and activities.

This is a fundraiser for the Class of 2007.

Cost of Planners - $8 each.

Planners will be available to be picked up during freshman orientation and in the first days of school in the fall.

Name and year of graduation of student(s) who will pick up planner(s) …..

_____	2005	2006	2007	2008
_____	2005	2006	2007	2008
_____	2005	2006	2007	2008

Number of Planners _____ X $8 = $ _____ paid Please make checks out to "CCHS Class of 2007"

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail to form and check to
Liz Haff
Ten Philip Farm Road
Concord, MA 01742

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

CLASS OF 2007

Welcome back!! Hope all had a great summer – as I write this in July it's hard to think about the chores and pleasures that are ahead of us for our children's sophomore year – but we've lots planned and look forward to your ongoing involvement to make this year a success.

A reminder as we start up the year that we ask you to pass along to your friends and neighbors. If you're reading this note, you've already ensured that you're in the information loop. Encourage others to do the same by signing up for our class email system. Well over half of the families of Class of 2007 students have signed on, and they're now getting messages delivered directly to their email address. **This is the PRIMARY means of delivering messages to families about class activities and important school news.** Once you have signed up, you will also receive daily bulletin of announcements read at school and weekly reminder of upcoming school activities. Visit www.lists.ptg-concord.org/mailman/listinfo to add your name to the email list.

Here are a few dates to remember for class activities during the next few months. Please keep your eyes open for a volunteer sign-up sheet which will come your way under a separate email – we're hoping to get lots of additional parents involved in class activities this year.

- **September 2, 7, and 8**: Sale of School Planners/Assignment Notebooks – Class of 2007 will have responsibility for selling school planners to students, faculty, and families. Cindy Jesse has graciously agreed to coordinate distribution of the documents – with the assistance of Class of 2007 students. Your student may have pre-purchased planner last spring; if not, additional planners will be available for sale at a price of $8 each.
- **September 17 at 7:30:** Class of 2007 is hosting a Sophomore/Freshman Dance. This will be the first dance of the year, and CCHS students in either class are encouraged to attend. Tickets ($10) will be on sale during lunch blocks on September 13, 14, 15, and 16. Parents can help with chaperoning, decorating, cleanup, and food.
- **Friday, September 24, 9:30**: Parent Coffee at the home of Carolyn and Colin Higgins, 55 Suffolk Lane, Carlisle. Come meet and catch up with other parents, learn about plans for the year, and make a commitment to support class activities. Details on what you can bring to follow.
- **Saturday, October 2**: Possible day trip for interested students – to a sporting event, amusement park, or other venue. Details to follow.
- **Friday, October 15 at 6:00:** Class tailgate party – parents and students – before the CCHS vs. Newton South Football game.
- **Week of October 18 – 22:** Class of 2007 after-school fundraiser – Krispy Kreme sale.
- **Thursday, October 28, 7:30**: Mom's night out hosted by Class of 2007 at the home of Karen and John Sabatino, 70 Alford Circle in Concord. Details on how you can help to follow.

CLASS 2005 NOTES

Seniors will be filling out a form in homeroom on the first day of school to order their cap and gown for graduation. The cost for a cap/gown/tassel is $ 25.00 - checks should be made out to CCHS and given to Mrs. Coleman in the main office. Payment is due by October 29th.

All seniors will be receiving a credit memo, please read and consult with your guidance counselor.

If seniors have any books that were not returned last year or in previous years, please return them NOW.

Please note that all
Back to School Packets
were sent to Ripley
on Thursday, August 12th to be mailed.

CCHS September Calendar

1 Professional Day for Teachers
2 Professional Day for Teachers/ ***Freshmen and New Upper Class Students Orientation***/ Football Cookout/ Planner Sale Begins
3 Free
4 Free
5 Free
6 No School – Labor Day
7 ***Classes Begin for all grades***/ Select Chorus Auditions
8 Planner Sale Ends/ Select Chorus Auditions
9 Club/Advisor Meetings
10 ***Homeroom*** / Football Game/ Pep Band @ Football
11 Free
12 Free
13 ***Senior Post Secondary Planning Meeting***
14 October Newsletter Deadline
15 Frosh Parent Coffee
16 ***Rosh Hashanah – No School***
17 ***Homeroom/Attendance Reports*** / Frosh-Sophomore Dance
18 Football Game
19 Free
20 ***Attendance Review Board Meeting***/ Back up Date Post Sec. Planning Mtg/ Jr. State Bake Sale this week
21 ***European Trip Parents Meeting – Mandatory for all student/parents who plan on going on one of these trips – 7:30p.m. auditorium***
22 Frosh Parent Discussion / ***Senior / Faculty Tea 2:30 p.m. Library***
23 Football
24 Homeroom
25 Yom Kippur
26 Free
27 ***Back To School Night 7pm*** / Spectrum Bake Sale this week/ ARB Mtg 2:30 pm
28 ***College Mini Fair***/ Junior Parent Coffee 7:45 a.m.
29 Back up date Frosh Parent Discussion/ Sophomore Parent Coffee 9:30am/ ***Student I.D. Photo Day/ School Advisory Council Meeting @ 7pm***
30 ***Student I.D. Photo Day***

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY CCHS NEWSLETTER THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE UNLESS YOU SUBSCRIBE TO THE CCHS EMAIL LIST.

Future editions of the monthly newsletter, the daily announcements, class news and other important information will *only* be sent electronically.

STAY INFORMED!
PLEASE TAKE ACTION TODAY!

Subscribing to our mailing list is quick, easy, painless…*and necessary!*

To subscribe:

1. **Go to**: **www.lists.ptg-concord.org/mailman/listinfo**
2. Click on the link that says "Mailing Lists Managed Here"
3. Click on the appropriate link for your child's class. Those with multiple children at CCHS will have to repeat this process for each year of graduation.
4. To subscribe, enter your name, email address and student I.D. number (as instructed online)
5. You will receive an email confirmation asking for your permission to be added to our mailing list. You ***MUST*** reply in order to become an active list participant. If you do not reply to this confirmation, your request to subscribe will simply sit in cyberspace. Please follow the instructions provided.
6. AOL members: Please check your spam file regularly and 'approve' any CCHS addresses as acceptable senders.

If you have questions about this process, please email CCHS@comcast.net

Guidance Department Publication

"Guidance Bulletin"

September 2004 **WELCOME BACK** **Volume I, No. 10**

Welcome New Students

This September CCHS will welcome over three hundred freshmen and upperclassmen who are transferring to CCHS from other secondary schools: In the beginning, CCHS can seem large and confusing for new students. In most cases that feeling passes quickly as students find their way around and discover teachers, students, and support staff who are willing to offer assistance.

After the initial anxiety disappears, most new students have two remaining questions: how will I fit in and make friends at CCHS and how will I do academically in this new school? The second of these questions is easier to answer. Students who are willing to put forth consistent, good effort (including a commitment to completing homework regularly) and who are willing to ask for help when needed, usually are successful academically. In addition to seeking assistance from their teachers, students should know about and make use of free, in-school tutorial resources. The MARC (Math Assistance Resource Center) and the SSERC (Social Studies, English Resource Center) supplement the help that students can receive from their regular classroom teachers.

Finding a way to get to know peers may require some planning. While CCHS students are generally courteous and welcoming to new students, many current students, especially upperclassmen, lead busy lives and may not take the time to actively reach out to a new student. For this reason joining a club, activity or sports team is one of the best ways to get to know other students and to begin to feel like a member of the CCHS community. Within the diverse co-curricular program at CCHS, students can discover an activity which continues an interest or introduces a new one.

Volunteering in the community not only earns the required community service hours, but helps students begin to feel more a part of the larger community. Guidance counselors can help students identify interesting options within the co-curricular program as well as volunteer opportunities.

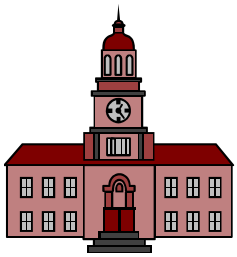
Later, as students begin the college search process, they will discover that most colleges are also interested in how the student chose to be involved in the school and community. This involvement is the best way to make friends and feel "connected" to the new school.

SAT Test Dates for Seniors

Test Date	Test	Register By
October 9, 204	SAT I/II	September 7, 2004
November 6, 2004	SAT I/II	October 1, 2004
December 4, 2004	SAT I/II	October 29, 2004
January 22, 2005	SAT I/II	December 20, 2004

Post Secondary Planning

On Monday, September 13, 2004 from **7:30 – 9:00 p.m.** the first of two post-secondary planning sessions scheduled for **seniors** and their parents will take place in the **CCHS Cafeteria**. At this meeting members of the Guidance Department will provide information on the following subjects: applications, time lines, applying early, transcript procedures, and interview/visits. A workshop on financial aid for post-secondary education will be offered on **Wednesday, December 1, 2004.**



Applying Early to College

Early Decision and Early Action are variations in the application process that have come into use by a large number of colleges. In the traditional application process, students apply to colleges by a designated deadline, which is usually early January to Mid

February, and receive responses in late March or April. In Early Decision or Early Action, a student may apply to a single school early in the senior year, and receives a response within a few weeks.

Students who apply under an Early Decision process agree to enroll if accepted. Students can have only ***one*** Early Decision application pending at any one time, and once accepted, they must withdraw any regular applications. Early Action has similar timelines as Early Decision, but students are not committed to the school. College policies vary in whether students are allowed to apply to more than one Early Action school.

Applying Early Decision has advantages and disadvantages. For seniors who have done thorough research to identify a single school of particular interest, the ED process may have college choice resolved by the middle of second quarter. In addition, because numbers of students who apply Early Decision are typically smaller than those who apply to the same college at the regular deadline, the odds of admission may be higher for a student who would be considered a strong candidate for a competitive college. Early Decision may also be appropriate to the student who does not need financial aid. Parents of students who plan to apply for financial aid are advised to contact the financial aid office early in the fall to have a conversation about what they might expect in aid. With increasing numbers of students applying to college, Early Decision can be an asset to students in a position to take advantage of this option.

Applying Early Decision may not be to students' advantage under some circumstances. Students who are not solidly in the profile of the college to which they apply run the risk of being deferred to the regular cycle or even denied admission in competition with stronger ED candidates. Students who need more time in senior year to strengthen their academic or testing records or to demonstrate depth in extracurricular activities may not be good candidates for Early Decision at competitive schools. Students who need financial aid will miss the opportunity to compare aid packages. Individual packages have varied considerably in the past few years, including those for students who only qualify for merit aid. Finally, the students who made an ED choice without adequate consideration of other colleges may have very little time to evaluate options and prepare a strong application before the regular application deadlines.

For more information on Early Decision, Early Action, and other early admissions options, students can refer to the CCHS Web page, college web pages, and consult their guidance counselor.

For a detailed understanding of this process, we recommend The Early Admissions Game by Christopher Avery.

Freshman Groups

During the second or third week of ***September***, guidance counselors will be meeting with freshmen in small groups. Appointments will be mailed home approximately one week prior to the meeting. Parents are asked to remind their adolescents of these meetings.

A number of topics including guidance services, extracurricular involvement, and the Guidance Resource Center, will be discussed in this meeting. Students will share their impressions of the high school and voice questions or concerns they might have about school or their classes. The role of the counselor and social worker will also be reviewed.

Fourth Quarter Loose Ends

Students are reminded to review their final report card from last year and to check for any **credit reductions** or **incompletes**. Immediately in September, students should submit an appeal to the Attendance Review Board and see teachers about completing incomplete work.

Taking the PSAT

Taking the PSAT

The Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT), given **Saturday, October 16, 2004** at CCHS, provides practice for the **SAT I** and identifies students who qualify as National Merit Scholarship candidates. Juniors typically take this test. Sophomores considering the
PSAT should consult their guidance counselors before signing up. Results from the test, mailed to students in December, can be used to determine what sort of review course, if any, would be helpful to individual students. More information about PSAT registration, during the week of **October 4-8**, will appear in the October **Guidance Bulletin.**

College/Career Mini-Fairs

College/Career Mini-Fairs

Each year the Guidance Department hosts representatives from colleges, universities, career institutions, and branches of the military. The mini-fairs run each Wednesday for four weeks in the CCHS Library during all lunch blocks.
The first of several mini-fairs will begin on September 29, 2004. Students should check the local cable station, the bulletin board outside the Guidance Dept. and flyers distributed during homeroom for a complete list of colleges. The mini-fairs are open ***only to students*** attending CCHS.

THE CENTER FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS

Workshops for Parents of Older Children - Fall 2004

To register call 978-318-1510 xt 145

H.E.L.P.
HOW TO ENJOY LIVING WITH A PRE-ADOLESCENT
KATHERINE YARMANTINO ED.M, PSY.D. PSYCHOLOGIST AND PARENT EDUCATOR.

The Concord Carlisle Parent Initiative is sponsoring a morning and an evening discussion for parents of fourth through eighth grade children. Dr. Yarmantino will address the range and motivation of many pre-adolescent behaviors and offer strategies for constructive parental response.
Thursday October 21 Morning session 9:30 – 11:00 AM.
Evening session 7:30 – 9:00 PM also on Oct. 21.
LOCATION TBD. A 15 DOLLAR DONATION IS SUGGESTED AND WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE WORKSHOP.

STOP THE ROLLER COASTER!

THE CONCORD CARLISLE PARENTS INITIATIVE (CCPI)
the Center for Parents & Teachers

DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR PARENTS
Entering the teenage years can present parents with a whole new set of challenges. Information about the developmental stages of adolesence, an understanding of the culture that teens are exposed to, and the support of other parents of teens can be of great help to a parent new to this experience.

Since the spring of 2003 area parents have been gathering in small self-run discussion groups. Using a parent guide, ***Please Stop The Roller Coaster, How Parents of Teenagers Can Smooth Out The Ride***, these groups run like a book group. Participants read a chapter in advance of meeting to discuss the chapter, share ideas, and problem solve.

Specific topics covered in ***Stop The Roller Coaster*** include: adolescent development, communicating with teens, teen friendships, teen culture, risk behaviors, and the changing role of parents in the lives of their developing child.
For more information about starting or joining a ***Stop The Rollercoaster Group*** call the Center for Parents & Teachers, 978-318-1510 XT 145 or CCPI member Annette Pollack at 978-369-4415.

Workshops for Parents of Older Children

Fall 2004

To register call 978-318-1510 xt 145

FILM SERIES FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Kelli Kirshtein, CCHS School Adjustment Counselor
Kelli Kirshtein will facilitate a series of evening workshops for parents of teens. These films cover the ground from how that incredible teenage brain works to how to recognize the signs of depression in your teenager and how to help. Parents will view the video and participate in a discussion.

Inside The Teenage Brain
This PBS film, first aired on Frontline in 2002, explores the recesses of the brain to find new explanations for why adolescents behave the way they do, and how these discoveries can change the way we teach, parent and understand our children.
Thursday 7-9 PM, Nov. 4, 2004
CONCORD CARLISLE HIGH SCHOOL, LITTLE THEATRE 500 WALDEN STREET, CONCORD MA. $15

Effective Discipline: How to Raise a Responsible Teen
From the Active Parenting of Teens Video library, this film offers concrete steps for guiding your teen using clear, honest communication and respectful discipline.
Thursday 7-9 PM, January 6, 2005
CONCORD CARLISLE HIGH SCHOOL, LITTLE THEATRE 500 WALDEN STREET, CONCORD MA. $15

Concord Middle School PTG Series

Executive Function and the Middle School Student

Dr .Ann Helmus
One of the biggest challenges that confront students as they transition to middle school is the significant increase in the demands for the independent organization of time, materials and information. The skills required for meeting these demands, including planning, sequencing, and operationalizing instructions, fall under the rubric of "executive functioning". Dr. Helmus will discuss strategies that parents can use in supporting their children to develop more effective organizational skills. *Neuropsychologist Ann Helmus is fascinated by the brain. Her work helps children who suffer from behavioral, emotional or neurological problems to function better in the world.*
9:30 – 11:00 AM, December 9 Peabody Forum, Concord Middle School, No Charge.

Stress and The Middle School Student
Katherine Yarmantino Ed.M, PSY.D. and Josephine Bottone LICSW
Two local adolescent counselors and parent educators will discuss the role stress plays in the lives of middle school students, and how parents can help their children limit the stress and manage their busy lives effectively

9:30 – 11:00 AM, January 6
PEABODY FORUM, CONCORD MIDDLE SCHOOL, NO CHARGE.

The Teen Culture and its Effects on the Middle School Student
Dr. Deborah Weinstock Savoy, Psychologist and parent educator
Dr. Weinstock Savoy will discuss the role the teen culture plays in the development of the young teen's identity.

9:30 – 11:00 AM, February 3,PEABODY FORUM, CONCORD MIDDLE SCHOOL, NO CHARGE.

See Next Page for New Telephone Information

A NEW Telephone System has been installed at CCHS.

At this printing, the CCHS main line

978-318-1400 is the only telephone line in service.

Once the new system is completely operational, all of the regular outside lines used before will also be in service.

All faculty / staff extension numbers have changed and the new extension numbers will be published once the system is completed.

So, for now to reach CCHS you must call 978-318-1400.