

CCHS NEWSLETTER

(Published by CCHS and the CCHS Parents' Association)

Volume 22 – Number 4

DECEMBER 2004

News

PARENT ASSOCIATION

Thanksgiving has been celebrated and the hectic days of December are just ahead. Congratulations to all of our fall sports teams for their efforts this season and to the vocal, instrumental and drama groups for some great performances. Clubs and activities have been active with something to do every day after school. Please encourage your students to take advantage of the many opportunities to be involved at CCHS.

From November 14th through 17th, our school was visited by an accreditation committee from the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges). These visits occur every ten years and involve years of preparation by the faculty and staff. The PA assisted with hospitality for a reception on Sunday and general help and hospitality for the visit. Thanks to Lisa Betancourt, Cindy Jessee and Rosie Oberg for coordinating these efforts and to all the parents who helped out. Thanks also to the parents who volunteered and attended the information gathering sessions with the Committee on Sunday and Monday.

The PA Grants Committee has approved over \$22,000 in grants for various projects and materials requested by faculty and staff at CCHS. Many thanks to the Grants Committee, chaired by Paula von Kleydorff, for their diligence in investigating the grant requests. The funds distributed in the Fall are primarily from PA dues and the amount available for grants in the Spring will depend upon the success of the Direct Appeal (the PA's only fundraiser). Thank you all for supporting this program. Special thanks to the over 100 families that made an additional contribution beyond their PA and Class dues when completing their membership forms this Fall. These additional contributions amounted to an extra \$2,000 to be used for the Fall cycle of grants.

The grants that were awarded this Fall were as follows:

A five-drawer flat file to store student work in Art classes. Many of our students are taking more advanced art classes and building portfolios and additional storage to preserve this work was needed. Three enlargers and negative carriers for the Photography classes to replace old and broken equipment. Five potters wheels, once again to replace worn out equipment. Many students are served by this equipment and will be better able to develop their talents in photography and ceramics.

Replacement drums and purchase of additional drums for "Serious Repercussions" - this group is expanding and needed more instruments.

General facelift for the library which is used by all students - including framing of some student art and various other small items to make the library a more comfortable place to be.

A multimedia projector, computer and cart for use in the Science Department. As technology advances our teachers need more modern equipment to effectively present lessons to our students. Also eight digital microscopes to replace very old compound microscopes still in use. These microscopes can be used with a computer and images can be captured for students to use in preparing their lab reports (images can be e-mailed home!).

Some special events and trips for the Pathways program in Special Ed. Funds to construct an expanded and semi permanent school store in the corner of the Cafeteria which will be used by the Pathways program to run an expanded school store with some supplies (pencils, paper, etc.) and other items in addition to the candy they currently sell from a cart. Other student groups will be able to use this store for selling fundraising items, tickets, etc.

New equipment and a series of workshops to expand the training available to students at our radio station WIQH. This will include training in areas beyond music such as news and commentary programs.

All of these items will have a positive impact on the experiences of students at the high school and we appreciate the support that parent community has provided.

Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, December 2nd and the PA will serve dinner to all the teachers and staff in the faculty dining room from 4:45 to 7:00 p.m. Parent volunteers are needed to help with the dinner and/or to provide small gifts and treats for each teacher to take home. Thanks to Kate Bird, Anita Tekle and Janet Lipkin for organizing this wonderful event which is greatly appreciated by the faculty and staff. If you can help please contact Kate Bird at either 978-369-0100 or birds.house4@verizon.net, Anita Tekle at atekle@concordnet.org or Janet Lipkin at joylip@comcast.net.

The Summer Opportunities Fair is coming up on Monday, January 31st. This year, in addition to the travel and camp opportunities presented in the Cafeteria, there will also be a summer job fair presented in the library for students who would like to make some money and gain some work experience next summer. More information will be coming out next month, but please mark this date on your calendar now! Thanks to Kathy Maple and her very able committee for the work they are putting into this annual community event. If you would like to help out, please contact Kathy at 978-371-2740.

If you are reading this, you are on the e-mail distribution list. If you have friends who are not getting information from CCHS because they are not signed up, please share information with them and encourage them to get on this list. To sign up they need to go to www.lists.ptg-concord.org/mailman/listinfo and follow the instructions. They will need their student's ID number to sign up.

We still have a number of copies of Connections (the student directory) which were paid for but not picked up on Back to School Night in September. These can be collected from Mrs. Hammer in the main office before 12:30 any day. If you need an extra copy, we have a few available at \$5 per copy.

Please remember to come to the Principal's coffee on December 6th at 8:30 a.m. There will also be an evening PA meeting/coffee on December 13th at 7:30 p.m.

I wish you all a safe, relaxing and happy holiday season. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns that the PA can address.

Diane Payne
PA President
978-287-5031



NOTES FROM ART DULONG

First, I want to thank the many parents who continue to make CCHS such an extraordinary place. Within the past couple weeks the Parents Association has awarded thousands of dollars in grants to teachers who will use the money to enhance the educational opportunities here. That money came from your generosity. A number of parents have been working on the garden areas preparing them for the winter. I see parents here regularly working with the classes to raise money, plan an event, or stage an event. This week many parents are participating in some way to inform and support the NEASC visiting committee. Those efforts also come from your generosity. All of this is beyond the support most schools could reasonably expect. It is a common theme, but cannot be said enough. Thanks for all you do.

As you know CCHS does not operate in a vacuum. We are part of the larger Concord and Carlisle communities. As such we work closely with the Alliance for Teen Safety to promote understand and promote their goals. A project they have been working on, which now has become a true community endeavor, is to educate the community in the philosophy of Developmental Assets as developed by the Search Institute. The essence, in a very abbreviated form, is that students who feel well supported through their development will make good choices. This fall CCHS, and most of the other schools in the community that serve grades 8 through 12, administered the Search Institute Profiles of Student Life Attitude and Behaviors survey. We will get the results back from this survey sometime this January. After analyzing the results we will certainly share these with parents and students. It will likely be a community event because the survey reflects the entire community, not just CCHS.

This survey should not be confused with the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) that is sponsored locally by the Emerson Hospital. We also participated in that last spring and are just now getting the results. Actually, as of this writing I have not actually seen them, but I know that Kathy Bowen, our Health Education coordinator, has them. These results will also be shared with students and parents after we have had time to read and digest the findings. The two surveys are very different. The YRBS looks at behaviors exclusively. The Attitude and Behavior survey looks at behaviors to a much lesser extent, instead focusing on the student's perception of the support they feel in their school, amongst their friends, in the community as a whole, in their neighborhoods, and in their family. What is the same is that the results of these instruments will inform some of the actions we take in the school over the next few years.

You will hear more about each of these survey results as time goes on. I hope you will find time to attend meetings that will be scheduled to share results with parents and community members. In the meantime, have a wonderful holiday season.



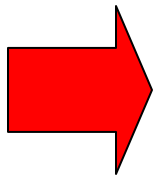
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS– PLEASE TAKE NOTE

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.

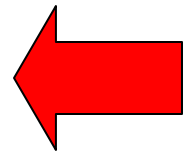


SUBSCRIBING TO THE LIST SERVE:

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.**



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
 Please email your CCHS Newsletter articles to
MARTHA HAMMER
 At
mhammer@colonial.net.
Deadline for the January Issue is January 14.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE DAY - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

Each year, after the first quarter report cards have been distributed, the high school provides an opportunity for parents to meet with their son/daughter’s teachers and guidance counselor to discuss student progress. This year, our Parent-Teacher Conference Day will be held on Thursday, December 2nd, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:20 p.m. Ten-minute modules have been scheduled for conferences with teachers and counselors. A mailing with all of the information needed to set up appointments was sent to all CCHS parents in October. Forms have been sent back to your homes with the assigned appointments.



TEACHER APPRECIATION DINNER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2nd

A dinner will be served to all the teachers and staff in the faculty dining room during the evening of the teacher conference day on December 2nd from 4:45-7 pm. Parent volunteers decorate the dining room and set up a hot meal which is served in two seatings, during the scheduled dinner breaks. Volunteers can participate by agreeing to prepare food at home (state law does not permit use of the school kitchen), shop for food and paper goods, set up, serve or clean up (or any combination of these). Each year we also request donations of baked goods and treats for every teacher to take home. Interesting ideas have been honey with tea, a coffee card in a commuter mug, jars of candy, baked breads, jams with crackers, cheeses, even whole pies! We encourage parents to send thank you cards and notes as well. We cannot guarantee that a specific teacher will get your item but a very gracious and appreciative teacher or administrator will. If you would like to help in any of the ways described, please contact Kate Bird at either 978-369-0100 or birds.house4@verizon.net or Anita Tekle at atekle@concordnet.org or Janet Lipkin at joylip@comcast.net as soon as possible.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

In the event of school cancellation or delayed openings, announcements will be made on radio stations WBZ and WHDH and on television channels 4, 5, and 7. In the case of a delayed opening, school will begin at 8:35 a.m. instead of 7:35 a.m. Buses will arrive at bus stops one hour later than usual in the morning. Classes will end at the regular time, 2:05 p.m.

TELEPHONE REMINDER:

The number to call is **978-341-2490** to reach anyone at the high school. Listen to the prompts and follow the instructions.

CONCORD CARLISLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND'S WEBSITE

Log on to the Concord Carlisle Scholarship Fund's website, <http://www.ccscholarshipfund.org> for CCSF eligibility and application information/materials. Applications are also available in the main office at CCHS. The CCSF site also provides helpful ideas and links for locating and applying for college financial aid from other sources.

The Concord Carlisle Scholarship Fund (CCSF) is a private, nonprofit organization founded over 30 year ago and is dedicated to providing scholarships to deserving students. In 2004, over \$125,000 was awarded to local students to support their post high school education.

Visit the website for detailed application instructions and links to the CSS and FAFSA materials. Also available on the website are tips on how to fill out any scholarship application and links to other financial aid sources.

Applicants must reside in or have attended school in Concord or Carlisle. The CCSF scholarships are awarded based on need not merit. However, CCSF shares applications with several local organizations, such as the Concord Women's Club, the West Concord Women's Club, the VFW, the Concord Public Library and the Carlisle Garden Club, which award merit and need based scholarships.

Please direct any questions to our website.

WIQH 88.3 FM - HOMETOWN TREASURES

The CCHS Radio Station, WIQH 88.3 FM, has unveiled its fantastic **WIQH HOMETOWN TREASURES** – a book of discount coupons redeemable at local merchants. Buy a book (or 2 or 3) for \$25 each, then use the discount coupons donated by local merchants. Your \$25 up-front donation to WIQH will easily be recouped when you use the wide variety of featured coupons. Coupons are good until December 2005. This is sure to be a sell out, so get your books early! **HOMETOWN TREASURES** is available from WIQH members or you can contact Cathy Galligan (catgalligan@comcast.net or 978-369-5003) for more information.

HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED

We collect the following items for people in need: clothing (all seasons/all sizes), shoes/boots, furniture and household items, LARGE suitcases, books, school supplies, and arts & crafts materials. Items are delivered both locally and globally. Please make sure items are in good condition. Items may be dropped off at 27 Captain Miles Lane. For more information, contact me at emily_collins2001@yahoo.com. Tax receipts are available upon request. Thank You.
Emily (Lania) Collins



Attention CCHS Students, Parents, Faculty and Staff

Are you searching for a perfect "something" for a friend or family member? Do you dread holiday shopping? Do you have a reader on your gift list?

Have we got an option for you - the Class of 2007 Magazine Sales Drive

Order new subscriptions or *renew existing subscriptions* to all your favorite magazines - for the readers in your life - whether they live in your home or across the country.

Our "sales staff" will be available to take your orders during Parent Conference Day, Thursday, December 2. Look for students outside the cafeteria. Please come ready to shop and support the

Class of 2007



CCHS LIBRARY NEWS



The CCHS Library thanks the Parental Grant Committee for the funding that will enable us to frame student art for our walls and create interesting displays. Also thanks to the Art Department for their help with this project.

History Buffs alert! Check out our web page for the new ABC Clio History/Geography web site. Ask your child how to access from home.

The Library needs your help! We are on the track of overdue materials. If a student has overdue materials, the student receives a notice at every homeroom until the material is returned. Please help us to encourage all students to return materials promptly so that others may use them. This is especially important for students working on papers.

And in a similar vein - the library is experiencing significant vandalism in the area of the computers. Hacking, removal of mice and keyboard keys and general disregard of equipment is resulting in a slowdown or stoppage of use of many of the computers. Again, the library staff would appreciate your help in instilling an attitude of respect for the equipment all must use.

On a happier note - if you are in the school, please visit the library and especially notice the bulletin board. It's a heartwarming experience.

The library staff wishes all the CCHS community a happy holiday.



There are still a number of seniors who have not purchased a Cap and Gown. Seniors should bring a check for \$25.00 to Mrs. Coleman as soon as possible. Remember, without a Cap and Gown you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation Ceremony.

Next week is Spirit Week, celebrating - Ta Da! - our Seniors! Bandanas have been ordered for the kids, remind your senior to pick one up and wear it.

The Senior Class is sponsoring an all-school dance on December 10th. Many, many thanks to all the parents who have volunteered to provide food, drinks and chaperoning. Thanks to all of you this should be a great success. Details on when and where to deliver provisions, and directions for chaperones will forthcoming in a week or so.

Please - those of you who have volunteered to bring either food or drink, let Karen Ippolito know which you will provide. Her email address is [mailto:kmippolito@comcast.net] kmippolito@comcast.net and her phone number is 978 369 5699.

Reminder - If your student has a January 1 deadline for a college application, he/she should get the release form into Ms. Tessari ASAP. She is the most well-organized person in the world, but between now and then we have both the Thanksgiving and Christmas vacations. Also, remind your student that applications that should be postmarked January 1, need to be mailed on December 31. January 1 is a holiday, and the Concord Post Office will be closed. Let's get those babies in on time! Good luck with the application process. Happy Holidays to all!

Lee Bagley, Bev Castrichini, Margaret Coughline, Karen Ippolito

CLASS 2006

The Thanksgiving Dinner for the Senior Citizens was a great success. So many people contributed to the effort. Thanks to all the parents who gave their support by chairing or serving on a committee, buying turkeys and baking pies or working in the kitchen. There were 60 students who worked that day, setting up, serving and providing wonderful musical entertainment for our guests. We also were fortunate to have the skills and expertise of two very special Class of '06 parents who are real pros in the kitchen, Bonnie Hardy, head of district food services, and Annette Moslowski.

We welcomed and served approximately 190 seniors, and everyone, servers and guests, enjoyed each other thoroughly. It was a lot of work and took weeks of preparation, but was well worth every bit of effort. Congratulations to everyone involved. Well done.

Save the date! Wine and Cheese Social on January 28th. Details and invitations to follow.
Happy holidays. See you in 2005!

CLASS OF 2007

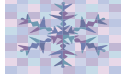
Many thanks go to Karen Sabatino, who welcomed many parents for a Mom's Night Out in late October. Here are a few dates to remember for class activities in December:

- ❖ **Thursday, December 2:** No School – parent conferences at CCHS. Class of 2007 will provide refreshments for sale throughout the day. In addition, the class will launch a Magazine Sales Drive.
- ❖ **Monday, December 6 – Friday, December 10:** Magazine Sales Drive. Consider buying or renewing subscriptions. Nearly ½ of your cost goes to support Class of 2007 activities.
- ❖ **Friday, December 10:** All School Dance.

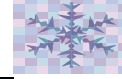
CLASS OF 2008

If you missed them on back to School Night, 2008 will be selling two styles of CCHS decals on Conference Day, December 2. Show your school spirit. Look for the Class of 2008 table and make a purchase. They're only \$4.

Katie Carr



December Calendar



1. Financial Aid Meeting
2. No School Conference Day
Food Concession '06
Pit Orchestra Rehearsal
3. Dance Club Performance
4. SAT
Tag Sale Sponsored by Music Dept.
5. Free
6. Outing Club Candy Sale all week
Principals Coffee 8:30 a.m. room A-7
International Bake Sale
Football Banquet @ Elks 6:30 p.m.
Financial Aid Back-up Meeting 7:30 p.m.
7. Free
8. Hanukkah begins
9. CC Pops Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Pit Orchestra Rehearsal
10. All School Dance
Homeroom Attendance Reports
Model UN Trip
11. Steel Magnolias Little Theater 7:30 p.m.
12. Steel Magnolias Little Theater 2:30 p.m.
13. 3rd Wing Bake Sale all week
- ARB Meeting 2:30 p.m.
PA Meeting 7:30 p.m.
14. January Newsletter Deadline
Musical Auditions
Piano Recital Auditorium
Girls Bball
15. Musical Auditions
SAC Meeting 7:00 p.m.
16. Pit Orchestra Rehearsal
Musical Auditions
Middle School Chorus Concert
17. Homeroom
Girls Bball
Steel Magnolias Little Theater 7:30 p.m.
18. Steel Magnolias Little Theater 7:30 p.m.
19. Steel Magnolias Little Theater 2:30 p.m.
20. Free
21. Holiday Band Concert 7:30 p.m.
Boys Bball
22. Free
23. Girls Bball
24. Vacation -- No School through January 2, 2005



“Guidance Bulletin”

December 2004

Volume I, No. 13



PSAT/NMSQT TEST SCORES

The **Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT)** is a practice test for the **SAT I**, measuring verbal and math reasoning skills. Most students take the PSAT in the fall of their junior year as preparation for taking the SAT I in the spring of that same school year. Scores on the PSAT are typically not reported to colleges and universities.

In an attempt to protect the privacy of the student, CCHS mails the PSAT scores home along with a pamphlet that is designed to answer questions about the test scores. Expect scores by the winter holiday break.

TRANSCRIPT PACKAGE TIMELINE

Seniors who wish to have transcript materials sent to colleges should submit a **Student Records Consent Form** to Mrs. Tessari in the **CCHS Records Office** at least 10 working days **before** the college deadline. For colleges with a December 31 or a January 1 deadline, the Record Consent Form should be in by **December 10**.

Students who have a **January 15 deadline** should have their consent forms in the Mrs. Tessari **before** the winter break. Students should see their counselor for assistance in filling out the Record Consent Form.



FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

On Wednesday, December 1 from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. the Guidance Department will offer a Financial Aid Workshop in the CCHS Auditorium. Our guest speakers will be Ron and Ryan Parker from American College Planning Service. Topics will include: an overview of the financial aid process and methodology, tips on completing forms, how information is handled at the college’s financial aid office and alternative sources for funding a college education. While this workshop is targeted to parents of seniors, all parents are welcome.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The CCHS Internship Program offers students in grades 11 & 12 the opportunity to work side-by-side with mentors in businesses and community-based organizations. While participating in internships, students can apply academic, technical, and personal development skills that they have learned to “real-world” tasks. Students can expect to learn more about the workplace, careers and new skills. After completing an internship, students will have a professional experience to add to their resumes in the future. If any junior or senior is interested in this opportunity, s/he should see Alison Furey, Career/Guidance Counselor in the Guidance Department between December 21 and January 7.

A Reminder

CCHS Faculty spend a great deal of time writing college references for seniors. Students should remember to write thank you notes to those members of the faculty who have written them.

CC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Each year the **Concord-Carlisle Scholarship Fund** gives over \$90,000 in scholarship assistance to CCHS seniors and graduates. The fund represents clubs and organizations in the communities of Carlisle and Concord that offer scholarship assistance for education beyond high school.

To simplify the process of applying for these scholarships, CCHS students complete a single form, available now in the CCHS Records Office, and provide information from the **PROFILE**, a financial aid form which helps determine financial need. Students should list **0161** on the **PROFILE** form to have their financial information forwarded to the Concord-Carlisle Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship funds awarded from the CCSF can be used for any accredited post-secondary program, including two and four year colleges and technical schools. The scholarships, which are based solely on financial need, are available to any CCHS senior or graduate currently in college.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from

THE CCHS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT