

Charlevoix High School Connection



It is the mission of Charlevoix High School to provide all students with an education leading to social, emotional, physical and academic growth and to promote responsibility, pride and dignity.

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From the Principal

January 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this note finds the new year off to a great start for your family. We have been busy at CHS with all sorts of athletic events, student visits to colleges, the maritime academy, M-Tec center, quiz bowl competitions and a fun-filled evening of "Charlevoix's Got Talent." With February around the corner, please note that we are halfway through the second trimester. Enclosed you will find your student's progress report. As always, I hope it calls for celebration at your house! If you have any specific concerns, please feel free to contact your student's teachers, our counselor, or me. In addition, please plan to attend:

Parent Teacher Conferences: February 10, 12:30 - 3:00, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

February is a big month in preparing for next school year. Our counselor, Mrs. Karrie Gaffney, will be working with students to select courses for next year. I encourage you to review our course enrollment guide with your son or daughter (www.rayder.net) and discuss what classes he or she should be registering for next year. This is an important step in determining our staffing levels and master schedule as we try to meet the needs of our student requests. In addition, I'd like to personally invite you to our upcoming parent meeting where we will cover academic and career assessment data from this school year and assist with course selection/planning information for the upcoming school year. Please plan to join us in the auditorium:

Freshmen & Sophomore Parent Meeting: March 2, 2011, 6:30 p.m.

Junior parents - Please mark your calendars for March 1, 2, 3. Your student will be taking the Michigan Merit Exam on these dates. Attendance is VERY important (as well as lots of sleep and a great breakfast)! A significant portion of the MME is the ACT exam. Colleges and universities use the ACT for entrance requirements as well as scholarship qualifications. In order to better prepare our juniors for this exam, our teachers are preparing them through "ACT like" experiences in the classroom. In addition, we will offer ACT Prep during the month of February for all juniors to assist with test-taking strategies.

Lastly, the end of the **second trimester is March 11.** Students will be taking **exams on March 9, 10 and 11** and will enter new classes on Monday, March 14. Look for report cards around March 18. Student bills and library bills are enclosed. We appreciate you paying within the month, but all accounts must be taken care of by June.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns or just want to offer ways to improve our high school. Thanks for all that you do as a parent and a community member to support our students!

Success for All Kids,
Suzanne Klinger

Counseling Office

Freshmen/Sophomore: Parent Night will be held March 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Topics include scheduling and registration for next year as well as reviewing your child's EXPLORE (freshman) and PLAN (sophomore) tests.

Juniors: Enclosed is a separate letter explaining what Juniors should be doing this year to prepare for college. Please call or stop in with any questions, I'd love to help your student start planning for after high school.

Seniors: Remember to share the good news with the Counseling Office when those acceptance letters arrive in your mailbox. As you finalize your college selection, it is important to inform the other colleges that accepted you if you will not be attending. This allows another student on a "wait list" to receive your spot. Please do not ignore any deadlines concerning orientation and housing. If you receive any e-mails or mailings from a college, READ the material! Colleges give you their personal ".edu" e-mail account and you are responsible to access it to prevent missing important deadlines.

If you are still unsure of your plans for after high school, stop in to see Mrs. Gaffney.

Financial Aid News: The FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*) www.fafsa.ed.gov, is due March 1st but we strongly recommend you submit it as soon as possible and no later than mid-February. To submit the FAFSA, you need a student PIN and a separate parent PIN which can be obtained on the website. It also requires figures from parent & student tax returns, or estimates.

Two helpful websites are:

1. www.careercruising.com *Career Cruising's* interest surveys lead to career suggestions, college links, and college programs.
user name: Charlevoix password: Rayders
2. www.collegeandcareerready.org
This has tools and tips to help in college and career planning.

ACT opportunity: Register at www.act.org CHS code: 230-570

SAT opportunity: Register at www.collegeboard.com

CHS Scholarship Database is available online at www.rayder.net on the High School site and Counseling Office link. Many have hyperlinks to actual applications. Also, all Michigan colleges' Financial Aid departments are directly hyperlinked and have college-specific scholarships. Parents and students are encouraged to visit the Counseling Office to look through the 120 folders in our scholarship files.

All students: If your student is struggling in school or with social/emotional issues, please feel free to call me or stop in so we can work toward solutions. I can set up staffings with teachers or help coordinate between you and the school. Call me at 547-8205.

Thanks,
Karrie Gaffney

ATHLETICS

We are in full gear with our winter sports season. The boys' basketball teams are off to a great start. The girls' basketball teams are doing well and improving each week. The competitive cheer team has been working hard and is excited about each competition. The wrestling team has been battling and has some great wrestlers. The ski team is on the move and enjoying the snow.

High school sports' schedules are at www.rayder.net on the high school *Athletic Schedule* link, on the right side of the page. Go Rayders!

Brian Certa
Athletic Director



FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE: February 2

Visit **PROJECT CONNECT** at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Petoskey, 10 am - 5:30 pm, for help with housing, health screenings, social services, employment assistance, food bags, haircuts, lunch, budgeting, children's crafts, tax preparation, and much, much more. Free transportation available. Some services need ID. Call 1-877-211-5253 for information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 4	NHS induction
February 9	Student Count Day- attendance is important! Band Concert - 7:00 p.m. CHS auditorium
February 10	Half day for students 11:00 a.m. dismissal Parent /Teacher conferences 12:30 - 3:00 & 5:00 - 7:30 pm
February 11	Winterfest Assembly -1:30 Royalty Ceremony - basketball game
February 12	Winterfest Dance - elementary 8:30 - 11:30 p.m.
February 15	ARC/Student Council Blood Drive - Please donate!
Feb. 18-21	Midwinter Break - No School
February 26	Performing Arts Dinner Theatre - auditorium - 6 pm
March 1,2,3	MME Testing for all juniors - attendance is very important. Eat a good breakfast.
March 2	Freshmen & Sophomore Parent night - 6:30 p.m. - CHS auditorium
March 9-11	2 nd Trimester Exams
March 10, 11	Early dismissal - 12:20 p.m.