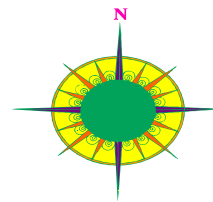

"The Navigator" Principal's Newsletter

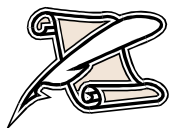


St. Charles North High School

Vol. II No. 4 February 2001

255 Red Gate Road / St. Charles, Illinois 60175 / Phone 630/443-5700
We value feedback from the District 303 community. Write or call us. Your response is always appreciated

Mr. Frank Kesman, Principal
e-mail: MarilynRingsby@st-charles.k12.il.us



"From the Pen of the Principal"

Our second semester has begun, and St. Charles North High School now has something we can call "history". With this first semester of experience behind us, our school has been transformed into a place where students are not only learning but are also enjoying a variety of activities which will help them develop leadership and social skills.

We are already beginning to work on the 2001-2002 school year. This will be another year of transition as our student population is expected to grow from 890 to approximately 1,375 including grades 9-11. With that increase in population, we will again bring a number of faculty members from East High School to join our staff. We will also be in a position to hire a number of teachers from outside the District who will add to our depth of experience and expertise. The Superintendent and the Board of Education continue to support our students through the addition of a number of support staff members for next year including an Assistant Principal for Guidance services, counselors, social worker, and Dean of Students.

I have been asked about my goals for our students and North High School. As we opened our doors last September, my hope was that our students would be able to develop an identity with the new school, that our faculty would work together with common purpose, and that parents would become active participants in the education of their children. In an ongoing process, we are meeting those goals. Presently, we have parents participating on a number of committees, our faculty is working to develop a mission statement through the identification of belief statements, and our students are successfully participating in a number of co-curricular and athletic programs.

In closing, I would like to welcome the families and students of the class of 2005. Our incoming ninth grade students are now on their way to becoming "North Stars" as we work with them on the registration and orientation programs throughout this second semester. Beginning with this issue of *The Navigator*, we will continue to update them on activities at North High School. We welcome each of them, and we know that more good news is on the horizon as we plan for 01-02 and work together for the success of all our students.

Frank Kesman
Principal

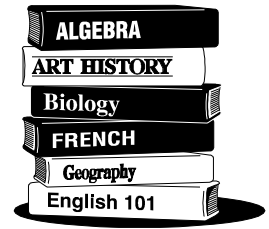
"The Joy of Cola"



Pepsi-Cola, an educational partner, continues to support our students through the establishment of the *Principal's Leadership Program*. This program, established with the financial support of Pepsi, is designed to promote leadership-related activities and the development of those skills in our students. One goal of the program is not only to benefit the individual but also to provide those activities that will benefit the entire student body. To that end, we are thus far providing partial support for a summer Foreign Exchange Program and attendance at a conference this spring for 18 students working in the area of Journalism/School Newspaper/Yearbook. We appreciate the support of The Pepsi-Cola Company and recognize their interest in our students.

CURRICULUM CORNER

By Denise Herrmann



This issue will highlight experiences STC North High School students are having within their coursework that illustrate ways our program is moving from theory to practice regarding implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Strategy One: Standards and Assessment

- Band, Orchestra, and Choir instructors are using videotape assessment to document and measure student learning. Individual student performances are recorded and then analyzed using a rubric aligned with Illinois Learning Standards in Fine Arts.
- Students in La Frontera II are completing a project that targets key learning goals in Art (positive/negative images), Spanish (family culture/vocabulary), and Technology (scanning/image). Students manipulate /merge family photographs using *PhotoShop* to create a new product that represents family/family gatherings.
- The freshman Physical Education curriculum is aligned with the District 303 Wellness Standards. One culminating experience calls for students to apply fitness foundations and demonstrate teambuilding skills while experiencing an extreme sport – Rock Climbing!

Strategy Three: Partnerships among the Schools and Community

- Students in Spanish III are traveling to Richmond Elementary School to serve as mentors to the English as a Second Language (ESL) students. Our students work with the children to assist/translate in the areas of social studies, mathematics, reading, and writing. The high school students benefit from this opportunity through speaking Spanish “on demand”, applying their knowledge of the language to real-world situations, and observing language acquisition in other cultures.

Strategy Five: Innovative Instruction and Use of Technology

- The Foods II Program held an International Foods Festival. Students researched, prepared, and presented an assortment of international foods.
- Driver’s Education students are able to apply and analyze driver safety knowledge and skills using our state-of-the-art driving simulation computer lab. This technology helps to connect classroom learning to realistic scenarios and prepare the students for range/highway driving.
- Students in Drivers Education also participated in a “Car Care Workshop” hosted by the staff/students in the Auto Maintenance course. Students learned the importance of rotating tires, changing the oil, etc.
- In the fall, students in biology conducted a study of the Fox River to gather data regarding abiotic (chemical levels, bedrock type, depth, flow rate) and biotic (aquatic/shore plants, macro/micro organisms, and fish/amphibian) variables. The data was organized, interpreted, and posted on our schools web site as baseline data for future studies.
- Students in Integrated Chemistry Biology (ICB) completed their summer research projects. This project allows students to conduct an experimental inquiry over an extended period of time. Students select an area of interest, develop a question, devise an experiment, collect and analyze data, draw conclusions, and communicate their findings in a “journal-style” article.

New and exciting courses options for next year:

- Integrated Art/English II
- Integrated Art/ World History
- American Studies
- Fitness and Nutrition
- Intro to Spanish
- Principals of Technology

Student Council Serves & Scrubs Its Way Into the New Year

The Classes of 2003 and 2004 worked during the holiday season to help bring joy and hope for the New Year into the hearts of some very special individuals. The Class of 2004 held a toiletry drive during the last week of December in the cafeteria. The drive, co-chaired by Meghan Black and Stenie Le, was a competition between the sophomore and freshman classes to bring in items that had been designated as necessary for families by Lazarus House. The freshman won the competition, and over 300 items were donated to bring smiles during the season.

The Class of 2003 adopted two families through Tri-City Family Services. The service project, co-chaired by Casey Cherco, Christina Frum and Natalie Gridley, involved shopping for and receiving donations from local businesses to feed, clothe, and provide the essentials to a family of four and a single mother with two twin boys. Working together, the North Star Council also donated books, toys and other supplies from local businesses and homes to the children of Hesed House.

To start 2001 off with a success, the North Star Council will be gathering mops, brooms, rags, and buckets as they are currently in the process of working on another service project with Hesed House to be completed in early February. The Council will head to Aurora to work on cleaning the eating and living quarters of the people who live there.

The Council also is planning two dances for the spring, so mark your calendars for these two very important dates. The Class of 2003 will be sponsoring a dance on March 16, 2001 from 8-11 PM and the North Star Council will host Sadie Hawkins tentatively scheduled for April 7, 2000, from 8-11 PM. Watch future issues of the Navigator for further details on Student Council's contribution to making the North Stars shine.

CAREER SPECIALIST NEEDED

Are you interested in working with St. Charles North High School students about career options? We are seeking a person to work part-time as a Career Specialist. The position will run from February through June and the responsibilities will include:

Objective: To assist all students, including students with disabilities, explore career awareness opportunities, provide short term real world work-based learning experiences, develop WBL sites and databases of community resources, educate work site mentors, and assist classroom teachers to integrate career awareness and workplace skills into the classroom via speakers, trips and activities.

Please see our school web site for more information.



We thank everyone who has stepped forward and volunteered to help with parent activities for our high school students. Mr. Kesman stated in the last "Navigator" – "We now reflect on an amazing year of change and celebration. . . and the entire staff of North High School is helping our students develop a unique identity." As parents and partners in our children's school experiences we have the opportunity to be similarly involved. As the entire staff has committed themselves to making the best experience possible for our students, we ask the parents to do the same. Since this is the first year for North High School's PTO, we do not have the traditions, the financial savings, the continuity of basing our activities on past programs and activities that other PTOs in our district can rely upon. We do have the once-in-a-life-time opportunity to develop activities and programs that are truly meaningful to the lives of our children. We need and encourage everyone's help!

One of the unique and tradition establishing activities we must immediately confront is prom. Believe it or not, prom activities are planned, a suitable place in which to hold a prom, and post prom activities "booked," years in advance. We are a fresh new start to a unique educational and social experience of each of our children! Please join us. The Board for your PTO was listed in the previous "Navigator." Give us a call or come to our meetings (or both). We are on the District web page – check us out.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE. . .

TESTING

Testing is a very important part of the educational process. Although there are different kinds of tests, the common goals should be: To assess what a student knows . . . how he or she learns, and to determine what teaching strategies will help the student learn most effectively. Tests are often used by schools to compare each student's level of achievement in specific learning tasks or academic subjects with that of other students in the same grade throughout the country. Colleges often use standardized test results to compare all of the high school students in an applicant pool for a given year.

STANDARDIZED COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS

Some tests help to determine a student's preparation for college and his or her ability to complete first year college work. Two of the most common among these are the ACT (American College Testing Program Assessment) and the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test of The College Board). These tests are generally taken in the spring of the junior year or the fall of the senior year of high school. The results of these exams are one of the factors considered by many colleges in making placement and admissions decisions. There is also a PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) and PLAN (practice exam for the ACT). These tests are available to sophomores and juniors. How important your college entrance test scores are will vary from school to school. Some colleges rely heavily upon test scores while others do not even require them. In most cases, however, test scores are an important part of the college application process and you should understand some of the basics about each of the tests listed below.

PLAN

Originally referred to as the PACT+, the PLAN is given to high school sophomores in order to better prepare them for the ACT. In addition, the PLAN exam includes an interest inventory in which students are encouraged to examine their career goals. Results from this test mirror the ACT test with one exception - the test results range from only 1 - 32 in each area (English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning) whereas the results on the actual ACT exam range from 1 - 36.

PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is the practice SAT exam. The results from tests taken during the junior year are used to qualify students for scholarships from the National Merit Corporation. Some students take the PSAT as a practice for the NMSQT competition as a sophomore, while most students wait until October of their junior year before taking the exam.

ACT

The ACT is used by colleges throughout the country for admission purposes - along with the SAT exam. The ACT examines students' abilities in English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning. The range in scores in each sub test is 1-36. Students also receive a composite score, which is an average of the four subject test scores. The ACT is administered at different times during the year. Like the SAT, the ACT is typically taken in the spring of the junior year and then again, in some cases, during the fall of the senior year. Most schools will accept your highest test scores when you take the ACT or SAT more than once. Additionally, most colleges will accept either your highest test score from the ACT or SAT. Therefore, you may want to consider taking a practice test in each one, and then take the one that you feel is best suited to your strengths later.

SAT I: REASONING TEST

The SAT I is suppose to measure a student's aptitude for learning - not her or his intelligence. The SAT I consists of two main parts - a verbal section and a math section. On each of these sections you are scored within a range of 200 - 800. Sometimes you will hear SAT I scores stated separately (you may have scored a 520 on the verbal section and a 580 on the math section). Sometimes the results are referred to as a single combined score (the previous example of 520 verbal and 580 math would result in a combined score of 1100). The SAT I is also offered a number of times throughout the year. Remember, it is the student's responsibility to pick up either the ACT or SAT registration packets in the Guidance Office and register directly with these companies for the exams. Students also will need to have their test results forwarded to the colleges of your choice. This can be done when you register for the test (by indicating which schools you wish to receive scores) or after you receive your results.

SAT II: SUBJECT TESTS

The SAT II subject tests have replaced the older ACH or Achievement tests used by many very selective colleges. These tests, unlike the SAT I tests, are given to find out how much you know about a particular subject area. Some selective universities require that you take the SAT II test for the purpose of placing you in the proper classes once enrolled, others use these test scores as part of the admission process. It is your responsibility to determine whether your colleges require you to take the SAT II exams - and to find out which specific tests they prefer you take.

PRARIE STATE ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS (PSAE)

The Illinois State Board of Education is in the process of changing the way it tests high school students. In the past, students in grades 10 and 11 were given the ISAT (Illinois Standards Achievement Tests) each February. Starting in April 2001, the state will now test juniors over two days to measure the Grade 11 students on the Illinois Learning Standards in Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Science. The PSAE items will come from three components: (1) students will take an actual ACT exam; (2) students will take two parts of the ACT Work Keys assessment (which is a measure of students' readiness for making the school-to-work transition in Reading for Information and Applied Mathematics) and (3) Illinois State Board of Education developed assessments in writing, science and social science. The dates this year for the PSAE are set for April 25 and 26, 2001.

TEST TIPS

BEFORE THE TEST

- Take as many challenging courses as possible.
- Read as much as you can to improve your vocabulary.
- Be aware of all dates and deadlines.
- Practice taking the real test under test-taking conditions and review areas where the practice test revealed weakness.
- Obtain and study the current "Taking the SAT" and "Preparing for the ACT" booklets. These are available in the Guidance Office with the registration materials.
- Consider the pros and cons of enrolling in a test preparation course (St. Charles East and North High Schools have several references available - additionally, an eight week test prep course is taught on one of our campuses in February of each year).

ON THE TEST DAY

- Allow plenty of travel time and arrive early.
- Dress comfortably and bring a sweater or jacket in case the room is cool.
- Do not eat a sugary breakfast (low blood sugar decreases concentration).
- Do eat breakfast!
- Be prepared with proper identification, several sharpened pencils, proper calculator (if allowed) and your SAT/ACT admission ticket.
- Take a piece of fruit for the break.

DURING THE TEST

- RELAX... Undue nervousness can hinder your concentration. Stretch and slowly relax muscles. Breathe deeply and slowly.
- LISTEN... closely to directions.
- Don't spend too much time on any one question.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Guess wisely, eliminate choices (be aware that there is no penalty for guessing on the ACT, but there is a penalty for wrong answers on the SAT).



Teacher Assistants Needed

- Starting Pay at \$9.16 - \$10.84 per hour, depending upon education & experience
- Health & Life Insurance provided for those working over 30 hours per week

Rewarding Work in a Great Community In Quality Schools!

Inquire at:
St. Charles Community Unit School District 303
201 South Seventh Street
St. Charles, IL 60174
Voice: 630-377-4807
Fax: 630-513-5392
Online: <www.st-charles.k12.il.us>

Peer Leaders Selected for 2001-2002

The Peer Leadership Program recently selected the leaders for the 2001-2002 school year. Peer Leadership is a "big-brother/big-sister" mentorship program that pairs upperclassmen with incoming freshmen. Each pair is also part of a lunch hour group that meets throughout the year.

The selection process began in early December and had many stages. At first, over 200 individual reminders were delivered to students regarding an informational meeting. This meeting was also in the announcements as well as posted in the halls. The candidates then had to complete an application, have three recommendations filled out, and participate in a group process activity.

The selection team numerically assessed each candidate in four areas: application, recommendations, group process, and staff feedback. The group process involved having small teams of candidates plan and build card houses. Staff members, both current Peer Leadership advisors and other staff from around the building, watched the students interact in the activity. The final list was posted on January 19. The decision making process was difficult, considering the high level of the pool of candidates.

2000 Asbestos Annual Notification

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) requires annual notification concerning inspections, surveillance and response actions for asbestos containing materials in schools. These are requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA).

St. Charles School District #303 has completed the required six-month surveillance inspection of school buildings in August, 2000. Training of new and existing custodial and maintenance staff was completed in August, 2000. At Wild Rose and Lincoln Schools asbestos floor tile and mastic was removed in July, 2000. At Haines Middle School pipe covering was removed in July, 2000.

Copies of these reports and the management plans are available for review at each school and the Facilities Management Office. All questions can be directed to Designated Person for Asbestos, Mr. Dan Horniacek, 513-4414.

St. Charles School District #303 will continue to address all safety considerations regarding asbestos in schools to ensure the safety of all students, staff members, parents, and community members.

Keith Strutz
Director of Facilities Management



Notes from the Nurse

In order for us to give medication at school, we must have a written order from your child's physician, co-signed by a parent or legal guardian. **This applies to both prescription and non-prescription medication.** The medication must be in its original pharmacy container, clearly marked with the student's name, the dosage, and the name of the medication. The medication will be kept in a locked cabinet in the nurse's office and dispensed by a registered nurse.

Medication Authorization Forms are available in the nurse's office. If you have any questions, please call me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Wilma K. Van Arragon, R.N., C.S.N.



Talent abounds at St. Charles North High School. From the east end of the building (music and theater) to the west end (gym and pool), our kids are continuously there for each other, showing support and encouragement. Here, Katia Malarsky sings the Star Spangled Banner at the start of the St. Charles North Mens' Swimming Invitational, in January.

School Failure, Choice of Friends Are Major Factors in Teenage Risk Behaviors

Teenagers who are failing school and "hanging out" unsupervised with friends are at high risk for a number of dangerous behaviors, according to the largest survey ever conducted with adolescents in the United States. Those teens are much more likely than other teens to drink alcohol, carry or use weapons, smoke cigarettes, or engage in early sex, the survey found.

Results from the survey, known as the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health), they contradict widely held beliefs about youth health problems, revealing that although race, income, and family structure play a role in risky behaviors, they are extremely weak predictors of whether teens will actually participate in those behaviors. In fact, school failure, substantial time spent "hanging out," and other related factors combined are three to eight times more likely to predict risky behavior among teens than race, income, and family structure combined.

"If our goal is to understand young people and protect them from harm, we must abandon our focus on demographic factors as determinants of risky behavior," said Robert Blum, principal investigator of the study. "Instead, we need to focus on factors in the immediate environment that have much more to do with whether a young person will have a viable future and whether he or she is among peers who reinforce positive behaviors or anti-social behaviors."

(Source: "News Leader", January 2001, Vol 48, No. 5, ISSN 0278-0569)

WHAT TO DO, *If you suspect that your child is using alcohol/other drugs. . .*

Guidelines to help parents address this issue

If you discover your child under the influence:

- ❖ Remain calm, do not enter a conversation at that time.
- ❖ Talk with child's other parent if possible and work together.

Make a list of all the indicators that cause you to suspect use by your child.

- ❖ Be factual, concrete, and specific about what you have seen and heard.
- ❖ Include information you have been given by others (protecting anonymity when possible.)

Talk with other concerned family members who may have observations of their own.

- ❖ Share your feeling of fear and concern with them.
- ❖ Help siblings feel safe about sharing information with you by assuring them that it is the best interest of your family.

Talk with the parents of your child's friends.

- ❖ Be open and honest about your concerns.
- ❖ Keep in mind that your child's (and perhaps their child's) well-being is more important than concern of a potentially negative impression.

Check with the school to ask if there is or has been concern by anyone about your child.

- ❖ Seek advice from a substance abuse professional about your suspicions.
- ❖ Share the information you have gathered.
- ❖ Ask for references of places to seek help.

Plan the discussion with your child in advance.

- ❖ Include both parents when possible.
- ❖ Agree on the steps you are going to take.
- ❖ Set a time when everyone is calm.
- ❖ Never talk to your child while he is under the influence.

Talk with your child.

- ❖ Always approach your child with genuine love and concern (stating fear and disappointment is appropriate).
- ❖ State your reasons for your suspicion (remember to be factual and remain as nonjudgmental as possible).
- ❖ Expect that your child will most likely deny, blame, and minimize what you are stating (work hard to remain calm and keep factual).
- ❖ State your plan.
- ❖ Make it clear that the plans are mandatory, not a choice (Remember that you are the parent).
- ❖ Be thorough and complete with all expectations and consequences if your child fails to meet the stated expectations.

Do not waver from your plan.

- ❖ Be firm! It is easy to be swayed by the child who may insist that you are overreacting and that there is no problem.

"Schweer's Lockerroom Talk"

The St. Charles North Athletic Website is up and running. You can get updated schedules, contest scores, coach contact information, and directions to any high school in the State of Illinois. Put us on your favorite list: www.st-charles.k12.il.us/schools/stcnorth/stcnorth.htm and click the Athletics button.



Wrestling - John Jung, Lead Coach

The first Wrestling season for the North Stars has started out great. Our overall record is 16-6-1. Out of 377 matches wrestled, we have won 265 and only lost 112. Our overall stats are excellent. We are taking people down 2-to-1 and pinning people 2-to-1. The sophomores were wrestling JV level in which they are 6-2-1 overall. On the freshmen level, we are 10-4. The freshmen have not lost a dual meet with their starting line-up in place. Over Christmas, the freshmen went to a Frosh/Soph tournament and took 1st place. Out of 11 wrestlers, we had 7 in the finals. All 11 placed and brought home medals. We currently still have three freshmen that are undefeated on the freshman level - Tom Fullmer, Brian Youngerman, and Ron Signore. Hopefully our freshmen team will be the school's first conference champion team. Our conference meet is on January 20th.

North Star Boys Basketball - Mark Smith, Lead Coach

The Sophomore Boys Basketball team is currently 7-7. They started the season at the Lockport Sophomore Thanksgiving Tournament, where they finished as the tourney champions. They have also played in the Glenbard West Sophomore Christmas Tournament, where they came in second place. Most of the regular season games have been against JV teams from the Upstate Eight Conference. The team is playing hard and improving on their basketball skills daily. We are anxiously looking forward to next year when we will play a full Varsity schedule.

Girls Basketball Roundup - Mike Zernone, Lead Coach

The Freshman Girls Basketball team has continued to improve both as individuals and as a team. Their overall record is 7 wins and 4 losses and they are 4-2 in conference play. The "B" team has posted a record of 3 wins and 5 losses and a 1-4 conference record. Through hard work and team play, the freshmen group has achieved some early success. Much more is to come from this hard-working group.

The Sophomore Girls Basketball season has been both an exciting and productive one. The team played their very first Varsity competition against a tough Kaneland High School team at the Burlington Central Thanksgiving Tournament. The North Stars held more than their own versus their older and more experienced foes as they competed and played in some very close games. Another of the high marks of the season was their consolation championship during the Christmas tournament, where the North Stars brought home their first trophy of the young season. They have continued to improve and turn the heads of doubters throughout the season. This group of hard-working, competitive and dedicated individuals is beginning to form the foundation of an exciting and successful Girls Basketball Program.

North Star Men's Swimming & Diving - Rob Rooney, Lead Coach

Happy New Year from the Men's Swimming and Diving Program. The North Stars are hard at work in the pool and weight room building a tradition that all will be proud of for years to come. These gentlemen are responsible for setting the groundwork that future North Stars will be honored to follow. The swimmers and divers just came out of Christmas "STOTAN" workouts and are eagerly looking forward to the championship season fast approaching in February.

The North Stars are competing at the varsity level in conference and tournament play. As of January 10, 2001, we are two and two in duals and finished 5th in the Neuqua Valley Fresh/Soph Invite and 7th in the prestigious 42nd annual Hinsdale Freshmen Invitational.



A group of talented artists executed our first student generated mural titled "Fire and Water." When starting this project, students Rita Grigaliunas; David Hilborn; Akeem Horton; Jennifer Langendonk; Maggie Porter; Lynnette Waters; and Danny Zager, agreed they wanted to focus on the natural elements of wind, water, sun, and fire. They worked as a team in their painting class to make decisions about composition, color choice, brush techniques and execution. Under the guidance of staff member, Ann LaBotz, the students found it challenging to blend their styles together collaborating as a team to achieve a beautiful wall hanging. The mural was unveiled at the winter holiday assembly on December 20th, 2000. It now hangs in the entrance of the cafeteria.

Technology Team News

Our staff and parent volunteers on the Technology Team have been focusing on creating vision and belief statements. The following vision statement has been accepted:

"St. Charles North High School will prepare the school community to utilize current and emerging technology for life-long learning and success in our global society."

Our belief statements are now in draft format. Comments and suggestions are welcome and may be sent to LucyKempton@st-charles.k12.il.us.

Belief Statements

Technology is a critical tool for life-long learning.

Technology provides alternative ways to accommodate students' learning styles.

Technology enhances collaboration among staff members, students and the global society.

Effective use of technology supports the development of essential skills such as flexibility, adaptability, critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration.

It is imperative for the school community to have access to electronic information.

Networked technology systems permit efficient and effective communications within and outside the school community.

Effective use of technology requires ongoing systematic staff development.

Technology is a tool used to address a need.

Technology should be an integral part of the curriculum.

The school community should embrace the responsible, lawful and ethical use of technology.

Effective use of technology requires investments of time, money and people.

Our schools must prepare students for today's workplace and the workplace of the future.

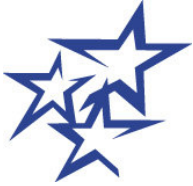
Student Activities Office*Dr. Debbie Kling*

The Student Activities Office is pleased to announce that service is an important initiative we hope to nurture and encourage here at SCNHS. Before the holidays, North Star Ambassadors participated in a service learning component helping out at Brighton Gardens, a local retirement community on the eastside of St. Charles. Key Club, FCCLA, and Student Council generated service outreach drives adopting families for the holidays and in another initiative gathering food and personal grooming supplies for our local Salvation Army, Hessed House, and Lazarus House. It is important that we continue to support our students as they explore service learning opportunities. It is a terrific way to build community relationships that will have long lasting effects on each and every individual. This next semester, we will continue to expand our scope to generate even more participation for our service organizations. Although the most satisfying reward will be the gratitude of the recipients, our students also have the benefit of achieving real world learning by participating in these opportunities.

Each month during our school year, the Student Activities Office has included at least one big event to build school spirit and enthusiasm for during our inaugural year. So far, major events have included the Fall Fling, Autumn Ball, and Holiday Assembly (ask your student about the "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire, Auditorium Etiquette" scenario). Second semester we have some upcoming social events that we hope you encourage your student to participate in. In January, the "Let It Snow Dance" showcased our new mezzanine in the gymnasium, February is the Valentine Dance, Sadie Hawkins on April 7, and ending the year with a Spring Fling featuring a Courtyard Carnival. Other events to build school spirit are in the making too. This should give our students lots of opportunities to socialize and experience new spaces and faces in our facility. Remember, dates are not necessary for these events, so encourage your student to come in a group or with a friend.

Our recognition displays are starting to take shape as we work with our staff member, Steve Mahoney and his Wood's Class to make display rails for 16 x 20 photographs of our student body and events that continue to occur in our new school. One display case across from the cafeteria entrance features each month's Breakfast with the Stars award recipients. Check out the 3 x 4 foot Aerial Star Photo mounted in our front foyer. It has normally a small crowd of students gathered around it. We think they are attempting to try and pick out in the photo exactly where they were standing when the airplane took our picture.





Breakfast with the Stars

We are especially proud of our "Breakfast with the Stars" for December, January and February. During our school year, educators and staff here at St. Charles North High School are given the opportunity to nominate a student who exemplifies major contributions or significant accomplishments to our new high school.

December's Stars

Recipient:

David Brackmann
Michael Corpolongo
Lynn Dosedel
Oliver Gust-Osinga
Jennifer Haseltine
Katie Huffman
Nicole Kozlowski
Jillian Teegarden
Rudy Zucker

Nominated By:

Sandy Padgen
Justin Dohm
Carolyn Roys
Michael Geist
Virginia Wright
Jaime Mitchell
Linda Feiza
Troy Courtney
Diane Bearrick

January's Stars

Recipient:

Hugh Armstrong &
Roman Plaszewski
Michael Cianciarulo
Natalie Gridley
Nirupa Kartha
Brent Maher
Tim Milano
Max Miller &
Matthew Speare

Nominated By:

Brian Maloney
"
Carolyn Roys
Natalie Nelson
Sherri Kurczewski
Jennifer Farrell
Eva Carr
Steve Mahoney

February's Stars

Recipient:

Kori Roys
Jeff Nesbit
Layne Phillips
Stacey Beary &
Alissa DePue
Adam Kunos

Nominated By:

Carol Troth
Gary Freund
Audra Christenson
Sharon Soper
"
Kevin Scotellaro

ALTERNATIVE SCHEDULING

A joint high school task force has been researching alternative schedules and better uses of time at both East and North High Schools. We invite all interested parents and community members to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, February 8th from 7:30 - 9:00 PM in the Little Theatre at East High School.



Providing for a Safe and Secure School Community requires everyone to be cognizant of safety measures especially when driving on our school campus. Please use the appropriate automobile route when dropping off or picking up your child from school. For safety measures, do not use the bus lane before and after school because of pedestrian traffic. Remind your student if they have a parking permit to also practice good driver habits by yielding to our bus traffic while on our campus and DRIVE SLOWLY!

ID UPDATE

Did you know that your student needs to have an ID to get into dances and activities here at SCNHS? Being able to identify our students is a safety issue, and we request that our students carry their ID on them at all times. Students who need new IDs may purchase replacements in the Learning Resource Center for \$5. Don't leave home without it.

The breakfast program is videotaped each month and shown on the AT&T Broadband Cable Network throughout the current month on alternate weeknights between 7 and 8 pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Breakfast with the Stars** - February 8 and March 8
- **Sweetheart Dance** - February 9
- **Winter Play "You Can't Take It With You"** - February 16-18
- **High School/Middle School Band Concert** - February 20
- **Choir & Band Concert** - February 26
- **President's Day** - Schools closed on February 19
- **High School/Middle School Orchestra Concert** - March 1
- **Teachers' Institute Day** - No school for students on March 2 & 5
- **The Dance** - March 16
- **International Week Celebrations** - March 6-9
- **Constellation Concert** - March 22
- **Authors' Festival** - March 14 - 16
- **Spring Break** - Schools closed March 26 - March 30
- **School Resumes** - April 2
- **End of Third Quarter** - April 6
- **Sadie Hawkins** - April 7

District Website

www.st-charles.k12.il.us

St. Charles North High School
255 Red Gate Road
St. Charles, IL 60175



The mission of Community Unit School District 303 is to educate students who will have the competence and character to excel in the global community as responsible citizens and life-long learners

