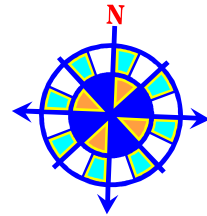


"The Navigator" Principal's Newsletter



St. Charles North High School

Vol. II No. 6 June 2001

255 Red Gate Road / St. Charles, Illinois 60175 / Phone 630/443-5700

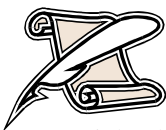
Mr. Frank Kesman, Principal

We value feedback from the District 303 community. Write or call us. Your response is always appreciated

e-mail:mringsby@d303.org

PTO NEWS

This has been a year filled with adventure and challenge for the PTO. We have been involved with many activities, hoping to help make this inaugural year for North High School a memorable and productive one for the entire school community. We are thankful for all the parents who have volunteered hours upon hours. Listening to students, parents, and staff we have heard an expressed excitement and sense of pride at what has been accomplished so far. As we look forward to our second year, we ask for your continued assistance. PTO Co-Presidents Karen Porter and Kim Manny welcome all the support you can offer. Both are listed in the school directory. We have a few committee positions available for next year. If you are interested in helping out, please call either to offer your help. Parents are an essential component in producing a strong, viable school community. Please join us.



"From the Pen of the Principal"

Certainly, this has been an amazing year!

The foundation of our school began when the very first meetings with students were held in August, 1999. Little did I realize how significant those meetings with nearly 175 future North Stars would be. Students were able to share their ideas regarding how they wanted "their school" to serve them. I listened carefully. That beginning has developed into a climate where student learning now takes place in an environment of respect, integrity and enthusiasm. The North Star spirit is well established and will serve to welcome new classes of students for many years.

Denise Herrmann soon joined me to implement our established curriculum to meet the needs of the students. Tom Schweer followed with his expertise and incredibly flexible personality to lay the foundation of what is already a successful athletic program. Mark Gould directed the transition process related to student expectations. The Instructional Coordinators formed the nucleus of a new style of instructional leadership. Audra Christenson (Wellness), Donna Considine (Special Education), Richard Jones (Humanities), Lucy Kempton (Media & Technology/LRC), Brian Wegley (Science, Technology, Mathematics & Business Ed.), and Kathy Zimmer (Global Studies) focused on the concepts of high expectations, continuous review of curriculum and inter-disciplinary education. As Directors, Debbie Kling (Student Activities) and Marv Leavitt (Guidance) exerted their leadership to establish programs outside the classroom that would compliment the total high school program.

I cannot express strongly enough the wonderful support and commitment to our students and program that parents and staff have shown over the last 18 months. Numerous parent support groups in music and athletics have been established. At the same time, a dedicated PTO has become active. I must express my appreciation for their support, ideas and encouragement during this first year. Finally, the staff must be recognized for their commitment, enthusiasm and flexibility. Those students, parents and staff who have become involved understand the journey just traveled. You are the reason for our success. We have joined in partnership to establish expectations and chart the course for this new place known as St. Charles North High School. I am in debt to each of you.

The future is ahead. As we continue to build on established traditions and rely on each other for support and encouragement, the path will be made smoother and the successes only greater. I look forward to the years ahead and to the opportunity to be a participant in this grand endeavor.

Frank A. Kesman
Principal



Dr. Bruce Lane
Assistant Principal for Pupil Personnel Services (PPS)

NEW PPS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

At its March 12 meeting the Board of Education of CUSD 303 approved the employment of Dr. Bruce Lane as Assistant Principal for Pupil Personnel Services at St. Charles North High School. In this position, Dr. Lane will provide leadership in the coordination of those comprehensive services that relate directly to students outside of the classroom. Those services include all aspects of guidance and counseling, college and career plans as well as attendance and discipline.

Dr. Lane most recently has served as Principal of the Aurora Community School. Prior to that position, Dr. Lane served as Assistant Principal for Student Services at Woodstock High School in Woodstock. Other experience includes Assistant Principal, Student Support Team Coordinator and Social Worker at Lyons Township High School in LaGrange. He began his career as a Social Studies teacher with the Black Hawk College Area High School Program in Moline, Illinois.

"I believe that building level administrators play a critical role as catalysts and facilitators for school-wide actions that help students to become actively engaged in the learning process, assume personal responsibility for their lives, show respect for themselves and others, and acquire the social and cognitive skills necessary to succeed in the working world" said Lane.

Lane completed his undergraduate work in Sociology at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. He earned his Master's Degree in School Social Work and his Doctorate in Educational Organization and Leadership from the University of Illinois in Champaign.

"Dr. Lane brings a broad perspective and a wide array of experience to District 303", said Mr. Frank Kesman, Principal of North High School. "He will exert positive leadership as we work to bring a team approach to our student services program".



Mock Trial

The St. Charles North High School Mock Trial Team is an academic team in which students assume the roles of attorneys and witnesses in preparation for competition with other schools. A case, which is provided by the State Bar Association and Local Bar Association, is argued both from the plaintiff/prosecution and defense side. In competition, each side of the case is argued and heard by real judges and lawyers and scored accordingly.

This year, the newly formed St. Charles North High School Mock Trial Team competed in the Annual Kane County Bar Association High School Mock Trial Program at the Kane County Judicial Center on April 27, 2001. The North Stars argued the defense side of the case, which involved a patron suing the local grocery store (defendant) for negligence. The group of Sophomore Alex Bradley (attorney), Sophomore Ryan Johnson (attorney), Greshman Oliver Osinga (witness), and Freshman Tim Timberlake (witness) successfully argued and won their case against a tough Batavia High School Team, which consisted of upper class students (juniors and seniors). These young men are to be commended for the hours of hard work and dedication.

A special thanks to Mike Alther, who served as faculty advisor for the team.



Curriculum Corner

“Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”

- Albert Einstein

As the quote from Einstein shows, if schools simply repeat the use of the same educational strategies, static results will follow. Therefore, we need to continue to ask ourselves – “what new curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices can be put in place to achieve new / improved results in student learning?” However, one may wonder - when do teachers and administrators tackle the lion’s share of this work – the reflection, revision, and/or creation of new courses and curriculum? June, July, and August!

The culture and climate of STC North is one where teachers, not just students, learn. Here, teachers focus on their own practice and their conversations center on the direction in which the curriculum can lead student thinking. They try new approaches, monitor the effects, and reflect on the successes and failures. In brief, improvements in teaching and learning are nurtured and supported by our culture of collegiality and innovation.

Examples of summer curriculum and course work in which a variety of STC North staff will participate include:

- *Teambuilding* course; an opportunity for all North team teachers to build/strengthen personal and professional relationships, to refine course structures and objectives, to establish purposeful roles, and to begin to co-plan curriculum.
- *Standards and Assessment work*; teams from Social Studies, English, Science, and Foreign Language will work to refine learning standards, clarify/write new course indicators, and create common assessments to measure the extent to which students have met standards.
- *Curriculum Renewal*; teams of teachers from Chemistry, Spanish, Geometry, Biology, Physics, and C++ will work to align and enhance the existing curriculum.
- *Advanced Placement Training*; teachers from Biology, Calculus, and C++ will attend extended AP Conferences held at local Universities to learn about

new curriculum frameworks and innovative testing protocols.

- *RRC Challenge Course*; staff members will explore a wide variety of practical diagnostic, interventive, and preventative strategies for managing today’s classroom and re-directing challenging behaviors toward respectful, responsible, and cooperative participation.
- *Understanding by Design Course*; in this course teachers will explore answers to the questions; “How will we know that students truly understand and can apply their knowledge in a meaningful way?” and “What instructional strategies are both engaging and effective for developing student understanding?”
- *Assessment Camp at North HS*; new and experienced STN teachers will examine current research and create high quality assessment tools that are aligned with fair grading practices.
- *Graduate course work* at local Universities

The professional development work of teachers and administrators serves to improve the quality of curriculum and instruction we provide to the students – but it also serves as a mechanism to renew teacher’s enthusiasm for the profession. Michael Scott Cain (2001) sites ten major qualities of renewed teachers, they:

1. have a philosophical center
2. have a commitment to students, to lifelong learning, and to the school
3. are aware that they are an integral part of the school
4. have a sense of personal responsibility
5. have a strong love for all aspects of life
6. have the ability to see all students as individuals
7. have the ability to communicate
8. exhibit a sense of collegiality
9. have a strongly developed sense of leadership
10. separate their egos from their work

The investment of time and resources in summer staff development is a Win-Win situation for the entire school community.

“One of the greatest things an organization can do is to help people give voice to their dreams, and provide the means by which people come together to create something greater than themselves. It is the gift of leaders to release the aspirations of others”

- James Champy

“An Update”

The fourth quarter of this school year took us all by surprise. Certainly, no one expected that North and East High Schools would come together to complete the school year. I was often asked, “How are things going”? Bringing two schools totaling 3,500 students and 275 staff members together was not a simple task. I am appreciative of the many conversations, notes and telephone calls of support.

Our students were a significant reason behind our success. The leadership and the staff of the two schools planned a transition, and worked to establish a climate of cooperation. But, it was the day-to-day behavior of the students from both schools that proved to be the deciding factor. Our students opened their school and extended their friendship to their peers from East High School. Not every accounting you may have read in local newspapers accurately reflected the positive relationship that existed in our hallways. Was the situation consistent with our expectation of excellence? I would say that was not the case. We reduced instructional time and caused many families to adjust their daily schedules. Teachers and students were brought together in an unusual set of circumstances. However, given the time to prepare and the limitation imposed by existing facilities, I believe our students accomplished much.

A 50+-member committee of parents, students, staff and administration is presently working on identifying possible schedule options for this September. Five different possibilities reflecting various stages of availability of East High School are the focus of the committee’s work. An initial update was provided to the Board of Education at their June 11th meeting with a follow up discussion at a special meeting scheduled for June 18th in our auditorium.

While the options are many, the information and recommendations shared with the Board of Education will reflect the following established criteria:

- Provide contact time which is comparable to the typical District 303 high school schedule.
- Provide access to District 303 curriculum, course selection and support services.
- Provide students access to District 303 co-curricular activities and athletic programs.
- Consider the impact on families throughout District 303.
- Provide access to transportation, food and maintenance services.
- Allow for the culture and traditions of all schools in District 303.

Since no one knows what portion of East High School will be available to students, all alternatives must be discussed, with preparations in place for possible implementation. A safe re-entry to East High School and timeliness are critical elements for our students. I would encourage you to be pro-active and express your position and concerns by contacting your Board of Education members, local and state officials and Regional Superintendent, Clem Mejia. The students and staff of St. Charles North High School are prepared to be active participants in the resolution of this issue. Only by working together can the best possible opportunities be made available for our students.

Frank A. Kesman, Principal

Regional Superintendent
Clem Mejia
210 South 6th Street
Geneva, IL 60134
cmejia@kane.k12.il.us
630-232-5955

Board of Education / District 303 Admin Office / 377-4802
Mr. Stephen Cole
Mrs. Janet English
Mr. Chris Hansen
Dr. John Hanson
Mrs. Lori Linkimer
Mrs. Ginny Waller
Mrs. Mary Jo Knipp
Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Francis Kostel / 377-4802

Illinois State Board of Education: Superintendent Glenn W. McGee www.isbe.state.il.us
Board Chairman Ronald J. Gidwitz



BETWEEN THE LINES

As we conclude the inaugural year of the North Star Athletic Program, it is a good time to reflect on the past year and celebrate our successes as we gear up for the challenges of our first year as a true Varsity program.

The Spring Sports Program deserves a hearty round of applause. Functioning under extremely difficult circumstances – no home fields and the transition of St. Charles East to North High School, the North Star spring athletes and their families responded as true champions. A four o'clock departure from school dictated a late arrival to all contests except the closest opponents. And since most of our contests were away due to lack of home fields, we arrived late. . . a lot. Regardless, we got all the contests in and very often had the largest fan following. The parents very well may have been the heroes in this situation. Our athletes are truly blessed with families who whole-heartedly supported them. In case your athlete didn't thank you: Moms and Dads, thanks for adjusting your schedules to allow you to attend the games. I know it's harder than your kids realize. Moms (or Dads), thanks for making a second (or third or fourth) dinner, sometimes as late as 9:00 in the evening. The success experienced by the athletes during the spring is a direct result of school and family working together to provide kids the best opportunities regardless of the situation.

Spring successes. . . you bet. How about those Girls' Softball and Soccer teams. A first round win in the IHSA Tournament. Then it took the #1 seed to beat them in a hotly contested second round contest. Boys' and Girls' Track was represented at the IHSA State Meet by John Brackmann (mile), Stephanie Sommer (High Jump) and Kyndra Curtin (100, 200 and Long Jump). How about Dave Masoncup and Joe Vycital qualifying for the State Tennis Tournament and enjoying success after they were there. Not only did the teams participate at the Tournament, they scored team points. Let's not forget Baseball, Volleyball, and Badminton. Although not participating on the Varsity level, Baseball battled to the last game of the season for the mythical sophomore title. Badminton and Volleyball experienced successful season runs though competing against Junior Varsity teams. Way to Go Blue. We'll be back again . . . and again.

As we head into the summer, we look forward to our inaugural opening of all our outside facilities along with hosting Varsity contests in all our sports. We realize there will be additional challenges in the upcoming year, but if our rather short past history is any indication, our athletes, parents, and coaches are more than ready to meet and overcome any obstacle.

Have a great summer.

Hey Blue
Go North Stars!

Guidance News

- Summer School – Registration for the second session of summer school (July 2 – July 20) will be taken in the North High School Guidance Office throughout the month of June. Many classes fill up quickly so you are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible. For the first time Enrichment Courses (not for credit) will be offered during summer school in many areas of study this summer, including Photography, Drawing, Writing, Film Study, Wood Technology, and Reading.
- Information on College of Dupage's Teens on Campus summer school offerings is also available in the Guidance Office. The Teens on Campus Program offers a wide variety of high school credit classes taught at several locations (i.e. Carol Stream and Glen Ellyn). In order to receive credit at North High School for these courses, students must complete an "Alternate Schedule Request" form and gain our school's approval PRIOR to enrolling in this coursework.
- Throughout the summer members of the Guidance Department will be available to help students plan for their future. Students/parents who would like assistance with the college and career search process are encouraged to call the Guidance Office (630-443-5716) to make an appointment to meet with one of the counselors.

Important Dates to Remember:

June 11 –29	Summer School Session 1
July 2 – 20	Summer School Session 2
July 13	Completed Registration Forms & Fees due
August 21	Junior Materials Pick-Up Day
August 22	Sophomore Materials Pick-Up Day
August 23	Freshman Materials Pick-Up Day
August 27 – 28	Late Registration & Materials Pick-Up Days
August 29	Freshman & New Student Orientation Program
September 4	Opening Day of School

Student Activities

This past year we have worked to address how to help students feel part of a brand new school community. We have addressed positive actions within clubs and activities that have encouraged our student body to take an active role in building a school community that involves kids. Through our students organizations, we have learned more about ourselves and how student leaders and their advisors can make a difference in creating a positive school climate. Creative endeavors such as the Community Tile Mural Project, the handprints on the cafeteria wall, personalizing our school, and recognizing student success have been the fabric that has helped weave together a patchwork of exciting and meaningful experiences for our entire student body.

Our activity advisors and student leaders have had unique roles because of their high profile among the student body. Not enough praise can be said of the advisors who nurtured new clubs and organizations. Next fall, we bring Brian Maloney, from the Learning Area of Global Studies, onboard as the Freshman Class Advisor. Brian has already been working this last quarter with our current Student Council to build a rapport with these students. Student leadership elections for the 9th graders will be held during the second week of September. Please encourage your student to get involved in these exciting opportunities.

"Getting Involved" is what it's all about. Social relationships are really so very important to our students and feeling connected to something bigger helps nurture not only their self-esteem but also the connections important to building our school community. Together, with parents and students, we can help students find ways to work together through both academic teams and the many diverse club opportunities available to our student body.

"Have as many stellar days as you have star-filled nights . . . North Star Country has arrived!"



Breakfast with the Stars

We are proud to acknowledge the recipients of the "Breakfast with the Stars" Award for the months of April and May:

<u>April Recipient</u>	<u>Nominated By</u>	<u>May Recipient</u>	<u>Nominated By</u>
Richard "Joel" Robinson	Heather Timmins	Bethany Rabelhofer	Mark Smith
Rachel Kruzan Matthew McCollum	Mike Kuper "	Ben Boedewig Joe Dornan	Steve Mahoney "
Paul Licitra Daniel Serewicz	Debbie Kling "	Stephanie Fraioli Stephanie Hinkel	Dave Krodel Forrest Wagner
Lynae Polanin Amanda Zaferopulos	Mark Moore "	Megan Horn	Kelly Perry
Megan Visagie	Peter Gleason	Benjamin Jay	Bill Stepien



The St. Charles North High School Music Program participated in the Smoky Mountain Music Festival in April and enjoyed great success. The Sophomore Chorus, Sophomore Band, Orchestra, and Treble Choir all received First Ratings and the Freshman Band and Jazz Band achieved Second Ratings. The experience was exciting, rewarding, and helped the North Stars begin to develop a sense of pride in their program and look forward to it's continued development.

While in Gatlinburg, the students enjoyed many cultural experiences. Along with the competition, there were exchanges of ideas with students from other schools as well as hearing other musical groups perform. Many of our students commented on these activities as being rewarding as well as exciting. Since we only have freshmen and sophomores, participating and sharing with these older and more accomplished performers was extremely valuable.

The students also enjoyed visiting with the townspeople and getting a "feel" for the "old south". Many were taken with the friendliness of the residents but really enjoyed their accents the most. The students also took a tour of The Smoky Mountain Park. Learning about the park's history and value to our national pride was almost as exhilarating as the majestic beauty that surrounds you when you are there.

We will continue to offer these experiences to our students and hope you'll continue to support our efforts to provide them. There is much value in broadening one's horizons while at the same time contributing the same to others.

COMMUNITY TILE MURAL

The project of the Community Tile Mural was funded through a grant from The Greater St. Charles Education Foundation. It focused on the implementation and installation of a ceramic tile mural to be installed in the "Link" around the windows. The philosophy behind the project is building a sense of community within our entire school. The grant funds offered students and staff an opportunity to participate in a hands-on activity creating, interpreting, and presenting a visual historical all-school mural that will be permanently installed this summer in our "Link" hallway. Each staff and student was given the opportunity to create a 5" x 5" terra cotta tile that will become a permanent installation in our new home.

PTO parents have helped tremendously in facilitating this project working during lunch hours to help students complete their star tiles. This is a lasting legacy to cap off our Inaugural Year!



Students working on their tile for the Community Tile Mural

What To Teach Your Kids Before They Leave Home

What skills should parents teach their children before they "leave the nest"? Of course, qualities such as morality and honesty are of overarching importance, but what practical skills are important in life?

It would be great if by 18 every young person could do the following:

DOMESTIC SKILLS

- ❑ **Cook (don't just open and pour!)** a traditional breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- ❑ **Wash and iron clothes** without ruining them (plus, removing spots).
- ❑ **Replace a button**, baste a fallen hem and polish your own shoes.

Extra credit: Make a loaf of bread (without a machine) or bake a cake from scratch.

PHYSICAL SKILLS

- ❑ **Throw and catch balls** of all sizes without breaking your fingers.
- ❑ **Swim half a mile**, tread water for half an hour and float for an hour.
- ❑ **Ride a bike** with confidence.

Extra credit: Be able to get a kite up in the air, keep it there, and bring it back down in one piece.

HANDYMAN SKILLS

- ❑ **Hang a picture straight** without making extra holes in the wall.
- ❑ **Paint neatly**, including cleaning up the mess.
- ❑ **Know which tools perform what functions** and how to use them around the house.

Extra credit: Sharpen a knife without cutting yourself.

OUTDOOR SKILLS

- ❑ **Hike with friends** all day without getting lost, bitten, or covered with a rash.
- ❑ **Bait a hook**, catch a fish, reel it in, remove the hook, then clean and cook the fish.

- ❑ **Plan and manage a weekend camping trip** with friends.

Extra credit: Know enough about the wildlife in your area to recognize and feel like a friend to the animals.

PRACTICAL SKILLS

Type well with both hands in the normal manner.

- ❑ **Set up your own computer system** without help from anyone.
- ❑ **Drive a car**, including one with a manual transmission, and maintain it properly.

Extra credit: Change a flat tire.

ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

- ❑ **Create a budget.** Note: It takes longer to earn money than to spend it.
- ❑ **Balance a checkbook** manually, even if you bank online.
- ❑ **Maintain an address book** and a personal appointment calendar.

Extra credit: Set up a filing system to keep all of the paperwork in your life in one place.

SOCIAL SKILLS

- ❑ **Carry on a conversation** for 15 minutes with a person you don't know.
- ❑ **Speak before a small group** of friends for a few minutes.
- ❑ **Tell a joke** well enough so that everybody gets it and maybe even laughs.

Extra credit: Learn enough ballroom dancing so you can have fun at parties. (Trust me on this one!)

ARTISTIC SKILLS

- ❑ **Draw an illustration at least well enough** to get your point across.
- ❑ **Have enough confidence to sing along**, even when everyone else can hear you.
- ❑ **Know how to play a musical instrument** well enough to enjoy playing in a group.

Extra credit: Learn how to take a decent photograph, so you won't be disappointed later, when it's developed. For example, you can't shoot fireworks with a flash!

HUMAN SKILLS

- ❑ **Care for a dog**, cat or other animal, including when it's sick.
- ❑ **Baby-sit** for children ranging in age from 6 months to 6 years.
- ❑ **Aid elderly** or handicapped people without looking superior.

Extra credit: Help a person in need without exposing either one of you to danger.

ORIENTATION SKILLS

- ❑ **Get around town** on a bus, even if you usually walk or drive.
- ❑ **Read a map**, including road maps.
- ❑ **Know what to do** if you find yourself in a bad neighborhood.

Extra credit: Know which direction is north, south, east, and west (without a compass) whenever you're outside.

RECREATION SKILLS

- ❑ **Play a team sport** instead of just watching.
- ❑ **Maintain a fitness regimen.**
- ❑ **Learn a game** (like bridge or chess) you can play with friends for life.

Extra credit: Know how to ride a horse, handle a boat, or enjoy a snow sport.

SURVIVAL SKILLS

- ❑ **Know basic first aid** and maintain a complete first-aid kit.
- ❑ **Know what to do if you get sick**, especially if you're alone.
- ❑ **Know when to defend yourself**; then know how to be effective.

Extra credit: Know CPR. The life you save may be your father's or mother's.

TIME CAPSULE CEREMONY

Celebration and ceremony was one of the final inaugural opportunities presented on Tuesday, May 29th, as the Time Capsule was placed in an engraved cornerstone in the Courtyard. School Board members, along with our Superintendent, Dr. Kostel, joined staff members and our student body as the cornerstone was laid in place. "Strolling Strings" orchestra students played music as the ceremony opened under a blue sky. Students were eager to know what went into the welded copper box. The students and staff were polled a few weeks earlier. They specifically asked that certain things be in the copper box: the "star" photo (an enlarged version permanently hangs in the front hall), a popular CD, a video, a course proposal book, a class and staff roster of the Inaugural Year membership, and newspaper articles depicting the opening of school were some of the special treasures placed into the box for archival purposes. When will the Time Capsule be opened? No one knows for sure, but our historical moments of our first year have been forever captured and placed for future generations inside the wall.



Visiting Artist Festival – Three North Star students critiquing pottery made by visiting artists.

VISITING ARTIST FESTIVAL

The Visiting Artist Festival was alive and well at St. Charles North High School during the week of May 14 through May 18. Funded by generous donations from the two East and North High School PTO's, the event has given students the opportunity to see real artists at work performing and creating works of art. Five professional "Dueling Potters" dazzled students on Tuesday, May 15, in the cafeteria from 10:00 am TO 1:30 pm. On Thursday of that week Todd Willing, a local artist, set up shop with his metalwork sculptures and welding. Friday showcased "Face Painting" and students left campus looking a little more decorated than when they arrived. A special thank you to the PTO's gracious donations that helped to make this annual weekly festival a special event.

CAN YOU HELP US?



Our Tech and Scene Shop in our new theater is in need of props. Anyone who has desks, tables, lamps, chairs, sofas (not sleeper sofas), coffee tables, paintings, wall decorations, kitchen tables and chairs and would like to donate them to a new home please call Joe Pietrie, our Technical Theater Manager, at 587-7103.



HUMANITIES LEARNING AREA



In order to better understand the components of our Learning Area, we share the following definition with you. At SCNHS we define the Humanities as:

The Humanities are the creations of humans expressing the human condition. The Humanities are a manifestation of what is fundamental to the human endeavor as shared across time in the creative outpouring of all peoples, namely through architecture, drama, literature, music, and visual art - including photography and film. To study the Humanities is to study the record of human experience as conveyed in the artistic endeavor of thousands of years of human history. The Humanities and the study of Humanities moderate the objective knowledge of science and mathematics, thereby providing a more complete and richer context for the discovery of human understanding. At SCNHS the Humanities are the blending of three separate, traditional disciplines, Art, English, and Music, into one Learning Area: Humanities. (reprinted from the *St. Charles North High School Course Offering Booklet*)

This summer English teachers will be working on "focusing" the District's Language Arts learning standards. Our work will involve a review of the current standards, a division of those standards into age appropriate target standards (meaning we will coordinate the "focusing" of certain standards at certain grade levels), and the rewriting of appropriate indicators.

Furthermore, we will begin our music standards work - in earnest - next year as we seek to define high school level music standards for the District. We hope the data collected from the ISAT Fine Arts assessment, given to each sophomore in early April, will go a long way to clarify these music standards.

For questions or comments, please contact Richard C. Jones, Instructional Coordinator for Humanities at: (630) 443-2737 or rjones@d303.org.

"Humanities Happening"

The "Humanities Happening" was hosted on Friday, May 11, to celebrate the Learning Area of Humanities at St. Charles North High School. Marking the opening of the school's first musical, the event was held in the auditorium foyer. Under the direction of the Instructional Coordinator, Richard Jones, the Humanities team invited staff to participate in writing poetry, singing a round, and making a ceramic star tile for the Community Tile Mural Project. The food, catered by the Getaway class of St. Charles East High School, showcased hot blueberry muffins, fruit skewers, watermelon basket, cherry almond tarts, and more! The Humanities Learning Area encompasses English, Literature, Visual Art, Theater/Drama, and Music.



NHS Staff enjoying "Humanities Happening"

The Greater St. Charles Education Foundation

As part of its efforts to enhance education opportunities for the students of CUSD 303, the Board of Directors of the Greater St. Charles Education Foundation has established as a priority the Project Grant Program.

The Foundation has accepted the following grant proposals written by St. Charles North High School staff members for the 2001-02 school year:

- **Balanced Band Instruments Grant** for \$2,400 was written by Jim Stombres, Band Director. This money will be used to purchase band instruments for student usage. The focus of this grant was on the continued implementation of balanced instrumentation in our Band Program at North High School.
- **Power of The Web Grant** for \$4,663 was written by Brian Wegley, Instructional Coordinator for Science & Technology/ Math & Business Education. This money will be used for developing on-line materials for student and staff usage. (i.e. Creation of interactive and individual learning situations that will be customized for each learning area. Creation of practice tests to aid with student's mastery of content – Student comprehension of content and long-term learning have been demonstrated to increase with such individual accountability.)
- **Sister School Program Grant** for \$4,000 was written by Sharon Soper, Foreign Language Instructor. This money will be used to help fund an Electronic Sister School Program for which District 303 has no funds. This program would enable students to be matched to other schools around the world in an attempt to provide a means for the students to communicate with each other on a daily basis.
- **Digital Imaging to go Grant** for \$4,000 was written by Linda Goll, Art Instructor. The Greater St. Charles Education Foundation grant for 2000-01 school year enabled NHS to purchase one G-4 computer and monitor for visual arts areas. This money for the 2001-02 school year will be used to build on that foundation for a "portable digital imaging station" which could be used anywhere in the

building. This equipment will be used by all Learning Areas as a resource for digital imaging and multimedia presentations.

Thank you to The Foundation for all its hard work and continued support. The North High School students and staff appreciate your support.

FCCLA State Leadership Conference

Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Since its founding in 1945, FCCLA (formerly FHA-HERO) has involved more than nine million youth.

The Illinois FCCLA 56th annual State Leadership Conference was held April 20-21 in Springfield. At the conference 1,100 members and advisors demonstrated leadership by participating in proficiency events, showcasing community service projects, exploring careers, attending educational sessions, and electing officers.

Over 500 students throughout the state participated in proficiency events, previously competition being at Section Level. A "Most Outstanding" rating is awarded by the judges to the participant whose presentation was above and beyond all others in that particular event. The following students represented St. Charles North High School in competitive proficiency events:

Scott Joanis – Food Production: Salad. Scott was awarded 1st and Most Outstanding IN STATE!

Stephanie Sommer- Culinary: Relish Tray. Stephanie was awarded 1st and Most Outstanding IN STATE!

Tony Boezio and Stephanie Brady – Storytelling. Tony and Stephanie were awarded 2nd place in Team Storytelling IN STATE!

Congratulations to all participating students!

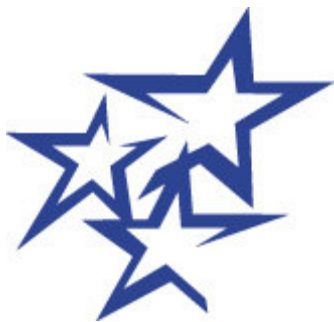
Dates To Remember

- II **Summer School Session 1:** June 11 - 29
- II **Summer School Session 2:** July 2 - 20
- II **Registration Forms & Fees Due:** July 13
- II **Sports Registration for All Girls' Fall Sports:**
August 9
- II **Sports Registration for All Boys' Fall Sports:**
August 10
- II **Junior Materials Pick-Up:** August 21
- II **Athletic/Activities Code of Conduct Meeting:**
August 21 or 22
- II **Sophomore Materials Pick-Up:** August 22
- II **Freshman Orientation & Materials Pick-Up:**
August 23
- II **Late Registration & Materials Pick-Up:** August
27 - 28
- II **Freshman & New Student Orientation Program:**
August 29
- II **Opening Day of School:** September 4

NEW
DISTRICT WEBSITE

www.d303.org

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



to excel in the global community as responsible citizens and life-long learners