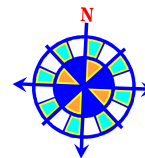

“The Navigator”

Principal’s Newsletter



St. Charles North High School

Vol. III No. 1

October 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: mringsby@d303.org



“From the Pen of the Principal”

The opening of our second year has certainly been memorable. We have traditions on which to build, many “firsts” to celebrate, and tragedy with which to cope. Our students and staff have been able to deal with each, and I continue to be proud of the climate of learning and respect that exists at St. Charles North High School.

It may seem like a long time ago, but we successfully began our second year with any number of activities that included PTO and parent involvement, new varsity athletic and activity programs, and a junior class that was ready to assume responsibility as the school’s “*Charter Class*”. I am appreciative of the continued parent interest and support of our school. PTO news can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Much has changed at North High School. We welcomed a new freshman class, 2005, and have started the process of helping them understand the benefits and responsibilities of being a member of the North Star family. This brings our student population to 1,343. With additional new students and another freshman class next year, we can expect our student population to be around 1,825 when we reach full four-year status. My experience tells me that this is an ideal size.

The District level administration and the Board of Education have been very supportive of our growing population by providing additional staff. These additional positions include an Assistant Principal, a Dean of Students, two counselors, a Social Worker, a reading specialist, and seven non-certified staff. Most importantly, twenty-nine additional positions provide direct service to students in the form of additional classroom teachers. We are fortunate, indeed, as St. Charles continues to be able to draw quality candidates. Virtually every new staff member

is involved in the total development of students by participating in activities outside the classroom through sponsorship, coaching, or curriculum development.

As our student population begins their junior year, our focus in the PPS Department will be to assume new strategies and activities designed to assist students and parents with the ever-increasing questions related to vocational, career, and college exploration. Dr. Bruce Lane, Assistant Principal, is providing leadership in this area. I invite you to look elsewhere in this newsletter to read about plans being formulated throughout the year by his staff.

School Improvement, curriculum initiatives, and staff development remain the responsibility of Mrs. Denise Herrmann, Assistant Principal. The investment in our staff and the emphasis on curriculum revision, State Standards alignment, and assessment of student performance remain high on our priority list.

Finally, I want to express to you how proud you should be of your children. It is our privilege to see them every day in a way that you often do not. Their response to the tragedy in New York gives rise to hope for the future of our country. Shock, anger and dismay gave way to sympathy, spontaneous initiatives of support, renewed patriotism, and a sincere desire to make a better future. My generation is leaving a mixed legacy; their generation is preparing to assume the cloak of responsibility. In not too many years, I will be prepared to leave my future in their hands.

Frank Kesman
Principal

Brief Notes from P. P. S

Welcome!

The entire staff of the St. Charles North Pupil Personnel Services Learning Area welcome you, the North Star students, parents, and community members to a new and exciting year at St. Charles North High School! As the proverbial "star" dust settles from the whirl-wind activities of the first few weeks of school, the Pupil Personnel Services staff want to remind you that we are here to help you navigate your way through the galaxy of questions that will arise during your voyage through high school. The counselors, deans, social workers, psychologist, nurse, police liaison officer, student assistance counselor, registrar, secretaries, and deans assistants are here with an "attitude of assistance" to help support your journey through high school to your future.

Each month the Pupil Personnel Services Learning Area will provide the "Brief Notes from P.P.S." as one means of communicating to you important and helpful information. In addition, a variety of other channels of communication will be available, including: direct contact with P.P.S. staff members, the P.P.S. web-page, information in the student newspaper, brief articles in other district publications, public address announcements, special events, and special information packets. To help us in providing you the information that you need, we encourage you to contact us with any questions you may have. We also encourage you to suggest questions or topics you would like us to include in our "Brief Notes" and other communications. Feel free to call us at 443- 5716 or e-mail us at blane@d303.org to ask questions or suggest future topics.

We are excited to have the opportunity to serve you during this new year and throughout your journey at St. Charles North High School!

Dr. Bruce A. Lane
Assistant Principal for PPS

CAREER AND COLLEGE CORNER

College Testing

While the freshmen are busy getting oriented to high school life and working to develop the understanding of high school expectations for academic work, behavior, and citizenship, sophomores and juniors are looking to the future. By the end of their freshman year, most upper class students have developed a preliminary career direction and have begun the planning that will help them achieve their goals. A critical part of the plan for college bound students is their participation in college testing programs.

The registration packet that each North Star student received contained a page that described the appropriate testing information for college bound students. Test registration or registration materials can be obtained in the PPS Office. *If a test date conflicts with a SCNHS official event that cannot be re-scheduled, please contact Dr. Lane at the Guidance Office.* Below is a summary of the information that was provided.

Sophomores. High honors sophomore students who are preparing for the National Merit Scholarship Competition will want to register in the PPS Office for the **PSAT/NMSQT** (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). The PSAT is designed as a first step for high honors sophomores and juniors to get practice in taking the SAT exam. The test taken during the junior year is also used in entering the National Merit Scholarship Corporation Competition for scholarships and recognition. The PSAT/NMSQT will be given Saturday, October 20 from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. at St. Charles North High School.

Sophomores also may take the **PLAN** test, the practice test for the ACT College Entrance Examination. The PLAN contains a career exploration interest inventory and four academic tests in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning that simulate the ACT Exam. All St. Charles North High School sophomores are encouraged to take the PLAN Exam. Registration for the PLAN is from October 1st – 5th and costs \$14. Checks should be made out to St. Charles North High School. The PLAN Test will be given Saturday, November 10th from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. at St. Charles North High School.

CAREER AND COLLEGE CORNER (Cont'd)

Juniors. The **PSAT/NMSQT** is designed as a first step for juniors to get practice in taking the SAT Exam. The test taken during the junior year is used in entering the National Merit Scholarship Corporation Competition for scholarships and recognition. The PSAT/NMSQT will be given Saturday, October 20 from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. at St. Charles North High School.

The SAT is a worldwide college admission testing program consisting of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT I) and Subject Tests (SAT II). The **SAT I** is a three-hour test, primarily multiple choice, that measures verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities. The **SAT II** consists of one-hour tests measuring a student's knowledge in a particular subject. A maximum of three subject tests can be taken during the testing period on any one day. Students should check college catalogs to determine if the SAT II tests are required for the colleges to which they are applying.

Both the SAT I and SAT II are offered multiple times throughout the year at various testing sites listed in the registration booklet. To register for the SAT I and SAT II students must pick up registration packets in the PPS Office, complete the forms and send them with a check or money order to the College Board in Princeton, NJ. Registration for the May 4, 2002 SAT I test date at St. Charles North High School is February to March 29, 2002. Registration for the June 1, 2002 SAT I at a site to be announced is March to April 26, 2002. The SAT I costs \$25. The SAT II Subject Tests are also available on May 4 and June 1, 2002 test dates. The SAT II costs approximately \$30 for three tests.

The **ACT** (American College Testing Program) is another college admission test that many colleges, universities, and community colleges may require. Students should carefully check the college catalogs of the school they want to attend to determine if the ACT is required for admission. The ACT measures the knowledge, understanding and skills that a student has acquired in the areas of: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. It is recommended that the ACT be taken in the spring or summer of a student's junior year.

The ACT is offered multiple times throughout the year at various testing sites listed in the registration booklet. The ACT will be given at St. Charles North High School on April 6, 2002 (registration deadline March 1st) and June 8, 2002 (registration deadline May 3rd). Locally it can also be taken at Elgin Community College on December 8, 2001 (registration deadline of November 2nd) and February 9, 2002 (registration deadline of January 4th). The ACT costs \$24.

The Prairie State Achievement Examination

The **PSAE** (Prairie State Achievement Examination) is one of the *most* important exams for *all* juniors. It is a test required by the State of Illinois for *all* high school juniors in Illinois. This challenging two-day assessment consists of the ACT college entrance exam, test in Writing, Science, and Social Studies that were developed by the Illinois State Board of Education, and two ACT WorkKeys exams testing Mathematics and Reading skills specifically geared to the workplace. State Law requires that each student's best results of the PSAE be noted on the student's permanent transcripts. Students are encouraged to do their absolute best on these exams. Those who do not meet State Standards are encouraged to retake the test in the fall to improve their scores.

The PSAE will be given to all juniors at St. Charles North High School on April 24th & April 25th. Students who perform their best on this test will benefit greatly by having strong, positive results on a State-wide test on their permanent record. Students who perform with excellence on any one of the five PSAE tests can earn a Prairie State Achievement Award from the State of Illinois. A strong performance by all St. Charles North High School students on this State-wide test will benefit *all* North Star students by clearly showing the academic excellence that their school has achieved and will bring positive recognition to each individual student and the entire North Star community. For more information regarding the PSAE, go to the ISBE Web site: www.isbe.net/isat/prairiestatenew.htm.

Two College Fairs Help Students Explore Colleges

St. Charles North High School students and parents who are interested in getting more information about specific colleges have two outstanding opportunities to do so through locally sponsored college fairs. On Monday, October 2nd, starting at 6:00 p.m. Elgin

CAREER AND COLLEGE CORNER (Cont'd)

Two College Fairs Help Students Explore Colleges (Cont'd)

Community College will sponsor its popular College Night at its campus. On April 2nd, starting at 7:00 p.m., the tradition of an annual District 303 College Fair will continue. The College Fair will be co-hosted by the PPS staff of St. Charles East High School and St. Charles North High School. The College Fair will be held at St. Charles North High School and is open to students and parents of St. Charles High School and neighboring schools.

At each of these college fairs over 100 colleges from more than seventeen states will be available to answer student and parent questions and provide important information about their colleges and universities. These fairs offer an excellent opportunity for students and parents to become familiar with the wide range of colleges and universities that are available. These nights offer a great opportunity to gather the information and materials that will help narrow the field of choices.

Career Planning

In today's rapidly changing world career planning is an increasingly important process. Career planning activities are developmental in nature. Throughout the four years of high school, counselors and teaching staff help students to examine and clarify the strengths, interests, attitudes, and skills that they have and how those might fit into a career. Career development begins with an understanding of self, expands to an understanding of the current and future career options, and ends in a decision-making process in which students determine what career options they feel they are best suited. Career planning activities for freshmen may focus on gaining a greater self-awareness. For juniors these activities may shift to job shadowing, on the job training, or internship programs. For juniors and senior years the meaningful selection of post-high school education opportunities that align with career directions become extremely important activities.

Throughout high school counselors, parents, and others help students to learn the skills necessary to successfully shape one's chosen career path. Talking about the career options that are and will be available, how current course work relates to future career opportunities, and plans for obtaining the information and resources necessary to pursue a chosen career are all important ways to help students think in terms of career planning.

Parent Talk

***Notes to Parents and Concerned Adults:
Responding to the Needs of Our Students in Times of Crisis***

When tragedy turns our worlds upside down parents, teachers, and other caring adults are the primary supports that help our youngsters through the crisis. In these extreme times, it is important to understand that there are no "right" or "wrong" answers regarding how we respond to the needs of our students. Helping our youngsters is as simple as continuing to be an honest, caring, supportive, and responsible adult in their lives.

While being a responsible, caring adult in our youngsters' lives is the bedrock upon which our help is built, there are a number of useful things that we can consider as we respond to our students and help them make sense of their worlds. The suggestions below represent the collective thoughts of the counselors, social workers, and psychologist of the St. Charles North Pupil Personnel Services Learning Area. We offer them in hope that they are helpful to you and your youngsters.

- **TAKE TIME.** Making time available to the youngster to sit down and talk about the event is an important first step. When given a chance to talk about a crisis, people will vary in the degree to which they will actually talk. Some will talk a long time and have many questions. Others may need only to talk briefly about the event. Still others may choose not to talk at all at that time. What is important is that they know the opportunity to talk is there if they want it.

Parent Talk (Cont'd)

- **LISTEN.** People often work through the meaning of an event by “talking through it.” If a youngster is willing to talk about their perceptions and feelings related to a tragic event, listening actively to them can be a major source of support.
- **SHOW CONCERN FOR THE PERSON.** We can often tell if a person is experiencing stress related to an event by the way they act or appear to us. Sometimes, however, we may have only a “gut feeling” that they are in distress, but nothing we can “put our finger on.” In both cases, it is very appropriate to show active concern for that person by asking him or her “How are you doing?” or “How are you and your friends doing?”
- **BE REALISTIC AND TRUTHFUL.** As you listen to the young person’s concerns and questions, be truthful and honest in your answers. Gather as much information as you can in order to help them separate fact from rumor. If there are things that you know about the situation, share the information accurately. If there are things you don’t know about it, don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t know.” Talk to the students in a frank and honest manner.
- **VALIDATE THE FEELING OF FEAR AND OTHER EMOTIONS.** People experience a wide range of fears and emotions related to a crisis. It is important to let the person know that the fears and emotions they feel are a normal part of the process of dealing with this kind of event and that you know it is real to them.
- **REASSURE THEM THAT TEARS ARE APPROPRIATE.** Some students need reassurance that crying is okay. If a student needs to cry, reassure them that it is okay, and provide them silent support. If they feel uncomfortable crying where they are, offer to find them the privacy they need.
- **DON’T AVOID THE ISSUE.** It can be expected that the event will be the topic of countless television, radio, and personal discussions. Rather than trying to avoid the issue or protect the student from the issue, what is truly important is allowing the student opportunities to talk openly about the issue as a family or classroom or caring adult. Talking about the issue as a family provides an important opportunity for families to help their sons or daughters clarify the family’s values.
- **MONITOR THE EXPOSURE A CHILD HAS TO THE EVENT.** While it is important not to avoid the issue, it is important to monitor the exposure that youngsters may have to the event. Young children may be overwhelmed by the continuous stream of information and pictures that television provides. Be sensitive to their needs and provide quality time away from the news.
- **TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, MAINTAIN NORMAL ROUTINES.** People reacting to crisis situations need at times to be reminded that normal routines, e.g. eating, sleeping, homework and attending school, will help regulate the stress. People find comfort and security in their routines. To the extent possible, help them maintain these parts of their lives.
- **PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.** Outdoor activities (e.g. playing catch, walking, basketball, exercise) or recreational activities (e.g. watching movies, playing games, going out to eat) can relieve stress and help youngster take their minds off the crisis. Exercise provides a healthy way of dealing with normal stress.
- **KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE ON THOSE FOR WHOM YOU ARE CONCERNED.** If you are concerned for a student, keep a watchful eye on them and offer opportunities for them to talk or deal with the situation. Just knowing that genuine, caring support is available is sufficient to get kids through tough times. Provide those opportunities by showing concern and asking if they are okay.
- **REMAIN HOPEFUL.** While it is important to be realistic and honest, it is equally important to remain hopeful and positive. Students look to us to be assured that their lives are in control. Providing an honest sense of hope is an important part of that feeling of control.

Parent Talk (Cont'd)

- **REASSURE THEM THAT THEY ARE SAFE.** It is important to reassure students that they are safe at school and at home. This is an extremely rare event. It is important to help our youngsters put this into perspective.
- **SEEK HELP AND SUPPORT FOR YOURSELF.** As we deal with our youngsters, it is important that we take care of ourselves. As necessary, seek out those who can support you in supporting our kids.

Again, there are no right or wrong answers as we help our youngsters deal with this and other tragedies. These suggestions from the counselors, social workers, and psychologist of the St. Charles North Pupil Personnel Services are not exhaustive. However, they are useful beginnings for us as responsible, caring adults working to help our kids.

PTO NEWS

The North PTO is still in its infancy but growing stronger all the time. We started the school year with a fun corn boil that brought students, parents, and faculty together to celebrate the start of a new school year. A huge thank-you to all the volunteers, especially Mr. Mike Zema, who orchestrated the cooking process of the evening.

You will see the PTO involved in many ways this year. Every Wednesday morning, the Post Prom Committee will be selling those delicious Krispy Kreme Donuts to raise money to help defray the cost of the Duck Boat. "The Duck Boat", you ask? Come to the next PTO meeting to find out!

Did you know we have Market Day? Every month you can purchase groceries from Market Day, and proceeds will help fund activities for our kids. You can pick up an order form in the Main Office. We still need help with the Bagel Sale, Beautification, and Newcomers Committees. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the PTO meetings. They are held the 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the LRC. Both the Student Council and Principal have reports, and it's a great way to stay in touch with what's happening at our school.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH. We hope to see you there!

PARENT RESOURCE NETWORK

The St. Charles North High School PTO is currently in the process of developing a Parent Resource Network. The focus of this network is to provide parents with resources on a variety of topics ranging from drug and alcohol use to ways that we as a community can support our children. We are planning to offer topical information nights that will give parents an opportunity to participate in small group discussions as well as receive information from invited guest speakers on the variety of issues/challenges that high school students (and their parents) are faced with every day.

If you would like to be involved in the planning of the Parent Resource Network or have a topic you would like to see included, please contact Mrs. Jan Stark at 513-5883.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY ADDENDUM

The PTO will be publishing an addendum to the school directory. If there were errors or you inadvertently got left out, please fill out the form on the following page. Please indicate on the form if an error was made and what the correction should be. Drop the form off in the Main Office by October 10th. If there isn't a signed form, we cannot put the name in the directory. The addendum will be available for pick-up in the Student Activities Office later in the month.

NORTH PTO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Parents' Names(s): _____

****Permission to put name/phone number in Student Directory:** _____
(Parent Signature Required)

Telephone Number: () _____ () _____
(Home) (Work)

E-Mail Address: _____

Student(s) at North HS: _____ Grade Level: _____

(RETURN THIS FORM TO MAIN OFFICE BY OCTOBER 10th FOR NAME TO BE PUT IN ADDENDUM.)



“BETWEEN THE LINES”

It seems hard to believe that it has been a little over a year since the St. Charles North Athletic Program first stepped into the athletic arenas. Certainly, the program's successes are frequent and extremely well documented in the local media. I have no doubt that our student/athletes will continue on this stellar path of competitive accolades.

However, as we develop into a four-year program, I would like to ask all parties involved in our program the question: What are the signs or benchmarks of a program's success? Are they the outward or traditional measures such as championships, scholarships and won/loss record, which are so often used by the media and people external to the program? I would hope that the true measure of an athletic programs success is characterized by rich interactions between coaches and athletes, fostering a wealth of positive character attributes and values which our athletes are exposed to and taught daily?

I would suggest that unswerving attention to our values, beliefs, and interactions will go a long way towards producing the outward signs of success, while insuring that our student/athletes receive long-term benefits from participation in the North Star athletic program.

Daily operations, participation levels, and successes in an athletic program, which draws from 2,000 students, will be markedly different from a program, which drew from 3,300 students. It is our job as coaches to identify and adjust to the necessary changes, while developing a program in which every member, from athletes to managers to staff, strives to maximize their potential. It is only through an effective partnership between parents, athletes, and coaching staff can the North Stars continue to successfully compete with schools significantly larger, both in and outside of our conference. I have no doubt we will meet the challenge.

Go North Stars!



"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LRC?"

The LRC Needs You!

We are looking for a couple people available during the day to cut newspaper articles for our vertical file and our sports/activities scrapbook. If you have an hour two times a week that you could volunteer with us, please call Cheryl LaMaster at 630.443.5669.

If you have a computer Pentium II or newer that you no longer use and are looking for a tax deduction, consider donating it to the LRC for use as an online public access catalog. Our computers are in constant use and we are looking for stand-alone computers for walk-up card catalog access. Call Mrs. LaMaster at the number listed above.

If you have any children's books in good condition that you are willing to donate, we have several teachers that will be using them in several units this year. We are interested in picture books through 3rd grade reading levels.

We are also interested in receiving your bestseller books when you are through reading them. You can deduct half the cost of the book up to \$600 from your taxes as a charitable donation if you itemize. Books can be delivered to the library on any school day during operating hours: 6:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

<http://www.d303.org/schools/scn/stenlrc/stenlrc.htm>

usernames and passwords for North High School databases:

ProQuest:	<u>0073SDG9MT</u>	Best Poetry:	<u>scn</u>
	welcome		stars
FirstSearch:	<u>100107647</u>	Current Bio:	<u>scn</u>
	that8kexp		stars
Electric Lib:	<u>IL\$#1-ILHome</u>	Britannica:	in library
	ILRemote		only

Note from the Nurse

Freshman parents: If you have not submitted the FRESHMAN PHYSICAL EXAM to the Nurse's Office, please do so immediately. We are required, by Illinois State Law, to exclude students who do not have a current physical exam on file, and we would like to avoid that situation.

Also, if your child requires medication to be given at school, please have the required form filled out by your child's physician and cosigned by you. These forms are available in the Nurse's Office and are required for **both prescription and non-prescription medication.**

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE?

Does your son or daughter know what they want to do for the rest of their life? Have you heard these questions: "What should I do after high school?"; "Where should I go to college?"; "What should I study when I get there?" If you haven't, you soon will be spending time discussing with your son/daughter the various options. Want to help them out?

Well, SCNHS has a program in their curriculum called, "**Internship**". It is a one-semester job shadowing program for juniors and seniors. Students receive one-half credit for 75 hours of participation outside of school. The **Internship Program** allows flexibility for those students who are involved in athletics and activities.

This semester we have students involved in the following areas: Radiology, Mechanical Engineering, Pediatrics, Meteorology, Elementary and Secondary Education, Neo-Natal Care, Physical Therapy, and Theatre Production and Direction.

Interested? Contact your guidance counselor or call Mr. Gary Freund, Math/Business Instructional Coordinator at 443-2754.



Curriculum Corner

North High School Welcomes Parents

On Tuesday, September 18, over one thousand STC North HS parents attended Back-to-School Night. There are many reasons why so many parents attend this event, but two key factors are: getting to know the staff (teachers, counselors, advisors) and learning about the classes. As a school, we want parents to see first hand our enthusiasm for teaching, our passion for our subject area, and our care for students. Also, we try to share information with parents related to the curriculum design, classroom management techniques, instructional strategies, and assessment practices that will be implemented in the various courses. We hope we were able to achieve many, if not all of these goals. We received positive feedback/comments from numerous parents, teachers, and counselors. However, if you have any suggestions for improvement, please feel free to call (443-2762) or drop Assistant Principal, Denise Herrmann a note.

Current Projects

- **Mentor Program:** STC North HS is proud to welcome 36 new certified staff members (teachers, counselors, psychologist, and social worker). One important way our school provides support to our new staff is through a mentor-mentee partnership. Each new staff member is matched with an experienced staff member who provides formal and informal guidance. We also hold monthly workshops with the entire group to share key components of our culture and climate, as well as give pointers on performing operational matters.

- **Technology Integration:** This summer over two-dozen STC North teachers participated in courses and workshops designed to integrate technology into the curriculum in a meaningful way. Teachers are using technology in the following ways:
 - ⊕ WEB pages dedicated to courses that provide unit outlines/ timelines and links to other resources
 - ⊕ WEB-based practice problems for students where they sample unique sets of questions and obtain immediate feedback on accuracy
 - ⊕ Imbedding the use of multimedia tools in classroom teaching and student presentations/projects, such as PowerPoint, Inspiration, and Publisher.

Upcoming Projects

- **Revision of Course Offering Book:** STC North and East High Schools will work collaboratively over the next 3 months to create a new and improved Course Offerings Book. Some of the work will include: revision of course descriptions, designing an improved format, and updating/ clarifying the HS enrollment and registration policies and procedures.
- **Electronic Progress Report and Grading System:** STC North teachers will be learning a new component of our student management software system. The benefits to teachers include: more options for comments/qualitative feedback, faster data entry, and limited access to student profiles. The benefits to students and parents include receiving more detailed/specific information on student progress. Meeting the hardware needs and conducting the software training will happen throughout the first semester.



ST. CHARLES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND ADVISORS 2001- 02

ACTIVITY**ADVISOR NAME(S)**

Adventure Club	Audra Christenson
Art Club	Ann LaBotz
Chess Club	Jennifer Shoaf
Class of 2003, Advisor	Natalie Nelson
Class of 2004, Advisor	Dave Krodel
Class of 2005, Advisor	Brian Maloney
Debate Team	Trisha Olson
DECA	Gary Freund
FCCLA	Debby Scully, Colleen Fasbender
Flag Team	Shannon Drew
Future Educators of America	Colleen Fasbender, Marge Trayser
Galaxy Council	Debbie Kling
Hockey	Kathy Zimmer
H.O.P.E.	Julie Harbecke, Kristin Kulzer
Internet Club	Mike Geist
Key Club	Erin Fasbender, Kim Munro-Krusz
Lacrosse	Jack Elliott
Literary Magazine	Gregg Mundt, Jennifer Shoaf
Madrigals	Dale Morgan
Math Team	Mark Moore, Justin Dohm, Nicola Wethall
Mock Trial	Mike Alther
Multi-Media Computer Club	Mike Geist
National Art Honor Society	Lori Creasor
National Honor Society	Christine Nekas, Ginny Wright
Natural Helpers	Heather Timmins
New Student Club	Geri Shouba
Newspaper	Missy D'Onofrio
North Star Ambassadors	Dana Roman
Peer Leadership, Director	Susan Terronez
Peer Leadership, Coordinator	Kevin Harrington
Peer Leadership, Advisors	Julie Harbecke, Tom Poulin
	Lara Bell, Bill Stepien, Shannon Mulder,
	Justin Dohm, Debby Scully, Steve Mahoney
	Matt Ruckoldt, Matt Kirby, Lynda Askew
	TBA
	Mike Kuper
	Mike Alther, Barb Schmit
	Linda Feiza
	Sherri Kurzewski, Francesca DiMaggio
	Steve McInerney
	Dave Krodel, Natalie Nelson
	Joe Pietrie
	Peter Gleason
	Jaime Mitchell, Wendy Elm, Ryan Colton
	Gregg Mundtt
	Eric Bostrand
	Kelly Perry
	Peter Gleason
	Kristin Williams
Peer Mediation	
Rugby	
Scholastic Bowl	
School Store	
Spanish Nat'l Honor Society	
Speech Team	
Sports Medicine	
Student Council	
Tech Crew	
Technology Student Association	
Theater/Drama/Plays	
Trunk Full of Funk	
VICA	
Waterpolo	
WYSE	
Yearbook	

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER



St. Charles Board of Education decides on East High School plans

After five months of discussion, the Community Unit School District 303 Board of Education on Monday, September 10, officially voted 5-2 to remediate, repair and remodel both the Dunham wing and main building at St. Charles East High School.

The majority of the board believes that this is the most efficient and effective course of action. The administration is prepared to follow through on all board directives to ensure that students at St. Charles East High School have the best possible educational resources available to them, including a building that is safe and conducive to learning.

The remediation and repair work would be completed by August, 2002. In the 2002-2003 school year St. Charles East High School students would return to their school building and Wredling Middle School students would return to the Wredling Middle School building.

The decision followed about two hours of sometimes heated discussion between board members, passionate testimony from citizens and two attempts to maintain control and decorum by temporarily stopping the public meeting.

But the meeting continued largely because board members felt that they had to formally vote on the direction they gave district administration two weeks ago, following a six-hour public meeting.

The board also told administration that it wants more information about possible enhancements at the high school. Such enhancements will be discussed and recommended by the Facilities Advisory Commission.

As well, the board asked district administrators to work to ensure that such enhancements will meet the needs of district teachers and staff to give St. Charles East students a 21st century education.

The work as planned is expected to cost \$11,078,200, and will include the following projects that can be done with existing funds:

IN THE MAIN WING

- Removing all spray-applied fireproofing and replacing with a modern sprinkler system
- Removing all exterior walls not made of concrete block, and replacing with brick, flashing, sheathing and cement board
- Replacing ceiling tiles
- Removing and replacing 60 windows
- Removing drywall in the main kitchen and installing cement board/metal clad wall
- Installing a new cooler in the kitchen
- Remodeling kitchens as needed to improve efficiency
- Installing building-wide new safety and communications devices including fire alarm systems, bells, digital clocks and a public address system
- Installing windows building-wide on exterior walls for improved natural lighting and ventilation, and adding more natural light to the LRC by adding windows on the east side of the building
- Providing building wide flexible classroom space for larger integrated classes

IN THE DUNHAM WING

- Installing a new HVAC system
- Replacing the wall in the Little Theatre
- Replacing the floor in the West Gym
- Removing and replacing 54 windows
- Reconfiguring the lower locker area of Dunham for other purposes including conference rooms and storage
- Improving lighting and extensive painting throughout.



Thank you to our wonderful PTO moms for hosting the Freshman Class Picnic held in August, 2001.

JUNIOR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY PROGRAM



The Junior Friends of the Library Program has been part of the St. Charles Public Library for over ten years. It is designed for students finishing fifth grade through high school who would like to volunteer their time in the community. Junior Friends work for a one-hour time period each week. They shelve materials, help with programs, cut, fold, staple, straighten shelves, and do other "behind the scenes" tasks. We would like to recognize the following St. Charles North HS students who have given back to their community by serving in this program at the St. Charles Public Library:

150 WAYS TO SHOW KIDS YOU CARE

- ♥ Acknowledge them.
- ♥ Look in their eyes when you talk to them.
- ♥ Tell them their feelings are okay.
- ♥ Listen to their stories.
- ♥ Forget your worries sometimes and concentrate only on them.

WE'RE FORTUNATE TO HAVE JIM!



Jim Stombres, NHS Band Director

Jim Stombres, North HS Band Director, was asked to be the Studio Band Director last summer for the Birch Creek Jazz Session I, a prestigious, nationally known music camp for talented students in Door County. He also participated in the faculty Jazz Band for Session II. This was Jim's 11th year at Birch Creek.

Before coming to St. Charles North HS, Jim built a thriving Band Program at Naperville North High School.

- Kathie Evans*
- Niketa Gupte
- Angela Inzano*
- Joanna Ryther*
- Tim Timberlake*
- Christine Zoerlein*

* Have also served in the Library Mentor Program.



**STUDENT
ACTIVITIES**

Student Activities and our Extra Curricular programs at St. Charles North High School play a unique role in the social and cultural development of our school community. Even before school started, the Freshman Orientation Program in August provided a terrific stage for welcoming our new students to our campus. This year's program was different than last year's program because the method of delivery for information was very interactive. The "Sit and Get" program was gone and replaced with a unique freshman program that turned into one of the most successful starts to our school year. Led by the "Galaxy Crew" tour guides, students visited 12 different sites and stations throughout our building having an opportunity to see first hand staff and places within our sprawling campus. As the "Galaxy Crew" passed the groups on the tours, it was enjoyable to observe the students not only looking at the spaces and places but also seeing their old and new friends. Developing their own leadership abilities while working cooperatively, the "Galaxy Crew" members were paired for tour teams and served as role models to welcome the Class of 2005 by helping them . . .

- Develop a sense of belonging
- Increase school spirit and pride
- Create a sense of understand of SCNHS
- Become acquainted with each other
- Develop a comfort level in their new environment

Freshman tour groups were comprised of approximately 15 to 20 new 9th graders. Students were given "Galaxy Search" Scavenger Hunt informational worksheets. Students completing all the questions on the tour were given the opportunity to submit their answers for drawings of Spirit wear clothing from our School Store. On the first day of school twenty 9th graders were drawn from the raffle for the prizes. We welcome the Class of 2005 to North Star Country!

Please encourage your student to come to our social events. Taking a date is not necessary. Taking part as a group . . . for some of our younger students, "feels gentle" on their self-esteem.

BUY A BRICK

It's not to late to buy a brick for our Cosmic Courtyard! The brick can hold your son's/daughter's name, their accomplishments, activities and/or their year of graduation from NHS. Order forms to "Buy A Brick" are available in the Student Activities Office. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Nelson by November 15 at 443-5700.



Fall Play

Plan to bring the family to see the St. Charles North HS fall play. This year, the students will be presenting the classic "Arsenic & Old Lace". The play will be Thursday, October 25th thru Saturday, October 27th. Show time is 7:30 PM all evenings at the North High School Auditorium. Advanced tickets may be purchased by calling the Auditorium Manager, Joe Pietrie, at 587-7103. *This is an experience you won't want to miss!*

DATES TO REMEMBER

- II **Columbus Day - Schools Closed:** October 8
- II **Teacher's Institute Day - No School for Students:** October 9
- II **Board of Education Meeting at Administration Building:** October 9 at 7:30 PM
- II **PTO Meeting:** October 15 at 7:00 PM
- II **PSAT Testing at NHS:** October 20
- II **Board of Education Meeting at Davis Elementary School:** October 22 at 7:30 PM
- II **Fall Play:** October 25 - 27
- II **Marching Band/Pops Concert:** October 29 at 7:30 PM
- II **Choral Concert:** October 30 at 7:30 PM
- II **End of 1st Quarter:** November 2
- II **Central Boosters Meeting:** November 5 at 7:00 PM
- II **Wind Ensemble/Orchestra Concert:** November 5 at 7:30 PM
- II **Autumn Ball:** November 10
- II **Plan Testing:** November 10
- II **Board of Education Meeting at Administration Building:** November 12 at 7:30 PM
- II **Jazz Band/Jazz Choral Concert:** November 13 at 7:30 PM
- II **Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School for Students:** November 15
- II **Teacher Institute Day - No School for Students:** November 16
- II **PTO Meeting:** November 19 at 7:00
- II **Thanksgiving Vacation:** November 22-23
- II **Board of Education Meeting at Thompson Middle School:** November 26 at 7:30 PM

NEW
DISTRICT WEBSITE
www.d303.org

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

