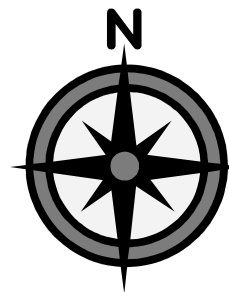


"The Navigator"

Principal's Newsletter



St. Charles North High School

Vol. 29 No. 1

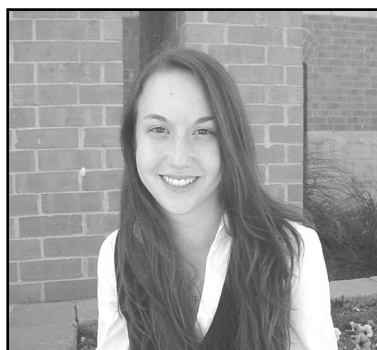
October 2007

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.

Mrs. Kimberly Zupec, Principal
e-mail: Marilyn.Ringsby@d303.org

North Students Earn National Merit Scholarship Program Recognition



Patrick Eschenfeldt and Katharine Fragoso, National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

CONGRATULATIONS to Patrick Eschenfeldt and Katharine Fragoso who have earned Semifinalist status in the 53rd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

More than 1.4 million juniors in nearly 21,000 high schools entered the 2008 National Merit Program by taking the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of US high school seniors,

includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

Patrick and Katharine have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,200 Merit Scholarship awards, worth \$34 million. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must advance to the Finalist level of the competition by fulfilling several requirements. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by the school principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier qualifying test performance. The Semifinalists and a school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, which includes the student's self-descriptive essay and information about the Semifinalist's participation and leadership in school and community activities. Approximately 15,000 Semifinalists will advance to the Finalist level and it is from this group that all Merit Scholarship winners will be chosen. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

CONGRATULATIONS also to Jonathon Alexander, Taha Anwar, Russell Busse, and Jeanie Chung who have been named Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2008 competition for National Merit Scholarships, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2008 competition.

"The young people named Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program are distinguished by their strong academic performance in this rigorous competition," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "Our nation's pursuit of education excellence can be furthered by publicly honoring these outstanding students and by acknowledging the important role schools play in fostering their development. We hope that this recognition will contribute to their educational opportunities and encourage all students to strive to realize their potential."



"Pen of the Principal"

**Every teacher a learner.
Every parent a partner.
Every student a success.**

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year. Last year was a year of tremendous growth for our students and staff. Our school improvement efforts began to deeply embed themselves through our Professional Learning Communities.

Our staff aggressively embraces the four core questions to drive their instruction:

- What do our students NEED to know?
- How will we know our students have learned the "must knows"?
- What will we do if our students have not learned the "must knows"?
- How will we extend and enrich our students' learning beyond the "must knows"?

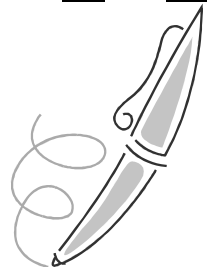
To answer these questions, we are diligently working with common assessments to gather and analyze student data. Our assistant principals have begun the implementation of plans from last year to support the staff's work. Mark Moore, Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction, oversees a comprehensive assessment program, which will both prepare our students for the high stakes tests they take their junior and senior years and provide timely and usable information to the staff on incremental student progress. Kevin Scotellaro, Assistant Principal for Student Services, is working with the counseling staff to tailor their services to meet the diversified needs of our students. Audra Christenson, Assistant Principal for Activities and Operations, has begun an expansive process of student focus groups, working cooperatively with Instructional Coordinators in targeted areas. All these efforts will allow us to better individualize services and resources for students' specific needs. We also have a group of teachers who oversee programs of support and intervention. Some of these programs are: freshman and sophomore mentoring / advisory, student led conferences, and electronic portfolios. Finally, we have increased avenues of student learning support through our Math Resource, Writing Tutorial, and lunch time Academic Support study halls.

Our focus for this year will be to refine and deepen our work. Committed to continuous school improvement, our staff will be collaborating with other professionals within and outside of the district on best practices. We will continue our training in the Professional Learning Community models and closely examine our assessments and student data. We plan to solidify our pyramid of support and interventions for students. Throughout this process, we will actively listen to student voice and community feedback.

We are proud of our students and appreciative of our families. It is the partnership of school, family, and community that makes us strong. We believe that each student at St. Charles North High School can and will be successful.

Thank you for your support. We have had a marvelous beginning to the school year. We are excited about the potential that lies within our students. This promises to be the best year ever at St. Charles North High School.

Welcome!
Kim Zupec, Principal



CURRICULUM CORNER

Mark Moore, Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Instruction

I am pleased to introduce Kurt Spilker as North High School's new Instructional Coordinator for Global Studies. Kurt comes to us from Kaneland High School, where he was the Social Studies Department Chair for a number of years. Prior to teaching at Kaneland, Mr. Spilker served as an active duty officer in the US Navy.

In addition to Mr. Spilker's leadership role at St. Charles North, he also teaches courses in the Educational Psychology Department at Northern Illinois University.

You can reach Mr. Spilker at 630-443-2745 or at Kurt.Spilker@d303.org.



Mr. Kurt Spilker, Global Studies
Instructional Coordinator

District 303 has created an assessment plan for high school students. This assessment plan will allow for teachers, counselors, and parents to see improvement in student achievement from year to year.

Dr. Mark Pomplun, the District 303's Director of Assessment and Accountability, provides the following explanation of the assessment plan:

We would like to introduce two improvements in D303's high school assessment program beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. Teachers will now be utilizing Scantron's *Achievement Series* to help guide instruction and pre-ACT tests to help students prepare for college. MAP tests will no longer be administered.

How Scantron helps inform teacher instruction: Scantron's *Achievement Series* is a formative assessment and reporting system to help teachers identify gaps in student knowledge that occur throughout a course. This system allows teachers to machine-score exams and immediately access results. Score reports are used not only for individual teacher reflections but are also reviewed during course team meetings. As part of professional collaboration, teachers discuss ways to improve their classroom instruction with their colleagues.

How the pre-PLAN and pre-ACT help enhance student performance: The ACT is the most required college admissions test in the Midwest. With that in mind, we will begin an ACT-based testing system in the 2007-2008 school year. We already administer the PLAN in the fall of 10th grade and the ACT as part of the PSAE in the spring of 11th grade. A pre-PLAN in the fall of 9th grade and a pre-ACT in the fall of 11th grade will be added to the sequence. This will allow students, parents, and teachers to evaluate, monitor, and make instructional changes every year to help students prepare for college and perform their best on the ACT in their junior and senior years. All juniors, sophomores, and freshman will be tested on October 30, 2007 at North High School.

How you can support your student in this program: Encourage your student to perform their best on the pre-PLAN, PLAN, and pre-ACT tests and use their results to become better prepared for college. Your student will receive an individual report that will identify their weak areas and make specific suggestions to help remediate those areas. Sit down and review the results with your student. Encourage them to register for courses that will help improve their weak areas which will increase their ACT score and increase their chances of being accepted to the college of their choice.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Assessment and Accountability Department at 630-377-4840 or MARK.R.POMPLUN@d303.org.

PTO News

Welcome to all new and returning students and parents. THANK YOU to the many families who joined the PTO. Your dues will support many worthwhile activities for SCN students and teachers. If you did not join, it is not too late. Send a check for \$20 payable to the SCN PTO to the Main Office. We welcome you to attend monthly PTO meetings. Each meeting is very informative and offers you an opportunity to hear first-hand what is going on at SCN from a parent perspective. Our next two meetings will be October 15th and November 26th. All meetings are at 7pm in the LRC. Additional information regarding PTO can be found on the North web site (click on PTO). You can see a sampling of activities the PTO funds as well as view PTO monthly minutes.

Our first PTO activities of the year happened even before the first day of school. **Materials Pick-up Days** ran very smoothly and a special thanks to Kathy Polito, Lisa Beer, Paula White, and Julie Small for organizing volunteers. **Freshman Parent Survival Meeting** was held during the freshman orientation time on August 16th. Paula White and Julie Small along with other volunteers hosted this event for over 200 parents.

On Back-to-School Night we were able to distribute the **Student Directory**. This was quite an accomplishment with Back-to-School Night falling so early on September 6th. **Thank you** to Janet Herreras for compiling information and for all her hard work and attention to details. **Thank you** to the many students who sold the directories and helped serve refreshments and delicious desserts. Students who helped on Back-to-School Night so that parents could attend their student's classes were from Student Council, the French Honor Society, and the North Star Ambassadors. The refreshments were coordinated by Marcy Speare and the **Hospitality Committee**. If you did not purchase a directory...you still can. They are available in the Main Office or in Student Activities, \$3 each or 2/\$5.

The **Polaris Express** weekly newsletter includes PTO updates and information of all types of happenings at North. If you would like to have it emailed to you, send your email address to Cheryl LaMaster, cheryl.l.lamaster@d303.org, and ask to be included.

As this goes to print, Homecoming activities at North have just finished. THANK YOU to all the parents who take time out of their busy schedules to help with float building supervision, providing food to students, decorating, getting supplies, dance chaperoning and more. **Thanks** also to our Faculty Class Advisors, **PTO Class Reps** who coordinated volunteers, and of course, Stella Barone and her **Dance Committee**.

We look forward to a great 2007-2008 School Year!

Lori McQuillan
President SCN PTO
lorimcquillan@sbcglobal.net

Jill Stone
Vice-President SCN PTO
camptonmom@aol.com

"BETWEEN THE LINES"

John Rutter, Athletic Director

The Athletic Program at St. Charles North High School has anxiously awaited the arrival of the fall sports season with high hopes and expectations for each of our programs.

Once again we are privileged to have a coaching staff dedicated to continually improving our sports programs, while developing the talent and character of our young athletes. Our teams have spent numerous hours training over the past several months in hopes of being rewarded this fall. The number of participants in our fall sports programs continues to be very strong with over 600 student-athletes currently involved.

On behalf of the student-athletes, coaches and administration, we would like to invite you to be a part of the St. Charles North High School 2007 Fall Sports Season! St. Charles North High School values your support and believes it is critical to our success.

GO NORTH STARS!!



STUDENTS EXPERIENCE FIELD MUSEUM MASTODON DIG



Six Biology students from North HS along with their teacher, Janice Young, were chosen by the Field Museum and the DuPage Forest Preserve to attend a two-week mastodon camp this summer. They spent three days at the Field Museum being trained and then took part in a mastodon dig in Wayne. Kelsey Draus, Brian Boveri, Meredith Lonan, Valerie Liang, Erin Murphy, and Tim Nickels were able to find and identify specimens of bone and tusk at the site, showed their findings to visitors who came to see the dig, and learned an amazing amount about how a dig is conducted. It was a wonderful opportunity for them, and the program will be run again next summer for others who would like to be part of a paleontology and archaeological dig.

(L to R) Kelsey Draus, Tim Nickels, Meredith Lonan, Brian Boveri, Erin Murphy, Janice Young (instructor), and Valerie Liang, dig for mastodon fossils in Pratt Woods this summer.

Calling All Parents!

Do you have an infant (birth to 12 months), toddler (age 1 year to 24 months) or preschooler (age 3 -5) and would be available to come into the Child Development classes during periods 1, 3, 4 or 6? Throughout the semester, Child Development 1 students will be studying human development from birth to age 5 and having real children to observe helps the students comprehend the information.

If you are available to come into our class, please email Colleen Fasbender at Colleen.Fasbender@d303.org. Infant observations will probably occur around the beginning of October. Toddler observations will occur around November and the preschool aged child observations in December or January.



STAR KIDS

**Child Development Teaching and Learning Center
sponsors a preschool program for 3, 4, and 5 year olds**

***Must be toilet trained**

February 7, 2008 – May 16, 2008

9:10 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

14 WEEKS

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

*When the high school classes are in session

Tuition \$125.00 includes a \$25.00 non-refundable deposit at time of registration

Contact Colleen Fasbender @ STC North HS for an application

630.443.2763

LRC News

About Turnitin.com



Recognized worldwide as the standard in online plagiarism prevention, **Turnitin** helps educators and students take full advantage of the Internet's educational potential. Used by thousands of institutions, **Turnitin** uses the industry's most advanced search technology to check papers submitted by North students against their in-house copies of both current and archived Internet content and their database of millions of previously submitted student papers. **Turnitin** requires no installation of software because it is completely web-based. There are no compatibility problems between different computers and operating systems. When a paper is submitted by a student, any match uncovered between papers and source material is detailed in an easy to understand format, allowing educators to spend time addressing plagiarism's causes rather than searching for it. When a match is detected the teacher can also see if the material is properly cited by the student. Teachers in several disciplines here at North are using **Turnitin**.

About Blackboard

Blackboard™ is a course management system. The system allows faculty to post materials, deliver tests and surveys, hold online discussion and many other course-related functions. All currently-enrolled students and teaching faculty have access to the Blackboard system.

Course Content: The password-protected online environment of Blackboard can be leveraged to make course materials available for students. Students may then view and/or download materials at their convenience.

Communications: Blackboard offers a wide variety of communication tools allowing students and faculty to conveniently communicate either asynchronously (e.g. not at the same time) or synchronously (e.g. real-time communication).

Digital Drop Box: The Digital Dropbox allows students to send files to the instructor. Instructors can retrieve student files, comment on them, and return them to the student or share them with other students. The instructor does not have access to a student's Digital Dropbox but can send files to any student on her roster. Students can send files only to the instructor.

Discussion Board: The discussion and file-sharing tools provided by Blackboard can enrich communication in the web-enhanced traditional classroom as well as in the online venue. These tools provide faculty with a wealth of opportunities for building course communities, encouraging academic discussion outside the classroom and collecting assignments electronically. Asynchronous discussion resembles an electronic bulletin board, where users post their messages when they have time. Other users enter the discussion according to their own schedules. In an asynchronous discussion board, a forum is a general topic for discussion. A thread is subordinate discussion within the forum.

Enroll Users: There two ways that users can/will be added to Blackboard courses. Instructors can manually add additional users to a course through the Control Panel.

Note: Instructors at NHS reserve the right to use Blackboard at their discretion and degree of comfortability in their classroom. It should be noted Blackboard is an optional tool and not a requirement.

Source: Board of Trustees at NIU. Teaching with Blackboard. 2007. NIU. 6 Sept. 2007 < <http://www.blackboard.niu.edu/blackboard/>>.

<http://north.d303.org/scnlrc/scnlrc.html>

| Database | Username | Password |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| EBSCO | scn303 | stars |
| Gale Resource Center | polaris | |
| SIRS Interactive Citizenship | 200000247H | 60175 |
| Encyclopedia Britannica | stcharlessd | stcharlessd |
| Culturegrams | scnhs | cgrams |
| Teen Health | northstar | 60175 |
| Career Cruising | north | high |





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HUMANITIES

The Humanities Learning Area welcomes Janna Mudlin, choral teacher, and Karissa Sartell, art teacher, to St. Charles North. Both these experienced and energetic women bring a wealth of knowledge to our students.

In art news, last year the art teachers implemented having students create digital portfolios of their work in approximately half the art classes. This year several more classes are being included in this initiative and by next year all St. Charles North art students will develop a digital portfolio of their work at the end of each art class to serve as a record of their learning. In conjunction with this goal several

classes are involved in a pilot program where the students will post work on their Blackboard site to share with family, friends, and prospective colleges. In addition to the art on the site, students will have an electronic record of their assessments, reflective writing, and the alignment of their art with the State Fine Arts goals and standards.

On October 18th the art department will be hosting its first annual College Day for art students. This will be a great opportunity for students to hear about college art programs and how they can prepare themselves in high school for success in an art class or full art curriculum.

Music events abound this year. The Walt Disney World® Resort now rewards outstanding musicianship with a performance opportunity second to none. Part of the Walt Disney Performing Arts Programs, The Disney Honors is a music festival highlighting the nation's finest high school instrumental and choral ensembles. The only national invitational endorsed by MENC (The National Association for Music Education), participation is based on the merits of a group's submitted materials. SCN has just received word that the Wind Ensemble has been invited to The Disney Honors which takes place March 7-10, 2008. This is a tremendous accomplishment. Congratulations to the Wind Ensemble students and their parents for all their efforts and support.

The 2007-2008 school year will be an exciting one for the SCN Jazz Workshop. Amidst a full performance schedule, the group has been invited to perform at this year's Illinois Music Educator's Association All-State Conference in Peoria, IL. The performance will take place in the Peoria Convention Center on Friday, February 1st at 9:30 a.m. The band will be performing with guest artists Tom Garling and Rob Parton. This is a great honor as only a few bands statewide are invited to perform.

Another exciting opportunity that awaits the Jazz Workshop is a tour of Mississippi in February 2008. Through the invitation of the Fine Arts Institute of Mississippi, the SCN Jazz Workshop will spend three days touring schools in the Jackson, MS area playing concerts and spreading Jazz Education to an area that does not historically emphasize Jazz in the schools. This will be a great opportunity to perform, teach, and learn. The end of the tour will feature a performance at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Closer to home, Madrigals have been selected. The auditions were a success. Eighty-six students gave their best effort to be a part of the singing ensembles and demonstrated again how talented they all are. Congratulations to all! The decisions were difficult, but the results will be wonderful. Tickets to this event will go on sale the first week in November.

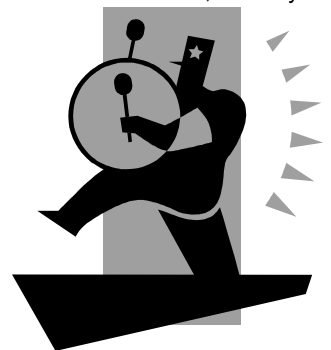
For the short term, mark your calendar now for the Veterans Celebration on Monday, November 12, 2007 at 7:30 pm. Combined instrumental and vocal groups will be playing a selection of works by John Phillip Sousa, Morton Gould, as well as *The Song of Democracy* by Howard Hanson.

In English, we are very pleased to announce the opening of The Writing Center. The mission of The Writing Center is twofold. For the students, The Writing Center is a place to help beginning and experienced writers feel more confident, knowledgeable, and flexible in their approaches to all stages of the writing process and to any type of writing, personal or school-related. For all teachers, it is a place that provides efficient, practical strategies teachers can use to improve their students' writing on any type of writing assignment, small or big, as well as provide teachers with ways to include writing in their curriculum.

This summer twenty-six students met and were trained as the first group of peer writing consultants. Presently The Writing Center is working with eight teachers from a variety of disciplines to create or modify writing assignments. These teachers will require that the students in their classes attend The Writing Center during the first semester so students can work with peer writing consultants during any stage of the writing process. Students can work one-on-one with a trained, peer writing consultant in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere for a 20 or 40 minute conference.

The Writing Center, located in 100s POD, is open on a limited basis for the 2007-08 school year. During first semester The Writing Center will be open through classroom teacher passes only; during second semester it will be open to all students. Times for The Writing Center are Monday - 4th period; Tuesday - 5th period; Wednesday - 6th period; Thursday - 7th period.

The Humanities teachers wish all students both academic and personal success over the course of the 2007-08 school year.



Bartelson Nominated to NetAid Global Citizen Corps

This past spring, sophomore Amanda Bartelson was nominated by her Global Issues teacher to the NetAid Global Citizen Corps, a national network of 200 high school student leaders committed to working to educate and mobilize their communities to end global poverty. Mercy Corps selected Amanda based on her ability to think and act globally, leadership, entrepreneurial flair, and commitment to build a better world. Amanda was one of thirty Citizen Corps members invited to receive her summer training at the National Summit in New York from July 22-28. While in New York, Amanda visited the United Nations headquarters and met with Ismael Baeh, author of *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*; she also had the opportunity to build upon her Global Issues knowledge and deepen her understanding about global poverty, as well as develop the skills that will allow her to design and implement four Global Action Days during the 2007-2008 school year.

In late September, she will be visiting the Global Issues courses as they begin studying economic development in order to highlight the connections between poverty and malnutrition and to recruit students to participate in the Global Action Days. This will be the chance for freshman to become the experts in the school and to pass their understanding of global poverty and its interconnectedness with other issues onto their communities. Amanda also plans to meet with teachers from other Learning Areas to identify opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration later in the year.

The events planned for the year include an awareness and fundraising event at the final home football game on Friday, October 19. There will be an event in honor of World AIDS Day, December 1, another investigating global climate change in January, and Education Week in April. Any students or families interested in becoming involved should contact Janelle VanDeSampel (Janelle.vandesampel@d303.org) or Principal Kim Zupec.



MATH LAB

Need help with your math class?

Come visit the Math Lab in Room 102!

Open Periods 4 thru 8

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ---- Open to ALL students

Tuesday, Thursday ---- Assigned students only

PEER TUTORING HAS RETURNED TO NORTH HS

Please encourage your student to come to PEER TUTORING on Wednesday nights. Tutoring is offered from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the 100 POD area. Students may receive help with homework, quiz and test preparation, and all of their other academic needs.

STUDENT SERVICES

Kevin Scotellaro, Assistant Principal for Student Services



News from the Nurses at North

The health information we have on your child(ren) is what is documented on their 9th grade physical. Please feel free to contact us at any time with any health concerns that develop during high school. If your child has asthma, even if they carry their inhaler with them, we recommend that you have a spare inhaler in our office. If your child needs to take medication during the school day, the medication form and medication policy are both available at D303.org under Health Services. We wish you all a happy and healthy fall. Amy Boynton (630) 587-7108 & Wilma Van Arragon (630) 443-2752.

PSAT TESTING

The PSAT is the test that juniors can take to prepare for the SAT and to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program. In addition, sophomore students who believe that they could successfully compete for the National Merit Scholarship competition are encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT as a practice for the real competition. It will be given on **Saturday, October 20th** at St. Charles North High School. We strongly recommend that college bound Juniors take this test. In order to register, a student needs to bring **the registration sheet and \$20.00 to the Guidance Office. Registration is NOW open and students have until October 12th, 2007 to register.** Please make checks payable to St. Charles North High School.

*** If your child is taking the Excel Edge PSAT prep class, he/she still needs to sign up for the PSAT test.** There has been some confusion about this in the past; students signed up for the Excel Edge prep class and thought they were automatically signed up for the PSAT test. **The student needs to sign up for the PSAT test separately.** Again, registration sheets are available in the Guidance Office now.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

The PSAT gives students the unique opportunity to:

1. Assess their verbal and mathematical skills.
2. Find out what the SAT I is like.
3. Forecast SAT I scores from their PSAT scores.
4. Participate in the Student Search Service by having their names sent to colleges and government-sponsored scholarship programs.
5. Qualify for scholarship recognition and for enrichment programs that use PSAT results.
6. Qualify for the National Merit Scholarship competition (juniors only).

BENEFITS TO SCHOOLS

Schools can use individual PSAT results to:

1. Help individual students to improve their test-taking strategies.
2. Identify students who might benefit from a review of certain mathematical topics or a program of more varied and challenging reading.

Schools can use aggregate (or group) results to:

1. Compare their students' performance on the PSAT to national student groups.
2. See what areas of the curriculum successfully develop students' skills and what areas need strengthening and restructuring.

STUDENT SERVICES (Cont'd)

ATTENTION JUNIORS

The counselors will be visiting U.S. History classes in November to educate juniors on the post high school planning process. We plan to discuss college visits/searches, how/when to apply, transcript releases, ACT/SAT testing, etc. In the meantime, it is important to perform at your best in each class since prospective colleges and employers will view the grades you earn this year during your senior year. In addition, several colleges visit our campus each week during the lunch hours in the LRC. We advertise these guest representatives through the announcements and in the area right outside of the Guidance Office. Feel free to visit with any of these schools if they are here during your free time, or obtain a pass from the guidance secretary if you need to miss part of a class. Obviously, you would be responsible for making up any work should you miss class time.

In addition, you should be visiting college campuses throughout the year so you can narrow your search down to 3-6 schools by next fall. Although you have five pre-arranged absences per year to use as you need, we strongly recommend that you save those for something else and visit a college on a weekday that our school is not in session, but the college is. (This could mean an institute day, non-federal holiday, or even spring break.) By doing this, you would avoid the need to make up missed work while missing school. Some colleges do have Saturday visits, but most families find those meetings less than ideal since many parts of the college are closed. Keep in mind that if you make arrangements ahead of time, you can meet with someone in admissions, financial aid, and perhaps even a specific department.

Attention future college-bound athletes: If you are a current senior planning to participate in either Division I or II athletics at the college level, and haven't yet done so, you need to register with the NCAA Clearinghouse as soon as possible. This allows coaches to become familiar with prospective athletes once they are registered. To learn more or to register, visit their site at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and follow the directions. Although you can pay the fee with a credit card, you will still need to print and fill out two signature pages and give to your guidance counselor. In addition, bring in two completed transcript releases, two stamps, and \$2. (The first form will be sent out right away to the Clearinghouse while the second one will be sent after you complete your high school requirements.) This site also has important information that families can download and become more familiar with, including a useful student-athlete guide.



“Financial Aid 101” - How To Pay For College

Tuesday, January 22nd at 7:00 pm

St. Charles North Auditorium

Paying for college can be a rather confusing and overwhelming topic. Our speaker will cover the following financial aid topics: facts vs. myths, why families should complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), important deadlines, scams to avoid, and scholarships. In addition, there will be useful handouts and time for your questions to be answered. Whether you are the parent of a current senior, or you want to start early for a younger child, don't miss out on this opportunity!

STUDENT SERVICES (Cont'd)

It is important that seniors follow the *College Application Process* to insure that your applications arrive on time. Please follow the steps below. **Early applications** in the fall provide students with the best chance for admission. Contact your counselor with any questions.

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

For Online Application:

1. Print off **college confirmation page**, if school requires it, and bring it to your counselor.
2. Bring a **business size envelope with 2 stamps on it**. Make sure the envelope is addressed to the college and that you leave your home address off.
3. Fill out a transcript request form **for each application** and make sure you have **\$1.00 for each transcript you are requesting**.
4. Include any **essays**, or **letters of recommendations**, if necessary.
5. **Remember** to attach the application fee (personal check or credit card), if you have not paid.
6. Keep a copy for your records and give all of the above to **YOUR COUNSELOR!** And if your counselor is not in the office, give it to **Mrs. Zoerlein**, the guidance secretary.

For Paper Application:

1. Bring the application **completely** filled out (in blue or black pen, or typed).
2. You will need to bring a **manila colored, large size envelope with 3 stamps on it** addressed to the college. Don't include your return address.
3. Fill out a transcript request form **for each application** and make sure you have **\$1.00 for each transcript you are requesting**.
4. Include any **essays**, or **letters of recommendations**, if necessary.
5. **Don't forget** to attach the application fee (personal check or credit card).
6. Keep a copy for your records and give all of the above to **YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR!** And if your counselor is not in the office, give it to **Mrs. Zoerlein**, the guidance secretary.
7. College Entrance Exam Scores (Find out which, if any, test the college requires)
 - a. ACT (with or without writing)
 - b. SAT I
 - c. SAT II
 - d. Some colleges will only accept them from the testing agencies
 - i. www.actstudent.org
 - ii. <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/scores.html>
 - e. Many colleges will accept the scores if St. Charles North will put them on the transcript. It does!
 - f. About seventy colleges are Entrance Exam Optional. (not required)

NEVER LEAVE AN APPLICATION IN THE COUNSELOR'S OFFICE OR MAILBOX IF THEY ARE NOT THERE!

After your counselor completes his/her section, it is given to the registrar. She will make a copy of your transcript, and test score(s) and mail it. The registrar will keep a record of when the application was received by your counselor and then mailed out. **THE GUIDANCE OFFICE WILL MAIL AN APPLICATION WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF RECEIVING IT...SO PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR COLLEGE'S DEADLINES AND PLAN ACCORDINGLY!**

Applications due by **January 1st** **MUST** be received in the Guidance Office **one week before the holiday break begins** (2 weeks if you are requesting a counselor recommendation with the application).

STUDENT SERVICES (Cont'd)



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SENIORS!!

Are you a senior or a parent of a senior and wondering how you will pay for four years of college? Scholarships might be part of your answer!

In the Guidance Office we offer information about many local and national scholarships for a wide range of seniors. The student can stop in and peruse the scholarship list or you can go to the St Charles North website and find the Scholarship webpage to see what is available. The paper applications are located in the Scholarship Box in the Guidance Office.

One of the most exciting scholarships, strictly for a SCN senior, is the North Star Scholarship worth a whopping \$10,000!! This is for a student who has played a sport at North, has had a job to help pay for college, has at least a "C" average and needs the money! This will be the 4th year this amazing award is offered and every senior who has financial need should apply for it. The application will be out in the next month.

Last year, the St Charles North Class of '07 was awarded over \$2.5 million dollars worth of scholarships and this year can even be larger! The only way to win scholarships is to fill out the applications and turn them in! You will usually need a couple letters of recommendation and an essay along with the application.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Audra Christenson, Assistant Principal for Activities & Operations

SCHOOL STORE



School store employees: (1st row L to R) Megan Brockhouse, Marketing Manager - Lindsay Madziarczyk, Accounting Manager - Kristin Miller, Assistant Manager - Emily Papke, Katie Dillon, Store Manager - Adam Keen

(2nd row L to R) TJ Delisi, Jeff Cortese, Kristina Karl, Brooke Jaeger, Bobby Putman. (not pictured – Steven Dobberfuhl)

The School Store is a student-run, student-led, retail organization located in the school's cafeteria. We specialize in Saint Charles North spirit wear. The profit earned in the store goes to school clubs, activities and organizations in the form of donations. The hours of operation are the lunch periods between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

We want to thank all the parents and students for visiting the store during Back-to-School Night. Together, the night was a great success. We hope that you remember us when the holiday season approaches.

The School Store also sells letterman jackets. Please visit the store to pick up your order form. Letterman jackets make great gifts. They take approximately two weeks to be delivered, so please plan accordingly.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

Business Professionals of America (BPA)

During Back-to-School Night members from the BPA (Business Professionals of America) were passing out flyers for the BPA Dinner Night Out featuring discounts at local restaurants during September 16th through 30th. We would like to thank Beehive and Randall's Pancake House for participating. We would also like to thank other companies who have donated in the past: Neptune Company, Baldwin Builder's Company, Francesca's, and Pub 222. We appreciate their generosity.

BPA meets regularly throughout the school year. Students attend Fall Leadership workshops and compete in regional, state, and national levels.



BPA students plan for upcoming homecoming week. (L to R) Alifia Dholkawala, Karla Santana, Emily Papke, Kristin Miller, Jude Abangan, Lindsay Madziarczyk, Adam Keen, Scott Brooks



BREAKFAST WITH THE STARS

The Breakfast with the Stars Program honors individual stars within our school community. Some of the individuals nominated are out there for all of us to see and congratulate. Others are behind the scenes or who, in their quiet way, demonstrate a level of excellence through service, academics, competition, or simple kindness. Some of these students give of their special talents on a day-to-day basis in the classroom and some of them excel in our extra and co-curricular activities. Each student is unique and special in the way they share and develop our school community.

October Breakfast with the Stars Award

| <u>Presenter</u> | <u>Recipient</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Matt Kirby | <i>Lauren Carr & Austin Collingbourne</i> |
| Ms. Nancy Franson & Ms. Tanis Loudon | <i>Joseph Scheets</i> |
| Mr. Brian Maloney | <i>Kyle Pashan</i> |
| Ms. Amy Tufano-Moran | <i>Brenda Jaimes</i> |
| Mr. Michael Smith | <i>Emily Papke</i> |
| Ms. Denise Leatherman | <i>Juana Padilla</i> |
| Mr. Doug Overton | <i>Marisa Burgios</i> |

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK 2007-08 ONLY \$20.00

What is an Entertainment Book? It is a book of coupons that has savings on fine dining, casual dining like Friday's and Bennigan's, fast food, airline and car rentals, hotels, shopping, groceries, services and recreation for the whole family! Do you enjoy eating out? *Dining at 2 restaurants with the buy one get one concept usually covers the cost of the book.*

St. Charles North FCCLA (Family, Community Career Leaders of America) and St. Charles North FEA (Future Educators Association) are both selling the Entertainment Books as their main fundraising project. The profits help defray the cost of student registration and travel to conferences. In previous years, the profits earned have helped allow students to attend summer and National conferences.

Get started early on your holiday shopping. Entertainment Books make great presents for those special persons you don't know what to buy for!

Thank you for your generous support!

To purchase the Entertainment Book, please contact:
Colleen Fasbender at
Colleen.M.Fasbender@d303.org or 443-2763

SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS

Senior Parents,

The Polaris staff at St. Charles North has reserved a special section of the yearbook just for your graduating children. We offer you the opportunity to give your son or daughter a congratulatory message that will cap off his or her high school years and *provide a truly memorable keepsake* for the years of achievement to come.

Included in each Senior Ad can be any combination of quotations, letters, poems, pearls of wisdom, and picture. It is up to you how you would like to use the space—provide us with the information and we will do our best to carry out your vision.

Each Polaris Senior Ad will be 1/8 of a yearbook page, in FULL COLOR, and should consist of **no more than 75 words and 1 picture***. A family can purchase more than one Ad, but we will accept **no more than 2 Ads per senior student**. *The price per Ad is \$75.*

To order a Senior Ad for your student, please complete the order form below and return it along with your payment, picture*, and self-addressed, stamped envelope (if you want your original picture returned) **by November 1st**. Ad space will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis, so **be sure to submit your Ad as soon as possible**.

Thank you for supporting your son or daughter, as well as Polaris, the St. Charles North Yearbook.

Cyndi Sulak
Polaris Advisor
Cynthia.R.Sulak@d303.org
630.587.7136

*Digital photos accepted on a CD. Original photos will not be returned unless submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope (you may choose to send a duplicate of your photo in lieu of this option).

Senior Ad Order Form

Name of senior: _____ Name of parent: _____

Daytime Phone #: _____

| Number being purchased (NO MORE THAN 2 PER SENIOR) | Cost of the Ad (ALL ADS ARE 1/8 PAGE IN SIZE AND FULL COLOR) | Total Ad Cost (Number x Cost) |
|--|--|---|
| | \$75.00 | |
| | Total Cost of All Ads = | |

Your message (75 word limit): _____

Return this form by November 1, 2007 with your check made payable to St. Charles North High School and one (1) picture you wish to include with your Ad (along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want your photo returned) to:

Ms. Cyndi Sulak / Yearbook Senior Ads
255 Red Gate Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

SCN Homecoming 2007 DVD produced by MVPC



This DVD highlights all of SCN's 2007 Homecoming events. From the opening school assemblies to Co-Ed Volleyball, Small Games, Parade, Football, and the Dance, the North Stars trip through Candy Land is captured on this commemorative collector's edition disk. Order now to make sure you keep these memories forever!

SCN Homecoming 2007 DVD Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip code _____

Please return the bottom of this form and \$20 (make checks payable to St. Charles North High School) to the Student Activities office or mail to:

St. Charles North High School/MVPC
Dr. Natalie Rosin
255 Red Gate Road
St. Charles, IL. 60175

IMPORTANT DATES

(Sometimes dates/times change....check school website often)

| | |
|--|--|
| Oct 15 - PTO Mtg., LRC, 7:00 PM | Dec 5 - 411 Schedule |
| Oct 17 - ETC Schedule | Dec 10 - Board of Education Mtg., Admin Bldg., 7:00 PM |
| Oct 24 - 411 Schedule | Dec 12 - ETC Schedule |
| Oct 26 - End of 1 st Quarter | Dec 19 - 411 Schedule |
| Oct 31 - ETC Schedule | Dec 20 - Last Day of School 2007 |
| Nov 7 - 411 Schedule | Dec 21 thru Jan 4 - Winter Break |
| Nov 14 - ETC Schedule | Jan 14 - PTO Mtg., LRC, 7:00 PM |
| Nov 12 - Board of Education Mtg., Admin Bldg., 7:00 PM | Jan 7 - School Resumes |
| Nov 19 - Parent/Teacher Conferences | Jan 9 - ETC Schedule |
| Nov 20 - Teachers' In-Service Day | Jan 14 - Board of Education Mtg., Admin Bldg., 7:00 PM |
| Nov 21 - Non Attendance Day | Jan 15-17 - Final Exams |
| Nov 22-23 - Thanksgiving Break | Jan 17 - End of 2 nd Quarter |
| Nov 26 - PTO Mtg., LRC, 7:00 PM | Jan 18 - Teachers' Work Day |
| Nov 28 - ETC Schedule | Jan 21 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday |

NEW NORTH HIGH SCHOOL WEB SITE:
north.d303.org

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



TIME SENSITIVE MAIL

A community dedicated to achievement and growth through
discovery, cooperation, preparation, and inspiration