



PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER OCTOBER, 2009

From the Principal, JAMES WORTH

Dear Parent/Guardians:

The 2009-2010 school year is off to a great start as your children have had an opportunity to get to know our staff in the classroom and during extra-curricular events. I was pleased to meet so many of parents/guardians at the Freshman Academy Open House in August and at the Open House October 1st. It is important to continue to support your child's academic efforts throughout their educational life.

The Freshman Academy is already having a positive effect on students and will continue to provide the transitional support throughout their freshman year. The remainder of our academic and elective courses are in full swing. Recent progress reports indicate that the first quarter is half over. Students who have not had a successful start in their courses should make arrangements with their teachers to receive extra help. Students are also able to stay after school Monday through Thursday for tutorial help in the library. A number of teachers stay to work with students and students also work independently. Late busses are available on these evenings. During October, late busses will drop students at their homes, however, starting in November, the busses will make 'cluster drops' at common locations. Students will have to walk or be picked up from these stops. Please contact the bus garage for drop locations and questions.

Attached are additional bullets of information regarding the events occurring at PHS this year. Please feel free to contact me or any of the administrators with any questions or concerns throughout the year. I am looking forward to continued academic success for all of our students and hope to have all of our parents/guardians involved as well.

- PHS is offering after school tutoring every Monday through Thursday 2pm-4pm. Teachers will be available to assist students in any subject area.
- A district wide Literacy initiative is focused on increasing student literacy from Pre-K to 12th grade. The Freshmen Academy students have all been tested in Fluency and Math Skills. These scores are used to benchmark the students and to provide needed supports. Students needing support in reading will be monitored by our Literacy coordinator and Reading Lab teacher and students needing support in Math will be monitored by the Math Lab teacher. Students needing extra supports will gain needed skills in the Labs. Upper classmen who are struggling in math or reading will also be tested and monitored as needed. All teachers are incorporating literacy strategies into their courses to assist in this initiative.
- A credit recovery program called, NovaNET, will allow students who have *failed* a class to gain back the credit via on-line courses. The on-line courses will be held in the Library, Monday through Thursday, from 2-4pm. Teachers trained in NovaNET will assist students. If a student has a study hall they will have access to the courses during the school day.
- There are many clubs and sports available at PHS; encourage your child to participate. Anime, Astronomy, Book, Chess, Debate, Diversity, Drama, Environmental, Fitness/Weight training, Gay Straight Alliance, Good News, Max 7 Company, Natural Helpers, National Honor Society, Ping Pong, Pottery, Quilting, SADD, School Newspaper, Student Council, Yearbook. Students can also get involved in the music program which includes Band, Chorus, and Color Guard.

Dates to Remember

- 11/11/09 Veteran's Day
- 11/19/09 No School
Parent conference
- 11/20/079 No School
Professional Day
- 11/25 Half Day
- 11/26-27
- Thanksgiving Break

PHS Library

The library now has extended hours. For the month of October the library is open on every Wednesday from 2:00 until 3:15. In November after school hours will be on Tuesday from 2:00 until 3:15.

SCHOOL STORE

- New style shirts, shorts, hats and more
- Notebooks, pens, pencils, highlighters
- Cups, mugs, key chains
- Jump Drives
- Panther decals, bumper stickers,

The Career Center has a new bulletin board in the cafeteria. All activities and announcements are posted on the board. Please check the board weekly for information. The Career Center can help students plan for their future, stop by to find out about what services and opportunities are available. The Career Center is located in the Guidance Office, room 1107A.

Upcoming Career Center activities:

- 10/27 New England Institute of Technology - Campus Tour
- 11/18 The Art Institute of Boston - speaker presentation
- 12/1 College & Career Fair- PHS Cafeteria- 10:30-12:30
- 12/11 ASVAB testing
- 12/15 Baran Institute of Technology Campus Tour
- 1/7 ASVAB Interpretation

Students interested in going on a Job Shadow see Mrs. Liebel for more information.



PHS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

The Plainfield High School Athletic Boosters are a group of parents and guardians that help out all of our athletic programs here at PHS. We are most visible at football and basketball games running the concession stand at each home game. Although, these are the events where we are most visible, we also run the spaghetti super and the Panther Plunge and now the Panther Run. Our fundraising efforts allow us to support all of the athletic programs in the High School.



Yearbook Fund Raiser

Craft Fair

November 14th at

Plainfield High School Cafeteria

9am-3:30pm

VENDORS NEEDED \$25.00 a table.

Please call 564-6422 Ext. 1122 or email

bastien@plainfieldschools.org

Buy your yearbook on line at jostensyearbooks.com

Guidance Department

To all parents of college bound seniors: Your sons and daughters should be working on their college applications. School Counselors gave out a packet of information regarding post graduation to all seniors during an assembly and are now in the process of seeing each senior individually to talk about their plans. If they haven't gotten started yet and have questions, they should make an appointment with their school counselor.

Most four year schools require an essay, two letters of recommendation SAT results, resume and transcript. Be sure to check the applications for specifics (i.e. admission and financial aid deadlines). If the application is done online, your child's guidance counselor **must** be notified, so their transcript and any other accompanying documents can be sent. If they apply on paper, the entire application should be sent out through the guidance office. Feel free to call your child's counselor if you have any questions at 564-6422, ext. 1107.

ART NEWS

Ms. Dobrocki's Painting II art students created a mini-art show in front of the auditorium for the parents for this year's open house. Also, drawings were displayed in the art showcases opposite of the computer room.

Art Institute of Boston is scheduled to do a presentation for interested students in November.

Painting II art students will collaborate with PHS Theatre for set design of stain-glass windows for the spring production of "Footloose"

.Just a bit of exciting information regarding Sherrie Parenteau. Her latest one woman show is in Mystic (more info on www.mysticarts.org). She sold a number of paintings on the opening night including four to Jessie Sallie Raphael. Some of you know that last year she sold two paintings to the artistic director of U2.

Sherrie has been devoted to PHS over the years by coming back every so often to do presentations for the art students on a voluntary basis. She was also instrumental in helping my students to finish the tree of life ceramic mural which graces the main corridor leading to the school cafeteria. Her most recent visit was last June where art students were treated to seeing some of her latest artwork. The students helped me to create a mural dedicated to Sherrie showing her beginnings at PHS to samples of her recent work. It is on the wall outside of the 2D art room

Max & Company

Max and Company got off to a good start this year. Over the summer many of us visited Camp Quinnebaug to assist our friends with special needs in making their center pieces for Family Day.

We are now attending community activities each week, working with a friend with Autism out in the community. During Block 4 we go outside for some fun exercise and activities with our friends from Ms. Belous class. On Oct.10th we hope to have many of us help at the Cycling for Autism Event in Plainfield. We are in the process of planning a field trip where we help our friends and have fun!

Modern US

On Oct. 5, Mr. Hart's Modern US History classes explored life in the Industrial Revolution with a trip to the Williamatic Textile Museum. Students visited a historic mill floor, toured the machinery and artifacts of a bygone era, and experienced life from the perspective of a mill owner, foreman and a mill worker on an assembly line.

CRAFT FAIR

We will be holding a Craft Fair here at the High school on Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 9-3:00pm and we are looking for vendors to rent tables for \$25.00 a table. Please contact Paula Norgren at 564-6422 ext. 1122 or Lisa Bastien at bastienl@plainfieldschools.org

YEARBOOK

Yearbooks can be purchased on line now through January 31st at jostensyearbooks.com no extra copies will be ordered so make sure you order your copy now.

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

John Dewey