

April 2009

From the principal:

Show favorite teachers they have "made a difference"
– mail the annual Staff Appreciation form!

We each have received support, guidance, and encouragement from loyal friends, loving parents, and conscientious teachers. I am sure that each one of us can think of a special teacher or staff member that has made a positive impact on our lives. Many of us may never have expressed our appreciation to those individuals; others may have waited years after graduation to do so.

Students, parents, and graduates now have an opportunity to say "thank you" to faculty and staff in a formal, meaningful way. It's time to distribute our annual Staff Member Commendation forms which I will present to teachers and other staff members during National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4 – 8. A copy of the form is included in this mailing.

Here's how you can help recognize that special individual who has "made a difference" to you.

1. Take five minutes to complete the enclosed Staff Member Commendation form.
2. By April 30, deliver your form to the school's main office or mail it to me.

Just as the extra effort or encouragement from a teacher, coach, secretary, administrator, sponsor, or counselor has made a positive impact on your life, I am confident your thoughts will be appreciated by our staff for years to come.

Gary Steiger
Principal



Academic Scholars - Class of 2009

Matthew J. Bartolameolli, Adam B. Bethke, Clarke S. Blackham, Katherine E. Feekin, Alexander J. Foley, Grace D. Franz, Nicholas J. Froggatt, Tyler C. Hein, Kaitlin M. Johnson, Elizabeth A. Jump, Kylie V. Kosulic, Sarah E. Krantz, Christopher R. Liquin, Soon A. Mansur, Sean M. McCarthy, Meghan L. McNulty, Allison R. Mohr, Colin M. Morlock, Courtney M. Nowlan, Anna Novikova, Andrew A. Prombo, Kathryn F. Ryba, Lauren E. Reynolds, James H. Silveira, Jacob T. Starcevich, Yousuf M. Syed, John D. Tomassone, Jenny I. Ugalde, Shruthi Venkatesh, Adam B. Wisbrock, Feiyu Xue, Anqi Yang, Rachel M. Zwirkoski.

Career Expo 2009

High schools in Districts 211, 214, and 220; the Northwest Education to Careers Partnership; and Harper College are hosting Career Expo 2009 on Tuesday, April 28, from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Willow Creek Activity Center, 67 E. Algonquin Road, in South Barrington. All Career Expo activities are open to students and parents, and are free of charge.

Career Expo 2009 is designed to help students gather information on career options, research career fields, and determine educational requirements needed to pursue desired careers. The Expo provides an excellent opportunity to begin integrating college and career plans. More than 100 traditional career professionals, as well as those representing opportunities projected to offer the greatest employment growth, have been asked to discuss specific career-related topics as well as answer questions.

For more information about Career Expo 2009, please contact Barbara Compobasso, PHS College and Career counselor or Jan Lohrentz, Career Advisor.

The website www.edcareerpartnership.com will also have further details about the program.

April State Testing

Juniors across the state of Illinois are preparing to take the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) on April 22 and 23. The P.S.A.E. measures a student's progress in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. Students are required to participate in the P.S.A.E. or Illinois Alternative Assessment to be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

On April 22 and 23, 2009, all junior students will be taking the PSAE and sophomore students will be participating in practice ACT and WorkKeys assessments. The results for junior students will be a part of their official transcript. The results for sophomore students will provide information regarding areas of improvement needed in English, mathematics and science. On April 22, freshman and senior students will not have classes for the day; sophomore and junior students will be dismissed following the exam at approximately 12:50 p.m. On April 23, sophomores and juniors will test in the morning; and ALL students will have a late start beginning at 11:05 a.m. Please be sure to mark your calendars. Bus transportation will be available for all students at the start of the day and back home at the end of their respective schedules.

Additional information regarding the PSAE and the specific schedules for students on April 22 and 23 will be sent to parents and students prior to the test dates. Information on the tests and sample test items are also available on the Illinois State Board of Education website, <http://www.isbe.net/assessment>.

Letters of Intent were signed by:

Katie MacFabe signed with DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois for Track and Field. Lauren Orris signed with Azusa Pacific University in California for Track and Field. Kristal Pitts signed with Judson College in Elgin, Illinois for Track and Field. Martha Shepard signed with Illinois State in Normal, Illinois for Track and Field. Tory Wright signed with University of Memphis in Tennessee for Track and Field. Lukasz Kierys signed with Judson College in Elgin, Illinois for Track and Field.

dates to remember

- April 7 Late Start - 10:00 a.m.
Class of 2013 Activity/Athletic Night
7:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- April 16, 17, 18 Variety Show - 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
- April 22 & 23 PSAE testing
- May 1 Cinco de Mayo - 6:30 p.m.
- May 2 Palatine Relays
- May 5 Band Senior Recognition Concert
7:30 p.m., Auditorium
- May 7 Fashion Show
- May 19 Late Start (10:00 a.m.)



If you require assistance while visiting our school, please contact the principal's office at (847) 755-1600.

Kudos to these P.H.S. family members...

✦ **FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America):** Twenty-seven students competed at the sectional FCCLA competition on February 20th at College of Lake County. Congratulations to the following students on their success: *Fashion Apparel Construction*: 1st Place - Claire Baltz; 2nd Place - Gina Scardina. *Interior Design-Individual*: 1st Place - Mackenzie Carpenter, Alexis Rachwalski, 2nd Place - Allie Urbina. *STAR Interior Design*: 2nd Place - Shannon Corcoran, Kristen Plesniak. *Culinary Arts (Cookie Decorating)*: 1st Place - Tara Clonan (Most Outstanding), Kevin Curto, Kristin Schmidt, and Ryan Turley, 2nd Place - Karolina Malska, Kristen Strok, Chris Bonner, and Ron Miller. *Preschool Lesson Plan - Individual*: 2nd Place: Kayla Fauria; 3rd Place - Tasha Esquivel. *Preschool Lesson - Team*: First Place - Hannah Guth & Meghan McDonald. *Preschool Storytelling - Individual*: 2nd Place - Cynthia Galvan. *Preschool Storytelling - Team*: 1st Place: Molly Knoll & Khusbu Sheth (Most Outstanding), Emma Maslanka & Melissa Serio, Betsy Roiland & Danielle Zowada.

✦ **All-Academic Athletic Awards:** Congratulations to the 10 junior and 2 senior athletes who received the I.H.S.A. Achievement Award at the Winter Sports Award Night. These athletes maintained a minimum 3.5 G.P.A. for the past 5 and 7 semesters respectively. In addition, congratulations to the 16 senior athletes with a minimum 3.0 G.P.A. after 7 semesters who received the M.S.L. All-Academic Senior Award.

✦ **Athletic Team Success:** *Boys Basketball* – Matt Rossi was All-Conference; Nat Pearson qualified to IHSA State in 3-point contest. *Boys Swimming and Diving* – Ian McNair qualified for IHSA State Diving. *Wrestling* – Tom Laskowske was Conference and IHSA Regional Champion, Runner-up in IHSA Sectional, and IHSA State Qualifier. *Girls Bowling* – Barbara Gutwein qualified as an individual for IHSA State. *Girls Gymnastics* - IHSA Regional Champions, Sam Saltess was IHSA Regional Vault, Uneven Bar, Floor Ex and All-Around Champion.

Music Department

Time is flying by for the PHS Choral Music Department; 2 public concerts under our belt (with one more to go), *Forté* competition and solo competitions happening right now, a multitude of performances by Indigo Jazz, singing at various athletic events, and the Concert Choir is heading to London over Spring Break!

Indigo Jazz has had a whirlwind of performance dates this year; singing at Sanborn Elementary School's holiday pancake breakfast, GreenCastle, Chicago's Berliner Bears (Stephen's Convention Center in Rosemont), the Lion's Club, our Homecoming Royal Rally, the District 211 Heart Walk, our upcoming Variety Show, and for a special student assembly at Jane Addams school encouraging students to not give up on their dreams of attending college.

Matt Myers, and a student-lead ensemble also sang at the Women's State Gymnastics meet, and various students, along with Concert Choir, have sung for home football games, basketball games and cross country meets. Brendan Bunce sang the National Anthem for the faculty-student basketball game to raise money for the Ray Mills Fund.

At this writing, *Forté* is ½ way through their competition season. We came in 2nd runner against 15 teams at the Brodhead, WI, invitational, and brought home a Grand Championship (6 foot) trophy from the Manteno HS Main Event. We also received a first place win in our division, and awards for Best Crew, Best Combo, Best Choreography, Best Choral Sound, and Best Male Soloist in a show (Matt Myers), with Nick Adelberger honored as best performer in our show. You can find all updated information on our web-site at www.phs.d211.org/activities/choral/index.htm.

Finally, Concert Choir will be touring London, England on a concert tour of lifetime. We will be performing for three schools in Lewisham (Southeast London), and will experience a week of West End shows, English culture, history and sights during our 2009 Spring Break.

Hollywood Glamour

Fashion Club just keeps getting stronger and stronger as the years go by. This year's theme, *Hollywood Glamour*, will put a new spark into the month of May. The theme will have a Red Carpet runway, masses of lights, and Hollywood signs. This year will hit a new record for new designers shining out of their shells.

Senior Claire Baltz comes into the spotlight for her fourth consecutive year in the annual show with a decade's theme containing outfits made from the 1920's through 1970's. Angela Heagney will be walking the stage with two collections this year; white and black and an animal print theme. Senior Amber East, first time designer, and junior, Joanna Peng, collaborate to make edgy dresses, skirts, and a mix of other exciting garments. Junior, Gina Scardina, will have a dedicated line of Red Carpet outfits. Casey Scanlan, brings back her outstanding designs of skirts for a great sense of style.

Sophomore, Kaila Jennings, hits the stage with her very first collection with evening wear dresses. Keyana Allen, along with Jennings, will return with her second collection this year of formal dresses. Sydney Hosaka, with her second year collection, will have a very unique collection of "fun outfits." New to the show this year is Spring Montgomery, taught well by her cousin, Janice Montgomery, class of 2008. Spring will bring inspiration to the stage.

In addition to creating their own collections, PHS students produce and organize the Fashion Show including fundraising, set design, advertising, and securing models for the show. *Hollywood Glamour* is coming to Palatine High School on Thursday, May 7, 2009, 7:30 - 9:00 pm, in the auditorium. Tickets will be \$4.00 at the door and available through designers during lunch. Come view the latest fashions viewed through the eyes of our PHS students.

National Merit Scholarships 2009

FINALISTS: 2009 Competition For National Merit Scholarships: Elizabeth A. Jump, Anna Novikova, Eric A. Rodriguez, James H. Silveira, Shruthi Venkatesh, Feiyu Xue.

SEMIFINALIST:

Sara-Clare A. McGeever

FINALIST: 2009 Competition For National Achievement Scholarships:

Eric R. Joyner

Summer School Food Service

During summer school, the food service department will be offering a complimentary breakfast in the cafeteria to all students before the start of the school day.

Also, in addition to cash payments, prepayment accounts will now be accessible to in-district students for a la carte purchases. Deposits can be applied to a student's prepayment account by check or cash, and deposit slips are located by the cafeteria cashier. Account balances from the school year will transfer with students to their summer school building.

If you are not currently approved for free or reduced price meals and would like to apply for summer school, applications are available in the schools. Please remember that a new application must be completed for the 2009-2010 school year. The new application will be mailed to all households at the end of July.

If you have any questions, please call the Director of Food Service at (847) 755-6680.

The week of May 4th we will be celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week.

We would like you to have the opportunity to thank those teachers who have made a difference in your student's life, so we have enclosed a Letter of Commendation form for your convenience. If you would like to send a letter to more than one teacher, they are available on our PHS website or at the school in the Main Office.

Thank you.