



Cat Tracks

Points of Interest:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Registration for 2012-13
- Senior Party News



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From the Principal...

The CL area has much to be celebrating this time of year. The school year is off to a wonderful start. An added bonus this fall has been the unseasonably warm weather we have been experiencing much to the dismay of the winter enthusiast.

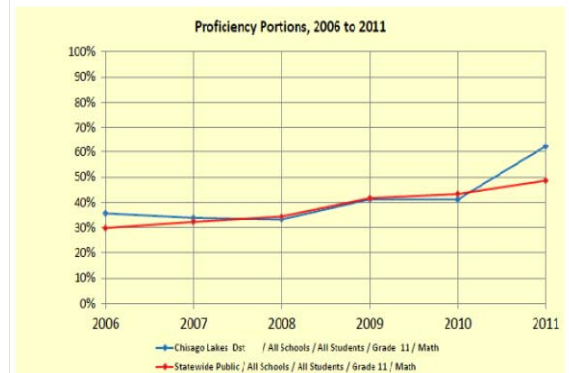
Continuing in our celebration is our fall activities. The fall musical, "Hello Dolly" was a delight for all the Chisago Lakes community to be proud of. Congratulations to musical directors Dave Seaburg and Bridget Budig and to the entire cast and crew. Our athletic teams had a successful season and competed in the North Suburban Conference and various sections this fall. The football, volleyball, girls' tennis, girls' and boys' soccer, girls' swimming and diving and girls' and boys' cross-country teams adjusted well and provided much enjoyment. Congratulations to all of our

fall participants and good luck to the winter teams and clubs as they move into their opening practices and competitions.

Our North Central Accreditation process is building a stronger community of learners among our 2011-2012 staff. We are in the midst of Professional Learning Groups that are problem solving, action planning and evaluating instruction for increasing student achievement in math. From best practices and research, working with peers from across the content areas will hopefully gain

higher achievement results. During the 2010-2011 school year, we followed a similar plan and we were able to surpass state levels on our MCA-II Math test. Our proficiency scores improved from 43.5% in 2010 to 61.19%. (See chart on next page). The staff at CLHS is proud of this accomplishment and we are more determined this year to continue to positively impact student growth in math.

GRADE 11 MCA MATH PROFICIENCY



(continued...)

Parent/Teacher Conferences



Conferences for term 2 are Thursday, December 8, from 3 to 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please use the SW (P.A.C.) entrance.

From the Principal...continued from page 1

As the school year moves along, several activities will be once again taking the spotlight. We are gearing up for registration 2012-2013. Writing and re-writing of courses, printing registration guides and registration timelines are all activities that are well underway. Juniors are scheduled to have completed their registration before the end of January. The counselors will be meeting with all other grade levels to continue their individualized four-year graduation plans. I strongly encourage you as parents to call your child's counselor with questions or concerns. Administration is hopeful to complete registration by mid March.

As we move towards the end of the calendar year, and the holiday season, I came across the following story on a web site I review often entitled "A Box Full of Kisses." It reminds us that we all can impact the lives of those that we come in contact with. Just maybe, instead of the giving a tangible gift to our young people, give

the gift of yourselves, your talents and most important our time---- unconditionally!!!!

A Box Full of Kisses

Author Unknown

The story goes that some time ago, a man punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy."

The man was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, but his anger flared again when he found out the box was empty. He yelled at her, stating, "Don't you know, when you give someone a present, there is supposed to be something inside? The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and cried, "Oh, Daddy, it's not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They're all for you, Daddy."

The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged for her forgiveness.

Only a short time later, an accident took the life of the child. It is also told that her father kept that gold box by his bed for many years and, whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

In a very real sense, each one of us, as humans beings, have been given a gold container filled with unconditional love and kisses... from our children, family members, friends, and God. There is simply no other possession, anyone could hold, more precious than this.

Have a wonderful holiday season. As always if you have concerns or questions, please call us 651-213-2500.

Until next time...take care.
Mr. Ertl

New Staff in our Math Department...

Welcome Ashley Jamros & Jamie Kosel – New Math Teachers at CLHS

A little about me: This is currently my 5th year teaching high school math and first year at Chisago Lakes High School where I will be teaching Geometry, Advanced Geometry, and an MCA math class. I spent one year at Prior-Lake High School and the past three years at Centennial High School. I was born and raised in Minnesota, graduating high school from Centennial and college from Concordia University-St. Paul in 2007. At Concordia I also had the opportunity to play

four years of volleyball at the Division II level.

I am currently enrolled at Concordia University to get my masters in differentiated instruction. This fall I had a great time coaching the girls JV volleyball team and assisting with the varsity team.

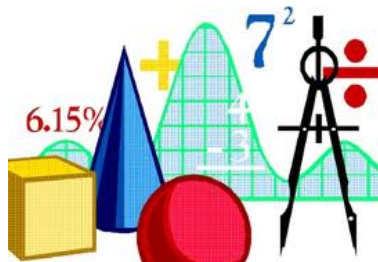
I look forward to a great school year.

Mrs. Jamros

This is my 6th year in the Chisago Lakes district. I spent the last five years teaching math at the middle school and decided to transfer to the high school for this school year. I

loved my time at the middle school, but I have always wanted to teach upper level math so I thought a move to the high school would be a perfect fit. I graduated in 2006 from the University of MN -Duluth with a 5-12 Math teaching license. Then I decided to get my Education masters at Hamline University and completed that in 2010. Being that I began my career at the middle school, I am lucky enough to see a lot of familiar student faces at the high school which is fun to catch up with some repeat students! I look forward to my time here and so far it has been great!

Mrs. Kosel



Capital Campaign

With so many financial challenges again in 2011, we have decided to continue with the no-frills approach to fund-raising at CLHS. What does this mean?

- We won't ask you to buy candy or gift wrap or candles
- We won't ask you to attend a fundraising event

What we are asking is simple and straightforward:

Make a tax-deductible financial contribution to CLHS in any amount you wish to contribute.

At a time when public schools are struggling financially, Chisago Lakes High School has many programming needs. We've done our best to use our limited dollars wisely to provide the best educational experience possible for our students. When we've come up short on dollars, we try to be innovative. We've partnered with other schools and programs when possible. We've sought financial support from local businesses and community members. We have much to be proud of at CLHS, but we know we can do better for our students and hope you will join us in this effort.

For this capital campaign, PROMETHEAN (through First Tech), will match up to \$3,800 from our Parent Advisory Committee funds to purchase various technology items. Help us maximize these matching technology dollars by donating to this year's campaign!!

For the 2011-2012 school year our goal is to raise **\$4,500 by January 15, 2012**. Last year we raised \$4,835. With the amount raised, we were able to:

- Provide every student a daily planner
- Purchase new text books
- Take Career & Technical field trips

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your ongoing support of our great high school.

With great appreciation,
CLHS Parent Advisory Committee



Science Department

Happy term two everyone! We have started to make some major changes in the science department this year, mainly with the sequence of courses your student will be taking over their high school career. Many of our teachers worked hard over the summer to develop a new curriculum for our Science 9 course that places more emphasis on the relationship between science and engineering and topics in physics. We have also made the move to have students complete a course in Chemistry

during their 10th grade year then onto Biology during 11th grade. Along with the changes to our current courses, we are also working on adding a new chemistry course as an option for students to take during their 10th grade year. These changes are occurring due to the state of Minnesota changing the graduation requirements for science and also to better prepare our students to take the MCA Science test.

As a school, we are spending the year taking a look at our curriculum and

identifying the most essential information our students will need for graduation. As a science department, we are working diligently to create a viable curriculum that not only challenges our students but allows them to use the knowledge they have gained in a previous course and apply it to their current course. Our department wishes everyone good luck with the 2011-2012 school year!

*Mrs. Pohl, Mr. Hamann, Mr. Whitacre,
Mrs. Yehlik, Mr. Evertz, Mr. Saueressig,
& Mr. Skrupky*

Counselor Clips...



Registration for the 2012-2013 School Year

We will start the registration process for the 2012-2013 school year in January. Registration information will be distributed in PAWZ and students will view an informational video from the counselors on the registration process. Grades 9-11 will be given a two-week period to complete their registration during PAWZ. This will include a small group meeting with their counselor, credit check review and on-line registration. Courses are put in as **requests** only and are not guaranteed. Students will see their schedule prior to summer break.

The following are the dates of registration:

January 9-20	Class of 2013
Jan. 30 – Feb. 10	Class of 2014
February 13-24	Class of 2015
Feb. 27 – Mar. 9	Class of 2016

We encourage parents to assist their students with choosing classes that will be beneficial to their future and sign the back of the registration sheet to acknowledge they have seen it. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call us at 651-213-2500.

9th Grade Registration Information Night for the Class of 2016

Starting March 1st, 2012 the eighth grade class will begin their registration process for ninth grade. Students will meet and work with high school counselors during science classes. Eighth graders will be provided with registration materials, hear an overview of the high school schedule, credit and testing requirements for graduation and other commonly asked questions. Counselors will be able to assist students in course selection based on their current academic placements, personal interests, and post-secondary plans.

On March 6th, 2012 the high school counselors and administration will host Registration Information Night in the high school's Performing Arts Center (PAC) for 8th graders and their parents focusing on:

- Introduction to the high school
- Daily schedule
- Graduation requirements
- Course selection for 9th grade
- 4 year planning
- Testing

****Parents and students will end their evening by registering on-line in assigned computer labs.**

Note: Parents should bring the registration materials their 8th grader received at the middle school on Thursday, March 1st, 2012. This included a registration book and registration sheet.

Students and parents with the last names A-Le are asked to attend the 5-6:45 pm session. Students and parents with the last names Li-Z are asked to attend the 7-8:45 pm session. A detailed agenda will be given out that evening.

Note: Each session will begin in the PAC with a large group presentation promptly at 5 pm and 7 pm, and then families will move to computer labs for on-line registration.

A post card was mailed by the high school and a separate letter will be mailed home from the middle school with more details about this evening's events.

Seniors...and Parents!

It's not too late to make a plan for life after high school. Contact your school counselor if you would like options and/or assistance with career and post-secondary planning.

Senior Financial Aid Night – February 6, 2012

Financial Aid Night is a program designed for senior students and parents. Shawn Reynolds, Director of Financial Aid at Pine Technical College, will lead the program. Topics to be covered are: general overview of financial aid, timeline for financial aid, types of financial aid and completing the FAFSA. There will also be opportunities to ask specific questions regarding individual circumstances and situations. Financial Aid Night is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the CLHS Performing Arts Center.

Junior Parent Night for the Class of 2013

The guidance staff at CLHS will be hosting an informational night for all juniors and their parents on March 26, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center. We will cover post-secondary options, ACT/SAT testing, DISCOVER and Naviance, and the junior year timeline. There will also be time to meet with individual college admission representatives.

Junior Career Fair January 4, 2012

The junior class will be attending a career fair hosted at Anoka Ramsey Community College – Cambridge Campus on Jan. 4, 2012 from 8 am – 2 pm. Transportation and lunch will be provided. The purpose of this event is to expose students to a number of traditional and non-traditional careers. Speakers who currently work in a variety of occupations will share with students their educational background, required training, job outlook, and specific responsibilities on the job. This information is especially valuable as juniors begin to consider options and make formal plans for life after high school. The Junior Career Fair is a mandatory school event for all juniors.

Senior Financial Aid Night February 6, 2012

Financial Aid Night is a program designed for senior students and parents. Shawn Reynolds, Director of Financial Aid at Pine Technical College, will lead the program. Topics to be covered are: general overview of financial aid, timeline for financial aid, types of financial aid and completing the FAFSA. There will also be opportunities to ask specific questions regarding individual circumstances and situations. Financial Aid Night is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 6, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the CLHS Performing Arts Center.

Classroom Guidance

Juniors:

Throughout this year the counselors will be in Government in Action classes to do a DISCOVER guidance lesson with all juniors. DISCOVER is a career guidance and information system that allows students to take inventories about their abilities, values and interests, research and evaluate potential careers, learn about possible majors and post-secondary institutions, as well as prepare for the work-force. Juniors will be led through a structured activity to help them identify possible career and post-secondary plans, and given handouts on their junior year, a college comparison worksheet, and 30 questions to ask a college rep.

Note: DISCOVER is a web-based program that all students have access to using their DISCOVER log-in and password. Juniors are encouraged to continue their exploration through this year, visit colleges and career sites this summer and gather needed information to assist with their decision-making in the fall of their senior year.

Sophomores:

School counselors will be in US History/AP US History classes at the end of term 2 and start of term 3. Students will receive their PLAN test results back along with an interpretation on how to use the results. Students will also complete a personality profile in Naviance, the goal is to have students continue to research possible career interests.

Freshmen:

School counselors and the College and Career Center facilitator will be speaking in the 9th grade required Freshmen Seminar classes throughout the school year. In these visits students will learn about the role of the school counselor in the high school, a timeline for career and post-secondary planning, an introduction to DISCOVER and NAVIANCE guidance and information systems to help students identify their career interests, abilities and values and aid in the writing of their career research papers. Students will also develop a four year plan of courses to take throughout their high school years based on their career interest area. Students learn about scholarships and will be led on a tour of the College and Career Center by Jen Hegstad, College and Career Center Facilitator.

NOTE FOR COLLEGE BOUND JUNIORS AND THEIR PARENTS

If you have not signed-up to take the ACT on June 9, 2012, please see your counselor for a registration packet or go on-line to www.actstudent.org. CLHS is a test site for this date.

Tutoring

After School Tutoring is available Monday-Thursday from 2:30-3:30 pm in the tutoring center next to the B3 computer lab. A non-certified staff member is present to assist students with general homework questions and provide supervision. Students with more subject specific questions can make arrangements with their classroom teacher to stay after school for assistance.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

In an effort to provide parents with as much information as possible the counselors will be offering the following sessions in the PAC during conferences this year:

Term 2 (Dec. 8th) 9th-12th grade; Interested in learning about the different ways students can earn college credit while in high school? Attend an infor-

mational session about Concurrent Enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP) and Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO).

Time: 5:30 pm in the PAC

Term 3 (Feb. 24): ALL 10th graders; Get your PLAN results and interpretation (10th graders and their parents should attend this session if they would like to receive their PLAN results and have the scores interpreted. If you do not attend this session, your PLAN results will be given back to you child in PAWZ.) A save-the-date card was mailed home if your student took the PLAN test.

Time: 4:30 & 6:00 pm in the PAC (Attend either session)

Term 4 (May 5): 11th grade; Tasks for the summer to prepare for life after high school.

Time: 5:30 pm in the PAC

Juniors & Seniors Who Are College Bound

Dates for your calendar:

ACT Testing** April 14, and
June 9, 2012

SAT Testing** May 5 and
June 2, 2012

**Registration info. can be picked up in the guidance office or on-line at: www.actstudent.org for the ACT or www.collegeboard.com for the SAT.

~Counselors recommend juniors test at the end of their junior year; preferably June 9.

~The **school code** for Chisago Lakes High School is 241-380. This code is used by ACT to identify where the student attends high school.

~The **test site code** for Chisago Lakes High School is 213-520. This code is used by ACT to identify where the student wants to take the ACT test.

~On June 9, 2012 Chisago Lakes High School is a test site for the ACT.

Note: ACT prep classes will be offered in the spring before the June testing; one from a private company called ZAPS (mailed to you by the company) and one by CL Community Ed.

Family & Consumer Science

Ms. Madison is traveling to New York again this year with her fashion students. The travel date is set for June 11-14, 2012. We will visit the typical New York sites; Central Park, the Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island and the newly opened WTC memorial. Our fashion itinerary will include touring Macy's, the garment district, the annual costume exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and F.I.T. and shop-



ping on 5th avenue. We are also attending the hit Broadway show "The Lion King". The cost of the trip is \$1,119.00; which includes everything but your lunch and spending money. The trip is open to students and parents alike, so if you're interested, please contact Ms. Madison at 651-213-2612.

The Minneapolis Art Institute invited Ms. Madison's Foods 2 class down to tour their campus and have

lunch at their on site restaurant on October 25th. Students listened to a short presentation on the school, toured the facility and then enjoyed a three course lunch at The Gourmet Gallery. The restaurant is part of the culinary program at the school and is run by the culinary students.

A special thanks to Peg McCubbin for making it all possible!!

Seniors and Parents...

Each year the parents of graduating seniors host a party after their graduation ceremony giving the students a safe, chemical-free environment in which to celebrate the end of high school. This party is possible through local donations and by fundraisers.

The Class of 2012 Senior All Night Party will be held on Friday, June 1, 2012 following the commencement exercises. Anyone wishing to help with the party should contact one of the committee chairs listed on the "Committee List" on the senior party link on the High School website. Many volunteers are needed to make this night successful...please consider volunteering for this event.

Admission to the all-night party is \$50 and will be held at Stars and Strikes in Wyoming. All seniors will be given 50 raffle tickets to sell to raise money for this event. You can sell all or a portion of the 50 raffle tickets to apply towards your admission ticket. Tickets are available in the Tutoring Center at the High School from Mrs. Hoyt or by contacting Beth Checkalski at: beth.checkalski@twinmodal.com. Tickets will need to be turned in by March 1st.

Here's an opportunity for you to have some fun this winter while helping the Senior Class raise some much needed funds for their class party. We've teamed up with Wild Mountain Ski & Snowboard Area and Wild Chutes Snowtubing and found two ways for you to have some outdoor fun and save/raise money.

1. Go to the Wild Mountain Ski & Snowboard Area and have some fun! They have 26 different runs and 4 amazing terrain parks. There is no charge for parking and you are welcome to bring your own food, although food service is available (no outside catering allowed).
 - a. If you pre-purchase your winter lift ticket using this code: CL12, you will save \$5 on each lift ticket you purchase & \$3 of every ticket purchased will be donated to the CLHS Class of 2012. www.wildmountain.com
 - b. Bring a CLHS fundraising card to Wild Mountain. You will save \$5 on each lift ticket you purchase & \$3 of every ticket purchased will be donated to CLHS Class of 2012.
2. You could also choose to go snow tubing at Wild Chutes Snow Tubing. Bring in your fundraising card and you will save \$1 off your tubing session and a \$1 will be donated to CLHS class party.

We hope this will give you a chance to get outside and have some fun this winter, and help our program raise some funds.

News from the Chisago Lakes High School Music Department



Upcoming Events:

- **Monday, December 12:** Holiday Choral Concert - **POSTPONED future date TBD**
- **Sunday, February 12:** Wind Ensemble Concert with special guest The Concordia College Band
4:00 pm, Performing Arts Center: Tickets. \$5.00
- **Monday, February 27:** Winter Band Concert (Jazz Band, Symphonic Band & Concert Band)
7:30 pm, Performing Arts Center
- **March 22-24:** 43rd Annual Chisago Lakes Variety Show
7:00 pm, Performing Arts Center
- **Monday, May 14:** Spring Band Concert, 7:30 pm, Performing Arts Center
- **Monday, May 21:** Spring Choir Concert, 7:00 pm, Performing Arts Center
- **Tuesday, May 29:** Spring Jazz Band Concert, 7:00 pm, Performing Arts Center

Yearbook 2011 – 2012!

Senior Pictures!

Can you believe it's almost half way through your senior year? If you haven't done so already get those senior pictures taken! Senior pictures are due no later than **March 2nd, 2012.** Your studio should be able to send the picture of your choice directly to the school.

Please send your senior photo to jhegstad@chisagolakes.k12.mn.us

In addition to your senior picture, please send in a baby picture; this can be a photograph of you at any age. If possible, please submit this photo electronically as a tif. Or jpg file. If this is not possible, please bring this photo to Jen Hegstad in the Guidance office. The photo will be scanned professionally to ensure the best quality. Please be reminded that this photo WILL NOT be returned, so please ensure it is a photo you can give up or have a copy of.

Senior Parents!

Here is a great way to send your son or daughter off with a permanent memory! Graduation ads are available for just \$40. Each ad is a quarter of a page, and can contain any congratulatory message or photo you wish.

***Yearbook and ad orders as well as any pictures can be brought to Jen Hegstad in the guidance office.
Order forms for yearbooks and senior ads can be found in the guidance office and online.***

Yearbooks are \$68 through April 14, 2012!