

# **COUNCIL GROVE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

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Kelly McDiffett, Principal

December 1, 2009

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

The first-ever trimester grading period at Council Grove High School ended in early November, and we are several weeks into our winter trimester. Academic transitions which previously occurred in January are now occurring.

Your CGHS student has an updated transcript due to the potential acquisition of 2.5 credits during the fall trimester. Also, students have transitioned into new classes. This results in a different class load for every student and staff member.

I would encourage parents to ask his/her CGHS student about schedule changes. Although we are constantly adjusting to the trimester concept, please make us aware of conflicts and problems your student may be experiencing.

As we roll into the winter trimester, we wish every family a safe and happy holiday. **Go Braves!**

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## **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

Each year of high school brings about a different set of events. If you have questions about the following reminders, contact Sue Shoemaker, CGHS Counselor.

**Freshmen:** We have completed the fall trimester and are moving through the winter trimester. Ms. Shoemaker has visited with every freshman student regarding the importance of passing classes at high school. If a student fails a required class his/her must repeat that class. Please remind your student the importance of doing his/her best.

**Sophomores:** The Sophomore class had the opportunity to attend the FOCUS day at Flint Hills Vocational Technical College in Emporia on November 10. Sophomores were able to choose two of the FHVC degree programs to get an in-depth review of those programs of study. This was an opportunity to begin to set career goals for when they graduate from high school. For those students who took the PLAN test, we expect the scores to be arriving before Christmas.

**Juniors:** Results of the PSAT should be arriving soon. Ms. Shoemaker will visit with each student to discuss his/her results. Juniors should be

coming into the counseling office to pick up an ACT packet. The ACT test is the first step to be accepted into a college after high school graduation. The spring test is April 4 and the summer testing date is June 13. To take the April test, students need to be registered by February 27.

**Seniors:** At this time of year, seniors should have completed resumes and written letters of application for scholarship submissions which are due following Christmas break. Seniors should already have taken the ACT test at least once, and all seniors should have enrolled in post-secondary schools for the fall of 2010. If a senior is planning to play college sports, he/she will need to complete an NCAA enrollment application.

**Parents of seniors need to mark January 21, 2010, on your calendar as CGHS will host a financial aid workshop for parents. It will be held in the CGHS auditorium beginning at 7:00 p.m. to help in completing financial aid forms to qualify and/or receive financial aid.**

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## **BELL HOP**

The Bell Hop, Council Grove High School's winter formal dance, will be from 8:00 – 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 19, in the CGHS gymnasium. It is sponsored each year by the KAY organization.

It is important that CGHS students are aware that **no student may attend this dance if he/she is under suspension or if he/she has any detention** that has not been served. All CGHS students are eligible to purchase an admission ticket to this event.

Also, page 19 of the CGHS Student Handbook outlines the policies regarding attendance at dances which states "a student and his/her guest can expect to submit to a breathalyzer and/or a search of his/her person prior to being admitted". It also explains that any outside dates (non-CGHS students) must be registered, and approved, through the high school office. The **deadline for registering outside dates for the Bell Hop is December 11.** Outside dates must at least be in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Any outside date who is 21 years-old or older must attend an interview with the principal before consideration will be given to his/her attending this dance.

## Go Braves!

The Bell Hop is a great event at CGHS! We encourage students to see Ms. Vondenkamp, KAY sponsor, about the dance and make the appropriate plans if you wish to attend.

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### SENIORS IN THE YEARBOOK

**Portraits for the 2010 Chief Yearbook must be turned in by Friday, December 11.** The portrait should be a head and shoulders picture, and there should be no writing (name/year) on the photo. Photos with accessories (hats, sunglasses, pets, other props, etc.) will not be allowed in the yearbook. Local photographers are aware of these guidelines and can assist you with getting a quality pose for the yearbook. Professionals generally agree that an indoor shot with a plain background looks best in the yearbook.

Parents, relatives, or other adults are welcome to place a baby ad congratulating their senior. Space is limited for ads. Baby ads will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Photos are very welcome. **Baby ads must be turned in by Friday, January 15.**

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Bachura at 767-5149, [mbachura@cgrove417.org](mailto:mbachura@cgrove417.org), or go to <http://www.cgrove417.org/bachweb/chief> for any questions or additional information.

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### FCCLA HELPING OTHERS

The Council Grove High School FCCLA chapter will be collecting non-perishable food items to donate to the Care and Share. Please help support others in need during the holiday season by filling the grocery bag left on your door step or by filling the box in local businesses with these types of items.

Bags will be delivered to as many Council Grove residents as possible on the afternoon of December 1st from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Feel free to fill your bag with as many items as you wish. Bags will be collected the following Tuesday, December 8, at the same times. Please leave your donations on your front porch for pick up. If you lose the bag, do not receive one, or want to give more, marked boxes will be placed in community businesses.

Thank you for supporting the CGHS FCCLA chapter and helping others in need!

Below is a list of possible items to donate:

Boxed Foods  
Soups  
Canned Goods  
Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
Ziploc Bags  
Trash Sacks.

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### FFA NEWS

The Council Grove FFA fruit, meat, and cookie dough will be coming in on December 1. Extra grapefruit and oranges were ordered for anyone that is interested.

The annual FFA poinsettia sale began at the CGHS Greenhouse on November 30 and will continue until all plants are sold. Purchases can be made on school days from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This year we have 200 poinsettias in 6" pots that we will sell for \$7.50 per plant.

Also, it is not too early to think about spring cleaning. The Council Grove FFA Consignment Auction is your perfect opportunity to turn your prized possessions into cash. The date for the consignment auction is **Monday, April 19, beginning at 11:00 a.m.** The consignment auction will take place at the Morris County Fairgrounds. If you have questions about the auction, please feel free to contact Mr. Brandon Barr by phone (620) 767-5149 or e-mail [bbarr@cgrove417.org](mailto:bbarr@cgrove417.org). Mr. Greg Hallgren will be the auctioneer.

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### FINE ARTS EVENTS

On **Monday, December 14**, CGHS will display its fine arts talent with an art show at 6:00 p.m. This show will be in conjunction with the vocal and band concert, which will commence at 7:00 p.m. in the CGHS auditorium. Come early to see the displays.

Also, our Brave Voices group will be touring the USD 417 schools on Wednesday, December 16. Contact the local elementary and middle schools if you wish to catch one of their shows.

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## *Happy Holidays*

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