

# **COUNCIL GROVE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

129 Hockaday/Council Grove, KS 66846

620/767-5149

www.usd417.net

Kelly McDiffett, Principal

January 1, 2010

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

We are getting the second half of the school year underway. As students return to the classroom from holiday break, he/she will be at the midpoint of the winter trimester. You can help your student by simply asking them about his/her classes.

**CGHS will be handing out mid-term grades to all students on Friday, January 8. As a reminder, we will not be mailing these grades home.**

January 18-23 our basketball teams will experience the Flint Hills League Basketball Tournament. The tourney will be played at White Auditorium in Emporia, which is the same site used by Emporia State University. It is a wonderful experience for our athletes, coaches, and patrons. Make plans to follow the Braves and Lady Braves in the second FHL Basketball Tournament. **Go Braves!**

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## **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

### Senior reminders

April 10 is the next ACT test date. The deadline for signing up for this test date is March 5. Also numerous scholarship deadlines are approaching. Please check the website for applications. If scholarship applications are not available through the website then see Ms. Shoemaker for a hard copy of the application.

If you have not done so, please bring in your e-mail address and Ms. Shoemaker will e-mail the scholarship applications to you that are available through the high school. As you receive scholarships please inform Ms. Shoemaker the amount and source of the scholarship. Please put on your calendar: **Financial Aid night for Seniors and their parents will be held in the auditorium on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

### Junior reminders

Make plans to take the ACT test. It is important that you take the test before the beginning of your senior year. See Ms. Shoemaker for information. Be planning what classes you want to enroll in for your senior year. It is important that you have all required credits. Stop in to the counseling office if you need to check your academic credits.

### Sophomores reminders

Pre-enrollment for the 2010-11 school year will be here very soon. Think about what you are going to enroll in for your junior year. Remember that Flint Hills Technical College is an option available to juniors

and seniors. As sophomores you should have an idea of a "Career Interest Area". Now is the time to be planning future courses to make sure you are prepared to pursue the career of your choice.

### Freshman reminders

It is important that you set goals for your life. High school is the first step toward your goal. Passing classes during your four years of high school is critical to meeting your goal. Set a specific time to do homework and turn in assignments on the due date. Enrollment for your sophomore year will begin in February. Be thinking ahead about the classes you must take and those that you want to take.

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## **COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS**

All students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA form because most colleges use the FAFSA information to determine the level of need when awarding scholarships. Financial grants, work study, and student loans are also accessed through the FAFSA form. The only way to know if a student qualifies is to complete the application.

Please note in the "Counselor's Corner" the information regarding the Financial Aid Night for seniors and his/her parents.

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## **CAMPUS VISITS**

College campus visits are important experiences to help seniors make their final choice. Any college visits must be coordinated in advance through the CGHS counselor's office and the college to be visited. We encourage all campus visits to be completed by **March 30**.

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## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Good sportsmanship should be a priority at every school. The best way to support one's team is to do just that – **CHEER FOR YOUR TEAM, NOT AGAINST THE OTHER TEAM.**

Yelling during free throws, booing players or officials, or yelling negative chants are evidence of poor sportsmanship. Help us ensure that good sportsmanship at CGHS is noticeable. **GO BRAVES!**

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## **COLLEGE-BOUND JUNIORS**

College-bound juniors, and even sophomores, should begin planning their ACT testing schedule. Many students take the ACT test several times to maximize their

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opportunity for a high score. The schedule of ACT test dates for the current school year is posted in the CGHS counselor's office. Juniors should also review the ACT test dates for the 2010-11 school year as well. See Ms. Shoemaker to register.

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## **SCHOOLREACH**

USD 417 contracts with a web-based mass communication system called *SchoolReach*. It allows thousands of telephone messages to be delivered in a very short period of time. **Please make certain CGHS has current telephone contact information. If such information has changed since enrollment, please notify the CGHS office at 767-5149 as soon as possible.**

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## **ABSENCES**

All student absences must be verified by a parent prior to, or on the day of, the absence. CGHS will use the SchoolReach automated system to contact parents of students with unexcused absences. We are aware that emergencies occur which make it difficult to notify the school in a timely fashion. We ask you to support CGHS in promoting good attendance. Good high school habits result in good adult habits.

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# **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**