

COUNCIL GROVE HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Kelly McDiffett, Principal

May 1, 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We are reaching the final days of the 2009-10 school year. We encourage our students to finish the academic year in a positive, productive manner. Please note the key dates in this newsletter for seniors and underclassmen.

As always, we remind students to make good, healthy decisions in all of their activities. With many end-of-year celebrations, we will be encouraging students to enjoy these activities in a safe manner.

Preparations for the 2010-11 school year are underway. Enrollment for the next school term will be held August 3-5, 2010. We wish all Braves a safe and rewarding summer. **Go Braves!**

IMPORTANT SENIOR EVENTS

Senior Tea	May 5 – 2:00 p.m.
Senior Finals	May 10 & 11
Senior Awards Assembly	May 12 – 8:30 a.m.
Senior Cookout	May 12 – 12:00 p.m.
Baccalaureate	May 12 – 7:00 p.m.
Commencement Practice	May 14 – 9:00 a.m.
Commencement	May 16 – 3:00 p.m.
After Graduation Dance	May 16 – 7:00 p.m.

The CGHS Student Senate will be hosting the 27th consecutive after-graduation dance at 7:00 p.m., May 16, 2010, which is free to all students at CGHS. **Donations are being received to help pay for the food and prizes. Please send or drop off donations at the CGHS office in care of Student Senate.**

KEY DATES FOR UNDERCLASSMEN

Final Exams for Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors will be held on **Thursday, May 20**. Please avoid making appointments for your student during the week of finals, if possible.

The **last day of school is Friday, May 21**. Staff will be collecting textbooks and classroom equipment. Dismissal at CGHS will be at 11:20 a.m. There will be no lunch served on that day, but breakfast will be served as usual.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION

Staff at Council Grove High School, and throughout USD 417, have been working toward implementation of an academic intervention philosophy known in Kansas as Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS). The 2009-10 school year was designated as the

“structuring” year, with the creation of a plan to be implemented in the 2010-11 school year. The current area of focus for academic intervention will be in Reading

At CGHS, freshmen and sophomores were given MAP tests, diagnostic tests in math and reading. The first MAP tests were given in the Fall, and the second MAP tests were recently completed in April. From the results of the recent tests, CGHS will begin to conduct further assessments based upon student scores.

Some students will be exposed to brief assessments in May to determine specific reading weaknesses. The results from these assessments will be used to create specific academic interventions. The interventions will be implemented in the fall trimester.

We anticipate the need to be flexible during the initial trimester of MTSS implementation. The desire to improve students’ reading abilities is the primary focus. We appreciate the support of parents and patrons in the implementation of MTSS at Council Grove High School.

NEW NHS MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following 10 CGHS juniors who were inducted into the National Honor Society on Wednesday, April 28: **Katrina Bainum, Sabrina Barber, Tyson Collins, Brock Frye, Sarah Hornung, Bracey Lerner, Sarah Lewis, Alex Paul, Mallory Watts, and Derek Ziegenhirt.**

According to national guidelines, four areas (scholarship, character, leadership, and service) must be considered in selecting members. All juniors with a five-semester GPA of at least 3.5 are evaluated by faculty members. They rate the student’s character, leadership, and service to the school and community. This evaluation counts 50%, and the student’s grade-point average counts 50% in the final selection.

The two totals are combined. A panel of teachers meet and review a list of the combined point totals, without students’ names being revealed. The committee’s responsibility is to decide how many students will be initiated. After considering the size of the class and a natural break in the points, a number is determined.

The senior NHS members wrote original skits and performed them at the assembly in the CGHS auditorium to announce the new members. A formal initiation ceremony and reception for members and their parents followed.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Current 8th graders, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors have pre-enrolled for the 2010-11 school year. We

encourage students and parents to discuss the classes that have been selected for next year. There is still opportunity to make changes now; however, there will be very few class changes allowed in August.

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: It is important that freshmen set goals for life. High school is the first step toward meeting your goals. Passing classes during your four years of high school is a must for meeting these goals. Set a specific time to do homework, and turn in assignments on the given due date

Sophomores: Sophomores should be aware the Flint Hills Technical College is available in the junior year for those who have met the academic qualifications.

Juniors: You must plan when you will take the ACT test. It is important that you take the test before the beginning of your senior year. Contact Ms. Shoemaker for ACT information. It is important that juniors account for taking all required credits. If juniors are concerned about their credits, go to the counseling office to check credits.

Seniors: The next ACT test date is June 13. Make sure to complete all of your high school obligations. Provide the counseling office with your school, work, or military assignment for next year. It would be helpful to provide the mailing address where we can mail your final high school transcript.

NEWS FROM THE AD'S OFFICE

KSHSAA Summer Rule Reminder

In 2009, the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) changed the regulations regarding coaching contact with student-athletes during the summer for volleyball, football and basketball. Coaches will be able to work with their entire team from May 26 through July 16. Coaches may coach their teams in team camps and summer leagues during this eight-week period.

Most of our student-athletes participate in a variety of activities throughout the school year and summer, in addition to job and family obligations. We intend to monitor this situation. We hope our student-athletes engage in as many athletic opportunities as they wish without feeling pressure or obligation to participate in all summer programs. We must not forget to allow kids to be, just that, "kids". If you have questions or concerns regarding this rule, please contact CGHS administration.

Physicals for 2010-11

Any student wishing to participate in athletic activities in USD 417 schools must have a completed

physical form on file with the school prior to the first day of practice. Physicals taken after May 1, 2010 will qualify for the 2010-11 school year. Start scheduling those physicals now!

Summer Camp Schedule

June 7 – Aug. 5	Weights (M-W-Th)
June 7-11	Girls' Basketball
June 14-18	Football
June 21-25	Dance & Cheer
June 28 – July 2	Boys' Basketball
July 7-10	Wrestling
July 12-16	Volleyball

NURSE'S NOTES

Medication

All student medications must be picked up at the nurse's office before the end of the school year. According to state policy, we are unable to send medications home with a student. **Medications that are not picked up by Friday, May 21st will be disposed of at that time.**

Inoculation Policy

The following is from the USD 417 policy manual JGCB regarding inoculations:

"All students enrolling in any district school shall provide the building principal with proof of immunization of certain diseases or furnish documents to satisfy statutory requirements. Booster shots required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment are also required.

A copy of this policy and the applicable state law shall be distributed to students, prospective students or their parents on or before May 15th of each school year. The superintendent shall issue a news release each August explaining the required inoculations and booster shots. Parents may delegate in writing their authority to consent to immunizations. If the parent is not reasonably available, and the authority to consent has not been denied as provided in law, individuals other than the parent may consent to the immunizations as provided for in current law.

Students who fail to provide the documentation required by law may be excluded from school by the superintendent until statutory requirements are satisfied. Notice of exclusion shall be given to the parents/guardians as prescribed by law. Students who are not immunized against a particular disease(s) may be excluded from school during any outbreak.

Each principal shall forward evidence of compliance with the inoculation law to other schools or school districts when requested by the school or by the student's parents/guardians." Approved: JUL 20 1998