



"The Navigator" Principal's Newsletter

St. Charles North High School

Vol. I No. 1 April 2000

255 Red Gate Road / St. Charles, Illinois 60175 / Phone 630/443-5700

We value feedback from the District 303 community. Write or call us. Your response is always appreciated

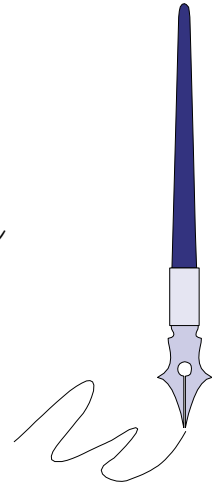
Mr. Frank Kesman, Principal

e-mail: MarilynRingsby@st-charles.k12.il.us

"From the Pen of the Principal"



Welcome to our first issue of "**The Navigator**". We hope that this new format serves our primary purpose of keeping our parents and the St. Charles educational community informed regarding educational issues as well as events pertinent to North High School. As everyone is aware, the months ahead will be an exciting time as construction comes to completion and the school is made ready for the transition of our first student body. As we establish our PTO, an Athletic Booster organization as well as other parent support groups, we look forward to an atmosphere of student involvement and parent awareness and cooperation. While many programs and activities are still in the planning stage, we hope to make available to our students a broad range of activities designed to meet the needs and interests of our student body. 2000-2001 will be a transition year for all of us. Please know that we are committed to making this year one of encouragement, opportunity, and challenges. As we meet those challenges in the days ahead together, please feel free to contact me regarding any questions you may have.



Frank Kesman
Principal



Schweer's "Lockerroom Talk"



The St. Charles North Athletic Program has been moving forward in leaps and bounds over the past few weeks. If you haven't had a chance to view the new construction, it is really quite a site. . . sight to see. It seems like only a few weeks ago that you needed a set of blue prints to help visualize how all the facilities might appear in the future, and now even the most "imagination challenged" of us can get a real feel for what the final building will look like. The first of many roof trusses was set last week in the Main Gym, while the pool walls have grown from ground level to "topping out". An interesting development considering they have yet to start digging the pool basin. Locker rooms, weight rooms, team rooms, and training room all seem to be well underway. Outside site development has yet to begin as the entire area must first be leveled and graded prior to seeding, which is scheduled for the beginning of May. Personally, I can relate to the farmers as I hope for a great "growing" season.

The first of over 60 coaching positions were filled over the last few weeks, with nine Lead Coaches named. Included in this group were: *Lead Football*- Mark Gould, *Lead Boys Basketball* – Mark Smith, *Lead Boys Golf* – Rob Prentiss, *Lead Girls Cross Country* – Sandy Padjen, *Lead Girls Soccer* – Ruth Poulin, *Lead Girls Golf* – Mark Smith, *Lead Girls Volleyball* – Colleen Laurich, *Lead Boys Volleyball* – Nikki McCall, and *Head Trainer* – Steve McInerney. I can't tell you how pleased we are to have a group of coaches of this caliber "right out of the blocks". I expect another 10-20 recommendations in the next couple of weeks. By the way, if you are interested in helping coach the North Stars, give me a call.

All in all, what once may have seemed to be only a vision is slowly, but surely, becoming a reality. The whole process reminds me of one of my favorite quotes by Daniel Burnham:

*"Make no small plans;
They have no magic to stir one's blood"*

GO NORTH STARS!

Central Boosters Club

St. Charles North High School Central Boosters Club is in the process of forming. There is an urgent need for a person to volunteer to serve as treasurer for next year. If interested in the treasurer position or in general membership, please contact Nancy Brackmann at 377-5604.

STC North High School PTO Update

Spring is here and blooming with news from the North High School PTO! Our first general PTO meeting was held on January 13th at Wredling School with a wonderful attendance of over 75 parents. Frank Kesman reviewed the progress of the school and how to get involved with the new PTO.

The Advisory and the Nominating Committee are currently in the process of contacting those who have signed up to volunteer on a committee at the January meeting. Plans for the opening activities and events are still being worked on. We are looking forward to meet at the next general PTO meeting to further discuss those plans. ***The next general meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 13th, 7:00 p.m., in the LRC at Wredling School.*** There will also be a general meeting on Thursday, May 11th, 7:00 p.m., in the Wredling LRC.

More volunteers are still needed and will be able to sign up for committees that evening. We will also be presenting a proposed slate of officers and the by-laws for the new PTO the same evening. The vote to approve the slate of officers and by-laws will be at the first official PTO meeting in September.

We would like to thank those who have volunteered their time and look forward to the continued support.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the Advisory Committee co-coordinators: C.A. Ducharme #513-0696, JoAnn Serge #584-1482, and/or Maryann Stinton #377-1150.



The Student Activity Program, under the leadership of Debbie Kling, is beginning to develop an identity of its own. On three occasions, Mrs. Kling has solicited student input (8th and 9th grade students) in order to be able to prioritize our student needs and interests. To that end, a number of activity sponsors have stepped forward and will be recommended for approval to sponsor a variety of clubs and organizations. In addition, we are working to develop transition activities for Peer Leadership, Student Government, and Natural Leaders. These are just three of the key programs being established to bring leadership opportunities to our students next year. Support and encouragement from East High School in these areas will help us considerably as we develop our own program.

Construction Update



As might be expected, construction on our facility continues on an uneven basis with the changing weather conditions of early spring impacting exterior work. Our latest success has been the installation of steel bow-truss work on the natatorium and main contest gym areas. These steel trusses will form the shell of the roof work to follow. Completion of this work is critical to the continuation of interior work in the athletic area.

Currently, we have established an early May timeline for grading, topsoil, and seeding. As we are uncertain regarding how well the outside areas will progress during this growing season, our Athletic Director, Mr. Tom Schweer, has contacted the Norris Center and the Park District regarding our fall athletic needs and how we might be able to work together. Their response has been positive.

Now that the bow trusses have been "set", the walls of the athletic facility will be completed and masonry work will begin to finalize interior walls in the fine arts area. The front wall of the auditorium, which creates the lobby area will follow the interior work scheduled to begin the week of April 10th.

We are far enough along in the one-story academic additions so that interior painting has been started. Much of the additional academic space cannot be seen at all from Route 31 and is under-appreciated when viewed from Red Gate Road. Twenty-six additional classrooms, a Technology Center, and a digital art facility make up most of the academic addition. Access for students will be along two major corridors, and the entire area surrounds a courtyard available for student and staff access.

LOGO SELECTION

The process is underway to identify the "logo" for St. Charles North High School. During the month of March, 8th and 9th grade students, staff, and parents were invited to submit a "graphic" that would represent the essence of "North Stars" and capture the spirit of our new high school. Reflecting pride and excellence in all aspects of our school community is one of the key criteria that will be used to determine the final selections. The next step during the first two weeks in April will involve North High School Staff as they narrow the field of submissions down to the final four.

During the third week in April, displays in the North Building at St. Charles High School and both Wredling and Thompson Middle Schools will showcase the final four customized "logos". Following the same methods used to determine the school colors and school mascot this past fall, 8th and 9th grade students who will be attending SCNHS will have the opportunity to once again rank order choices to determine the graphic representation for our new "North Stars" symbol. Working collaboratively together, students, staff and parents should have a new logo for display by the end of this month.

STAFFING UPDATE

Now that student course tallies are complete we are able to finalize the identification of staff to be assigned to North High School. Although fewer in numbers, a second list of faculty to move to North High School will soon be published, joining those staff members already identified as the first faculty of our new high school. We hope to complete this transition process for current staff members by April 14th, allowing us to identify the remaining vacancies for next year's staff positions.

In addition, non-certified support staff transferring to North High School have also been identified. Additional positions will be posted at both high schools as a result of the transfer process. Maintenance and custodial plans are also under way. A tentative list of necessary staff will be reviewed as part of the budget process. Once staffing levels are finalized, we will begin the process of interviewing and assignment.

As of this printing, the following staff members have already been identified for North High School:

ADMINISTRATORS

Frank Kesman, Principal
Denise Herrmann, Assistant Principal
Mark Gould, Dean
Tom Schweer, Athletic Director

SOCIAL WORKER

Susan Terronez

GLOBAL STUDIES

Foreign Language:

Wendy Elm
Linda Feiza
Kathy Zimmer *

Social Studies:

Matt Davis
Mike Kuper
Bill Stepien

PURE & APPLIED SCIENCE

Science:

Dianne Bearrick
Larissa Bell
Dave Krodel
Natalie Nelson
Doug Overton
Brian Wegley *

Technology Education:

Steve Mahoney

GUIDANCE

Marv Leavitt, Guidance Coordinator
Geri Shouba

NURSE

Wilma VanArragon

PSYCHOLOGIST

Kip Fontana

HUMANITIES

English:

Jennifer Amadei
Kristine Bushman
Richard Jones *
Gregg Mundt
Matt Ruckoldt

Fine Arts:

Linda Goll
Debbie Kling
Ann LaBotz

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mike Keeney *
Valerie Landbo
Jamie Mitchell
Kevin Scotellaro

CLASSIFIED STAFF

Marilyn Ringsby, Principal's Secretary
Nancy Bowgren, Dean's Assistant
Chris Eigenhauser, Treasurer
Jerri Ludvik, Dean's Assistant
Diane Reini, Media Aide
Susan Hutter, Dean's/Attendance Secretary
Pat Sykora, Guidance Assistant
Carol Troth, LRC Computer Lab Aide
Sara VanWyhe, Dean's Assistant
Susan Schwerdtfeger, Faculty Secretary

MATH & COMMERCE

Business:

Mike Alther
Gary Freund

Math:

Kathy Edgar
Kevin Harrington
Mark Smith
Virginia Wright

WELLNESS

Family & Consumer Science:

Debby Scully

PE/Health/Drivers' Ed

Audra Christenson *
Steve McInerney
Sandy Padjen
Rob Prentiss

* Instructional Coordinator

DATES TO REMEMBER:

First Day of School

Tuesday, September 5, 2000

District Website
www.st-charles.k12.il.us

St. Charles North High School
201 South 7th Street
St. Charles, IL 60174-2664

*The mission of Community Unit School District 303 is to educate
students who will have the competence and character
to excel in the global community as responsible citizens and life-long learners*

