



STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Lazarus House Toiletry Drive

North Star Council and Key Club members will be collecting toiletry items for the Lazarus House in St. Charles. Volunteers will be located at the Dominick's and Jewel food stores located on Route 38 from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturday, March 1st, 2003.

NCD Spring Convention

Twenty students will be attending the North Central District's Student Council Spring Convention on March 7th & 8th in Rockford, Illinois. Members will meet with other area schools, share ideas, discuss leadership skills, and vote on the members of the NCD executive board for the 2003-2004 school year.

Northern Illinois Food Bank

St. Charles North High School has sponsored the third Saturday of the month for food sorting at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in St. Charles. Volunteering is from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. The remaining dates for the year are March 15, April 19 & May 17. This is a great opportunity for students to earn service hours and meet new students. A sign-up list is located in the Student Activities Office. For more information visit the Food Bank website at www.northernilfoodbank.org.

Sadie Hawkins Dance

The Sadie Hawkins Dance will be on March 15th, from 8:00-11:00 pm. Tickets will be available for purchase during the week of March 10th. Tickets are \$8 per person with advanced purchase and \$10 per person if purchased at the door. Sadies 80's is a great time for students to socialize in a less formal setting.

LEAD Conference

Morgan Andrews, Dipika Cherala, Jessica Cohen, Alissa DePue, and Rachel Eliasek will be representing St. Charles North at the LEAD Conference in New Orleans from March 21-23. They will have the opportunity to meet leaders from other schools, share ideas and discuss their school environments.

Mr. SCN

The 2nd Annual Mr. St. Charles North (Mr. SCN) will be held on Tuesday, April 15th in the auditorium. Time TBA. Junior and Senior males will compete to be crowned Mr. SCN. This event starts the Prom excitement and is used as a fundraiser to supplement prom costs.

PTO Pasta Dinner

The PTO Pasta Dinner will be held on May 3rd preceding the Spring Musical. Funds raised will go towards the May 10th Post Prom Activities at Gameworks. More details to follow.

Prom

Our 2nd prom, "A Mid Summer's Night Dream", will be held from 8:00-10:30 pm on Saturday, May 10th at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. Theme colors for the dance are purple, green and gold.

School Beautification Project

The School Beautification Committee will be hosting a plethora o' planting on May 17th. Refreshments will be served. More details to follow.

Reminder

You can check out all of our activities at the Student Council Web page linked off of Activities. Included is a calendar of activities and events. Please send questions or comments to NSC@d303.org.



“BETWEEN THE LINES”

As we conclude the winter season and prepare for the spring season there are a few “housekeeping” details that all perspective North Star athletes and their families should be aware of.

Tryouts for all spring sports always start on the first day of the season. In general, if there will be cuts, (as determined by the number of participants reporting and the “slots” available) tryouts for each team will encompass the first 3 to 5 days of practice. It is imperative that all athletes attend all the tryout sessions. Coach’s decisions are based on athletic performance during the tryout period, and not what local club or traveling team they train with.

In order to facilitate the start of each season, it is required that all athletes participating in a sport (this includes tryouts) must have a physical and parent permission form on file in the Athletic Office prior to any participation. Physicals are good for one calendar year only. Parents, please help your athlete make sure this requirement is met prior to the season start.

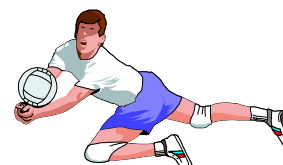
Lastly, the spring is a time of unpredictable weather which reeks havoc with the daily athletic schedule. Contests are rescheduled due to weather as close to 2:00 p.m. as possible by agreement of all athletic programs. Please check the Athletic Section of the school website, under Days’ Events for the most up-to-date information. This site is the first change made by our office and will provide everyone with the most current status. Please note you can also get directions and maps to any school in the state at this web address as well.

If the performance of the fall and winter athletes is any indication, look for lots of excitement and success from our Spring North Star athletes. Even if you do not have a student/athlete in your home, the North Stars (and the Saints) exhibit all the best there is in High School athletics. Come to a game and enjoy the excitement.

GO NORTH STARS!

SCN Web Site

www.d303.org/schools/scn
Click “Athletics”



Spring Starting Dates

Girls: Badminton, Softball	3-03-03
Boys: Baseball, Tennis	3-03-03
Girls: Soccer	3-10-03
Boys: Volleyball	3-10-03
Boys’ & Girls’ Track	1-13-03



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER NEWS

During the months of December and January our video production lab had quite the workout serving 67 groups for over 150 students. Student productions varied from public service announcements for speech class that could run either 30 or 60 seconds to 5 minute long short stories with a minimum of 20 scene changes. Students learned filming techniques, storyboarding and video editing. Most were surprised at how much time and effort goes into even so short a video. The LRC had extended hours during the week before winter break to accommodate the volume of activity in the video production lab.

Several computers will be added to 2 computer labs to accommodate larger class sizes as well as students with physical disabilities. Two computers will be added to Room 300, a tiered computer lab across the hall from the LRC. Several computers, some with adjustable computer tables, will be added to areas inside the LRC. The adjustable tables provide accommodations for students in wheelchairs.

National French Contest

On Saturday, March 8, 2003, from 9:00 - 10:00 AM, SCNHS will be hosting the National French Contest sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French/Chicago/Northern Illinois Chapter. Forty STC East and North High School French students in levels 1-5 will be participating. This exam is for each student's personal challenge and achievement. It is a great way to assess his/her ability and progress over the years. This French exam is great practice for college placement tests, SAT II, and the AP Exam. If any parents are interested in being proctors and assistants on March 8, 8:30-10:00 AM, please call Mr. and Mrs. Dankoski (630-513-8029), or Dr. Sharon Soper (630-587-7142) at North High School or Kathy Bruening (630-377-4743) at East High School.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS

Jeanni Mennerick, 1999 graduate of ST. Charles HS and a senior at Western Michigan University majoring in Occupational Therapy, spoke to the Child Development students in Colleen Fasbender's classes at SCN HS.

Her presentation focused on:

- What does an occupational therapist do and where do they work?
- What are the educational requirements and study skills for a career in OT?
- What other similar health related careers are available?
- Why the study of child development is beneficial for certain health related careers?

While demonstrating the use of equipment, the students were able to identify how the equipment was beneficial for particular muscle or body components. Jeanni stressed the importance of good study habits, volunteerism and job shadowing for any career focus.

GLOBAL STUDIES: WORKING TO IMPROVE THE ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

The Global Studies Learning Area at St. Charles North High School is working to articulate the Social Studies and Foreign Language Curricula. We have established one day per month when teachers of like discipline meet after school to discuss standards, assessments, curriculum, and instructional strategies used in the current units of study. The time spent together enables us to align our practices with one another to help ensure that we are meeting students' needs in Social Studies and Foreign Language.

On February 28, 2003 the Global Studies teachers will be working toward alignment with Strategy One of the Strategic Plan, "We will complete the establishment of standards for learning K-12, identify the appropriate levels for assessing those standards, and complete development of ways to measure methods to determine whether students have met these standards . . .:" In keeping with the researched "Backward Design" process used throughout the district we will: identify desired results (standards/indicators), determine acceptable evidence (assessments), and plan learning experiences and instruction.

The Social Studies teachers will work with their recently revised standards and indicators to create common unit assessments. These assessments, to be shared by teachers at both St. Charles North High School and St. Charles East High School, will provide evidence as to how well our students are meeting standards. Rick DuFour, superintendent of Adlai Stevenson High School District 125, writes, "I am convinced the one area in which educators can get the best return on the investment of their time is helping collaborative teaching teams focus on and become proficient in developing local classroom assessments to be given to all students in the same grade level or course" (National Staff Development Council, winter 2002). He outlines a process whereby teachers work to: 1. analyze state and local guidelines for what students know and are able to do (standards), 2. agree on the essential outcomes of each unit of instruction (indicators), 3. develop common assessments, 4. establish proficiency standards (descriptors) 5. administer the assessment to all students, 6. review the results. The results will be one piece of evidence used to evaluate the content and curricula within the High School Social Studies course configuration.

The Foreign Language teachers will work on February 28th to create indicators and descriptors of student achievement in Foreign Language for levels (years) two and three. The level one standards, completed last year, will serve as a guideline by which we determine what level two and three students should know and be able to do. Summer and fall work with standards and indicators will eventually lead to the creation of common assessments in foreign language – similar to those created in Social Studies. These common assessments will be language specific and will provide evidence about what foreign language students at St. Charles North High School know and are able to do at various levels in their foreign language careers.

Kathryn G. Zimmer, Ed. D.
Instructional Coordinator, Global Studies

April 1st Referendum



On April 1st, District 303 will place before the voters a referendum intended to meet specific needs and services for our students. While the election is during Spring Break, there is ample opportunity to vote absentee if you will be away during the holiday. If you will be gone during the election or know you have another obligation that day, PLEASE FIND THE TIME TO VOTE ABSENTEE (see bottom of page.)

The District anticipates that it will be placed on the State's Watch List as a District that is in "Financial Difficulty". Yes, the school doors are still scheduled to open in the Fall 2003, BUT there are not enough tax dollars to operate all of our schools at the level we have come to expect as an exceptional school district.

What does this mean?

- Only half the number of teachers needed will be hired
- Class sizes could reach 30 plus students
- Reduction in Kindergarten music and art classes
- Elimination of Orchestra at the 3rd and 4th grade levels
- No new funding for technology
- Middle school students will continue to have the shortest school day in the area.
- Elimination of middle school early bird foreign language program.
- Over 83 athletic and co-curricular programs will be cut or drastically reduced

These cuts will impact all of our children!

Here is what the 23-cent tax rate increase will accomplish:

	Cost	Generate
• Return possible reductions	10 cents	2,000,000.00
• Increase revenues in anticipation of further State Reductions	5 cents	1,000,000.00
• Expand Middle School Day	6 cents	1,200,000.00
• Reduce K-2 class sizes to less than 25	<u>2 cents</u>	<u>400,000.00</u>
	23 cents	4.6 million

What would this do to your tax bill ANNUALLY?

For example, a \$300,000 home would pay only \$220 more *annually* which goes back to our kids!

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO!

- For more information visit www.D303Excellence.org or www.D303.org
- Volunteer to help with the referendum. Contact Citizens@d303Excellence.org
- **Vote or Vote Absentee, here's how!**

• Kane County

You can call the government center at 630-232-5990 and an absentee ballot will be mailed to you when it is available. **OR** You can also file your absentee vote IN-PERSON at the **Kane County** Clerk's office in Geneva beginning February 20th. In addition you will be able to absentee vote IN-PERSON beginning March 10th at the St. Charles City Hall. IN-PERSON absentee voting is open through March 31st.

• DuPage County / Wayne Township

You can apply for an absentee ballot at the DuPage County Election office **NOW** or the Wayne Township office beginning March 10th. **OR**

Absentee vote IN-PERSON at the DuPage County Elections office from February 20-March 31, 2003 **OR**

Absentee vote IN-PERSON at the Wayne Township office beginning March 10, 2003.

Last day to absentee vote in person or to mail an absentee ballot is March 27, 2003 at the Wayne Township office.

DuPage County Election office: 682-7440 (Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays beginning February 22 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Wayne Township office: 231-7140 (Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays beginning March 10th 9 a.m. to noon.)

10 Keys To A Strong Family

Many of us hunger to know the secrets of caring families-those who make good times better and tough times more enduring, those who strive to make life meaningful for each member every single day.

"Strong" is only one word for such families. We can call them functional, if we want to be boring, or more inspiring words such as balanced, happy, successful or content.

Most families have the capacity to grow stronger. These are the principles strong families live by:

"Our family comes first"

Strong families support each other's dreams; they sacrifice to show support. A friend turned down a company trip to the Bahamas so he could attend his son's championship soccer game. "The beach will always be there," he said, "but my son won't always be 14 and team captain." This "family first" attitude begins with a bond of loyalty between marital partners. But single-parent families (28% of all families with children, according to the latest census) can be just as successful in raising strong children if they develop a "family first" attitude.

"We belong together - and apart"

Strong families use the word "we" a lot, but "I" is never forgotten. Family members know they have the freedom to go off on their own, even if the direction is one that "we" have never followed before. The family message is, "We're behind you, so you can be you."

"We are a democracy"

While parents are naturally in a leadership role, strong families strive to share decision-making. They resolve differences by respecting other viewpoints and accepting compromise solutions.

"We treat each other well"

In strong families, positive strokes outnumber negative broadsides by a wide margin. Members regularly express appreciation: "Thanks for fixing the drainpipe." "You look so nice in that dress." "The dinner was great." Criticism is offered gently.

"We roll with the punches"

A 25-year study of more than 21,000 families found that the successful ones are adaptable. Strong families are flexible in everyday matters. They don't "sweat the small stuff".

"We pay attention"

Strong families are good listeners, whether the talk is large or small about a pending layoff at work or a Little League practice. They make sure they understand, using phrases such as "I'm not sure I know what you mean. Can you say it another way?" A good rule: Don't read minds; listen with your heart.

"We cherish family time"

According to a Harris poll, a large majority of men and women aged 20-40 value a work schedule with enough time for family. But strong families do more than *hope* for time; they insist on it. They set work boundaries and prioritize family fun.

"We branch out"

Strong families value their extended family, particularly grandparents. It's important to create continuity between generations, passing along traditions and making roots ever stronger, so the tree continues to reach for the sun.

"We want to improve the world"

In disproportionate numbers, strong families volunteer in local organizations, serve on school boards and town councils and coach sports teams. They help in individual ways too, making house repairs for elderly neighbors, shopping for the homebound, babysitting for frazzled young mothers. "What goes around comes around" is an adage well known to strong families.

"We have faith"

Religious belief, trust, a sense of connection to the universe-no matter what you call it, there is a spiritual component to strong families. They see their lives as imbued with purpose, reflected in the things they do for one another and the community. Small problems provide a chance to grow; large ones are a lesson in courage.

*Dr. Joyce Brothers
Parade Magazine
December 1, 2002*

CALENDAR DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar 11: NHS Choral & 8th Gr. Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
Mar 13: Orchestra & 8th Gr. Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
Mar 15: Sadie Hawkins Dance; NHS; 8-11 PM
Mar 17: Spanish Nat'l Honor Soc. Induction Ceremony
Mar 17: PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
Mar 20: Band Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
Mar 21: End of Third Quarter
Mar 31-Apr 4: Spring Break
Apr 7: School Resumes
Apr 12: ACT Testing; 6:00 AM-1:00 PM
Apr 15: Mr. North Star Show; Auditorium, TBA
Apr 17: Band Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
Apr 18: NO SCHOOL - Teacher's Institute Day
Apr 21: PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
Apr 22: SAT Class (Huntington); Rms 432-435; 5-9:30 PM
Apr 29: SAT Class (Huntington); Rms 432-435; 5-9:30 PM
May 1-3: Spring Musical (Fiddler on the Roof); Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 5-6: AP Testing; TBA
May 6: Variety Show; Auditorium; 7:30 PM

May 7-9: AP Testing; TBA
May 8: Jazz Choir Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 12-16: AP Testing; TBA
May 13: Academic Teams Banquet; Cafeteria; 6:00 PM
May 14: Student Council Banquet; Cafeteria; TBA
May 15: Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 15: Honors Night; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 19: Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 19: PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
May 20: Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 23-24: One Act Plays; Auditorium
May 26: NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
May 27: Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
May 29: Underclassmen Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:00 PM
May 29: Sr. Sunset BBQ
May 30: Sr. Breakfast/Practice for Graduation
June 1: **GRADUATION!!!! 3:30 PM**
June 4: Last Day of School (if no snow days)
June 7: SAT Testing; 1st Floor Classrooms; 6:00 AM
June 9: Summer School Begins

**St. Charles North High School
255 Red Gate Road
St. Charles, IL 60175**

