



"The Navigator"

Principal's Newsletter

St. Charles North High School

Vol. V No. 5 June 2004

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:mringsby@d303.org

North S.T.A.R. Award Recipients 2003-2004

This past school year, ten S.T.A.R. Awards were bestowed upon these senior students who exemplified the criteria attributes of the S.T.A.R. It was an honor to be considered for this award since this prestigious award is the capstone of the student's high school career. The awards were presented at the Candlelight Senior Farewell Ceremony.

North

S. Service through sacrifice and stewardship.

Took initiative and promoted service to our school and local community and was frequently seen as serving others. Contributed to our environment through a genuine caring and lack of self-promotion, oftentimes placing the needs of the individual, project or activity before their own personal agendas.

T. Traditions that developed or sustained culture and climate.

Was instrumental and one of the guiding forces in implementing or promoting a tradition(s) that have become part of our collaborative spirit. Had a clear picture of who we are and more importantly, who we can become.

A. Accomplishment that exceeded expectations.

Used modeling, exhibited a deep understanding of what it takes to go "beyond the bar", was able to cause peers to excel at their own level. Championed our school and mentored through example, performance and personal achievement. Demonstrated a clear focus for what needed to get done.

R. Resourcefulness through character and unshakeable commitment.

Used a variety of strategies to motivate and promote an activity or task. Was enthusiastic, energetic and confident in moving forward toward the end result. Produced positive results with remarkable, sustained commitment. Made a genuine attempt to interface and branch out beyond our school.



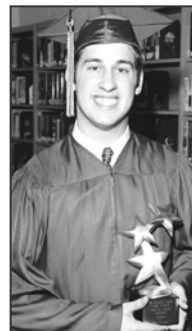
John Buchta



Nirupa Kartha



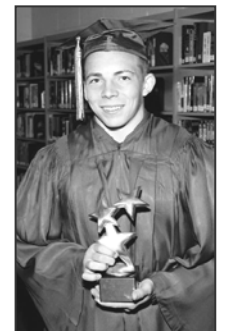
Jess Elfring



Ian Custer



David Brachman



Mike Harriett



Morgan Andrews



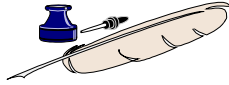
Bethany Conrad



Brea Rathman



David McCurdy



Pen of the Principal

During my welcome address to our seniors and their parents at our recent Academic Honors Program I shared that personal experience prompted me to be well aware of most parents' thinking at this time of year. "Where have these last four years gone?" With two grown children in our family, I can attest that time serves no one other than to wonder how quickly it passes. I, too, continue to think about the last four years and the experiences we have shared since the opening of our school in September 2000. This has been a journey filled with change and growth. Our seniors have served their school and their peers with distinction. Their impact will be felt for many years by the classes that will follow.

For all of our students, 2003-2004 has been one of building and reinforcing established traditions. The number of students involved in the myriad of co-curricular activities continues to rise steadily. New ideas, activities, competitions and service projects all serve as a venue for our students. We have enjoyed considerable success across the spectrum of high school activities very early in our "career". We no longer think in terms of "new" or "firsts", but rather in terms of success and "raising the bar" for the students who will follow. We are recognized as a student body and a school with a strong reputation for integrity, competitiveness, and respect for others and ourselves.

This year saw change, progress and success. With a focus on academics, highlights include our ETC Days (Excellence through Collaboration), structured activities related to student performance on standardized examinations including PSAT and ACT, and a NCA/School Improvement Plan that is well designed and poised for direct impact on the classroom next year. Our first National Merit Finalist, a State Champion Drill Team, a nationally recognized Jazz Workshop (one of 15 in the entire country and Canada), a third place winner in National DECA competition, and a 2nd place finish in the State for Girls' Golf are only a few visible highlights. Our real success is the learning that takes place every day in the classroom and throughout our hallways.

Five years ago, a Board of Education member told me that he was most proud of the fact that we graduate good citizens. That remains something of which we can all be proud. The Class of 2004 will cross the stage at Commencement and the Class of 2008 will cross our threshold for the first time. The future is both behind us and ahead of us. As we continue to build on established traditions and rely on each other for support and encouragement, the path will be made smoother and the successes only greater. I look forward to the year ahead and to the opportunity to be a participant in this grand endeavor.

Frank A. Kesman
Principal

25th Annual Staff Recognition Dinner

The following North High School staff members were honored by the Board of Education at a staff recognition dinner held on April 22nd: *Benjamin Oswalt*, Orchestra teacher, for 20 years of service to D303; *Laurel Howard*, Social Studies teacher, and *Steven Mahoney*, Technology Education teacher, for 25 years of service to D303; *Linda Goll*, Photo/Art Tech teacher, for 30 years of service to D303; and Foreign Language teacher, *Sharon Soper*, who will be retiring this year.

Congratulations to these outstanding staff members and thank you for your dedication to our students!

The Class of 2004 is Truly "The First In Four"



It is with a combination of joy and sadness that I write this article as the Class of 2004 has now graduated and the students have moved on to the next stage of their young lives. I say joy because it has been a sincere pleasure and blessing to have worked and interacted with such a diverse group of people from different backgrounds and with different strengths and talents. I also must say that I feel some sadness at knowing that my time with the recently graduated seniors has drawn to an end because I know the four years I served as their class advisor have touched me in ways that I cannot yet imagine. I know that I will look back on these last four years with much nostalgia, pride, and many fond memories because I know that whatever impressions I have made on these graduates, only a handful of them can know the ways that I have grown from working with them.

I have a special relationship with this class because I have been their class advisor for the last four years and have had the honor of teaching many of them in my classes at North High School. These individuals were the first class to complete a full four years here at North, and I feel immensely proud to have been part of their journey. Through all the different events that have occurred, the successes and disappointments and the triumphs and tribulations, I can honestly say that I would not trade any of these experiences for anything because every one of them has helped to make me the person I am today.

The Class of 2004 leaves North High School a better place than it was when they entered it in the fall of 2000. Prior to this school's opening, there was much discussion and deliberation about starting traditions and what students and staff wanted the vision of North High School to become. As valuable as these conversations were, it was the hard work, time, dedication, and effort of individuals from the Class of 2004, as well as the staff and students' peers from other classes, that made St. Charles North High School the exemplary institution it is today. While acknowledging that improvement must and will continue in all facets of North High School's functioning, this most recent graduating class can look back on its four years here with pride.

The Class of 2004 was the first true group of "pioneers" in North High School's history—trailblazers who got to celebrate its first successes as well its first setbacks. These young people did this through all four years in the same high school from day one of the school's existence. It has only been through the accomplishments and trials of these recent graduates that subsequent classes will continue to learn, grow, and build upon the fine foundation that the Class of 2004 has laid. This group of students, while struggling at times to define an identity for itself, can truly celebrate the traditions and accomplishments that it has helped to create, foster, and establish here at St. Charles North.

Thus, when I look back on my time here at North High School and my work with the Class of 2004, I can honestly say that I am proud and honored to have been their advisor during their tenure here. From the first day of the school's opening when these students first set foot in this building to the events that ultimately led up to this class's graduation, the road was long and winding, often going off in different directions and often with no clear destination in sight. This is the way of the pioneer—to travel down paths upon which no one else has yet blazed a trail for others to follow. While stumbling and losing direction on occasion, the pioneer is always able to refocus himself/herself and ultimately reach his/her desired location, as this recent class of graduates has. I can only say that I am truly thankful that I was able to come along on the journey with them.

Respectfully,
David A. Krodel
Class of 2004 Advisor

CURRICULUM CORNER

By Denise Herrmann
Assistant Principal

"Teaching should be such that what is offered is perceived as a valuable gift and not as a hard duty."

- Albert Einstein

Einstein's quote points to the importance of designing learning experiences for students that are engaging and relevant. As a group of professional educators we continue to ask ourselves - what new curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices can be put in place to achieve new / improved results in student learning?

The culture and climate of STC North is one where teachers, not just students, learn. Here, teachers focus on their own practice and their conversations center on the direction in which the curriculum can lead student thinking. They try new approaches, monitor the effects, and reflect on the successes and failures. In brief, improvements in teaching and learning are nurtured and supported by our culture of collegiality and innovation.

Examples of summer curriculum and course work in which a variety of STC North staff will participate include:

- *Teambuilding course*; an opportunity for all North team teachers to build/strengthen personal and professional relationships, to refine course structures and objectives, to establish purposeful roles, and to begin to co-plan curriculum.
- *Advanced Placement Training*; teachers from Biology, Calculus, and Statistics will attend extended AP Conferences held at local Universities to learn about new curriculum frameworks and innovative testing protocols.
- *RRC Challenge Course*; staff members will explore a wide variety of practical diagnostic, interventive, and preventative strategies for managing today's classroom and re-directing challenging behaviors toward respectful, responsible, and cooperative participation.
- *Understanding by Design Course*; In this course teachers will explore answers to the questions; "How will we know that students truly understand and can apply their knowledge in a meaningful way?" and "What instructional strategies are both engaging and effective for developing student understanding?"

- *Assessment Camp at North HS*; new and experienced STN teachers will examine current research and create high quality assessment tools that are aligned with fair grading practices.
- *Classroom Instruction That Works*; participants will investigate research-based strategies for increasing student achievement and will examine classroom examples of teachers and students in action' models of successful instruction; and many rubrics, organizers, and charts to help teachers plan and implement the strategies.
- Graduate course work at local Universities

Excellence Through Collaboration - ETC Update

Improvements for FALL 2004:

- The length of time teachers have to meet and collaborate has been extended from 45 minutes to 60 minutes.
- The process/guidelines used to help teacher teams identify goals and work toward effective implementation have been revised to more clearly focus on classroom practice and student learning.

Details:

- Each ETC session will begin at 7:00 am and end at 8:00 am.
- Classes will begin at 8:18 am and end at 2:21 pm, with P1-8 meeting for 40 min each.
- ETC will continue to meet two times each month.

ETC Dates for 2004-05:

September 8 and 22
October 6 and 20
November 3 and 17
December 1 and 15
January 5 and 26

February 9 and 23
March 9 and 23
April 6 and 20
May 4 and 18

The investment of time and resources in staff development is a Win-Win situation for the entire school community.

"One of the greatest things an organization can do is to help people give voice to their dreams, and provide the means by which people come together to create something greater than themselves. It is the gift of leaders to release the aspirations of others."

- James Champy

North Star PTO

As the 2003-04 school year comes to a close, I would like to thank all the volunteers that have made PTO a success this year - you have made my time as president so much more enjoyable and manageable. It has been four years since St. Charles North High School opened and this year we celebrate the first 4-year graduating class. We have begun and continue many St. Charles North traditions, including: Student Directories...1st Annual Chili Cook-off...Homecoming Dance, decorating, supervision and refreshments...Holiday Lobby Decorating...8th grade orientation refreshments...St. Charles Literature Festival donation...Education Foundation donation... Reading is Rewarding prizes during Library Week... Sadie Hawkins Dance, decorating and refreshments... the nutritious snacks during the PSAE testing...Healthy Lifestyle speakers...Ping-pong Tournament monitoring... Post Prom event at Gameworks... Four Senior Scholarships... Staff Appreciation Dinner during fall Conferences and April luncheon... and Senior Yard Signs.

This year four Senior Scholarships of \$750 each were awarded to Matt Bossemeyer, Elyse Dankowski, Melissa Engel, and Mike Harriett. These scholarships are based on an essay and recommendations rather than academic achievement. Blind judging by our middle school principals make this as unbiased as possible. All seniors are eligible for these scholarships as long as the family is a PTO member. Please be sure to check the PTO Membership box on your registration form.

The 2004-05 PTO board members are: Sue Wachs, President; Paula White-Keen, Vice President; Kathy Polito, Secretary; and Jane VanDrill, Treasurer. We are also still looking for people to chair the following committees: Post Prom, Nominating and Senior Reps. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Sue Wachs at 630-587-1121 or note it on the PTO flyer included in the registration materials. Please contact any of the new board members if you have ideas/concerns to benefit our school community.

We are excited about the Second Annual Chili Cook-Off. The date is Friday, September 17th. (the 2nd home football game) on the home bleacher side of the football field. Last year we had 16 teams compete for the coveted "Grand Chili" Prize. Put together a team – a neighborhood team, a bunco team, girl's swimming team, etc. and make your favorite or original recipe. Everyone is invited to compete and eat - to encourage school spirit among the whole community. For more information, contact Kerry Fenoglio at 630-762-8101.

While you are enjoying your summer, two PTO members will be busy putting together the Student Directory. Please return sign and return your directory information (see PTO flyer in your registration materials) before July 31st. Please note: we cannot include your students' information without your signature. The directory information should only be used for school related activities. The Student Directory is a great way to contact other parents regarding after-school activities, parties and car-pooling. You may have your directory mailed to you (\$3) or purchase directories (\$2) at materials pick-up days and Back-to-School Night, or in the Main Office. Please return the information to school by July 31st to be included in the directory.

August will be here sooner than you think – Materials Pick-Up days are August 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Our first PTO meeting is August 16th at 7:00pm in the LRC. PTO regularly meets the 3rd Monday of the month, except for national holidays, and then the meeting is the 3rd Tuesday. Please join us.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Jan Stark, President 2003-04
Sue Wachs, President 2004-05
Paula White-Keen, Vice President 2004-05

**Blood Drive held in honor of
*Alex DiFulvio***



On May 14th, three different groups of students at St. Charles North were able to come together and sponsor an event in honor of a loved classmate and friend. National Honor Society, Mrs. Young's AP Biology class, and the spring musical cast and crew of *Into the Woods* all took part in publicizing and hosting a blood drive for St. Charles North students, staff, and community members.

Through the support of Heartland Blood Centers, over 140 individuals committed themselves to donating blood in honor and support of Alex DiFulvio. Donors touched the lives of 279 people through their caring gift of blood.

A student initiated project, many teammates and classmates of Alex wanted to do something in order to help individuals like Alex who are currently in need of blood donations. Publicity took place throughout the school and sign-ups were held at all three productions of the spring musical, as well as in all student lunch hours. This was by far the most successful blood drive held at St. Charles North High School to date. It truly was a team effort on the part of all three groups of students, with an incredibly brave and loved individual as the inspiration, Alex.

Freshman Orientation Date Set!

On Friday, August 13th, the Class of 2008 will take over "North Star Country" for a day full of excitement, information, and fun! Come meet some new people, find your locker, get your schedule and your very first ID card! The day will be broken up into two sessions (8-11:30 and 12:30-3:30) depending on your last name. See you in August!

Transportation Reimbursement

Parents who are eligible for transportation reimbursement may come in the High School's Main Office to complete a claim log. All claims must be completed no later than June 30, 2004.

**Freshman Physicals
Are Required!**

Dear Parents of incoming ninth grade students:

This is a reminder that a physical examination and current immunization records are required in order for your child to enroll in school **AND START THE FIRST DAY.** Our procedure has changed from previous years, in that formerly, students were given until October 15 to comply with this State mandate. This is no longer the case, and **your child's physical exam must be on file with the Nurse's office before the first day of school.**

To ensure that it is received, it is strongly recommended that you hand a copy of your child's physical examination directly to the school nurse, or mail it to her attention. The school nurse will be in the health office two weeks before the beginning of school, which will provide you time to hand in the physical examination to her.

If you have any questions, please contact Wilma Van Arragon, at St. Charles North High School Health Office, at (630)443-2742.

Sincerely,
Wilma Van Arragon, RN, CSN

“Between the Lines”



It has been a great year in North Star country for our athletes. There were 1,180 participants in our programs. Our lady golfers brought home a second place state trophy while our drill team repeated as state champs. Both the boys and girls swim teams were sectional champs, our football team made the playoffs again, gymnastics won a regional, while boys soccer, boys and girls basketball and girls volleyball set new benchmarks for wins. Our girls soccer team has been seeded number one in their own sectional.

There will be camps and other activities in virtually every program this summer. Check out the North Star web site or pick up a brochure in the Athletic Office. Have fun with your friends and get ready for next season.



FALL SPORTS 2004-05 **MAIL-IN REGISTRATION**

Fall Sport Registration forms will be included in your school registration packet. Please have all forms completely filled out and signed, including the physical and medical waivers, and mail your athletic registration along with your school registration to:

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

ALL ATHLETES MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING FORMS SIGNED, COMPLETED AND TURNED INTO THE ATHLETIC OFFICE BEFORE ANY TRYOUT OR PRACTICE WILL BE ALLOWED. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- 1) Parent Permission Form - completely filled out and signed (yellow form)
- 2) Insurance Form - completely filled out and signed (yellow form)
- 3) Authorization for Medical Treatment - completely filled out and signed (yellow form)
- 4) Athletic Trainer Information Card - completely filled out (yellow form)
- 5) IHSA Physical (white form) - Must be signed by a physician: dated after June 1, 2004 will be valid for one calendar year. Copies of Freshman entrance physicals are required (please have a copy of this physical attached). If your son/daughter had an Athletic Physical at St. Charles North this past June, we have it on file in our office.

Starting Dates For Fall Sports

BOYS

Cross Country	August 16
Golf	August 16
Football	August 11
Soccer	August 16

GIRLS

Cross Country	August 16
Golf	August 16
Swimming	August 16
Volleyball	August 16

Have a great summer. Go North Stars!

New Athletic Director Named

A committee of North High School staff, students, and parents have chosen John Rutter from a field of 30 candidates as the new Athletic Director for STC North. Rutter is a 20-year veteran educator and coach. Currently Rutter is the Athletic Director and Activities Director at Addison Trail High School, and he will officially begin his new job at North HS on July 1st.

Principal Kesman stated that "John brings several years of experience to our program as an Athletic Director at a large high school as well as several years of experience as a head coach. That experience will help him mentor our younger coaches. Plus, his previous work in District 303 should add to the strong relationship that exists between North and East High Schools."

Rutter worked in District 303 where he taught physical education from 1989-94 at Anderson Elementary School and from 1994-98 at Thompson Middle School. He also served as head softball and assistant football coach at St. Charles East High School.

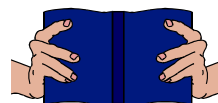
"It's a community my wife and I grew very fond of when we were there," Rutter said. "I'm very familiar with a lot of the people, and there are no finer people to work with than the ones I'll be joining soon."

Rutter's education career began in 1984 as a physical education teacher at Hinsdale South High School in Darien, where he worked for five years. He also served as head basketball coach from 1996-98 at Kaneland High School in Maple Park. From 1998-2000, John worked as a counselor, dean, and head basketball coach at Riverside Brookfield High School in Riverside, Illinois.

Rutter replaces David Hicks, who leaves after one year in the position.

"I very much appreciate the service that Dave provided to our students and athletic program," Kesman said. "We wish him well in his future endeavors."

"LRC NEWS"



Cite Those Sources!

The North LRC staff members have worked with teachers in various classes to emphasize the importance of proper source citation, whether from print or online resources. Students use a book titled Writers Inc. in addition to small "fill in the blank" sheets available in the LRC to help them prepare a list of the sources used for a particular project. The citations may be part of the documents produced for a project, or an attachment to that project, depending upon the format used. Recent brochures produced by biology and health classes included the citations as one of the panels of each student's tri-fold brochure.

Busy Place

"Busy and crowded" can easily describe the LRC this year. Recent statistics for use of the LRC indicates that teachers and students are using the facility in greater numbers than last year. For example, in March and April of this year, the LRC averaged just fewer than 27 classes and 25 classes per day. These numbers are up for the same time period last year, as well as higher than the previous 4 months of the school year. The high usage again indicates the LRC is an essential component to the academic setting at St. Charles North High School.

North Does Well at SkillsUSA-VICA Event

Four St. Charles North High School students brought home awards from the recent state annual Illinois Association of SkillsUSA-VICA Leadership and Skills Conference.

The state conference, held in Springfield on April 22-24, included more than 1200 registered participants. Nearly 300 business and industry, organized labor and educational professionals, supervised and judged the competition and provided technical support.

The students participated in 14 leadership development contests, 51 technical, skilled and service occupations contests, six health contests, nine action skills contests for special needs students and four occupationally related contests.

SkillsUSA-VICA is a national, state, regional and local organization for technical, skilled, health and personal service occupations students in high school and community college. It has nearly 265,000 members in over 13,000 chapters in 55 states and territorial associations, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands.

St. Charles North High School students who participated and won awards are:

- ❖ Ed Izenstark (senior), 1st place - Customer Service, 2nd place - Extemporaneous Speaking
- ❖ Matt McCollum (senior), 1st place - Microsoft Office XP, 4th place - Job Interview
- ❖ Lora Wittenberg (junior), 2nd place - Job Skills Demo B
- ❖ Lana Schwedel (freshman), 3rd place - Fast Food Services
- ❖ Robert Wisz (senior)- Firefighters
- ❖ Meera Jogani (senior) - Creative Photography Black and White
- ❖ Stephanie Sommer (senior) - Creative Photography Black and White

Ed Izenstark will be traveling to Kansas City at the end of June to participate in the national competition for Customer Service. Congratulations students!



North HS SkillsUSA-VICA students - Front Row (L to R): Stephanie Sommer, Lana Schwedel, Lora Wittenberg, Merra Jogani. Back Row (L to R): Rob Wisz, Ed Izenstark, Matt McCollum



School Store Donations

The School Store students are proud to report that in the 2003 – 2004 school year, donations totaled \$20,339.46. The money was given back to the school to fund various clubs and activities.

This year's employees were involved in implementing a "state-of-the-art" inventory and cash control system that has aided in maximizing profits and has proven to be extremely efficient.

Over the past year School Store employees have had the opportunity to experience authentic, retail situations and resolve customer service issues. This year's associates focused on problem solving and teamwork, which enabled all team members to participate in the application of our new software system.

Every year the Store awards graduating seniors with collegiate scholarships. We are happy to report 10 scholarships were awarded this year, an all time high for the School Store.

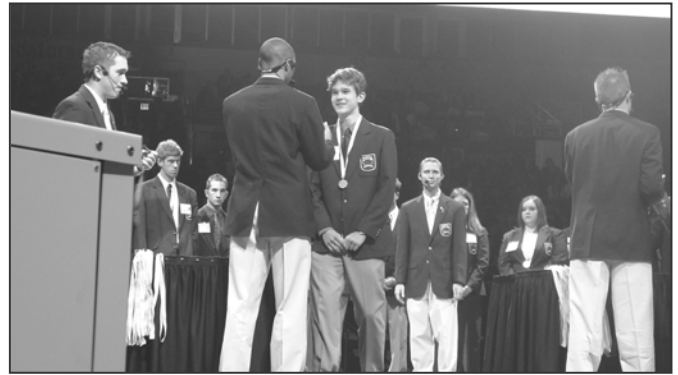
Ten North High Students Compete in National Marketing Competition

Monday, May 10, 2004 – St. Charles North High School – The Marketing and Management club for high students known as DECA had its annual National Competition in Nashville, TN from May 1 to May 5. Ten students represented St. Charles North High School in the competition. These students qualified to compete at nationals by placing in the top 3 of their event at the state competition that took place in March.

The North students represented the State of Illinois by receiving several competencies and one 3rd place finish. This year, Mark Figura did something no other St. Charles North student has done before, taking home a national 3rd place honors in the Vehicles and Petroleum Marketing Event. Figura received medals, a trophy, and a scholarship from NAPA Auto Parts, the sponsor of the event. Greg Stinton and Katie Kurtz received competency honors for their work in the Hospitality Management Team event. Eric Jamison, Cory Jacoby, and Morgan Andrews also received competency awards in the areas of Sports and Entertainment Marketing and Food Marketing. Laura Molitor, David Williams, Bryan Place, and Imran Kanchwala also represented North High School at this year's competition.

DECA is one of the premier business education clubs for high school students in the United States. Over 10,000 of the best and brightest business and marketing students throughout the US and Canada traveled to Nashville to compete in the event. Each individual event consists of over 200 students who qualified for nationals through their state competition earlier this year.

The students involved in the competition were asked to complete an exam in their event area, as well as present their answers to case study situations to judges. Corporations such as JC Penny and NAPA sponsor many of the events. These corporations supply business professionals to judge the students at the competition.



Senior, MARK FIGURA, is the first North HS student to finish in the TOP THREE at NATIONAL DECA Competition. Congratulations!

College Accounting Students Compete in Regional Contest

Eleven St. Charles North College Accounting students traveled to College of DuPage on May 17, 2004, to compete with 13 other Chicago area schools in the "Bottom Line Accounting Contest".

Our students were very successful among the 250 students in attendance at this invitational event. For the second year in a row, St. Charles North received a second place team trophy in Accounting II behind Hinsdale Central. Also, in Accounting II, Shaun Joy, senior, received a second place finish and Charles Gorman, junior, received a 4th place finish among all of the participants.

The 2nd place team award needs to be credited to the following students: Morgan Andrews, Robert Bremmer, Andrea Fish, Charles Gorman, Shaun Joy, Inram Kanchiaria, Amanda Lutz, Lauren Mesa, Stephanie Richlefs, Mike Weaver, and Robert Zeman.



College Accounting Students: (Front L to R) Andrea Fish, Mandy Lutz, Morgan Andrews, Stephanie Ricklefs, Lauren Mesa. (Back L to R) Robert Zeman, Imran Kanchwala, Mike Weaver, Robert Bremer, Charles Gorman, Shaun Joy.

AP US HISTORY CLASS HAS SPECIAL GUEST

On May 13th, Mr. Maloney's A.P. United States History class had the opportunity to meet a special guest speaker, Ms. Billye Kee. In 1976, Ms. Kee became the first black woman elected Homecoming Queen at the University of Alabama.

While visiting St. Charles North, Ms. Kee entertained and educated students about her experiences growing up in a segregated South. The A.P. US History class would like to sincerely thank Ms. Kee for taking the time to come and speak with us.

National Latin Exam

High school students enrolled in Latin classes took the 2004 National Latin Exam in March. Over 131,000 students from all fifty states and eight foreign countries including Australia, Canada, England, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Poland, Switzerland, and Zimbabwe participated in the NLE.

The following North students earned awards:

LATIN I:

Robert Gonnella	Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude
Micah Grant	Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude
Adam Stombres	Magna Cum Laude
Grace Harriett	Cum Laude
Jose Sanchez-Vazquez	Cum Laude

LATIN II:

Samantha Copping	Magna Cum Laude
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LATIN III:

Joseph Lancaster	Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude
Jessica Wallace	Silver Medal, Maxima Cum Laude
Jonathan Liang	Magna Cum Laude
Kristen Gjerde	Cum Laude

StarKids Storyteller

Ariel, alias Maddie Johnson, freshman, told the story of The Little Mermaid with her friend Flounder in the StarKids Teaching and Learning Center. Maddie is a student in one of our Child Development II classes. The Child Development II classes are responsible for planning and teaching the 15 pre-schoolers three days a week from February until May.

Model United Nations Club

Beginning this fall, St. Charles North will be launching a Model United Nations Club. Model UN is a club for students who have an interest in social studies and current international issues. The major purpose of this club is to prepare for the nation-wide Model United Nations Conference held at the University of Chicago. At this conference, St. Charles North will represent a country in the United Nations and argue for policies that benefit this nation. Throughout the year, members of the club meet to practice and prepare for their "role" in this conference.

Participation in the Model United Nations Club is an excellent opportunity for students. Membership will help educate students in the arts of debate, negotiation, and public speaking. In addition, high school students will be introduced to the fascinating realities and complexities of international relations. Students who are interested in joining the Model United Nations Club please contact Mrs. DiTella at kditella@d303.org or Mr. Maloney at bmaloney@d303.org.



Freshman, Maddie Johnson, tells story to pre-schoolers

Future Educators 1st Teacher Inspiration Potluck

FEA hosted a teacher inspiration potluck on May 4, 2004 at St. Charles North HS. FEA members invited a teacher who has inspired them to pursue a career in education. Individually created certificates were presented as students shared how this teacher inspired their future. The following teachers were recognized:

Katie Liby – Mrs. Turner
 Cory Skogfeldt – Mrs. Katz
 Stephanie Droho – Mr. Morgan
 Kate Hauser – Mrs. Macechko
 Becky Dobberfuhl – Mrs. Poremba
 Danielle Leitner – Mrs. Ditella
 Jennifer Stickney – Ms. Cubberley
 Melissa Orr – Mrs. Laughton
 Becky Orr – Mrs. Watts
 Janae Gaenzle – Mr. Lotarski
 Katie Pottoff – Mr. Peterson



Mr. Morgan, Vocal Director, is honored by Stephanie Droho at FEA Inspiration Potluck.

FEA is sponsored through Aurora University, with Mrs. Ellen Neupert and Mrs. Pam Ferdinand as special guests in attendance. The advisors for the St. Charles North FEA chapter are Marge Trayser and Colleen Fasbender.



BREAKFAST WITH THE STARS

The *Breakfast with the Stars* Program honors individual stars within our school community. Some of the individuals nominated are out there for all of us to see and congratulate. Others are behind the scenes or who, in their quiet way, demonstrate a level of excellence through service, academics, competition, or simple kindness. Some of these students give of their special talents on a day-to-day basis in the classroom and some of them excel in our extra and co-curricular activities. Each student is unique and special in the way they share and develop our school community.

APRIL STARS

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Ms. Carla Weeks	Lauren Eichmann	Mrs. Colleen Fasbender	Alexandria Szarmach
Dr. Natalie Nelson	Jeff Engel	Mr. Mike Kuper	Nick Rayl
	Jose Sanchez-Vazquez Jr.		Mark Hughes
	Katelyn Keck	Ms. Jennifer Henneman	John Zozzaro
	Anna Hoban	Ms. Barb Schmit	Morgan Andrews
	Adam Foster		

MAY STARS

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Mr. David Krodel	Anne Santos	Mr. Mark Moore	Amanda Kunos
Ms. Lara Bell & Mr. David Krodel	Michael de la Torriente		Joseph Lancaster
	Michael Goodpaster		Darren Pocci
Mr. Michael Zernone	Maddie Lehman		Michael Polito
	Ashley Davenport		Derek Welch
			Brent Wheeler
Mr. Ron Brown	Peter Andersen	Mr. Alan Holtz	Michael Magnetta
	Bradley Baranick		Devon Higgins
	Alexander Hinrichs		Shannon Jones
Ms. Jennifer Shoaf	Steven Oscarson	Ms. Jeanine James	Ashley Wade
			Jennifer Ward

59th Annual Association of FCCLA State Leadership Conference

The Illinois Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) 59th annual state Leadership Conference was held April 15- 17, 2004 at the Convention Center, Renaissance and Hilton Hotels in Springfield. At the conference 1,100 members and advisers demonstrated leadership skills by participating in proficiency events, showcasing community service projects, exploring careers, attending educational sessions and electing officers.



Freshman, Tyler Winans, took Gold & Most Outstanding awards at state competition.

Members demonstrated the skills learned in their Family and Consumer Science Courses. The National Events included Applied Technology, Career Investigation, Chapter Services Project, Chapter Showcase, Culinary Arts, Entrepreneurship, Focus on Children, Illustrated Talk, Interpersonal Communication, Job Interview, National Programs in Action, Early Childhood and Parliamentary Procedure. In addition to the National Events, twenty-three State Proficiency Event competitions were held. Congratulations to the following students for their achievements:

Name	Proficiency Event	Placement
Tyler Winans	Culinary Arts-Pastry	Gold and Most Outstanding
Jake Page	Culinary Arts-Pastry	Silver
John Taube	Culinary Arts	Silver
Maddie Johnson & Louise Cook	Preschool Storytelling	Gold
Keeley Custer	Preschool Storytelling	Gold

Family Career and Community Leaders of America is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work and social issues through Family and Consumer Sciences Education. Since it's founding in 1945, FCCLA has involved more than nine million youth.

**Class of 2004 Hosts the First Ever
North High School Mommy/Son
Daddy/Daughter Dance**



On May 15, 2004, seniors from the Class of 2004 and other North Star Council members hosted the first ever Mommy/Son/Daddy/Daughter Dance from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at St. Charles North High School. This effort was undertaken by the senior class to raise money for their class gift, a monetary donation toward an electronic sign that will be going out in front of the school to advertise and publicize school events. The mindset behind the dance was grounded in wanting to provide members from the community with a chance to come out and enjoy a fun time of refreshment, music, dancing, and family togetherness following Mother's Day Weekend. Students from the Class of 2004 actively worked to advertise this event and it is their hope that those attending had a fun evening with their families and friends.

The Class of 2004 would like to take this opportunity to extend its sincerest thanks to the St. Charles North PTO, who helped to bake cookies and provide refreshment for this event, and to Dr. Kling, who provided the beverages. Also, the seniors would like to thank the custodial staff and families who attended the event. Your attendance and donations will bring us that much closer to our fulfilling our goal for the class gift. Lastly, a special thanks must also be extended to other members of the North Star Council, who helped the senior class make this vision a reality.

North Star Council Working Hard To Beautify North High School



Students work a Saturday afternoon to help beautify their school.

The students of St. Charles North High School gave freely and willingly of their time on May 15, 2004, to help beautify the grounds on campus. With help from Dr. Kling, who purchased the various plants that council members helped to plant, students worked for about two hours to plant various native and ornamental plants by the main entrance of the high school. It was quite an experience to see many students handle plants, dirt, and gardening tools for the first time, but eventually all of them got the hang of it, and it's the sincere hope of the North Star Council that this area will continue to grow and flourish as a lasting memory of students' efforts to enhance the aesthetic appearance of North HS.

A special note of thanks should also be extended Kate Check, Katie Van Cleave, Cory Jacoby, and Haj Hameeduddin for providing some extra help to the Regional Environmental Science class by giving up two more hours

of their time to help finish planting prairie plugs as part of a restoration effort at Fox River Bluff West Forest Preserve. Not to be outdone, the remaining group of students went down to Thompson Middle School and orchestrated a carwash to raise money for the North Star Council. Thanks again to all that helped!!

Dave Krodel
Student Council Advisor

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

The Class of 2005 has had a busy year and now that all goals and objectives have been accomplished would love to spend just a moment telling you about some of the star-studded events that have taken place at St. Charles North within these past few months.

On the evening of April 14th twelve young men competed in beach wear, spirit wear, formal wear, talent, and a question and answer session. Six juniors (*Eric Jamison, Jason Javers, Jonah Malarsky, Peter Nelson, Jake Rigert, Mo Thompson*) and six seniors (*Dave Brackmann, Johnny Buchta, Ian Custer, Mike Fremgren, Rory Pasholk, Joe Pelizza*) battled fiercely in a friendly competition, and at the end of the evening, Mr. SCN 2003, Chris Gekas, along with emcee's Jamie Barbeau, Jess Elfring, Rachel Eliasek, and Liz Manser crowned Senior Dave Brackman Mr. SCN 2004.

May 8, 2004 – a red letter day in St. Charles. The Hyatt Regency in Oakbrook provided the backdrop for a formal occasion as the Classes of 2004 and 2005 donned tuxes and tails and gowns galore to come and spend a "Wonderful Tonight." In a sea of soft lights and lilies, candles, and comradery 700 students shared dinner and danced the night away creating memories that will last a lifetime. During the evening's festivities, the Prom Court (*Jamie Barbeau, Jess Elfring, Jenny Morken, Rachel Kruzan, Amanda Thornton, Johnny Buchta, Mike Fremgen, JaTony McPherson, Jeff Morken, and Ben Murphy*) made their way to center stage so Prom King and Queen 2003, Jessie Slack and Mike Wittleder, relinquished their crowns to Jenny Morken and JaTony McPherson.

With the passing of Prom, the Class of 2005 eagerly awaits their senior year. On May 20th, the class picked the design for their graduation announcements and the fundraising efforts as they, in conjunction with the Classes of 2006 and 2007, host a car wash and garage sale on Saturday, June 5th, here at St. Charles North HS.

All's well that ends well. We look forward to seeing you next year as the adventure continues. . . .

Natalie Nelson
Class of 2005 Advisor

Attention: All Parents

Since the opening of St. Charles North High School, the Athletic Department of our school has proven itself to be a successful and important part of our student's lives. Thousands of students fill the gym on a yearly basis to cheer and support each of our North Star teams as they fight to win conference games, conference championships, and most importantly, cross-town rivalries. On March 10th, 2004, the School Beautification Committee of the North Star Council presented the student body and Athletic Department with a gym mural of our mascot, Polaris.

The students who serve on this committee have spent several hours completing the design and fundraising for this school gift. They have looked to our Boosters, Principal, and Student Activities Director for donations, and on Saturday May 1st, the School Beautification Committee held a car wash at Thompson Middle School.

In addition to this fundraiser, we are still looking for your help to reach our designated money goal. One way that you can contribute to this effort and also help provide a lasting memory for your student is through our school's Buy-a-Brick Program. Simply fill out the complimentary form below with an inscription of what should go on the brick, return the completed form and payment as indicated, and you will be one step closer to immortalizing your student's time at SCN.

If you are interested in helping us out in any way, please feel free to contact me at JiminyCricket20@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your continued commitment, support and time,

Katie Kurtz
Student Body 1st Vice-President

“BUY-A-BRICK”

What kind of historical remembrances do students want to leave as their legacy? The **Buy-A-Brick** is a commemorative and permanent fixture that will forever be laid in the pathways of our Courtyard for future generations. Have you purchased your brick for the patio in the center of the school? Don't miss out on this year's ordering. Bricks will be placed in the walkways in the spring. Fill out this form and return it to Miss Nelson at SCNHS before the end of this month to be assured a spot in the spring for your engraved brick.

Please PRINT only one character (letter, punctuation, number, or space per block). Enter name exactly as you wish it to appear. Each line consists of 15 characters. 1 line - \$35.00; 2 lines - \$50.00; 3 lines - \$75.00.

Make check payable to :SCNHS Buy-A-Brick Program

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Line 1:

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P. P. S. HIGHLIGHTS

Pupil Personnel Services has provided a wide array of high quality services during this last quarter of the 2003-2004 school year.

- Course selections for over 2002 students were made into individual student schedules.
- In March Dr. Freitag gave an evening presentation to 200 students and parents that outlined the major considerations in identifying and applying to college.
- Counselors and English II teachers provided a Career Guidance unit to *all* sophomores.
- In April St. Charles North hosted over 180 colleges and university representatives and nearly 2000 students and parents at the annual Fox Valley College Fair.
- On April 28th and 29th 440 juniors took part in the third annual Prairie State Achievement Examinations while 530 freshmen and 500 sophomores were trained in the use of the newly acquired online *Discover* career and college search program from ACT.
- From May 3rd to May 21st over 150 students took a total of 233 Advanced Placement Exams covering a total of 14 disciplines.
- The PPS Teams (e.g. counselors, social workers, psychologist, nurse, deans, student assistance counselor, and teachers) have continued their efforts to identify ways to help students to achieve success in high school.
- Individual counselors have made thousands of contacts with students to assist them with their academic planning, career and college planning, and social-emotional growth.
- On May 17th counselors met with seniors to do a final senior review of their status and the transition they will make to life after high school.

On the behalf of the entire Pupil Personnel Services staff, I want to thank all of the North Star students, parents, and staff for an outstanding semester and year!

Dr. Bruce A. Lane
Assistant Principal

Congratulations Seniors Class of 2004!

The PPS staff wishes to congratulate the Graduating Class of 2004! You have worked hard and persisted through twelve years of education to earn your diploma. You accomplished much throughout the years you were here at North. All of us will look to your future accomplishments with pride in knowing that you are alumni of St. Charles North High School.

The PPS office will continue to provide you support as you move forward with your life. Counselors remain good sources for letters of recommendation our Registrar will continue to assist you in sending a copy of your transcript to schools or employers. You will also continue to be able to use careercruising.com with your St. Charles North user name "north" and password "high" to search for information on careers and colleges.

We will always welcome hearing from you! Don't hesitate to give us a call or drop us a line to let us know how you are and what you are doing. No matter where the course of your life takes you, no matter how far away you are, or how long it has been since you graduated, you will always be a North Star, and our thoughts and best wishes will be with you!

The New Senior Class of 2005

You have made it to the final stretch of your high school career! This year will be one of the most important years of your life. It is the time that you will be making important decisions regarding careers and colleges. It is a year that will require focus, balance, and effort to have a strong finish to your high school career. Students who have a strong academic schedule and work hard to do well in these courses keep the doors to opportunities after high school wide open. Students who choose to take weak schedules and who apply less effort frequently find that they close the doors to many opportunities.

The best advice for your senior year is, "*Do not miscalculate.*" Near the beginning of the school year you will receive a senior mailing that will provide you important information for your senior year, including a current transcript of courses taken. Double check the courses listed on your transcripts against the requirements for graduation. If you have questions, contact your counselor. It is extremely important that you know exactly what you need to graduate.

Principal's Newsletter

The New Senior Class of 2005 (Cont'd)

Career and College Search

You should have a very good idea of the kind of career in which you are most interested. However, there are many resources that can assist you this summer.

- You can access careercruising.com by using the username "north" and password "high." Careercruising.com offers interest inventories that can help you identify career areas of interest to you and the colleges that best serve those career areas.
- You may also access ACT's Discover Program by:
 - Logging on to <http://actrs19.act.org/discover/eDISCOVER/>
 - Then entering SCNHS-your student ID number in the User ID box and leave the Password box blank, and click submit.
 - It will ask you to complete a user profile form before you can enter the program.

Summer is also an excellent time to do college visits that will help you narrow your choices.

NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse

The NCAA requires all new college athletes who want to compete in Division I or II athletics to meet specific initial eligibility requirements. To help our students better understand these requirements, **Coach Bobbie Cesarek**, Northern Illinois University's NCAA Compliance Director has again been invited to speak to all District 303 high school athletes regarding the initial eligibility requirements during **late September**. You can also obtain information on the Initial Eligibility requirements and complete the application online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. NCAA requires that you forward a transcript with your application.

PSAE Retakes

This summer you will receive your Prairie State Examination Scores, including your ACT, PSAE, and WorkKeys scores. The State of Illinois allows seniors the opportunity to improve their PSAE scores by retaking both days of the PSAE in October. Once you receive your PSAE results, you should decide if your scores are satisfactory. If you choose to retake the test, notify Dr. Lane in the Guidance Office and request a voucher for the testing. The retake tests will be on October 23rd (ACT) and October 26th (Prairie State Exams and WorkKeys). Students who were unable to take the PSAE tests in the Spring of 2004, may retake the tests in October. Students must take both days if they choose the retake option.

Generally, students who carefully review their test results and take positive steps to strengthen their performance. If you think your scores do not reflect your actual achievement and you are willing to work to improve your performance on the tests, retaking the test may be worthwhile.

Important Senior/Junior Meetings

A number of important meetings will be scheduled to help seniors and juniors through the task of making the transition to colleges and careers. Watch for the announcements for these events and mark your calendar:

- Early September - College Selection Information Night.
- Late September- Bobbie Cesarek, NCAA Clearinghouse
- October – ECC College Fair
- PSAE Retakes. October 23rd and 26th.
- ACT exam – October 23rd
- December – Fox Valley Financial Aid Night.
- January – St. Charles North financial aid follow up night.

The New Juniors Class of 2006

You have crossed the halfway milestone! As juniors you need to continue to build a strong academic base and achieve the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will serve you well after high school. You also need to seriously examine the results of the career exploration you have done up to this point. Juniors also face a number of critical standardized tests that provide them opportunities to demonstrate their achievement and abilities. These tests are:

The New Juniors Class of 2006 (Cont'd)

PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT is a practice test that prepares juniors for the SAT. The PSAT is also the test that is used for the National Merit Scholarship Program. Juniors across the nation who achieve the highest scores in their state on this test may be eligible to receive a number of prestigious recognitions and scholarships. The PSAT will be offered *Saturday October 16, 2004*.

ACT

The ACT is College Admissions Exam. The ACT will be given at St. Charles North High School on *Saturday October 23, 2004* and again *Saturday, April 9, 2005*. These dates are national administration dates. ACT scores from national test administration dates are required for NCAA initial eligibility. Some scholarships also require ACT scores from national test administrations. College bound juniors are encouraged to take a nationally administered ACT assessment.

PSAE

The PSAE is a set of tests required by the State of Illinois to assess the progress of all Illinois juniors in reaching the State Learning Standards. These tests will be administered to all juniors on *Wednesday, April 27 & Thursday, April 28, 2005*. The tests include a full ACT assessment on the first day and a set of State developed exams and ACT WorkKeys assessments on the second day. The PSAE scores are placed on each student's transcripts.

SAT

The SAT is a College Admissions Exam. It is designed to provide information regarding a student's verbal and mathematic ability. Juniors should check the colleges to which they plan to apply to determine if they need to take the SAT. The SAT will be offered at St. Charles North on *Saturday, June 4, 2005*.

ILLINOIS CONSUMER EDUCATION PROFICIENCY TEST

Students may take the ICEPT to meet the State requirement that students take a consumer education course. The test is offered October and January.

TEST PREPARATION

Taking academically challenging courses and working hard to do well in these courses is the absolute best test preparation activity for any student. Juniors may also improve their performance on standardized tests by doing anything that helps them to better understand the test, how it works and effective strategies for taking that particular test. There are books and electronic resources available in the Learning Resource Center that students can use to prepare for these tests. There are also very good on-line websites designed to help students prepare. Students can take the PLAN test as sophomores to prepare for the ACT. Students can take the PSAT as sophomores or juniors to prepare for taking the SAT. Taking practice tests found in ACT or SAT preparation books can provide valuable experience.

There are a number of private companies that offer specialized courses designed to prepare students for specific tests. A list of these companies and courses can be found on the PPS website. Several courses will be offered at St. Charles North during the 2004-05 school year.

PSAT 240. This seven week PSAT/NMSQT preparation course will be offered by ExcelEdge to St. Charles North students on Tuesdays from August 31 to October 12th. This course will help students analyze the PSAT, practice questions relating to the verbal, writing, and math components of the test, and master the pacing required to complete the test. While ExcelEdge has designed this course specifically for students who are in the top 15% of their class, it can assist and is open to all juniors who wish to take the PSAT. Students interested in taking the PSAT 240 will be able to pick up registration packets and fee information in the guidance office in June. The cost of the program will be \$180. The deadline for registration is August 20th.

ACT 36. ExcelEdge will offer it's ACT preparation course at St. Charles North. This course provides its students with an in-depth practice on the ACT. The course will begin January 24th and finish on March 21st. The cost of the program will be \$182. The deadline for registration will be December 13th.

Principal's Newsletter

The New Juniors Class of 2006 (Cont'd)

TEST PREPARATION (Cont'd)

Huntington Learning Center's SAT Preparation Course. The Huntington Learning Center will provide an SAT preparation course beginning on January 18, 2005, and ending on May 3, 2005. Information regarding course costs and registration will be available in November.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TARGET ACT SCORE AND EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

The ACT Assessment score is one of several very important reflections of overall academic achievement for juniors. It is one of several pieces of data that the State uses to assess whether a student has made progress toward meeting the Illinois State Standards for Learning.

Students frequently want to know what score on the ACT would reflect that they have personally made improvement. There are fixed targets that they can consider. An ACT score of 36 would be perfect; and, a score of 30 or above is generally considered outstanding. Scores of 22 or better are generally required for selective to highly selective colleges. Many traditional colleges require scores of 20 or above for admission; and, scores of 18 to 21 usually are sufficient to get a student into a liberal college. While fixed targets are useful, the real question is whether you are making expected achievement gains.

One way of knowing this is to compare your ACT scores with your scores the EXPLORE test taken in 8th grade or the PLAN test you may have taken as sophomore. The EXPLORE, PLAN, and ACT scores can be compared directly because they measure the same thing (i.e., student academic achievement in English, Math, Reading and Science) and they use the same scale scores. A score of 14 on the EXPLORE test is the same as a score of 14 on the ACT.

The ACT Corporation has given thousands of EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT tests. ACT's data show that students can be expected to increase their score from the EXPLORE to the PLAN by two scale score points with no special interventions. Further, students can be expected to increase their score from the PLAN to the ACT by four scale score points with no special interventions. By knowing your EXPLORE or PLAN scores, you can predict the minimal target score you would need to achieve on the ACT to show expected academic progress. If you make minimally expected academic progress, your Target ACT score should be four points higher than your sophomore PLAN score and six points higher than your 8th grade EXPLORE score.

TARGET ACT = EXPLORE + 6 or TARGET ACT = PLAN + 4

It should be the goal of every student to exceed expected growth. By examining the results of your EXPLORE or PLAN tests, taking challenging courses, and working to improve your areas of relative weakness, you will have a great opportunity to exceed expected achievement.

CAREER AND COLLEGE PLANNING

As a junior, two major tasks that you face are the selection of a potential career area and the identification of the kinds of post high school education necessary to enter careers in that area. Having a clear career focus and a post-high school plan adds significant personal meaning to the academic work you do in each of your classes. Students with well-defined career and college goals tend to perform better throughout their junior and senior years.

The online interest and skills inventories that you can take through *CareerCruising* and *The Discover Program* can assist you with these tasks. (See the "Career and College Search" in the seniors' section above.) Each of these programs has inventories that can link you immediately to careers that may be of interest to you. These same programs can also link you instantly to schools and colleges that provide programs in the careers of interest to you. On April 28th the counselors gave you paper and pencil copies of the interest inventory from the Discover Program and showed you how to use the results to begin your career search.

The New Juniors Class of 2006 (Cont'd)

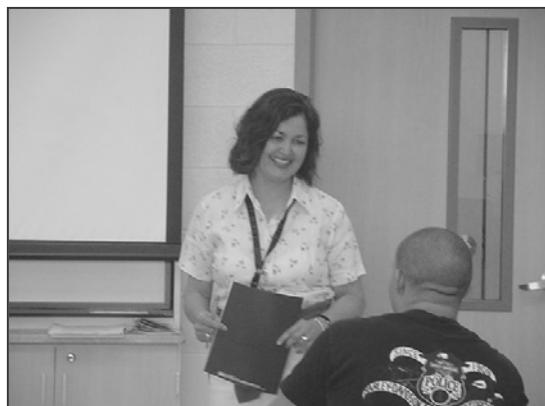


On April 28th, counselors helped sophomores learn to use valuable career exploration tools. Above, Mr. Kirby explains the use of the online Discovery Program to sophomores, while Mr. Nothnagel helps sophomores complete the paper and pencil version of the Discovery Program interest inventories.

The New Sophomores Class of 2007

You have completed your first year of high school! While graduation may seem a distant goal, time will pass quickly. As sophomores you will build a strong foundation for your future in two ways. First you will continue to work hard to build a strong academic record by challenging yourself to do your absolute best in all of your classes. Second, you will begin to define your long-term career goals. These goals will help guide your work in high school and will define the kinds of post-high school education you will seek. Several important activities will help you with this task.

Continue to Work With Your Holland's Self Directed Search Materials. On April 29th the counselors gave freshmen the Holland's Self Directed Search (SDS). The SDS is a self-administered, self-scored, and self-interpreted career guidance tool that helped you begin to think about the kinds of activities you like, the skills you have, and the occupations that interest you. The SDS can help you define more clearly your vocational aspirations by reassuring you that your interests and skills fit the careers in which you are interested and by helping you to think about the wide range of alternative careers that your interests and skills match, but that you have not thought about. The Occupations Finder booklet you were given provides over 1300 occupations organized by types of careers and the level of education needed to help you explore the wide range of occupations that are available.



Mrs. James helps freshman with the Holland Self-Directed-Search. Mrs. Gloss, career specialist, reviews with freshmen the advantages of work-based learning experiences like job shadow.

The New Sophomores Class of 2007 (Cont'd)

The PLAN Test. The PLAN test is designed by the ACT Corporation to help sophomores prepare to take the ACT as juniors. In addition the PLAN test provides students valuable career interests information. The PLAN test is scheduled for Saturday November 13, 2004. In December there will be a PLAN interpretation meeting to help sophomores better understand and use their results to prepare for both the ACT and in making important career decisions.

Welcome Freshmen Class of 2008

To each and every member of the Class of 2008, welcome to St. Charles North High School. We are excited to have you join us! We know that each of you has everything it takes to have an outstanding high school career. If you make the decision to apply yourself, there is no doubt that you will cross the stage at graduation in 2008 with great opportunities in life.

You have already taken the first huge step toward a successful high school career by carefully selecting your courses for the 2004-2005 school year. Your next steps are listed below.

Freshmen Physicals

State law requires that all 9th grade students in Illinois provide a completed physical to the high school. Physical forms were provided in the registration materials sent to you during registration. If you need a replacement form you can get those from our school nurse, Mrs. VanArragon (443-2752). It is extremely important to understand that **students who do not have an updated and complete physical form on file will be excluded from attending school** until this State requirement is met. To be able to pick up your schedule and get off to a good start in high school, please get your physical form turned in early.

Freshmen Orientation

Mark your calendar for August 13th and plan on attending the Freshmen Orientation. During the orientation new freshmen will be provided a comprehensive overview of the school, its expectations, and what they need to do to be successful. Freshmen parents are invited to attend a Freshman Parent Orientation on August 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. or from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. These sessions will cover much of the information covered on the 13th with your son or daughter; and, they will provide helpful hints on helping your son/daughter make a smooth transition to high school.

Tips for Success

Beyond working hard to do your very best in each of your classes, the challenge to freshmen is to quickly learn what is expected at the high school level, to understand the rules of the school, and to develop the skills and habits that will lead you to a successful four years. Below are several helpful suggestions for getting your high school career started on the right track.

- Believe in yourself! Know that healthy, responsible choices will help you succeed.
- Work to the best of your ability. Don't settle for less than your best.
- Don't be afraid! Ask for assistance from your teachers, counselors, deans, and parents.
- Learn to use an assignment planner and organize your time.
- Do all of your assignments and turn them in. The impact of even one missing assignment can be huge.
- Get involved! Students who are involved in athletics, clubs, and organizations do better in school and have more fun.
- Know your counselor and how to make appointments to see him or her. He or she is there to help you succeed!

Set your PLAN Target Score Now!

As an incoming freshman it is important to set clear academic goals for yourself. One of your goals should be to exceed expected improvement in your overall academic achievement. By examining your 8th grade EXPLORE test results, you can set a goal for your sophomore PLAN test. By looking at areas of relative weakness, you can work hard to develop stronger skills in those areas and improve your overall achievement.

On-line Career and College Search Resources are available to Freshmen

Just like every other North Star, you can access CareerCruising at www.careercruising.com by using the user name "North" and the password "high". All incoming freshmen also have access to ACT's Discover Program by going to <http://actr19.act.org/discover/eDISCOVER/>. (See "Career and College Search" in the New Senior section.)

Principal's Newsletter

Board of Education Meeting - June 14, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
Board of Education Meeting - July 12, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
Board of Education Meeting - August 9, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
Material Pick-Up Day for Seniors - August 10
Material Pick-Up Day for Juniors - August 11
Material Pick-Up Day for Sophomores - August 12
Freshman Orientation & Pick-Up Day - August 13
Material Pick-Up Make-Up Day - August 16
PTO Meeting - August 16, 7:00 PM, LRC
Board of Education Meeting - August 23, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
First Day of School - August 25, All Students Report
First Home Football Game - August 27
Labor Day - Sept. 6, Schools Closed

Back to School Night - Sept. 9
Board of Education Meeting - Sept. 13, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
School Improvement Day - Sept. 17, No School for Students
Homecoming Week - Sept. 27-Oct 2
Homecoming Dance - October 2
Board of Education Meeting - Sept. 27, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
Fall Play - (tentative dates) Oct 21 - Oct 23
Columbus Day - October 11, Schools Closed
Board of Education Meeting - October 12, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
Teachers' Institute Day - October 12, No School for Students
Board of Education Meeting - October 27, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg
End of First Qtr - October 29

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



**A community dedicated to achievement and growth through
discovery, cooperation, preparation, and inspiration.**