

# "The Navigator"

## Principal's Newsletter



St. Charles North High School

Vol. 99 No. 1

September 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](mailto:mringsby@d303.org)

### Freshman Welcome & Orientation



On August 13<sup>th</sup>, over 500 new freshmen students entered St. Charles North High School for the first time. After being greeted by 40 upper classman representatives, students were sent on a scavenger hunt throughout the school.

In addition to receiving their class schedules and books, the freshmen were given tips on how to navigate the hallways, log onto the computer network, and clued into the popular places to hang out before and during school.

The upper class mentors were available for directions on the first day of school and were easily identifiable by their mentor t-shirts. There was also a section in the cafeteria where Galaxy Council students were sitting so freshmen could count on having someone to eat lunch with.

On Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, the 9<sup>th</sup> graders were invited to a spirit assembly during 8<sup>th</sup> period to be made aware of the procedures at Pep and Spirit Rallies. The new freshmen learned the school song and were lead through cheers and chants igniting the passion of "Purple Power" (their class color)! A grand time was had by all as freshmen completed their 1<sup>st</sup> week in high school and were invited to the home football game and dance.

These represent some of many ways SCN and the Galaxy Crew welcomed the Class of 2008.

### Peer Leadership Makes Memories Again...

A summer of memories and leadership was experienced by all of the students and staff involved in the St. Charles North High School Peer Leadership Program. All 60 junior or senior leaders contacted their 60 freshman matches by mid-June. They either went out for lunch, played miniature golf or some other "get to know you" activity. The matches hooked up again at the Peer Leadership Picnic on July 19<sup>th</sup> for tons of food and fun! Two days later all loaded up on buses and headed to Lake Geneva for the annual 3-day Peer Leadership Camping Event where even more fun and bonding took place. Peer Leadership offers exceptional opportunities for junior and senior students to mentor and lead, for freshman students to connect and seek support, and for all groups to gel and become like small families!

Soon after school began, Peer Leadership hosted a dance that took place after the first home football game. As usual, the turn out was impressive. What a great way to kick off a new school year, with many freshman students, Peer Leadership junior and seniors, staff, and a rocking' D.J. in attendance.

Peer Leadership Groups will be meeting throughout the school year, creating many more relationships, memories and life long skills! Way to go North Star Peer Leadership!



Peer Leadership Camp at Lake Geneva, July 2004

## Pen of the Principal

The Pathways we have followed leading to the 2004-2005 school year have taken us from years of exploration to years of tradition and success. The participation of every student, staff member and parent in the continuation of these traditions will make North High School even more successful than in previous years. I ask each individual to take this moment of "welcome" to reflect on what your role might be in the opportunities that will be available this year. The cooperative efforts of each student, parent and staff member will contribute to the successes we enjoy in the classroom, within the student activity program, or on the athletic field. It is my hope that these opportunities will allow each student to some day reflect on his or her high school experience with pride.

This year, our North Central Association accreditation process will focus on staff development and direct classroom implementation of instructional strategies designed to meet our school-wide goals. Through our goals, we hope to increase student achievement in the areas of communication/writing skills as well as to continue to establish a climate of responsibility and accountability within the student body. To that end, distinct sub-committees have been established at North High School to identify the strategies and implementation plans necessary to bring about improved student achievement. The necessary staff development activities have been planned and should provide for consistent building-wide implementation.

The entire staff of North High School welcomes you to the 2004-05 school year. Please note important calendar items found elsewhere in this publication. Working together, we will continue to emphasize the importance of each individual student as partners in the cooperative venture of making St. Charles North High School the very best of learning environments.

Frank A. Kesman  
Principal

### **WELCOME BACK FROM SUMMER!!!**



We want to remind all students that the St. Charles North High School dress code is in effect. We understand that it is at times difficult to make that transition from summer to school. However, all students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate to the positive learning environment of our school. Please review the expectations that are on page 39 of the student handbook and remember:

- A student's dress must not be disruptive of the educational process, interfere with the school's positive learning environment, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety and decency.
- Clothing that results in bare midriffs, bare shoulders, visible underwear, or holes in inappropriate locations or that are revealing in other ways are not allowed.
- Clothing that depicts the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs are inappropriate for school.
- Clothing that depicts graphics or words that are sexual, vulgar, lewd or indecent meanings are also not allowed.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in making the transition from the more relaxed dress of summer to dress that is appropriate for the business of school and your success.

### **"BRING BACK THE WEAVE"**

With our continuing traffic congestion, one solution last year was to develop a "morning weave" into the parking lot. Please help traffic to flow more smoothly by allowing east and west bound vehicles to **alternate** as they enter our parking lot. Everyone will save some time. **Thank you!** And, don't forget to allow an occasional car or bus to leave the lot along Red Gate Road.

**PLEASE WATCH FOR PEDESTRIANS!**

## Curriculum Corner

By Denise Herrmann

### ETC Bell Schedule

<i>ETC</i>	7:00 - 8:00
Period 1	8:18 - 8:58
Period 2	9:04 - 9:44
Period 3	9:50 - 10:30
Period 4	10:36 - 11:16
Period 5	11:22 - 12:02
Period 6	12:08 - 12:48
Period 7	12:54 - 1:34
Period 8*	1:40 - 2:21

\*Period 8 has 1 extra minute-for end of day announcements.

### REMINDER - Excellence Through Collaboration

Improvements for FALL 2004:

- The length of time teachers have to meet for collaboration has been extended from 45 minutes to 60 minutes
- Each ETC session will begin a 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 & 22	February 9 & 23
October 6 & 20	March 9 & 23
November 3 & 17	April 6 & 20
December 1 & 15	May 4 & 18
January 5 & 26	

*" I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty. "* - John D. Rockefeller

INTRODUCING- "**411 Days**" - the time and place for students and staff to get in-depth information about our school community. This new program is part of an action plan from one of our school improvement teams to help improve communication in our school. On non-ETC Wednesday's, each class will be shortened by 2 minutes to provide a 19 minute "411" segment at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> period. This time will be used to improve communication about school activities, conduct school surveys, and instruct students on whole-school initiatives such as effective use of the planner. The daily schedule and dates are listed below.

### 411 Bell Schedule

Period 1	7:20 - 8:05
Period 2	8:11 - 8:56
411	8:56 - 9:15
Period 3	9:21 - 10:06
Period 4	10:12 - 10:57
Period 5	11:03 - 11:48
Period 6	11:54 - 12:39
Period 7	12:45 - 1:30
Period 8	1:36 - 2:21

### 411 will be on the following dates:

September 15 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	February 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>
October 13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	March 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>
November 10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	April 13 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	May 11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	

Use of Student Planner: In order to improve the time-management skills of our students, each student will be required to write down class assignments, project dates, and school events in their planner during each period of the day. In addition, students will receive instruction and guidance during "411" time on how to set goals and how to prioritize their time to meet those goals. Classroom teachers will monitor planner use during class time and will report to parents through progress and quarter grade reports. Parents can help support this initiative by reviewing what information has been recorded in each class and discussing with their son/daughter how to effectively use time at home for schoolwork and class projects.

## PTO NEWS

Welcome to all new and returning students and parents. Thank you to everyone who has joined the SCN PTO. You are supporting many worthwhile activities for our students and teachers. If you missed joining the PTO during registration – it's not too late! Send a check payable to SCN PTO for \$15 to the school office, and we'll make sure you are up to date with PTO activities.

Senior parents take note: PTO offers 4 scholarships to seniors whose families are PTO members. We also provide refreshments at Back-to-School Night, assistance with Homecoming activities, dinners for teachers during conferences in November, snacks for juniors taking the two-day Prairie State Achievement Exam in April, a fun after prom event in May and many more events during the year.

PTO meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the LRC at 7pm. You can access PTO meeting minutes on the school website at [d303.org](http://d303.org), click on *North High School*, and click on *Community* then *SCN PTO*.

Missed purchasing a Student Directory at Materials Pick-Up Days or Back-to-School Night? Directories are available in the Main Office for \$2. This indispensable directory contains student and parents' names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, along with lots of other useful information and Booster Committee Contacts.

We have Market Day again this year at North. Forms are available in the Main Office or you may order online at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) and enter North High School. Pick-up dates are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. For order deadlines, pick-up dates and information, call Treva Wine at 762-8287 or Margie Jimenez at 443-8562.

The second Chili Cook-Off is on September 17 before the home football game vs. Elgin Larkin. Looks like this 'fun and friend-raiser' will be an annual event.

Homecoming is the week of Sept 27 – Oct. 2. Consult the student directory for your student's parent class rep or class advisor if you would like to volunteer with float building supervision, have a location to build the float or participate in homecoming dance activities (decorating or refreshments).

We need LOTS and LOTS of volunteers for Post Prom this year. It's not until May 14, but there is much to do. This year will be a 'game & fun night' at SCN. We need parent volunteers from all grade levels. Please contact Sue Becker at 513-0514 or Rose Kowal at 377-6377 to get involved in this important event. You'll have fun, too!

Pen & Ink prints of St. Charles North High School are for sale, along with note cards (a mini version of the print). These are both beautiful works, commissioned by the PTO and created by local artist, Norie Rooney (also a mother of one of our instructors). Prints are \$25 unframed, and can be personalized with the graduation year; note cards are \$5 for 10 cards and envelopes. Call Cindy Hueneke at 377-9692 for how to purchase these items.

PTO is looking forward to another great and busy year.

Sue Wachs – PTO President  
587-1121

Paula White Keen - PTO Vice President  
377-2050

### MARKET DAY

Back to scheduling too much? Would an order from Market Day help with the meal planning? Next pick-up in the high school cafeteria is Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. Place your order by October 13<sup>th</sup> at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com). Order forms are available in the Main Office and are due by October 18<sup>th</sup>.

### STUDENT DIRECTORY

Addendums to the Student Directory (corrections & additions) are now available in the Main Office.

## North High School Students Win Alice Davis Awards

Each year the St. Charles Heritage Center recognizes high school students with the **Alice Davis Award**, an honor presented to those who exemplify scholarly, historical research by using primary sources of a local nature in a research paper or project.

This last summer, St. Charles North High School Senior **Stephanie Shirkey** received the award for her presentation on the history of the **Norris Family and Their Importance in St. Charles**.

Shirkey researched the family and the impact they had on the town by using primary documents and photographs from the Heritage Center. She then put together a video presentation showing the many gifts that the Norris family gave to St. Charles and narrated the story.

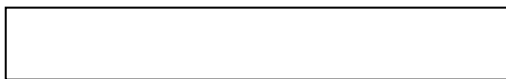
St. Charles North High School junior **Matt Ball** also received the award for his presentation on the history of **Pottawatomie Park**.

Using research documents, photographs, books, and personal accounts Ball put together a PowerPoint slide show detailing the history of the park and the land from the time the Native Americans lived on it through today.

The award is named after Alice Davis (1884-1966) a significant local historian, teacher, and principal who dedicated more than 50 years to the St. Charles school system. Perhaps best known of her many contributions to research in local history was *The Settlement and Growth of St. Charles* (1940). It was for many years the most widely circulated history of the community. The Heritage Center honors her lifelong pursuit of knowledge with this award.

Both students received certificates and checks for \$100.

The St. Charles Heritage Center operates two historic sites - the St. Charles History Museum and Gift Shop located at 215 E Main Street and the Dunham-Hunt House located at 304 Cedar Avenue.



During her summer break, St. Charles North Technology Education teacher Marsha Brown received training for the Project ProBase Pilot. This pilot is a National Science Foundation-supported curriculum project. Project ProBase is developing technology-based curricula that will provide a comprehensive technical foundation for students who will continue their education in community college technician education or four-year degree programs in engineering, architecture or related fields. Congratulations to Mrs. Brown for her participation.

### NEW CUSD 303 DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

We would like to welcome Blanca Sounders to CUSD 303 as our new Director of Transportation. Blanca comes to us from Palatine School District 15 where she was the Assistant Director of Transportation for 23 schools, running a fleet of 138 buses. Prior to that she was the Assistant Transportation Director at Kaneland School District. We are pleased to have her join us!

## “The Story of Mobile Classrooms” By Frank Kesman, Principal

The addition of 12 mobile classrooms to our facility will allow us to maintain class size at a level consistent with previous years. These facilities are self-contained with individual heating and cooling equipment for the comfort of the students and staff. In addition, they are integrated into all school-wide services including fire alarm, intercom, and available network technology. Appropriate permits to construct the facilities and occupancy permits to use these facilities were received through the Regional Office of Education in Kane County.

We are often asked how the location of the mobile classrooms was decided upon. As the Board of Education considers all options for accommodating students, the potential need for space through additional construction projects becomes a possibility. Locating mobile classrooms where future construction might take place is not feasible in terms of scheduling of construction projects or legitimate in terms of economics. Moving mobile classrooms a second time in order to accommodate construction is not prudent economically. Thus, mobile classrooms are typically located in an area that is as convenient as possible for student use, yet not in an area that might support additional permanent facilities.

The four rooms in front of the school will be used as lunch/study facilities. As you are aware, our students eat lunch in ½ of a class period or 24 minutes. The other ½ period they are assigned to a formal or informal study hall. Placing the mobile facilities in front of the school provides our students with convenient access to the cafeteria resulting in a few minutes of additional lunch time. Also, it will no longer be necessary for students to travel through the academic wing of the building during regular class time for their lunch/study assignment. This will help reduce interruptions to those classes in session and reduce congestion in the hallways. The eight mobile classrooms on the south side of the building will be used entirely for regular classroom instruction. These classrooms will also have access to all educational and safety school-wide services.

Finally, the Board of Education through Superintendent Barbara Erwin has authorized an additional non-certified staff member who will help supervise the exterior areas of the building to ensure safety and security for these facilities. The rear driveway of the building will be blocked off in limited areas so that student access to these classrooms can be accomplished safely and in a timely fashion. This additional campus monitor will also assist with parking lot supervision to ensure safety before and after school.

While the presence of mobile classrooms indicates a time of rapid enrollment increases, the District and the building Administration is doing everything possible to provide appropriate and equivalent instructional experiences. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

### NEW DATABASES AVAILABLE FROM THE LRC

The Learning Resource Center has changed some of the online databases available for this school year. The EBSCO “Ultra” database, a comprehensive database designed for high school libraries, contains full text for nearly 500 popular magazines, 88,000 biographies, over 500 pamphlets, 150 reference books and 60,000 primary source documents. The EBSCO group of databases also includes Newspaper Source, a full text coverage database of more than 200 newspapers. Separate databases in the area of health, history, education, literature and science are also part of the subscription. All databases are available from any computer at school and from home. Passwords for home use are included in this issue of the Navigator. It is recommended that the passwords be placed on or near your computer monitor for later use.



<http://www.d303.org/schools/scn/scnlrc/scnlrc.html>  
usernames and passwords for North High School databases:

<b>Encyclopedia:</b> <u>stcharlessd</u>	<b>EBSCO databases:</b>
<b>Britannica</b> <i>stcharlessd</i>	scn303
	stars

**FirstSearch:** 100107647  
*that8kexp*

<b>NewsIllinois:</b> <u>scn</u>	<b>Chicago Tribune:</b> <u>scn</u>
stars	stars



Assistant Principal, Dr. Denise Herrmann, participates in 2003-04 NHS Induction Ceremony.

### National Honor Society Selection Process Begins!

National Honor Society is a national organization that recognizes high school students who excel in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership and service. Junior and senior students with a GPA of 4.5 on the weighted and un-weighted scale are eligible for the selection process every fall. Those students that meet the GPA requirement will be sent a letter in the beginning of September inviting them to participate in the selection process. They will also receive a packet which details the process and the steps that are necessary in order to be considered. Parents and students will have two opportunities to meet with the advisors to ask any questions prior to submitting the packet. The Faculty Council, consisting of five staff members who are not NHS advisors or building administrators, will meet to anonymously evaluate the criteria of all candidates. The Faculty Council

nominates candidates who excel in all four of the pillars of National Honor Society—character, scholarship, leadership, and service. These candidates will be inducted in November.

Membership in NHS is an honor and a privilege. All members are expected to complete 20 service hours in the school and community for each year of membership, as well as maintain their GPA. The St. Charles North chapter of National Honor Society sponsors numerous service projects including school-wide blood drives, peer tutoring, a Veteran's Day all-school assembly, ice cream socials for senior citizens prior to theatrical productions, a doughnut eating contest which raises money to shop for D303 elementary school children who need clothing and school supplies, and numerous other activities which promote the ideals of National Honor Society.

## "Once Upon a Homecoming"

**Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>** marks the beginning of this year's Homecoming, entitled "Once Upon a Homecoming" with a Fairy Tale and Nursery Rhymes theme. Students will begin to build their class floats at designated sites on that Friday and continue to construct them until Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 pm. Parents should remember that all students need a waiver to participate in any Homecoming activities, especially at their float sites. Members of the class will also be decorating cafeteria walls, school display cases and downtown windows throughout the day on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

- **Monday** will kick off Homecoming Week with the traditional Pep Assembly in the morning where the Homecoming Court will be introduced and the first round of Tug-of-War will occur.
- **Tuesday** night highlight will be the Co-Ed Volleyball game in the main gym at 7 pm. Each class will also have a male cheerleader squad at this event.
- The Small Games Assembly will be held on **Wednesday**, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the main gym. Classes will compete in the Tug-of-War, Suitcase Race, Toothpick/Lifesaver Race and Balloon Race at this assembly and Homecoming Court will be narrowed down to Homecoming Royalty.

- On **Thursday** organizations nominating couples to the Homecoming Court will be decorating their parade golf cart in the courtyard after school and classes will finish floats.

- On **Friday** we will have the parade at 2 pm on Main Street, St. Charles. The football team will host St. Charles East in the Cross River Classic and the Drill Team will host their Kick-a-thon between the Sophomore and Varsity games. Homecoming King and Queen will be announced after the Kick-a-thon and the Spirit Flag from class competition will be announced during the halftime program of the Varsity game. Spectators are reminded to stay after the Varsity game for North's annual homecoming fireworks.
- Students are then invited on **Saturday** to the homecoming dance in the Main Gym, capping an entire week of activities for our SCN students.



SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS

Senior Parents,

The Polaris staff at St. Charles North has created a special yearbook section that allows you to give your son or daughter a congratulatory message, capping his or her high school years. We call this section, Senior Ads. Included in each senior ad can be any combination of quotes, letters, poems, pieces of advice, and picture. Decide what you want to do with the space, provide us with the information, and we do the rest.

Each Polaris Senior Ad will be either 1/8, 1/4, or 1/2 of a yearbook page and should consist of no more than 100 words. A family can purchase more than one ad. Costs for each ad are as follows:

Ad size	Price per ad
1/8 page – 1 photo only	\$30
1/4 page – 1 photo only	\$51
1/2 page – 2 photos max.	\$100

To order a Senior Ad for your student, please complete the order form below and return it along with your pictures and with payment by September 30th. Space is limited so send your ad as soon as possible. (We will not be able to return pictures, so please send us duplicates of your favorite photos.) Digital photos are accepted.

Thank you for supporting your son or daughter, and Polaris, the St. Charles North Yearbook.

Sandy Szmajda  
Polaris Adviser  
(630) 443-5697

Senior Ad Order Form

Name of senior: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Ad	Number being purchased	Cost of the Ad	Total Ad Cost (Number x Cost)
1/8 page		\$30.00	
1/4 page		\$50.00	
1/2 page		\$100.00	
Total Cost of all ads =			

Your message (100 word limit): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

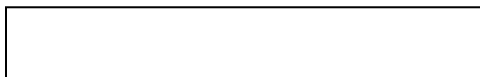
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with your check made out to St. Charles North High School and any pictures you wish to include with your Ad by Sept. 30, 2004 to: Mrs. Sandy Szmajda/ Yearbook Senior Ads  
255 Red Gate Road, St. Charles, IL 60175

**Pictures will not be returned!!!**





Welcome to the 2004-05 School Year at St. Charles North!

On the behalf of the entire staff of the St. Charles North Pupil Personnel Services Learning Area, I want to welcome you to a new and exciting year at St. Charles North High School! The transition from summer vacation itineraries to challenging first semester schedules has been made! We see our students working hard to meet the challenges they face as they assume their new roles as freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors. As each of you face those challenges we want to remind you that the counselors, deans, social workers, psychologist, nurse, police liaison officer, student assistance counselor, registrar, secretaries, and deans assistants are here to help you!

"P.P.S. Class Notes" will provide helpful information for your class. Whether you are a senior making your final selection for a college or career or a freshman establishing important habits that will take you closer to your goals, we will be there to support you.

To help us in providing you the information that you need, we encourage you to contact us with any questions or topics you would like us to include in our communications. Feel free to call us at 443- 5716 or e-mail us.

We are excited to have the opportunity to serve you!

*Dr. Bruce A. Lane*  
Assistant Principal  
Pupil Personnel Services

**P.P.S. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Assistant Principal	Bruce Lane		443-5668	<a href="mailto:blane@d303.org">blane@d303.org</a>
Deans of Students	Steve McInerney	A-Hae	443-5713	<a href="mailto:smcinerney@d303.org">smcinerney@d303.org</a>
	Anne Krob	Haf-Pae	443-5713	<a href="mailto:akrob@d303.org">akrob@d303.org</a>
	Matthew Ruckoldt	Paf-Z	443-5713	<a href="mailto:mruckoldt@d303.org">mruckoldt@d303.org</a>
Counselors	Robert Freitag	Cov-Haf	587-7135	<a href="mailto:rfreitag@d303.org">rfreitag@d303.org</a>
	Jeanine James	Sm-Z	443-5638	<a href="mailto:jjames@d303.org">jjames@d303.org</a>
	Matthew Kirby	A-Cou	443-5717	<a href="mailto:mkirby@d303.org">mkirby@d303.org</a>
	Kim Munro-Krusz	Hag-Lea	443-5715	<a href="mailto:kmunro-krusz@d303.org">kmunro-krusz@d303.org</a>
	Larry Nothnagel	P-Z	587-7146	<a href="mailto:Lnothnagel@d303.org">Lnothnagel@d303.org</a>
	Rachel Rogers	Leb-O	443-5714	<a href="mailto:rrogers@d303.org">rrogers@d303.org</a>
Registrar	Sue Habich		443-2761	<a href="mailto:shabich@d303.org">shabich@d303.org</a>
Nurse	Wilma VanArragon		443-2752	<a href="mailto:wvanarragon@d303.org">wvanarragon@d303.org</a>
Psychologist	Chris Lewandowski		587-7131	<a href="mailto:clewandowski@d303.org">clewandowski@d303.org</a>
Social Workers	Lynda Askew	A-Lea	443-5629	<a href="mailto:laskew@d303.org">laskew@d303.org</a>
	Susan Terronez	Leb-Z	443-5626	<a href="mailto:sterronez@d303.org">sterronez@d303.org</a>
Police Liaison	Det. Darrin Lee		443-5659	<a href="mailto:dlee@d303.org">dlee@d303.org</a>
Student Assistance Coun.	Pat Radke		443-2758	<a href="mailto:pradke@d303.org">pradke@d303.org</a>

## Special Welcome to New PPS Team Members



Mrs. Rachel Rogers, Counselor

### Mrs. Rachel Rogers, Counselor

St. Charles North is proud to announce the addition of Mrs. Rachel Rogers to its counseling team. Mrs. Rogers comes to us from Glenbard North High School where she provided counseling services to students with limited English language skills. Prior to that experience she was a counselor at Naperville Central High School and Washington Junior High School where she provided academic, personal/social, college and career counseling services to all students including those who were in the special education and gifted programs. Mrs. Rogers has her bachelors degree in Elementary Education from Western Illinois University, received her masters in School Counseling from Illinois State University, and holds a masters degree in Human Services from National Louis University. Mrs. Rogers brings to the St. Charles North team a wealth of counseling experience and expertise.



Mr. Steve McInerney, Dean of Students

### Mr. Steve McInerney, Dean of Students

Mr. Steve McInerney has been a member of the St. Charles North family as a Drivers Education and Health instructor in the Wellness Learning Area and an Athletic Trainer since the beginning. Mr. McInerney earned his Administrative Certification through the Aurora University Program and has assisted the Deans over the last several years. Mr. McInerney's experience in working with a wide range of students and commitment to the success of all students make him an outstanding addition to the administrative team. We are proud to welcome Mr. McInerney into a new role as Dean of Students.

## SENIOR CLASS NOTES

### **Best Advice for Seniors.....**

The decisions you make this year will be among the most important decisions of your life. Your challenge will be to enjoy the wonderful activities of a senior year while maintaining a high degree of focus and effort toward a strong academic finish. Finishing strong may open the doors to your dreams.

The best advice for your senior year remains, "Do not miscalculate." Your senior information packet provides important information, including a current transcript of courses taken. Double and triple check the courses listed on your transcripts against the requirements for graduation. If you have questions, contact your counselor. **(Senior students need to pick up a Senior Packet from the Guidance Office as soon as possible)**

### **PSAE Retakes**

In your senior packet you have received your Prairie State Examination Scores. The State of Illinois allows seniors the opportunity to improve their PSAE scores by retaking both days of the PSAE in October. Notify Dr. Lane in the Guidance Office by September 17<sup>th</sup> if you want to retake the test. The retake tests will be scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> (Day One ACT) and October 26<sup>th</sup> (Day Two Prairie State Exams and WorkKeys). Students must take both days if they choose the retake option.

### **Senior College Information Night**

On October 4<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. the Guidance Department will present a Senior College Information Night. In this presentation counselors will highlight the key issues involved in the final stages of the college selection process. Guidance counselors will be available to answer questions and share their insights into this important stage of the transition to college. While this program is specifically designed for seniors and their parents, all are welcome to attend.

## SENIOR CLASS NOTES (Cont'd)

### Financial Aide Nights

The Fox Valley School Financial Aide Night will be held this year at Geneva High School on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. In follow-up to this initial meeting, the Guidance Department is planning a second, smaller session in January. An excellent online resource for financial aide is [collegezone.com](http://collegezone.com), a website sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

### Scholarships

Check the guidance webpage, the Guidance bulletin board, the video announcements, and Mrs. Porter in the Guidance Office for the latest scholarships offered to seniors at St. Charles North High School. A variety of businesses, clubs, and community organizations offer these scholarships. Students who are interested in applying for any of these scholarships should see Mrs. Porter in the Guidance Office.

### 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 and ongoing eligibility requirements. **Coach Bobbie Cesarek**, Northern Illinois University's NCAA Compliance Director will speak regarding the initial eligibility requirements on **September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Charles North Auditorium**. Her presentation will help students and their parents understand the initial eligibility requirements and the NCAA rules for recruiting athletes.

## JUNIOR CLASS NOTES

### PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT/NMSQT will be given at St. Charles North High School on October 16<sup>th</sup>. PSAT registration is from September 20<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$20. Juniors and sophomores are encouraged to take this test. Taking the PSAT enables students to practice for the SAT exam and to get feedback about critical academic skills in verbal reasoning, math problem-solving, and writing. Juniors seeking National Merit Scholar Awards must take the PSAT.

### ACT AND SAT TEST DATES

Below are the test dates and registration deadlines for the ACT and SAT tests. This year both the ACT and SAT have been changed. More information on these changes can be obtained on their websites.

#### \*\*ACT

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Nearest Test Center and Code</u>
October 23, 2004	September 17, 2004	St. Charles North HS
April 9, 2005	March 4, 2005	St. Charles North HS
June 11, 2005	May 6, 2005	St. Charles East HS

Fee: \$28.00 Basic Test plus \$14.00 for optional writing test  
 Website: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

#### SAT I and SAT II

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Nearest Test Center and Code</u>
May 7, 2005	March 25, 2005	St. Charles East HS
June 4, 2005	April 29, 2005	St. Charles North HS

Fee: \$29.50 for SAT I. SAT II fees can be found on the SAT website.

Website: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

## **JUNIOR CLASS NOTES (Cont'd)**

### **ECC College Fair**

Elgin Community College will host a college fair the evening of October 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. Representatives from over a hundred colleges, universities, military academies and specialized training schools will be present. This evening offers an exceptional overview of the post-secondary educational opportunities for our students.

### **College Representatives**

Each week representatives from colleges visit our campus to provide students with more personalized information about their schools. Below is the list of representatives who have currently scheduled to visit our campus.

<b>COLLEGES REPRESENTATIVE VISITS</b>					
<b>DATE</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
9/2/2004	Thurs	Michigan State	Ron Teuber	10-1	LRC
9/21/2004	Tues	DePaul University	Kassandra Houlihan	11:30-12:30	LRC
		Knox College	Brian Coy	12-1	LRC
9/23/2004	Thurs	Northern Illinois University	Brian Pumilia	10-11:30	LRC
		North Central College	Mandy Musson	10:15-11:15	LRC
		University of Dayton	Sharon Wright	11:30-12:30	LRC
		MacMurray College	Alicia Zeone	11:30-12:30	LRC
10/5/2004	Tues	Lewis University	Liz Blmgaars	10-11	LRC
		St. Olaf	Bani Narayana	10-11	LRC
		Illinois Wesleyan	Jeff Mavros	11-12	LRC
		Augustana College	Rachel Gustafson	12-1	LRC
		University of Missouri-Columbia	Carrie Wackers	12:30-1:30	LRC
10/14/2004	Thurs	Milliken College	Jason Rader	10:30-11:15	LRC
		Wabash College	Steve Marcou	12-1	LRC
10/19/2004	Tues	Ripon College	Christine Oitoborski	11:30-12:30	LRC
10/21/2004	Thurs	University of Kansas	Kerry Rutledge	10-11	LRC
		Hope College	Courtney Childs	10-10:45	LRC
		St. Ambrose	Mary Norris	11-12	LRC
10/26/2004	Tues	Illinois State University	Nate Bargar	11:30-12:30	LRC
10/28/2004	Thurs	SIU - Edwardsville	Nicole Hodgson	11-11:45	LRC
11/2/2004	Tues	Grand Valley State	Traci Flowers	10-11:30	LRC
11/4/2004	Thurs	Monmouth College	Peter Pitts	10-1	LRC
11/9/2004	Tues	Olivet Nazarene	Adam Asher	10-11	LRC
		Northern Michigan	Alison Crowley	11-1	LRC

## **SOPHOMORE CLASS NOTES**

### **The PLAN Test**

The PLAN test is designed to help sophomores prepare to take the ACT as juniors. It is recommended that all sophomores take this exam. Its results provide an estimated range of their ACT Assessment Composite Scores and information regarding their relative strengths and areas for improvement on the ACT. In addition the PLAN test provides students valuable career interests information. The PLAN test will be given on Saturday November 13, 2004 at St. Charles North. Sophomores may register in the guidance office beginning Monday, October 18 through Friday, November 5. The cost is approximately \$20.00. For more information about the PLAN test, call the guidance office at 443-5716. In January there will be a PLAN interpretation meeting to help sophomores and their parents better understand and use the results to prepare for both the ACT and making important career decisions.

## **FRESHMEN CLASS NOTES**

### **Thank You for Your Freshmen Physicals!**

Our sincere thanks goes out to all freshman parents and guardians for their valuable efforts to make sure their freshman students had the State required physical before the first day of school. St. Charles North had over a 99% compliance rate. This effort by parents demonstrates clearly the commitment of our community to the health and well being of all of our students.

### **Freshman Parent S.O.S. (Support and Orientation for Success)**

Over 100 freshman parents attended the first Freshman Parent Orientation on August 18. Parents received warm welcomes from Principal Frank Kesman and PTO officials Sue Wachs and Paula White Keens. Dr. Bob Freitag helped parents visualize the destination for their student of a career that provides the foundation for a quality life. He gave a brief overview of the pathway that high school students follow to reach that destination. A student's path must be academically rigorous, relevant to their career goals, aim to significantly exceed minimum requirements, and be supported by a solid network of supportive relationships. Dr. Denise Herrmann, Mr. John Rutter, and Dr. Debbie Kling provided information and answered parent questions about the academic, athletic, and activity programs that support the student on the pathway to success.

### **Register to Vote!**

If you need to register to vote, please see Mrs. Zucker, in the Main Office at St. Charles North High School.



## ***“Between the Lines”***

*John Rutter, Athletic Director*

*At St. Charles North High School we have anxiously awaited the arrival of the fall sports season with high hopes and expectations for each of our programs.*

*Once again we are privileged to have a coaching staff dedicated to continually improving our sports programs, while developing the talent and character of our young athletes. Our teams have spent numerous hours training over the past several months in hopes of being rewarded this fall. The number of participants in our fall sports programs continues to rise with over 620 student-athletes currently involved.*

*On behalf of the student-athletes, coaches and administration, we would like to invite you to be a part of the St. Charles North High School 2004 Fall Sports Season! St. Charles North High School values your support and believes it is critical to our success.*

**GO NORTH STARS!**

## IMPORTANT DATES

**School Improvement Day** - Sept. 17, No School for Students  
**PTO Meeting** - Sept. 20, 7:00 PM, LRC  
**Homecoming Week** - Sept. 27 - Oct. 2  
**Homecoming Dance** - Oct. 2  
**Board of Education Meeting** - Sept. 27, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg.  
**Columbus Day** - Oct. 11, Schools Closed  
**Teachers' Institute Day** - Oct. 12, No School for Students  
**Board of Education Meeting** - Oct. 12, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg.  
**PTO Meeting** - Oct. 18, 7:00 PM, LRC  
**Fall Play** - Oct. 21 - Oct. 23

**Board of Education Meeting** - Oct. 25, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg.  
**End of First Quarter** - Oct. 29  
**Board of Education Meeting** - Nov. 8, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg.  
**PTO Meeting** - Nov. 15, 7:00 PM, LRC  
**Parent/Teachers Conferences** - Nov. 22, No School for Students  
**Board of Education Meeting** - Nov. 22, 7:30 PM, Admin Bldg.  
**HS Teachers' Inservice** - Nov. 23, No School for Students  
**Non Attendance Day** - Nov. 24, No School For Students  
**Thanksgiving Vacation** - Nov. 25 & 26, Schools Closed



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.**