



# "The Navigator"

Principal's Newsletter

St. Charles North High School

Vol. 911 No. 1

October 2005

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

Mrs. Kimberly Zupec, Principal  
e-mail:mringsby@d303.org

## What's Happening in Humanities?

Congratulations to the North Stars Marching Band for an excellent premier performance at the first home football game. Kudos to Senior Rachel Mastalski who, in addition to performing with the color guard, sang beautifully as our national anthem soloist.



Additionally, drum majors Jim Haluczak, Jack Finucane, and Jess Corry are to be commended for keeping 270 marching members moving and playing as one. Not an easy feat as the band covers the field from end zone to end zone! Also on the vocal scene, Patrick Blackwell, a renowned singer, performed for Mr. Morgan's vocal classes and offered advice to individuals and small groups on their singing.

In Art news, an important focus for the art department this year is to develop a system for creating digital portfolios with 3D Design, Ceramics and Sculpture students. This will allow students the opportunity to easily show images of their work and make it possible to send in a CD for college submissions. All photo classes will be going to Chicago for a day to take dramatic architectural shots. This trip provides students with interesting compositions for course assignments. Art Club, Photo Club and National Art Honor Society painted windows for Homecoming and marched along with the North Stars Marching Band during the parade.

As to English, all freshmen and sophomores are now well underway in the new English curriculum. Teachers received training in June 2005 and will receive ongoing support during the next few years as curriculum renewal continues to be implemented. Students are using both the CollegeBoard SpringBoard texts and anthologies as a basis for their classroom discussion and individual assignments.

Finally, the Applied Study Program is available every period this year and is staffed by a team of four teachers. Five student tutors, Nikki Ellis, Nick Fearer, Matt Frey, Alec Gendron, and Jackie Tyndall, are also ably assisting all the students to achieve.

## CAN YOU HELP US?

The popularity of digital cameras and computer equipment has many North families capturing their memories electronically rather than using traditional cameras and film. The North photography classes would like you to consider donating any working cameras, flash, or other equipment which is not being used. There are over 150 photo students each semester and many are without reliable 35mm camera equipment to use for their assignments or portfolios.

Your donation will be acknowledged with a CUSD 303 letter so you can include it with your 2005 tax deductions/donations. Please contact the Visual Arts Department at 630-443-2733 to make arrangements for the tax letter and the equipment drop-off.

Thank you for your help.



## "Pen of the Principal"

Welcome to the 2005-2006 school year!

We have begun school with renewed spirit and drive. As we end our NCA cycle, we remain focused on our three goals:

- Students' demonstration of responsible decision making.
- Students' ability to clearly think and communicate across the curriculum.
- Everyone's contribution to a positive school climate.

During ETC and 411 time on Wednesdays, we, as a school community, assess our progress towards meeting these goals and develop strategies to further our efforts. We will be receiving additional data from the Brown University surveys completed by parents, students, and staff for the high school redesign effort. Together, with current processes in place and the integration of new information, we will broaden our perspectives and take our school forward. I wish to thank everyone who completed the questionnaire. Your input is invaluable.

Concurrent with our visioning and planning, an active daily life occurs here at St. Charles North High School. Approximately 80 of our students participated in a Town Hall forum earlier in September focusing on community service. Additionally, our many student groups were extremely involved in Homecoming 2005. Several programs for high school juniors and seniors have been available providing detailed information about the college selection and admission process. Our fall athletic participation is at record numbers, including the North Star Marching Band at 270 persons strong. There are many more programs, academic and co-curricular, of which our students may avail themselves.

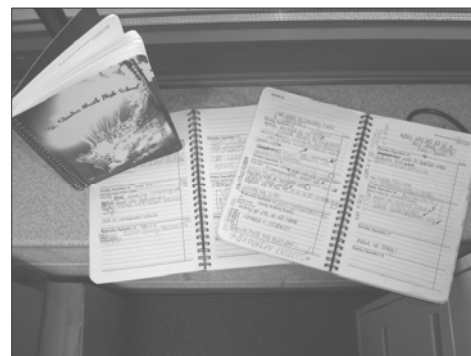
Nothing of what we accomplish would be possible without your support. It is our mission to serve our school community. Please do not hesitate to contact us with a suggestion, concern, or question you may have. Our doors are always open.

I look forward to working with you this year.

Kimberly Zupec  
Principal

### Student Planners

As part of our school improvement process at St. Charles North, we are committed to using our student planner to improve time management, planning, and communication between students, staff, and parents. We believe these skills are critical to our students' academic success not only in high school, but throughout their lifetime. We have asked students to bring their planner to class to record assignments. Please ask your student about the planner, and help us encourage them to use it to keep track of all of their responsibilities!



Student Planners are critical to success.



### Spanish V AP Class

The Spanish V students from St. Charles North participated in an immersion day on Thursday, September 8. They signed a pledge to speak only Spanish for the whole day. After games and listening practice at Baker Church, they ate lunch at El Puente and presented plays in the park. It was a great, real life learning experience.



Mrs. Feiza's Spanish V AP students enjoyed an entire day of Spanish

### **US CONSTITUTION DISPLAY**



Vinnie Bartucci (from left), social studies teacher Mike Kuper, Alex Mullinix and Sam Balleto examine a display in the school's main foyer commemorating the U.S. Constitution. The exhibit was created by members of the Global Studies Learning Area to coincide with Constitution Day on

September 17th -- the anniversary of the signing of the finished document by the members of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787.

The display featured a brief history of the writing of the Constitution, background on some of the members of the Convention, and a look at how the Constitution affects us today.

### NEW RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS

The Kane County Regional Office of Education recently purchased rights (through June 30, 2008) for educators of D303 to use a video streaming website called [Unitedstreaming.com](http://Unitedstreaming.com).

On [Unitedstreaming.com](http://Unitedstreaming.com) teachers will find over forty thousand video clips, more than twenty thousand still photos, writing prompts, test/quiz creators, daily historical fact sheets, lesson plans, and other learning tools at the teachers' disposal to enhance student learning in the classroom. All material from [Unitedstreaming.com](http://Unitedstreaming.com) is education friendly material.

One of District 303's goals is to "improve teaching...through the effective, efficient and integrated use of technology by all students and staff." With [Unitedstreaming.com](http://Unitedstreaming.com) LRC staff members and teachers are making a step toward the continuation of this goal.

## **Career News**

**Our Career Specialist is back!** Ms. Sue Gloss is in the Guidance Office on Wednesdays and Thursday afternoons. Please encourage your child to see her for great career resources!

**Health Careers Night**  
**Lutheran General Hospital**  
**Wednesday, November 9, 2005**  
**6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**1775 Dempster St.; Park Ridge, IL**  
**Call: Jan Welter at 847-723-8336**  
**or see Ms. Gloss, Career Specialist**

## "BETWEEN THE LINES"

*The Athletic Program at St. Charles North High School has 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 be very strong with over 590 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!!**

### **Crosstown Classic Championship Trophy**

At the end of the 2004-05 school year, Dr. Erwin, Superintendent of Schools, presented the first Crosstown Classic Championship trophy to St. Charles North High Athletic Director John Rutter.

The year-long competition entails the two District 303 high schools earning points for each contest won against the other. St. Charles North took the first championship by earning 12.5 points, to East High's 8.5.

"I congratulate everyone involved in this great event," Erwin said. "A little good-natured rivalry can be a very positive way to promote strong relationships and strengthen our bonds," she said.

The contest was always on the students' minds, especially during some of the less-publicized events, Rutter said. "Our athletes were very aware of the competition," he said.

Starting last fall, the two schools' boys' and girls' varsity teams competed in 23 regular-season matches. Tournament and state competitions did not count. During the track and cross country events when North and East did not face off against each other, the schools won points based on their conference meets.

Boys' sports include: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, swimming, tennis, outdoor track, volleyball and wrestling.

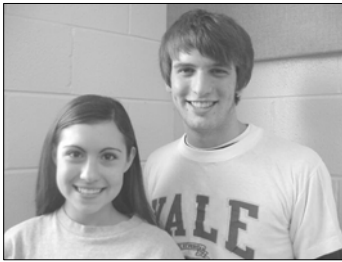
Girls' sports include: badminton, basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, outdoor track and volleyball.



NHS Athletic Director, John Rutter, Superintendent Erwin, & EHS Athletic Director, Jerry Krieg, at the Crosstown Classic Championship Trophy presentation. WAY TO GO NORTH STARS!!!



**Bravos & Pittner in All-State Play**



Emily Pittner & Evan Bravos

St. Charles North seniors Emily Pittner and Evan Bravos will take part in this year's Illinois All-State Play, the Broadway show "A Chorus Line."

In June, about 200 high school theater students statewide auditioned and interviewed for a role in the state production. About 60 were chosen to participate as cast, crew, or orchestra members.

The actors will now rehearse one weekend each month until January 2006. Performances will be held on January 5-7, 2006. At this time the shows are open only to participants and theater students and teachers from around Illinois.

The Illinois All-State Play is presented as part of the Illinois High School Theatre Festival, the largest & oldest non-competitive high school theatre festival in the world.

The three-day Festival takes place every year in early January, and switches locations annually between the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Illinois State University.

Congratulations Evan and Emily, and "Break-a-Leg!"



Lewandowski

**Lewandowski Elected President of Professional Group**

North HS psychologist, Chris Lewandowski, has been elected President of the Illinois School Psychologist Association. He is currently the President-elect.

The ISPA presidency is a three-year commitment. ISPA is one of the largest state associations in the country for school psychologists.

Lewandowski has been active in the ISPA since he was a student, with a combined service as student representative, intern representative, volunteer chair, convention chair and now president. He is the second youngest president in the organization's 27 year history.

This year Lewandowski will also serve as senior convention chair, running this year's convention at the Pheasant Run resort.

**DR. LANE TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF COUNSELING & STUDENT SERVICES GROUP**



Dr. Bruce Lane

Dr. Bruce Lane, North High School's Assistant Principal for Pupil Personnel Services, has been named President of the Directors of Counseling and Student Services of Suburban Chicago for the 2005-06 school year.

This professional support association comprises over 190 professionals who are actively involved in the supervision of school counseling and student services programs and represent over 180 Suburban Chicago schools serving hundreds of thousands of students.

The association provides social and intellectual support to professional who serve youth through networking, professional development and collegial support.

**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.

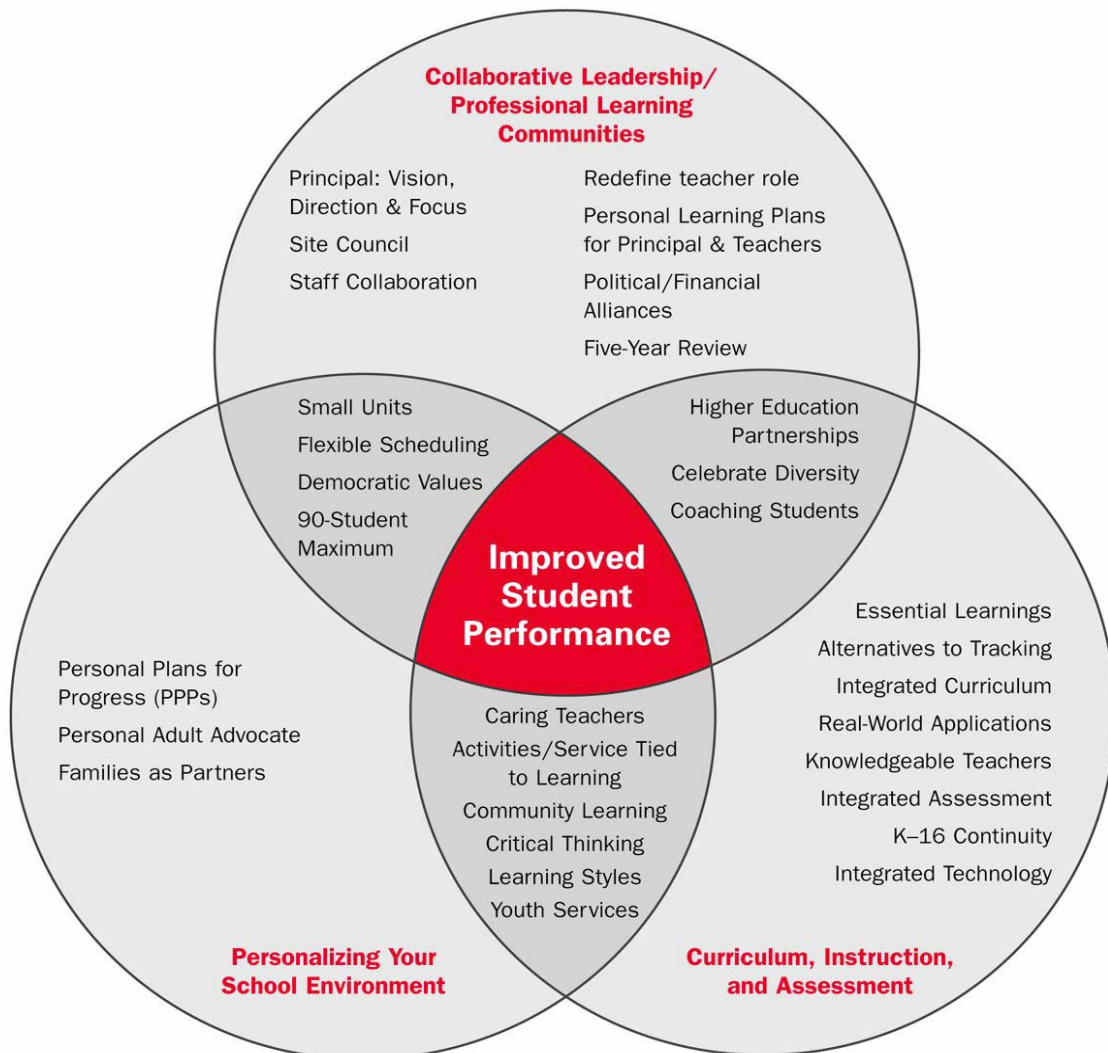
Congratulations to the Breakfast with the Stars Award Recipients for the month of October:

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Ms. Nancy Franson	Frank Bisceglie
Ms. Carri Pozzi	Sarah Holstein
Mr. Brian Maloney	Shannon Newman
Ms. Jenny Watson	Lindsay Jones
Ms. Kathleen Monaco Ms. Marcella Donnell	Michelle Peterson
Ms. Sarah Manwaring	Amanda Perry

## Curriculum Corner

*Denise Herrmann, Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Instruction*

**Secondary School Redesign.** St. Charles North High School has entered into a partnership with the Education Alliance from Brown University to begin a thorough analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of our school and to devise a comprehensive plan for future improvements. At the core of this work is the assumption that student achievement can be increased by focusing improvement efforts in three areas: Providing Rigorous Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Personalizing the Learning Environment; and Building Collaborative Leadership / Professional Learning Communities. The diagram below represents the research-based recommendations outlined in Breaking Ranks II: Strategies for Leading High School Reform, published in 2004 by The National Association of Secondary School Principals and The Education Alliance from Brown University. This document will guide the work in Secondary School Redesign for the months and years to come. Parents, students, and staff will have on-going opportunities to participate in this multi-faceted initiative.



*Diagram by John Clarke, Steering Group, Vermont's "High Schools on the Move"*

**SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS**

Senior Parents,

The Polaris staff at St. Charles North has reserved a special section of the yearbook just for your graduating children. We offer you the opportunity to give your son or daughter a congratulatory message that will cap off his or her high school years and *provide a truly memorable keepsake* for the years of achievement to come.

Included in each Senior Ad can be any combination of quotations, letters, poems, pearls of wisdom, and picture. It is up to you how you would like to use the space—provide us with the information, and we will do our best to carry out your vision.

Each Polaris Senior Ad will be 1/8 of a yearbook page, in FULL COLOR, and should consist of **no more than 100 words and 1 picture\***. A family can purchase more than one Ad, but we will accept **no more than 2 Ads per senior student**. **The price per Ad is \$75.**

To order a Senior Ad for your student, please complete the order form below and return it along with your payment, picture\*, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope (if you want your original picture returned) **by October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Ad space will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis, so **be sure to submit your Ad as soon as possible**.

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

Colleen Keough, Polaris Assistant Advisor  
[ckeough@d303.org](mailto:ckeough@d303.org) (630) 443-2733

\* Digital photos accepted on a CD. Original photos will not be returned unless submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope (you may choose to send a duplicate of your photo in lieu of this option).

**Senior Ad Order Form**

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

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

<b>Number being purchased</b> (NO MORE THAN TWO [2] PER SENIOR)	<i>Cost of</i> <b>the Ad</b> (ALL ADS ARE 1/8 PAGE IN SIZE & FULL COLOR)	Total Ad Cost (Number x Cost)
	\$75.00	
Total Cost of All Ads =		

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

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Return this form by **October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 with your check made payable to St. Charles North High School** and one (1) picture you wish to include with your Ad (along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want your photo returned) to:

Ms. Colleen Keough / Yearbook Senior Ads  
255 Red Gate Road, St. Charles, IL 60174

\*Original pictures returned ONLY with self-addressed, stamped envelope \*

## PTO News

Welcome to all new and returning students and parents. Thank you to the 643 families who joined the PTO. You are supporting worthwhile activities for our students and teachers. If you missed joining – it's not too late! Send a check for \$20 payable to **SCN PTO** to the school office, you'll receive a Student Directory in the mail.

A PTO parent group was active over the summer developing a **SCN Parent Survival Handbook**. This booklet, with answers to common parent questions, was distributed at our first PTO Freshman Parent Survival Meeting in August. Almost 200 freshman parents attended lively discussions and enjoyed a school tour. If you would like a copy of the Handbook stop by the Main Office. We are planning to expand this program for next year's incoming freshman parents.

The Beautification Committee, under the direction of Gina Morici, planted perennials near the main school entrance prior to Back-to-School Night. Special thanks to **The Natural Gardens Nursery** for their generous discounts on our plant purchases, and to SCN parent and Natural Gardens staff member, Janie Grillo, who guided us with plant selection, site design and even installation!

In September our PTO Officers met with the **PTO Officers from St Charles East**. We exchanged ideas and agreed to work together to jointly sponsor a parent education program this spring for all D303 families. We want to strengthen our ties as parents for the whole community.

Special thank you's to all the parents who were involved in **Homecoming Week** activities. From float building site supervision, feeding kids and class advisors while they built their class floats to dance chaperones, decorations help and food served at the dance. Parents are such an important help to Faculty Class Advisors and the kids!

The PTO's primary fund raiser for Post Prom is a holiday **Poinsettia Sale**. These beautiful plants are delivered fresh on pick-up day from a nursery in Michigan. They make lovely holiday decorations for homes, offices and churches. The order form is included in this edition of the Navigator, and the North High School website (click on PTO). Please take the time to complete the form and get your order in early!

We welcome your attendance at our **monthly PTO Board meetings**. They are very informative and offer you an opportunity to hear first hand what is going on at SCN with a parent perspective. Our meeting dates for 2005 are: October 17<sup>th</sup> and November 28th. The meeting are in the LRC from 7 to 9pm. Minutes for the meeting are on the North web site (click on PTO). You can receive the minutes by electronically by emailing our Secretary Kathy Polito at [kathymp@fvi.net](mailto:kathymp@fvi.net) and ask her to add your email address.

**Market Day** forms are available in the Main Office, or order online at [www.marketdya.com](http://www.marketdya.com), and enter North High School. For more information call Jeff Forsell, at 630-513-9236 or e-mail [jeff4yf@comcast.net](mailto:jeff4yf@comcast.net).

The Student Directories were compiled and distributed at Back-to-School Night or via the US Postal Service. Directories are also available for \$3 in the Main Office and Student Activities.

### Please add these changes to your Directory Corrections:

Milkas Family email: [dmiklas5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmiklas5@sbcglobal.net)

Freiny Family email: [sja102@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sja102@sbcglobal.net)

#### Additions:

Pam and Jeff Ajax  
7N064 Sorrel Court  
St Charles 60175  
Mike (10)  
(630)513-4615  
[mike\\_ajax@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mike_ajax@sbcglobal.net)

Tami and Jim Bone  
36W827 Hawthorn Dr.  
St. Charles 60174  
Michael (10)  
(630)584-4355  
[tabone@burgessnorton.com](mailto:tabone@burgessnorton.com)

Kristine and Charles Fulton  
102 Elmtree Court  
St. Charles 60174  
Michael (9)  
[Kfulton@lucent.com](mailto:Kfulton@lucent.com)  
[ckongol@comcast.net](mailto:ckongol@comcast.net)

Mary Jane and Anthony Battaglia  
36W688 W Ridgewood Lane  
St. Charles 60175  
Evan (12)  
(630) 584-9782  
[maryjanebattaglia@comcast.net](mailto:maryjanebattaglia@comcast.net)

Ray and Carol Deaton  
41W153 Foal Lane  
Elburn 60119  
Christine (11)  
(630) 584-6730  
[caray@juno.com](mailto:caray@juno.com)

We are looking forward to a wonderful 2005-2006 School Year!

Paula White SCN PTO  
[Pwhite1955@comcast.net](mailto:Pwhite1955@comcast.net)

Sue Wachs  
[sewachs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sewachs@sbcglobal.net)

Lisa Beer  
[lbeer@comcast.net](mailto:lbeer@comcast.net)



Poinsettia Sale  
for  
St. Charles North Post Prom

Poinsettias are perfect for special customers, clients, employees and anyone you wish to remember in a special way during the upcoming holiday season. They make excellent office, home or church decorations. These traditional Christmas flowers are long lasting and are enjoyed by all who see them.

The poinsettias for this fund raiser are again provided by a former St. Charles North High School parent and National Nursery Products. All orders must be turned in by **Thursday, November 17, 2005**. Plant pick up will be on **Thursday, December 1, 2005** from 3-6 pm in the front foyer at St. Charles North High School.



Send orders to:  
Kim Sutcliffe  
6N253 W. Ridgewood Drive  
St. Charles, IL 60175  
or  
return the order form to the  
St. Charles North High School office.

This is a pre-pay fund raiser.  
Please make your check payable to  
St. Charles North PTO.

If you have any questions  
call Kim Sutcliffe at (630)587-3897.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Size	Red	White	Pink *	Price	Quantity	Total Price
6" (1 plant, 5 blooms)				\$10		
8" (2 plants, 10-12 blooms)				\$20		
10" (3 plants, 15-20 blooms)				\$30		

Total of order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*The color of the pink plants may vary by size and variety.*

A reminder postcard will be sent to you.

Please complete the following label:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hockey Club

The St. Charles North Hockey Club is excited about the 2005/2006 season for many reasons. Both our Varsity and JV teams are looking strong, with many returning players. And we are excited about the addition of some new and very talented skaters.

Our home ice this year will be the Hoffman Estates Park District Ice Area, on Higgins Road just east of Barrington Road. This is a great facility for both the teams and for our fans. Please mark your calendars to be there on October 22, when our Varsity takes on St. Charles East.

In addition to competing in the Metro West league, our teams play in many tournaments as well. Our Varsity is the defending champion of the St. Louis Spring Classic tournament, while our JV took home the championship trophy of the Glen Burton Tournament last spring. We began a tradition this past spring that we believe will make our entire school proud. We hosted the First Annual **NorthStar Cup Tournament**.

We had eight teams from the Chicagoland area competing for trophies. We were told by many of the participants that this was one of the best tournaments that they had played in, and we expect this tradition to do nothing but grow and get better.

We encourage all students and faculty to join us in supporting your Hockey Club. You can check our schedule on the District Web page by navigating to the North home page, selecting Activities and the Hockey Club.



## Special Needs Post-Secondary Planning Night

On Thursday, October 27, St. Charles North special needs students and their families are invited to attend the first annual Post-Secondary Planning Night. The evening will take place at East High School from 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

First hand information from in-state and out-of-state colleges, armed forces, vocational schools, adult agencies, day and residential programs, recreation and transportation services will be available. Key note speakers will be presenting on the transition process from 6:00 – 7:00 PM in the East HS Wrestling Room and the Planning Fair will continued from 7:00– 9:00 PM in the gymnasium.

This is an excellent opportunity to gather information, ask questions, and find out about admissions and specific programs that are available. Please direct any questions to Lindsay Kane at [lkane@d303.org](mailto:lkane@d303.org) or (630)513-2202.

## KATRINA RELIEF

North students and staff raised money and collected food and personal hygiene items for the Katrina relief effort. Here are a few examples of how North students and staff were able to contribute:

A 'friendly competition' between four of Mrs. Reber's sophomore social studies classes over four days resulted in \$2,062.97 collected for the American Red Cross. The students all were amazingly generous and some even went door-to-door in their neighborhoods to add to the total amount. The winning class was 8<sup>th</sup> hour Ancient World History, with over \$1,100.00 collected.

Mrs. Reber and Ms. Foy organized a collection effort for personal hygiene items. Boxes were placed in the Main Foyer and were quickly filled with thousands of items. The donations were sent to Mississippi for distribution to several shelters.

Students in Mrs. Williams' AP English class and Miss Fasbender's Am Lit class engaged in a friendly competition and raised over \$1,000 in one hour.

The SCN Cheerleaders collected \$1,700 at the first home football game, and also in conjunction with EFS Bank held a relief drive for monetary donations as well as clothing, baby items, books, and games for small children.

The Football Booster Club is donating all money made on the sales of its program this year.

The School Store sponsored a change drive during lunch hours.

Student Council has pledged to donate the proceeds of its annual Homecoming Penny Wars competition which raised around \$2,000 last year.

**KATRINA RELIEF (cont'd)**

Girls' Tennis Team hosted a tennis camp for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders to benefit the victims and evacuees. Twenty percent of the \$10 fee was donated to the relief fund. The players shared basic skills to the young tennis players.

Mr. Kuper's social studies classes donated a total of \$934.88 for the American Red Cross. The competition among classes lasted five days and was won by the 2<sup>nd</sup> hour American History class that is team-taught with Ms. Monaco. The 2<sup>nd</sup> hour class raised \$440.50.

Boys' Soccer with the help from the Drill Team sponsored a car wash and gave half of the proceeds to the relief fund. Likewise, Girls Volleyball took half of the proceeds from their carwash and purchased needed supplies to donate to the hurricane victims.

**P. P. S. CLASS Notes**

Welcome to the 2005-06 School Year at St. Charles North!

On 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 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!

With each newsletter the "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	Dr. Lane		443-5668	<a href="mailto:blane@d303.org">blane@d303.org</a>
Deans of Students	Mr. McInerney	A-Gre	443-5713	<a href="mailto:smcinerney@d303.org">smcinerney@d303.org</a>
	Ms. VanDusen	Grf-Os	443-5713	<a href="mailto:jvandusen@d303.org">jvandusen@d303.org</a>
	Mr. Vostal	Ot-Z	443-5713	<a href="mailto:rvostal@d303.org">rvostal@d303.org</a>
Counselors	Dr. Robert Freitag	Cop-Gre	587-7135	<a href="mailto:rfreitag@d303.org">rfreitag@d303.org</a>
	Mrs. Jeanine James	Sk-Z	443-5638	<a href="mailto:jjames@d303.org">jjames@d303.org</a>
	Mr. Matthew Kirby	A-Coo	443-5717	<a href="mailto:mkirby@d303.org">mkirby@d303.org</a>
	Ms. Sarah Lynch	Grf-Lam	443-5715	<a href="mailto:slynch@d303.org">slynch@d303.org</a>
	Mr. Larry Nothnagel	Ot-Si	587-7146	<a href="mailto:Lnothnagel@d303.org">Lnothnagel@d303.org</a>
	Mrs. Tamillow	Lan-Os	443-5714	<a href="mailto:mtamillow@d303.org">mtamillow@d303.org</a>
Registrar	Sue Habich		443-2761	<a href="mailto:shabich@d303.org">shabich@d303.org</a>
Nurse	Wilma VanArragon	Lan-Z	443-2752	<a href="mailto:wvanarragon@d303.org">wvanarragon@d303.org</a>
	Mrs. Boyton	A-Lam	443-2752	<a href="mailto:aboyton@d303.org">aboyton@d303.org</a>
Student Assistance Coun.	Pat Radke		443-2758	<a href="mailto:pradke@d303.org">pradke@d303.org</a>
Psychologist	Chris Lewandowski		587-7131	<a href="mailto:clewandowski@d303.org">clewandowski@d303.org</a>
Social Workers	Lynda Askew	A-Lam	443-5629	<a href="mailto:laskew@d303.org">laskew@d303.org</a>
	Susan Terronez	Lan-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>

## **SENIOR CLASS NOTES**

### **Finish Strong!**

The decisions you make during your senior year will be among the most important decisions of your life. This year will require a tremendous amount of focus, balance, and effort. While enjoying the activities of a senior year, you will need to maintain a high degree of effort to have a strong finish to your high school academic career. Colleges and future employers look carefully at your last year. Students who "take it easy" after three years of hard work, are often surprised by the negative impacts this can have on their opportunities.

The best advice for your senior year is, "Do not miscalculate." Seniors received a senior information packet that provided 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. It is extremely important that you know both what you need to graduate and to keep the doors to the opportunities you want after high school wide open.

### **PSAE as a Condition of Graduation**

Seniors should be reminded that State law requires that they must take the PSAE in order to receive a diploma. Any student who has not taken the PSAE should check with their counselors to make sure that they can do what is necessary to meet this requirement.

### **"Applying and Getting Into Your Dream College"**

On September 20<sup>th</sup> the Guidance Department presented "Applying and Getting Into Your Dream College." Some of the highlights are summarized below.

- Factors to consider in looking for a college include: location, size, academic program, admissions requirements, expenses and financial aide, housing and facilities, activities and clubs, special programs, and crime statistics.
- Work to narrow your search to two "safe" schools you know you can get into and afford, two "target" schools that you want to get into, and two "reach" schools that would be a stretch, but would offer great opportunity.
- Check the guidance office or the PPS web page to get lists of web sites that provide college, career, and military information.
- Use Career Cruising and eDiscover to look for college information.
- Visit colleges and when you do: 1) take an unofficial transcript with you; 2) do a campus tour; 3) attend a class; 4) visit a residence hall; 5) talk to students and faculty; 6) talk to the admissions and financial aide offices; 7) visit on a normal weekday, not a weekend; 8) use Columbus Day or institute days for visitations; 9) take notes for each school visited.
- Follow the College Application Process and its deadlines to assure that your applications arrive on time. Below are reminders regarding the process:
  - Apply early! Apply early! Apply early! Colleges strongly recommend applying early to assure that your application is given careful consideration.
  - Obtain and complete an application for each school in which you are interested. A good college search process will narrow this number to less than ten schools.
  - Complete all parts of the application that are required for you to fill out and have someone check your work.
  - Include any essays, letters of recommendations, application fee, and an addressed envelope with the proper amount of postage.
  - Use good writing techniques (e.g. PAR) when writing essays. Pay attention to ideas, organization, and conventions.
  - Fill out a transcript release form for each application and include \$1.00 for each request. If your application needs to be post-marked by a particular date, that date needs to be noted on your transcript request.
  - Bring all of the above to the Guidance Office and give it directly to Mrs. Zoerlein or your counselor. Do not leave applications on desks or counters.
  - Keep a file that contains copies of all vital documents (e.g. applications, essays) for your records.
  - If you apply on line, remember that you still need to request that a transcript be sent. It is also wise to print a copy and have your counselor review it before you hit the send button.
  - It is extremely important to: 1) Check each school's application deadlines and turn the application in a minimum of two weeks before the due date.
  - Applications due by January 1<sup>st</sup> must be received in the Guidance Office one week before holiday break begins to ensure that they are received on time. If a counselor recommendation is requested, they must be turned in a minimum of two weeks before the holiday break.

**Financial Aide.** On December 1, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. the Fox Valley Schools sponsor a Financial Aide Night at Geneva High School. The SCNHS Guidance Department is planning a second smaller session at 7:00 pm. on January 10, 2006. In addition to these resources an excellent resource is collegezone.com a website sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

## **SENIOR CLASS NOTES (cont'd)**

**Scholarships.** A number of scholarships are offered each year to seniors at St. Charles North High School by a variety of businesses, clubs, and community organizations. Available scholarships are publicized through the student announcements. Students who are interested in these scholarships should see Mrs. Porter in the Guidance Office.

**NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse.** The NCAA requires all new Division I or II college athletes to meet specific initial and ongoing eligibility requirements. Coach Bobbie Cesarek, Northern Illinois University's NCAA Compliance Director spoke on the initial eligibility requirements on October 5<sup>th</sup> in the St. Charles North Auditorium. Her presentation helped students and their parents understand the initial eligibility requirements and the NCAA rules for recruiting athletes.

## **JUNIOR CLASS NOTES**

### **TESTS**

Testing, both for college entrance and for assessment of State Learning Standards, represents an important task for Juniors. Below is a summary of the tests juniors should consider taking.

**PSAT.** The PSAT/NMSQT measures skills that are important for success in college including verbal reasoning, math problem-solving, and writing. Taking the PSAT enables students to: 1) Practice for SAT Program tests; 2) seek information from colleges; 3) get feedback about critical academic skills; and, 4) enter the National Merit Scholarship competition.

The PSAT, a practice version of the SAT I, will be administered on Saturday, October 15, 2005 at St. Charles North. Juniors and Sophomores can register in the guidance office through October 7, 2005. The cost is \$20.00.

**ACT.** The ACT national tests are offered throughout the Chicago area on October 22, December 10, February 11, April 8 and June 10. St. Charles North will be an ACT test site on October 22, 2005 and April 8, 2006. Registration packets can be obtained in the guidance office. The School Code for SCNHS is 143796.

**SAT.** The SAT national tests are offered throughout the Chicago area on October 8, November 5, December 3, January 28, April 1, May 6, and June 3. St. Charles North will be an SAT test site on Saturday June 3, 2006. Registration packets can be obtained in the Guidance Office.

**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 April 26 & 27, 2006. 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.

**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. Students should listen to daily announcements for the registration dates.

### **BEGINNING THE COLLEGE SEARCH**

On November 10, 2005 from 7 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the Auditorium, juniors and their parents are invited to attend "Searching for the University of Your Dreams." This presentation will provide you valuable information regarding how to look for and find the colleges or post-secondary training that will help you enter the career of your choice.

**College Fairs.** Juniors should plan on attending at least one of several large college Fairs. Elgin Community College will host a college fair the evening of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m. The Fox Valley College Fair will be the evening of April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Both of these college fairs host representatives from over a hundred colleges, universities, military academies and specialized training schools. The National Hispanic College Fair will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at East Aurora High School.

**College Representatives.** Visiting college representatives are posted in the student bulletins and on the College Information Bulletin Board. The following is the current visit schedule:



**JUNIOR CLASS NOTES (cont'd)**

10/11/2005	TUE	ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY	11-1	LRC
		AURORA UNIVERSITY	11-12:30	LRC
10/13/2005	THU	UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	10:30-11:30	LRC
		UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON	11:30-12:30	LRC
		MARINE CORP	10-1	CAF
		FT. LEWIS COLLEGE	12-1	LRC
10/14/2005	FRI	ILLINOIS COLLEGE	11-11:45	LRC
10/17/2005	MON	RIPON COLLEGE	11-11:45	LRC
		SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY-CARBONDALE	11:30-12:30	LRC
		NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	11:30-12:30	LRC
10/18/2005	TUE	UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA	12-1	LRC
		ST. AMBROSE UNIVERSITY	11:30-12:15	LRC
		UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE	11:30-12:30	LRC
10/19/2005	WED	HOPE COLLEGE	12:15-1	LRC
10/20/2005	THU	UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO-BOULDER	12:15-1	LRC
		LORAS COLLEGE	10-10:45	LRC
		ARMY	10-1	CAF
10/25/2005	TUE	WABASH COLLEGE	10-11	LRC
		BLACKBURN COLLEGE	10:30-11:30	LRC
		DRAKE UNIVERSITY	11-12	LRC
		LOYOLA UNIVERSITY	12-12:30	LRC
10/26/2005	WED	UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO	12-1	LRC
10/27/2005	THU	LINCOLN COLLEGE	11-12	LRC
		UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AT TWIN CITIES	11:30-12:30	LRC
		LEWIS COLLEGE	11-12	LRC
11/1/2005	TUE	NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY	12-1	LRC
		MONMOUTH COLLEGE	11:30-1	LRC
11/2/2005	WED	PURDUE UNIVERSITY	10-1	LRC
11/3/2005	THU	BRIDGTON ACADEMY	11-11:45	LRC

**SOPHOMORE CLASS NOTES****The PLAN Test**

All Sophomores take the PLAN on November 1 and 3. The PLAN is designed by the ACT Corporation to help students prepare to take the ACT as juniors. It provides an estimated range of their ACT composite scores and information regarding their relative strengths and areas for improvement on the ACT. The PLAN also provides students valuable career interest information. On November 1 they will meet with their counselors to complete the non-test portion of the PLAN, including the career interest inventory. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, they will complete the academic test portion of the PLAN. On January 12 a PLAN interpretation meeting will be held in the Auditorium. This meeting will 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****More Tips for Success**

On October 11-13, freshmen will meet with their counselors during PE and Health classes to learn how they can make every year in high school count toward success. The challenge to all 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. Helpful suggestions for getting your high school career started on the right track include: 1) Set specific goals for yourself; 2) Get Involved!; 3) Ask for help; 4) Set clear priorities and manage your time wisely; 5) Be here every day possible; and, 6) Know your counselor and how to make appointments to see him or her when you have questions.



## Community Unit School District 303

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Barbara F. Erwin, Ed.D. • Superintendent of Schools • (630) 513-3030

September 2005

Dear Parents:

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA) requires all states to measure each public school's achievement and establish annual achievement targets. While District 303 and all seventeen schools achieved AYP in 2005, the District did not do so in 2003 or 2004. As a result, District 303 received Academic Early Warning Status. Consequently, the Illinois State Board of Education has requested that we distribute the parent notification letter from Donna Luallen, their accountability division administrator, and the 2005 District Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Report.

A school or school district must achieve adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years to be removed from Academic Early Warning. In other words, achieving AYP in 2006 will result in a change in our status. Parents can access District 303's 2003 and 2004 State Report Cards by visiting the District 303 website ([www.d303.org](http://www.d303.org)) and clicking on "About 303" and then, "State Report Cards, School Improvement Plans." 2005 School Report Cards for all District 303 schools will be posted in the same location in late October.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Raczkiewicz".

Melanie Raczkiewicz, Ed.D.  
Chief Academic Officer

"Empowering and Inspiring ALL Learners"



# Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001  
www.isbe.net

Rod Blagojevich  
Governor

Jesse H. Ruiz  
Chairman

Dr. Randy J. Dunn  
State Superintendent of Education

September 14, 2005

Dear Parent:

In accordance with the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB), states must provide notification to parents of students in districts that are identified for improvement because the district did not make adequate yearly progress. (See 20 U.S.C. § 6316 (c) (7)) This communication acts as the notification to meet this federal requirement.

The Illinois State Board of Education has asked your superintendent to distribute this letter and the 2005 AYP Status Report data to you. The data identifies why the district did not make adequate yearly progress (AYP). Under NCLB and state law, for a district to make AYP:

- (i) 47.5% of the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must exceed the state's targets in math and reading on state assessments;
- (ii) 95% of the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must participate in state assessments for mathematics and reading; and
- (iii) the district's students (as a whole, and for certain subgroups) must meet an 89% attendance rate for grade schools and a 67% graduation rate for high schools.

If a district does not make AYP for two consecutive years, it is deemed to be in "improvement status" and certain state and federal sanctions apply. Two consecutive years of meeting AYP criteria are required for a district to be removed from "improvement status."

While AYP is an important measure of student learning, it is important to remember that a district that does not make AYP should never be considered a "failing" district. Teaching and learning is an ongoing process that changes constantly to meet the unique needs of students and communities. One of the most important goals of NCLB is to identify areas in each district and school where improvement is needed.

At the State Board, we feel it is important for educators, parents, and communities to work together to address those areas of need. Parents can assist districts in the improvement process by participating in improvement planning with the district and participating with local school improvement planning. If you are interested in helping your district in the improvement process, please contact your local school principal or superintendent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna J. Luallen".

Donna J. Luallen  
Division Administrator  
Accountability Division

31-045-3030-26

ST CHARLES C U SCHOOL DIST 303

**2005 DISTRICT ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) STATUS REPORT**

Calculated based on 08/01/05 Approved Assessment Data and E-report Card 86-43 Data

Is this district making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in reading?	Yes
Is this district making AYP in mathematics?	Yes

Has this district been identified for Federal Improvement Status?	Yes
2005-06 Federal Improvement Status	District Improvement
2005-06 State Improvement Status	Academic Early Warning

	Percent Tested on State Tests				Percent Meeting/Exceeding Standards *						Other Indicators			
	Reading		Mathematics		Reading			Mathematics			Attendance Rate		Graduation Rate	
	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Safe Harbor Target **	Met AYP	%	Met AYP	%	Met AYP
State AYP Minimum Target	95.0		95.0		47.5			47.5			89.0		67.0	
ALL	99.6	Yes	99.6	Yes	79.7		Yes	83.1		Yes	94.7	Yes	100.0	Yes
White	99.6	Yes	99.6	Yes	80.9		Yes	84.3		Yes				
Black	96.2	Yes	96.2	Yes	60.0		Yes	56.0		Yes				
Hispanic	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	65.5		Yes	64.2		Yes				
Asian/Pacific Islander	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	84.9		Yes	92.5		Yes				
Native American														
Multiracial/Ethnic														
LEP	100.0	Yes	100.0	Yes	61.4		Yes	49.3		Yes				
Students with IEPs	99.4	Yes	99.4	Yes	46.7		Yes	56.8		Yes				
Economically Disadvantaged	99.2	Yes	99.2	Yes	59.2		Yes	60.4		Yes				

Four Conditions Are Required For Making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Conditions 1, 2, and 3, applied at the school level are also applied at the district level.

4. At least 89.0% Attendance Rate for non-high school districts, at least 67.0% Graduation Rate for high school districts, and unit school districts must meet both Attendance and Graduation conditions

\* Includes only students enrolled as of 9/30/04.

\*\* Safe Harbor Targets of 47.5% or above are not printed.

\*\*\* Subgroups with fewer than 45 students are not reported. Safe Harbor only applies to subgroups of 45 or more. In order for Safe Harbor to apply, a subgroup must decrease by 10% the percentage of scores that did not meet state standards from the previous year plus meet the other indicators (attendance rate for non-high school districts, graduation rate for high school districts, and unit school districts must meet both attendance and graduation conditions) for the subgroup. Safe Harbor allows schools an alternate method to meet subgroup minimum targets on achievement.

• Determining Eligibility for District Improvement Status •

Eligibility for district improvement status is based on two cases:

1. For districts with more than one school and more than one grade span, beginning with the 2004-05 test data, district student data will be aggregated up to three grade spans -- elementary (grades 3-5), middle (grades 6-8), and high school (grades 9-12). When a district does not make AYP in all of the grade spans that the district has, in the same content area, for two consecutive years, it will be identified for district improvement status. If the district makes AYP in at least one of the grade spans, it will be ineligible for district improvement status or for advancement in improvement status.

2. For a district with only one school or a district with a single grade span, determination for district improvement status will be based on the same criteria for school improvement status.



## IMPORTANT DATES

Oct 5 - ETC Schedule  
Oct 5 - NCAA Eligibility Clearinghouse Presentation, 7:00 PM, AUD  
Oct 7 - School Improvement Day - No School for Students  
Oct 10 - Columbus Day - Schools Closed  
Oct 11 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Admin Building  
Oct 12 - 411 Schedule  
Oct 15 - PSAT Test  
Oct 17 - PTO Meeting, 7:00 PM, LRC  
Oct 18 - Retake Underclassmen Portraits, 7:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
Oct 19 - ETC Schedule  
Oct 20 - 22 - Fall Play, 7:30 PM, AUD  
Oct 24 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Admin Building  
Oct 25 - Jazz Concert, 7:30 PM, AUD  
Oct 26 - 411 Schedule  
Oct 27 - Jazz Concert, 7:30 PM, AUD  
Oct 28 - End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
Nov 2 - ETC Schedule  
Nov 3 - Orchestra Concert, 7:30 PM, AUD  
Nov 9 - 411 Schedule  
Nov 10 - Guidance PPS College Night, 7:00 PM, AUD  
Nov 14 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Admin Building  
Nov 15 - Spec Symp/Wind Ensem Band Concert, 7:30 PM, AUD  
Nov 16 - ETC Schedule  
Nov 21 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School for Students  
Nov 22 - Teachers' In-service - No School for Students  
Nov 23 - Non-Attendance Day - Offices Open  
Nov 24-25 - Thanksgiving Vacation  
Nov 28 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Admin Building  
Nov 28 - PTO Meeting, 7:00 PM, LRC  
Nov 30 - 411 Schedule  
Dec 7 - ETC Schedule  
Dec 8-10 (possibility the 11<sup>th</sup>) Madrigal Dinner, Baker Memorial  
Dec 12 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Admin Building  
Dec 13 - Constellation Concerts, 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM, AUD  
Dec 14 - 411 Schedule  
Dec 19 - 30 - Winter Vacation  
Jan 2 - New Year's Day Observed - No School for Students  
Jan 3 - School Resumes

**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**