



From the principal:

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year! Fremd High School students are off to another wonderful start demonstrating their dedication to academic excellence and making the most of their high school careers. Our fall athletic teams and competitive activities have been practicing diligently and showing their Viking pride and prowess in competition. School clubs are also meeting and planning their goals and events for the year. Please encourage your child to participate in our extensive offering of activities and athletic teams. The culture of our school is only partially experienced during the school day. Extracurricular involvement connects your child to high school at a level very different from the classroom experience. The FHS website is a great resource to finding extracurricular connections.

I.D.'s

Fremd High School has implemented another step toward making our school campus safer for all 3,350 daily attendees. Staff and students are wearing I.D. badges displaying their name, picture, and relevant school schedule information. This allows our staff to quickly assess which personnel belong in our school. Students may enter door #1 beginning at 6:00 a.m. and doors #4 and #6 at 6:45 a.m. Visitors continue to be required to enter door #1 and show a photo I.D. Details regarding the new I.D. procedures can be found in the calendar/handbook and the FHS website.

Mid-Term Reports/Tutoring Center

The mid-term report that accompanies this newsletter is a one way for you to gauge whether your child's first weeks of school are progressing positively. This report may be a starting point for a discussion with your child on each class in regard to homework, tests, quizzes, class participation, timeliness, and attendance. If you have not used the internet to access On-line Parent Access (see additional article in this newsletter), I encourage you to do so. This resource will give you more detailed information regarding each course. If your son or daughter is not progressing as expected, please communicate directly with the teacher or counselor. There are many additional resources available to your student during school and after school. A tutoring center (room 2) is available all periods of the school day and after school on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Two afterschool bus runs occur on these days at 4:00 p.m. and 5:25 p.m. Through our partnership we can tap multiple resources to assist your son or daughter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Small
Principal

Prepare for Holiday Giving

As we reach out to serve others we sometimes don't realize the tremendous need right here in our own community. Each year, Palatine Township's Adopt-a-Family program serves over 500 local families who are experiencing financial crisis and provides them with clothing, toys and gifts. Our National Honor Society has embraced this program as one of its service efforts. If your family, club, church, business or organization is interested in participating in this program as well they should contact Christine Favia at cfavia@palatinetownship.com. Families are matched the entire month of October.

Also, past NHS Officer Kellie Kinsella started YHOP to help assist the Palatine Food Pantry. The website is www.yhop.org and it stands for Youth Hunger Opposition in Palatine. NHS, UCF and SOS at Fremd will be taking collections and having bake sales to help keep the food pantry supplied. Fremd's NHS feels that no one should be hungry in Palatine and it is their mission this year to make sure they do their very best to help the Palatine Township Food Pantry. Events will be posted on the yhop.org and Fremd NHS website.

17 National Semi-Finalists Named

William Fremd High School is proud to announce that seventeen seniors have been named National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists: **Brian Cho, Elizabeth Holmberg, Grace Hoo, Chaitra Kishore, Robert Kramer, Michelle Lundholm, Maxwell Meigel, Meghan Morrison, Rachael Palumbo, Tyler Petersen, Sahana Rao, Matthew Schuelke, Henry Shin, Jessica Tackett, Gregory Tourville, Helena Yu, and Maggie Zhang.** These students scored in the top one-half of one percent of the over one million students who entered the 2007 National Merit competition by taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test administered in October of their junior year. These students are to be congratulated for bringing such prestige and recognition to their community, school, families, and themselves.

Check Out Colleges On October 16

To get direct and personal information about colleges, an excellent opportunity exists each October when District 211 sponsors more than 200 representatives from colleges and universities across the United States in our College Night Program. This year, college and military representatives will be available at Schaumburg High School, October 16 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Encourage your student to conduct a search in the Fremd College and Career Center. The Center is located in the media center and is open throughout the day. We have an active and informative website. Go to www.fhs.d211.org and click on "College /Career."

We have easy-to-use college search programs on computers along with hundreds of reference books, college videos, and college catalogues. These are available for check-out. Encourage your student to visit this wonderful center as well as speak with his or her counselor.

The majority of schools will be located in the school gymnasium and cafeteria. Illinois state universities and a few other selected schools will be in classrooms and larger group facilities to make 30-minute presentations beginning at 7:10 p.m., 7:50 p.m., and 8:30 p.m.

With nearly 4,000 parents and students expected to attend, we encourage people to carpool or walk if you are close enough. Students and parents from Fremd are encouraged to ride on shuttle buses leaving Fremd High School at 6:30 p.m.



If you require assistance while visiting our school, please contact the principal's office at (847) 755-2600. For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, please access the following TTD/TTY telephone number: (847) 755-2654.

dates to remember

Sept. 24	Collage Concert Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 29	Powder Puff Game Stadium, 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 1	Almost Anything Goes Gymnasium, 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	Homecoming Games 5:00/7:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	Golf Cart Parade 6:30 p.m.between football games
Oct. 4	Homecoming Dance Gymnasium, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 13	Columbus Day - No School
Oct. 15	PLAN Test (sophomores)
Oct. 15	PSAT Test
Oct. 16	Early Dismissal at 11:50 a.m. College Night – 7:00 p.m. Schaumburg High School
Oct. 19	District 211 Heart Walk Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts, 8:00 a.m.
Oct. 29-31	Musical "Bye Bye Birdie"
Nov.1	Kolze Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 30	Trick or Treat Festival All school, 4:30 p.m.

On-line Parent Access

High School District 211's On-line Parent Access program allows parents access to their child's attendance, schedule, report cards, mid-term grades, grades as posted by teachers, as well as demographic information for the current school year. The program also allows for communication between the parent, counselor, and teachers regarding student progress. Parents may contact their student's counselor to reset a password if necessary. Parents are also encouraged to visit our Parent Access FAQ site and on-line demonstration for answers to most questions related to Parent Access.

Students have access to their grades as posted by teachers through the D211 Student Access. Please note, not all teachers post grades on a daily basis. Students may obtain their username and password from their teachers or counselor. Students and parents do not share common user names and passwords. The on-line access system can be accessed via links on the home page of Fremd's website or <http://www.d211.org/parentaccess.shtml>.

Trick or Treat Festival

We wish to invite all little ghosts and goblins, ages pre-school through sixth grade to Fremd on Thursday, October 30 for a TRICK OR TREAT FESTIVAL. There will be decorated and spooky classrooms to visit and candy to enjoy. Please pass the word on to your neighbors. This community service event will begin at 4:30 p.m. and conclude at 6:00 p.m.

Fremd Music Association

The Fremd Music Association (FMA) is a not for profit parent association whose sole purpose is to provide support to the music department and all music students at Fremd. If you are interested in joining FMA, applications can be found at www.fhsd211.org/departments/music.

Sophomores to Take PLAN Test in October

High School District 211 will administer the PLAN assessment to sophomores on October 15, 2008. PLAN is considered a "pre-ACT" test because it is a reliable predictor of student success on the ACT college placement assessment. The PLAN test also helps students and teachers identify areas needing further preparation prior to the Illinois Prairie State Achievement Examination (P.S.A.E.) which is administered during the junior year.

Schools recognize the importance of PLAN testing because it provides information needed to address school districts' fundamental concerns, including the level of student achievement in core academic areas. Much like the ACT exam, PLAN consists of several tests covering English usage, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. Although no special preparation is required for this assessment, students are encouraged to take it seriously. This test is beneficial whether students are preparing for college or for the workforce after high school

as it assists students in identifying career goals that match their interests, regardless of their post-high school plans.

When the test is administered on October 15, it will require some changes to the normal school day schedule. Sophomore students will begin at the normal start time. Freshmen, junior, and senior students will arrive at school in late morning and will follow revised class schedules. Busing will be available to transport students to school and back home at the end of the regular school day.

The PLAN assessment will be administered to all sophomores at no cost to parents. Additional information regarding the PLAN assessment and the specific schedules for all students will be mailed to parents prior to the test date. Because this year's preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT) will be administered at the same time as the PLAN test, sophomores who elect to take the PSAT will complete the PLAN test during a make-up session on October 24.

Applying to Colleges

With the number of qualified applicants to college increasing annually, families must take care to complete applications in a timely manner. Counselors schedule conferences with seniors early in the fall and visited English classes on September 5 to be certain that every student is aware of the proper procedures. Some general reminders follow.

Each student should submit several applications to a variety of schools. This is necessary for two reasons: first, there are no guarantees on college acceptance and multiple applications help provide insurance against disappointments; second, a college choice made early in the fall may not seem as good in the spring. Alternatives need to be available for late changes in circumstances.

All college applications require that the school **mails** a transcript. Parent authorization is required for all transcript requests. Plan to apply well in advance of any deadline. **We cannot fax transcripts.** Students should see their counselor whenever a college application is submitted electronically. All paper college applications should be submitted to your counselor at Fremd.

We receive a supply of paper applications from many schools. Applications may also be downloaded from the Internet or sent electronically. We have a tremendous wealth of college information on our website: www.fhs.d211.org. Click on College/Career. Please call your counselor for additional help. Our counseling staff is experienced and ready to assist you.

Apply early. Except for admissions at selective schools, most applications should be submitted prior to November 15.

Expectation Assemblies

Discipline administrators held their annual expectations assemblies with all students during their P.E. classes the first week of school. In these presentations, the administrators shared behavioral expectations that support the school-wide focus on increasing student achievement and maintaining a safe and orderly school environment. Please note the following changes that were shared at these presentations:

- I.D.'s must be worn upon entering the building and throughout the school day, **and**
- costumes are not allowed during the school day except for participation in school-sponsored spirit days.

Please review the 2008-2009 William Fremd High School Calendar/Handbook for details regarding attendance, behavior, activities, athletics, academics, and student records.

Senior Pictures

Senior pictures for the class of 2009 are being taken at Root Studios located at 601 Martingale Road, Suite 243 (Streets of Woodfield) in Schaumburg. If you haven't already had your picture taken, please call the studio to set up an appointment. The phone number is 847.706.9688. Pictures and retakes must be completed by October 3, 2008 to be included in this year's yearbook. There is no charge for a yearbook-only photograph. See the yearbook website (www.fhs.d211.org/yearbook) for more details. The date for underclass picture retakes is Tuesday, October 7 in the auditorium from 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

