



SHS Highlights

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

Mailing Costs provided by SHS PTO

PLEASE POST NEAR YOUR PHONE:

STUDENT SERVICES (ATTENDANCE), ROOM 106: 525-3111

Call in absences, dismissal for appointments, messages and deliveries to students, homework assignments, and bus passes. Administrative Interns Mr. Barnes and Ms. Greco

GUIDANCE, ROOM 104: 525-3106

Graduation info, student records, grades, scholarship info, testing, schedule changes, Assistant Principals Mrs. Lamsargis, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Usinger, and Mr. Schurman, and Guidance Dean Mr. Crum.

MAIN OFFICE, ROOM 204: 525-3100

Principal Mrs. Stahly, Assistant Principal Mr. Dorr, sports info, teacher messages, parking passes, and bookkeeping.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES, ROOM 169: 525-3109 School Nurse, Special Ed Department Chair, Student Support Leader, PBIS Support

From The Principal – Christine Stahly

SHS is off to a great year thanks to our outstanding faculty and strong parent support, not to mention our fantastic students!

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held the evening of October 28th and all day October 29th. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find the form to schedule appointments for parent/teacher conferences. The sooner you have your student bring the form in to schedule these appointments the more likely you are to get the time that you request. **We strongly encourage students to participate in the conference.**

Please note that the students will be dismissed 60 minutes early on Thursday,

October 28th and will not attend all day Friday on October 29th due to Parent Teacher Conferences. October 11th, Columbus Day and November 11th, Veteran's Day, are both legal holidays and students will not be in attendance.

National Merit Scholarship

Congratulations to Gregory Knox, son of Todd and Judy Knox; Farah Tamizuddin, daughter of Ashraf and Sally Tamizuddin; and Sara Tamizuddin, daughter of Ashraf and Sally Tamizuddin for being named National Merit semi finalists.

Greetings from the SHS Parent-Teacher Organization!

We hope that the school year has gotten off to a good start for all of you. Enclosed with this issue of Highlights is a membership form for the PTO. I am writing to urge you to join us. The PTO is an organization of teachers and parents who work together for the core purpose of enhancing the academic experience of every student at Springfield High School. We do this literally from the first day students walk into the School, by helping with Freshman registration, to nearly their last day, by hosting a reception at Senior Recognition Night. In between, we participate in the weekly "Be a Senator" event, host events to recognize honor roll students, provide "Brain Food" for Juniors taking the PSAE, and sponsor a variety of other student-focused programs. Just as importantly, the PTO exists to support teachers in their educational mission. We fund a Teacher Grant Program that has provided hundreds of books, art equipment, and science lab equipment that otherwise would not have been available to our students. Additionally we host events throughout the year to thank the teachers for their dedication and effort.

All of the work of the PTO is funded through parent memberships and donations. When you join the PTO you can be as involved as you choose to be. You don't have to worry that there will be endless calls to volunteer or contribute – there won't be. You are welcome to attend our meetings (an excellent place to learn more about issues at SHS) but you by no means have to do so. The key for us is that you join. Having a large membership in the PTO not only allows the kind of projects described above but also, as importantly, speaks volumes to the administration of the school and the

school district that parents are deeply concerned about the education of their children and are willing to advocate powerfully for them.

A quick note to members of the PTO Booster Club. The activities of the Booster Club and the PTO compliment each other in supporting the students of Springfield High School. Most members of the PTO are also members of the Booster Club and we hope all of you will join us as well.

So please become a member of the Springfield High School Parent-Teacher Organization. Our success depends on it!

Thank you.
Patricia Reyhan, President

Booster Club News

Congratulations to all our students, coaches and sponsors. The fall sports teams, clubs and activities are all off to a great start! Please take the opportunity to experience the many wonderful activities going on at SHS. We can never provide too much fan support for our many student activities. And don't forget to stop by Dublin's Pub in Town and Country Shopping Center after home football and basketball games to celebrate with fellow Senator fans!

Thanks to all of you who have already joined the Booster Club this year. If you haven't joined yet, it's not too late! Membership information and forms are available through the Booster Club link on the SHS website. Adult Activity Passes to all SHS home games and events are still available for anyone joining at the Booster and Super Senator levels. Junior Senator Passes for children 8th grade and younger are also available through the Booster Club.

Spirit and Pride gear will be available at home football games as well as home basketball games, or by contacting Suzanne or Pete Havey at maxnmom1@yahoo.com. Let's make it a sea of red, black and white at all our games!

Upcoming events for the Booster Club include the "SHS Dodge Ball Tournament," which will be held the first or second Friday in November. Check the Booster Club website for updates. Last year was

our first year holding this event, and all the kids and adults who participated had a wonderful time.

Also mark your calendars now for our annual SHS Red and Black Gala and Auction, which will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2011. A good time is always had by all. The Gala is an important fundraiser for the Booster Club, accounting for 50% of the funds the Booster Club raises for the year.

Watch for further Booster Club event updates and volunteer opportunities through this newsletter and the Booster Club link on the school website.

Dates to Remember

October 11-No School Columbus Day

October 15-2:17 Dismissal/End of 1st Quarter

October 28 2:17 Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conf

October 29-No School/Parent Teacher Conf

November 11-No school/Veteran's Day

November 24-2:17 Dismissal

November 25 & 26 No School/ Thanksgiving

PHYSICALS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

Parents of 9th graders and new students: A current physical and immunization record must be on file with our nurse, Kim Buecker, by October 15th. The state requires that we exclude students from school who do not have physicals and/or up-to-date immunizations on file with the school after this date.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR-SAVE THE DATE

The SHS library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair to support author visits to SHS and help fund classroom libraries. Come and see the latest Young Adult titles from Scholastic. All students, SHS parents and relatives are welcome. HOURS: 8:30 to 3:30.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The No Mountain Too High Ministry Church helps the neediest of families. Pastor Merle Burkett and his parishioners will pick up all items that you may want to donate: clothing, bedding, furniture, kitchen items—all and everything. They are in need of many items. They give all their items to families free of charge. Please remember this organization/church when you plan to get rid of any household items. THEY PICK UP FREE!

Subscriptions to School Newspaper

SHS families and supporters are invited to purchase home subscriptions to The Senator, the school's award-winning monthly student newspaper. The \$10

subscription appears as an option on the district's billing notice for student fees.

The first mailing of The Senator will depend on the processing of fee payments at the district level. Although this mailing may be delayed, subscribers will receive all back issues.

Questions should be directed to Ms. Negele, faculty advisor, at SHS.

Academy News

PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS:

Students will be given progress reports and grade cards in homerooms on the following dates. The last grade card of the year is mailed home.

Progress Reports to Students

Wednesday, September 22

Friday, November 19

Friday, February 4

Friday, April 15

Report Cards to Students

Thursday, October 21

Friday, January 7

Friday, March 18

June – Mailed Home

PSAT

Sophomores and Juniors interested in taking the PSAT test need to sign up in Mr. Crum's office in the Guidance office.

The test will be Wednesday, October 13th in the morning. There is a \$15 fee to take the test. Juniors that score high enough may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program. The deadline to sign up is September 21st.

EXPLORE AND PLAN TESTS

These tests were moved to April and will be given to freshmen and sophomores at the same time that juniors take the PSAE. April 27th and April 28th will be school-wide testing dates for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

Tips for Testing

1. Get a good night's sleep before the test
2. Eat a good breakfast
3. Layer clothing the day of the test
4. Bring a calculator and 2 #2 pencils

College-Bound Seniors

Seniors who plan to apply to a four-year university should do so early. Many applications, especially for Illinois schools, are available in the guidance office. They are also available online.

To those applying to the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) and Illinois State, the priority filing date is November 1st. To assure processing, those applications must be in the guidance office by the end of the day, Friday, October 22nd. Other universities have priority dates also. Students should check with Mr. Crum or Mrs. Povse for these dates.

College-Bound Juniors

Juniors who are planning to attend a four-year university after high school may register to take either the ACT or SAT college entrance tests. Registration packets are available in the Guidance Office. ACT does prefer registration to be done on-line. This can be done at <http://www.actstudent.org>. The ACT is taken by all Juniors as part of the Prairie State Achievement Exam in April. Preparation for the PSAE will be done in English and U.S. History classes during second semester.

College Administrators Visit SHS

Just a reminder, juniors and seniors should take advantage of meeting with college administrators as they make their visits to SHS. Announcements are made letting students know of the visits. Dates are also listed on the Guidance Website. Students must get a pass from guidance at least the day before in order to be dismissed from class to visit with a college representative.

College Visits

Juniors and seniors are encouraged to visit colleges they may be considering attending after high school graduation. Students are permitted to take a half-day to visit a local college and a full day to make a visit out of the city. Students must call schools to make an appointment. They must also get a "college visit" form from their Assistant Principal. A parent must call the attendance office if a student is going to be absent.

Post Secondary Coach

Springfield High has the services of Donna Povse, retired guidance dean, to assist students and families with post high school plans. She especially hopes to work with those who may not have thought about the option of continued education past high school.

Mrs. Povse can help explore career options, vocational, technical or military options. Assisting with applications, financial aid information and scholarships/grants will be part of her service. Bus trips to college

campuses will also be scheduled. The following bus trip is scheduled:

SIU< Carbondale-October 21

Office hours are flexible, Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30-3:30 and Wednesday & Friday from 11:45-3:30. If early morning or later afternoon appointments are needed arrangements can be made. She may be reached at 525-3106 in the Guidance office.

Special evening presentations to parent and students are also planned. Watch the newsletter or the website for more information. The first evening meeting is Ultimate Money Skills/College Funding is open to all parents 9-12 grades on October 14, 2010 at 6:30 pm in the Auditorium.

PSAT/NMSQT Registration information for Juniors

Juniors are able to sign up for the PSAT/NMSQT in the Guidance office. The test date will be Wednesday, October 13 and will be administered in the SHS Commons for Juniors. The PSAT/NMSQT is a preliminary SAT test and also serves as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test which automatically enters the students into the 2010 competition for the National Merit Scholarship program recognition and scholarships.

It is recommended that all juniors who plan on attending a four year university in 2011 take the PSAT/NMSQT.

SENIORS-INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSAE

The results of the ACT test taken as part of the PSAE are optional for inclusion on the transcript. Please see Mrs. Krekel or Mr. Crum in the SHS Guidance Office no later than November 1, 2010.

Jostens

Seniors- Jostens will be here on Tuesday, November 23rd. They will be presenting graduation information during 2nd and 5th periods. They will return on December 1st in the Commons to take orders from 7:30 am - 12:30 pm.

The 21st Century Program

The 21st Century Program will be under the direction of our Academic Coach Mr. A. D. Carson. The program will be coordinated with our own after-school tutoring program. More information will be provided in morning announcements.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held Oct. 26-30 at SHS. The fair will

be open for Springfield High parents and family during Parent/Teacher Conferences the evening of Oct. 29 and all day Friday, Oct. 30. Please feel free to drop in and browse while waiting between conferences.

NEWS FROM BE A SENATOR (PBIS)

THIS YEAR'S FOCUS: RESPECT AMONG STUDENTS & STAFF - REDUCTION OF INCIDENTS OF DISRESPECT

The Be A Senator (BAS) team has been looking at data regarding incidents of disrespect. This year, our focus will be reducing those incidents and increasing the level of respect among students and staff.

REDUCTION OF DRESS CODE & ELECTRONIC DEVICE REFERRALS

There will be competitions amongst the classes to reduce the number of referrals for dress code and electronic devices. The winning class will receive breakfast during an upcoming homeroom. Watch the announcements for details

BAS STORE

We are proud to announce the new location of the BAS store - just inside the Commons doors. We will have school supplies, such as pens, mechanical pencils, notebooks, folders, and poster board available for purchase. Also available for purchase are BAS t-shirts and coming soon are other spirit items! Mrs. Diane Hays is coordinating the store sales.

PIZZA & BREAKFAST SALES

The first Thursday of each month is BAS Pizza day! For \$2, students receive an extra large piece of Papa John's pizza. PTO members sell the pizza during both lunch shifts. We will also be selling Mel-O-Cream donuts before school in the commons. Watch the announcements for details on when the donut sales will begin!

SHLOTTO CARDS

SHLOTTO Cards are back!! In an effort to acknowledge students who are "Being A Senator", through showing respect for others, may earn a SHLOTTO card. Teachers will soon be receiving SHLOTTO cards (Springfield High Lotto) which are scratch-off cards that have the chance to win a prize. Watch the announcements for more details.

BAS PARKING SPOTS

The Be A Senator team is pleased to announce the quarterly raffle for 2

choice parking spots in the annex parking lot along the fence.

There will be 3 drawings this year - one for 2nd quarter, one for 3rd quarter, and one for 4th quarter. The first drawing will be held from 9/27-10/8. Winners will be announced 10/13; the winning students may begin parking in their spots 10/18 and continue through 12/18. Winners must provide driver's license and proof of insurance to obtain the parking tag.

We will be selling chances at the Be A Senator Store, which is located in the commons, or students may contact Ms. Greco in room 106 to purchase tickets for 25 cents each. There is no limit upon the number of chances that may be purchased.

From Ms. Dvorak - Drivers Ed:

Thanks to the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Division of Transplantation (DoT), the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was recently awarded funding to promote organ donation in Illinois. Dr. Brian Quick, the Principal Investigator on the project, is working with the Secretary of State's office and Gift of Hope to design an effective mailer to reach our students. Dr. Quick has approached our school with the opportunity to provide feedback on these mailers before they are distributed to students across the entire state. We would greatly appreciate your support of this important project.