



SHS Highlights

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009

funded 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, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Schurman, and Guidance Dean Mr. Lawson

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

We wish to welcome Mr. Brian Barnes to the administrative team at SHS. Mr. Barnes has been assigned as an Acting Administrative Intern. He takes Mike Taylor's place who has been moved to the Raven Academy as Acting Assistant Principal. Mr. VanDiver has left SHS and will be working with the district's alternative program. We wish all three the best of luck in their new positions.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held the evening of Thursday, October 29th and all day Friday, October 30th. 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 29th and will not attend all day Friday on October 30th due to Parent Teacher Conferences. October 12th, Columbus Day and November 11th, Veteran's Day, are both legal holidays and students will not be in attendance.

National Merit Scholarship

- **Congratulations to Ross Gelber, Conor O'Brien, and Erin Tait for being named National Merit semi finalists.**

PTO NEWS

Greetings from the PTO! Our year is off to a fast start. First and foremost, we are already engaged in what we think of as one of our prime missions – identifying and fulfilling classroom needs not met by District funding. In August, the PTO approved a grant request from Herr Koepfel to help fund a trip to Chicago for our German exchange students and their SHS student hosts. In September, we funded a book request from Mr. Myers to supply an exciting supplementary text in Economics. The proceeds from the PTO vending machine this month will go to the Science Department. Finally, we are in the early stages of setting up a demand/supply chain so that new works of fiction and non-fiction needed in the Library and classrooms at SHS can be fulfilled by community donations.

The PTO has a number of big events coming in October: we will be selling SHS red "glo" necklaces at the Homecoming game (a night game this year), volunteering at the Scholastic Book Fair during the week of October 26, and hosting a Teacher Appreciation Lunch on October 30th. Please visit the PTO link on the SHS webpage (www.springfield.k12.il.us) for more information on these and all PTO activities.

We are pleased that our memberships are up this year both for parents and teachers. If you have not joined already, please consider doing so. There is a membership form on the website. As always, thanks for your support. Go Senators!

BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

The SHS Booster Club and our fall sports teams and organizations are off to a

terrific start. Congratulations to all our students, coaches, and sponsors involved in athletics, clubs, and organizations for giving all us Senator Fans much to be proud of and happy to support! Way to Go Senators!!

Thanks to all of you who have already joined the Booster Club this year – and if you haven't yet – its not too late! Your membership dollars allows us to provide financial assistance to all our sports teams, clubs and organizations. Membership information and forms are available through the Booster link on the school's website. Be sure to sign up now and get your Adult Activity Passes that will allow you admission to our home games and events. Junior Senator Passes, for children 8th grade and younger, are also available through Booster Club membership. However, SHS student activity passes are only available through the school office and not through the Booster Club.

There are over 30 extra curricular activities available to our students. Please encourage your students to get involved. The experience and social skills they gain from their participation will serve them well for years to come.

If you didn't get the latest Spirit & Pride gear at Open House or at the home football games, please contact Carla Bolt at cbolt@iasb.com or 899-2316-to place an order. Merchandise will also be available for purchase at the varsity basketball home games.

The Booster Club will be sponsoring our first "SHS Dodge Ball Tournament" which is scheduled for November 6, 2009. Stay tuned for further details – fun and success depends on your participation!

Mark your calendars now for our annual SHS Red & Black Gala and Auction, which will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010. A good time is always had by all! 45% of the funds the Booster Club raised last year came from the Gala and plans are underway to make this year's event even better!

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

Dates to Remember

October 12-No School Columbus Day
October 16-2:17 Dismissal/End of 1st Quarter

October 29 2:00 Dismissal/Parent Teacher Conf
October 30-No School/Parent Teacher Conf
November 11-No school/Veteran's Day
November 25-2:17 Dismissal
November 26 & 27 No School/ Thanksgiving

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

Friday, Sept25	Thursday, Feb 11
Wednesday, Dec 2	Friday, April 23

Report Cards to Students

Friday, Oct 23	Friday, March 19
Friday, Jan 8	June Mailed Home

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

PSAT

ALL tenth grade students will take PSAT on October 14th during periods 1, 2, and 3.

Explore Test

The Explore Test for all 9th Graders will be given on November 24th (1st period) & November 25th during periods 1-3. This test is the first in a series that aligns with ACT. It is the ACT exam, minus a few questions. This allows both students and staff the opportunity to see what students know and what they still need to learn.

PLAN

The preliminary ACT test, PLAN, will be given to all sophomores on November 19. This test is funded through the district.

The PLAN program contains four curriculum-based tests that measure academic achievement in the areas of English, Mathematics Reading, and Science.

The PLAN test also includes a career interest inventory, which will be used to assist students in future planning.

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 23rd. Other universities have priority dates also. Students should check with Mr. Lawson 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 and study guides are available in the Guidance Office. The ACT is taken by all Juniors as part of the Prairie State Achievement Exam in April. Preparation for the PSAT 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 trips are scheduled:

Blackburn College in Carlinville-October 27

SIU< Carbondale-November 5

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 15, 2009 at 6:30 pm in the Commons.

PSAT/NMSQT for all sophomores

. On October 14, 2009 all sophomores will be taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

(PSAT/NMSQT). This standardized test provides students with firsthand practice for the SAT Reasoning Test. The information and benefits received by taking the PSAT/NMSSQT are:

- Student's strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study.
- How a student's performance may compare with other students applying to college.
- Student entrance into the competition for scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corp. (Grade 11)
- Preparation for the questions and the exact directions that will be seen on the SAT.
- Receive information from colleges when you check "yes" to Student Search Service.

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 14 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 2009 competition for the National Merit Scholarship program recognition and scholarships.

The test fee is \$15.00 and the deadline for registration is Tuesday, October 13, 2009. Please make checks payable to Springfield High School Guidance.

It is recommended that all juniors who plan on attending a four year university in 2009 take the PSAT/NMSQT.

SENIORS - INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSAT

The results of the ACT test taken, as part of the PSAT, are optional for inclusion on the transcript. Please see Mrs. Krekel or Mr. Lawson in the SHS Guidance Office no later than November 1, 2009.

Jostens

Seniors- Jostens will be here on Tuesday, November 24th. They will be presenting graduation information during 2nd and 5th periods. They will return on December 2nd in the Commons to take orders from 7:30 am - 12:30 pm.

The 21st Century Program

The 21st Century Program has already started and meets in room 160 immediately after school Monday - Thursday until 5:30. Students should come prepared to work. Tutors are available for homework assistance each day. 21st Century activities to look forward to this year are Bellydance and Karate, Movie Mondays, and trips to places such as the UniverSoul Circus in Chicago and area colleges. Please contact Ms. Johnson for more information.

Chicken Dinner

The Class of 2010 will be hosting a chicken dinner on Friday, January 15 prior to the basketball game against Chatham/Glenwood. The dinner will include 1/2 a chicken, two sides, roll, drink and dessert. Tickets are only \$8.00! To order your tickets please call Mary Finigan @ 525-3100 or Heidi Krekel @ 525-3106. Please support the class of 2010.

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.

WILLKOMMEN IN AMERIKA - GERMAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS VISIT SHS

As many other schools across the nation, Springfield High School has become part of the German-American Partnership Program (GAPP). GAPP is an exchange program that is designed to improve the foreign language skills of the participating students by immersing them into the culture, traditions, family life and school life of the other country. It consists of a visit of a German group in the fall and a visit of an American group in the following summer. This fall, as the first part of the exchange, our school will have the great opportunity to host a group of 16 girls, 2 boys, and two English teachers from the Friedrich-Gymnasium Luckenwalde, our new partner school in Germany. From September 29 to October 19, our guests will be living with the families of some students enrolled in the German program. They will be attending school and doing schoolwork. In addition, they will be participating in field trips to Chicago, St. Louis, and to the Lincoln sites in Springfield and visiting some middle schools and elementary schools, the school board, the mayor, etc. The Homecoming game against SHG and the Homecoming Dance are on the to-do list as well. For the past two months, a group of very involved students and parents has been organizing various fundraisers to help finance this exchange. Now we hope your child will take this chance to meet and interact with the German exchange students, make them feel welcome, and help make their stay in Springfield as pleasant as possible.

DETENTIONS

Students receive 15-minute detentions for being tardy to class. These detentions may be served before school, at lunch, or after school. IF a student chooses to serve the detention before or after school, the student must remain for the entire half hour of detention. Students may not leave in the middle. Lunch detentions are 15 minutes in length.

AM detentions - Room 166 - 7:30

A Lunch detention - Room 314

B Lunch detention - Room 128

PM detentions - Room 166

If detentions are NOT SERVED within 24 hours of being assigned then the student receives a SATURDAY detention for the following Saturday from 8-11 am.