



NEWSLETTER

Oscar A. Carlson High School
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Winter 2010

Happy New Year!

We wish you and your family a happy, healthy, and successful new year in 2010. The headlines remind us daily of the dire condition of Michigan's economy and the plight of public schools to tighten their belts. Please be assured that we are working diligently to implement cost saving measures, while providing your students the quality education so necessary to compete in the 21st century. Great things continue to happen at CHS, and together we will weather the storm. Our most important priority is putting students first! Wishing us all the best in 2010.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

We will be hosting arena-style Parent-Teacher conferences for the 2nd Trimester on **Monday January 18th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Come and be a part of your student's education. All are welcomed.

School Closings

Tune to radio stations WXYZ (1270 AM), WWJ (950 AM), WJR (760 AM) or T.V. Channels 2, 4, & 7 for up-to-date information on school closings.

Important Upcoming Events

January 13—Financial Aid Night 6:30 p.m.
January 18—Professional Development Day (No School for Students)
January 18—Parent Conferences 5-8 p.m.
January 21—NHS Induction 7:00 p.m.
January 28—Community Advisory Meeting 6:30 p.m.
February 2—Ramsar Expo 1:00 p.m.
February 4—Economic State of the District Address 6:30 p.m. CHS Auditorium
February 10—Supplemental Count Day
February 15, 16—Midwinter Break
February 20—Mom to Mom Sale 9:00 a.m.
February 26—Jazz Concert 7-9 p.m. Café

Superintendent to Give Economic “State of the District” Address

Superintendent Bruce Burger will present a “State of the District” address on Thursday February 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the CHS auditorium. Given the economic issues facing public education in the State of Michigan, Mr. Burger will offer the Gibraltar School District's response in “Charting the Course for the Future.” We urge all parents and citizens to attend.

CHS Book of the Month Club

Students have been meeting regularly since early November to discuss literary works they have selected. *Twisted* and *If I Stay* were the last installments of 2009. Students this month are reading *Tell No One* by Harlan Coben. Media Specialist Mike Pehote and English teachers Erika Madgwick, Trisha Boucher, and Lindsey Begeman are guiding the discussion. Good to see students RfE—Reading for Enjoyment. As an added incentive, Book Club students are eligible for a Border's Books gift certificate raffle. Read on!

CHS hosts BPA Regional Conference

Our Business Professionals of America Students and their teachers hosted and organized the regional leadership conference recently at Henry Ford Community College. BPA has 23 state associations and 54,000 members throughout the U.S. whose mission is to prepare a world-class workforce through advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills. Twenty of our students competed in a variety of business categories.

Congratulations to the following BPA students as they move to State Final competition at the Amway Grand Hotel in March: Hamza Ansari—1st in Human Resource Management; Jeremy Osborn—2nd in Fundamentals of Spreadsheets and 4th in Database Applications; Nishma Valikodath—2nd in Presentation Management (Individual); Drew Kohn—3rd in Fundamentals of Spreadsheets; Desiree Baron—3rd in Interview Skills; Anna Blakeslee—5th in Desktop Publishing. Way to show your BPA pride!

Ramsar Celebration at CHS

On February 2, 2010, we will be celebrating World Wetlands Day at a 1:00 p.m. program in the CHS auditorium. Humbug Marsh will be receiving a RAMSAR designation as a wetlands of international significance. Humbug Marsh is the first site in the state of Michigan to receive this honor. The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance is called the Ramsar convention after the Iranian city where international treaty was signed in 1971.

An environmental expo will be held in the CHS Media Center following the program, and will highlight conservation groups to further educate our school community on the wise use of wetlands and their resources. The public is invited to attend this exciting program.

National Honor Society Induction

The Oscar A. Carlson High School National Honor Society will hold its annual induction on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. This year's inductees include Class of 2010 members Ashley Apolloni, Diana Brazier, Jacob Clark, Christina Czech, Whitney Hartley, Megan Nieman, Candace Paquette, Kelsey Porada, and Amanda Whittleton. Members of the Class of 2011 are Cierra Aguirre, Hamza Ansari, Sharlee Anucinski, Jeremy Bagnall, Desiree Baron, Catherine Beaufort, Shelby Branham, Shelby Campbell, Kathryn Coleman, Mathew Drouillard, Andreas Gikas, Nicholas Gonyea, Andrew Gronda, Bailey Hanna, Justin Holbrook, Zachary Howarth, Elizabeth Kozmor, Kyle Krzesowik, Jillian Lesner, Cheryl Lezotte, Anthony Paglialungo, Febin Payyappilly, Lindsey Plohg, Chris Robillard, Anne Rosentreter, Brandon Schwartz, Halee Stratton, Nicholas Trottier, Ben Urbanowski, and Jalen Webster. Students are admitted to the National Honor Society based on excellence in Character, Leadership, Scholarship and Service.

Doing Our Part

As a cost-saving measure, in the very near future the entire Gibraltar school district will be moving closer to a paper-less organization. The *Board Quarterly* and your favorite *CHS Newsletter*, as well as other communiqués from district schools will be posted on-line. Please find us at:

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Gibraltar School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, marital status, disability, or limited English proficiency be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to, discrimination in any program, activity, service or employment to which it is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the United States Department of Education. For information, or to file a formal complaint, contact Superintendent Bruce Burger, 19370 Vreeland Road Woodhaven, MI 48173 (734) 692-4000.

Gibraltar Living Learning Lab

This past spring CHS hosted a dedication event transferring 358 acres from the Waste Management Co. to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These Gibraltar Wetlands Unit form a crescent around Carlson H.S. and Shumate, and run between Woodruff and Gibraltar Roads to Oestrike.

CHS Ecology teachers, Mark Steffensky and Crystal Fowler have been working with Dr. John Hartig, Refuge Manager of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and Kristi Thiel, Park Ranger in planning lessons which will utilize our access to what is being called the Gibraltar Living Learning Laboratory. We are in the early stages of planning and will be meeting throughout the school year in developing public access and programs designed to benefit all Gibraltar school children in grades K-12.

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On past visits to the Wetlands Unit, students and teachers were able to view osprey fledglings from the first pair of “fish hawks,” to successfully breed and nest in Wayne County since the 1890s! On another field experience, a *pink* katydid was discovered and brought into the science classrooms for students to nurture and study. Exciting opportunities await our school community in the Living Learning Lab.

H1N1 Influenza Update

The Gibraltar School District and Carlson High School are being proactive in our response to the H1N1 Influenza A and other flu illnesses. We will be sending sick children home who exhibit flu-like symptoms: fever, sore throat, headache, runny nose, vomiting/diarrhea. We are stepping up our regular cleaning of common surface areas, desks, classrooms, cafeteria, gyms, and locker rooms. Do not send your student to school if they are ill, and keep all children home for 24 hours after any fever is gone. As preventive measures, frequent hand washing, proper cough etiquette, immunization, and early treatment will help us all in the fight against the flu.

CHS Book of the Month Club

In an effort to increase student interest in reading for pleasure!