



October 2019

### Dates to Remember:

- Oct 2 Directions College & Career Fair (Special Education College & Career Night) Forest View Education Center, – 6:30 p.m.
- Oct 3 Picture Retakes
- Latino Parent Meeting  
HEHS, – 6:00 p.m.
- Oct 5 SAT Testing  
HEHS, – 8:00 a.m.
- Oct 8 Student Late Start  
– 8:50 a.m.
- Oct 14 Columbus Day  
– No School
- Oct 15 Teacher Institute Day  
– No Classes
- Oct 18 Senior Panoramic Photo  
Main Gym,  
– 7:30 a.m.
- Oct 19 Incoming Freshman Testing  
HEHS, – 8:00 a.m.
- Oct 22 Student Late Start  
– 8:50 a.m.
- Oct 23 Early Dismissal  
– 11:50 a.m.
- College Night  
Palatine High School,  
– 6:30 p.m.
- Oct 24 Sounds of the Stadium  
Marching Band Concert  
Main Gym, – 7:00 p.m.

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL: JOSH SCHUMACHER

This week marks our Homecoming 2019 celebration as well as the end of the first six weeks of the school year. In addition to this newsletter, you will also receive a progress report detailing your student's academic performance in each class from the first day of school through Friday, September 20th. This report also contains absence and tardy information. I highly encourage you to review this report with your son or daughter first, and then contact the appropriate teacher if you have questions about individual course progress. If your student is not performing at the level that you desire, I highly recommend that they utilize our numerous academic supports, including math tutoring, a reading and writing center, and a room devoted to making up missed tests and quizzes.

As we look ahead to October, we are excited to host **HEHS College/Career Month**. We have planned many exciting opportunities that will help expand your student's understanding of college and career planning as well as help increase their readiness for this next stage in their lives. We also have opportunities for you to engage with your student in the process as well. We have divided the month into themes by week. Please review the information below and follow us on Twitter @HoffmanHS for daily informational updates.

#### HEHS College/Career Month Week 1: College/Career Selection Process

Please mark your calendars for the District 211 College Night, which will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd at Palatine High School. This is an early dismissal day for students, and an incredible opportunity to explore the over 200 colleges and universities that will attend the event. This is a district-wide event and there will be parents and students from other District 211 schools in attendance. I highly recommend that you arrive at Palatine High School early in order to secure a parking space, or that you utilize the free shuttle buses that will leave from HEHS between 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

We will once again utilize Strive Scan technology during College Night 2019. Utilizing this service will save you from filling out paper informational cards for each college or university that you are interested in. Instead, you can sign up for a free Strive Scan account prior to College Night and Strive Scan will create a personalized barcode just for you. College and university representatives will simply scan your barcode directly into their informational systems. Please register ahead of time. The first step in creating your account is to go to [www.strivefair.com](http://www.strivefair.com). You must choose a state (Illinois) and event (10/23/19 – District 211) in order to register correctly.

#### HEHS College/Career Month Week 2: Paying for College

Financing a college education is becoming more and more challenging for parents and students. This week will focus on understanding financial aid, awareness of private grants and scholarships, and other options. Specific focus will be placed on completion of the FAFSA and the Harper's Promise Scholarship.

#### HEHS College/Career Month Week 3: Understanding the SAT Suite of Assessments

The SAT Suite of Assessments is a globally recognized admission test that is accepted at all US colleges and universities. We want to ensure that all students and parents understand both the structure of the exams and how to succeed on the exams. Emphasis will be placed on the structure of the exams, free preparation options at HEHS, and what student scores reports show.

#### HEHS College/Career Month Week 4: AP & Dual Credit Opportunities at HEHS

Students spend 4 years in high school planning and preparing for their high school experience. Research indicates that students who engage in college level coursework while still in the supportive high school environment have an increased likelihood in being successful in college and graduating from college in 4 years. HEHS students can enroll in rigorous college-level course work through both Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses. HEHS encourages all students to earn the equivalent of 15 college credit hours, or the equivalent to 5 AP and/or Dual Credit courses, prior to high school graduation.

#### HEHS College/Career Month Week 5: The College Admission Process

The college application process does not have to be stressful! This week will focus on the entire college admission process, including college essays, transcripts, and letters of recommendation. Specific emphasis will be placed in completing 'The Common App' for upperclassmen and planning for the college application for underclassmen.

Sincerely,

Josh Schumacher  
Principal



If you require assistance while visiting our school, please contact the principal's office at (847) 755-5600.

- Oct 25            ELS Fall Fest  
Faculty Dining Room,  
                          – 6:00 p.m.
- Oct 26            Cupcakes with Friends  
Cafeteria, 11:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- Oct 29            College Application  
Completion Afternoon  
Room 37, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- Oct 30    Community Halloween Event  
HEHS, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

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## **Community Connections:**

### **Hawks' Nest**

The Hawks' Nest is a resource available to Hoffman students and families that are in need. The Hawks' Nest has received donations of food, hygiene products, household products, clothing, as well as monetary donations and school related supplies. The Hawks' Nest also serves as a food pantry, and families in need are welcome to access the food pantry at Hoffman Estates High School. All referrals remain confidential. For more information or to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Nieft, Andres Acosta, or Maggie King, Social Workers, in the Student Services Department at (847) 755-5630.

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### **Latino Parent Meetings**

- Oct. 3 – College Financial Aid Information  
An Illinois Student Assistance Commission representative will assist Latino Seniors and their parents with completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Nov. 7 – ADD/ADHD in adolescents  
A clinician will discuss the signs and symptoms of ADD/ADHD and ways to provide academic support.
- Dec. 5 – Emotional Wellness  
Depression in Teenagers - A representative from the Kenneth Young Center will discuss the signs and symptoms of depression in youth.

## **College and Career Updates:**

### **College Application Completion Afternoon**

On Tuesday, October 29, 2019 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Room 37, counselors will be available to assist all students with their college applications. This afternoon is dedicated to the filling out of forms, completing essay questions and submitting applications. For more information, please contact Mr. Michael Murphy, College & Career Counselor, at (847) 755-5646.

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## **General Information:**

### **Welcoming Freshmen**

#### **FreshMentors & Foundations:**

FreshMentors are junior and senior students who are responsible individuals identified as having leadership skills, effective communication skills, and a commitment to helping others. The goal of this program is to provide support and structure to freshmen throughout their first year of high school. Our FreshMentors also serve as mentors to freshmen within the Freshmen Foundation classes. The FreshMentors work with their freshmen to help them acclimate to life at HEHS, get involved at school and encourage them to practice good study habits. FreshMentors also participate in new student/transfer student orientation events, Parent Open House, 8th Grade Parent Night and Bridging the Gap.

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#### **Freshmen Kick-Off:**

The twelfth annual Freshmen Kick-Off was held at HEHS on Friday, August 2nd. More than 300 freshmen attended the Kick-Off. Freshmen students located their classes and navigated the cafeteria as they would on the first day of school. Our FreshMentors were responsible for leading three break-out sessions that focused on "Getting to Know You," "Getting to Know Our School," and "Getting Involved." Activities for the day also included a visit to the school store, a presentation on our S.O.A.R. program, an introduction to several athletic teams by the coaches and a debut of our FreshMentors performing skits to demonstrate school policies. All students learned what it means to be a Hawk, how to get involved in school, and performed the Hawk Fight Song. The school band and flags squad performed as well. Our parent organization, Hoffman Estates Loyal Partners (H.E.L.P.), also hosted two parent kick-off sessions on Thursday, August 1st and Friday, August 2nd. This allowed current parents to share their experiences as to what it is like to be a high school parent with parents of the Class of 2023.

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#### **Introduction to the D211 Student Readiness Plan (SRP)**

The District 211 Student Readiness Plan is designed to help students prepare for high school graduation and their lives as independent young adults. The Readiness Plan focuses on five essential readiness components: Academic Readiness, College & Career Exploration, Involvement, Global Competitive Skills, and Wellness. All Hoffman Estates High School students are assigned an account within the District 211 Student Readiness Plan online portal providing them with a centralized hub to create individualized goals, measure progress, and track activity throughout their high school experience. During each year of high school, your child's school counselor will lead your child through targeted activities that directly connect to various elements of the Student Readiness Plan. Parents have access to view their child's Readiness Plan and are encouraged to have discussions with their child about goals and overall status. More information, including log on instructions, is available at <https://adc.d211.org/domain/73>.

# Principal's SPOTLIGHT

## District 211 Student Readiness Plan

The District 211 Student Readiness Plan is an online tool that provides every Hoffman Estates High School student a place to track performance throughout his or her four years. The Readiness Plan focuses on five components of readiness. These components include Academic Readiness, College & Career Exploration, Student Involvement, Global Competitive Skills, and Wellness. Within each component, students can assess their current performance against established District 211 grade-specific benchmarks. The benchmarks are aligned with current research and recognized college and career readiness indicators. Students are also able to set personal goals that exceed District 211 benchmarks in each component. The table below presents an overview of the plan, including descriptions of each component and how your student can achieve a 100% completion rate on the component.\*

Component	Description	How to Achieve 100% Completion
<b>Academic Readiness</b>	Academic Readiness captures traditional measures of student performance in school such as grades and credits earned. Students can track their status relative to unweighted grade point average (GPA), weighted GPA, early college credits, standardized test scores, and high school credits earned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Earn an unweighted GPA of 2.8 or higher</li> <li>B. Earn at least 15 early college credits throughout high school</li> <li>C. Meet or exceed college readiness benchmarks on the SAT Suite</li> <li>D. Earn a minimum of 5 credits each year of high school</li> </ul>
<b>College &amp; Career Exploration</b>	Exploring and identifying post-high school options is a critical part of planning for life after high school. Within this component, students take account of their interests, document research findings, and track participation in events and activities that help build their awareness of the processes related to their selected pathway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Complete the Career Cruising online activity tool.</li> <li>B. Indicate careers of interest based on Career Cruising results.</li> <li>C. Participate in post-high school planning with your counselor</li> <li>D. Attend D211 College Night</li> <li>E. Experience a Career Trek or Internship</li> <li>F. Complete the FAFSA during your senior year</li> </ul>
<b>Student Involvement</b>	District 211 recognizes that students who are involved in at least one school club/activity or sport are more likely to experience success. Additionally, we also recognize that student involvement extends into the local community through experiences such as volunteering and part-time employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Students must actively participate in at least two student involvement opportunities</li> <li>B. One of the opportunities must be a school-based club/activity or athletic team.</li> </ul>
<b>Global Competitive Skills</b>	While in school, students develop many skills beyond the traditional academic abilities stressed in English, science, and mathematics coursework. These other skills are often referred to as Global Competitive Skills and consist of workplace readiness skills such as attitude and professionalism, work ethic and initiative, communication, teamwork, problem-solving and adaptability, timeliness, and digital literacy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Students will complete skills assessments for each Global Competitive Skill.</li> <li>B. Student score benchmarks are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freshman: 70%</li> <li>Sophomore: 75%</li> <li>Junior: 80%</li> <li>Senior: 90%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Wellness</b>	Physical health and social-emotional well-being is essential for achieving success in school and preparing for life after high school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Personal wellness assessment</li> <li>B. Suicide awareness/prevention activity</li> <li>C. School attendance</li> <li>D. Fitnessgram assessments</li> </ul>

\*This table is intended to be a summary and does not include all information or performance standards. For a full understanding, students and parents should access and review individual student plans at [www.d211studentreadiness.org](http://www.d211studentreadiness.org).