



January 2020

Dates to Remember:

Jan 15	Senior Portraits 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Jan 17	Winter Blood Drive West Shelf 7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Jan 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No School
Jan 21	Student Late Start 8:50 a.m.
Jan 24	Dance Show Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Jan 25	Dance Show Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
Feb 1	GEMS 2020 Conant High School H.E.L.P. Trivia Night Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club, 7:00 p.m.
Feb 4	Student Late Start 8:50 a.m.
Feb 6	Senior Portraits 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Pre-Regional Speech Team Showcase Auditorium, 6:00 p.m. Latino Parent Meeting Media Center, 6:00 p.m.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL: JOSH SCHUMACHER

Welcome to 8th grade parents

With this issue, we welcome the parents of the Class of 2024 to our Hoffman Estates High School community. For the rest of this school year, the parents of our incoming freshman students will receive this newsletter. We are also excited to welcome our new Hawks, who have the opportunity to learn about and become familiar with Hoffman Estates High School during the following opportunities in the Spring and Summer:

Bridging the Gap: incoming freshman orientation during April and May

Summer School 2020: opportunities to enroll in academic courses and athletic camps

Freshman Kick-off 2020: first meeting of the entire class of 2024! (Friday, August 7th)

In just a few months, your sons and daughters will join the Hawk family and begin their journey with us towards lifelong success. The changes and opportunities that they will experience will help them building the knowledge and skills necessary to meet their goals. We also begin our partnership with you; our parents, as we establish the open community and collaboration between our school and your home. You are joining an amazing community of parents that we already collaborate with on a daily basis. We realize that you are an integral part of the education process and encourage you to participate in as many school events and activities as you can. In addition to this newsletter, I encourage you to regularly check our HEHS website, which includes a specific section for parents of the Class of 2024 (<https://adc.d211.org/domain/279>) and to follow us on Twitter (@HoffmanHS) for up to the minute information on academics, activities, and athletics at HEHS.

Our staff is dedicated to helping you and your student make the most of the next four years at HEHS. We have amazing educators who dedicate their time and energy to ensuring that your student achieves their highest potential. I have been a staff member here for the last 18 years and can truly say that we care about each student individually and strive to provide a personalized, challenging educational experience for everyone. I would be remiss if I didn't take the opportunity to brag about our students as well. Our student body is defined by acceptance, tolerance, and respect for each other's differences. Our students are engaged, involved, and consistently demonstrate success both inside and outside of the classroom. Our entire staff honestly can't wait for your son or daughter to be one of our students in the Fall of 2020.

In preparation for writing this newsletter, I asked a few current students about their favorite things about HEHS. They told me multiple stories about "amazing, supportive teachers," "fun and engaging classes," and "tons of opportunities to get involved in activities, athletics, and fine arts." They also said that they feel "safe, respected, and valued" here. I am confident that your son or daughter will experience the same things starting in August. I also want to tell you about my favorite thing about HEHS. You know that our mascot is a hawk, but you may not know that we use the term SOAR (like a hawk) to define who we are and what we expect from each person in our building. SOAR stands for some of the most important values and behaviors that we expect. The S stands for 'show respect,' the O for 'own your actions,' the A for 'accept differences,' and the R for 'realize your potential.' I expect our students and staff to demonstrate these every single day.

If you have questions about academic, activities, or athletic opportunities for your son or daughter at HEHS, please feel free to contact us at any time. You can find pertinent information on our school website or call the school directly. We recommend that you direct questions about enrollment, course selection, or curriculum to the Student Services department (847-755-5630), questions about athletic teams or summer camps to the Athletic department (847-755-5771), and questions regarding activities or fine arts to the Activity Director (847-755-5613). Thank you in advance for working together with our staff to provide the best high school experience for your son or daughter.

Sincerely,

Josh Schumacher
Principal



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

- Feb 8 D211/D54 Band Concert
Main Gym, 3:00 p.m.
- D211 Honors Orchestra Concert
Fremd High School, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb 15 Winter Formal
Main Gym
7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
- Feb 17 Presidents' Day
No School
- Feb 18 Student Late Start
8:50 a.m.
- Feb 20 Tri-M Music Honors
Society Induction
Main Gym 6:00 p.m.
- Winter Band Concert
Main Gym, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb 28 Amy Rudolph Basketball
Tournament
Main Gym, 6:00 p.m.

2020 CENSUS-BE COUNTED!

Beginning in March, the United States Census Bureau will invite households across the country to participate in the 2020 Census in order to count every person living in the U.S. 50 states, District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories. Learn more about the 2020 Census and why it's important to participate at <https://2020census.gov>. **Be counted!**

OPERATION SNOWBALL RETREAT

On Saturday, March 14th Hoffman Estates High School along with Schaumburg High School and Conant High School, will host the 14th annual Operation Snowball retreat at Conant High School. Operation Snowball is a leadership development program that empowers youth to make healthy lifestyle choices. This all day event focuses on drug, alcohol, and violence prevention through a variety of activities, including an inspirational speaker, workshops, discussion groups, and large group activities. Students are able to share their experiences and thoughts with other teens, and receive guidance and support. Additionally, participants have the opportunity to develop and foster new friendships with other students. All students are welcome to participate in this event, and registration begins in February. If you have any questions or would like to register your HEHS student, please contact HEHS Student Services to speak with Mrs. Becky Bergstrom at (847) 755-5630.

Summer School:

As you make your plans for summer, make sure you keep in mind the following dates for summer school:

First Semester: June 2nd – June 23rd

Second Semester: June 24th – July 15th

Please note that summer school courses will run Monday-Thursday each week.

How to Register:

Registration for current HEHS students begins Monday, April 6th, 2020; registration for all incoming freshmen begins Monday, April 20th, 2020. Current students with a request in Infinite Campus for enrollment in summer school driver education will be mailed home additional information in the spring regarding obtaining a driving permit and registering for the class. Enrollment in a summer school behind the wheel course is limited and students will need to present a driving permit before registering for the class. Students are encouraged to register for desired classes early. Additionally, summer school walk-in registration will not be accepted on May 25th as the building will be closed.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Eighth-grade students from our feeder junior highs will have the opportunity to participate in our annual orientation program "Bridging the Gap." Participants come to Hoffman Estates High School for an afternoon in April or May. These incoming freshmen will take a tour, hear current students speak about clubs, sports, and other Hoffman programs, and learn about the academic demands about being a freshman. Any incoming Hawk is eligible. Sign-up will be available through the junior high schools closer to the program dates and space is limited so be sure to sign up if interested in attending.

D211 CAREER EXPO CALL FOR BUSINESSES

High School District 211 is hosting its 3rd Annual Career Expo on February 27, 2020 at Fremd High School in Palatine from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Career options will be showcased for students (freshmen-seniors) from Palatine, Fremd, Conant, Schaumburg and Hoffman Estates High Schools. We are looking for professionals from a variety of fields to share industry knowledge and experience and talk with students and parents about their career paths. College major and career choices are important decisions for young people, and we want to provide them with valuable information to help them make informed decisions about their futures.

Your participation would be greatly appreciated! No formal presentation is required, just a willingness to tell your story and share your career knowledge, as well as give advice and answer students' general career questions. Most professionals will be providing general career information, but there is an opportunity for your organization to offer summer internships, apprenticeships or full-time jobs to high school graduates.

Our future workforce needs your guidance. We hope you will consider giving two hours of your time to inspire young people and help them learn about careers at this free event.

Visit <http://adc.d211.org/domain/4783> to learn more or businesses can register at <https://tinyurl.com/2020careerexporegistration>. Questions should be directed to District 211 Career Advisor Jan Brottman, jbrottman@d211.org



Principal's SPOTLIGHT



STRIVE FOR <5



One of the most common questions that parents ask me is “what can I do as a parent to increase my child’s academic success?” You may think that the answer is highly specific based on that student’s skills and strengths, but it’s actually a very simple answer. My response to this question is: “Ensure that your student is in attendance at school every day.” The most helpful thing that you can do as a parent is to ensure that your student attends every one of their classes at Hoffman Estates High School every single day. That’s the simple truth. Encouraging good attendance is also one of the most powerful ways that you can prepare your student for success in life after high school. We all want to set up good patterns of behavior for future college and career success.

You likely already know that research tells us that when you make school attendance a priority for your family, your student will have higher academic achievement, feel a stronger sense of community at school, have the opportunity to participate in engaging instructional activities, and have higher levels of social-emotional health. What you may not know is how detrimental even a few absences a month can be to your student’s success. There have been thousands of scientific studies completed on the importance of attendance, and the results are clear: having an absence rate of 10% or more is what educators define as the ‘breaking point.’ If your student misses more than 10%, or eighteen school days, during a school year, we see strong negative effects in their academic performance and social-emotional health. What may surprise you is that many parents don’t know that their students miss this much school, or don’t worry about it. If your student misses two days of school a month, they will accumulate 18 days of absence during our school year. Last year, almost 300 HEHS students missed 18 school days or more. These students are labeled ‘chronic absentees’ by the Illinois State Board of Education.

We need your help. As we begin a new semester and a new year, we would like to closely partner with you to ensure that your student is in our classrooms as much as possible. In fact, we have a slogan and a goal for our work together. Our goal is that all HEHS students miss less than five days during this semester. Our slogan is “Strive for <5” (strive for less than five). We are asking you to commit to collaborating with our school staff in the following ways:

1. Ensuring that your student is in school every day.
2. Committing to our ‘Strive for <5’ campaign.
3. Continually monitoring the Infinite Campus portal for attendance and grade information.
4. Working together with our attendance task force if your student struggles with attendance.

There is good news! Last year, almost 300 HEHS students missed less than 1 day during the entire school year! In addition to our ‘Strive for <5’ campaign, we will also be implementing an attendance recognition program that seeks to provide positive reinforcement to students who have, or develop, improved attendance habits during the course of the school year.

SEAL OF BILITERACY

Township High School District 211 students earn the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy by demonstrating high levels of proficiency in English and an additional language. Students can demonstrate proficiency in a target language by earning a 4 or 5 on an AP exam, I-5 on the AAPPL or Intermediate High on the STAMP exam. Illinois public universities will accept the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to 2 years of foreign language coursework taken during high school if a student’s high school transcript indicates that he or she received the State Seal of Biliteracy. Current languages available are Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Thai. Students interested in taking the APPPL or STAMP exam may pick up a registration form in the student services office. The exam will be administered between February 17 – 28, 2020, during the first half of the day. The exam consists of four modules and lasts approximately 2 to 4 hours. The assessment is not a timed test. There is a \$20 fee associated with the administration of this exam. Payment and registration will need to be submitted by the end of the school day January 31, 2020. Students who earn the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy will be notified in May or July depending on availability of exam results. For more information on how to earn the Illinois Seal of Biliteracy please go to <https://adc.d211.org/academic/home/illinois-seal-of-biliteracy/>. Please contact the Student Services Department at 847-755-5630 with questions.

FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS TEST IN APRIL

Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors Test in April

SAT

The Illinois State Board of Education's required high school level assessment, The College Board Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT), will be administered throughout Illinois on Tuesday, April 14, 2020. This state-funded SAT fulfills the requirement of the Illinois School Code that students take the state's required assessment to be eligible to receive a regular high school diploma, unless eligible to take the alternative assessment or otherwise exempt from testing. The assessment measures student knowledge related to state standards with respect to examination purposes. This state-funded SAT can be used as a college or university entrance exam score.

Students can choose to take an additional SAT on a national test date to improve test scores. This option may be discussed with your child's school counselor to determine the benefits of additional testing and to receive information about national SAT tests, the dates and costs. You can find detailed information about the SAT online at <http://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>. Fees charged by College Board for testing on national test dates are the responsibility of the individual students and/or parents. Fee waivers are available for qualifying students through the student services department.

<i>SAT Test Dates</i>	<i>Registration Deadline</i>	<i>Late Registration</i>
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	April 14, 2020
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 19, 2020

PSAT 10

Sophomores will be administered the PSAT 10 on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, to measure their progress in reading, writing, language, and math. You can find additional information about the PSAT 10 online at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10>.

PSAT 9

Freshmen will be administered the PSAT 8/9 on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, to measure their progress in reading, writing, language, and math. You can find additional information about the PSAT 8/9 online at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9>.

Performance on these assessments helps District 211 improve curriculum and instruction to ensure that all students are college and career ready upon graduation from high school. The PSAT 9 and PSAT 10 identify areas to strengthen prior to the State-required junior year assessment. Students dismissed following exam. Please mark your calendars. Bus transportation will be available for those who normally use bus service to school and back according to their schedule.

	<i>Freshmen</i>	<i>Sophomores</i>	<i>Juniors</i>	<i>Seniors</i>
Tuesday, April 14, 2020	Do not report to school	Do not report to school.	SAT administration, junior students report to school. Students will be dismissed approximately at 12:30pm/1:15 pm	Do not report to school
Wednesday, April 15, 2020	PSAT 9 administration, freshmen students report to school. Students will be dismissed approximately at 11:15am/12:00pm	PSAT 10 administration, sophomore students report to school. Students will be dismissed approximately at 11:15am/12:00pm	Do not report to school	Do not report to school

March 12, 2020 Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)

Change in school day schedule. The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA), a state required science assessment, will be administered to all juniors on March 12, 2020. In order to accommodate the facility and staff requirements for these tests, freshman, sophomore and senior students will attend a late start schedule on March 12, 2020 (10:00 a.m. – 2:45 pm/10:40 – 3:30pm). Freshman, sophomore and senior students should report to their bus stop at 9:10am/9:55am on March 12. The ISA is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards for Science incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Visit <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Science-Assessment.aspx> for more information.

	<i>Freshmen</i>	<i>Sophomores</i>	<i>Juniors</i>	<i>Seniors</i>
March 12 Modified Schedule	Late start (10:00am-2:45pm/10:40-3:30pm) Report to bus stop 9:10am/9:55am.	Late start (10:00 a.m. – 2:45 pm/10:40 – 3:30pm) Report to bus stop 9:10am/9:55am.	Students report to school at normal start times.	Late start (10:00 a.m. – 2:45 pm/10:40 – 3:30pm) Report to bus stop 9:10am/9:55am.