

Hornet Happenings



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Fall 2009

Graduation Project Information for Class of 2010

All materials necessary to present graduation projects are due to homeroom teachers by October 20, 2009. Students must have the items listed below submitted to be eligible to present. If these are not handed in, students face loss of privileges and/or disciplinary consequences. Students are encouraged to submit prior to the deadline.

- Scheduling Form
- Two copies of written paper
- Log of hours
- Proposal and sponsor forms (due last year)

Alternative graduation projects are also due at this time.

Visual aids (photos, power points, CDs, DVDs, etc.) are not due but are expected to be completed for presentation dates listed below.

Presentations will occur after school on November 10, 11 and 12.

Graduation Project Information for Class of 2011

Graduation project proposal and sponsor forms are due by December 4, 2009. Students who fail to submit proposal and sponsor forms will be given the alternative graduation project, which is an intensive 15- page research paper assignment.

For more information, contact James A. Canaday @ 932-6641 or via email at jcanaday@oxford.k12.pa.us

Guidance Department

All 9th graders, as well as interested 10th graders, will attend an assembly to hear about the variety of programs available at this Career and Technology school. Information about programs at the Chester County Technical College High School (TCHS) will be presented to students on Thursday, Nov 5th. Upperclassmen are also invited to attend sessions to learn more about the specialized programs: Allied Health, Health Career Academy, and Teacher Academy. Applications for all programs will be available after the assemblies and will be due in the Guidance Office by Dec. 3rd

Representatives from a variety of colleges and universities are scheduled to meet with students at the High School this fall. Students can visit the Guidance Office for the schedule and to sign up for visits.

Information for Seniors - Counselors have started meeting with seniors to discuss college and future plans. Students are encouraged to submit applications at earlier dates. Scholarships are now posted at Scholarship Update on the website and this is updated approximately monthly. Seniors are highly encouraged to bring acceptance letters in to be copied so their names may be added to the brag board hanging in the counseling department.

Any senior who scored basic or below basic on either the reading, math or writing sections of the PSSA MUST retest. Retests will be administered on October 26 through October 30th. More information about retests will be given to students in their PSSA Math or PSSA English class.

Information for Juniors & Sophomores - The PSAT is being offered at OAHS on October 17th at 7:45 am. The cost is \$18. Space is limited so students are encouraged to sign up early.

Our annual Career Fair will be held on Thursday, Nov 12th. All students in 10th and 11th grades will attend 3 sessions with representatives from a variety of career fields and educational institutions. Students will sign up for these sessions during homeroom in late October.

Please contact your student's counselor for more information or any assistance need.

Student Assistance Team - SAP is a group of trained adults including teachers, a counselor, social workers, school nurse, and an administrator, as well as a drug and alcohol and mental health professional from a community agency. The team offers an assessment and support to students struggling with substance abuse and mental health issues. Treatment is not offered through the school. Referrals are confidential and involvement with the SAP team is voluntary provided the student has not violated the district's drug and alcohol policies. The team receives referrals through students, parents and school staff. Current Member of the SAP Team includes: Michelle Arrante, Jamie Canaday, Craig Carlough, Tish Foster, Mary Humphreys, Stacey Lock, Kristina Spano, and Keith Truver

English Department

English teachers recently took their students to the computer labs for the first round of District Assessments in Reading. Students were pleased because they received instant results. The assessment was informative for both students and teachers. Teachers will use this data to guide instruction as they prepare students for the upcoming PSSA.

In anticipation of post-secondary school, College Prep English 12 students have been reinforcing their reading skills with Homer's Iliad.

Junior Honors English students just completed viewing Thornton Wilder's Our Town and discussing the theme of the universality of the human experience. They are now reading about the future that Ray Bradbury fears in his novel Fahrenheit 451.

The 2010 Edith Garlow Memorial Poetry Contest sponsored by Delaware County Community College is seeking submissions from Oxford Area High School students. Each contestant may submit only one poem. The poem must be an original creation and have a definite metrical and/or rhyming pattern. First prize is \$800. Submissions must be typed and submitted to Mrs. DeAngelis by January 22, 2010.

Mathematics Department

This year we welcome Mr. Kettlewell to the math department. He is teaching Intermediate Algebra and Geometry and although new to our school, he has taught in other districts before coming to Oxford.

Intermediate Algebra is a course that is a bridge from Algebra I to Algebra II. Students will be doing a variety of activities to reinforce math skills and better prepare them for further math courses. Mr. Wooddell has left the math department and is currently working with the gifted program in our school district.

All the teachers and students are working hard so that your children can be successful in math. There are several courses for PSSA remediation for students in grades 10-12 to reinforce the assessment anchors used in the PSSA test. Students have accounts in Study Island (www.studyisland.com) and can access these accounts at home or in school.

This week students are learning about deductive and inductive reasoning in geometry class, in Algebra 1A the topic is scatterplots, in Algebra IB students are graphing and solving systems of equations, Intermediate Algebra classes are studying Equations and graphs through a variety of activities, Trigonometry students are studying the ratios of the sides of right triangles, the normal distribution is being studied in Statistics class, and Pre-Calculus students are putting the “fun” into functions.

Social Studies Department

The Social Studies Department has begun the 2009-2010 school year with high hopes for outstanding learning experiences for all of our students. Department members continue to develop lessons that present opportunities for every learner to acquire significant knowledge and skills in the realms of history and the other social studies.

The Department is pleased to welcome Mr. Josh Shock to Oxford. Mr. Shock, who has taken the position held for many years by Mrs. JoAnn Brady, is currently teaching Grade 9 American History and is coaching soccer. We are confident that Mr. Shock will make numerous positive contributions to the high school.

A review of our courses finds that the American History classes are presently learning about the westward expansion of the United States in the years that followed the Civil War, an exciting time of rapid growth for the nation. Tenth graders in our World History classes have examined the countries of the Middle East with a particular focus on the importance of that region’s oil to the world economy. Next, the sophomores will study the fascinating history of the continent of Africa.

Grade 11 students take a course known as “Modern Issues in Civics and Economics,” affectionately known by all as “MICE.” This class, whose content is largely derived from current events, customarily covers a wide range of topics, and at this time the students are looking at the current issue of health care reform, foreign affairs, and the structure of the United States Constitution.

Among the elective courses offered by our department are Psychology, Advanced Placement American History, and European History. The psychology students have been learning the history and scientific foundations of that discipline, while in European history the classes have completed surveys of the ancient Greek and Roman civilizations. As they prep for the national test in May, our AP students are delving into the complexities of colonial American history, including the French and Indian War of the mid-1700’s.

Members of our department also supervise several important extracurricular activities, such as the National Honor Society, which is now planning for the Red Cross Blood Drive under the leadership of students Sarah Leach and Karen Bradley. Dedicated members of the Helping Hands Club are volunteering throughout the Oxford community with organizations and services such as Hospice, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Crop Walk, animal shelters, and Oxford Mainstreet Incorporated. Finally, the Academic Competition Team is eagerly preparing for its first match on October 6th.

HOST FAMILY NEEDED FOR ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT

Have you ever considered being part of one of the most successful international student exchange programs – Rotary International? For 80 years, Rotary Youth Exchange has provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for students to broaden their education and world understanding by letting them live with a host family and attend high school in a foreign country.

The Rotary Club of Oxford is currently sponsoring a Youth Exchange student from Brazil who has attended Oxford Area High School since the beginning of the school year. His current host family is responsible for providing living arrangements for the first semester of the school year, and a new host family is needed for the second semester.

Oxford's Youth Exchange student has thrived during his brief time here, and it is imperative for him to have a host family in order to complete his participation in the program. Please consider being part of one of the most successful international student exchange programs in the world by hosting our exchange student for the second semester of the school year. Not only will you provide an unforgettable service to a student from abroad, but your family will also have a unique cultural experience.

If you are interested in additional information, please contact Rob Newman, District Rotary Representative, at 484-574-9633 or at captain_Newman@usafa-grads.com He can tell you much more about the program.

You may also contact Art Salatto, Oxford Rotary Club, at 610-932-6609.

Dates to Remember

November 3	Teacher In-service (no school for students)
November 12	Sophomore Class Ring Assembly (Ring order information distributed)
November 18	Order School Rings (Rotunda) 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Parents welcome)
November 19	Order School Rings during lunch period (Students only)
November 26-29	Thanksgiving
November 30	Official School District Holiday
December 9	Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
December 23	Early Dismissal
December 24-Jan 3	Winter Recess
January 18	Martin Luther King Holiday