

# Hill Regional Career H.S. Parent Newsletter

September 2011 - Edition: 1

Editor: Parent Liaison

Committee: P.T.S.O.

## Welcome! Parents, Staff and Students

**Parent Organization Mission Statement:** It is our mission to work collaboratively with the school community to provide a quality education for our children, through increased Parental participation, productive communication and assistance, while fostering a warm and welcoming environment.

### HRCHS Mission Statement

The mission of Career is to prepare all of our students to become productive members of their own community and a global society by providing an educational environment that establishes rigorous standards of academic performance with a focus on health and business. We encourage students to maximize their potential by promoting critical and creative thinking, developing technological competence and fostering respect for a diverse and changing world. These goals are the shared responsibility and commitment of the staff, faculty, students, parents and community

### Academic Expectations - students will:

1. Write using Standard English for a variety of purposes and audiences.
2. Read actively and critically for a variety of purposes.
3. Use academic knowledge and information to think critically, problem solve, and make decisions.
4. Select and apply the tools of technology to improve personal and professional productivity.
5. Effectively communicate using a variety of methods.

### Social & Civil Expectations - students will:

1. Develop an awareness of behavior that promotes a healthy and responsible lifestyle.
2. Provide service to the greater community.
3. Demonstrate an appreciation for diverse cultures.
4. Exhibit positive communication and collaboration within the school and regional community
5. Exhibit respect for themselves and others.

## Parent Announcements

### Parent Meeting

Wed., Sept. 21, 2011

5:30pm – Auditorium

AP Heriberto Cordero, Presenter

**Meet the Teacher Night - 6pm – 8pm**

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Night

**Meet & Greet, Information, Games, Activities and Fun**

Wed., September 28, 2011

5:30 – 7:30PM

Senior pictures will be taken Sept 26-27, 10/11-10/14, 11/17-11/22. All underclassmen pictures will be taken 9/22-23 & 10/27 by appointment. **ID Photos** for all students will be taken during their photo session.

### Parent Workshop

Brotherhood – October 11, 2011 – The PTSO invites both parent and students to come out to support our first brotherhood night on October 11, 2011. We have invited a dynamic panel of speakers who are eager to share information about a variety of community resources in new haven county that support and encourage the mental and physical health of men, as well as career options and preparation for our young men.

### From The Desk of, Michael Ceraso, Principal

As we enter the closing weeks of both summer and September, we also enter the third week of the school year. I am very pleased to report to you that the opening of school this year was the best in the history of the school! We had the largest number of students and parents ever at our Orientations, distributed the largest number ever of schedules to students before school opened. More importantly, we started all of our classes, from the very first day, in “high academic gear.” It is a pleasure to see your children so eager and excited about coming to school and attending classes. Among my goals this year are to continue to raise both the quality of teaching and the level of academic expectations in every course, every classroom, every period, every day. I am already encouraged with what I see when I visit classes. Your children are talented and eager to learn, prepared for the challenges their teachers are offering them in their classes, and have already provided some excellent examples of cooperative learning and ability to apply classroom learning using higher order thinking skills. Please help us to sustain the energy and focus of this successful beginning so it extends throughout the school year with your support and frequent communication with your child, your child’s teachers, and the administration.

I was pleased to meet so many of you who attended the Orientation sessions, and I look forward to again seeing you at the upcoming Meet The Teacher’s Night, where you will have the opportunity to meet your child’s teachers, receive syllabi and course expectations, and ask and get answers to your questions.

As you will read in the pages to follow, your PTSO has a large amount of information for you to read and consider. In addition, they are planning a variety of exciting activities for this year. I have already entered several of these on the Hill Regional Magnet HS calendar, which is available on the school website. Please take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

### PTSO Co-Presidents, Kenya Greene & Tina Jennings

A warm welcome to all new students, families and returning families; welcome back! Parents, we are always in search of new ideas, time and energy. Don’t be shy about joining the PTSO/committees. Our children deserve to have the best PTSO possible and that is only possible with YOUR input. Meetings will be held at alternating times to accommodate different work schedules.

Please remind your children that school is a place of decency/decorum. Not a night club or a juke joint. They need to understand that certain environments call for certain attire. School is one of them. So please enforce appropriate dress when they enter the school house.

**\$\$ 5.00 MEMBERSHIP** - The amount is only **\$5.00 per family per year for membership**. The PTSO Fundraising Committee helps to provide a variety of extra-curricular activities for our children. Each year we try to improve on what we achieved the previous year. We encourage you to attend all school meetings, functions and PTSO events and go the “extra mile”... For information or to volunteer call Ms. Smith, Ms. Greene or Ms. Jennings in the parent room at 203-946-6976. Thank you for your support.

*Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. - Helen Adams Keller*

## Welcome New Staff

Congratulations to Monica Joyner, former Math teacher here at Career. She has been appointed Administrative Intern/Administrator for the freshmen class. Ms. Joyner is currently working on her Ed.D in Education and is excited to be in her new role as administrator.

### Business Department

Johnathan Heller  
Philip Schneider

### Math Department

James Barbarito  
Devon Merico

### English Department

Nicola Gardner

### Science Department

Cheryl Lynn Lee

### History Department

Kathleen Mastroianni

### Resource

Debra Stannard

## School Policy

### Attendance

Students absent from school must provide a note within 48 hours of returning to school – see attendance officer in the main office.

### Emergency Information

If you move and change your telephone Number over the course of the school year; please make sure you update the main office. This vital information is for emergency notification – to you or your designated contact person.

### Early Dismissal

Any student needing to be dismissed early must have a signed permission note from his/her parent. All notes **must** be turned into the attendance officer before the designated departure time for phone verification.

### Homeroom - @ 7:45am

#### Tardy Students

Per the New Haven Board of Education procedures - students tardy to school **must** be accompanied by a parent. Tardiness due to late buses is excusable.

Students tardy to homeroom are to report to the attendance officer in the Main office for a tardy admission pass. Failure to do this will result in the student being officially absent.

#### Student Dress Code

To avoid unnecessary aggravation, trips to the school, children sent home, please adhere to the dress code of Career High School

#### What Not to Wear at Career.

- ✓ No skirts – dresses – shorts more than 4 inches above the knee. (**Self-test:** if the tips of your fingers with your arms alongside your legs are longer than your outfit, your attire is inappropriate for school.)
- ✓ No “do Rags”, hats, sweatbands, scarves or towels (religious observation excused)

- ✓ No pajamas, slippers, inappropriate wording or pictures on clothes
- ✓ No midriff tops
- ✓ No coats or jackets (Individual Lockers Provided)

### Guidance Department

Guidance Counselors for students whose last names begin with the letters:

**A through F** - Ms. Drummond  
946-5845 – EX 3196

**G through N** - Ms. Hawley  
946-5845 – EX 3108

**O through Z** - Ms. Aronoff  
946-5845 – EX 3131

#### September College Fair

**Mon., Sept 19<sup>th</sup> - 9:30-11:00am**, all seniors will attend the College Fair at the University of New Haven.

**PSAT Testing:** We will administer the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) --free of charge -- to ALL freshmen, sophomores and juniors on **Wednesday, October 12, 2011**. The PSAT is an excellent predictor of how your child will score on the SAT, and whether your child might qualify for Advanced Placement. When you get the results, they will provide a question-by-question breakdown which will tell you and your child where your child's academic strengths are and needs.

**All students:** The First Marking Period is a particularly important opportunity for your child to establish a strong pattern for academic progress and success. Progress Reports will be issued during the second week of October, and as stated above the first report card will be distributed on November 22. Parents please review all of this information completely and very carefully – pay attention to grades, but also to teacher's comments and attendance and tardiness

totals which are listed at the bottom directly beneath the grades. If you have questions, you should call your child's guidance counselor to arrange for a meeting, as the counselors have copies of the reports AND access to your child's academic records at their fingertips on their computers. While you are welcome to come to the school at any time to discuss your child's progress, it is best to arrange an appointment with the counselor to do this rather than to come in without an appointment. With a confirmed appointment, you have a dedicated time to meet, and are guaranteed to have that time.

#### If your child is a:

**Senior:** Your child should have taken at least ONE SAT; or at least registered to take the next one. Well-prepared applications often take several DAYS of hard work to complete. It is important that each of your child's applications is reviewed by your child's counselor. ALL college applications must be reviewed prior to submission with your child and your child's guidance counselor -- no applications should be considered "finalized" until the guidance counselor reviews it.

**Junior:** Again your child should be taking appropriately challenging academic courses, and striving to do excellently in all of them. Here at Career, there is a wonderful support framework for academic help -- after school with the course teacher, the Extended Day program, or one-to-one tutoring with a volunteer.

**Sophomore:** Again, the PSAT is an excellent predictor of how your child will score on the SAT. In addition, it as a very good

predictor of how your child will fare on the CAPT, and whether your child might qualify for Advanced Placement courses. The CAPT should be you and your child's major academic focus this year in pursuing academic study on a daily basis.

**Freshman:** In addition to providing an academic challenge in day-to-day coursework, we will be administering several practice CAPT tests this year to get your child familiar with the test and its challenging requirements. Your child continues to adjust to Career and its unique academic demands and requirements. You should carefully monitor your child to ensure this process is a smooth and successful one. Your child should have books and homework on a DAILY basis. If this is not occurring, please contact the school and speak to your child's counselor or administrator immediately. Freshmen often need more support from parents, teachers and administrators as beginning high school students than they have needed in earlier academic transitions. If your child's Progress Reports indicate need, or if you and/or your child feel there would be benefit, your child should take advantage of the academic support framework provided here at Career:

### Career Services, Ms. Huckabey

#### Mock Code Simulation Program

Students interested in acting? Medicine? Both? Yale New Haven Children's Hospital currently seeks students who would like to learn how to be "standardized patients" while helping Emergency Room Doctors in training.

Students will learn about common medical complaints, what doctors might think and ask about, and get to practice their acting skills.

As a "standardized patient," students will be coached to act as a parent, sibling or patient in a medical scenario that will be used to teach doctors in training!

In order to apply students must write at least one introduction paragraph, describing their interest and provide a letter of reference to Dr. Beth Emerson.

#### **Celentano Museum Academy Afterschool Program**

Celentano Afterschool program is in search of student employees and volunteers. The program will begin on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2011 and end on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

The program coordinators are looking for strong academic students to help tutor, guide small groups and assist with homework help in Math and Literacy during the academic portion of the program 2:30-3:30, Tuesday through Friday (due to transportation high school students are able to arrive at 3pm).

Students also have the opportunity to assist with enrichment classes, which occur at 3:30-5pm.

Enrichment classes, are focused on health, fitness and creativity. They include Arts and Crafts, Basketball, Dance, Cheerleading, Drama and much more. Students should see Mrs. Huckabey to inquire about the Celentano Museum Academy Afterschool Program opportunity.

#### **Yale New Haven Hospital Volunteer Services**

Volunteering at Yale New Haven Hospital is a great opportunity that allows you to gain valuable knowledge about the hospital environment. Students can be assigned to various departments in the hospital as volunteers. Each student receives a uniform polo shirt and a rewarding experience. Students 15 years or older may apply anytime and must complete 50 hours or service. Please see Mrs. Huckabey for an application.

#### **Saint Raphael Hospital Volunteer Services**

Students can also opt to volunteer for the Hospital of Saint Raphael this school year. For more information, see Mrs. Huckabey.

#### **Youth at Work Year Long Applications**

Students are not being encouraged to apply to Youth at Work. Students **must be referred** to the program by an approved- year round worksite. Applications received outside of the referral will be kept on file for future openings.

Interested students ages 14-21 may obtain an application from an approved worksite or from Youth at Work (165 church street). The student applications are currently available. The deadline is **Friday, October 7, 2011.**

#### **Allied Health and Business Internship with Yale New Haven Hospital**

Juniors and seniors interested in receiving hands on experience in both Business and Health should inquire with the Career Services office about the Allied Health and Business Internship Course. Students pursuing careers in nursing, x-ray technicians, accounting or nutrition/dietician can benefit from this course and

internship experience.

Students prepare for the application during the fall with assistance from the Career Services Representative and will begin an intensive internship during the spring.

**\*\*\*Working Papers are obtained through the Board of Education- 54 Meadow Street, Registration Department. Students must provide a Promise to Employ from the Employer.**

#### **Business**

#### **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)**

FBLA is a student run organization that will be meeting every Tuesday in room 212. Students may participate in competitive events, conferences, seminars, and community service. During the 2010-2011 school year, FBLA students participated in the Fall conference and the March for Babies walk. This year we are planning on expanding our membership and increase the participation in the competition. The benefit of membership includes community service, scholarships (based on membership & offices held), and learning the softskills of business. Please see, Beau Andrea, Francis Madrigal, the bulletin board outside of room 212, or Mrs. Keith for additional information.

[www.fbلا.org](http://www.fbلا.org)

#### **Student Run Branch of the United Shoreline Federal Credit Union**

Students have the opportunity to manage their money by opening either a savings and/or checking account. The Student Run branch of the United Shoreline Federal Credit Union will be open during lunch on B days where

students can make deposits and withdrawals. During times where school is closed, they may go to one of the numerous ATM machines of one of the branches.

Students 18 and under are able to open an account with \$1.00. Students over 16 may obtain an ATM card with the opening of a checking account (must be approved by the main branch).

Students over 18 must maintain a minimum balance of \$25.00. Please come see us during B day lunch or during Meet the Teachers Night.

#### **Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA)**

DECA is an afterschool program open to any business track student. This will afford students the opportunity for scholarships, field trips, discounts, and state national competitions within the realm of marketing. Please see Mr. McHale or Mr. Heller. We are the only chapter within the New Haven School District.

[www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org)

#### **Developing Tomorrows Professionals**

Administrators, teachers and staff make suggestions for male students who may benefit from the Developing Tomorrow's Professionals program. Students are required to attend mandatory academic Saturdays for 10 weeks, May through June, at SCSU. Graduating students from the program will receive a laptop, business appropriate suit, along with participating in various fieldtrips throughout the year. For more information see mydtp.org

**ROBOTICS TEAM**, Advisors: Ms. Scheetz & Mr. Smoker - The first Robotics meeting is Wed., 9/14 @3pm. Future meetings are Thursdays @3pm in the robotics room located in the gym area. Parent volunteers with engineering experience and/or hands-on experience with tools of all types are welcomed. To help any anyway, please contact Ms. Scheetz, @946-5845 - or - email [cynthia.scheetz@new-haven.k12.ct.us](mailto:cynthia.scheetz@new-haven.k12.ct.us)

**CLUBS/TUTORIALS/ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES – 2:15 – 3:15PM** (please check with individual teacher for time and room changes)

TUTORIAL	CLUBS	CLUBS	HONOR SOCIETY	SPORTS
English, Ms. Boughton RM 206	<b>Math Club</b> - Ms. Rooney RM 303/316	<b>Diversity/GSA Club</b> Mr. Haynes	National Honor, Mrs. Neighbors Latin, Dr. Strauch Spanish, Mr. Lopez	Mr. Adamovich, Athletic Director Baseball, Mr. Brennan/Chernovetz Track, Coach Jackson/ Basketball, Coach Kelly/Bethke/Walton Golf, Mr. Chernovetz Tennis, Mr. Gissentanner/ Lacrosse – See Mr. Adamovich Cheerleaders, Coach Bittle
Math, Ms. Ayala RM 316 -- Wed/Thurs	<b>Business Clubs</b> DECA Mr. Heller/McHale RM 212/216	<b>HOSA</b> Ms. Alogna RM 207	<b>CAPT Academy</b> Mr. Haynes – RM 206	
Phy-Chem, Ms. Scheetz RM 213 - Tues/Thurs	FBLA Ms. Keith RM 212/214	<b>Robotics</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Fl. Gym area Thurs.	<b>ISSP – Independent Studies</b> Ms. Mente 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fl.	
	<b>Chess Club</b> Mr. Boucher	<b>Choir Rehearsal/ Instrumental</b> Mr. McCoy – Music RM		
	<b>CISP</b>			

# September 2011

## Upcoming Events

### P.T.S.O. Meetings

Wednesday 09/21/2011  
 Tuesday 10/11/2011  
 Tuesday 11/22/2011 (Report Card)  
 Saturday 12/10/2011  
 Saturday 01/07/2012  
 Thursday 02/09/2012 (Report Card)

Meet the Teacher  
 September 21, 2011  
 5:30 – 8PM  
 Mr. Cordero, Presenter

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Night**  
 September 28, 2011  
 5:30-7:30PM - Cafeteria

Sun	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
				School Opens		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Labor Day No School					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	UNH College Trip		Meet the Teacher			
25	26	27	28	29	30	
			9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Family Night	No School Rosh Hashanah	No School Rosh Hashanah	

**Parent Workshop**  
 Brotherhood –  
 October 11,  
 2011

OCTOBER 2011						
Sun	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Early Dismissal					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	No School Columbus Day	PTSO Mtg. "Brotherhood"	PSAT Test			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
	Halloween					