



Spotlight on Cleveland High School

3400 SE 26th Avenue
Portland, OR 97202
503-916-5120

www.clevelandwarriors.org

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From the Principal

Congratulations to our fall sport student-athletes and coaches for another successful season of athletic competition. Our teams earned District championships in men's and women's Cross Country, men's and women's Soccer, and Volleyball. The Football team was also one win from advancing to the State playoffs. Special congrats to our men's and women's Cross Country teams which capped off an outstanding season placing fifth and ninth, respectively, in State!

Beginning with the 2010 school year, the 10 high schools in the Portland Interscholastic League will become a Hybrid league that will include three classification levels (6A, 5A, and 4A). The classification level was determined by last school year's Average Daily Membership at each high school. Cleveland will continue to participate in athletics and activities at our current 5A level, but other schools in our District have changed classification levels. We view this change as a positive change for Cleveland and for the entire District. Not only will we keep the PIL together as league, but all schools will have more balanced, competitive opportunities based on their school enrollment. The make-up of the 2010 - 2014 PIL Hybrid league will be:

6A - Grant, Lincoln

5A - Benson, Cleveland, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, and Wilson

4A - Marshall, Roosevelt

Part of the graduation requirement for students in the class of 2012 will be a passing score on the State reading test. We are continuing to create an atmosphere that is conducive for State test taking, and we know our parents will join us in encouraging all our students to take this testing seriously. To ensure our students achieve at their highest potential, we need the support of everyone. We will begin administering the 10th grade State reading tests on the dates of Dec. 9-11 and Jan. 13-15. Those who do not pass the first time will be provided one more opportunity this school year. The science test will be in February, the math test in March and the writing test in April. During these dates we urge you to discuss the importance of these tests with your student.

During a time when many high schools are forced to reduce their Band and Choral programs, with your support we at Cleveland have continued to maintain our music department. We will soon have the opportunity to enjoy our student performances and the beautiful sounds of the holiday season. During the last week before Winter Break, our music department will present its winter concerts. Kenney Polson and his instrumentalists will perform musical selections on Tuesday, Dec. 15th at 7 p.m. On Thursday, Dec. 17th at 7 p.m., Sam Barbara and his vocalists will present their seasonal selections.

The last day before Winter Break is Friday, Dec. 18th and staff and students return on Monday, Jan. 4th. From all the staff at Cleveland High School, we wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Winter Break.

Sincerely,

Paul Cook

Paul Cook

News From the Student Services Center

CHS Financial Aid Night

Questions about the FAFSA? Wondering how you're going to pay for college?

DON'T MISS OUR FINANCIAL AID NIGHT FOR SENIORS AND THEIR PARENTS!!!

Thursday, December 3 at 7 p.m. in the CHS Cafeteria, a guest speaker from NELA will present lots of important financial aid information, as well as go over the FAFSA and answer questions.

Senior Parents: FAFSA Information

All seniors planning to attend a 2- or 4-year college should have a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on file with the federal government. The FAFSA should be filled out even if you feel your family income may be too high to qualify for need-based aid. Many merit scholarships and college scholarships, as well as the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (source of over 200 scholarships) require a FAFSA to be on file before they will consider a student's application.

You may complete the FAFSA form through the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov/. Remember! The FAFSA is free! Never pay anyone to fill it out for you.

THE FAFSA MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2010. It should, however, be submitted on January 1, 2010 or shortly thereafter.

FAFSA on the Web is easy to use and makes applying for student aid faster. It has a user-friendly interface and extensive online instructions. The program is self-correcting and self-editing, ensuring better data quality and reduced rejection rates. **More information will be given out during our December Financial Aid Workshop.**

The CSS/PROFILE is used by some private/independent colleges in addition to FAFSA for awarding private money. You can apply online at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>.

The knowledgeable staff at the NELA Center for Student Success, at 1500 NE Irving Street, Ste. 135, Portland, is always available to answer your complicated FAFSA questions and help with financial aid search.

OSAC Scholarships

In January counselors will go into senior English classes to talk about the OSAC scholarship application.

Over 200 OSAC scholarships are available to Oregon students, including several Cleveland High School scholarships. To be eligible for most Cleveland scholarships, students **MUST** submit the OSAC application. We encourage all students to send in an application if they are planning to attend a 2- or 4-year college. This year OSAC is encouraging student to apply online for scholarships, at www.GetCollegeFunds.org

College applications for seniors

'Tis the season to get those college applications completed! Allow 15 SCHOOL DAYS before the deadline for transcripts to be processed, recommendation letters written, and forms completed. This time allows us to prepare exemplary packets. **NOTE!** If your student has a deadline between January 1-10, he or she **MUST** meet with the counselor for a senior interview by **EARLY DECEMBER**. Counselors will not be able to complete their portions of the applications, and write recommendation letters, over the Winter Break. College and University admission staffs consider the teacher and counselor letters of recommendation to be a very important part of the College Admissions Packet. When a staff member writes a letter on short notice, it is not in the best interest of the student! If the college informs you it is missing any pieces to your application:

- FIRST:** Find out from the college what's missing and if it has been received.
- SECOND:** Contact your counselor or Barbara Baker, college/career counselor, if it's a school piece that's missing so we can check and resend it if necessary.
- THIRD:** Don't panic—we've always been able to resolve these issues. The colleges are dealing with a vast amount of information and pieces get misplaced every year.

Colleges have always been willing to accept additional copies as long as the student's application was received on time.

***Please note: Transcripts must be ordered on Naviance. Transcripts cost \$1.00 each, and payment must be made to Meg Jacobson, secretary, in the SSC, before we can send them out.**

Upcoming Oregon College Deadlines

U of O priority application/scholarship deadline is January 15.

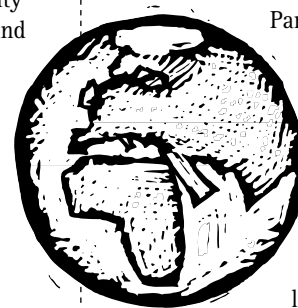
OSU priority application/scholarship deadline is February 1.

Upcoming Test Dates

SAT I & II	Jan. 23
Registration deadline	Dec. 15
ACT*	Feb. 6
Registration deadline	Jan. 5

***ALL juniors will take the ACT for free here at CHS in April.**

Host Family Needed



Partners in Academic Exchange is looking for a host family for a female student from Turkey. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Turkey by hosting a Cleveland student for the

remainder of the school year starting after the Winter Break. This outstanding student wants to be part of an American family and improve her English as she immerses herself in studies at Cleveland. She likes math, sports, swimming, and theatre. Host families can be single parents or adults retired from the work force. Call Maranee Sanders for more information, 503-293-6195.

BOXERS ALREADY??

Yes, it seems early to start thinking about the All-Night Senior Party in June. But the holidays are a great time to get good bargains on boxers for Boxer Bingo, one of the traditional activities at the Senior Party. The Senior Party Planning Committee is asking for donations of boxers in all sizes for this popular event. Check out Old Navy, Fred Meyer and Macy's as you do your holiday shopping. Look for novelty boxers on sale; please consider purchasing a pair or two to donate! Boxers may be dropped off at the CHS main office, or contact Robin Corrigan at 503-233-1790 or corrigan@easystreet.net to make arrangements for pick up.



“Bridging the Gap” February 4

Parent Volunteers Needed

Are you glad your student attends CHS? Would you like to tell other parents what a great school this is? Well, here's your chance! Bridging the Gap, the annual CHS open house for 8th grade families, is coming up on February 4. Groups of prospective CHS parents and students roam the halls of the school that night, led by a CHS student tour guide. Each group has a CHS parent assigned to it, whose job it is to respond to any questions that might be best answered by a parent, rather than a student. It's an easy volunteer duty, lots of fun, and a great way to sell our wonderful school. If you're interested in participating, please contact Debbie Menashe at dgmenashe@aol.com or Robin Corrigan at corrigan@easystreet.net

NHS Children's Book Drive

The Cleveland National Honor Society is collecting kids' books for the Children's Book Bank, a local organization that seeks to distribute literature to low-income youth in the Portland area. Gently used items are ideal and should be appropriate for young readers (infant to age 8). Books may be dropped off in the CHS library any time; look for the NHS Book Drive box.

The Children's Book Bank is specifically looking for these kinds of books:

Board books • Picture books • Alphabet books • Books about numbers, colors, animals, shapes and words • Story books • Rhyming books • Dr. Seuss books • Children's books in Spanish.

Please, no encyclopedias, musty or damaged books, school textbooks or advanced chapter books (early chapter books okay).

Snow Buses to Mount Hood

The Grant Community Ski bus, and NE Snowriders Ski bus will offer day trips in January and February for skiers, and snowboarders interested in going to Mt. Hood Meadows. Any high school or middle school students, parents or community members may sign up now for the Saturday or Sunday programs. Sign up before December 18th, and save “big” on several options. See you on the bus!

For pricing options and program Information Contact:

Saturdays: Kim Howard
grantskibus@comcast.net,

Eliza Coblentz /Alameda Snowblasters,
ecoblentz@q.com, or

Sundays: Alice Hunt /Paul Leverton
nesnowriders@yahoo.com

District Meetings on High School Redesign

Please attend a District meeting to hear the latest proposed changes to the Portland High School System. The goal is a high school system that serves all students better; the model includes community schools, focus schools and education options. Participants will hear an overview of plans and be invited to talk about their expectations for the community schools and their offerings.

All families, students, PPS employees and community members are invited to attend a December meeting at the following high schools.

Jefferson High School 12/1 • Marshall Campus 12/1 • Roosevelt Campus 12/2 • Wilson High School 12/2 • Madison High School 12/3 • Franklin High School 12/3

All meetings 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Translation services will be provided. For more information: www.pps.k12.or.us/news/1829.htm

Rose Festival Princess Applications

Senior girls with a minimum 3.0 GPA and who can document 20 hours of community service are eligible to apply for the \$3,000 Rose Festival Scholarship and have a chance to become Cleveland's next Rose Festival Princess.

Applications are available in the vice principal's office from Linda McKinney, and are due by December 14th to VP Leslie Butterfield. For answers to your questions, please call 503-803-7663.



2010 CLEVELAND HIGH SWING'N MINGLE AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

6:30 - 9:30 PM

AT OAKS PARK PAVILLION

❄️ Silent and Super Silent Auction

'60s style cocktail party

Hors d'oeuvres • Beer and wine

❄️ Lounge music with DJ Geoff Richman
from "I Play Records"

Our emcee: Ellen Damaschino of "Neat"

Mark your calendar now!

❄️ Shimmy into
your sheath and
pop on your
pillbox hat,
it's time to swing
'n mingle at the
2010 Cleveland High
School auction!

This year's event, *Mix It Up!*, promises the electric atmosphere of a '60s cocktail party. Munch on hors d'oeuvres, sip beer and wine, mingle and stroll among the silent auction tables as lounge music fills the air. A special paddle raise in addition to the silent auction will help raise the roof, raise your spirits and raise lots of money for Cleveland as you **Mix It Up!** with friends.

This is Cleveland's major fundraising event of the year, with proceeds going to staffing, academics, athletics and the arts. The PTA and the Cleveland Foundation welcome all members of the community to attend. Watch for event tickets and raffle tickets for a special prize to go on sale in January.

Volunteers Needed:

To make **Mix It Up!** the best Auction ever, volunteers are needed. The Auction Committee simply can't do it all and needs your help. This is a great opportunity to help your Cleveland family. The Procurement Team especially needs help because without Auction items, there is no Auction! Procurement letters have

already been sent to merchants. Simply follow up (calls and visits) from parent volunteers to collect donations is all that is needed for our Auction to take shape.

More ideas on how to help:

You can donate an Auction item or encourage others to do so. Everything from artwork to vacation homes can be great Auction items. Looking for one last end-of-year contribution? Here's your opportunity. There are many tasks small and large where your participation can make a big difference. Sponsors are also needed to cover costs: do you know a friend or business owner who would like to be a sponsor and be featured in Auction materials? Give us a call and we'll help you brainstorm.

For more information about the Auction, watch the CHS e-News and the *Spotlight* newsletter.

Let's all help make this a groovy auction!

To volunteer, donate or participate, please contact Colette Livermore, Auction Chair 503-239-7287, letteco@msn.com

From the PTA

Unbelievably, 2009 is almost over. There's still a lot to cover between now and Winter Break – parent-teacher conferences, reports and tests, performances, and all the things we do on the home front at this time of year. We offer just a few words of advice for this busy time: slow down, listen to your kids, enjoy small things, reach out to those who are in need of a little support, and try to carve out some time for yourself.

In the meantime, here are a few messages from the PTA board:

An Accident Waiting to Happen? Or an Accident Prevented?

Have you noticed the chaos around the Cleveland High School blocks this fall? In the mornings between about 7:45-8:15 and then again in the afternoon from about 3:00-3:30, a mass of people, bikes, cars, school buses and city buses converge in front of the school. In short, it's become a danger zone - too many people and vehicles, often late, stressed or in a hurry, and hoards of pedestrians crossing the street and emerging from or entering cars, mostly plugged into listening devices or on the phone and rarely, if ever, watching traffic. As we head into winter, with more rain and darker days, the problems could increase.

Both the school administration and PTA are aware of the problem and the administration is working with Tri-Met and the City to seek solutions to the many issues near the intersection of Powell and SE 26th Ave, as well as other intersections near the school. Until we are able to get additional crosswalks in place, possibly change the location of the #10 bus stop, or figure out a way to otherwise route our traffic, we are going to need everyone's help to prevent accident or injury.

Here are some ways you can help:

- Stay calm when approaching the school. Don't let the behavior of other vehicles or pedestrians cause you to become angry.
- Reduce your speed.



- If dropping off in front of the school on 26th, please do not block the bike lane. I received an e-mail from a biker last week, who had lost the bike lane, had a car on her left, and then had to contend with a student who opened the car door into her. This could have been a tragedy.

- Leave a little earlier for school.
- Find a place to drop your kids off that is a block or so away from the school and away from the chaos. A bit of morning fresh air never hurt anyone.
- Remind your kids again and again about pedestrian rules, especially making eye contact with drivers.
- Tell your kids never to dart out and cross 26th behind a bus – cars traveling on 26th can't see them.
- Try to persuade your kids to cross at the corners instead of in the middle of the block between Powell and Franklin.

If everyone chips in, the morning drop-off will be safer and more pleasant for everyone. Thanks People!!

From PTA Legislative Chair Mike Rosen:

On November 19th the Cleveland PTA sponsored a special meeting to discuss critical issues facing our school. Thanks to all who attended and provided great feedback. But even if you couldn't make it, you can still be involved and help shape the future for our kids. We discussed three items:

Tax Measures 66 and 67. Results of this election, to be held in January, could significantly impact class sizes, length of the school year, and course offerings. Oregon PTA is supporting the passage of these measures. Here are a few things to consider:

- Portland Public Schools estimates that if these measures do not pass we will lose an additional 5 days of school this year and will have to consider cutting \$23 million from the current Portland

budget. Statewide the cumulative loss of funding for schools, over this year and next, is estimated at \$286 million.

- Your vote counts! So, are you registered to vote? If you moved recently and haven't reapplied, you are not. Go to this website to register online: www.sos.state.or.us/elections/votreg/vreg.htm
- Are you interested in working on Measures 66 and 67? Check out these sites for volunteer opportunities: www.stand.org/Page.aspx?pid=2003 and voteyesfororegon.org/ or, contact Mike Rosen at mikanter@comcast.net.

High School Redesign. Will impact course offerings, high school closures, re-adjustment of attendance boundaries. PPS is in the process of determining how to improve high school programs throughout the city and they are asking for your feedback. Bottom line - everyone needs to be able to send their kids to a high school like Cleveland and we need to help achieve this WHILE MAINTAINING THE QUALITY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE CLEVELAND PROVIDES. For more information check out this website: www.highschools.pps.k12.or.us

Federal "Race to the Top" Grants.

Impacts funding. Over \$4 billion in federal funds are available this year to states and school districts. Over the past month, more than 100 of the most effective leaders in Oregon education – teachers, principals, superintendents, parents, business leaders, advocates – have contributed to Oregon's application. The recommendations still need to be forged into a bold and coherent strategy, but there are promising signs. For more information on how we can keep promotion of Oregon's proposal a high priority for Oregon leaders, check out this Department of Education web link: www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=2781.

Watch the CHS e-News and future editions of the *Spotlight* for more information.

Portland Public Schools
 Cleveland High School
 3400 SE 26th Ave
 Portland, OR 97202

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December at Cleveland

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Time</i>
Thursday, Dec. 3	Financial Aid Night	Cafeteria	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 7	Booster Club Meeting	Eastmoreland Grill	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9 - 11	OAKS READING TEST for all sophomores Class of 2012 must pass this test to graduate	During the school day	
Monday - Friday Dec. 14 - 18	NO BLOCKS THIS WEEK		
Tuesday, Dec. 15	Winter Band Concert	Auditorium	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 16	LATE OPENING • Period 1 begins at 10:15 a.m.		
Thursday, Dec. 17	Winter Vocal Concert	Auditorium	7 p.m.
Dec. 19 - Jan. 3	Winter Break		
Monday, Jan. 4	Classes Resume		

For the most
 up-to-date calendar
 information,
 check the online
 Events Calendar:
www.clevelandwarriors.org/WebCalendar/month.php