

Century High School
355 Ronsdale Road
Sykesville, MD 21784

Main Office 410-386-4400
Fax 410-386-4413

Home of the Knights!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

This is our first newsletter of the New Year ~ and we hope it finds you and your family well. The 2nd Marking Period came to a close last Friday, January 22nd and we ended the quarter on a high note. To help celebrate this milestone and to allow students to reflect on their goals and accomplishments, a pep rally of sorts was formed. Students were entertained by our chorus and jazz band who both set a great tone for the assembly. It was great to watch these talented students help kick off the show! The cheerleaders performed an excellent routine; which turned out to be a preview of their COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP the next day! We highlighted the pep rally with the Academic Team challenging faculty members to a quick game ~ and it came as no surprise that our team shut out the faculty! A slide show of student and school-wide accomplishments was created to remind students of all the great things happening at CHS. Finally, the grand honorees of the assembly were the **GIRLS 2009 STATE CHAMPION CROSS COUNTRY TEAM!** We've accomplished so much as a school that there was reason to celebrate. AP Scores are skyrocketing. We made the Newsweek "Top 1500 High Schools" list. Students earned numerous county and regional championships. And this past Saturday, both the **GIRLS AND BOYS INDOOR TRACK TEAMS** earned COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS. The Carroll County Times headline said it all: "Century Rules!"

We hope you are as proud of our students and our school as I am. Each year we add new and exciting accomplishments and programs that help our students set goals for their future. Now is the time for you as parents to get involved in that process. Parent/Advisor Conferences are coming up soon – Feb 2nd and 11th. We've sent numerous AlertNow messages to remind parents to call to set up appointments to select classes for next year. If you haven't done so, most likely you will be assigned a date and time as most slots are now filled. We set a goal of 100% parent participation. Please review the Program of Studies and come ready to ask questions. We will guide you as you help your son/daughter pick the right classes for their ability and interest area. There are so many new courses and programs out there – don't miss out by not attending!

I hope the second semester goes as well as the first for our Knights. We are well on the way to a great year. Thank you for your continued support of our school and I hope to see you at our next PTSO meeting on Feb 16th where we will highlight more things happening here at CHS!

Sincerely,

Drew Cockley

Principal

Calendar of Events

Jan 27	2010-2011 Course Selection Materials due in Advisory.
Jan 29	Report Cards distributed to students in Advisory.
Jan 29	Ski Club Trip
Feb 2	Parent/Advisor Conference Night #1 (snow date Feb 9th) 4:00pm to 7:30pm
Feb 2	“U-turn” Awards Breakfast!
Feb 5	CCSGA field trip to Carroll Community College
Feb 5	Ski Club Trip
Feb 9	Perfect Attendance Awards Breakfast!
Feb 11	Academic Honors Breakfast!
Feb 11	Parent/Advisor Conference Night #2 (snow date Feb 18th) 4:00pm to 7:30pm
Feb 12	Ski Club Trip
Feb 15	Schools Closed – President’s Day
Feb 16	Schools Closed – (conference nights)
Feb 16	PTSO Meeting at 7:00pm (Media Center)
Feb 20	<i>Black and White Dance @ 8pm to 11pm</i>
Feb 24	9th Grade Students Meet in their ACADEMIES!
Feb 25	End of the 3rd Qtr Interim Period
Feb 27	<i>Century Idol @ 7pm!</i>

Not My Child



January 2010

“Your CHILD and Life Transitions”

Heraclitus, an ancient Greek philosopher, stated “There is nothing permanent except change.” This may very well be true; however, although change is natural, it doesn’t make it any easier – especially for teens. Studies show that adolescents who haven’t experimented with drugs or alcohol are more likely to start during times of transition in order to cope with stress.

Every child faces normal and anticipated life progressions - welcoming a new baby into the family, moving to a new grade level, puberty, and graduation. Even these routine changes may cause unexpected anxiety for your child. The current state of the economy has caused many families to make changes in their family’s lifestyle. But traumatic events, such as the loss of a parent by death or divorce, are especially difficult for children particularly when the adults in their lives are also trying to cope.



Stress is the **#1** reason that teens may turn to drugs.

Top 5 Reasons Teens Use Drugs During Transitions

- To combat loneliness, low self-esteem, anxiety, or depression.
- To mentally “check out” of family issues or school trouble.
- To ease discomfort in an unfamiliar situation.
- To look cool or change their image/reputation.
- To fit in with a desired group of friends.

But don’t worry - while change is a part of life, risky behaviors like drug and alcohol use, don’t have to be. Although parents can’t control the changes that impact their ‘tween or teen, you can pay attention to their feelings, concerns, and needs. The most important thing you can do during these transitions is to stay involved in your child’s life. Studies show that only 18% of teens whose parents are significantly involved in their lives engage in high-risk activities. So set aside regular times for one-on-one conversations, encourage open dialogue, and discuss the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Consider using the time spent in the car transporting your child, to stay current with his/her worries and concerns. You will have a captive audience!

For more information on how to recognize transitions, to understand why they are tough, and how you can help, please go to: http://www.timetotalk.org/downloads/transition_guide_1c.pdf. If you have concerns about your child’s stress level or have had a significant life change within your family or would like additional resources, please contact your school counselor.

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OUT-OF-DISTRICT REQUESTS FOR THE 2010 - 2011 SCHOOL YEAR

On January 22, 2010, out-of-district applications will be available in school offices. Board policy states that students who attend Carroll County Public Schools shall attend school in their designated attendance area. However, in very specific and limited circumstances, students may be placed in a school outside their attendance area if an approvable circumstance is deemed to exist.

Parents/legal guardians desiring an out-of-district placement for their child should carefully review the list of approvable circumstances listed on the back of the out-of-district application to determine whether the child meets the criteria for approval. The Carroll County Public Schools' out-of-district policy and regulation will be strictly adhered to in making decisions regarding admission of students to schools outside of their assigned attendance area.

The only Carroll County Public Schools designated as "OPEN" for the 2010-2011 school year are as follows:

ELEMENTARY

Cranberry Station Elementary	Robert Moton Elementary
Ebb Valley Elementary	Runnymede Elementary
Elmer Wolfe Elementary	Sandymount Elementary
Hampstead Elementary	Spring Garden Elementary
Manchester Elementary	Taneytown Elementary
Mt. Airy Elementary	Winfield Elementary
Parr's Ridge Elementary	

MIDDLE

New Windsor Middle	Oklahoma Road Middle
North Carroll Middle	Shiloh Middle
Northwest Middle	

HIGH

Francis Scott Key High	North Carroll High
Manchester Valley High	

All other Carroll County Public Schools will be designated as "CLOSED" for the 2010-2011 school year. This means that any out-of-district application submitted for placement to a "CLOSED" school for the 2010-2011 school year will be denied unless it meets the limited criteria for admission to a "CLOSED" school.

Parents/legal guardians who plan to submit out-of-district applications for the 2010-2011 school year need to be aware of the following procedures:

- It is the parent's/legal guardian's responsibility to obtain an out-of-district application from the school office or the Student Services Department. These applications will be available on January 22, 2010, *but not before*. Please be certain that the application obtained is for the 2010-2011 school year. Completed out-of-district applications may not be returned to the school office.
- The deadline for out-of-district applications for the 2010-2011 school year is **April 1, 2010**. Completed applications must be **postmarked or personally delivered** by the deadline date to:

Carroll County Public Schools
Student Services Department
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

- Applications postmarked/received after the deadline date of **April 1, 2010** will be returned to the sender without consideration.
QUESTIONS REGARDING OUT-OF-DISTRICT ISSUES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SCHOOL'S PUPIL PERSONNEL WORKER, (NAME), AT 410-(PHONE NUMBER).

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Friends for Life Club has worked very hard over the past few months to put together a “FIRST-EVER” Century High School team to participate in the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge which benefits Special Olympics of Maryland. CHS is participating in the “Frigid Friday Cool Schools Plunge” this Friday, January 29th at Sandy Point State Park. Donations would be much appreciated and can be made following these steps:

- 1.) Go to www.plungemd.com
- 2.) Click on “2010 Cool Schools Challenge”
- 3.) Click on “List of Schools”
- 4.) Click on “Century Knights”
- 5.) Click on “General Team Donation”

*All donations are tax deductible.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

AP Statistics – Guest Speaker makes academy connections for students!

David Desrocher, from the National Security Technology Department at the Applied Physics Lab in Johns Hopkins University, visited Mr. Arnold’s AP Probability and Statistics course this past December. Mr. Desrocher came in to educate students on the applications of statistics in a variety of different current event issues and the advantage given them by the problem solving techniques taught in the course. He discussed issues such as “space trash” and the dangers of space collisions and how statistical processes are used to track these phenomena. He also discussed his current project which entails helping the United States Government allocate funds, manpower, and technology to fight border security across the Mexican and Canadian borders. He shared personal and 2nd hand experiences and really brought the field of statistics and science together to paint a picture for the use of statistics in today’s workforce.

T. Rowe Price visits Senior Advisory students... financial literacy in action!

For the fourth consecutive year, Century High School is partnering with financial services company T.Rowe Price to present the National Endowment for Financial Education’s Financial Literacy Program to senior advisories. Several T.Rowe Price representatives have volunteered their time to facilitate discussions on topics ranging from budgeting and investing to good vs. bad debt. This partnership, suggested by CHS parent David Harbeitner, who works for T.Rowe Price and represents their company on our Business Advisory Board, has become an integral part of the 12th grade advisory curriculum, and has proven to be both informative and enjoyable for those involved. After three successful sessions this past fall, T.Rowe Price will return to senior advisories in February.



It's Academic Team – victorious!

On Saturday January 9th the Century High School Academic Team was featured on the TV Quiz Show *It's Academic* on WJZ-TV. The team of Andrew Glaser, Patrick Komiske, and Alex Simms went up against students from Calvert High School and Mt. Hebron High School. The Century team won their first round match and now waits to compete against Loyola-Blakefield High School and Catonsville High School, who also won their first round match. The next match tapes on February 13 and will air on May 1.

In addition to the *It's Academic* TV show, the team also won a preliminary tournament in the *Carroll Academic Challenge* by defeating Winter's Mill High School 350-170 in November.

The complete roster of the Academic team is Andrew Glaser, Patrick Komiske, Alex Simms, Jacob Brintzenhofe, Robert Moore, Alexa Prettyman, Jacob Jones, Sam Straitz and Jen Straitz. This is one of the strongest teams Century as ever had and they should continue to represent Century with class. Please help support these amazing students.

Rwandan Genocide Survivor Visits Century – cultural enrichment...

On Friday, January 15th, Richard Nick Ngendahayo, a Rwandan Genocide Survivor visited Century to share his experiences of the mass slaughter in his African country in 1994. He mesmerized his audiences in Mrs. Lisa Anderson's social studies classes with stories of how Europeans came into his country and divided the natives into two distinct tribes. The two ethnic groups that were created were very similar. They shared the same past, traditions and land for many years. He tells of how Europeans, after WWII, divided Rwanda by minor physical features and eating patterns. One tribe, Tutsi, was left in control when the Europeans moved out and this did not set well with the Hutus, the other created tribe. At this time, his family was labeled Tutsi. As Hutu resentment grew, Hutu unleashed anger on the Tutsis and genocide began. His talk captivated students as he explained how his family fled Rwanda and became refugees in the neighboring land of Burundi. When it became clear that the family was not safe there, his father made the decision to return to their homeland to "die on their native soil". The story deepens as he recounts how his father, along with thousand of other Tutsi fathers, were taken at knife point and held captive for 30 days until most had died of starvation. Pretending to be dead and dumped in an empty grave, Richard's father survives long enough to get back to his family and warn them of their certain death. While Richard and his three brothers plan their escape to go and join forces to fight back, Hutu soldiers armed with machetes surround his home place and kill most of his family members. When the killing ends, only his mother, one sister and a niece survive. Feeling that he has been given another chance at life, Richard traveled to the US to tell his story and raise money to send back to Rwanda to help the widows and children put their lives back together. As you can see, this was a riveting event and one that will leave a lasting impression on our students.

Senior Cruise – May 19th

Attention seniors!!! Tickets for the Senior Cruise will go on sale March 22nd, 2010 to April 16th, 2010 during all lunches. The Cruise will be on Wednesday, May 19th, 2010. We will meet here at CHS in the student parking lot at 5PM departing at 5:30PM and we will return by 11PM. More info will follow in your senior packets – you'll get these in our class assembly on January 27th.

Black & White Dance – February 20th

Attention All of CHS: the time has come for the annual Black & White Dance. This year it will be held on February 20th, 2010 here at CHS in the Main Gym, from 8PM to 11PM. Cost for students is \$10.00 per ticket and will be sold during all lunches February 1st to February 19th. We have a new D.J. this year, so don't worry about last year's problems.

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Questions? Please see any of the Class Officers, Mr. Fogle or Mr. Rosenberg.

Graduation Information

Attention Class of 2010!!! You will receive a graduation packet during our class meeting on January 27th, 2010, which will hold all the information you need for end of year events. Please see Mr. Fogle or Mr. Rosenberg if you have questions. Balfour will be in attendance and distribute cap and gown order forms to students. Materials for graduation announcements will be included too. Please contact the main office if you need additional information.

Newsletter Announcement – DEBATE TEAM

The CHS Debate Team has actively been competing in the National Forensic League, (NFL), which is the nation's oldest and largest debate & speech honor society. This league provides our students with opportunities to demonstrate effective communication, critical thinking and leadership skills. Most of the Public Forum topics focus on global issues and require students to conduct extensive research to support their arguments. Ultimately, the team with the most logical, supported arguments wins the debate. This week, CHS debaters will host a county-wide competition which will question whether or not President Obama's plan for increasing troops in Afghanistan is in the United States' best interest. We expect big wins from each pair on our team. Good luck to the following members: Joey Gadberry & Pat Komiskie , Alex Antolick & Julie Mankowski, Justin Jones & Grace Vogelsang, and Yani Panagiotopoulous & Jose Yourcheck. Come out and support our teams on January 28th!!

SALUT!

HALLO!

¡HOLA!

Everyone knows why students take foreign language classes, right? Because you need 2 years of one language to graduate!!! Well, guess what?? Many students have discovered other reasons for taking languages – yes, that's plural- and for studying them for more than just the required 2 years. Languages have a positive impact on your life. Knowing a language opens doors for unlimited opportunities! And the classes are really fun, even when we're working. It really is a whole different world in a language class and you will be prepared to face the world when you graduate. French, German and Spanish are ready for you at CHS.

Top Ten Reasons to Learn a Foreign Language

1. To increase global understanding since we live in a global economy
2. To improve employment potential
3. To strengthen your own language
4. To sharpen cognitive and life skills
5. To improve chances of entry into a college or graduate school
6. To appreciate international music, literature, and film
7. To make international travel more feasible and enjoyable
8. To expand study abroad options
9. To increase understanding of oneself and one's own culture
10. To make lifelong friends

For additional information visit:

http://www.vistawide.com/languages/why_languages.htm

For answers to your questions about world languages at CHS: delouks@k12.carr.org