

Class of 2015 9th Grade Newsletter

February-March 2012 Edition

With February here, we are officially more than halfway through the school year! This midway point is a good time to reflect on your freshman year thus far—to celebrate your successes and identify areas that you can strive to put forth more effort in order to improve upon. Your school counselor is not only a great resource to help you plan out your course of study in high school, but can also help you set goals and a plan to achieve them so that you are able to make the gains necessary to help open additional pathways for your postsecondary education and/or future career. If there are other topics you would like me to include in a future newsletter, please let me know. On behalf of the high school faculty, staff, and administration, I wish you Godspeed this semester and in all of your future endeavors.

Mr. Gutchell
Class Assistant Principal

ELECTRONICS POLICY

We are going into the second semester of your freshmen year here at High School West which means that you are halfway there to becoming a sophomore. We want to recognize your growth and maturity as high school students. Being a high school student affords you privileges, but with these privileges comes responsibility. We also want to recognize student interest in use of electronic devices. Therefore, in response to these understandings and the petition organized by a majority of our students at West, administration has agreed to allow students to listen to their electronic devices before the 7:40am homeroom warning bell in the hallways and cafeteria with only one earbud/headphone so you may hear direction from faculty/staff. This permission is only given for the listening to music/audio—students **MAY NOT** talk on their cell phones, text, or take pictures with their electronic devices. After the 7:40 bell, all electronic devices, including their associated headphones/earbuds must be **TURNED OFF AND PLACED OUT-OF-SIGHT** from faculty/staff for the remainder of the school day, unless given express permission to use such devices by a faculty/staff member. Violation of this will result in the immediate confiscation of the device and meeting with the Class Assistant Principal regarding the offense. Administration reserves the right to revoke this privilege at any time if students are found to not be in compliance of this new policy. We will be monitoring this new privilege carefully to determine if other privileges can be considered in the future.

LUNCH TIME

During the second half of the lunch periods from January 30th up to the Midwinter Recess, we will bring back our film festival in the Auditorium. We hope you enjoy this and expect you to be on your best behavior while attending the films (e.g., cleaning up after yourself in the Cafeteria before heading to the Auditorium, refraining from talking while the film is in progress) so that we may continue offering this privilege following the Midwinter Recess.

RESPECT DAY

This year's High School West Respect Day is scheduled for Friday, 2/17. Respect Day will kick off with a performance from our music ensembles and conclude with an assembly with special guest speaker, Mike Donahue. We will be running a 27-minute abbreviated schedule with activities revolving around the theme of respect taking place in your academic classes and look forward to having you take part in this High School West tradition.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER (ARC)

With the new semester comes a new schedule for many, and that includes the Tutoring Schedule for the ARC. Tutors are available during the school day in the ARC to help you with any of your subjects according to the following schedule:

Monday, 9:30-1:30
Wednesday, 9:30-1:55
Friday, 9:30-1:30.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 2: Groundhog Day
- February 3: NFL Team Day—Come to school sporting the colors of your team!
- February 8: 2nd Quarter Report Cards Distributed
- February 14: Valentine's Day
- February 15: HSW Gr. 8 Parent Orientation, 7:00 pm (Snow Date – February 29)
- February 17: Respect Day—Come to school wearing Green & White or Respect Day gear
- February 20: President's Day
- February 20 – February 24: Mid-Winter Recess—NO SCHOOL
- February 29: Leap Day
- March 1-31: March Madness
- March 2: Green and White Day/Dodgeball Tournament at High School East, 6:30-9:30pm
- March 7: 3rd Quarter Midquarter Grades Distributed
- March 10: Community Conversations w/Superintendent Robinson, 9:30 am, HSW Library
- March 11: Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 15 – 17: HS Musical Production of *The Music Man*, HSE Auditorium, 7pm
- March 17: St. Patrick's Day
- March 19: Spring Begins
- March 23: Superintendent's Conference Day—NO SCHOOL
- March 27: HSE Wind Ensemble—Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and HSW Concert Band, 7:00 pm, HSE Auditorium

