

Coventry High School

Source of Community Pride

www.coventryps.org/chs

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August/September 2008

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Welcome back to Coventry High School for the 2008-2009 academic year. We trust that you have all had a restful summer and are ready to begin a productive school year.

We have been busy this summer completing the hiring process, attending advanced placement training sessions, completing the master schedule, preparing for classes and getting the building



ready for our students.

Within this newsletter you will find information about some upcoming events, a copy of your course schedule, a review of some procedures, and an introduction to the new faculty at Coventry High School. If you have any questions or concerns you are always welcome to contact us at Coventry High School 742-7346.

Freshmen Orientation - Tuesday, August 26th

Starting high school is an exciting time in a young person's life. We at CHS are committed to making the transition into high school as smooth as possible. To help students prepare for the first day of school we would like to welcome you to a Freshmen Orientation program on Tuesday, August 26th from 12:20 pm-3:30 pm. Buses will be available to pick students up and transport them to the high school. Please be at your regular bus stop by 11:45 am. Students will need transportation home from school at 3:30 pm.

The afternoon will run as follows:

- 12:20 pm - arrive and gather in the cafeteria
- 12:30 pm - homeroom
- 12:40 pm - A period
- 12:50 pm - B period
- 1:00 pm - C period
- 1:10 pm - D period
- 1:20 pm - E period
- 1:30 pm - F period
- 1:40 pm - G period
- 2:00 - Veterans Auditorium for remarks by the administration and a program titled

"Freshman First Year" presented by Kate Toman, representative of Jostens Educational Services.

3:00-3:30 pm - Ice cream social in cafeteria

Parents are welcome to attend any part of the orientation, especially from 2:00 pm on.

We look forward to seeing you all!

Freshmen please bring your schedules to the orientation.

Included with this newsletter you will find the following inserts:

- Individual Student Schedules
- The 2008-2009 District Calendar
- The Coventry High School Daily Schedule

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope that your summer has been enjoyable and you are looking forward to your 2008-2009 school year at Coventry High School. The staff is excited to welcome our families back to school for a productive year of learning. Several of our teachers were involved in curriculum writing projects and teaching workshops during the summer. We will be implementing new Advanced Placement courses for upper class students as well as an academic writing lab for our ninth graders.

During last school year and over the summer we had several staff members leave us for a variety of reasons. Some retired and some took positions in other districts. We were very fortunate to have replaced them with quality personnel who bring a high level of talent and enthusiasm to Coventry High School. Please see Page 3 for more details.

Please know that we have a new calendar attached to our webpage. Just go to: <http://www.coventrycps.org/chs> and click "Calendar of Events" under news and information. You should find this calendar an informative resource throughout the school year.

Students have received their class schedules with this newsletter and some students may wish to make adjustments before the school year begins. School Counselors will be available on August 19th, 20th, and 21st. In order to help as many students as possible with minor changes, we are asking that you call or e-mail your counselor. Please see contact information below.

I look forward to working with all of our students and families! Enjoy your last few weeks of summer.

Sincerely,

Troy C. Hopkins

School Counseling Department - Help with Student Schedules

For assistance in revising course schedules before the start of the school year, we are asking that you please e-mail or call your school counselor on August 19th, 20th, or 21st.

Last names starting A-Go, contact Ms. Schulze at kschulze@coventryct.org or call 742-7346, x-154

Last names starting Gr-M, contact Ms. Mackintosh at hmackintosh@coventryct.org or call 742-7346, x-152

Last names starting N-Z, contact Ms. Burr at jburr@coventryct.org or call 742-7346, x-150

You may also contact Sue Comella, guidance secretary, at 742-7346, x-160

Attention all Sophomores and Juniors: The PSAT will be administered during the school day on October 15th.

From the Drama Desk – August 2008

Auditions for the CHS production of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* will take place on Thursday, September 18th in the Veterans Auditorium at 2:30 p.m. The play is a murder mystery, and the characters are very intriguing. At auditions, students will read monologues/dialogues provided from the play itself. British accents will be used so students can prepare well in advance. Rehearsals will begin on Friday, September 19th. Most rehearsals will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until a few weeks before performances on November 20, 21, and 22. By November, students should expect to rehearse almost every day.

Youth Advisory Board

The Town of Coventry Youth Advisory Board is looking for a few interested students. This Board discusses issues relevant to the young people in town and meets on the second Thursday of each month, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall. Interested students should contact Crystal D. Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator cmorawitz@coventryct.org

Welcome to our New Staff Members

Elizabeth Winterhalter - French and Family Consumer Science Teacher

Ms. Winterhalter started teaching French at Coventry High School this past school year. This year she will pick up three family consumer science classes, which were left unassigned by the departure of Ms. Deep-McNamara. Ms. Winterhalter earned a Bachelor of Arts in French and a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics at Iowa State University. She earned a Master of Science in Secondary Education at Central Connecticut State University.

Melissa Rinaldo - English Teacher

Ms. Rinaldo earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Connecticut, and completed a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Connecticut. Ms. Rinaldo comes to us from Sage Park Middle School in Windsor, CT. She is also a Coventry High School graduate. Ms. Rinaldo replaces Mr. Levy.

Susanne Pearson - English Teacher

Ms. Pearson earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Maryland – European Division in Germany. She is National Board Certified in English Arts. Ms. Pearson comes to Coventry High School from Marysville Middle School in Marysville, WA. Ms. Pearson is filling in for Ms. Miller, who is on a one year leave.

Georgianna Rivard-Bravo - Spanish Teacher

Ms. Rivard-Bravo earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Latin American Studies from the University of Nebraska, and a Masters of Arts in Spanish Literature from the University of Connecticut. She joins us from South Windsor High School. Ms. Rivard-Bravo will teach three sections of Spanish, which fills part of the assignment held by Ms. Luichinger, who retired last year.

Kristine Vignone - Math Teacher

Ms. Vignone earned her Bachelors of Arts in Mathematics from the University of Connecticut and is a graduate student at St. Joseph College. She is also a graduate of Coventry High School. Ms. Vignone served as a para-educator at George Hersey Robertson prior to joining the Coventry High School Faculty. Ms. Vignone replaces Mr. Jaffe.

Krystina Schulze - School Counselor

Ms. Schulze graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, and earned a Masters in School Counseling from Central Connecticut State University. Last year she served Coventry High School as a guidance intern as well as a long-term substitute school counselor. Ms. Schulze replaces Gerilyn Ferguson.

Catherine Robacker - Health Teacher

Ms. Robacker earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Central Connecticut State University, and then completed a Master of Science in Health at Southern Connecticut State University. Most recently, Ms. Robacker taught at King Phillip Middle School in West Hartford. Ms. Robacker will be teaching two health classes, left unassigned by the departure of Ms. Deep-McNamara.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Flexible hours/days, wide variety of experiences. Teacher Substitutes: \$75 per day, 4-year degree required; Para-Educator Substitutes \$10.91 per hour; and School Nurse Substitutes \$19.00 - \$21.00 per hour. If you are interested in becoming a substitute please contact the Business Office at 742-7317 x3.

Class of 2010 News - First Annual Classic Car Show at Coventry High School

The CHS Class of 2010 is sponsoring a classic car show on Saturday, September 20th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free to the public. The Junior Class will provide hot dogs and other refreshments (donations are greatly appreciated). Classic car owners will receive a complementary lunch and automatically enter into the "Best Car in-Show" contest. Drawings and raffles will also be held and music will be provided Dave Brown.

Parent volunteers (cooks) and themed (pasta, car goods, baking, etc.) raffle baskets are greatly needed.

For additional information please contact class advisor, Christine Kendall at 742-7346 X 583 or by email ckendall@coventryct.org.

Late Bus

A late bus is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays only for students who have participated in a school sponsored activity. Students must have a signed late bus pass from the adult supervising the activity. Any student attempting to ride a late bus without a pass will not be allowed to board.

Food in School

Please be aware that food and beverages are only allowed in the cafeteria, senior benches, or picnic tables in front to the cafeteria. If you enter the building with food, you should enter the door by the cafeteria and go directly to the cafeteria to finish eating. Please make sure you leave enough time to visit your locker and get to first period on time.

Lost Items

Any lost and found items from last year are at the warehouse if anyone is looking for any clothing, etc. that may have been left. It will all be there until November 1, 2008, at which point Coventry Youth Services will go through the items and keep what could be used by Coventry residents.

Directory Information

School districts are legally obligated to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon request, with directory information, unless a parent or eligible student objects to such disclosure in writing. Directory information includes data such as student name, address, phone number, date of birth, and photograph. The written objection to the disclosure of directory information shall be good for only one year and should be received by our office by Wednesday, September 10th. Please refer to pages 63-64, in the handbook for additional information. The handbooks are part of the agenda book which will be distributed to all students at the beginning of the school year.

Open House: Wednesday, September 24th

We hope that all parents will join us during our annual Open House on Wednesday, September 24th. The open house will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a few remarks by the Administration in the auditorium. Starting at 7:15 p.m. parents will follow their student's schedule and hear from all the teachers about the classes. Open House is a time for an overview of the school and your student's classes. If you wish to schedule time with staff members to discuss your student please sign up for a conference with individual teachers during the evening or call Sue Comella, guidance secretary, at 742-7346, x-160, in order schedule a meeting. We look forward to seeing you at our Open House.

