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A Newsletter for Hilliard Davidson High School Parents

Hilliard Davidson High School

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A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

After a restful, well-deserved break, it was nice to welcome back our student body and staff for another semester. Like many years before, this year is flying by and before you know it we'll be handing out diplomas at the "Schott". I am so proud of the accomplishments of our school and especially the milestones our students continue to reach. One of the highlights this year has been the football team and their victory over Cleveland Glenville in the State Football Championship. A second highlight to this year took place when our Symphonic Orchestra was invited to perform at the Midwest Music Convention in Chicago. Our students, under the direction of Mark Sholl, performed at the Convention Center on December 17th. The Boys in Blue and the Blue Ladies, under the tutelage of Carole Bundy, combined with our Symphony for one enjoyable number. The hour-long performance was one of the finest performances I have witnessed in my tenure as building principal. This national recognition for our students, staff, and school is yet another example of excellence at Davidson.

Winter sports are now in full swing and our performing and visual arts departments have many projects on the horizon. Davidson continues to be a model for other area schools with our Freshman Focus Program and Intervention Assistance Team leading the way. So much work from so many people goes into making our school as successful as it is.

Lastly, our senior class has once again been stellar. Answering the call time after time, this group has continued to lead in a way that would make any principal or parent extremely proud. As we have continued to grow, our seniors have been the mainstay and bedrock for our success. I only look forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

With Wildcat Pride,

John Bandow



Wildcat Snapshot



Photo - Courtesy of www.smockimaging.com

What You Do Matters!

On December 5th, The Hilliard Davidson Football Team did what many thought could not be done. The task at hand, defeat a nationally ranked - (16th) Cleveland Glenville Tarblooders.

The momentum swayed back and forth between the two teams with the greatest amount of activity taking place in the second half of play. The game was won on a two-point conversion by Jake Trubiano.

As stated by Coach White in *ThisWeek Community Newspaper*, "Our kids just find the heart and willpower to persevere and keep us in it, and put ourselves to a point where we can make some big plays when we need to."

The victory was a complete team effort that gave the Wildcats their second Football State Championship in four years.

Great Job CATS!!

NEWS & notes

Giant Eagle Apples for the Students Program:

Hilliard Davidson High School is once again participating in the Giant Eagle Apples for the Students program. Giant Eagle provides the opportunity for schools to get FREE computer and educational related equipment. All you need to do is register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card by calling 1-800-474-4777 and enter Davidson's School ID (5102), or log onto

www.gianteagle.com Through this program, Giant Eagle has rewarded our school with 3 projector carts, an overhead projector, and a DVD player. These items are used in our classrooms on a daily basis. Thank you for your continued support of this valuable program!

Testing Accommodations:

Students with Individual Education Programs (IEP) and Section 504 plans may be eligible for testing accommodations on the College Board tests. The deadline is the same for IEP and 504 students as it is for regular ed. students. A form must be filled out by the student's special ed. teacher/tutor and mailed in to ACT or SAT with the money for the test. It is up to ACT or SAT as to whether they will grant extra time or any other accommodation. If an accommodation has been granted for SAT or PSAT, it will carry over if the student decides to take the test again.

Dates and Deadlines

April 10 - ACT - Deadline (Mar. 5)
March 13 - SAT - Deadline (Feb. 4)

Renaissance Appeal Deadline

2/16/10

Watch the mail for your letters / cards.

Drama at Davidson

A NEW WAY FOR YOU TO HELP US TRAVEL TO SCOTLAND!

We want to share with you a simple way for you to help support the Hilliard Davidson Theatre program or any other cause that you care about. The bonus: You're simply doing your shopping and internet browsing the same way you always have without any additional cost to you.

Just download the GoodSearch – Hilliard Davidson High School Drama Boosters toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/hilliard-davidson-high-school-drama-boosters>

Each time you search the web with GoodSearch's Yahoo-powered search engine, about a penny will go Davidson theatre or to any other participating charity that you select.

Also, every time you shop online at 1,000 participating stores including Amazon, eBay, Target, Apple, Staples, Expedia, etc., a percentage of your purchase will be donated for free! The site also has thousands of money-saving coupons!

STAGE DIRECTIONS MAGAZINE HONORS DAVIDSON

Each year, *Stage Directions* magazine honors high schools that "have taken their theatre program to state-of-the-art status" in terms of number of productions per year; the size of those productions; dedicated theatre space; and, most importantly, the depth of the theatre arts program in preparing students for the variety of opportunities available in theatre. We have just been notified that Davidson is one of six high schools to receive this recognition for 2009 (5 high schools in the US and 1 in Canada). *Stage Directions* subscribers and others in the

theatre community nominate schools, while the winners are selected by the editors and writers of *Stage Directions*. Look for the story in the November issue!

ENJOY THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS

on Saturday, January 23 at 6:30 p.m. Support local Hilliard bands and your favorite theatre department by being an audience member and voting for the best band. Admission is \$5.

Almost, Maine

by John Cariani
Friday, January 29 at 7p.m.
Saturday, January 30 at 7p.m.
Director: Trace Craford. *Appropriate for most audiences - PG*. All seats are general admission and \$5.00. Tickets will be on sale one hour before curtain.

On a cold, clear, moonless Friday night in the middle of winter, all is not quite what it seems in the remote, mythical town of Almost, Maine. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, *Almost's* residents find themselves fal-



ling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Knees are bruised; hearts are broken. Love is lost,

found, and confounded; but, the bruises heal and hearts mend-almost. *Almost, Maine* inventively explores the mysteries of the human heart, touching us with laughter, heartbreak and hope. *Almost, Maine* is the production that Hilliard Davidson High School will be traveling to Edinburgh, Scotland, in August 2010. It will be presented in the American High School Theatre Festival as part of The Fringe Festival.

This production will be available for touring beginning in February. If your company or organization would like to a sponsor a presentation, we will come to you. Simply contact Diana Vance at diana_vance@hboe.org or Trace Crawford at trace_crawford@hboe.org or call the high school office at 771-2299. Funds generated by these performances will pay the required royalties and help defray costs of our trip to Scotland.

Radium Girls

Friday, February 26 at 7p.m.

Saturday, February 27 at 7p.m.

Director: Scott Tobin. *Appropriate for most audiences - PG.* All seats are general admission and \$5.00. Tickets will be on sale one hour before curtain.

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, *Radium Girls* traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court. Her chief adversary is her former employer Arthur Roeder, an idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees. As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling not just with the U. S. Radium Corporation, but with her own family and friends, who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire.



**Freshman
Transition Program
(Camp, FOCUS,
Career Exploration)**



**Academy
(Freshman Teams,
Dyads, Triad)**



Learning Paths



**On-Line
Coursework**



Intramurals



Senior Project



**Student & Family
Services Center
(SFSC)**



**Professional
Learning
Community Teams
(PLC)**



Intervention



Dual Enrollment





Datebook Planner

- 1/4 First Day of School After Holiday Break
- 1/5 Second Semester Begins
- 1/11 Davidson Late Start
- 1/11 Incoming Freshman Parent Night 7:00pm - PAC
- 1/12 Junior Parent Workshop 7:00pm-9:00pm PAC
- 1/13 Grade Card Distribution
- 1/18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No School
- 1/27 District Late Start
- 1/29 *Almost Maine - Romantic Comedy* 7:00pm - PAC \$5 - Admission
- 1/30 *Almost Maine - Romantic Comedy* 7:00pm - PAC \$5 - Admission
- 2/6 Winter Dance
- 2/8 Davidson Late Start
- 2/9 Interims Go Home
- 2/11 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 2/12 No School Conference Comp Day
- 2/15 No School Presidents' Day



Guidance Department News

Registration Notes

As we begin the second semester it is time to begin registration for the 2010 – 2011 school year. Course selection is a carefully arranged series of steps progressing from January to June, and your help in choosing courses carefully will make for a more successful master schedule.

The school takes pride in serving our students during this very crucial and extensive time period. Upon the student's return in the fall the goal is to have the learning process start as quickly as possible and have students in the correct courses.

To ensure a more efficient system it is vital that you discuss with your student the courses that will give them the best chance of success both during and after high school. We always encourage our students to take the most rigorous class load they can handle without being overwhelmed. If students try to change their course selections after the Master Schedule has been built, it throws off the student-teacher ratio and can result in some classes being too over

crowded and other classes being under utilized. As we continue to juggle student numbers with space and staff restrictions, there will be little flexibility in the Master Schedule; making the initial course request all the more important.

If you have any questions about any part of the process and especially about course selection please call the guidance office at 771 - 2290.

Important Registration Dates

On Wednesday, January 13, all current ninth graders will meet in the Performing Arts Center to begin the registration process for the 10 – 11 school year. Current tenth graders will meet on the January 14, and current juniors will meet on January 15. Signature Days will be on January 21 and 22 and all registration materials are due on Friday, January 22. The yearly meeting for incoming 8th graders will be on Monday evening, January 11 at 7:00 pm in the Performing Arts Center.

Davidson Late Start Days

For professional development purposes, Davidson High School will once again be operating on an occasional late start schedule. On these dates, buses will run on a normal schedule; however, when the entire district has professional development days (1/27/10, 3/3/10, 4/22/10), bus schedules will be modified.

The dates for Hilliard Davidson's remaining late starts are as follows...

- 1/11/10
- 2/8/10
- 4/12/10

* For Davidson High School late starts, school begins at 8:25 am, and on district late start days, school begins at 9:45 am.

Graduation is Your Responsibility

As you send your children off to Davidson you assume that we will place the students in the correct classes and that we will do all in our power to ensure that your child is on the path toward graduation. While the school counselors and staff do all that they can, ultimately it is you and your child's responsibility to make sure they have enough credits in the right areas to graduate. One of the biggest fears that counselors face is finding out in late May that a senior somehow or another falls short of the graduation requirements, and to avoid this, we are constantly looking at transcripts. However, with a large student population the burden must be in your hands. Always feel free to call the guidance office at 771 – 2290 to ask any questions you might have about graduation.

New Courses

This year the Business and Math departments have revamped their curriculum resulting in several new courses and several old courses being given new names. You are encouraged to view the Program of Studies booklet available under the "Resources" link in the guidance page of the Hilliard Davidson website to read about these programs as well as the many other course offerings available at Davidson.

Junior Senior Options

Next year juniors will be allowed to take six classes, lunch and leave a period early or arrive a period late. This is a change from this year where juniors could have left two periods early. At the time of registration, your child will be asked to fill out a form if they would like a late in or an early out. If a form is not filled out, it will be assumed that the student would like to stay the entire day. Please understand that it will be very difficult to rearrange a schedule for a student who decides next fall that they want to change their course selection. Next year seniors will still have the same options they have had the past few years. At the time of registration, seniors will need to fill out a sheet expressing their desire for an early out or a late in. For both classes, requesting an early out or a late in does not guarantee that one will be given as the most important factor in student scheduling is getting the students into the classes they need for graduation and beyond.

Individual Counseling and Groups

Through a series of grants and outside funding, your child can enroll in either group or individual counseling free of charge. Northwest Counseling facilitates several of the more formal groups while the individual counseling is overseen by Children's Hospital. Both options take place at Davidson during the school day and the schedules are staggered so the same class is not being missed every week. If you feel your child could benefit

by either of these options, please talk to your child's guidance counselor.



Safe Online Relationships



Safe Online Relationships

Social networking sites, like MySpace and Facebook, allow people to stay in constant contact with friends and increase their social circle. But, they can also allow others to monitor one's life and use information to harm. Because people provide personal information on profiles, blogs, and message boards, these sites also have the potential to be very dangerous.

As stated by Davidson High school resource officer Ron Burkitt, "MySpace, Facebook, and texting are not the best way to communicate, however, our students see these vehicles of communication as a primary way to stay connected. More students than ever walk the halls listening to IPODS while "texting."

"They have isolated themselves in the midst of a thousand others in an attempt to stay in contact. Most students can text without looking at their phone, but have difficulty partaking in a meaningful conversation."

Unfortunately, this may cause them to encounter hindrances when it comes to both college and/or job interviews, but more importantly, this may affect personal relationships as well."

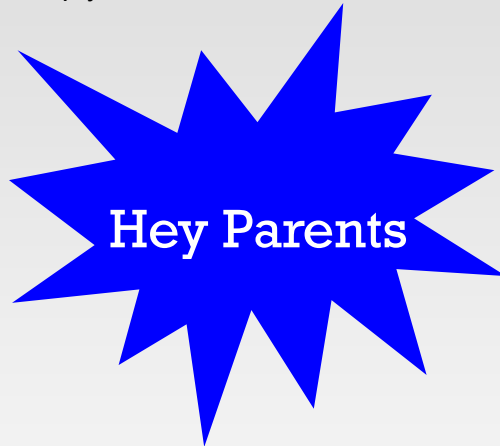
What Do I Need to Know?

It is important for your child to build safe and healthy relationships, whether they are with people they know in person or online. When people talk about using social networking sites safely, they usually focus on strangers or predators. But, your children are just as likely (if not more so) to be harassed or abused by someone they know.

There are ways to have fun online and stay safe at the same time.

What Can I Do?

Here are some specific tips that can help your child be safe online:



- Don't do or say anything online they wouldn't in person. It may seem easier when they are not face to face, but this can get them into trouble.

- Only post things they are okay with people seeing and knowing. While phone numbers and addresses obviously let people contact them directly, things like school and team names, landmarks and photos may also make it easier for people to find out where they live, hang out or go to school.

- Remember, it's not just about them.

- If they post information or photos about their friends or family, they may also be putting *them* at risk.

- Tell them not to respond to harassing, abusive or inappropriate comments. It won't make the person stop and it might get them in trouble or put them in danger.

- Have them use the privacy preferences to keep their page as private as they can.

- If they are in or coming out of a dangerous relationship, they should not be using any form of technology to contact their abuser. It can be dangerous and may be used against them in the future.

- Have your children save or keep a record of all harassing or abusive messages, posts, and comments, in case you decide to tell the police or get a protective order.

- Make sure they never give their passwords to anyone except you. It's a good idea to choose passwords that are not easy to guess, not to use the same password for all your accounts, and to change passwords regularly.

- It may seem extreme, but if the abuse and harassment will not stop, changing their usernames and email addresses may be their best option.

- Report inappropriate behavior to the site administrators.

- As parents, trust your instincts! If you think something is wrong or are feeling your child may be getting threatened, tell someone who can help them.

"The number one message we like to send to our parents is to not stop being parents," stated Davidson principal John Bindow when asked recently about the topic. "High School aged students need parental guidance and want parental guidance. It's amazing what can transpire when families engage in honest conversation," he later added.