

Plainfield School District 202

Cougar Campus News

Volume 9, Issue 3

January/February 2010

Important Dates:

February 2

Teacher Institute (*No School*)

February 15

Presidents' Day (*No School*)

February 26

End of 4th 6-week Grading Period

From the Desk of Dan Goggins:

Hopes and dreams. Every student has them. Some are able to articulate them clearly and know exactly where they are going and what they want to do. In many cases, one of the best things we can do for those kids is to get out of their way and simply serve them with our encouragement. Other students need more time to define their vision. For them, more guidance, inspiration, a deeper understanding, or a helping hand is required. These forms of assistance become relevant for kids

when a staff member takes the time to build a relationship with them. Student relationships are at the essence of our jobs in schools regardless of the positions we hold. I have had the good fortune of observing connections made with students from every staff member in our school. Someone the student looked forward to seeing every day, someone who made them feel good about themselves, someone who got on them when they needed it, and someone who helped them visu-

alize a more definitive path. I can confidently say, each and every person regardless of position has played a valuable role and has served as a positive influence in the life of a kid. No one is expendable. Cougars by nature are shy and tend to avoid people. All the more reason we need adults to reach out to them. It's good to be a cougar!



WORD OF THE DAY

In the middle of last school year, PSHS implemented a Word of the Day program. The Word of the Day was e-mailed to staff members each morning, along with the definition. At the start of this school year we decided to kick it up a notch. We started out the year by e-mailing the Word of the Day along with the part of speech, the definition, and a sentence using the word properly. In addition, we began to attach the FRAYER MODEL strategy for each word. In the Frayer Model, we included the synonyms and antonyms for the Word of the Day. We were very ex-

cited to be incorporating the Frayer Model strategy, especially since it is one of the strategies that we have chosen to use as a school in all content areas this year.

However, this was not enough for us. PSHS now has a blog (<http://pshsworplay.blogspot.com>) that revolves around the Word of the Day. Blog visitors can now find a Lexipe-dia Word Map, a Google Dictionary entry, the Frayer Model strategy, an SAT word game called Scatter, and, last but not least, a phonecast for each day's word! Talk about one stop shopping!! I-

padio has provided us with the opportunity to phone-cast the Word of the Day each morning. Now teachers and students can visit the blog and hear the word of the day pronounced properly and used in a sentence. Our goal is to keep finding new ways to introduce vocabulary. Last month our I-padio phone-cast was named the "Star Phlog." This month The Frayer Model has also been expanded to include a visual representation of the Word of the Day. Stay tuned to see what new tricks we may have up our sleeves!



PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

With the second semester upon us, the Physical Education Department would like to remind parents and students of some of the Physical Education policies.

Physical Education Uniform

Dressing Policy: Each student is **REQUIRED** to wear his/her Plainfield Physical Education uniform with the student's name on the FRONT and BACK. A student's grade will be affected if they do not dress appropriately.

PSHS does not sell physical education uniforms. Local vendors will have the uniforms for sale over the summer and throughout the school year. New uniforms may be purchased at Eich's (#815-436-3771) or JJsport (#815-436-4300).

Students will be assigned a locker to use. **With this locker they must use a Plainfield South school issued lock.** Students cannot share a locker, unless otherwise assigned. Locks may be pur-

chased from a Physical Education instructor on the assigned day OR through the Department Chair for \$6.00.

Freshmen and all transfer students are expected to purchase a heart rate monitor strap for \$5.00. This strap can be used all four years of physical education. There will be rental straps available but we encourage each student to buy their own for safety and hygienic reasons.

"A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimensions."

- Anonymous

PE DEPARTMENT EXPECTATIONS

Physical Education Expectations:

1. **Respect the rights of others.** It is an expectation that everyone (teachers and students) will treat each other with respect and dignity.

2. Students are **EXPECTED** to **dress everyday** in their Plainfield Physical Education Uniform and shoes **appropriate for activity.**

3. All locks must be school issued locks. **Students are responsible for their own possessions.** Lockers should be locked at all times. Valuables should not be brought to class! The school is NOT responsible for lost or stolen materials

4. **The safety of our students is first and foremost.** Jewelry could be caught on a piece of equipment and injure a student and for safety reasons, should not be worn to activity class. Gum is also a safety issue...it could be a choking hazard during active participation.

5. Students are required to be in class **on time.** Promptness is a good habit for life. Please see school handbook for consequences for tardies.

6. **NO food, gum, or drinks are allowed** in the locker rooms or any of the physical education facilities. Detentions may be given.

7. All **equipment** is to be **treated with respect.** Misuse of equipment will

result in a referral and the student assuming the cost of the broken equipment.

8. **NO CELL PHONES, IPODS, OR OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT** will be allowed in Physical Education.



Medical excuses: A student will not be excused for more than two days without an excuse from a doctor. If a medical excuse cannot be obtained a parent should contact his/her student's instructor.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Guten Appetit! **German 2** students will do a project about food and restaurants in Germany. They will create their own menus, write and perform skits using authentic props and costumes, and will bring in German food to share with the whole class. Several of the students are of German heritage and may bring in a dish that has been a tradition in their families. Thus, it will be a great opportunity to share

traditions, enjoy home-made German food, and learn about the German culture as well.

Spanish Club is teaming up with ESL classes and other interested students to plan and host a baile latino (dance) that will be held on Friday, January 29th from 7:00-10:00. Fiestas Varela will DJ the event and the music will be a mix of songs in Spanish and English. There will be informal

dance lessons for students who would like to learn the basic steps of dances such as salsa, cumbia, merengue, etc. There will also be a dance demonstration and a contest for students who would like to show off their moves. It is hoped that many students will attend the event, those who already enjoy dancing to music in Spanish as well as those who are willing to try something new!

ART DEPARTMENT

This coming month PSHS art students will participate in the Scholastic arts competition and art show at Downers Grove North High School.



What we want is to see the child in pursuit of knowledge, and not knowledge in pursuit of the child."
--George Bernard Shaw

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Look for these exciting texts :

English 9: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

English 9 Honors: A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

English 10: The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

English 10 Honors: The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

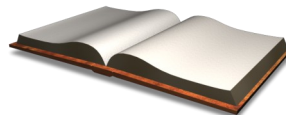
American Literature II: The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

English Literature II: The Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

11 AP: Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw

Contemporary Literature II: Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri

12 AP: The Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton



DEPARTMENT NEWS

**MATH DEPARTMENT**

Algebra 1 classes this week did the annual Bungee Barbie Drops. A project that is used to emphasize how the ideas of graphing lines with points and slopes can be brought together to predict what may happen in future events under different circumstances. Students connect rubber bands to the dolls feet and test how far the doll falls with 1-6 bands attached. They use that data to come up with an equation to predict how many bands we would need to attach to drop her from the top of the stairwell to the floor (without hitting the ground of course). We can use that same data to find how many it might take from any height such as the Statue of Liberty or even the Willis Tower (aka Sears Tower).

Geometry students did a Similarity Project. Students in **Geometry Honors** classes constructed and measured kites to discover the properties of all kites

Students in **Precalculus** have created sine and cosine posters relating the unit circle to the graphs of sine and cosine.

Geometry students did the Similarity Project in all Geometry classes after returning from break. The purpose of this project was to demonstrate a way to enlarge a drawing and to create a similar design.

Each student received a piece of paper with a design on it and the object was to increase the dimensions of the design and create a larger drawing to a full sheet of paper. They took a design and cut it into

fourths, with each person in the group applying the similarity from the design on the small grid paper to the larger grid paper. When done the design would be four times the size of the original. The students got together in groups, colored their design and taped it to make a poster. It was a very successful project.

The PSHS Math Team will be competing at the Lemont Invitational on Wednesday, January 27th. This competition not only includes a written test for each level, but also unusual events such as math relay races, 2 person teams and 8 person teams. This is an evening competition so the mathletes are invited to a pizza party at school before the bus leaves at 5:00 pm.

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."
-- Albert Einstein

STUDENT SERVICES-SCHOLARSHIPS

Local scholarships are advertised in the daily announcements as they become available. Seniors should visit www.prephq.com for a list of scholarships or to print out an application. The school ID is "plainfieldschool". Once logged on, look under the "Scholarships and Shared Files" links. Reminder to seniors: the College Career Center is open during

lunch hours to search and apply for scholarships. The following local scholarships are looking for recipients:

District 202 - Community Service Scholarship
Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley - multiple scholarships
Community Service Council of Will County
Zonta Club of Joliet
PDK - Prospective Educa-

tors Scholarship
Illinois Amvets Scholarships - multiple scholarships
Faithful Circle Quilters Founders Scholarship of Villa Park
American Italian Cultural Society of Crest Hill
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. of Glen Ellyn

COLLEGE & FINANCIAL AID FAIR RE-SCHEDULED

Tuesday February 23 Student Services is hosting their annual College and Financial Aid Information night. There will be college representatives from both the public and private four year colleges, as well as two year colleges. This year we have invited representatives from Eastern Illinois University and Lewis University to be our Keynote speakers to discuss the differences between

public and private universities. Along with the keynote speakers, there will also be informational tables with representatives from Career Vision, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, other technical schools, as well as the Military.

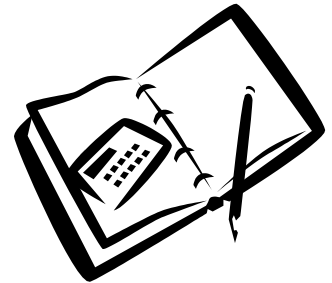
During the second half of our program, Al Hogan from ISAC will be discussing Financial Aid. This is also the rescheduled date for the Janu-

ary 7th financial aid program, which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Cougar Auditorium

Tuesday February 23, 2010

Time: 7:00 – 9:00



BUSINESS EDUCATION

Introduction to Computer Technology

The students are finishing their capstone project for Introduction to Computer Technology, which is the "Restaurant Movie Commercial" using Windows Movie Maker. During the third six weeks, students created their own restaurant using the techniques they learned throughout the semester using Word 2007. They selected their menu items, created a menu, a take-out brochure menu, and a restaurant letterhead. They selected their furniture, and they even designed how their restaurant would look like inside and out. The movies will be played in

class for all the students to see their creative efforts and enjoy everyone else's commercial.



Work Internship:

JUNIORS: IN THE "MOOD" FOR A CHANGE? APPLY FOR WORK INTERNSHIP FOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR. Work Internship is a cooperative work training program. It is designed to provide occupational training and

technology preparation for students. Students are enrolled in four academic classes, including one Work Internship related class during one-half of the school day (periods 1-4). Each student receives three high school credits towards graduation and two for the on-the-job training. If you are interested in the Work Internship program, have excellent attendance, and have transportation, get an application from your counselor, Mrs. Boyd or Mr. Dye in room 124, or on the school website in the "Career and Technical Education Department." We will begin interviewing during second semester.

"The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change."
-- Carl Rogers

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING



The Marketing students finished their last major project of the semester. They used their knowledge of Sports Marketing that they have gained throughout the semester to create their own sports camp. The project first required the group to determine what type of camp they would offer, where the camp would be located, and who would be the celebrity athlete who would endorse the camp. Once they had an identity for the

camp they created several promotional materials that would be used to attract potential campers. These materials included an advertisement that would be seen in a magazine, a brochure detailing everything about the camp including the history, goals and objectives, and schedules, and also created the camp t-shirt. The promotional materials were then analyzed in the form of a report. The report detailed information about the tar-

get market for the camp, the effectiveness of the advertisement, brochure, and t-shirt to reach that target market, and evaluated the anticipated success of the camp. Finally, the students presented their camp to the rest of the class. The students worked extremely hard on this project and their hard work resulted in some extremely creative and exemplary projects

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

End of the Semester: Word of the Day Quiz

aloof (adjective)	defame (verb)	disparage (verb)	exemplary (adjective)
feign (verb)	hail (verb)	irascible (adjective)	synopsis (noun)
gregarious (adjective)	morose (adjective)	noxious (adjective)	officious (adjective)
ruse (noun)			

1. Bryant and Jeff were walking down to the PSHS cafeteria. "Hey Jeff, did you write the _____ for *Macbeth*?" Bryant asked.
2. "What? I wrote about Julius Caesar! I will have to _____ an answer if Ms. Stashak asks me a question; you know how _____ she can be," he replied.
3. Bryant bragged, "Well, my homework is _____, and Ms. Stashak likes me because we both _____ from the South."
4. Jeff was _____; Bryant always received good grades, if only he could be like Bryant. As they drew closer to the cafeteria, all the _____ students were laughing and talking. Suddenly a _____ odor drifted their way.
5. "What is that?" Jeff questioned.
6. "Maybe it is some _____ the seniors are playing on the school." Bryant guessed.

Plainfield School District 202

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It's good to be a COUGAR



A Message from the Cougar Boosters:

The Cougar Boosters next event is our Bowling fundraiser. The Bowling Bash was great fun last year, so mark your calendar now for March 6th at Town & Country Lanes! Donations of gift items or gift certificates that could be used as prizes during the festivities are needed. Tickets will be sold at home basketball games and if you would like to make a donation or help in any way, please contact Chris Voda at 436-5736. Watch for more info on the website.

Students of the Month:

English: Mike Pikuza, Mitch Wolff, Jennifer Carvis;

Career & Technical Education: Jared Mitzelfelt, Giovanni Navarro, Rene Arellano, Cesar Torres ;

**World Language/
Fine Arts:** Amber Aslam, Leslie Juarez, Aileen Hamilton, Jessica Wheaton ;

Math: Qazi Ali, Adonis Edwards, Breena Lanphier, Gisela Aguilar; ;

P.E./Health/Dr. Ed.: Lauren Beaulieu, Evan Soto, Megan Orozco, Jaclyn Sweeney

Science: Zach Gonzalez, Jesse Small, Diana Sanchez, Britany Turner

Social Studies: Josephine Wochok, Gunnar Huddleston, Taylor Detloff, John Anderson ;

Student Services:
: Matt Gonzalez