

The VIKING VOICE



A newsletter for School District 233 families

**Homewood-Flossmoor
Community High School**

January/February 2017



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Superintendent's Note



Congratulations to our students and teachers on a successful first semester! I hope you are having a restful, enjoyable winter break. The school year will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 10, for students, and on Monday, Jan. 9, for our faculty and staff. The months ahead will be a special and exciting time as we prepare for the next school year. Students will be selecting their classes for the

2017-18 school year in January and February (p. 3), and the selection process for the newest H-F principal will conclude in early February (p. 2). As a reminder, if the winter ahead brings us unfavorable weather days and the school should need to close, we will contact you via an automated phone message. School closing information will also be posted on our website and via our social media accounts as soon as decisions are made. Lastly, I am proud to announce that our school had 77 members of our senior class named Illinois State Scholars last semester, and I look forward to sharing your future accomplishments in the semesters ahead.

— Dr. Von Mansfield, Superintendent



As they make plans for next year, freshmen, sophomores & juniors can learn more about H-F's challenging coursework at this year's Advanced Academics Showcase.

You are invited to Homewood-Flossmoor High School's annual **Advanced Academics Showcase**, an evening to explore the school's wide array of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, MVP Academy and Project Lead the Way courses. The showcase will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., beginning in the Mall Auditorium.

Homewood-Flossmoor has a proud tradition of providing rigorous coursework for students, while also providing academic support through counseling and free tutoring when needed. There are many advantages for students who take on these challenging classes, and H-F is committed to increasing the numbers of under-represented students in these classes through its involvement with the Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) Lead Higher Initiative.

EOS, a national education non-profit based in Washington, D.C., is spearheading the Lead Higher Initiative in coordination with the U.S. Department of Education and the College Board. The mission of the initiative is to expand AP enrollment

numbers of historically under-represented students, defined as low-income and students of color.

Results from surveys of H-F students and staff from this past semester are being used to create Student Insight Cards on current juniors and sophomores. The cards will be used to recruit and enroll students for high-level classes for the next school year.

All H-F students and parents can learn more about these challenging classes at the Advanced Academics Showcase. The event will include a presentation on the college-admissions process, moderated by H-F's College Consultants **Brad Kain** and **Kevin Coy** and featuring **Stephanie Szczepanski** from St. Louis University, **Robert Walton** from Syracuse University, and **Mayra Lagunas** from the University of Illinois. Also, current H-F students will share their academic experiences to encourage future advanced-level students.

For more information on the event or EOS, please contact **Dr. Nancy Spaniak**, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development, at nspaniak@hf233.org, 708-335-5330.

H-F's ADVANCED-LEVEL COURSES

Advanced Placement

- Art History
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Computer Science A
- Computer Science Principles
- Economics
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Environmental Science
- European History
- French Language & Culture
- Human Geography
- Music Theory
- Physics 1
- Physics 2
- Physics C
- Psychology
- Spanish Language & Culture
- Statistics
- Studio Art
- U.S. Government & Politics
- U.S. History
- World History

International Baccalaureate

- Art SL
- Economics SL
- English Language & Literature 1 HL
- English Language & Literature 2 HL
- French SL
- Math 1 – Calculus AB HL
- Math 1 – Calculus BC HL
- Math 2 Advanced Math Topics HL
- Music SL
- Physics 1 HL
- Physics 2 HL
- Spanish SL
- Theory of Knowledge 1
- Theory of Knowledge 2

Media, Visual & Performing Arts (MVP) Academy

- Aesthetics & the Creative Process Across the Arts
- Collaborative Arts Seminar

Project Lead the Way

- Civil Engineering & Architecture
- Digital Electronics
- Engineering Design & Development
- Introduction to Engineering Design
- Principles of Engineering

HFU Workshops for Parents



- **Senioritis 101: Successfully navigating the final semester of senior year**

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m. • TLC
Keeping seniors motivated and having a clear understanding of expectations can help make your student's last few months of high school an enjoyable and memorable time. Also, learn about student safety and parental liabilities from an attorney's perspective, regarding prom & graduation events.

- **College Planning for Juniors**

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m. • MA
College admissions officers will give you a first-hand look at a variety of post-secondary options and provide insight into the ins & outs of college search and selection.

- **H-F Library Resources: Supporting student success 24/7**

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:15 p.m. • L
Learn how to use Noodle Tools and how to search the more than 20 databases and e-book collections that are available for your students.

L - Library • MA - Mall Auditorium
TLC - Teaching & Learning Center

Summer School: Registration begins Jan. 28

Summer School will be held this year from June 12-July 21. Each semester will be a three-week session. Summer School course offerings and fee information are listed in the back of the course description book, which students will receive in January. Students are encouraged to consult with their School Counselor prior to registering for Summer School. Completed registration forms must be turned in with payment at **Summer School Registration** on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Registration will take place in the North Building Cafeteria from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Students registering after this date may come to the Campus Store or the North Building Assistant Principal's office with the completed form and payment. Registration will end on April 13. Please note: Summer Driver Education registration will take place in March. Questions? Please contact **Dr. Lawrence Cook**, Summer School Principal, at 708-335-5605, lcook@hf233.org.



Principal Search Update

This is an exciting time at H-F, as we are looking forward to selecting a principal candidate for the next school year this January and February. Below is an approximate timeline for the search, which should be concluded by the Feb. 21st Board of Education meeting:

- **Late December - Screening Interviews:** Consultants from BWP & Associates will conduct in-person screening interviews with selected candidates.
- **Jan. 17 - Board of Education Meeting:** BWP & Associates representatives will present an update for the community and the Board of Education at the 7:30 p.m. meeting.
- **Week of Jan. 23 - First-Round Interviews:** Selected candidates will be interviewed on campus by focus groups that will be comprised of students, parents, community members, staff members and administrators.
- **Early February - Finalist Interviews:** Finalists will be interviewed by the Board of Education and superintendent.
- **Feb. 21 - Board of Education Meeting:** The new H-F principal will be announced and the Board of Education will vote to approve the contract at its 7:30 p.m. meeting.

Please note: Timeline is approximate. Please consult hfhighschool.org/news for updates.



Course Registration: 2017-18 School Year

All H-F students will receive course registration information for the 2017-18 school year in January. The registration packet will include the new course description book, a course selection worksheet, as well as Summer School and Summer Gateway information. Also distributed will be a listing of courses that are available during an optional 1st period class, which meets at 7:30 a.m. Students are urged to take advantage of this opportunity in order to have a strong academic program. Additionally, students may wish to take a College Prep-level class on a pass/no pass basis. For an explanation of this option, please refer to the course description book.



As parents and students work together to make course selections, please first consider teacher recommendations. Also, please use the course description book to review H-F's graduation requirements, course prerequisites and college entrance requirements. Also, read about the rigors of the levels of study and the section on post-secondary and career planning. Please remember that the H-F curriculum assumes reading and mathematics skills at grade level. If your student has any difficulties in these areas, urge them to take advantage of a Summer School or Summer Gateway class.

Students will be instructed by their Math teacher which day to turn in their completed 2017-18 registration form. Math teachers will have a scheduled day to bring their class down to the Guidance Office. At Guidance, the students will then discuss their class selections with their school counselor in order to complete the process. If a student does not have a Math class, the student will need to pick up a registration packet at the Guidance Office directly. All class selections should be made by the end of February. In March, a final administrative decision of courses to be offered will be made. If requested courses are then dropped, students will be informed to select a replacement.

If you have immediate questions regarding registration, please call the Guidance Office at 708-335-5612. Students and parents can view the 2017-18 course catalog online under the "Academics" tab, then "Curriculum," then "Course Selection" link at the hfhighschool.org website.

New Courses for 17-18

Applied Academics

- **Engineering Design & Development**
This is the capstone course for H-F's Project Lead the Way curriculum.

Fine Arts

- **Aesthetics & the Creative Process**
Across the Arts - MVP Academy
Explore the fundamentals of the aesthetic experience through observation, discussion & analysis.
- **Collaborative Arts Seminar**
- MVP Academy
Study the art of collaboration, while honing your individual craft.
- **Digital Art Concentration**
This is an advanced-level art course for Photography or Graphic Design students who want to continue their art.

Digital Film Study 2

Students in this class will work as a production crew, while altering their roles on the team.

Mathematics

- **Calculus - Honors**

This course is for students who want to continue studying mathematics, but are not prepared for AP Calculus AB.

Physical Education/Health

- **Beginning Dance**

Journey through the history and performance of various dance styles, including Ballet, Jazz and Modern.

Social Science

- **U.S. Government & Politics**
- **U.S. Government & Politics - Virtual**
Civics is a newly required course for the Class of 2020 and beyond. Both an in-class and virtual one-semester format will be offered next year.

World Language

- **Mandarin Chinese 3**

This course will expand your proficiency in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading & writing.

January 2017



For a complete calendar of events presented by day, week or month, visit
www.hfhighschool.org/events/january2017/

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1 <i>New Year's Day</i> | 2 New Year's Day Observed (Offices closed) | 3 Office Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. | 4 Office Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. | 5 Office Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. | 6 Office Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. | 7 Scholastic Bowl Invitational 8 a.m.-5 p.m. SB |
| W I N T E R B R E A K | | | | | | |
| 8 | 9 Institute Day (Teachers return; No classes) | 10 50-min. Day <i>Welcome back, students!</i> Turnabout Dance tickets now on sale - CS H-F Foundation Meeting 5:30 p.m. SDCR | 11 50-min. Day HFU Workshop: Senioritis 101 7 p.m. E1 H-F Presentation 7 p.m. PJH | 12 50-min. Day H-F Presentation 7 p.m. JHS | 13 50-min. Day James Hart vs. Parker Girls Volleyball 5 p.m. NG | 14 H-F Steppers Showcase 6:30 p.m. MA |
| 15 | 16 Dr. MLK, Jr. Day (No classes; offices closed) | 17 AP Exam sign up begins in CS Auditions: Choir Chimes 3:15 p.m. M1 H-F Board of Education Meeting 7:30 p.m. HFL | 18 2nd Annual Pursuing the Dream Celebration 7 p.m. MA | 19 Rachel's Challenge 8:30 a.m. MA Advanced Academics Showcase 6:30 p.m. MA & SB | 20 | 21 Opa-Palooza Band Live & Silent Auction 6 p.m. SC |
| 22 | 23 Tri-District Orchestra Concert 7 p.m. MA Tri-District Band Concert 7:45 p.m. MA | 24 <i>Turnabout Dance Court Voting Online this week</i> Tri-District Choral Festival 7:30 p.m. MA, SC | 25 HFU Workshop: College Planning for Juniors & Their Parents 7 p.m. MA | 26 | 27 PLC DAY | 28 Operation Snowflake 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. SB Summer School Registration 8 a.m.-Noon NC |
| 29 | 30 | 31 Student of the Quarter Breakfast 7:30 a.m. TLC | | | | |

February 2017



For a complete calendar of events presented by day, week or month, visit
www.hfhighschool.org/events/february2017/

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
|--|-----------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
|  | | | 1 HFPA Meeting 6 p.m. TLC Winter Jazz Band Concert 7 p.m. MA HFU Workshop: <i>Library Resources</i> 7:15 p.m. HFL | 2 Speech Regional Showcase 6:30 p.m. MA | 3 | 4 SWSC Art Show 9 a.m.-Noon GSU | |
| | 5 | 6 | 7 Turnabout Dance guest forms due - DO Careers in STEM Night 6:30-9 p.m. SB-E | 8 Solo/Ensemble Vocal Concert 6 p.m. M1-M3 | 9 Last day to purchase Turnabout Dance tickets - CS | 10 PLC DAY | 11 IHSA Speech Sectionals 7 a.m.-7 p.m. SB ACT Testing 8 a.m. SB-G Jazz Festival 8 a.m.-6 p.m. SSC Turnabout Dance 8-11 p.m. TF |
| | 12 | 13 Incoming Freshmen Parent Orientation 6 & 7 p.m. MA & SC | 14 | 15 H-F Foundation Meeting 5:30 p.m. SDCR | 16 | 17 New Faces Theatre: <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> 7 p.m. MA | 18 FPAC Community Pancake Breakfast 8 a.m.-Noon SC Incoming Fresh- men Registration 8 a.m.-3 p.m. SB New Faces Theatre: <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> 7 p.m. MA |
| | 19 | 20 Presidents' Day (No classes; offices closed) | 21 H-F Board of Education Meeting 7:30 p.m. HFL | 22 Semester 2 Academic Level Change Deadline Play Info Meeting 3:15-4 p.m. MA Solo/Ensemble Strings/Piano Concert 6 p.m. SB | 23 | 24 James Hart vs. Parker Boys Volleyball 5 p.m. NG | 25 |
| | 26 | 27 Auditions: Spring Play: <i>Bob, A Play in 5 Acts</i> 3:15-6 p.m. MA | 28 Callbacks: Spring Play: <i>Bob, A Play in 5 Acts</i> 3:15-6 p.m. MA |  | | | |

CS — Campus Store • DO — Deans' Office • GSU — Governors State University • HFL — H-F Library • MA — Mall Auditorium • M1 — Room M1 South
 NG — North Gym • SB — South Building • SB-E — South Building E Wing • SB-G — South Building G Wing • SC — South Cafeteria
 SDCR — South District Conference Room • SSC — South Suburban College • TF — Tuscany Falls, Mokena • TLC — Teaching & Learning Center