



# Charlevoix High School Connection



*It is the mission of Charlevoix High School to provide all students with an education leading to social, emotional, physical and academic growth and to promote responsibility, pride and dignity.*

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**From the Principal**

**October 2009**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Not only has it been a gorgeous fall outside, but we have had a wonderful start to the school year in the classrooms of CHS! Staff and students enjoyed a fun-filled first day of school, we had 84% of our parents attend the back-to-school open house, fall sports and extra-curriculars are in full gear, our Day of Caring in the community was a HUGE success, and we are very thankful for the new SMART technologies that have been added to our classrooms. These new technologies are already taking teaching and learning to a new and different level by infusing lessons with interactive and internet-based activities that are engaging our students.

One of the enclosures that you will find in this mailing is your student's progress report. I hope your student is off to a great start! As a staff, our school improvement focus is to put strategies in place that assist more and more students in becoming academically successful. We are rewarding positive behaviors that include punctual attendance, homework completion, good study habits, and overall attributes of being a person who cares about self and others. As parents, please make sure you are well aware of the new attendance policy (page 12-13 of student handbook) and make every effort to assist your student in getting to school on time every day. In addition, it is important at the beginning of the year to work with your student to establish a nightly homework routine as completing and turning in work is one of the key factors in passing a class. Also, please keep in mind that our teachers are in classrooms at 7:30 a.m. every morning. This is a great time to receive extra one-on-one assistance before the day gets started.

October is a busy month. Next week we will enjoy celebrating Homecoming. Feel free to join the festivities! Please plan to attend Parent-Teacher conferences on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We purposely schedule these early as a way to be proactive before the end of the marking period. Also, freshmen and sophomores will be involved in NWEA testing, freshmen will take the MEAP social studies test, and sophomores will take the PLAN test (precursor to the ACT).

Recently, Michigan released the state report cards for all schools. For the second year in a row, Charlevoix High School received an "A" grade. This grade is computed by how well our students did on the Michigan Merit Exam plus how our school performs on 40 indicators. I want to personally thank our students for putting their best effort into performing well on the MME. I also want to commend our teachers for their efforts in aligning curriculum, researching and using best instructional strategies, and continually analyzing our assessment data to look for ways to improve teaching and learning. AWESOME job! If you would like more information on this, please visit: <https://oeaa.state.mi.us/ayp/Index.asp>.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have a question or concern or just want to offer ways to improve our high school. Thanks for all that you do as a parent!

Success for All Kids,  
*Suzanne Klínger*



**ATTENDANCE:** The direct line for attendance is now 547-8215.

## STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE

Let me introduce myself. I am Kim Dickinson, the new guidance counselor. I received my Masters Degree in Counseling from Western Michigan University and am extremely excited to be serving the students of Charlevoix High School. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with any questions, needs or just to introduce yourself. Contact information is 547- 8206 or [kdickins@rayder.net](mailto:kdickins@rayder.net)

**Freshmen:** MEAP Test- October 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Sophomores:** PLAN Test- October 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Juniors:** PSAT Test- Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-12:00. If you are interested in taking the PSAT, please sign up in the SSO ASAP! The PSAT measures critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills and writing skills. It is a standardized test that provides practice for the SAT and gives students a chance to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program.

**Seniors:** Enclosed you will find score reports from the Michigan Merit Exam you took last spring. The MME results provide a valid and reliable assessment of student performance in the areas of math, science, reading, writing, total English language arts and social studies. Please read over this important information which will guide you in understanding your areas of strength along with areas where you could further develop your skills. College applications - it is suggested that all college applications be submitted by October 15, 2009. Please don't forget to share the good news with the SSO as those letters of acceptance arrive in your mailbox. If you are still undecided or need assistance with your application, please stop by the SSO.

**Juniors, Seniors and Parents:** Don't miss our Pre-College Night, October 6<sup>th</sup> in the CHS Auditorium at 6:30 pm. See the enclosed flyer for further information.

**ACT opportunities:** Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>- registration deadline for Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> ACT test. [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) CHS code: 230-570  
Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - registration deadline for Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> ACT test- CHS location

**SAT opportunity:** Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>-registration deadline for Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> SAT test. [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) CHS code: 230-570

**CHS Scholarship Database:** [www.rayder.net](http://www.rayder.net); *High School* link at the top, *Student Services* link on the left. Check out this valuable resource for information and deadlines on scholarships for which you may qualify.

### ATHLETICS

I am delighted to represent Charlevoix athletes and the proud Rayder traditions as the new athletic director. Sports teams this fall have shown great efforts and accomplishments and their competitions thrilled us all. As a community, we look forward to an ongoing partnership among student athletes, coaches and parents.

Sports schedules for fall sports are on-line at [www.rayder.net](http://www.rayder.net). Click on the *High School Athletic Schedule* link in the right column. Go Rayders!



Dennis VanGuilder  
Athletic Director

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| October 4        | Float Frenzy, 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., football field              |
| October 6        | Pre-College Night, 6:30 p.m., auditorium                     |
| October 9        | Homecoming Assembly, 1:32 p.m.; Parade, 5:30 p.m.            |
| October 10       | Homecoming Football Game, 7:00 p.m.; Ceremony - Halftime     |
| October 13       | Homecoming Dance, 8:30 - 11:30 p.m.                          |
| October 14       | Elementary School - no admittance after 9:00 p.m.            |
| October 14       | College Expo in Traverse - at Hagerty Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m. |
| October 15       | Half-Day for Students, 8:05 - 11:35 a.m.                     |
| October 17       | Parent-Teacher Conferences: 12:30-3:00 and 5:00-7:00 p.m.    |
| October 22       | Jostens meet with seniors for graduation information         |
| October 24       | PSAT test, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at CHS                     |
| October 24, 25   | Freshmen: MEAP testing; Sophomores: PLAN testing             |
| October 29       | Seniors: submit paid graduation orders to Jostens            |
| October 29,30,31 | ACT test, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., CHS                        |
| November 4       | Performing Arts Show; 7 p.m. Sat, 2 p.m. Sun                 |
| November 6       | American Red Cross Blood Drive at CHS                        |
|                  | Performing Arts presents <i>Hollow</i> at Castle Farms       |
|                  | No school for students; Professional Development Day         |
|                  | End of the first marking period                              |