



Trojan Nation

April 2015

Letter from Administration

Welcome to this edition of Trojan Nation! As you'll see in this newsletter, staff and students continue to accomplish amazing things at THS! A huge "Thanks!" goes out to all of the volunteers and staff members who helped with Prom and After-Prom! Once again, both events were a tremendous success and very much appreciated by our students. As is the case every year at this time, multiple events are occurring virtually every evening. Please be sure to keep up with our calendar on our website.

We are happy to report that State Assessments have gone relatively smooth this year and they are nearing completion. We do ask for parents and guardians to keep sons and daughters motivated and focused as we complete State Assessments and as we near end-of-semester culminating activities.

Thanks again for all that everyone does to help make Topeka High School the great school that it is!

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Prom Rules

**PROM AND AFTER PROM TICKETS WILL BE SOLD BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL
and DURING BOTH LUNCHES IN THE MAIN OFFICE**

From APRIL 13 – APRIL 24*

*April 24th is an In-Service Day; No school ~ but the Main Office will be open from 8:00 – 3:30 for ticket sales.

TICKET SALES WILL END AT 3:30 P.M. ON APRIL 24TH

You must be a Junior or Senior to purchase tickets.

Non THS guests must be signed up by Wednesday, April 22nd. Only one guest allowed per THS student. You must know the complete name of your guest and you must purchase your own ticket at the time you purchase your guest ticket.

No guests over the age of 20 or younger than high school Guests must arrive with the THS student who signed them up. You must have your **Student ID** to **PURCHASE** tickets and to **ENTER** Prom and/or After Prom.

Your guest must also present a photo ID (School or Drivers License)
to enter either event.

New ID's can be purchased for \$5.00 in Room 101 then made in the Media Center

You can attend both OR just Prom OR just After-Prom.

Prom attire should be dressy but you don't have to have a tux or an elegant gown.

After-Prom is casual dress. What you normally wear to school is perfectly fine for After-Prom.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

1 Prom	=	\$15.00
1 After Prom	=	\$15.00
1 Prom / 1 After Prom	=	\$30.00
1 Prom / 2 After Prom	=	\$45.00
2 Prom / 2 After Prom	=	\$60.00
2 Prom / 1 After Prom	=	\$45.00

THS 2015 YWCA Future Leadership Nominee

Madeleine Pershall, senior, is the THS 2015 YWCA Future Leadership nominee. She was recognized by the YWCA at the annual Women's Leadership Banquet and reception. She received a scholarship of \$250. Madeleine has accepted an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy. Madeleine was named outstanding cadet among 850 cadets attending the 2014 US Naval Academy summer camp. She was awarded the ROTC Naval Option Four-year Scholarship of \$180,000. Madeleine will be recognized and honored at the May 7 meeting of the Topeka Public Schools Board of Education.

Senior Information

Senior Countdown information? Make sure your senior has filled out their scholarship information. If you haven't done that yet. Here is a link to the form: http://ths.topekapublicschools.net/assets/senior_countdown_letter_2015.pdf

THS's Web Site: ths.topekapublicschools.net

8TH SEMESTER (FINAL) TRANSCRIPT REQUEST

STUDENT NAME _____ Student ID# _____

TRANSCRIPT TO BE SENT TO:

Name of College/University _____

Street Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

The college indicated above is the college/university that you will be attending this fall.

Please write so your handwriting is legible. Return this completed form to **Cindi Valdivia in the Counseling Center, Room 132.**

**** Transcripts will be mailed out by August 1st ****

2015 GRADUATION COUNTDOWN

Graduation Announcements

If you have paid in full please pick up from the main office

If you have a balance due bring payment to the business office Room 101

Senior Meeting – April 29

10:10 a.m. in the Student Cafeteria (Trojan Time)

Commencement Expectations

Graduation Photo Information

End Of The Year Details

Senior Survey

Cap & Gown – May be picked up **April 29**, after senior meeting & during all lunches

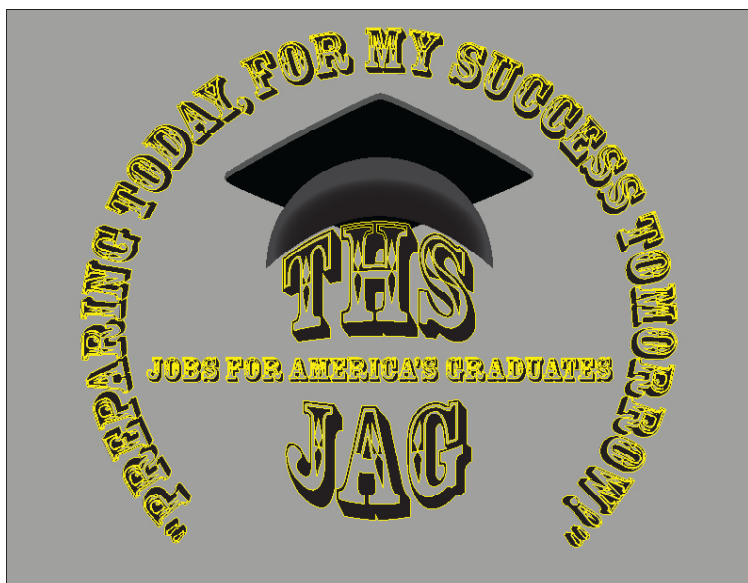
Prom - April 25th - 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. in the Student Cafeteria

After-Prom -12:00 midnight to 4:00 a.m. at THS

Seniors LAST DAY & Recognition Assembly – May 12

2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium

THS JAG T-Shirt Winner



THS-JAG won first place for our JAG t-shirts in the JAG CDC state championship, Saturday, April 11, 2015!! Other good news coming out of JAG is that Charlie Lopez, and Xavian Burton (juniors) both were selected for job shadowing positions with Westar Energy this summer!! Way to go, JAG Nation!!!

Department News

Math Department

Calculus Camp:

On April 9, seventeen calculus students headed out to Lake Shawnee for the annual “Calculus Camp.” Camp consists of finding the volume of a Hershey’s Kiss using calculus, having pizza for lunch, and taking a 3.5-hour practice AP Exam. Students take the practice exam so they can get a feel for the types of questions they will see on the real exam and so they learn how to budget their time for each part of the test.

TRIG Star:

The TRIG Star test is a math competition given by a representative for the National Survey Society. The winner in our region can win as much as \$375. This competition will take place at Topeka High on April 23rd, after school in Mrs. Bailey’s classroom. The NE region 1st place and 2nd place winners last year were both from Topeka High School!

PSU Math Relays:

Eighteen Topeka High students traveled to Pittsburg State University on April 14th for the Math Relays. Every student who attended made the top ten in at least one event. Medalists for Topeka High were:

Paul Cabili—2nd place Team Trig and 2nd place Computational Math

David Brown—2nd place Team Trig

Maggie Miller—1st place Probability and Statistics

Khalil Newton—3rd place Algebraic Simplification

Tony Calvin—2nd place Team Trig

Maddie Pershall—3rd place Trigonometry

Jada Gardner—2nd place Team Trig

Adrianna Mead—2nd place Geometry

Science News

"Many professionals from our community have volunteered their time and expertise by visiting our classes. The Medical Technology Technicians from Stormont-Vail came to Anatomy & Physiology classes at THS and educated students about the blood and careers related to their profession. In addition, Dr. Craig Gernon, Cardiologist, and Dr. Brandan Kennedy, Pediatrician, also shared their knowledge and experiences with the students. In late April, many anatomy students will visit Dr. Duane Hinton in the cadaver lab at Washburn University."

Forensics News

March and April have been great months for the Topeka High Forensics Squad!

Across March and April we have:

Medaled 8 students in Congressional Debate

Medaled 11 teams in either Lincoln Douglas or Public Forum Debate

Had 15 event champions

Qualified 32 entries for state

Medaled 74 total students

We have also completed our first of three National Qualifying tournaments for this summer's National Tournament in Dallas. At the Congressional Debate qualifier, Senior, Lucas Ryan won the House of representatives guaranteeing himself a trip to Dallas. Junior, Colton Glasscock, is the first alternate in the house, and Senior, Chloe Philippe, is the second alternate in the Senate. This week we compete at the LD-PFD National Qualifier (with 8 entries) and the IE National Qualifier (with 20 entries) to see who else will be joining us in Texas.

Finally, in reflection on our "regular season" we put up some big numbers. We have a total of 36 unique entries for the State Tournament in May (59 total). We are also sitting at #14 out of 176 schools in the state in NFL Points/Degrees, and we still have 3 tournaments to go!

English News

National English Honor Society and AP Lit students are participating in a field trip to see The Great Gatsby at Topeka Civic Theatre. In the afternoon, they will be visiting Billy Vanilly and designing cupcakes to reflect the Art Deco style of the show.

Cafeteria News

We are thankful for your support of the Child Nutrition Program and for the opportunity to serve nutritious meals to your student.

As the year comes to a close, please, remember to check your student's balance. You can call the Cafeteria Office at 295-3176 or have your student request the information as they go through the lunch line or check with the Cafeteria Office. All meal account balances will carry over to the next year. Refunds are done for Seniors and students that are leaving the district, upon request. If you have younger students in the district, you can have their balance transferred into their siblings account, as well.

Bring on Summer!!! We will be offering the Summer Food Service program again this year. This is a program that offers FREE meals to anyone between the ages of 1 and 18 during the summer. This is such a great support for Topeka families. Summer sites and times will be posted at www.topekapublicschools.net, as the list becomes available.

Theatre News

Trojan Theatre Double - Play, 7:00 pm Thursday, April 30
THS Hoehner Auditorium. Free admission.

Advanced Theatre Ensemble presents an evening of long-form improvisation, known as "Harold," thirty minutes of discovery based on one audience suggestion. Sometimes brilliant, sometimes just weird, but always interesting.

Making the Move, a short one-act play written by 17-year-old playwright, Noah Altshuler; it premiered at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The play focuses on Connor and Hannah, two teenagers who brainstorm with their best friends, Stan and Charlotte, ways to "make the move" to kiss the other on a first date. The play is a comedic exploration of the complicated world of teenage friendships, love, and friend zones.

Acting Two Presents - 7:00 pm, Thursday, May 7, in THS Hoehner Auditorium. Admission is free.

Acting 2 class presents *Crimes of the Heart* by Beth Henley. Three sisters with quite different personalities and lives reunite when the youngest of them, Babe, has just shot her husband. The oldest sister, Lenny, takes care of their grandfather and is turning into an old maid, while Meg, who tries to make it in Hollywood as a singer/actress, has had a wild life filled with many men. Their reunion causes much joy, but also many tensions.

Computer News

The Topeka High Web team is close to being ready to roll out the new Topeka High web site. Meanwhile, five of our leaders made a presentation to some French middle school students about coding. **Ethan Heckard**, Senior, has been the leader on the new Topeka High web site in terms of design and coding. His leadership has enabled the other web students to code and fill in pages to match or complement his design. He also has been working with WordPress themes and changing the HTML and CSS code on them to suit the clients' requests. **Adrienne Cox**, Senior, has a variety of experience with coding as she participated in Technovation (all girl international phone app competition) last year, coding her app in JQuery mobile, coding a part of the new T-High web site and has some familiarity with changing CSS and HTML in WordPress templates for clients. **Caleb Layne**, Senior, has been involved with coding a phone app for a client in town with the help of **Alex Goudie-Averill**. They have had to research and learn quite a variety of scripts in PHP, JQuery and other languages on their own. **Danielle Cottrell**, Junior, has been instrumental in coding part of the new web site, is a second-year participant in Technovation, and she has done some creative coding for several other sites as well. **Destiny Emery**, Junior, is also a second-year Technovation competitor and brought her extensive code, printed, for a project she created for a business in town.



These (and a number of other students) have much to be proud of with their accomplishments. Presenting these students' skills and talents to middle school students is yet another way they are learning 21st Century Skills in addition to their computer skills.

The Topeka Public Schools, Unified School District No. 501 is committed to affirmative action and equal opportunity. No person shall, on the basis of age, race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, disability, national origin or ancestry be denied lawful access to any appropriate educational service, program or activity provided by the school district. The Title IX compliance coordinator is the executive director of administration. The Section 504 compliance coordinator is the general director of special services. For employment, the EEO/AA officer is the general director of human resources. All compliance coordinators may be contacted at 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, KS 66611-1294, (785) 295-3000. The clerk of the Board of Education has been designated to receive and redirect or handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, regulations and procedures. The clerk may be contacted by calling (785) 295-3045 or by writing to 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66611-1294.

Race & Equity Crew

Eight members of the Race & Equity Crew traveled to Kansas State University on Tuesday, April 14th; presenting to 3 classes full of students studying to become teachers at the middle and high school level. Our students (Mya McFadden, Carson Denney, Bryan Kincade, Connor Gigous, Breanna Jackson, Brandon Jensen, Sierra Dawson and Jessica Barriga) were able to challenge the KSU students, encouraging them to talk about race and its affects on their future students; they were engaging and were successful at getting those students to examine themselves, their attitudes and beliefs.

Along with the three presentations, our students were treated to lunch with Dr. Pat Bosco, Dean of Students and Vice President of Kansas State, Dr. Charles Rankin and Dr. David Griffin and even a Topeka High School graduate, Dr. Doris Wright Carroll. They were also treated to a campus tour led by Dr. Amanda Morales and Dr. Robert Hachiya. The THS students networked with many professors and department heads as they explored their personal goals and answered questions in regards to their journey with the Race and Equity group.

This group has upcoming presentations with a group of Burlington High School students and with Jardine Middle School students who hope to also begin a youth Race & Equity group.



The Chester Woodward Library

CURRENTLY: April is "Celebrate School Libraries month." The Chester Woodward Library presented a cake to the faculty and on April 16th a copy of *All the Light We Cannot See* was given to a student whose name was drawn.

The staff and the proctors are busy this month completing the inventory of all 19,000+ items in the library. Additionally, we are gathering information to make a complete inventory of all av and computer equipment in the building. A lot to do in addition to helping with the testing.

OVERDUE MATERIALS: Completing the inventory allows us to know, without a doubt, that a student's overdue materials are still in their possession and not misfiled on our shelves. Please encourage your student to return the overdue materials so that you are not charged for them at next year's enrollment. Overdue notices are sent to Trojan Time classes.

NEW BOOKS: New materials continue to come into the library. Your students have until mid May to checkout and read a new title. As we know, the art of reading is a life-long skill which can open new worlds for the reader. Please encourage your students to learn this art as it will serve them well.

LOOKING FORWARD: Great plans are in store for the library during the next school year. Look for more information in future Trojan Nations.