

2475 CAMBRIDGE
BYPASS,
CAMBRIDGE, MD
21613

Cambridge-South Dorchester High School



Administration

Dr. Benjamin Hosch, Principal
Robin Mackert, Assistant Principal
John Rio, Assistant Principal
Teresa Berry, Dean of Students

Guidance

Robert Howard, 12th Grade
Sheila North, 11th Grade
Cynthia Collins, 10th Grade
Ami Parks, 9th Grade
Theresa White, Secretary



Dates to Remember

February

15—
Schools Closed, President's Day
22—
Schools Closed, Professional
Development Day
23—
Schools Closed, Parent Confer-
ence Day
10:30 am—6:00 pm
(1:30 -2:15 pm lunch)

March

11, 12, 13, 14—
Senior Class Play
26—
End of 3rd Marking Period

April

2, 5 —
Schools Closed, Spring Break
7—
Report Cards
12, 13, 14, 15, 16—
HSA Testing
24—
Junior/Senior Prom
Grand March 6:30 pm
Prom 8:30 pm
29—
Interim Reports

Newsletter

February, March, April Edition

Message from Dr. Hosch, Principal

It is essential that the faculty and staff of Cambridge-South Dorchester High School provide the best possible atmosphere for teaching and learning. We believe that every child entrusted to our care should be provided with quality instruction in a safe learning environment. The responsibility to teach all students so they can attain their maximum educational potential is a challenge that we accept. However, in order to do this, it has become necessary that we have **zero tolerance** for students who loiter in the halls after classes have begun. Students who are found in the halls by staff members during this time will be "swept" (escorted by staff) to an area of the building where they may receive a suspension from school.

All parents are invited to attend Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. Students are invited if they come with their parents. This is an opportunity for any parent to collaborate with the principal and/or administration about school improvement.

Attendance Policy

I would like to reiterate and emphasize two specific policies that need your attention and support:

Student Attendance

The purpose of this attendance policy is to maintain high academic standards for earning credit in classes. It is the expectation that absences will not exceed 8 days each semester or 16 days for the year. **An absence is defined as any missed period of instruction for any reason except absence due to illness in which the student sees a doctor and provides written verification of the appointment, funeral of a family member, school related activities or disciplinary suspension.** Documentation of the doctor's appointment needs to be turned in to the Secretary or Assistant Principal within one week of the students' return to school in order to be considered excused.

Senior Attendance

All students will take final examinations at the end of second semester; however seniors may be exempt from final examinations in any class if they meet one of the following criteria:

- If the student has an **A-** or better in the class at the time of exams.
- If the student has earned a **C-** or better at the time of exams and have no more than two absences in that class for any reason second semester, other than school related activities. Students who have had disciplinary procedures requiring in-school or out-of-school suspension will **not** be able to exercise the aforementioned option.

This policy is to encourage high performance and/or attendance during the second semester of a student's senior year. All seniors will take final examinations unless they are able to meet one of the two listed requirements.

Foreign Language Department

Fifth International Dinner will be held here in the cafeteria on Friday, February 19, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Spanish students, International Club and Spanish Honor Society members are invited to attend. Each student will be given three tickets for themselves and for their parents/guardians. Students who cannot participate in this graded project must make other arrangements with their Spanish teachers. Parents/guardians who are interested in helping, please contact your child's Spanish teacher. Your support is appreciated.

National Spanish Honor Society Induction is scheduled for Friday, May 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm here in the auditorium. Students who have earned A's three consecutive semesters, have a love for the cultures, and will promote friendship between the United States and Spanish speaking countries will be invited to become members of the National Spanish Honor Society. Parents/guardians are invited to attend to support their student by attending the ceremony.

School Improvement Team

The School Improvement Team works to provide a focus for our efforts in improving instruction for students. We are currently working to identify instructional practices to implement in our classrooms that will increase academic engagement of our students. We are particularly interested in identifying practices that will help us to increase the performance levels of minority students on state assessments. During the month of February, our students will participate in a survey which will help our faculty provide the type of instruction that will increase the overall performance of our student body.

The School Improvement Team of Cambridge-South Dorchester High School is looking for additional parent members. The team meets once a month on Wednesday afternoons from 3pm until approximately 4:30pm. Mrs. Valerie Jordan currently serves as our parent member and has done so for two years. We would like to have additional representatives. If you are able to join us, please contact Robin Mackert at mack-ertr@dcpsmd.org or call the school at 410-228-9224.



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Flowers

No flower deliveries will be accepted for students on Friday, February 12, 2010 for Valentine's Day. Local floral shops are being notified and hand delivered flowers will be turned away. The school is unable to accommodate the volume of deliveries.

However, if you would still like for your child to have flowers, the 10th grade class will be selling carnations for Valentine's Day beginning February 1—February 11, 2010. The cost is one carnation for \$2.00, three for \$5.00, and 6 carnations for \$10.00. These flowers will be delivered to students in classes on Friday February 12, 2010. The carnation sale is used as a fundraiser for the sophomore class. Please contact Ms. Kenny at the school or by email (kennym@dcpsmd.org) if you are interested in purchasing flowers for your child.



Zdunowski News

Senior Portraits—The last chance for senior portraits will be February 5, 2010. Appointment cards will be mailed to students' homes. Senior cap and gown portraits will February 9, 2010.

Yearbook— The deadline to purchase a yearbook is May 3, 2010. Please make your order today by calling 1-866-282-1516 or visiting jostensyearbooks.com

School Portraits—Spring portraits will be taken February 25, 2010. These are the pictures that parents will view the proofs before they purchase them.

Prom News

The 2010 Junior—Senior Prom will be held at Sailwinds Park April 24, 2010 from 8:00 pm until 11:30 pm. The After Prom party will be at Sailwinds Park from 12:00 am—2:00 am. Grand March will be at C-SD in the auditorium from 6:00—8:00 pm.

The theme this year is "A Beautiful Night Around the World". Tickets will go on sale April 5 and will end April 21, 2010 and will be sold during all three lunches. The cost will be \$40 each for a couple and \$25.00 each for a single ticket.

Community Interaction from the Theatre Department

The Class of 2010 will be presenting "Annie Get Your Gun" on March 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2010. The seniors have started practice and are getting into character as Annie Oakley (Emma Brant), Frank Butler (Gary Young), Buffalo Bill Cody (Blake Holliday), and Sitting Bull (Everett Young). Other leads are Dolly Tate (Tykerra Wilson), Winnie (Aubrie Kowitzki), Tommy Keeler (Shane Vincent), Charlie Davenport (Jermaine Matthews), Foster Wilson (Joe Gray), Pawnee Bill (Jessie Barrere). Approximately 80 students auditioned for parts in the play and everyone earned a part.

If anyone has stories about Annie Oakley from when she lived here, we would appreciate hearing about them. You can email them to jamesd@dcpsmd.org. If you have any memorabilia you can lend us, we would like to set up a display in the commons area during the run of the play.

Dorchester Unity Players will be helping us again this year to raise money for the play. Their annual spaghetti dinner will be held on February 12, 2010 in the CSD cafeteria. All proceeds will go toward "Annie Get Your Gun". Take outs will be available between 5:30 and 7:00 pm. Dinner will be served between 6:00 and 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Dinner will include a salad, spaghetti, drink and dessert. In addition to the spaghetti dinner there will be a silent auction and a raffle. We invite you to come out for dinner and to support the senior class play.

If you are interested in an early Valentine's night out, the Black History and Women's History Committees will be sponsoring a fashion show at 7:00 in the auditorium on Friday, February 12, 2010. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. That's dinner and a show to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Halfway through the school year Is the glass half empty or half full?

By John Rio, Assistant Principal

We have reached the mid-point of the 2009-2010 school year. Students have received their grades for the first semester's work. At this point, is the glass half empty or half full? Is it time to slack off or give up or is it full speed ahead?

The student who has not done very well during the first semester has to make a decision about the rest of the year. "I didn't do well." "I can't do any better." "I'll just give up for the last semester." OR "I know I can do better." "I'll ask my teachers for some extra help." "I'll work harder and improve the second semester."

The student who has done well during the first semester also has a decision to make. "I worked hard for the first 18 weeks." "I got good grades." "I can coast for the second semester." OR "I want to maintain or improve my good grades." "I'll continue to work hard and keep making progress." "I want to turn the B's into A's."

Students need to make the decision on their own but it is up to parents, staff members, and administrators at CSD to encourage them to make the right decision and continue the effort to fill up the glass. Report cards and grades are a wake up call for many students. Some have no idea why they received the grade they did. Others think back and know exactly why the 'E' or 'A' is staring at them. Students need the guidance and expertise of teachers and parents to show them how to improve or maintain the grades. We all need to work together to make the rest of the year productive and progressive.