



ALLEMAN NEWSLETTER

October 2011

From the Principal's Desk

REPORT CARDS ARE COMING (OCTOBER 20th-21st)

Parents who have not yet attended a report card night at Alleman are usually eager to know how the evening works. It works like this

Report cards are available in the Morris Gym Lobby. Teachers are seated at tables in the Morris and Casey Gyms. Parents may visit the teachers of their choice and there are no set appointment times. Pre-lettered teacher name cards and locator sheets will help you find the teachers. Counselors and administrators are also present and available to assist you.

We appreciate your graciousness and patience at report card days, since some lines of parents may be longer than others. (The first evening of fall semester report card day is always the busiest.) Our teachers want to answer all of your questions, but they do not always have the time to discuss every student's progress in as much detail as some parents want or need to hear. We ask our teachers to keep things moving along and we count on parents to be aware of other parents waiting behind them. If you feel that you need or want more time and attention from a teacher, ask that teacher to meet with you again at a mutually convenient time. If you prefer, you may make arrangements over the phone using voice mail.

1ST QUARTER REPORT CARD CLARIFICATION ABOUT CLASS RANK & GPA

Current GPA is accurate on the first quarter report card. However, class rank and cumulative GPA are not computed until the end of the semester. Those information boxes are only updated at the conclusion of a semester class.

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMS JUST BE THERE!!!

All students are expected to be in school on time and prepared to take final exams on December 16th, 19th, 20th, and 21st. We ask that parents respect those exam days and plan to begin any holiday family travel only after noon on the 21st. With this information in mind and with some advance planning, it is rare that there would be any conflicts with finals. If a legitimate conflict does occur, and may have an impact on exams, parents must write a letter of explanation for the school ahead of time since only the principal may approve alternate arrangements for finals. If a student receives administrative approval for an alternate arrangement, the student will be given an official form signed by the principal and this form must be given to the teacher by the student. Only after the teacher has the signed form in hand can he/she discuss an alternative date.

LOS EXÁMENES FINALES

Es una expectativa que todos los estudiantes estén en escuela a tiempo y preparados para tomar los exámenes finales el 16, 19, 20 y 21 de diciembre. Pedimos que los padres respeten esos días de exámenes y que empiecen las vacaciones con familia después de las 12:00 de la tarde el 21 de diciembre. Es importante que los padres tengan esta información en cuenta cuando están planeando para los días de fiesta. Es raro que conflictos ocurran cuando los padres tomen en cuenta los días de exámenes. Sin embargo, si hay un conflicto legítimo, los padres deben de escribir una carta explicando la situación a la escuela en avance. Solamente el director de la escuela puede aprobar los arreglos alternativos para los exámenes finales. Si un estudiante recibe aprobación administrativa para un arreglo alternativo el estudiante será dado un documento oficial y este documento debe de ser enseñado a cada maestro por el estudiante. Después de enseñarle el documento al maestro el estudiante puede arreglar una cita alternativa para tomar el examen final.

PARENTS: THE "ANTI-DRUG"

In abbreviated form, here is a message I included in last year's October "Newsletter". It's worth repeating. If you would like to subscribe to bi-weekly emails from *Parents: the Anti-Drug*, go to www.theantidrug.com. Scroll part way down the page to "Subscribe to Parenting Tips" Newsletter.

HELP WANTED AD...

Help the Catholic Conference of Illinois (CCI) and Alleman High School "get the message out" to state officials representing our area whenever an issue is pending that has an impact (real or potential) on our Catholic schools. No training required and no meetings involved! Become the Legislative Action Person (L.A.P.) linking Alleman to CCI. For more information, contact Colin Letendre at 786-7793 or cletendre@allemanhighschool.org.

News from the Drama Department

"THE HILLS ARE ALIVE"

The Alleman Drama Department will present its annual fall musical on October 13 and 15 at 7 PM and on October 16 at 4 PM. This year's production is "The Sound of Music", the last musical Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote together. Starring in the show are sophomore Lauren VanSpeybroeck as Maria, senior Patrick Ewald as Captain VonTrapp, senior Logan Titus as Elsa, junior Tyler Allen as Max and sophomore Brittany Raz as Mother Abbess. Three other seniors will also be appearing in their last musical at Alleman: Katie Allen, Sydney Cusack and Chase Stone.

The show features a cast of 43, including 20 Alleman students playing nuns and 4 Seton students who won roles of the youngest VonTrapp children over 60 other grade school students in an audition in August.

Tickets will be on sale at the door beginning one hour before each performance. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and \$4 for students through high school.

"The Sound of Music" is directed by Alleman French teacher Tom Swegle and choreographed by Alleman grad Linda McGraw. Music will be presented under the direction of Cindy Ramos-Parmley and accompanist is Andrea Gonzalez.

A special feature of the October 15 performance will be the induction into the Alleman Drama Hall of Fame of Marcus Kelly, a 2000 graduate of AHS.

FLU SEASON

Anyone who watches TV or reads the news must know that flu season is here. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, the single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year when the yearly vaccinations become available. New strains of flu virus are showing up every year and new vaccines are constantly being developed. This year's seasonal flu vaccine also includes protection against last season's H1N1 and the new virus, H2N3.

Flu symptoms may include fever and chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, fatigue, headache and body aches and sometimes nausea and vomiting or diarrhea.

Besides vaccinations, everyone should practice good hygiene. Remember the 3 C's. **Clean** - wash your hands frequently and thoroughly to prevent the spread of germs. **Cover** - your cough and sneeze with a tissue or sleeve, not your hand then dispose of the tissue in the waste container. Don't leave used tissues laying around on tables or desks or the floor. **Contain** - your germs. **Stay home if you are sick** for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Get plenty of sleep. Don't stay up all night studying, texting or playing video games.

Eat a good breakfast and drink plenty of fluids.

In general, anyone who wants to reduce their chances of getting the flu should get vaccinated.



Counseling Department News Cont.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SOPHOMORE STUDENTS PLAN TESTING

This year the PLAN Assessment (an ACT product) will be given to all sophomores on November 4, 2011. This will take place during the regular school day. The PLAN is the second standardized assessment given to students at Alleman. (the first was the EXPLORE given to incoming freshmen.) The PLAN assessment is important not only because it gives information on student growth but because it is also a practice ACT. Part of this assessment is a shortened version of the ACT. The students get to experience the kind of questions they will be seeing on the ACT when they take it as a junior. The PLAN also gives a very accurate prediction of what the individual student's ACT Composite Score range will be when they take the ACT as a junior. The other portion of the assessment is a Career Interest inventory which can aid you and your student in planning for the future. Please make every effort to see that your student is in attendance on November 7th. Deacon Granet will be talking to the sophomores a few weeks before the PLAN is taken and information will be given to the students to bring home and share with their parents/guardians. If you have any questions about the PLAN, please contact Deacon Granet either by phone or e-mail.

News from around the School

National Honor Society members and their parents are reminded that they will be hosting the annual Senior Citizen's dinner on October 12th. Doors open at 5:00 P.M. and dinner will be served at 5:30 P.M. in the cafeteria. All members of N.H.S. must participate by performing one hour of service and furnishing 2 home-cooked dishes for the dinner. Due to the amount of food left over in the past few years, we ask that each covered dish you bring serve 10 people. It would also be very helpful if you would send your food in disposable containers, eliminating the need to wash and return serving dishes.

Juniors bring dessert and salad. Seniors bring one hot vegetable dish and one appetizer.

News from the Library

Alleman provides students with subscriptions to several research databases. Each student will be given a library brochure in English class with the website URL's and the access passwords. Listed below is a copy of that information for your use at home. These subscriptions are for Alleman student use only and should not be provided to other people for use as it would be a violation of our agreement with the providers.

Ebsco

a student research center

<http://search.epnet.com>

User id: ahs

Password: pioneers

FirstSearch

topic/keyword research database

<http://newfirstsearch.oclc.org>

Authorization: 100109800

Password: wxyy!mxss

Britannica Online

an online encyclopedia

www.school.eb.com

Username: ahs

Password: britannica

Discovering Collection

research database

contains essays, criticisms, biographies, timelines, primary documents and more

<http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/rock71720>

Password: pioneers

Opposing Viewpoints

pro/con essays on current controversial topics

<http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/rock71720>

Password: pioneers

PrairieCat online catalog

electronic card catalog for AHS and surrounding libraries

<http://catalog.prairiecat.info>

Wilson OmniFile Text

contains the full text of articles from approx. 2,700 publications

<http://vnweb.hwwilsonweb.com/hww/>

jumpstart.jhtml

ID: AZT25

Password: SSIL075358

The Quad-City Times e-edition

an electronic edition of the daily newspaper
click on e-edition in toolbar

<http://qctimes.com>

ID: Alleman

Password: Highschool

From The Development Office

Parents & Grandparents: Much thanks for your support of Alleman High School throughout the year in our following fundraising activities:

- 2012 Pioneer Calendar Sale – Parents, please help us! Every student is asked to sell 5 calendars. All students benefit from this fundraiser, as it allows Alleman to keep our tuition at a reasonable rate, and give each student \$1325 towards tuition. Otherwise, tuition would be \$4825.
- Annual Holiday Luncheon – November 14 at The Abbey Station – Seating is limited to the first 250 paid reservations. This event sells out quickly so please get your reservations in early.
- All Souls Memorial – Remember your loved ones at all daily Alleman masses during the month of November. Mass is daily at 7:25 a.m. in the Alleman Chapel.
- Year-End Appeal – If you are in a position to help, our year-end appeal will focus on a new floor, lights, and ceiling in the cafeteria, new lights in the hallways, new faucets in the girls and boys bathrooms, and tuck pointing.
- Dream House 2012 - Only 3500 shares sold, with a 1 in 140 chance of winning a prize! This grand prize is a **Quarter of a Million** dollars! Don't forget the first Earlybird Drawing on October 3 for \$1500. Get your share in early!
- Cookie Orders – Remember your son or daughter on birthdays or any happy occasion with a 12" decorated cookie. Place your orders through the Development Office. Students really enjoy getting a birthday cookie! Cost is only \$10.
- 2012 Heritage Ball – Mark your calendars and plan to attend March 31, 2012 at the I-Wireless Center. It will be an evening of much enjoyment.

Thank you for all you do for Alleman High School. Together, we can ensure that our students receive a “*higher level of education,*” and are well prepared for whatever college they attend.

God Bless,
Fr. Mirabelli

News from the Booster Club

If you have not yet joined the Booster Club and have a son/daughter participating in sports, please do so. Memberships are \$20.00 and can be sent into the school office at any time.

The Alleman Booster Club's annual Pancake & French Toast Breakfast will be held at the Alleman High School Cafeteria on Sunday, October 23rd from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM. The cost for the breakfast is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12, children 5 and younger are free. There is an \$18 special for immediate family members of five or more. There will also be Cash Raffle at the door and Alleman students will be collecting food and money donations for their Student Hunger Drive.

October's Booster Club meeting will be held Tuesday, October 11th, 2011 at 7:00 in the cafeteria.

Information on the Website

For any information about the Alleman Counseling Department, please visit our website at www.allemanhighschool.org. Click on “Academics”, then “Counseling” and finally “Counseling Website”. Go to the sitemap on the left hand side and see information about the Counseling Department and how to reach your student’s Counselor. You will also be able to check out when College Representatives will be visiting with students at Alleman; keep updated on College Scholarships that Alleman has received as well as resources for the students use and what students need to do to go on College Visits.

Note: The University of Illinois will need to have ACT tests scores from ACT by the October 30th deadline, or applicants will be denied.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SENIOR STUDENTS COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applying to colleges is becoming more and more competitive. Therefore, early application to the colleges of your student’s choice is extremely important. Many of the Illinois State Universities have early priority deadlines after which names will be placed on a wait list. For example, the University of Illinois – Urbana and Illinois State University have an October 30th priority deadline. Almost 90% of the incoming freshman class spots are filled typically by early application deadline, leaving only 10% open for students on the wait list. Students interested in attending these institutions should not miss this deadline. ALL college applications, letters of recommendation, requests for transcripts and any other material to be included with transcripts must be into the **Counseling Office no later than October 20 (ie University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University do not require transcripts now until the end of the year – they only want final transcripts)**. This is to ensure that mailing will take place prior to those priority deadlines. Applications to other universities should be sent before we leave for Christmas break. Since the process takes time for us to complete, we cannot guarantee that the mailing of such requests will be complete on time if the request is received only one or two days before deadlines. Most colleges and universities will accept applications online. **Please read all the directions carefully – making sure you do everything that is needed.** (some applications also have a form for the Counselor to fill out – make sure you print that out and bring it to your Counselor when you request the transcripts.) No matter how your student decides to apply to a college/university, a transcript will have to be sent from Alleman. All requests for transcripts must be made through the student’s counselor and the transcript will be mailed from Alleman. These requests will be honored on a first come first serve basis. We will make every effort to get them out in a timely fashion, however, please allow 3 to 4 days for processing. Remember that an application is not complete until the college/university receives an official transcript directly from Alleman. If you have any questions about the college application process, please contact anyone in the Counseling Office.

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR SOME COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

The University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University no longer require an official transcript of high school grades for the application process. These universities request only the official final transcript at the end of the Senior year.

In place of a transcript, the student is required to self report their grades, GPA and class rank. Much of this information can be retrieved on RenWeb. Please ask the student’s counselor if information cannot be found. It is VERY IMPORTANT that the self-reported information be accurate. If the university discovers the student did not report the grade information accurately, they may rescind their offer of acceptance to the student. Please be very careful in reporting this information when applying. If you have any questions, see the student’s counselor.

ACT SCORES

Some of the colleges are requesting that they receive the ACT scores directly from ACT. Alleman receives an official sticker with the student’s scores on them and that sticker is placed on their transcripts. For some colleges this may be sufficient, however, a few colleges, including University of Illinois, are requesting that ACT send scores directly to them. If your student did not write-in the College/University that he/she is applying to on the ACT form when they took the test, you might have to contact ACT to send your son/daughter’s individual scores to them. Before sending a transcript, please make sure you find out if the College will accept the ACT sticker that is on their transcripts or if you need to contact ACT to send a copy of the official scores directly to the College/University.

PSAT TEST

The PSAT test will be given on Saturday, October 15, 2011 – 8:00 am – 11:00 am in the Alleman Cafeteria. The top half of the junior class and the top 20 of the sophomore class have been invited to attend, however any Sophomore or Junior is welcome to sign-up. The PSAT will estimate how well the student will do on the SAT, provide practice for the SAT and is the first step to nomination as a National Merit Scholar. Even if the student takes the PSAT as a sophomore, they must take it again as a junior in order to be considered for the National Merit Scholar Program. The students may register in the Counseling Department by October 5th, and the cost is \$20.00.

Please note the deadline to sign up for the test is October 5th

**& money must be turned in at that time also.
At that time, the student will receive a Study Booklet for the test!**

Help still needed

Still need parents to help solicit donations for the Heritage Ball silent auction. A letter detailing all of the specifics was included in last month's newsletter. It is a great way to earn all ten of your volunteer service hours. If you are willing to help, please complete the form below and turn in to the Main Office.

Name _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

_____ Yes, I am willing to help solicit gifts for the Heritage Ball silent auction.

Information from Yearbook Staff

SENIOR PICTURES

All senior pictures for yearbook must be taken at Westin Photo Studio. Please call 762-3326 for an appointment. A reminder to senior students that the proper dress code for these pictures is as follows: Deadline is December 16, 2011.

Gentlemen: Formal wear
You must wear a tie—No sweater
No earrings
Appropriate hair cut

Ladies: Formal wear
No sweaters—Shoulders covered
No low cut front on dress
Earrings—max. 2 in each ear

SENIOR PARENTS

If you would like to include a baby picture with a short message to your graduating senior to be published in this year's Year Book, here is the offer. Please submit an inexpensive photo (no larger than 4x6) with a personal message and \$50.00. You may pay with check or cash. Checks should be made payable to Alleman Yearbook.

Please submit all to Sister Ruth through the Main Office. Deadline for this offer is December 16, 2011.

Sister M. Ruth