



# Pioneer Pride

Volume 2, Issue 4

April/May, 2011

## Attention Fall Sports Athletes!!

To be eligible to participate in a Varsity or Junior Varsity fall sport at Conestoga, it is necessary to do the following:

1. Have a physical examination done by your personal physician **after June 1, 2011**;
2. Complete the four (4) medical forms (Coach's Emergency sheet, Physical Examination Report, Health History and Parent Certificate) and return or mail them to the Athletic Office at Conestoga **no later than August 1, 2011**. These forms are available online at

[www.tesd.k12.pa.us/stoga](http://www.tesd.k12.pa.us/stoga).

Click on "Athletics" and you can print the forms.

3. Two additional forms are also required: a) the sign-off sheet from the Parent/Student guideline and b) the Assumption of Risk form. These forms can be found immediately below the file of medical forms in their own files.
4. Be prepared to participate in pre-season which begins **Monday, August 15, 2011**

There are freshman teams for the following sports: football, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, field

hockey and girls volleyball.

These teams begin practicing after school has resumed.

Medical forms should be turned into the Athletic Office no later than **August 22, 2011**.

Please attend an important meeting for all students planning to participate in fall sports (and their parents) to be held in the Conestoga Auditorium on **May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7PM**. Meet the coaches, ask questions, find out what to expect and what will be expected of you as a Conestoga athlete.

## PSAT.NMSQT for Sophomores

The PSAT is an abbreviated version of the SAT, required for the college admission process. Counselors encourage sophomores to take the PSAT if, and only if, they feel ready to begin that practice of taking standardized tests. The scores will not be reported to colleges nor will it count for scholarship purposes, but it is an opportunity to simply practice for the SAT. Registration for

the PSAT will happen in mid to late September at Conestoga during lunches. There will be announcements about the cost and how to register in early September. Stay tuned for more information about the PSAT in early fall newsletters. If a student chooses not to take the PSAT in their Sophomore year, it is not a problem. We encourage ALL Juniors to take the PSAT regardless of whether

they take it in their Sophomore year or not. The Junior year is the year the scores will count in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Parents and students are welcome to contact their counselor with further questions.

The test is given only once each year and the 2011 date is Saturday, October 15.

## Career Week is here -- April 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

Every spring, Conestoga offers students the chance to learn about future careers by inviting area professionals to discuss their jobs and unique career paths. This year The Career Week Committee has scheduled over 40 presenters, including lawyers, doctors, entrepreneurs, chefs, non-profit directors, social workers and well-known sportscaster Leslie Gudel (Phillies).

Please remind your student to sign up for a career session – these are fun and informative interactions that help our students start thinking about their futures. Presentations are open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students may sign

up for one to three presentations, and they are permitted to attend during free period or a regularly scheduled class (must get permission from teacher – attendance taken at all career sessions). Sign-ups will begin April 6<sup>th</sup> outside the cafeteria.

This year, Student Services conducted a school-wide survey to make sure the speakers lined up with students' interests. The findings from 430 student responses:

### **Top 10" Career Interests for Stoga students:**

Healthcare  
Psychology  
Business

Engineering  
Communications  
Education  
Law  
Entertainment  
Social Work, and  
Finance

Other popular careers included Travel, Computers, Fashion and Architecture.

Parent volunteers are also needed to help escort the speakers and attend presentations. Please contact Allyson Hotz ([allysonhotz@aol.com](mailto:allysonhotz@aol.com)) or Karen Consalo ([consalol@aol.com](mailto:consalol@aol.com)) to volunteer.



## Happenings...

- Two students were selected to participate in the Pennsylvania All State Choral Festival.
- Four seniors were selected to participate in the PA Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.
- Ten students were selected to participate in the PMEA Region Orchestra Festival.
- Twenty-three students from the Science Olympiad Team placed sixth overall and earned a spot at the State Science Olympiad Tournament in late April.
- Over 700 students tried out for the Spring Sports season.
- Sixteen students participated in the National History Day regional contest and won in their categories which qualifies them to compete in the state competition in May.
- Nine students have been honored by the PA Newspaper Association as Student Keystone Press winners.
- Eight students participated in the State Speech Debate Tournament.
- Boys basketball, and representatives of boys and girls swimming, boys and girls track and the wrestling team all made the District I tournaments. Some members of the track and wrestling teams also participated in the State Tournaments.



## B.U.I.L.D.

(Better Understanding of Individuals with Learning Differences)  
Visit the T/E website and check your school's newsletter for details on these future meetings/events:

April 12, 2011: Strengthening Self-Advocacy Skills for Learners of Any Age, Guest Speaker, Dr. Allison R. Walker, Temple University Valley Forge Middle School  
Audion, 7:00 pm

May, 2011: TBA  
Questions, concerns, or suggestions for future presentations contact a BUILD Co-Coordinator:

Wendy Brooks:  
[wenobrooks@aol.com](mailto:wenobrooks@aol.com)  
Michele Lynch:  
[rlynch610@verizon.net](mailto:rlynch610@verizon.net)  
Susan Peterman:  
[shpeterman@yahoo.com](mailto:shpeterman@yahoo.com)

## FLITE Year-End Staff Tributes

180 days. That is the amount of time our children spent in classes this year with the outstanding staff of our award-winning TE schools. As the year ends, we often want to commend a special teacher or staff member for their dedication to our school or our child.

A great way to acknowledge them is with a staff tribute donation to FLITE, the

Foundation for Learning in Tredyffrin-Easttown. Donations of any level are gratefully accepted: FLITE will then notify the teacher that a contribution has been made in their name by your student. Teachers have said they are honored to be recognized this way.

The non-profit FLITE foundation is funded entirely by donations and all monies are

used only in the TE schools. Examples of FLITE-supported programs include preschool tuition assistance, after school homework clubs at the elementary and middle schools and SAT and college prep programs at Conestoga. The Foundation also funds instrument rentals, graphing calculators and other "tools for success" that might be out of reach for some TE families. All awards are confidential – and

information is available through the guidance counselors.

Please recognize that terrific teacher or super staff member on behalf of your child and your family. Donate on-line with PayPal at [www.flite-pa.org](http://www.flite-pa.org) or download a staff tribute form and mail to P.O. Box 806, Southeastern, PA 19399.

Questions? Contact Chris Caine at [cdcaine@yahoo.com](mailto:cdcaine@yahoo.com)

## AP Exam Schedule

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Morning Session 7:30 AM</b>	<b>Afternoon Session 12:00 PM</b>
Monday May 2	Chemistry Environmental Science	Psychology
Tuesday, May 3	Computer Science A Spanish Language	Art History
Wed., May 4	Calculus AB Calculus BC	
Thursday, May 5	English Literature and Composition	Latin: Vergil
Friday, May 6	U.S. History	European History Studio Art (Portfolios)
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Morning Session 7:30 AM</b>	<b>Afternoon Session 12:00 PM</b>
Monday, May 9	Biology Music Theory	Physics :Mechanics Physics: Electricity and Magnetism 2:00PM
Tuesday, May 10	United States Government and Politics	Comparative Government and Politics French Language
Wed., May 11	English Language and Composition	Statistics
Thursday, May 12	Macroeconomics	Microeconomics
Friday, May 13	Spanish Literature	



# School Board Update



Summaries of School Board Committee Meetings for **March 2011**

Visit [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net) and click on 'School Board' for meeting dates, agendas and minutes.  
The public is warmly invited to all Committee meetings.

## **Education Committee, Chair: Betsy Fadem**

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Prepared by: Committee Chair

The March Education Committee meeting began with the Committee approving their 2011 goals. Key additions to this year's goals are curricular alignment to meet the Keystone exam implementation, review of the current middle school programming and the annual review of student assessments.

The Education Committee reviewed a cost reduction strategy to integrate the K-4 applied technology program into the core structure. The Committee discussed how the elementary special subject rotations would be implemented if applied technology, as a separate special, was eliminated. The Committee agreed to recommend this action to the Finance Committee and the full Board.

The Committee then approved a modified elementary team meeting structure. This modification would allow 1) daily team meetings, 2) a uniform daily start time for elementary staff, and 3) a flexible arrangement of team groupings to address student/parent needs. To accommodate this recommendation, the student daily start time would be 5 minutes earlier. This change will specifically need to be communicated to the walkers and those that are dropped off by parents. Bus schedules would be developed to make sure all students are at school for the 5 minute earlier start time.

Next, the Committee reviewed a modified 2-hour delay schedule for AM and PM kindergarten classes. In the event of a 2-hour delayed opening, both AM and PM kindergartens will have 1 hour subtracted from their schedule. This change will begin in 2011-2012 school year and information about the new kindergarten 2-hour delay schedule will be posted on the TESD web site.

The administration then presented the current data on special education definitions, number of students and costs.

The final topic of the meeting was a report from the administration on the District's online course program. Due to the outcome of a labor dispute, the program will not be continued in 2011-2012 school year. The District is appealing this decision.

## **Facilities Committee, Chair: Pete Motel**

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Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Facilities Committee met on Friday March 18, 2011 at a new meeting time of 12:00 p.m. The Committee discussed enrollment projections for the 2011-2012 school year and the concern that Devon Elementary School has almost reached its enrollment limit. This discussion led to a dialogue with several public members in attendance about the possibility of redistricting some time in the future.

The Committee heard a report and saw drawings for the proposed outdoor classroom at New Eagle Elementary School. The project is being supported and funded by the New Eagle PTO. The Committee approved the plans and asked for an update when the project is finished.

The District's architect presented five different options for a new maintenance and storage facility. The options are to renovate the old transportation building, renovate the old transportation building and add new space, build a new facility on the current site, build a new facility on a different site or to rent a facility. The Committee noted that they are not ready to recommend any of these options to the full Board and will continue this discussion at future meetings.

Finally the Committee had a short discussion concerning a rate schedule for the use of Teamer Field and a new hourly rate schedule for District facility users. The Committee did not approve any changes to the rate schedules however the Committee asked the administration to inform users of District facilities that new hourly rates are possible in the near future.

## **Finance Committee, Chair: Kevin Mahoney**

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Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Finance Committee met on March 14, 2011. The Committee heard several opinions from the public in attendance concerning the budget reduction strategy of outsourcing the District's custodial services. The District has sent out a request for proposal to potential custodial contractors however the Finance Committee has not reviewed the results. The outsourcing discussion will continue at a future meeting.

The Board Treasurer presented the results of the February Treasurer's report that shows current revenues collected and the total amount of expenditures and encumbrances to date. Revenue and expenditure projections show that the District could end the fiscal year using less fund balance than budgeted.

At last month's meeting, the Committee heard a proposal from the law firm of Portnoff Law Associates, LTD to collect delinquent taxes. The Committee approved that proposal and asked that it be placed on the consent agenda at the March Board meeting.

Finally the Committee reviewed budget strategies to reduce expenditures or increase revenues in the 2011-2012 budget. The Committee asked that the Administration present a review of these strategies and the strategies that have already been discussed and approved by the Board, at the budget workshop scheduled for March.

**Policy Committee,  
Chair: Kevin Buraks**

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Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Policy Committee began the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting by continuing its review of **Policy 3185: Fund Balances Management**. The administration reviewed changes that the Government Accounting Standards Board has made to state and local governmental accounting and financial reporting guidelines. After extensive discussion about proposed new language to Policy 3185, the Committee decided to continue its review at its April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The next item of business was a review of **Draft Policy 4105: Payroll and Other Disbursement to Employees**. The Committee edited the policy and recommended it and its accompanying regulation for a second reading at the March 21, 2011 meeting of the Board of School Directors.

The Policy Committee continued its discussion of whether a **new advertising policy should be** developed since the selling of advertising for extra curricular activities and events is listed as a strategy for the 2011-2012 budget. The Committee charged the administration with exploring the feasibility of working with a consultant who would facilitate advertising contracts on behalf of the District.

The Committee turned its attention to **Policy 3100: Budget Development Process**. The Committee made modifications to language for clarity. The District solicitor will make necessary revisions to Policy 3100 for Committee review at its next meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

In the 2000 Policy Series, the Committee recommended **Policy 2210: Building Principals, Policy 2211: Appointment of Building Principal, and Policy 2220: Assistant Principals: Middle School and High School** for a second reading at the March School Board meeting. In addition, the **repeal of Policy 2250: Committees**

**Organized by Principals** was recommended for a second reading, and the repeal of **Policy 2231: Director of Athletics** was recommended for a first reading.

The Policy Committee completed its review of **Policy 5116: Non Resident Students-Enrollment Eligibility** and recommended it for a second reading at the March School Board meeting. The Committee also completed its review of **Revised Policy 5119: Foreign Students and International Exchange Study Program** and recommended it for a second reading before the Board of School Directors.

The Committee then turned its attention to **Policy 9332: Exceptions to Board Policies and edited the policy** for greater clarity. The policy was recommended for a first reading at the March School Board meeting.

Finally, the Committee also held a discussion of **Policy 6146: Student Athletics** and decided that the policy will continue to be implemented as written.

**Public Information Committee,  
Chair: Debbie Bookstaber**

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Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Committee heard a presentation from the administration on how the District is using the TESD intranet to reduce paper and printing resources among staff members. The administration also presented a new section on the TESD web site called, "Events Open to the Community." This section is located under the "Community" menu of the web site and will include a calendar of school events open to the community as well as a link to a new Conestoga High School athletics calendar that will list upcoming athletic events. The new events calendars will be advertised once they have been finalized.

The administration is exploring the possibility of making TE Board Talk programs and other presentations available as podcasts from the TESD web site. RSS feeds on the web site would allow visitors to receive alerts when the podcasts have been posted. The podcasts would also be syndicated on iTunes. The administration will provide an update on this project to the Committee at a future meeting.

The Committee recommended that the next TE Board Talk program include Board member Pete Motel's review of the District's long range facilities plan from the February 28, 2011 regular School Board meeting.

The administration presented its plan to consolidate District postal permits to reduce the cost of permit fees. The Committee requested that the administration continue its campaign to encourage parents to use electronic communication and to reduce the number of paper copies of newsletters and other paper communications printed at the schools.

# Get the Facts

Regarding the Consequences for Underage Alcohol & Drug Use

Thursday, April 7, 2011 • 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Tredyffrin Library in Strafford

A panel of experts will share information pertaining to underage alcohol and other drug use, as well as, the resulting consequences for teens and parents.

Panel includes:

**David Obzud**, Easttown Township Police Chief

**Andrew Chambers**, Tredyffrin Township Police Chief

**Tom Tartaglio**, District Judge

**Kevin Fagan**, Conestoga High School Administrator

Moderator:

**Jacquelyn C. Taylor**, The COAD Group, Director of SAP Services

Community members are invited. • No pre-registration is required.

Location details: Tredyffrin Public Library is located at 582 Upper Gulph Road, Strafford, PA 19087.  
Tredyffrin Library phone: 610-688-7092

Questions about this program or ARCH in general should be directed to [archcares@gmail.com](mailto:archcares@gmail.com)



We are a coalition of parents, educators, and community members committed to promoting the well being of youth in Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships. We serve as a resource to families as they help their children form a positive self-image, make healthy choices, and reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD).

[www.archcares.org](http://www.archcares.org)

## A Message from



**DON'T WAIT ----VACCINATE NOW**  
**FOR ATTENDANCE IN ALL GRADES in 2011/2012,**  
**children need the following:**



- 4 doses of tetanus\*  
(1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 4 doses of diphtheria\*  
(1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- 3 doses of polio
- 2 doses of measles\*\*
- 2 doses of mumps\*\*
- 1 dose of rubella (German measles)\*\*
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine  
or history of disease

\*Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td

\*\*Usually given as MMR

**Children ATTENDING 7<sup>th</sup> grade in 2011/2012 need the following:**

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap)  
(if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization)
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)

**These requirements allow for medical reasons and religious beliefs. If your child is exempt from immunizations, he/she may be removed from school during an outbreak.**

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA.CODE CH.23 (School Immunization).  
 Contact your health care provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH for more information .

## Need To Know

### Service and Leadership

The Service and Leadership Recognition Evening is on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM and is sponsored by the Freshman Class Parent Organization. We will need volunteers to provide paper goods, cut up fruit platters, baked goods (no nuts or refrigeration), and cases of bottled water (small bottles). We will also need parents to help with set-up and sign-in. If you would like to help with this event, please email/call Sandie Nicholson at [sandiekev@verizon.net](mailto:sandiekev@verizon.net) or 610-240-7799 or Meg Born at [bornhouse@aol.com](mailto:bornhouse@aol.com) or 610-995-9799.

### Participating Spring EEPE Sophomores & Juniors!

Spring Extended Experience PE verification forms are now posted on the website and must be turned in to the main office of Conestoga to receive credit. These forms verify that the EEPE has been completed. The forms are due back to Conestoga's main office by June 3, 2011. Failure to return a completed verification form on time will result in a U on the report card and on student transcript.

### Planning Ahead: 2011 Fall PSAT Schedule

The PSAT, which is recommended for all Juniors, is scheduled for Saturday, October 15, 2011. This test is given only once during any school year. While some students may have taken the test in their Sophomore year for practice, the Junior year

test is important not only as preparation for the SAT tests required by many colleges, but also because it is the only criteria for consideration for National Merit Scholarships.

### Lost and Found

The Conestoga Lost and found is located at the Main Lobby Reception Desk, and is open every day from 7 am to 2:30 pm. Please stop by to look over our large selection of clothing, jewelry, lunch boxes, and other miscellaneous items. We sometimes have cell phones, IPOD's and eyeglasses as well.

### Sophomore Class Trip

The Class of 2013 trip to Boston scheduled for April 29-May 1 is right around the corner. We have an exciting itinerary designed around the activities and interests of the class. A final mailing will be sent out this month which will include an updated itinerary, emergency contact information, bus numbers, chaperone and roommate assignments and information about the luggage drop off on April 28th.

### Planning Ahead—PSAT

Parents of the Class of 2013 should be aware that the Student Services Department recommends that all Juniors take the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test), which is offered only once each school year. The date for the 2011-2012 school year is

Saturday, October 15, 2011. Please keep that date in mind when making fall weekend plans.

### SAT Biology Testing

Students currently taking biology may wish to register for the SAT Subject test in Biology. Students should consult with their biology teachers for assistance in deciding whether to take the test. The test will be offered at Conestoga on Saturday, June 4, 2011. Any student who wishes to take this test should register by May 6, 2011. Registration materials are available in the Student Services Center or online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

### CPR Training

Students taking Health I during the second semester will have one day of hands-on training in CPR for Adults, Children and Infants; use of AEDs, and First Aid on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, April 12, 13, or 14. Students will have had practice sessions and viewed the Red Cross video in Health class prior to the full day sessions. The students are then trained and tested by volunteer Red Cross Instructors who have been certified in classes offered by the Red Cross.

### FRESHMAN PARENT LUNCHEON

You are cordially invited to attend a luncheon for all parents of the Class of 2014

Thursday, May 19  
11:30 am

At the home of  
Mike and Betsy Dwyer

Please join parents, administrators and counselors to celebrate the completion of a great first year at Conestoga for the Class of 2014

RSVP to Betsy Dwyer at [betsydwyer@mac.com](mailto:betsydwyer@mac.com)

Please indicate whether you can bring a salad, dessert or beverage when you respond.

### SOPHOMORE PARENT LUNCHEON

You are cordially invited to a luncheon for all parents of The Class of 2013.

Tuesday, May 17  
11:30 am

At the home of  
Christopher Hardinger and  
Johanne LaMarche  
630 Spruce Lane, Berwyn

Join parents, administrators, and counselors to celebrate a successful sophomore year for the Class of 2013.

Please RSVP to [Conestoga2013@gmail.com](mailto:Conestoga2013@gmail.com) to let us know if you can bring a salad, dessert or beverage.