

Conestoga High School

Issue 1: August-September 2018



Dear Parents,

On behalf of the administration, faculty and staff, I welcome you to the 2018-19 school year! The Big C will soon be bustling with students and the expectations of early fall as the new school year begins. It is always refreshing to witness the anticipation and excitement our students bring as the halls and classrooms again buzz with activity.

Please be sure to view the District 2018-19 School Calendar which can be found at www.tesd.net. We have many exciting activities planned for opening days, with special attention given to orientation programs for freshman and students new to the district. We look forward to an outstanding school year as we welcome the Class of 2022.

Welcome back and as always, Go 'Stoga!

Amy A. Meisinger, Ph.D.
Principal

Fall Schedule Change Reminders

Once school begins, students will attend their scheduled classes for the first week of school. We will resume making changes on Tuesday, September 4 through Friday, September 7, 2018. Core level changes can be made through December 21, the last school day prior to winter break. Requests for specific teachers, periods and course sections will not be honored.

Come to Open House **September 13, 2018**

The Conestoga High School community is pleased to announce that our annual Open House for parents will be held on Thursday, September 13, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Open House provides

parents with an opportunity to experience their child's schedule and meet his/her individual teachers. Prior to the event, students will be asked to take home a copy of their Day 1 schedule along with a map of the building. Upon entering the building, parents will report directly to their child's first period class, which will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. Each class will meet for twelve minutes, during which time teachers will discuss course content, requirements, homework, and grading practices. Study halls and unassigned periods will provide opportunities for brief contact with administrators, school counselors, nurses, librarians and other support personnel. These periods also provide a good opportunity to visit the cafeteria where light refreshments will be available.

All families are invited to attend, and carpooling is recommended as a large turnout is expected.

Parking will be available in the main parking lot, the north parking lot adjacent to the track, T/E Middle School, and ONLY the right side of Old State Road (no cars will be permitted to park in the bus drop-off loop).

Bus shuttles to transport families to and from Conestoga will also circulate between the parking lots at all T/E Elementary Schools, Valley Forge Middle School, and the Daylesford Train Station. Shuttle buses will run both before and after the event, beginning at 6:00 PM.

College Application Night

Attention All Seniors: Please join us on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the CHS Auditorium for College Application Night. This program will teach seniors how to apply to college! It is a great way to learn more about the college application process. All seniors and their parents are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

Emergency Cards

The Green Emergency Medical Information Card was mailed home this summer. It is important for the school nurse to have this card on file for each student. If you have not already done so, please return the completed card to the school nurse as soon as possible. Remember to fill out both sides of the card. If there are any changes in emergency information during the school year, please notify the nurse with an update.

Allergy Alert

Our district, consistent with national trends, continues to see an increase in the prevalence of students with life threatening food allergies. The focus of our allergy management continues to be prevention, education, awareness, communication and emergency response. As you may know, our District Continues to review and update our Allergy Policy and Regulation (5403) and the Wellness Policy and Regulation (5402) to assure that they appropriately provide for the safety of our children. A copy of these District policies

and the regulations are available on the District's website (www.tesd.net).

STUDENTS WHO HAVE LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES NEED ALL OF US TO KEEP THEM SAFE

Extended Experience Fall 2018

The Extended Experience Physical Education contract is for seniors, juniors, and sophomores who want to substitute an outside physical education requirement during any given semester. In order to receive a satisfactory grade and credit on the transcript, student must meet the following requirements:

1. Return a completed [Fall EEPE Application](#) form by the due date of September 7, 2018.
2. Participate in at least 30 hours of supervised instruction.
3. Complete and return a Fall EEPE Verification form by January 11, 2019.

Extended Experience guidelines and required forms are available at www.tesd.net . Please be aware that unless a completed and signed application form is returned to the main office on or before September 7, 2018 students will not be able to earn credit for the Fall Semester 2018. After this date, seniors will be placed in a gym for the duration of the semester. Junior and sophomores without a completed application who wish to complete a gym requirement during the fall should see their counselor immediately. Please remember that eight (8) semesters of physical education, extended experience and/or team sport are required for graduation from Conestoga High School.

Student Information & Directory Verification Sheets

Please note that Student Information & Directory Verification Sheets (green form that was mailed home!) must be returned to school by Friday, September 1st in order to be included in the CHS Directory. Directories will be sold at Open House on September 13th.

Back to School Means Back to Volunteering - We love our parent volunteers at CHS

Parents play an active role in supporting many activities at Conestoga. We are grateful to the many parents and community members who donate their time during the school year. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped in many ways over the summer and to those who have stepped up to help with Health Screenings on the first two days of school. There are many opportunities to volunteer at Conestoga in September.

We need volunteers to help out in the Attendance Office, the Achievement Center, the Library, driving students, proofreading the CHS Directory and various mailings! Contact Jeanne Braun - braunj@tesd.net - if you can help us.

Also, many volunteers are needed to help out at the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 6th at the Coat Check and Water Station. Don't worry - your child won't see you; you are NOT chaperoning the dance! For questions about volunteering, please contact Jeanne Braun, Community and Volunteer Services Coordinator at 610-240-1913 or braunj@tesd.net. Thank you for your continued interest and support of Conestoga.

T&E Care School Meal Assistance Program

Tredyffrin & Easttown Care is a local non-profit that helps families in our community in a variety of ways. Because effective learning is best done on a full stomach, T&E Care supports families in the T/E School District who meet certain income criteria with a school meal assistance program. Families who are approved for free or reduced lunch assistance are not eligible to apply for our program as well. More details on the acceptance criteria can be found on the [short application](#).

If your family could use a little extra help with breakfast and/or lunch assistance and you feel you might fit the criteria explained in the application, please contact your child's counselor for a copy of the application. You can also go to T&E Care's website to download the application (address below). There is no deadline to apply - your child can join this program at any time during the school year. Assuming funds permit, the assistance of \$35/mo/student for elementary students, \$45/mo/student for middle school students, and \$55/mo/student for CHS students will be offered by T&E Care during the 2018/2019 school year.

Any community members interested in helping to fund this important initiative, please go to T&E Care's website (www.tecare.org) for more details on how to get involved. <http://www.tecare.org/needs-assistance/school-meal-assistance/>

Attention Class of 2019

Senior portraits for the Class of 2019 will be taken on the following Saturdays: September 8, 15, 22, 29 (9:00 AM - 2:00 PM) by Prestige by Lifetouch Studio. NO OTHER DATES WILL BE SCHEDULED AT CONESTOGA. Appointment cards will be mailed to your home by the studio. To contact the studio, Log on to <http://www.ouryear.com>/87046 or call 1-800-OUR-YEAR(687-9327). The yearbook staff does not schedule your appointment. For information about what to wear and bring, go to <http://www.Stogayearbook.com>.

After September 29, if you have not had a picture taken and would like to appear in the yearbook, you must go to the studio for a session. All pictures must be taken by October 31 in order to appear in the yearbook. Contact the studio for more information. Once your pictures have been taken, the studio will mail proofs to your home. Follow their directions to select a picture for

the yearbook. If you took your pictures after September 29, you might not be able to select your yearbook pose due to the late date.

Class Parent Organizations

Class of 2019

Senior Class Parent Meeting: September 20, 2018 at 9:30 am in Room 142

Class of 2020

Junior Class Parent Meeting: September 13, 2018 at 9:30 am in Room 142

Class of 2021

Sophomore Class Parent Meeting: September 18, 2018 at 9:30 am in Room 142

Class of 2022

Freshman Class Parent Meeting: September 11, 2018 at 9:30 am in Room 142

National Honor Society Plans Induction November 7, 2018

The Conestoga Chapter of the National Honor Society will hold its annual induction ceremony on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium. As specified by its national charter, NHS members are chosen on the basis of scholarship, service, leadership and character. They participate in various service projects in school and in the community. Students who have completed at least one full semester at CHS by the end of their sophomore or junior year are considered for membership. For the Classes of 2019 and 2020, a cumulative weighted GPA of 4.70 or higher is required for eligibility. Students who have achieved this GPA will receive letters inviting them to complete activity forms. Candidates are reviewed by a five member faculty council on the basis of the four factors noted above. Students who meet the criteria of the organization are invited to attend the ceremony and become members of the NHS. Following induction, members of NHS are required to uphold the highest standards of character, leadership, service, and academic achievement. They are also required to attend monthly meetings and participate in service project. Parents with questions should contact Melissa McMenamin, Guidance Counselor and NHS Advisor, at mcmenaminm@tesd.net.

AFS Exchange Students

With over 50 years of hosting AFS exchange students to our community, Conestoga welcomes three students for the full year. **Tea Nordvold** from Norway is hosted by Tamra and Bob Adams. **Louise Wiart** from France is with Melody and Bill Pentz, and **Canan Oezsoy** from Germany is hosted by Nancy and Jim Margolis. Thank you to the Conestoga community, the generous host families, and to the students taking an exciting opportunity to study abroad. Please

reach out and welcome the students to our area and encourage your students to do the same. If you are interested in learning more about AFS in the community, please email jfrantz@afsusa.org.

A Note from the Attendance Office

When your child is going to miss school or is going to be late you must:

- Send an email to chsattendance@tesd.net or a written note within 3 days of your child's absence/ lateness with a valid reason.
- If you send a note without a valid reason (listed below), then the absence or lateness will remain unexcused.
 - If you email with a valid reason for the absence/lateness **before 9:00 a.m.** on the day of the absence/lateness, you will not receive phone calls, emails and texts. If you do not send an email before 9:00 a.m. then you can respond to the automated email you receive.
 - You do not need to call prior to your child's absence. You only need to send an email or a note for their return.

What to include in your emails/notes:

- FULL NAME OF YOUR CHILD
- GRADE
- VALID REASON (listed below)

Please note: missing the bus, traffic, and oversleeping are not reasons for being late.

Each marking period, your child is permitted 4 excused tardies and 2 unexcused tardies. Students who exceed this will receive a school detention or an ESS based on the Code of Conduct.

If you receive a phone call, email, or text that your child is absent, and you believe it is in error, please contact the attendance office as soon as possible.

Excused Absences and Tardies Reasons:

1. Personal illness
2. Family Emergency
3. Death of a Family Member
4. Medical or Dental Appointments
5. Authorized School Activities
6. Educational Travel with Prior Approval
7. Pre-approved Religious Instruction (limit 36 hours per year)
8. Bona Fide Religious Holiday
9. Tutorial Instruction in a field not offered in the District's curricula
10. Attending Court Hearings related to involvement with the County Children and Youth Agency or Juvenile Probation Office
11. When the student is required to leave school for the purposes of attending court hearings related to their involvement with the county children and youth agency or juvenile probation office

12. If the student is absent due to participation in a project sponsored by an organization that is eligible to apply for a grant under the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act
13. If a student is dismissed from school during school hours for health-related reasons by a certified school nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or a school administrator or designee employed by the District.
14. For the purpose of obtaining professional health care or therapy service rendered by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts in any state, commonwealth or territory.
15. If a student whose parent or legal guardian has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or is immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, with regard to school attendance, tests and extra-curricular or co-curricular activities, at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, no penalties shall be imposed for absences of up to five (5) days.
16. Where the Superintendent has approved an attendance plan necessitated by rare and extraordinary circumstances. In this context, "rare" means typically no more than 1 or 2 per year District-wide and "extraordinary circumstances" means the student is engaged in a profession or activity at a nationally recognized level.

Administrative and Counselor Assignments 2018-19

Principal	Dr. Amy Meisinger	
Assistant Principal	Dr. Patrick Boyle	Grade 12
Assistant Principal	Dr. Anthony DiLella	Grade 11
Assistant Principal	Mr. Jamie Bankert	Grade 10
Assistant Principal	Mrs. Misty Whelan	Grade 9
Athletic Director	Mr. Kevin Pechin	

Guidance Counselor	Student's Last Name
Laureen Stohrer	A-Bro
Rachelle Gough	Bru-Dh
Katherine Barthelmeh	Di-Gr
Brian Samson	Gu-Ke
Melissa Boltz	Kh-Ma
Jennifer Kratsa	Mc-N
Dan McDermott	O-R

Leashia Lewis	S-T
Kelly Camp (Megan Smyth)	U-Z

Mental Health Specialist	Student Last Name
Dr. Christine Dunleavy	A-L
Mrs. Joellen Corrocher	M-Z

Join the Conestoga Sailing Team

If you are interested in learning more about or joining the Conestoga Sailing Team, [please click this link to view the informational flyer.](#)

2018 Fall Squash Program

Learn to play Squash! All skill levels are welcome - please view the link below for information on the Fall 2018 Squash Program.

[Please click here to view the Fall Squash Session Information and Registration Form.](#)

2018-2019 School District Calendar Information

Please visit the [T/E School District website to view the 2018-2019 School District Calendar information](#). School staff members have begun planning events and activities for the 2018-2019 school year.

To view the single page summary of the 2018-19 school year, [please view this link](#).

QUICK LINKS

- **[Student Services Department](#)**
- **[Senior Parking and Privilege Information](#)**
- **[Conestoga High School website](#)**

CONESTOGA SPORTS SCHEDULES

Daily sports schedules for Conestoga high school athletic teams are available online at <http://stogapioneers.digitalsports.com> . Please contact the CHS Athletic Office at 610-240-1024, for additional information.

Upcoming Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
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First Day of School	8/27/18	7:20 am	CHS
JVB/Freshman Sports Begin	8/27/18	2:20 pm	
Picture Day at CHS	8/31/18		CHS
NO SCHOOL - Labor Day	9/3/18		SCHOOL CLOSED

Visit the Conestoga High School Website

STAY CONNECTED:



Conestoga High School, 200 Irish Road, Berwyn, PA 19312

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