

Conestoga High School

Issue 2: September 2017



Welcome to the 2017-18 school year! It is great to have the classrooms and hallways buzzing with activity. Each day we are reminded how our students, staff and community make Conestoga a truly remarkable school.

At our opening meetings, we asked students and teachers to look ahead to the many opportunities for the upcoming year as we begin anew. We encouraged students to invest themselves in Conestoga by working hard and getting actively involved. We asked them to set goals for themselves as a way to make the most of their time at Conestoga.

I look forward to working with our students and their families during the upcoming school year. I welcome your involvement, questions and input. Please feel free to contact me at any time, and as always, go 'Stoga!

Amy A. Meisinger, Ph.D.
Principal

Club Fair 2017

Do you have a student interested in learning more about the clubs and activities offered at Conestoga High School? Please encourage your student(s) to spend some time at the annual Club Fair, which will take place from September 11 - 15, 2017 throughout the school day in the Main Lobby. All 10 - 12th grade students have access to an online club sign-up form in Schoology. The same link will go live for 9th grade on Monday, Sept. 11 in Schoology - and in time for the start of the club fair. All students are encouraged to go to the club fair during a study hall, free period, or during their lunch.

Conestoga offers more than 100 various clubs for students to explore and participate in. During Club Fair week, student representatives from many of the CHS clubs will set up informational tables to advertise the goals, objectives, and activities that they hope to work on throughout the year. Student Activities provide a wonderful opportunity for students to enrich their high school

experience through involvement in clubs, activities, and athletics, and Club Fair is the perfect time for students to join or re-join any clubs of interest. We hope to see the students there!

Come to Open House **September 14, 2017**

Parents are invited to attend Conestoga High School's 2017 Open House program beginning at **7:00 PM on Thursday, September 14, 2017**. 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, 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 Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School, Hillside Elementary, and the Daylesford Train Station.

For Further Information Please Contact Mr. Jamie Bankert, Assistant Principal, at (610)-240-1067.

Directory Sales

Conestoga Directories will be sold at Open House on September 14th. The directories cost \$5 each and all proceeds benefit the Sophomore Class.

Tech Deck Update

As previously communicated, the T/E School District began a 1:1 Technology Initiative to provide laptops to all students at Conestoga High School in 2016-2017. This initiative has been completed for all grades for the 2017-2018 school year. As of September 15, 2017 all students should either have their own device or should have picked up their district-provided laptop. Any laptops not picked up as of September 15th will no longer be reserved for specific students and will be made available for Conestoga's use as needed. Additional information about the 1:1 Technology Initiative is available on our website (available at www.tesd.net/laptops).

Sports Announcements

In order to provide the most current updated sports information on a given day due to changes that may occur regarding adverse weather conditions/cancellations or for some other reason, the Athletic Department has implemented the following for your convenience:

- For updated announcements, please refer to the CHS website. On the top bar-click on Announcements under the Athletic tab.
- If you would like to receive e-mail/text alerts in regards to any type of sports announcements/changes, you will need to register at digital sports.com. Please refer to the announcement section of the Athletic webpage to review the step-by-step directions.

Please feel free to call the Athletic Department at 610-240-1024 at any time.

College Application Night

Attention All Seniors: Please join us on **Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the CHS Auditorium** for College Application Night. This program will teach seniors how to apply to college at Conestoga. 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!

Homecoming Dance **Saturday, October 7, 2017**

The annual Homecoming Dance, sponsored by Student Council, is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th, from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm. Students from all grade levels attend the dance, with or without dates. The dress is "semiformal," which means acceptable attire is considered a dress, dress pants, or coat and tie and no jeans. Parent volunteers staff the refreshment area and the coat check. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeanne Braun at 610-240-1913 or braunj@tesd.net.

A helpful hint for parents: Please label your students' items (such as blue blazers!) so they can be easily found at the end of the evening. Unfortunately, blazers, phones, and shoes have been lost in the past. Conestoga cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items, so make sure to label everything that your student checks.

Homecoming tickets will be sold at Conestoga for two weeks prior to the dance.

No tickets will be sold at the door.

All Conestoga High School Code of Conduct Rules are in effect.

Additional Homecoming Information

With the arrival of Fall, we eagerly anticipate our annual Homecoming Weekend on Friday, October 6, and Saturday, October 7. Activities scheduled for the weekend include:

- Homecoming Pep Rally on Friday, October 6 at 1:00 pm
- Homecoming Football Game vs. Strath Haven on Friday, October 6 at 7:00 pm
- Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 7 from 7:30 to 10:30 pm at CHS

Students must arrive to the dance by 8:30PM. Guest passes are required for any non-CHS student. Passes are available in the Main Office. It is our expectation that students will conduct themselves appropriately and show good judgment throughout all events. All school rules will be in effect, as is the case with school sponsored activities. Additionally, administrators will be visiting homerooms in the coming weeks to discuss appropriate decorum and expectations with the students.

We encourage you to consider the following suggestions to ensure a successful homecoming weekend. Communicate clear expectations to you son/daughter.

Help your son/daughter make the right choices by giving him/her clear, uncompromising messages that discourage drinking alcohol and the use of drugs.

Communicate with the parents of your child's date. Get his/her phone number in case of an emergency.

Network with other parents on safe and appropriate pre and post-dance activities.

Homecoming is an exciting experience for our students. With your support of our efforts to provide a positive, safe environment, we are confident that our students will have a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Volunteers Needed

Many volunteers are needed to help out at the Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 7th. Don't worry - your child won't see you; - you are NOT chaperoning the dance! We need parents to work at the Coat Check and Refreshments. Please contact Jeanne Braun, Community and Volunteer Services Coordinator at 610-240-1013 or braunj@tesd.net if you are able to help. Thank you!

PSAT Testing

We have begun preparations for this year's administration of the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). As a school, we value the experience the PSAT offers our students in preparing them for College Board's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) as the SAT remains

the most commonly utilized assessment for Conestoga students in the college admission process. This week a letter was mailed home to all families of students in grades 9-11 regarding the administration of PSATs which contained the following information:

On Thursday, October 12 Conestoga will administer the PSAT 8/9 to all 9th grade students. Testing will take place from 7:20 am - 10:30 am All expenses will be covered by the district.

Conestoga will offer the PSAT/NMSQT on Saturday, October 14 to all interested students. Registration will occur the week of September 11-15 during lunches. The fee for the PSAT/NMSQT is \$25. 9th graders who wish to register for the PSAT/NMSQT instead of the PSAT 8/9 should notify their counselor before September 22nd.

Counselors will be visiting homerooms in the coming weeks to share information with 9th, 10th, and 11th graders.

For additional information:

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/> We are pleased to offer this opportunity to further support college readiness and assist students to achieve their personal best. Please contact any of our school counselors with questions regarding the *SAT Suite of Assessments* or PSAT administration.

Fall Schedule Change Reminders

Once school began, students attended their scheduled classes for the first several days of school. Schedule changes resumed on Tuesday, September 5 through Friday, September 8, 2017. Core level changes can be made through December 22, the last school day prior to winter break. Requests for specific teachers, periods and course sections will not be honored.

'Stoga Points of Pride

Please click each of the headings below to view the congratulatory links in greater detail.

- **Conestoga's newspaper, *The Spoke*, receives Gold rating**

New - Automated Attendance Calls and Emails

Beginning this school year, the District will be sending an automated phone call and email when a student is absent from school so that parents may readily respond with a valid excuse. The email will provide parents with an easy option to reply and indicate the reason for the absence. Parents may disregard the call and email if they have already provided a valid excuse to the school's attendance office. [Click here for more information on attendance procedures.](#)

Emergency Cards

The Green Emergency Medical Information Card was mailed home. 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 2017

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. Completed [Fall EEPE Application](#) form was due on September 8, 2017.
2. Participate in at least 30 hours of supervised instruction.
3. Complete and return a Fall EEPE Verification form by January 5, 2018.

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 8, 2017 students will not be able to earn credit for the Fall Semester 2017. 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.

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 2017/2018 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/>

Class Parent Organizations

Class of 2018

Senior Class Parent Meeting: September 26, 2017 at 9:30 am in room 142

Class of 2019

Junior Class Parent Meeting: September 14, 2017 at 9:30 am in room 142

Class of 2020

Sophomore Class Parent Meeting: September 28, 2017 at 9:30 am in room 142

Class of 2021

Freshman Class Parent Meeting: September 19, 2017 at 9:30 am in room 142

Attention Class of 2018

Senior portraits for the **Class of 2018** will be taken on the following Saturdays: **September 9, 16, 23, 30** (9:00AM - 2:00PM) by Prestige of 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 30, 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 30, you might not be able to select your yearbook pose due to the late date.

National Honor Society Plans Induction **November 8, 2017**

The Conestoga Chapter of the National Honor Society will hold its annual induction ceremony on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 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 2018 and 2019, 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 Boltz, Guidance Counselor and NHS Advisor, at boltzm@tesd.net.

2017-2018 School District Calendar Information

Please visit the [T/E School District website to view the 2017-2018 School District Calendar information](#). School staff members have begun planning events and activities for the 2017-2018 school year.

To view the single page summary of the 2017-18 school year please [view this link](#) .

MESSAGE FROM **THE STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

School Counselor Assignments
Student Services Center assignments for 2017-2018 are as follows:

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Guidance Counselor	Class of 2018	Class of 2019 & Beyond
<u>Laureen Stohrer</u>	A-Br	A-Bro
<u>Rachelle Gough/ Annie Davis</u>	Bu-Dh	Bru-Dh
<u>Katherine Barthelmeh</u>	Di-Gai	Di-Gr
<u>Brian Samson</u>	Gal-Ja	Gu-Ke
<u>Melissa Boltz</u>	Je-L	Kh-Ma
<u>Jennifer Kratsa</u>	M-Na	Mc-N
<u>Dan McDermott</u>	Ne-R	O-R
<u>Leashia Lewis</u>	S-Te	S-T
<u>Megan Smyth</u>	Th-Z	U-Z

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

The Student Services Center encompasses a wide variety of services designed to assist students in their academic, career and personal/social development. Information on counselor assignments was mailed to each family over the summer. In addition to guiding students through the course selection process, school counselors provide assistance with self-awareness, educational planning, interpretation of test scores, occupational information, home, school and/or social concerns, or any matter the students feel is significant. Up-to-date printed information, software, and audiovisual aids are available in the center to assist students with decision-making, and college and career selection. The Student Services Center resources are available for student use from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday.

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 www.digitalsports.com by entering "Conestoga High School." Please contact the CHS Athletic Office at 610-240-1024, for additional information.

Upco//ming Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Senior Portraits	9/9/17	9:00 am	Cafeteria
New Teacher Induction	9/11/17	2:30 pm	MOCR
PSAT Registration	9/11- 9/15/17	Lunches	Cafeteria
Club Fair	9/11- 9/15/17	7:20 am	Main Lobby
Junior Parent Meeting	9/14/17	9:30 am	Room 142
Open House	9/14/17	7:00 pm	CHS
Senior Portraits	9/16/17	9:00 am	Cafeteria
Fall Drama Rehearsals	9/16/17	8:00 am	Auditorium
College Application Evening	9/19/17	7:00 pm	Auditorium
No School	9/21/17		
Senior Portraits	9/23/17	9:00 am	Cafeteria
Fall Drama Rehearsals	9/23/17	8:00 am	Auditorium
Saturday Detention	9/23/17	8:00 am	Room 140

Visit the Conestoga High School Website

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