

# Conestoga High School

Issue 5: October-November 2016



## College Fair at Conestoga

**Monday, October 31, 2016**

Attention Junior and Seniors....Please save the date! Conestoga's Second Annual **College Fair will be held on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 - 3:00pm in the gyms.** We look forward to welcoming more than 100 colleges and universities to our school. This is a great opportunity for you to meet with many college admissions representatives all at one time. Students with an 8<sup>th</sup> period class must receive teacher permission to miss class or plan to attend after school. [Please click here to view the list of colleges and universities attending.](#)

Interested sophomores are also welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Halloween at Conestoga

Students are permitted to wear costumes for Halloween on Monday, October 31, 2016.

In light of recent events and in order to ensure the safety and security of all students, please be aware of the following guidelines regarding costumes:

- Masks and fake weapons are ***not*** permitted.
- Costumes including face decorations must allow the identity of the individual to still be recognizable.
- Clown or clown-like (joker, jester) costumes are NOT permitted.

Additionally, please use care when selecting a costume which may be perceived as trivializing or promoting negative stereotypes on the basis of color, creed (religion), disability, national origin or race.

Thank you very much and Happy Halloween!

# "If Only" Assembly and Evening Event

**November 9, 2016**

On Wednesday, November 9th, Conestoga High School in partnership with ARCH will conduct an assembly on the dangers of prescription drug use and opiate addiction. We are pleased to have Mr. Jim Wahlberg, who will introduce the movie "If Only" during both a 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grade assembly. "If Only" was financed and supported by the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation and Millennium Health. The 38-minute film is intended for teens, parents and adults to raise awareness about the dangers of prescription drug misuse and abuse, and to start a conversation that encourages the safe use, storage and disposal of prescription drugs to keep them out of the hands of kids. At the conclusion of the movie, students will hear from a parent whose child passed away from an overdose. We will conclude the assembly with information about resources that are available at Conestoga and in our local community.

A letter with details will be mailed home next week. Additional information on "If Only" including the trailer for the movie, is available at <http://www.markwahlberg-youthfoundation.com/if-only>. Please feel free to contact Assistant Principal Misty Whelan at 610-240-1018 with any additional questions about the assembly or evening parent program.

**In addition, on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 ARCH will present a second showing and full panel discussion of "If Only" at 7:00 pm at T/E Middle School.** Parents are encouraged to come to the evening event so they can use the program as a launching point of conversations that specifically relate to their family. [Please view this ARCH flyer for more details.](#)

ARCH aims to provide T/E parents with food for thought and nuggets of information - items for the Parenting Toolbox. Follow [ARCH on Facebook](#) and [click this link to access the ARCH website](#).

## Attention All Seniors

### Changes to the 2017-2018 FAFSA

New this fall:

- Students will be able to file for aid beginning October 1 (a full three months earlier than previously allowed).
- For the first time, applicants will use prior-prior year (PPY) tax information when reporting personal and family income.

Previously, the FAFSA used the previous year's tax data. Beginning in October 2016 (for aid applications for the 2017-18 award year), the White House will allow students to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using prior-prior year (PPY) tax data.

\*Prior-Prior Year (PPY) refers to a policy enabling students and families to file for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using tax information from two years ago. For example, a high school senior planning to enroll in college in Fall 2017 will file FAFSA using taxes from 2015. PPY debuts in October 2016 for aid application for the 2017-18 award year. This means that the high school class of 2017 will be the first high school cohort to use the PPY FAFSA, and all returning college students in that same year will also use it. \*

## **'Stoga Points of Pride**

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

- **The Spoke receives Gold Award from Pennsylvania School Press Association**

## **Winter Sports Meeting**

The Winter Sports Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium.

## **Winter Sports Forms**

Winter Sports Forms are due by Monday, November 7th.

Winter Sports Forms began to be collected on Friday, October 7th.

Varsity/JV Sports begin on Friday, November 18th.

Freshman Sports begin on Tuesday, November 29th.

## **ARCH Presents PA Youth Survey (PAYS) Results and Follow-Up Conversation**

**Thursday, November 3, 2016  
9:00 am at TEAO**

Knowledge is power. ARCH has presented the results of the [Pennsylvania Youth Survey \(PAYS\)](#) to the community since 2001 (when they began). The TEDS community is invited to hear the results of the most recent PAYS survey. [Please click here to view the information flyer.](#)

## **National Honors Society Plans Induction**

**November 9, 2016**

The Conestoga Chapter of the National Honor Society will hold its annual induction ceremony on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 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 2017 and 2018, 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](mailto:boltzm@tesd.net).

## **ESL Family Night**

**Thursday, November 10, 2016**

Please join us for the ESL Family Night on November 10, 2016 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM at Conestoga High School. CHS MultiCultural Club sponsors this fun evening for all to come out and meet the ESL teachers and families from other countries. [Please click here to view more details via the informational flyer.](#)

## **2nd Annual Rachel's Helping Hands 5K & Family Fun Walk**

**November 13, 2016**

Interested in participating in the 2nd Annual Rachel's Helping Hands 5K and Family Fun Walk? Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 13, 2016. Proceeds from this run/walk benefit the Rachel's Helping Hands Cancer Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization that assists families with the payment of medical and prescription co-payments relating to the treatment of all types of cancer. [Please click here to view the detailed informational flyer.](#)

## **CHS Blood Drive**

**November 14, 2016**

Conestoga will host the first Blood Drive of the year. Student Council hosts two blood drives annually, one in the fall and one in the spring. Any student 16 (with parental permission) or older who

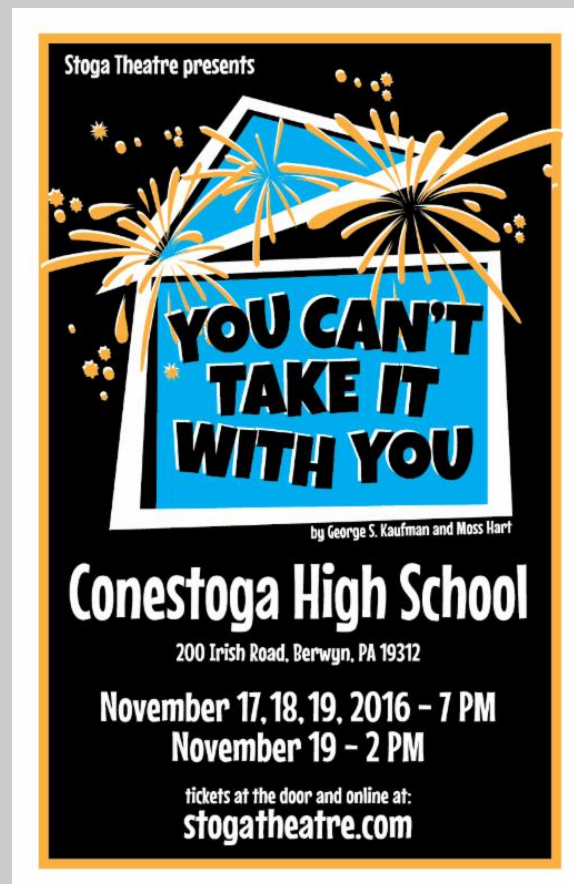
weighs more than 110 pounds as of the date of the Blood Drive can volunteer to give blood. Your son or daughter will be able to sign up or donate starting November 1st. Recently, we have enjoyed record numbers of donors. We again are looking forward to a successful drive.

### **SOS Program**

Conestoga offers depression awareness and suicide prevention training as part of the health wellness curriculum using information from research based program, The Signs of Suicide® (SOS) Prevention Program. The program has proven to be successful at increasing help seeking behaviors by students concerned about themselves or a friend. It is the only school-based suicide prevention program listed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for its National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices that addresses suicide risk and depression, while reducing suicide attempts.

Beginning the week of November 14, 2016, health teachers will deliver SOS program instruction, including a DVD entitled, "Friends for Life" and related follow-up discussions. A member of the school counseling team will be present during and after the lessons to collect confidential response cards voluntarily completed by students who feel that they or a friend might need help. Counseling team members will also provide immediate, confidential follow-up for any students requesting help after the SOS lessons.

### **Fall Drama at CHS**



Join Martin Vanderhof and his wacky extended family living their unconventional lives in 1930s New York City. Trouble arises when the one "normal" member of the family, granddaughter Alice, falls in love with the boss's son.

Come ready for an evening of laughter as the two dysfunctional families navigate the engagement of their two children. The groom's "normal" family learns too much about the bride's "eccentric" family and an explosive comedy ensues. Will the young couple survive? There will be many hilarious moments as we find out!

**A Pulitzer Prize winning play by: George S. Kauffman and Moss Hart**

**Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists' Play Service, Inc.**

**Director: Natalie Wallace**

**Ticket Prices:**

Adults: \$12

Students (19 years and younger): \$10

Seniors (62 years and older): \$10

Conestoga High School, Hobson C. Wagner Auditorium

**Tickets available at**

<http://www.stogatheatre.com>

## **Citadel Heart of Learning**

Citadel has teamed up with the Chester County Intermediate Unit to honor our area's most outstanding educators. The Citadel Heart of Learning Award recognizes excellence in the classroom by honoring those teachers who go above and beyond the call of duty to meet the needs of their students.

### **Nominations**

1. Nominations for the 2017 Citadel Heart of Learning Award will be open on October 1, 2016.

2. Nominations may be submitted solely on an individual's contributions or performance during the current school year, or for cumulative efforts over many years.

Nominations may be submitted online by filling out the [Citadel Heart of Learning Award Nomination Form](#). The completed nomination must be postmarked by December 31, 2016. [For more detailed information please this link.](#)

## **Conestoga Launches "No Place for Hate"**

In an effort to further our positive school climate, The ADL (Anti-Defamation League) club launched the "No Place for Hate" campaign on Thursday, October 6th during an extended homeroom. No Place



for Hate is a national movement and aims to reduce bias and bullying, increase appreciation for diversity and build communities of respect. Students from the ADL club produced a short video with a positive anti-bullying message that was played during the extended homeroom and then club members encouraged all students to sign a "Resolution of Respect" that was handed out by homeroom teachers. We look forward to future No Place for Hate events.

### **Schoology Tip:** **Setting Up Emailed Grade Summary Notifications**

Are you looking for a simple way to receive an overview of your child's grades via Schoology? You are welcome to set up an email notification in Schoology that will send you either a daily or weekly summary email. Please view this Schoology step-by-step guide to walk through the process of setting up this grade summary notification tool: [Grade Summary Notification Set-Up.](#)

### **Report Cards & Progress Reports**

First marking period progress reports were mailed home during the week of October 4, 2016. As we approach the midpoint of the marking period, teachers may issue a progress report to bring your attention to concerns in current coursework. Detailed information regarding your child's academic progress in all of their courses is available to parents/guardians through our learning management system, Schoology. The first marking period will end on Friday, November 4, 2016. Consult the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District online calendar at [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net) for further information on marking periods ending dates.

### **Conestoga Monthly Parent Meetings and Class Parent Chairs**

You are invited to attend the monthly Parent Meetings for the grade your child is in. These meetings are a great way to connect with other parents and find out what is going on at Conestoga, specifically in your child's grade. Dr. Meisinger, Assistant Principals, Guidance Counselors and other administrators attend these meetings and offer important information and answer any questions you may have. For the schedule of Monthly Parent Meetings, click [here](#) to view the Conestoga calendar. The meetings take place at 9:30am, usually in Room 142. If you are unable to attend the Parent Meetings due to your work schedule, we offer Alternate Parent Meetings on November 17, February 23, and April 27 at 7:30 am.

Also, minutes from each Parent Meeting are sent out from your Class Chair. Below is a list of Class Chairs. Feel free to contact them with any questions you may have. You may also contact Jeanne Braun, Coordinator of Community and Volunteer Services at [braunj@tesd.net](mailto:braunj@tesd.net) with any questions.

Interested sophomores are also welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Class Parent Organizations**

#### **Class of 2017**

Senior Class Parent Meeting: November, 10 2016 at 9:30 AM in the FDR (Faculty Dining Room in Cafeteria)

#### **Class of 2018**

Junior Class Parent Meeting: November 1, 2016 at 9:30 AM in Room 142

#### **Class of 2019**

Sophomore Class Parent Meeting: November 17, 2016 at 9:30 AM in Room 142

#### **Class of 2020**

Freshman Class Parent Meeting: November 15, 2016 at 9:30 AM in Room 142

### **MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

School Counselor Assignments  
Student Services Center assignments for 2016-2017 are as follows:

<b>Guidance Counselor</b>	<b>Classes of 2017-18</b>	<b>Class of 2019 &amp; Beyond</b>
<u>Laureen (McGloin) Stohrer</u>	A-Br	A-Bro
<u>Rachelle Gough/ Anne Davis</u>	Bu-Dh	Bru-Dh
<u>Katherine (Corkhill) 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 / Jodie Davis</u>	S-Te	S-T
<u>Megan Smyth / Christine Baumann</u>	Th-Z	U-Z

<b>Mental Health Specialist</b>	<b>Student Last Name</b>
<u>Dr. Christine Dunleavy</u>	A-L
<u>Mrs. Melissa Salzberg</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.

### **Fall Schedule Change Reminders**

Once school began, students attended their scheduled classes for the first several days of school. We resumed making schedule changes on Tuesday, September 6 through September 9, 2016. Core level changes can be made through December 23, the last school day prior to winter break. Requests for specific teachers, periods and course sections will not be honored.

### **Extended Experience Fall 2016**

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 were due on September 9, 2016.
2. Participate in at least 30 hours of supervised instruction.
3. Complete and return a Fall EEPE Verification form by January 6, 2017.

Extended Experience guidelines and required forms are available at [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net) . Please be aware that unless a completed and signed application form is returned to the main office on or before September 9, 2016 students will not be able to earn credit for the Fall Semester 2016. 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.

## QUICK LINKS

- [Student Services Department](#)
- [Senior Privilege Information](#)
- [Senior Parking Permit Information](#)

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## CONESTOGA SPORTS SCHEDULES

Daily sports schedules for Conestoga high school athletic teams are available online at [www.digialsports.com](http://www.digialsports.com) by entering "Conestoga High School." Please contact the CHS Athletic Office at 610-240-1024, for additional information.

## NCAA and Student Athletes

Student athletes considering playing collegiate sports should familiarize themselves with NCAA course requirements. Students are encouraged to speak with their assigned counselor to discuss further, and visit the [NCAA Eligibility Center Website](#).

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## Upcoming Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
ACT Testing	10/22/16	8:00 am	CHS
Regular School Board Meeting	10/24/16	7:30 pm	Cafeteria
TRI-M Recital #1	10/25/16	6:00 pm	Auditorium
Winter Sports Meeting	10/26/16	7:00 pm	Auditorium
College Fair	10/31/16	1:30 pm	Large and Small Gyms
Junior Parent Meeting	11/1/16	9:30 am	Room 142
End of First Marking Period	11/4/16		
SAT Testing	11/5/16	8:00 am	CHS
Marching Band Cavalcade	11/5/16	4:00 pm	CHS Teamer Field
Winter Sports Forms Due	11/7/16		
No School: Inservice Day	11/8/16		
"If Only" Assembly	11/9/16	8:00 am	Auditorium
"If Only" Evening Program	11/9/16	7:00 pm	T/E Middle School Auditorium
NHS Induction	11/9/16	7:00 pm	Auditorium

Guys Harmonize	11/10/16	9:00 am	Auditorium
Senior Parent Meeting	11/10/16	9:30 am	FDR
ESL Family Night	11/10/16	6:30 pm	Cafeteria

Visit the Conestoga High School Website

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

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