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High School



NEWSLETTER
2008-2009
January 23

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

We have just completed our first week of the second semester. Many thanks goes to Dr. Deborah Cooney for her great work in creating new schedules for more than half of our student population.

A few students have asked why we have semester finals in January rather than the week prior to our winter break. Actually, that question has a very simple, pragmatic answer: we believe that each semester should be equal in length and value. This is especially important as we add critical, single-semester classes such as Advanced Placement Government and Economics.

Once again, we have taken advantage of our small, flexible size to create new classes for the second semester. We have developed classes for students who need to remediate for their ISTEP+ exam and first semester Algebra I. We have also created a class for students who need extra help while they are taking Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre Calculus.

This past Wednesday, Mayor Ballard held a press conference at Herron High School. At this press conference, the Mayorø Charter School Annual Report was released. Hosting this event was a grand opportunity for Herron High School. Many reporters and dignitaries were here to see the school and meet a few of our students. Several of our

favorably impressed with our school and the impact
We are grateful for this publicity and these comments,
but we are not satisfied with our results. While our students' academic growth was
higher than the state's average, we have set things in place, such as the classes I
mentioned earlier, to improve our students' academic growth. We will never be satisfied
until all of our students are working at their highest academic potential.

You can help us in our efforts to improve our students' academic growth by attending our
parent/teacher conferences scheduled for this coming Thursday, January 29, 2009 from 4
to 6:30 pm. We have made some changes in the flow of the evening, and we think your
experience will be easier and more efficient.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday!

Respectfully,



REPORT CARDS:

All student report cards will be mailed out today, Friday, January 23. If you do not
receive the report card within a reasonable time frame, please contact Mrs. Westerfield at
317.231.0010.

FOOD RECALL:

As recently announced in the news, the Peanut Corporation of American has recently
recalled many food products containing peanut butter and peanut paste. Our School
Safety Specialist, Rita Dennis, recommended we include this information in the
newsletter to be sure our families are aware of the recall. The following website from the
FDA includes an extensive list of all foods and products that may be contaminated.

<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/>

*We encourage all families to take a moment to review this list and be aware of the
potential harm.*

HOME COMING WEEK/EVENTS:

We are excited to announce that Herron High School's first Homecoming basketball
game will take place this Wednesday, January 28th at 6:30 pm (@ Garfield Park). We
encourage all students and families to attend this game and support our Achaeans!

athletes and school spirit, next week will be homecoming week. All students have the opportunity to dress up at the cost of \$1.00 per day. In order to participate, students **MUST** dress according to the designated themes listed below and pay the fee of \$1.00 per day:

- Monday:** Mix-match / Crazy Hair Day
- Tuesday:** Fictional Character Day
- Wednesday:** Spirit Day (red/black colors)
- Thursday:** Decades Day
- Friday:** Nothing Human (inanimate objects, animals, etc)

In addition to the Homecoming basketball game, Herron is hosting a Homecoming Dance on Saturday, January 31, 2009. *This semi-formal will take place from 7:00 – 10:00 pm in Herron High School's gallery and is for all Herron students.* HHS students are also allowed to bring one guest from another school, but the guest must be 18 years of age or younger and have a parent permission slip (which will be passed out with the tickets). Tickets are \$5.00 for Herron High School students and \$10 for guests from other schools. We look forward to a safe and enjoyable semi-formal event!

GROCERY RELIEF!

In light of the current economic hardship, we would like to share the following unique opportunity with our families in hopes of providing additional aide to those in need.

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities throughout the United States. There are no qualifications, minimums, income restrictions, or applications. Everyone is encouraged to participate. By buying food from first rate suppliers at substantial volume discounts, Angel Food Ministries is able to provide families with approximately \$65 worth of quality, nutritious food for \$30. (Angel Food Ministries does not use out-of-date food.)

There are 19 sites throughout Central Indiana. Go to www.angelfoodministries.com and enter your zip code to find the closest local host site.

FREE DENTAL EXAMS FOR YOUTH:

The Indiana Dental Association, in partnership with the American Dental Association, is hosting the 7th annual Give Kids a Smile Day. On February 6, 2009, various dental offices throughout Indiana are opening their doors to donate dental care to children and youth from low-income families. This is a **ONE-DAY EVENT ONLY** and **APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED**. The following requirements must be met in order to participate:

- The child must be 16 years of age or younger.
- The student must not have access to dental insurance and be unable to afford regular dental care, OR if the child has Medicaid, the family must not have a dental provider.

ia, please follow the directions below:

1. Call (800) 880-9502 and an operator will (1) confirm your eligibility and (2) take the following information in order to pass it on to a volunteer Give Kids a Smile dental office:
 - Name
 - Phone number
 - City where you live
 - Number of children who need treatment
2. A local dental office will call you to set up the appointment time.
3. Show up at the scheduled appointment time. Appointments are on a first-come, first-serve basis and cannot be rescheduled.

**This information was taken from the Indiana Dental Association*

BOOK FEES OVERDUE:

We would like to remind our families that the textbook and lab fees are now past due. It is critical that these fees are paid in full no later than Friday, January 16. Please contact Katie White at 317.231.0010 or kwhite@herronhighschool.org if you have any questions. Thank you!

HERRON LUNCH UPDATE:

Letters have been mailed to all students with negative lunch balances of \$5.00 or more. It is Herron High School's policy that once a student reaches a negative \$5.00 balance, the student will not be served a hot lunch the following day, unless the balance is paid. In this case, we *will* offer the student a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and a milk carton.

Each student is told when his or her balance is getting close to \$0 and is again warned when it goes negative. Please make sure you check PowerSchool regularly to verify that there is money in your student's lunch account. Please contact Katie White if you have any questions (kwhite@herronhighschool.org or 317.231.0010).

HHS PARKING LOT REMINDERS:

As the winter weather brings unpredictable roads and parking lot conditions, we want to remind you of the following guidelines in efforts to create a safe environment for our students, faculty and staff, visitors, and families. **Please enter the parking lot from Pennsylvania Street, continue heading east, and exit onto Talbott Street. Please do NOT enter the parking lot from Talbott.** We understand that drop off and pick up times become highly congested areas in the parking lot. In efforts to prevent an accident of any kind, we ask that *everyone* please follow the above rotation (also marked on the pavement).

PTO UPDATE:

As leaders of Herron High School's PTO, we are so glad to be a part of the Herron High School Community. Special thanks to all parents/guardians that signed up to participate in Herron's first PTO. We cannot believe the semester is moving along so quickly; it



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However, we are hopeful to continue building the PTO and look forward to the involvement of our parent/guardian community.

Please take a moment to review below several opportunities for involvement through our PTO for the start of next semester! Teresa Law, PTO Co-Chair ó 750-4139, Kathy Murphy, PTO Co-Chair

PTO - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

PTO is in need of parents to establish a **Fundraising Committee**. We, as PTO Co-Chairs, would like to hear any ideas you might have for the coming spring.

PTO – BOX TOPS/ NESTLE WATER BOTTLE LABELS:

Please start to collect the Campbell's soup and Nestle water bottle labels! You may already be aware of this, but our school can earn points by collecting these labels and use them to purchase items for our students and teachers.

PTO – TEACHER / STAFF BREAKFAST:

PTO would like to serve soup and sandwiches to the teachers and administration after the Holidays to jumpstart the new semester. We need volunteers for setting up, bringing in food items, and purchasing paper products. If you are able to contribute anything, whether that be an hour of your time or a pack of paper plates, your help is greatly needed and appreciated!

If you are interested in volunteering to help with any of these activities, please call Teresa Law at 750-4139.

FREE INTERNET-BASED TUTORING:

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library is proud to continue offering our students access to the Internet-based tutoring service called Live Homework Help. Use of this program is up from last year by 65%! Please be assured this is a free, secure and easy way to connect students with qualified tutors!

Live Homework Help Tutors are available to help your students from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. seven days a week. Tutor.com is funded through The Library Fund, a fund of The Indianapolis Foundation.

Students can engage in controlled chat with trained experts in Math, Science, English, or Social Studies. One local 7th grader left this comment about the service:

"My tutor made it easy for me to understand this without giving me any answers. I will use this the next time I need Homework Help."

Tutors can assist students in grades K-12 with homework questions that range from proofreading papers about Geography to questions about Science and Algebra. As an added bonus, Spanish-speaking students can get help in Math and Science by tutors who are fluent in their language.

a student can click on the Live Homework Help link www.imcpl.org, or if you prefer, you can direct your students to Live Homework Help from a link located on our school's website: www.herronhighschool.org. We encourage our students to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

SIMPLE FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES:

What if Herron High School earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our school? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37% of each purchase to Herron High School! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting Herron High School.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Herron High School as the charity you want to support. Be sure to spread the word to others as well!

BOARD MEETINGS:

Herron High School's Board of Directors meets regularly on the third Tuesday of every month. These meetings are located in the Herron's library and are open to the public. February's board gathering will take place off-site; the next regular meeting at Herron will be March 17th at 7:30am.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL UPDATES:

If you have any questions, please contact Coach Calvin @ 446-2709.

Date / Time	Opponent	Location
January 29 th at 7:30 pm	John Marshall	Away
February 4 th at 6:00 pm	Fall Creek Academy	Home
February 5 th at 7:30 pm	John Marshall	Away
February 13 th at 2:00 pm	Providence Cristo Rey	Away