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CLASSICAL
High School



NEWSLETTER
2008-2009
November 7

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE HERRON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER:

- Herron Students Involved in Election Week
- Open House for 7th & 8th Grade Students
- **CHANGES IN THE CALENDAR**, Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Book Rental Fees
- National Anthem at Pacerø Game
- Parking Lot Construction
- Mr. Abels, Our New Counselor!
- Herronø First Newspaper
- Board Meetings
- New Discipline Policies

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

ELECTION WEEK:

We are concluding this exciting election week with our Fall Open House. We urge all of our families to invite their friends and relatives who might have a student interested in attending Herron High School in the future. Please encourage them to come tonight between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Herron High School students have been excited about this yearø election for many weeks. We have had students canvassing on behalf of many candidates, attending political rallies, and working at the voting sites. I am heartened to see our students positively engaged in their own government. Thomas Jefferson said: "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government."

One of Herron High Schoolø goals is to mold our students into engaged citizens who will work to make Indianapolis the world-class city it strives to become. We are fulfilling this goal.

On Wednesday morning, we received a call from WISHTV. They asked if they could come over and interview some of our students and get their reactions to the election results. We scurried to combine some students from our United States History and United States Government classes. Mr. Westerfeld and Mrs. Stephens led the discussion as the camera rolled. The first part of the discussion was a complex debate about the Electoral College, and the conversation evolved into even more specific issues. This was not the "sound bite" that the television station was seeking; consequently, the discussion did not make the 6:00 p.m. news, but Jeanie Crofts, the reporter, and the cameraman were astonished at our studentsø knowledge and understanding of our political system and our government. They also commented on our studentsø ability to express themselves øso eloquently on such complicated topics.ø

I truly believe that our city, our state, and our country will become better places when Herron High School students have a chance to make their mark. We work hard everyday to motivate our students to "think critically and creatively." Our students are already making us proud ø just think what they might achieve in the future.



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Principal

HERRON HIGH SCHOOL 7TH & 8TH GRADE OPEN HOUSE

Herron High School is proud to sponsor our third annual fall open house on **Friday, November 7th, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**. This is a unique opportunity for families of incoming 7th and 8th grade students to visit our beautiful facility and meet our inspired faculty, staff, and administration, as well as several of our fine students. Our application process is well underway; we have already received fifty applications for the anticipated one-hundred slots available for next fall's 9th grade class. Please encourage family and friends who are interested in becoming part of the Herron High School family to attend this special event. *As always, applications received from siblings of our current students will hold priority status.*

Extraordinary teachers, talented students, rigorous academics, a college preparatory focus, and curriculum philosophy based on a classical approach to education have together produced amazing accomplishments for Herron High School. We are clearly becoming one of the city's finest high schools, and we invite you to share the good news of our continued success with those who might benefit from the Herron High School experience.

Several HHS students will be contacted to participate in giving tours to our incoming families. Current students are invited to attend ***with parent or guardian presence only***, as we anticipate a full house. This will be a proud evening for Herron High School!

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES – DATE CHANGES!!

Due to scheduling conflicts, there are a few critical adjustments to the school calendar. Parent Teacher Conferences have been postponed, and several early dismissal days have changed. *We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.*

PLEASE make note of the following IMPORTANT changes:

- November 7: We **DO** have early dismissal at 1:30pm, and the **Herron High School OPEN HOUSE from 6:00-8:00pm**.
- November 13: **Early dismissal** at 1:30pm, ***PARENT TEACHER from 4:00 – 6:30pm (not 6-8pm as previously discussed)***.

BOOK RENTAL FEES

PowerSchool is currently being updated with textbook rentals and lab fees. These updates are in progress and are, therefore, not complete-to-date. Unfortunately, we have no way of keeping fees from appearing before everything is entered into the system. So, again, the numbers that you are seeing are only partial fees. We are working hard to get all of this information updated and entered into PowerSchool. *We apologize for any confusion caused by this short transition.*

NATIONAL ANTHEM AT PACERS GAME

Herron High School's concert choir has been selected to sing the National Anthem at an upcoming Pacer's Game! These fine choir students will perform at the Pacer's game on Tuesday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m. sharp. **In addition, this event serves as a fundraiser for Herron High School.** Tickets can be purchased anytime next week for a cost of \$12.00. We encourage families and friends to support our



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out! For additional information about the performance and/or than Harris, our choir instructor.

jharris@herronhighschool.org

317.231.0010

PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION

As you may have noticed, the Herron High School parking lot is currently under minor construction. The project will be completed this weekend, which means the lot will *not* be accessible to vehicles or pedestrians. We do not foresee this to be a conflict for our parents/guardians, but want to keep you all informed.

MEET OUR NEW COUNSELOR, MR. ABELS

We are excited to announce that Ben Abels has joined Herron High School's growing staff as our counselor! Mr. Abels graduated from Bradley University with a B.S. in Communications and Biology. Mr. Abels also earned his Masters in Counseling from the University of San Diego. Tennis, swimming, soccer, and playing with his dogs are some of Mr. Abels' passions. He recently moved back to Indiana after living in California for six years. We're glad he moved back, as we believe he will be a great addition to our school and community.

Feel free to contact Mr. Abels at abels@herronhighschool.org.

HERRON HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

Congratulations to the student newspaper staff! They published the first edition of *The Oracle* this week. All Herron students received a free copy of the paper on Wednesday, and there are additional copies available in the front office.

BOARD MEETINGS:

Our board meetings take place in Herron High School's library at 7:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of every month. Thus, our next meeting will be on November 18, 2008. These meetings are open to the public.


NEW DISCIPLINE POLICIES

The Herron High School faculty and administration has decided on the following discipline policy. The policy went into effect Monday, September 29, 2008. *Please carefully read through the policy updates.*

First of all, every student is aware of the Universal Behavioral Policies and Herron High School's Dress Code. Because every student is aware of these policies, there is actually not a reason why any student should behave or dress in a manner that would cause the student to get a detention. However, many students are still behaving in ways that warrant receiving detentions. Students are also not serving the detentions that they have been issued. This is an act of insubordination.

All detentions **MUST** be served within 5 school days from the day the detention is issued. If a student is unable to attend morning detentions, the student's parents or guardians must contact Dr. Cooney. If a student does not serve the detention within the five school day limit, the student will attend Saturday School. Furthermore, severely inappropriate behavior may lead immediately to a Saturday School. Again, if a student fails to attend Saturday School or arrives too late to attend, the student will face an expulsion hearing in front of Herron High School's disciplinary committee.

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Best Regards,

Janet H. McNeal