DHS PARENT NEWSLETTER

March/April/May 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have recently completed student registration for the fall. Dixon High School has added A.P. U. S. History to our course offerings and early bird weight lifting. If your child is interested in either of these classes, please contact your counselor. For that matter, if you have questions, I encourage you to contact your child's counselor.

The Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) will be given to all juniors on April 27th and 28th. It is extremely important that all of our students do their best on these tests, since this is how our school will be compared to others around the state. To help our students in this endeavor, we will work with all juniors on practice ACT and PSAE questions. The purpose for these study sessions is to expose our students to the specific types of questions that they will see in April. Students with higher ACT scores have greater opportunities for scholarship monies and a greater chance of being accepted by the college of their choice. I cannot stress enough the importance of these two days of testing. I urge you all to take these tests seriously and wish you the best of luck (additional help can be found on these two sites: www.act.org , www.number2.com, and http://workkeys.svcc.edu).

Freshmen and sophomores will take the PLAN test on April 27th during the morning. This is the sixth year that Dixon High School freshmen and sophomores will be taking these exams. The rationale for taking this test is that it will better prepare your son or daughter for the PSAE and ACT that they will take during the junior year. Please encourage your son or daughter to give their best effort during these test days.

The 2010-11 school year is rapidly coming to an end and the month of May has many important dates to remember. Please pay special attention to the following dates:

- May 12th and 13th – PSAE make-up days
- May 19th – Awards Assembly at 6:30 p.m. in the DHS Auditorium
- **May 26,27th- Final Exams for Seniors**
- **June 2,3rd – Final Exams for Freshman-Juniors**
- June 7th – Report Card Day 7:50 a.m
- June – Summer School Begins
- June 4th – Graduation at 10:30 a.m. on A.C. Bowers Field if inclement weather Lancaster Gymnasium

As a reminder to all seniors and their parents, Dixon High School does not condone a "Senior Skip Day". Any students who are unexcused from school will face disciplinary action. We take your child's education seriously and appreciate your support regarding this matter. Finally, I would like to wish all of you good luck on your final exams.

Sincerely,

Mike Grady

This newsletter is available online @ http://www.dixonschools.org

Dates to Remember

3.16	DHS Choir Mid-Winter Concert (7:00 p.m.)
3.16	Board Meeting (6:30pm) Central office
3.18	Third Quarter Progress reports handed out
3.18	Market Day Pickup DHS Cafeteria (4:30)
3.19	IHSA Group Interpretation
3.21-3.25	**Spring Break – No School**
3.28	**School Resumes**
4.4	Parent Advisory (6:30 pm) – DHS Library
4.11	Board of Education Meeting 6:30 pm Central office
4.12	A.M. Attendance Only
4.15,16	Musical 7pm "Once Upon a Mattress"
4.17	Musical 2:00pm "Once Upon a Mattress"
4.21-4.22	Easter Break
4.15	Market Day Pick-up (4:30 p.m.) – Cafeteria
4.27	PSAE and Plan Testing
4.28	PSAE
4.30	Prom
5.15	DHS Band Awards/Concert (4;30 p.m.)
5.26 & 5.27	**SENIOR FINALS**
5.31	Graduation Practice 7:50 a.m.
6.2 & 6.3	**Freshman-Junior Finals**
6.4	***Graduation on the A.C. Bowers Field (10:30am)***

Prom Information

Prom Update

Date: Saturday, April 30th

"Midnight Masquerade"

Grand March: 6:00-7:00 DHS Lancaster Gymnasium
All students must be at the school by 5:30 p.m. to line up for the Grand March. Those not wishing to participate in the Grand March will sit in the student reserved section on the floor.

Dinner/Dance: Immediately following the Grand March until 12:00 a.m. at LaBranche, Rt. 26, Polo. Students not attending Grand March or not arriving in time for the dinner will not be allowed at the dance. Early out will be at 11:30 p.m.

Post Prom: Immediately following the dance until 2:30 a.m. Students will eat and have prizes in the cafeteria and then proceed to the auditorium for a show. **If a student is not attending Post Prom, a signed permission slip along with a phone call from a parent or guardian acknowledging that the student is not attending post prom is needed. This will alleviate phone calls home in the middle of the night.**

Ticket Sales: Monday, March 14th through Friday April 1st in the cafeteria at lunch and before school in front of the main office. Tickets are $45 each and include dinner. Checks can be made payable to Dixon High School. Dinner will be a buffet and will include dessert. There will be no extra cost for attending Post Prom.

A detailed list of Prom information will be on the school's website. In addition, all juniors and seniors will receive prom rules at school.

NOTE: Only DHS juniors and seniors and their guests are allowed to attend the prom. DHS students must currently have a minimum of 11 credits and be passing 5 classes to attend by April 1st. All guests must be juniors, seniors or beyond. No one age 21 or older will be allowed to attend. If you are bringing a guest, you must have a guest pass signed and approved before you purchase your ticket.

2011 YEARBOOKS

If you have not purchased a 2011 yearbook, please do so as soon as possible. You will be guaranteed a yearbook if you order before April 15th.
A very limited number will be available for purchase after that date and only on a first come, first serve basis. Yearbooks are now $50. See Mrs. Loescher 815-284-7723.

LOCKER CLEANOUT

Locker cleanout will be **Friday, June 3, 2011**. All items must be removed from student lockers or they will be removed and disposed of. Please make sure your student returns all book, equipment, etc. and cleans out their locker. We are not responsible for items not cleaned out of lockers.

Dixon Public Schools
Nurses Office

Phone 815-285-8614
Fax 815-284-6656

District Health Coordinator
Sue Bennett, R.N.

Incoming 9th grade students

Packets for 9th grade physicals and any required immunizations will be sent home the first week in May. If you do not receive one or have any questions please call my office at 815.285.8614. If you have already turned in a physical for 9th grade you will not receive a packet.

Any lost or non-returned books, athletic equipment, or unpaid fees that have not been taken care of by the end of the school year will leave the student unable to get an official transcript. Please make sure your student turns in all books, equipment and that all fees are paid.

2011 AP EXAMS

It is time to register for the 2011 AP tests. The exam fee is $85 and must be paid to Mrs. Loescher no later than Wednesday, March 16th. It is imperative that the fee be paid by that date. We do not order extra tests, so those who do not register and pay by the 17th will not be able to take a test. **Students need to be aware that if they choose not to take the AP exam after it has been ordered, they will not be entitled to a full refund!**

Test dates:

Statistics	May11th	11:45 am	Loveland
English Lit.	May 5th	7:45 am	American Legion
English Lang	May 11th	7:45 am	Loveland Community Bldg.

Contact Mrs. Hermes with any questions 284-7723 ext. 4011

Dixon Public Schools 2011-2012 Registration

Dixon Public Schools 2011-2012 Registration

Tentative registration dates for the 2011-2012 school year are:

Dixon High School grades 9-12 | Reagan Middle School grades K-8

Friday, August 5 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Monday, August 8 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Watch our website for more registration information. www.dixonschools.org

2011 Finals Change in Dates

SENIOR FINALS WILL BE:	**Thursday, May 26th** **Periods 1-4**	**Friday, May 27th** **Periods EB, 5-7**

Graduation Practice for Seniors will be Tuesday, May 31st at 7:50 a.m. in Lancaster Gym. All Seniors are required to attend.

Freshman – Junior Finals will be:	**Thursday, June 2** **Periods 1-4**	**Friday, June 3** **Periods EB, 5-7**

From The Counseling Office

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

- Seniors interested in obtaining scholarship assistance need to pay close attention to daily announcements so that they don't miss important application deadlines.
- **Additional scholarships may also become available after this printing.**
- Students also need to allow adequate time to write essays, obtain letters of recommendation, and transcripts and postmark deadlines.
- All scholarship opportunities are posted on the DHS Counseling Website.

1. DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS- The Dixon Public Schools Foundation offers several scholarships with monetary awards based upon the earnings of the fund. These monies are paid directly to the university, not to individual students. **These scholarships are not available until March 28th and are all due April 28th:**

   - **ED SLAIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**- One (1) $2000 scholarship awarded to a B to C+ student with an excellent citizenship record who has a desire to serve his/her community.

   - **LOUIS W. SCHUMM FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**- The Schumm Foundation awards renewable scholarships (if standards are met) to academically successful seniors in the **top 10%** of the class. Participation in both athletics and extra-curricular activities is required.

   - **WILLIAM H. JONES SCHOLARSHIP**- An endowment fund has been established on behalf of the Adele Pieper Jones Revocable Trust to recognize two (2) students, one male and one female, whose overall high school record demonstrates a balance between good scholastic work and participation in school activities. To apply, students must be in the **top 10%** of their class.

   - **DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP**- Through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Dixon Public School Foundation has established a scholarship for Dixon High School students who plan on continuing their higher education at a community college, technical school, or a four year university. Applicants will be selected on the basis of need, academic performance, and extracurricular activities. The following criteria must be met to be eligible:
     - Enrolled full-time at a community college, technical school, or 4 year university
     - Top 50% of graduating class- (Sauk Scholars are not eligible)
     - Community involvement
     - Extra-Curricular Activities

- **ELMER & PAULINE ADEE SCHOLARSHIP** – A scholarship has been established through the generosity of Elmer and Pauline Adee to provide $500 for tuition and textbooks for a student who has graduated from Dixon High School. Basis for selection of winner:
  1. College studies are focused on agriculture or an ag-related field
  2. Scholarship ability
  3. School and community activities
  4. Financial need

2. **SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** - Dixon High School seniors who plans to attend Sauk Valley College will be awarded a scholarship covering tuition and fees for an academic year. The scholarship will be renewed for a second year, provided the student maintains a prescribed level of academic performance. Applicants must rank in the top 10% of their class or have an ACT Composite score at the 90th percentile or above. Applications are available in the Counseling Office. **Application deadline is May 1st.**

3. **TRI-COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS** – Thirty one scholarships up to $1500 are awarded to students from low-income families who demonstrate a commitment to civic and public affairs. At least one scholarship will be awarded to a student in each of Tri-County's nine county service areas. To receive an application, students must come to the GO and determine eligibility. **Application deadline is April 22nd.**

4. **ROCK RIVER CHAPTER OF VIETNOW SCHOLARSHIPS**- Scholarships awarded to students in the Lee, Whiteside and Ogle County area. Preference is given to a relative of a member of Rock River VietNow, but other students are encouraged to apply. **Application deadline is March 31st.**

5. **KIWANIS CLUB OF DIXON SCHOLARSHIP**- The Kiwanis Club of Dixon offers a $1000 scholarship to a senior who will be attending Sauk Valley Community College. A 3.0 or better gpa is required and Sauk Valley Scholars are not eligible. **Application deadline is April 28th.**

6. **DIXON ROTARY CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS** - The Rotary Club offers two separate scholarship programs for seniors and the awards are of varying amounts. One program is for students planning to attend Sauk Valley College full-time in either the College Transfer or Voc-Tech Program. The second program is for seniors who plan to be full-time students at any other accredited college or university. **Application deadline is April 28th.**

7. **EDUCATORS OF BEAUTY SCHOLARSHIPS** - One $1,000 scholarship and three $500 scholarships are awarded to Dixon High School seniors who plan to attend any of the Educators of Beauty cosmetology schools. See Mrs. Hermes in the GO for applications. **Application deadline is April 28th.**

8. **ANDREA FOX SCHOLARSHIP**- One Dixon High School senior who plans to attend Sauk Valley College will be awarded a $1000 scholarship. Sauk Scholars are not eligible to apply. **Application deadline is April 28th.**

9. **THE ARC OF LEE COUNTY-** The Arc of Lee county is a sister organization to Kreider Services and they award up to four $1000 scholarships each year. Lee County students who are interested in pursuing a career helping people with disabilities are eligible. **Application deadline March 1st.**

10. **PHIDIAN ART CLUB** -One $700 scholarship awarded to a senior who shows excellence in the arts and who plans to pursue a career in art, music or literature. Application is available in the GO. **Application deadline is April 1st.**

11. **KSB HOSPITAL SCHOLARSHIP**- For seniors planning to enroll in any health related program, see www.ksbhospital.com for online scholarship applications. **Application deadline is April 15th.**

12. **DIXON EVENING LIONS-** The Dixon Evening Lions will award two (2) $500 scholarships to graduates who live within the Dixon school district boundaries and who meet the following criteria: **Deadline is April 28th.**

    - Have an ocular or auditory disability or are entering a course of study associated with a sight or hearing disability or a related field
    - Attend an accredited college or university
    - Demonstrate academic ability
    - Involved in community service

13. **DIXON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS** - Two $500 scholarships are awarded to Dixon High School seniors with a 3.0 and above who plan to enroll as full-time students in any accredited college or university. Selection is based upon financial need, scholarship, and school and community activities. Special consideration is given to DEA dependents and/or education majors. An essay detailing the applicant's future plans is also required. **Application deadline is April 28th.**

14. **DHS CLASS of 1977-** $200 non-renewable scholarship awarded to one (1) Dixon High School senior upon enrollment at Sauk Valley Community College – selection based on the following criteria: School & community activities
    Provide a one-page typed essay stating your future study goals (minimum 200 words)
    GPA -- B or C average
    College Study must include 1 general education requirement
    Two (2) teacher recommendations **Application deadline is April 28th**.

15. **DIXON LIONESS SCHOLARSHIP**- The Dixon Lioness Scholarship for $1000 has been created to provide assistance to a Dixon student planning to major in the following Special Education areas: developmentally disabled, speech and/or hearing impaired, visually impaired, learning disabilities, and the physically challenged. (Priority will be given to those students who are hearing and/or visually impaired or who have special needs.) **Application deadline is April 28th**.

16. **LUKAS KELLY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**- $1000 non-renewable scholarship awarded to a Dixon High School wrestler or football player with a minimum of a 2.0 GPA. The candidate should also plan on attending college or technical school as a full-time student. **Application deadline is April 28th** .

17. **AKE L. DAHLQUIST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP-**$1500 non-renewable scholarship awarded to a deserving DHS senior majoring in Engineering at a 4 year accredited university. Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and submit a typed essay (1 page minimum), explaining why he/she is the best candidate for this scholarship, his/her financial need for the scholarship, his/her reason for choosing the university, his/her goals in life after completing his/her higher education and his/her reasons for choosing engineering as his/her major of study. One letter of recommendation is required and an official transcript. **Application must be completed and returned to the Dixon High School Counseling office by April 15th**.

ATTENTION PARENTS

If you have an address change or phone number change, please notify the office immediately. When sending out the ALERT NOW calls, this will affect whether you are notified of dismissals and other important information. You can call 815.284.7723 at any time and leave a message.

To Parents of Juniors:

This is to remind you that the State Board of Education requires that all juniors and students who are in their third year of high school take the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). As of 2005, students must also have completed this test in order to graduate from any Illinois High School. The test will be taken on Wednesday, April 27th and Thursday, April 28th. We have found that using off-site locations gives our students the quiet and space that they need to perform well. This year students will test at the following locations:

Last Names A-G	**Immanuel Lutheran Church**	**1013 Franklin Grove Rd.**
	(Parking and entrance are in the rear of the building.)	
Last Names H-O	**St. Paul Lutheran Church**	**421 S. Peoria**
	(Parking and entrance are in the rear of the building.)	
Last Names P-Z	**Loveland Community House**	**513 W. 2nd Street**
Special Education	**(Parking across the street)**	
(Students with accommodations)		

A bus headed for each site will board in front of the DHS cafeteria at 7:50 a.m. and will return at approximately 12:30 p.m. on 4.27 and 4.28. All juniors will be dismissed for the day after testing is completed. Students may drive to their test sites and are responsible for arriving by 8:00 a.m. Parents may also transport students directly to test sites.

Parents need to be aware of the rules governing this test:

- **Students who arrive late or leave during testing for any reason cannot return that day. They must make up the entire day. Please do not schedule appointments for either of these days. Make-up testing will be on May 11th and 12th.**
- **Students, who disrupt testing because of talking, cheating, etc., will be suspended for the remainder of the days left of testing and will be required to make up the tests.**
- **Snacks will be provided each morning before the students begin testing and during a midmorning break. No lunch will be provided.**
- **Messages for students—emergency only—must go through the DHS Main Office at 284-7723. Because of security requirements, no messages for students will be taken at the test site, nor will parents be allowed to enter any of the test site buildings.**

Questions about testing should be directed to your student's counselor or Mr. Tennyson, DHS Assistant Principal.

PARENT NEWSLETTER

DIXON HIGH SCHOOL
LINCOLN STATUE DRIVE
DIXON, IL 61021

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
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