

# January Updates for CAHS Families

Hello, Chicago Academy High School Families.

Happy 2019 to all! On behalf of all CAHS staff, we wish you a happy, healthy 2019. We look forward to working with you and your students in the new year. Below are some updates for the upcoming month. As always, you may email me with questions at [laryan2@cps.edu](mailto:laryan2@cps.edu), or call the main office at 773-534-0146.

## Attendance and January Calendar

Attendance remains a priority in the month of January. There are three weeks of classes before students take their final exams at the end of the month. Therefore, student attendance is critical for their academic success. Below is the January calendar.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>1</b> Winter Break	<b>2</b> Winter Break	<b>3</b> Winter Break	<b>4</b> Winter Break
<b>7</b> Classes resume  Girls Bowling @ Waveland	<b>8</b> Girls Bball vs. Disney	<b>9</b> Boys Bball vs. Aspira	<b>10</b> Girls Bball @ Collins	<b>11</b> Progress report grades due  Boys Bball vs. Disney; Wrestling @Pritzker
<b>14</b> Boys Bball vs. Intrinsic; Girls Bowling @ Waveland	<b>15</b> Girls Bball vs. Senn	<b>16</b> Boys Bball vs. Roosevelt	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Boys Bball @ Steinmetz
<b>21</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No Classes  Girls Bball Tournament	<b>22</b> 8-Period Schedule  Girls Bowling @ Fireside	<b>23</b> Access Testing Window Opens for English Learner Students  Boys Bball vs. North Grand	<b>24</b> Girls Bball vs. Marine Leadership Academy	<b>25</b> Boys Bball @ Foreman  Tomorrow: Academic Approach Practice test for select junior students
<b>28</b> Alternate Schedule (TBD)  Boys Bball vs. Northtown; Girls Bball @ Roosevelt	<b>29</b> Final exams periods 1, 3, and 7	<b>30</b> Final Exams periods 5 and 6  Boys Bball vs. Ogden	<b>31</b> Final exams periods 2, 4, and 8	<b>1</b> School Improvement Day, No Classes  Semester 1 grades due

## Know Your Numbers **(Get involved!)**

Students will receive their next Know Your Numbers report on Wednesday, January 16th. As a reminder, Know Your Numbers reports include students' current grades, attendance data and discipline data. Ask your student for his/her Know Your Numbers report on the evening of the 16th to see how your child is progressing this semester.

## **Final Exams**

Final exams will occur the week of January 28th, 2019. Student attendance is absolutely crucial. Please join us in getting your student to school all day every day. The schedule for finals week is as follows:

- Monday, January 28th: alternate schedule and review day
- Tuesday, January 29th: final exams periods 1, 3, and 7
- Wednesday, January 30th: final exams periods 5 and 6
- Thursday, January 31st: final exams periods 2, 4, and 8
- Friday, February 1st: School Improvement Day, No Classes

## **Upcoming Student Incentives**

We have an on-track incentive for the end of the first semester. All students with a 3.0 or higher, 90% attendance and minimal discipline referrals will receive a FREE Chicago Academy crewneck. These sweatshirts are HOT, and they can only be earned. They cannot be purchased. Does your student have a 3.0? If so, I look forward to giving him/her a free crewneck at the end of the first semester!



## **Coming Soon! A new website for CAHS!**

We are thrilled to announce that Chicago Academy will be debuting a new website before the end of the month! A poll was put on Schoology for students, staff and families, and the overwhelming majority of CA community members believed we needed a website facelift. Therefore, we have partnered with a web design company to create a new website for Chicago Academy High School. When it is live, we will be sure to notify all families.

## **Volunteers Needed for Morning Arrival [\(Get involved!\)](#)**

As many of you know, our parking lot gets rather crowded in the mornings. I have been told by many families that it can cause quite the headache in the mornings during student drop-off. Therefore, I would like to inquire as to whether any parents or guardians would be interested in volunteering to run traffic control in the parking lot during morning drop-off. CAHS security as well as TCA security are busy

running student arrival in the building, so we could use the support of our community to help alleviate congestion in the parking lot during arrival. We would need a few people each day of the week from 7:30-8:00 AM to support the process. Please reach out to me at laryan2@cps.edu if you are interested in this volunteer opportunity. Thank you for your consideration!

### **Cougar College Corner**

College Application season is winding down. While we wait to hear back from our colleges, it is time to work on scholarships to help finance our education. All seniors are expected to apply for five scholarships by January 31st. Has your senior student applied for a scholarship? Free money is always a good thing!

Also, guardians of senior students, please save the date for our next senior parents meeting which will occur on Saturday, February 23 at 10 AM. This is an opportunity to engage in a semester check-in and discuss in detail how to pay for college.

Also, many seniors will be selected to complete the **verification** process for financial aid. Verification is intended to improve the accuracy of the information submitted on the FAFSA. It is not an audit and your student did nothing wrong. But the college financial aid office may not disburse federal student aid until the verification process is **complete**. To complete this process, parents will need to get a copy of their IRS Transcript.

All families can get their **IRS Transcript Online** for FREE by visiting [www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript](http://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript) and following the step-by-step directions. Students can bring their IRS Transcript to Mrs. Casanova to fax to their colleges.

### **Reminder: Expectations for Extracurricular Participation**

As a reminder, this year, we have set clear expectations for student participation in extracurricular events and activities. Extracurricular activities include participating in sports, attending sporting events, attending school dances, etc. We hope all families will partner with us to ensure that every student meets these thresholds and can participate in after school events and activities. When students hear the same messages at school as they hear at home, they internalize the importance of the message. Please join us in ensuring your child is meeting the following criteria at all times throughout the school year:

1. 90% + attendance rate
2. Bs or better (no Fs in any class)
3. Minimal referrals (no referrals higher than a level 2)

Let's have an amazing 2019, Chicago Academy!

Ms. Ryan