

# November Updates for CAHS Families

Good evening, CAHS families, and Happy Halloween!

I hope you are enjoying this Halloween evening, if you celebrate. Below are some important updates regarding the month of November. Please call 773-534-0146 if you have any questions about the notes below.

## Attendance and November Calendar

We have had a stellar start to the year in regards to student attendance. We are currently .7% higher than our attendance average last year! This is great news, and we cannot lose sight of the importance of attendance. Students who are in school every day are far more likely to have As and Bs. There are a lot of funny schedules and days off in November. It is crucial that your child is in attendance for the 17 days of instruction we must take advantage of in the month of November. See the November calendar below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			<b>November 1</b> End of the quarter and grades due	<b>November 2</b> Non-Attendance day for students- staff professional development
<b>November 5</b>	<b>November 6</b>	<b>November 7</b>	<b>November 8</b> On-Track Incentive @ Patio Theater	<b>November 9</b>
<b>November 12</b> No School- Veterans' Day	<b>November 13</b> Odd period schedule (1, 3, 5, 6, 7)  Boys Bowling @ Fireside  <b>Important Attendance Day!!!</b>	<b>November 14</b> Senior College Visits	<b>November 15</b> Non-Attendance Day for Students- Report Card Pick-Up (12-6 PM)	<b>November 16</b> Even period schedule (2, 4, 5, 6, 8)  <b>Important Attendance Day!!!</b>
<b>November 19</b> Boys bowling @ Waveland; Boys Bball @ Northside  <b>Important Attendance Day!!!</b>	<b>November 20</b> Boys Bball Home vs Steinmetz (Pack the House!); Girls Bball @ Steinmetz  <b>Important Attendance Day!!!</b>	<b>November 21</b> Non-Attendance Day for Students- Thanksgiving Holiday	<b>November 22</b> Non-Attendance Day for Students- Thanksgiving Holiday	<b>November 23</b> Non-Attendance Day for Students- Thanksgiving Holiday
<b>November 26</b> Boys & Girls Bowling @ Fireside;	<b>November 27</b> Girls Bball @ Lakeview	<b>November 28</b> Boys Bball Home vs. Amundsen	<b>November 29</b> Girls Bball @ Prosser; Wrestling Home vs. Foreman	<b>November 30</b>

## Upcoming Student Incentives

On Thursday, November 8th, we will celebrate our students who were on track in quarter 1. At CA, on-track means 90%+ attendance, no Fs, and minimal referrals. In determining who gets to attend the trip, we will also take into account excessive tardies to school and class. We are excited to celebrate our awesome on-track students on November 8th! For this incentive, they will be walking to The Patio

Theater on Irving Park Road to watch Incredibles 2, eat some yummy snacks, and celebrate with their peers. Ask your student if they are eligible to attend!

On Tuesday, November 20th, our boys basketball team takes on neighborhood rival Steinmetz in their first matchup of the season. We will be packing the house to cheer on our boys! In order to attend the game, students must earn a ticket. To earn a ticket, students must be in attendance all day on both the 19th and the 20th, and they cannot have any tardies to school or class. Help us get your student to school on time, and we will push them in the hallways so they are in their seats when the bell rings. Students will also get a CA swag item and a bag of popcorn for this game if they earn the incentive. Go Cougars!

### **Report Card Pick-Up**

Report Card Pick-Up will be held on Thursday, November 15th from 12 PM- 6 PM. All families are encouraged to attend to pick up their student's report card and speak to their student's teachers. You can also pay school fees at this time, and meet with the deans. Mr. Leonard and I will also host a parent and family feedback table so that you can stop by to discuss strengths and areas of growth from the start of the school year.

### **Cougar College Corner**

There are a number of college updates for the month of November, most of which apply to seniors. First, all seniors will attend a college visit on Wednesday, November 14th. It is very important to us that all CA students have the opportunity to step onto a college campus before graduating, so make sure your student is in attendance on the 14th.

A group of seniors will also be attending an overnight trip to Northern Illinois University on November 15th and 16th. This is an annual trip, so families of 9th-11th graders, let us know if you're interested in this experience for your child in their senior year!

We still have a handful of seniors who need to finish their FAFSA. The longer you wait, the less money is available for college. Submit your FAFSA today! Reach out to Ms. Casanova ([mtgonsiorek@cps.edu](mailto:mtgonsiorek@cps.edu)) if you need support.

All seniors are required to submit seven college applications by November 30th. What seven colleges has your student applied to? Ask them today!

Finally, ALL families are encouraged to take advantage of Veterans' Day weekend to visit college campuses. Many schools have visit days/open houses over Veterans' Day, and many of them are free of charge. Check out college websites for more information, or again, reach out to Ms. Casanova. It is never too early to start thinking about college!

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

As a reminder, this year, we have set clear expectations for student participation in extracurricular events and activities. These expectations were set because we know our young people can meet them, meeting these expectations will put students on a bright path, and these expectations are respectable qualities for young people to uphold. Some students have missed out on school activities-- such as the Homecoming Dance-- because they did not meet these expectations. 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)