



Technical High School

Pride, Respect, Responsibility

March 2009

Parent / Teacher Conferences are:

Thursday, April 9 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.
and
Tuesday, April 14 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.
in the Tech Gym
Please enter doors 6, 8, 9, or 10



TECH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 9 –13 Mid-Winter Break - No school
March 21 – Dance 8:00 –11:00 Gym
March 24 – Choir Concert 7:30 at
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
March 25 - Full Instructional day

The week following break is Tech's rescheduled "Winter Week." The following activities will be taking place.

Monday, March 16th - Gender Day -Boys wear Blue and Girls wear Pink.

Tuesday, March 17th - ERA Day - Dress in clothing from your favorite decade ERA

Link Crew Dodge Ball Tournament - For Freshmen Homerooms and their Link Crew Leaders only.

Wednesday, March 18th - Camouflage Day - Student Council will host a guessing game in the cafeteria!

Thursday, March 19th - Nerd Day

Fun and Game Day in the Shack - Hosted by DECA- Activities and competitions will be held throughout the lunch periods.
Free beverage samples will be served.

All School Winter Recognition Assembly - 2:45-3:10

Friday, March 20th - Tech Pride Day - Wear orange and black!

Culture Day - There will be food samples in the cafeteria over the lunch periods, performances in the Auditorium, and Salsa Dancing lessons, Double Dutch Jump roping and a variety of activity and display booths over the lunch periods.

Saturday, March 21st - Sadie Hawkins Dance 8:00 – 11:00 Mardi Gras theme – Tech Gym

This should be a fun week for everyone!

CONGRATULATIONS! STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY

Grace Butkowski – 10
Lauren DeLeo – 10
Ankan Ganguly – 10
Courtney Gordon – 11
Tori Hambleton-Steffens – 11
Andrew Karl – 12
Dan Stoterau – 11
Johnathon Walker – 11

Five Tech students have
qualified as Finalists in the
2009 Competition for National
Merit Scholarships:

They are:
Flannery Cunningham
Joseph Molde
Dominick Ormsby
Kathryn Paulson
Robert Ratliff

TECH ACTIVITIES UPDATE



March Madness is here! The winter seasons are starting to wind down, spring sports are gearing up and the excitement begins. So far this winter season, the teams are doing very well. The speech team won the CLC meet again! The math team qualified for the state tournament, which will be held on March 9th. This is the 16th year in a row for them. Our boy's basketball team is 24-0 and ranked third in the state. They will be starting play-offs on March 12th. The girl's basketball team opens their playoff run on March 3rd at Bemidji.

The gymnastics team finished in 2nd place at the state tournament. It was the fourth year in a row for them. They had an excellent finish to the year. Senior Alise Post finished 3rd in the vault. Also qualifying for the state individuals were Jennifer Boeckmann, Amber Christenson, Karli Courier and Tabitha Peterson. Coach Dave Hoeller is retiring at the end of the year and he will be greatly missed. Assistant Coach Colleen Stark-Haws was named the State Assistant Coach of the year.

We have several individuals qualify for the state tournament in their respective sports. Lucas Laudenbach, Bennett Johnson and Thomas O'Brien qualified for the wrestling state tournament, which will be held March 4th-7th. Twins Robert and Allan Simson qualified for the state swimming meet, which will be held March 5th-7th. Good luck to them!

Our drama department held a student-directed winter play in February. It was "Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. It again showcased our talented students in theater.

Some events happening at Tech in March:

March 9th- Softball, Track and Golf practice start

March 12th- Boy's Basketball playoff game at Tech, 7pm

March 16th- Baseball practice starts

March 23rd-Boy's tennis and girl's lacrosse start practice

March 24th- Sub-section speech meet at Rocori, Choir concert at Bethlehem Church

March 27th- Choir solo and ensemble competition at Rocori

March 31st- Section speech meet at Sauk Rapids

There are many activities during March and if you want a schedule of all the events go to the Central Lakes Conference website; www.centrallakesconference.org. You will then need to go to Tech's site and it will give you a calendar of events. This website will also give you schedules, maps, results and standings. Please use this website, it is a wonderful resource.

Do you know anyone who needs additional help to get ready for the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments? There is tutoring after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30 -5:00 pm. Contact your child's counselor or assistant principal to register.

To receive school meals Free or at a reduced price or activities free reductions and to help the school to receive educational funds you can fill out an application for education benefits. You may apply at any time during the school year if your income goes down, household size goes up, if you start getting Food Stamps, MFIP, or FDPIR benefits. The forms are available at Tech in the SAO or online at: <http://www.isd742.org/lunchapplication.pdf>

St. Cloud Area School District 742
Contact: Steve Jordahl, Superintendent
February 4, 2009
NEWS RELEASE

Due to weather-related school closings on January 15 and 16, 2009, the following adjustments have been made to the 2008-2009 school calendar for St. Cloud Area School District 742:

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, **will be a full instructional day.** This day was previously listed on the school calendar as a two-hour early dismissal.

June 4, 2009, will be a make-up day for students and staff as incorporated in the 2008-2009 school calendar.



The Class of 1979 Class Reunion will be on July 25, 2009. The class reunion information will be sent out in April. If you are a Class of 1979 graduate and have any questions or need further information contact LeeAnn Hurrel-Nelson at 320-259-5053.

We use an automated phone system to call home when we have important dates or communication parents need to know. This system is also used to contact parents for attendance. The automated system will call home if a student has missed 1 or more class periods or homeroom during the school day.

**Tech's next Site
Council
meeting is
March 30
at 6:00 p.m.**



Ms. Christian's Homeroom

Tiger Eye on Success Update

On one of Tech's Matrix days, our homeroom was discussing ideas on how to improve our school. We came up with many valuable ideas and courses of actions in contributing to improving Tech. One idea included the paper drive. It seemed the most beneficial to the direct needs at our school. We planned out the details of the event. Our first course of action was to come up with a good prize to motivate students to be a part of the drive. We decided on root beer floats because it is a common treat likeable by many. Next, was to make posters to make students aware of the event. The drive lasted for two school weeks. After the two weeks we ended up collecting 42 reams of paper. Mr. Thell's homeroom were the winners by collecting 20 reams! Overall the paper drive was a great success. Our homeroom is extremely satisfied with the results because we helped out our school in a positive way.



DUCT TAPE

Have you ever wanted to duct tape your teacher to the Wall?????????????

Well, here is your chance to do that and help our community!!!

Bring a can of food or \$1.00 (or more) to cast your vote for the teacher you want to duct tape the wall! With each donation you get to put your name in a drawing to actually do the duct taping of the winning teacher.

Your choices are:

Mr. Martig
Mr. Boatz
Mr. Hoeller
Ms. Adams

Vote generously and vote often for your favorite teacher. HELP our Tech Community give back to our greater St. Cloud community!

Donations must be taken to the teacher's room of your choice by Thursday at NOON!

The final counts will be announced at the pepfest on Thursday afternoon and we will see who gets duct taped to the wall!

**BRING YOUR FOOD MONDAY, TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY after break!!!!!!**

Guidance News

MCA Tests

MCA tests will be April 14th and 15th. These tests are spread out during 2 mornings. Students must pass these tests in order to graduate. Students are tested in the following areas:

9th Grade- Writing
10th Grade-Reading
11th Grade-Math

Local Scholarships

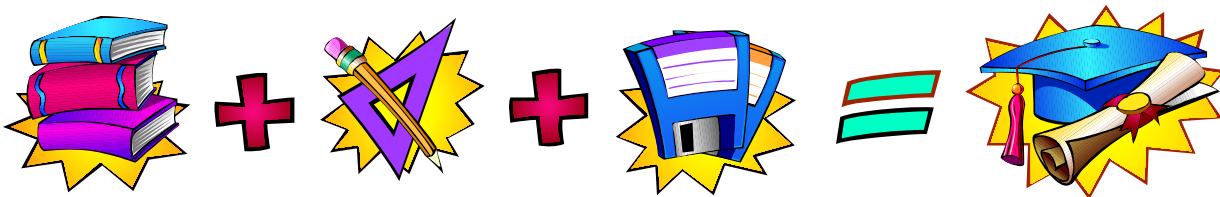
Tech Local Scholarship Information for seniors will be handed out in late March in Senior Social Classes and will also be available on the Tech Website. The Awards Night will be held on Wednesday May 30th and those seniors receiving awards will be personally invited by letter in early May. Parents and students can also check the school website for any statewide or national scholarships at any time. That information is updated throughout the year. Students should also be talking to individual colleges about scholarship opportunities.

AP Testing

Advanced Placement testing will take place during the first 2 weeks of May according to Nationally set dates and times. Students who are currently enrolled in an AP class must register to take the corresponding test to have a chance at earning college credit. **The cost of each test this year is \$21, and must be received in the guidance office by March 23.** After this date, a \$50 late fee will be applied. This year we will be offering the following tests: American Government, Comparative Government, Macro Economics, Micro Economics, European History, World History, US History, Psychology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics, Chemistry, Physics, and English Literature and Composition. Our AP teachers are busy preparing our students for this exam, and our students have an amazing track record of success! Over the past 3 years, our students have achieved an overall passing rate of 80% on AP tests. This year we will have over 200 students participate in over 450 AP tests.

Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) Meeting

Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) is an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to attend college classes at St. Cloud State University or St. Cloud Technical College for free (tuition and cost of books are paid) and earn college credit and high school credit. Students who expressed interest in PSEO for next year, signed up to attend an informational meeting. **The PSEO Informational Meeting will be held on March 26th, from 8:30 –9:20, in room 41 and 42.** Parents who would like to attend are welcome!! Representatives from St. Cloud Technical College, and St. Cloud State University will be here to provide an overview of the program, requirements to participate and will explain the application process.



What's new with TAME?

The TAME grant has provided Tech High School with a guidance counselor that specifically focuses on and addresses the issues of transition from junior high to high school. To some it might seem a little funny that as the 9th grade transition counselor I spend much of my time talking to students about what they want to do *after* high school. But part of a successful transition into high school involves realizing what the purpose of a high school education and experience is in the first place.

I like asking 9th graders the questions "What do you want out of high school?" Many students know exactly what they want and need, and they have already started going about getting it. Others will look back at me with a somewhat dazed expression. Some teenagers have the unfortunate outlook that high school is something they have to suffer through before they can get on with their "real life".

Part of my job is showing students how high school relates to, affects, and in some ways determines what their "real life" will end up looking like. Those of us who go to work every morning know how much our jobs and career affect the rest of our "real lives". We realize that although we might not remember or use every single tidbit of information we were taught in school, that without our K-12 education and experiences we could have never gotten to where we are today. Sadly, many students find themselves in a slump where "real life" feels like light-years down the road, and they think that nothing they do now will *really* end up mattering to their future anyway. What these students don't recognize is how much they can impact their future by finding opportunities and ways to start creating the life that they want right now...while they are in high school.

Over the past month, and continuing into April I will have a "freshman conference" with each of Tech High School's 9th graders. Although the counselors already touch bases with every junior and senior to talk about college and career planning, the freshman conference is a way to start the ball rolling early so that time in the 9th and 10th grade year isn't wasted letting opportunities roll by.

So far my freshman conferences with students have greatly varied! For example, I had a conversation with one 9th grader about how freshman year really does count! (So many 9th graders assume that freshman year doesn't count because grades aren't included in their final GPA...but this doesn't mean we erase freshman grades from a student's transcript! Grades in 9th grade definitely do count for a variety of reasons!).

At another conference I talked to a student who is taking many advanced classes and getting excellent grades about the importance of becoming involved in extra-curricular activities - whether at Tech or in the St. Cloud community. Clubs, sports, volunteering, and any work experience students can get involved in early will translate to better college and financial aid opportunities later in high school.

Recently at another conference I talked to a student who didn't want to attend college at all because they didn't think they were smart enough. This student can draw amazing cartoons and wants to be an artist for a living. We discussed all of the benefits a college education could have for an artist – how she could learn new techniques in different types and styles of art, how expanding her artistic horizons would benefit her career long-term, how living away from home and experiencing the many adventures of college might inspire her art, how many careers in art don't provide a steady income and how a college degree would help her offset that potential downfall, how her earning potential would increase every year she attended college...then we talked about the art and other classes she could take at Tech to help her prepare for earning an art degree in college.

I've talked to kids who want to be surgeons, who want to be auto mechanics, who want to be teachers, police officers, engineers and more. I've recommended what classes they should take at Tech, helped them make connections between what they are learning now and how it can help their future plans, talked about their opportunities to earn college credit in high school (and which programs would be best for them), suggested other career areas to explore, told them how to find out more about those careers, and encouraged all to keep exploring their options and take advantage of all the opportunities they have.

Before these 14-year olds know it, it will be time for them to take their leap into the real world. High school is what can help them prepare for that leap, and I hope through these conferences students will realize how very important their next 3 and a half years at Tech can be for them...

If you would like to be included in this mailing, please e-mail your full name, child's name and e-mail address to:
tigernews@isd742.org