



# Canadian High School

Rick Berry, Principal

Kasi Pennington, Secretary

Kathleen Arbuckle, Counselor

August 3, 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

First, congratulations to all of our students and parents on a tremendously successful school year in 2008-09! Our students, your children, had unprecedented accomplishments last year. But it's time for another school year and I thought I would take this opportunity to visit with you about a few things.

## **Class Schedules**

Students and/or parents should drop by the high school on August 12-13 from 9:00 to 11:00 or from 1:00 to 3:00 to complete required paperwork for this coming school year. It is necessary for parents to submit completed and signed paperwork before picking up this year's class schedule. If there are any problems with your child's schedule, this is the best time to work with us on changes. You can come by at other times/days, but we may or may not be available. Please note that students will have from August 24 through August 26 during which they may change their course schedule after classes begin, but any changes we can implement prior to August 24<sup>th</sup> will work better for everyone.

## **Personnel Changes**

- Mr. Ron Shrader will continue to teach Geology and A&P this next year, but will assume Mrs. Kessie's duties in addition.
- Mrs. Dena Hood will assume Mr. Shrader's other course responsibilities in the science department.

## **Student Handbook and Dress Code Changes**

There are no changes to dress code from last school year. However, I want to emphasize the importance of students following the handbook policies with regard to:

### ***Telecommunications Devices, Including Mobile Telephones***

*Students are not permitted to possess telecommunications devices, including mobile telephones in the classroom. Because the vast majority of cell phones (telecommunications devices) now have camera and text messaging capabilities, they are banned from the classroom. In addition, cell phones (telecommunications devices) may not be displayed or turned on during the school day (7:55 AM through 3:35 PM) anywhere on school property, especially during testing times.*

*First violation – cell phone will be taken up and returned to a parent or guardian at the end of the school week (at the end of the school day on the last day of the school week).*

*Second violation – cell phone will be taken up and returned to a parent or guardian at the end of the last school day of that six weeks grading period and a fee of \$15 will be charged.*

*Third violation – cell phone will be taken up and returned to a parent or guardian at the end of the last school day of the school year and a fee of \$15 will be charged.*

*Any disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. The district will not be responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen telecommunications devices.*

**Women's Clothing** - Dresses, skirts, and shorts shall be of such length as not to be distracting. Dresses and skirts shall be at least one inch below the fingertips when the arms are relaxed at the side. Skirts and shorts worn with tights must meet this length requirement.

**Hair** - Boys' hair must be no longer than the top of a t-shirt collar in back, must not touch the eye brows in front, and may not extend below the ear lobes. No braiding, dread locks, or corn rows allowed. No Mohawks or designs cut into the hair are allowed.

Note that the dress code will be in effect at 7:55 on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Returning students need to be dressed to meet the dress code and boys need to meet the hair and facial hair code. Returning students out of dress code will be assigned a disciplinary consequence beginning August 24<sup>th</sup>!! And please DO NOT allow your child to attend school with jeans/pants that are torn or have holes – that is a violation of the student handbook, that I am charged with enforcing.

- a. no sagging allowed; undergarments must not be exposed at any time; pants are to be worn at the waist
- b. no dew rags allowed
- c. boys may not wear earrings
- d. no sideburns below the ear lobe or wider than 1" and boys must be clean-shaven
- e. boys' hair must be no longer than the top of the collar in back, may not touch the eye brows in front, and the ear lobes must be visible. No braiding, dread locks, or corn rows allowed.
- f. girls may not wear tops that reveal the midriff, low-cut tops, tank tops or halter tops
- g. girls' sleeveless tops must have straps at least 2" wide
- h. girls' skirts and dresses must be one inch longer than their fingertips with arms relaxed at the side
- i. shorts must be mid-thigh in length
- j. torn or ripped clothing will not be worn

Students are **NOT** to drive on campus without a valid driver's license – learner permits will not work. If caught, students will be warned one time to not drive on campus and will be instructed to park outside the school campus. Obviously, driving without a valid driver's license is illegal and will not be tolerated on campus out of safety concerns for our students and staff.

Parents, please be sure and carefully read the student handbook so that you and your child know and understand the various policies and procedures we follow at the high school campus. Students will receive a 2009-10 student handbook and student code of conduct at their first class meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup>. **Once again, students need to appear on campus from day one in compliance with the dress code.**

### **TAKS Tests**

The TAKS results were mailed home to you in May. Remember that students must pass all four parts of the TAKS exit level tests (11<sup>th</sup> grade tests) in order to graduate. We will have a few seniors retaking various sections of the exit level TAKS tests during the school year so that they may graduate in May. Obviously, having your child ready for this test is critical – we want every student to have the opportunity to graduate on time with their classmates. We need every student working hard, both in the classroom during the school year and at test time. **Remember, students MUST PASS ALL Four Exit Level TAKS Tests in order to graduate!**

### **Online Courses**

CHS offers supplemental technology-based instruction to students attending our school. We will have online/internet-based courses available to students through our computer lab. Although Mrs. Sawyer will facilitate this program, students who choose to participate will be expected to exhibit responsibility in completing course-required work. This is NOT a study hall. Attendance is mandatory, not optional. Also note that courses offered in our regular curriculum and taught in the classroom by a "live" teacher will not be available through this program. If interested, students need to visit with Mrs. Arbuckle ASAP.

### **New Web Site!!!!**

Please check out our new look at [chs.sharpschool.com](http://chs.sharpschool.com) for updated calendars, important information, teacher pages, counselor page, etc.

Thanks for your attention to this information. I'm looking forward to a great school year and I'm glad you and your child will be part of the high school campus. Remember that you are always welcome to drop

by the office, and I especially want to invite you to our open house and report card pickup opportunities throughout the school year. Parents, if you want to receive a weekly calendar of high school activities, please contact the office with email information.

Sincerely,

*R. Berry*

Rick Berry

**\* Note: Pre-AP and Dual Credit English Students will test on August 14, 2009! \***

### Aptitude Inventory Measurement Service (AIMS)

**Phone 972.234.8378**  
**12160 Abrams Road, Suite 314**  
**Dallas, Texas, 75243**  
<http://www.aimstesting.org/>

If you have an 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader who “doesn’t know what they want to be when they grow up,” this organization might be beneficial to you. Through their testing, they may be able to direct your child in their college and career choices. Our family has utilized them and we were very happy with the results and direction we received. Other members of our faculty have also used them and were also pleased with the results.

*“AIMS is a nonprofit, tax-exempt research foundation which develops, administers, and interprets aptitude worksamples. Studies show that the mental traits measured by these worksamples are inherited, or else determined so early in life that they do not change significantly after puberty. While the basic purpose of AIMS is the scientific study of human behavior based on accurate measurements, it has the larger, more pragmatic goal of aiding youngsters and adults in planning a happier and more successful future. As individuals are tested, information about their traits becomes the primary source of data for the research program. The knowledge derived from this research benefits AIMS program participants who are making educational and vocational decisions.”*

# Canadian High School Calendar Events

This list of events will grow as the school year progresses, so be sure and check our web site on a regular basis for changes and additions. <http://chs.sharpschool.com>



August 12-13	9:00 – 11:00 and 1:00 – 3:00 -> All students register & pick-up schedules (students/parents will be required to complete and sign all required paperwork this year before they can pick up schedules).
August 17	First Day of Professional Development
August 24	First Day of School – Regular Schedule
August 25	Class Meetings with principal and counselor (2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> periods, begin w/ 9 <sup>th</sup> grade)
August 25	6:30 – Hamburger Fry and “Meet the Wildcats”
Aug 24 – Sept 2	9 <sup>th</sup> graders sign up their parents in the office for “Class Parent” elections
September 3	Class Officer & Other Student Elections
September 4	Early Release
September 7	Student Holiday
Sept 8 - 11	Homecoming Week
September 11	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Three Week Grading Period
September 12	ACT Test Date
October 2	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Six Weeks
October 10	Fall Foliage Marching Contest
October 14	PSAT @ CHS
October 17	UIL Marching Contest @ Dick Bivins Stadium
October 20-23	Exit Level TAKS Re-Tests
October 23	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Three Week Grading Period
October 24	ACT Test Date
November 2-3	State Marching Band Contest
November 5	ASVAB Test
November 6	Senior Night – Football vs. Gruver
November 7	Regional CC Meet - Lubbock
November 13	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks