

Class of 2021

In the Loop Newsletter: August Summary

What happened in August?

- Freshman Orientation
- Freshman transition to CCHS
- Activity Fair
- English Class Visits (see more information below)

What is happening in September?

- Financial Aid Night: Tuesday, September 12 (6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
- Homecoming Spirit Week: Monday, September 18-22
- Powder Puff Competition: Wednesday, September 20 (7:00 p.m.)
- Homecoming Pep Rally & Teacher Institute (1/2 Day): Friday, 9/22
- Homecoming Dance: Saturday, 9/23 (Dance from 8 p.m. – 11 p.m. in the gym)
- Counselor Lab: students will meet with me during an elective class. We will work on individual four-year plans and students will be introduced to Naviance, a College/Career/Test Prep program for students

English Visit Recap:

The last week of August I had the pleasure of visiting each English classroom. This was an invaluable experience, as I was able to meet with students in smaller groups. Several topics pertinent to High School success were shared and every student received a green folder with materials covering essential freshman information. Below is a quick rundown of the information covered. Feel free to ask your student about my visit; I have encouraged every student to keep his/her green folder!

- Freshman Questionnaire
 - Important questions covering topics such as: GPA, credits, HS success, transcripts, etc. You may view this Questionnaire on my website and review the answers with your student at home!
- Freshman Contract
 - I have shared two goals with freshman students: (1) Vow to work hard & do all you can to graduate in 2021, and (2) Attend or try out for at least one CCHS activity, club, and/or sport.
 - All freshmen reviewed the contract, initialed, signed, and dated it! I am so excited to work with such an eager group!

NO QUESTION IS OFF LIMITS, NO THOUGHT TOO SILLY, NO DREAM TOO BIG

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- List of Athletics & Activities
- Class of 2021 Student Letter
- Counselor Contact Information Page
- “Get to Know You” Student Survey
 - We will complete this in Naviance next time I meet with students.
- Individual Student Transcript and an Example Graduate Transcript
 - Had students compare the two transcripts and posed the question, “What do you want your transcript to say about you when you graduate?”
- Graduation Checklist
- Academic Review Sheet
- “How to Calculate GPA” Worksheet
- Four Year Plan
 - In my next small group meeting with students, we are going to start building Four Year Plans. I encourage you to start the discussion at home! You can find a list of class offerings at http://www.cchs165.jacksn.k12.il.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_77943/File/School%20Docs/Course%20Description%20Guide%201718.pdf
- Resource Packet including:
 - What to expect freshman year
 - Advice every freshman should know
 - Extracurricular tips
 - Test-taking tips
 - College/Career planning checklist
 - PSAT 8/9 and 10 information

Other ways to stay “IN THE LOOP”

- Join the Student or Parent Remind Group
 - Remind is one-way communication from counselor to student and/or parent. Remind will allow me to send text messages to you individually or in a group.
 - Instructions for students to join: text the message “@2021stu” to 81010
 - Instructions for parents to join: text the message “@2021paren” to 81010

Never hesitate to contact me with questions and/or concerns. My email is krista.smith@cchs165.com

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