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# Red Devil Weekly



September 17, 2021

## Week in Review



*From Office of Bill Walsh*

As you may have read in BoardDocs or observed from the BOE Meeting, the contractual agreement between Anew Collective Consulting and D86 has come to an end. While the contract with Anew Collective Consulting is no longer, D86 is committed to continuing our racial consciousness journey and cultural equity work. More information will be forthcoming.

On another note, you may have noticed a preceding statement before Annette reads the Pledge of Allegiance. I wanted to take a moment to remind you why she reads that statement so that you



Academics

Thank you for your thoughtful participation in our Flex Learning Day. We appreciate your vulnerability, openness and feedback on Wednesday's topics.

As a reminder, ELL students are eligible for 50% extended time on College Board exams. The same accommodations should be applied for exams in content classes. If you have any questions about this, please contact ELL Coordinator Treacy O'Keefe.

There have been some questions surrounding the



Operations

Parent/Teacher conferences are just around the corner: Thursday, October 7th from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Conferences during the afternoon time slot from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM will be held in person in teacher classrooms. Conferences during the evening time slot from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM will be conducted by phone. Teachers will have the option to do the phone conferences in the building or from a different location.

Please see the instructions to utilize the **Phone Masking Service** for all District 86

can have an informed discussion with your students.

The opening statement preceding the Pledge of Allegiance was added in the winter of 2019. During the fall of 2018 I met with several student organizations who expressed a variety of perspectives on this topic. I also met with the staff of Hinsdale Central High School on this matter. All these parties had a chance to express their perspectives. We listened to their voices and in 2019 added the following line to precede the Pledge of Allegiance "If you would like to state the Pledge of Allegiance, please stand and face the flag."

There were a variety of reasons for the change, but I can truly express one reason for the change was not to diminish the contributions of our armed services, the patriotism of our school, or the people who daily defend the rights afforded citizens of this great country where we live. Circa September 11, 2001 we have stated the Pledge of Allegiance and had a moment of silence to begin our school day. I support, recognize and stand for this protocol, however I also respect the voices of Red Devils who cannot stand during the Pledge of Allegiance due to their religion and others who have taken a political position on standing. As a public school, we cannot require Red Devils to stand, the major reason for including the preceding statement to the Pledge of Allegiance was to educate both students and staff of their freedom of speech rights and prevent conflict from arising in the classroom. If you have a question on this matter, please stop down and see me.

assigning of staff to an Observation & Evaluation Group under the new PERA agreement. Please speak with your department chair if you have concerns about your assignment and want to be reassigned to a different O&E Group. However, before you have that conversation with your department chair, please take the time to look at the new PERA agreement and fully understand the collegial and coaching environment PERA is attempting to create.

O&E's are not 'gotcha' moments, but intended to center on opportunities for licensed staff & a qualified evaluator to collaborate. The addition of the PGP is intended to support a licensed staff member in their professional growth.

It is anticipated that licensed staff will earn a proficient rating that can move to an excellent rating when our student data comes back on SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing, Student Attendance, 9th Grade on Track and Graduation Rate. Licensed staff should spend only a reasonable amount of time in preparing Form B & Form C. Ideally, more time is being spent in collaborating with the qualified evaluator than in writing.

employees. Once staff call a parent using this service, Hinsdale Central High School caller ID will show to the receiving party. The [instructions](#) also detail how to make conference calls using a classroom phone and a cell phone while utilizing the phone masking service. This will allow teachers and co-teachers to conference together with a family when they are not in the same location.

Conferences will remain seven minutes in length, however, we have added in an additional three minutes to allow teachers the time to transition to the next conference; therefore ten minutes, in total. This also keeps the timing of the conferences easier to follow rather than having conference start/end at odd times. Bells will be set to sound every seven minutes indicating the end of the conference and then three minutes later signaling the start of another.

This [Parent Letter](#) was sent home to families this morning.

From **September 19 through September 27**, you will need to login to the [Parent Teacher Portal](#) and move your breaks around as you would like them and enter the room that you will use for conferences. Your User Name is your full email address and your password is your network password.

[How to Move Breaks](#)  
[How to Enter or Change Room Number](#)

On **October 4** the portal will close and no further conferences will be added/edited. At this time, you can then go in to view and print your schedule. Parents will not be told to contact a teacher to see if they have any openings once the site is closed.

If you want parents/guardians to view anything (Grades, etc.) prior to the conference, please send it to them via email.

Please remember to take a moment to look at each of your student's grades and check their accuracy prior to conferences. Please be mindful of the following:

Grades should continue to be updated within a week of collecting the assignment

- Grades should be current and accurate for all stakeholders
- Gradebook entries should have clear assignment names for all stakeholders to understand
- Grades should represent current levels of achievement in class

**Important dates/times for conferences:**

- 9/19 – Site opens for parent requests at 12:01am
- 9/19 – Teachers can login to edit breaks at 12:01am
- 9/27 – Site closes for parents to make requests and for teachers to edit breaks at 11:59pm
- Schedule Conferences
- 9/30 – Site reopens for parent edits at 12:01am
- 10/3 – Site closes for parents at 11:59pm
- 10/7– PTC from 1pm – 4pm and 6pm – 9pm

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## **Student Activity Spotlight; Homecoming**

Over the past 18 years I have been involved with the planning of Homecoming and the Homecoming court in some capacity at Hinsdale Central. The part that I love the most is that the Homecoming court has evolved so much over the years and each year is a little different – my first year with Homecoming court nominations started with all members of the court required to be Varsity athletes

and part of Varsity Club. We found this to not be helpful to our club membership and limited who could be involved. Court then became a nomination process where students nominated each other to be on court, we updated this process after learning students had not been nominated as a positive thing. This process then evolved into students accepting nominations in person, where a friend would nominate a friend and they would have to accept that nomination in person. When we realized how uncomfortable this made students, the process was updated to students putting themselves on a girls list and boys list as a self-nomination, again in person. This was again updated to students being able to fill out an online form to nominate themselves for court. Then, students asked to be on non-traditional lists for court which opened our eyes to another change that needed to happen, we needed to make the nominations lists gender neutral and let students self-select to be nominated as a Queen or a King for court. All of these nominations lead to students being paired up and performing a "romantic skit" in front of the school where a rose was presented to a member of the court. That evolved to eliminating the romantic factor of the skits and no roses were presented or carrying off the court, the skits have gotten progressively more violent and suggestive and uncomfortable for the student body and faculty to support. All of these courts were determined by a vote by the senior class to determine the top 12 Queen and top 12 King candidates and then ultimately have the entire school vote on the ultimate King and Queen prior to Homecoming. The entire school did not vote until a few years ago, this was traditionally a senior vote as well. These court members over the years have been seen in tuxes and formal dresses and elaborate convertibles throughout the Homecoming activities.

Over the years, students have reflected on the Homecoming court process, which is a part of the Homecoming week, and made suggestions as to how to do it better, diversify the group of students featured, include more of the school over the years and make the court expectations more equitable. These suggestions came again after our last Homecoming to try to include more students in the court and make it more about the entire school, not just a select group of students. Hence the changes this year. The traditional activities of the Homecoming court have been preserved with the exception of an initial vote to limit the number of participants and seniors will participate as a group not be paired up once elected. Seniors have been presented with the ability to sign up to be a part of Homecoming court with a group of 2-6 of their friends during Homecoming week. This group of friends' main goal is to promote school spirit and have fun as Red Devil Royalty. These Royals can earn points through Homecoming week by dressing up in a theme and attending athletic events and club activities together, participate in the Homecoming pep rally performing a lip sync together, participate in the Homecoming parade and attend the dance. The entire student body will vote on the best court lip sync after the pep rally, this vote and points earned throughout the week will ultimately decide the winner of the Red Devil Royalty crown. The main objective of the Red Devil Royalty Courts is to promote school spirit and allow for more students, seniors, to participate in the activities of the week.

## Hinsdale Central Good News

**World Language:** Department-It was evident during DC walkthroughs on Friday that teachers were committed to community building to the start the year. The positive energy and connectedness were more than apparent.

**Social Studies:** Before school and after school meetings of SS clubs have started last week and this week. It is fantastic to see our extra-curriculars in person!

**English:** There are two new teachers in English who have been welcomed and supported by their more experienced peers extensively. Sharing, checking-on, and collaboration has been the daily

norm.



What's Coming Up In The Week Ahead					
Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17	20	21	22	23	24
	Fire Drill 9:45 a.m.		Wednesday Walk-Throughs Walsh / Prentiss Period 9  Red Devil Character Mentor Training 3:15 p.m.	CELT Meeting (rescheduled) LMC 8:30 a.m.	Pep Assembly Stadium 2:40 p.m.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS... IT's TESTING TIME!**

Thursday, October 7 - ALL SCHOOL TESTING (PSAT - Grade 9 & Illinois Science Assessment - Grade12) AND Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, October 13 - ALL SCHOOL TESTING - PSAT/NMSQT - Grades 10 & 11



**What have our school teams been discussing?**

[HC Building Leadership Team Minutes](#)

[HC Department Chair Team Minutes](#)

[Building Equity Action Team](#)

[Master Facility Photos](#)

[Hinsdale Central High School Weekly eBlast](#)

[District Committee Folders \(Calendar, Handbook, LLT, PERA, R3, Workload\)](#)



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