

Jericho High School

Parent Newsletter

January/February 2012

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Mr. P's Corner: "Transitions"

Earlier this week, I celebrated a birthday. At first, it did not seem greatly different from previous birthdays. However, while walking through the mall to do some post-holiday returns, it finally hit me. I have officially crossed over from youthful exuberant to advice columnist. You see, one of the teenage surveyors approached me about my thoughts on teeth whitening. Always happy to help our youngest workers remain gainfully employed, I offered to take the survey. The first question seemed rather straightforward, simply asking for my age. I responded with my newly minted age only to receive, for the first time, the dreaded response: "Oh, I'm sorry. We are not looking for respondents in your age bracket." Ouch! At that moment, I realized that I had finally transitioned out of the hip demographic and into a more serious one. Pollsters now seem most interested in my opinions on presidential elections and novel uses for hemorrhoid cream.

While one could surely see this new role as depressing, I choose to look at it as a great opportunity for growth. Perhaps most encouraging is that our students are not waiting until their mid-30s to start this process. Over the past month, I have watched our seniors, many having now received college acceptance letters, taking on the role of "application whisperers." You can find them in the halls talking to underclassmen about how they finished their applications on time. Meanwhile, others, still waiting to hear back from choice schools, offer insights in the cafeteria to help our juniors prepare themselves even better. It has been wonderful to watch our next generation transition toward their own predestined roles as advice columnists.

As part of the more serious demographic, I implore you to make the time in your busy schedule to learn from our school advisers at **Course Information Night** on February 2nd. On this night, our teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators will be available to impart their wisdom to help make your children's lives both richer and smoother. Especially important are the

Advanced Placement (AP) breakout sessions where teachers will review course requirements and expected workload. Please don't miss this opportunity to dialogue with our faculty to make informed decisions with your children. (Please see a later section in this newsletter for complete information.)

I suppose this has always been the way of the world. Elders teach the young in efforts for their lives to be better than their own. We are very proud to embark on this journey as elders with you.

For the record, now fully immersed in my new role, Newt Gingrich will not get the Republican nomination and my eyes look fabulous. (I put a little preparation-H underneath them last night.)

See you soon...
-“Mr. P”

Current 9th Grade Student & Parent Meeting (1/17)

Please join our HS counselors for the current 9th grade Student & Parent Meeting on **Tuesday, January 17th @ 7pm in the HS Auditorium** for a very informative session as our current freshmen prepare for their sophomore years. Topics include thriving in high school, early preparation for the college process, quality vs. quantity of courses and extracurriculars, and summer experience opportunities. Students and parents are both encouraged to attend!

Current 10th Grade Student & Parent Meeting (1/24)

Please join our HS counselors for the current 10th grade Student & Parent Meeting on **Tuesday, January 24th @ 7pm in the HS Auditorium** for a very informative session as our underclassmen prepare for their junior years. Topics include using Naviance for the college process, SATs, quality vs. quantity of APs, and more! Students and parents are both encouraged to attend!

PTSA Meeting: Majors in College (1/31)

Please join the PTSA on **Tuesday, January 31st @ 7pm in the HS Library** as we present an informative session on preparing for majors in college. Whether your child is interested in majoring in engineering, sports management, pre-medicine, or pre-law, learn about the paths available at Jericho High School to pique your child's interests. If your child is undecided (and this is perfectly normal!), learn about the various opportunities we offer to help her find her passion.

Course Information Night, Community Service Fair, & Incoming 9th Grade Parent Meeting (2/2)

We are very excited to once again invite you to our Course Information Night and Community Service Fair on **Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 7-9pm**. All of our teachers will be on hand to answer questions about their courses. Additionally, AP teachers will offer important mini-sessions to discuss the rigor and expectations of these courses. The AP session schedule will be posted to the web site in late January.

For our incoming 9th graders (current 8th graders), the administrators will offer a program starting at 7pm in the MS/HS Auditorium. This session will release students and parents with plenty of time to attend the Course Information Night to learn about all that the high school offers.

Diversity Night (2/13)

On **Monday, February 13th @ 7pm in the HS Auditorium**, Jericho High School proudly presents Diversity Night, celebrating the wonderful diversity of our schools. After a year's hiatus, students representing different cultures and orientations will stage an energetic presentation to increase awareness and tolerance in our school community. Monetary donations of \$5 will be accepted at the door to sponsor a child from a developing nation. All are welcome and encouraged to see our students' unique abilities and hard work!

Kudos and Congratulations to...

... **Adam Greenbaum** who won a Gavel Award as well as **Ryan Alpert** and **Johnny Peyser** who earned Honorable Mention Awards at the November Princeton Model Congress Conference.

... the Debate Club for their outstanding results at Syosset High School on Saturday, December 17th. In Varsity Lincoln Douglas, **Arian Soroush** placed 2nd and **Haejin Park** placed 5th. Junior Varsity Lincoln Debate, **Nebiyou Getahun** placed 3rd, **Parul Jaggi** placed 5th, **Marc Siegel** placed 6th and **Ken Aizawa** placed 7th. Novice Lincoln Debate, **Grace Mok** placed 1st, **Alyssa Delott** placed 2nd, and **Zarah Khan** placed 7th. Novice Public Forum, **Evan Kaminer** and **Zack Rosenbloom** placed 4th.

... the **Boys Varsity Soccer Team** who won the State Championship. Special Kudos to **Derek Medolla** who won MVP of the tournament!

... **Trudi Ann Patrick** who is an All-State Swimmer.

... the **Boys Football Team** who were named the Fall 2011 Scholar/Athlete Team State Champions.

... the **Boy's Badminton Team** who were named the 2011 Nassau County Boys Badminton Champions.

Calendar of Upcoming High School Events & Daily Announcements

Please visit the Jericho High School web site for the latest information on our upcoming high school events:

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/>

The High School also posts its daily announcements daily. To see all that is happening on any given day, please head toward:

<http://www.jerichoschools.org/hs/announcements.asp>