

Community Links High School

The latest news, events and announcements

Important Dates

March 3 -- Local School Council Meeting @ 9am
<https://meet.google.com/qbx-eioc-tee>

March 12 -- Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting @ 9 AM
<https://meet.google.com/ftp-nqoq-qjr>

March 27 - April 4 -- Spring Break

Note: All meetings are held virtually for safety. To join the PAC, click the link above or see the website for instructions on how to dial in by phone.



Principal's Corner

It's February and we've gotten through half the year! This year has proved to be one of the most challenging times in our lives. But we have persevered and stand poised to start the second semester with the motivation that we are heading toward successfully completing the school year, and with hopefully the worst of the pandemic behind us.

I already see the change with our students eager to participate in sports and other after-school activities. Please make sure your students get involved. Colleges and universities ask students about extra-curricular participation as part of the application process. They want to know what fun things students participated in while in high school. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. We're here to support you. And good luck with the start of the 2nd Semester.

Examining the Impact of Genocide through Night

by: Ms. Meyer

Seniors in English IV are beginning to read *Night*, a memoir by Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, as part of a unit on the Holocaust. During the unit, students will also read a variety of texts written by people who lived through the Holocaust and lived in WW II Europe. Students will reflect on how people's lives are shaped and changed by the circumstances they encounter, as well as the effects of trauma and tragedy on people's identity and choices.

Towards the end of the unit, students will also conduct research on genocide and mass violence throughout history and write a research essay on factors that have led to mass violence and on the impact of mass violence and genocide.

Examining events and perspectives related to the Holocaust will allow students to think critically about the past and reflect upon moments in the present. As a result, students will be better prepared to make informed decisions for future generations.



"Communication is Key": An Interview with LSC Member Guillermina Alvarado

by: Mr. Borrás

Can you tell me a little about yourself and your family?

I have three children. My eldest child graduated last year from high school, and is currently making up their mind about next steps. My daughter is currently a Freshman at Community Links High School. And I have a 4th grader at Spry Elementary. I have lived over 15 years in La Villita.

How did you become interested in serving on the Local School Council?

This is my 2nd year on the Local School Council. I became interested in serving on the LSC because I was really interested in learning about how schools work. I want to know about programs that are offered to support our students. And I am interested in learning about how teachers support their students. It also helps me know how to better support my children in school since I know what programs are available.

What was your education like?

I had a great education. My teachers were very strict, but I saw that in a good way. They taught us a lot about self-discipline and the importance of school. Everyone took education very seriously. Also, teachers and parents worked really closely together, so they were partners in the education of students, in my education.

What do you tell your children about education?

I tell my children to take their education seriously. It's what is going to make them successful. They need to have 'ganas' (the desire to be successful). They need to focus on their future, start thinking about careers, be responsible, and stay on top of everything so they don't fall behind. They need to have self-discipline.

How do you help and support your children in school?

I help my children by talking to them every day about school. I ask them about their homework, and make sure they have time to complete it. It's important to be informed and know how they feel about school. I ask them every day how they are doing.

How is having high school children different from having younger children?

It's very different. I feel high school is more difficult, you have to be more independent. Elementary school is about your first steps. High school about taking steps toward career and college.

What advice would you give other parents who want to support their children in school, but aren't sure how?

Communication is key. It is important to know what your children are going through. They must know they are not alone and that they are being supported. And it's also about trust so you can talk about what they are going through.

Links' Newest Competition: eSports!

by: Mr. Swierczewski

Teens are known for spending countless hours playing games on their phones, consoles, and computers. Some adults see this as wasted time. But did you know that gaming has a new, school-related competition?

Competitive video gaming is known as eSports, and it's a competition that is growing rapidly. At the 2020 League of Legends World Championships, there were 3.8 million viewers. Projections in the US show that Esports will have more viewers than every professional sport except the NFL by 2021.

The Illinois High School Esports Association organizes tournaments in fall, winter and spring. They offer a variety of games and give high school students an opportunity to compete against other students around the state. Esports can be a way for students to gain problem-solving skills, teamwork, collaboration, and communication needed to succeed in work and life. It's also a great competitive outlet during the pandemic when other sports are limited.

Community Links now has three teams of two students each for the IHSEA spring season. This spring, they are competing in Fortnite. Team members are responsible for scheduling matches with their opponents, submitting scores, and maintaining a 2.0 GPA with no more than one failing grade.

The students representing CLHS are:
Daniel Castaneda
Jonathan Garcia
Eduardo Juarez
Alexis Hernandez
Henry Miguel

We are excited to see their season play out! To follow our teams you can use the QR code:

<https://challonge.com/IHSEAFN20202021METAL>

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