**Classen School of Advanced Studies Parent Notes**

Welcome to the weekly newsletter for our Classen SAS family! In an effort to continue to improve communication, we are asking sponsors to submit all activities for the week and share information regarding the happenings at our school. The PTSA will continue to send the Classen Blast as well.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Classen Orchestra! Friday night the Orchestra was honored to play at the OMEA State Conference as the featured State Honor Orchestra. This is an honor given to only one orchestra, and our students put on an amazing performance. They certainly demonstrated why they were selected for this honor. Saturday night the All-State Orchestra, made up on students selected from across the state, performed. Classen had more students involved than any other school in the state!

The Classen SAS Girl’s Basketball are the Champions of the Frontenac, Kansas Tournament! Congratulations to Taylor Roberts, Tournament MVP, and to Victoria Vickers for selection to the All Tournament Team! The Classen SAS Girls’ Basketball Team is still undefeated, 16-0, and ranked 4th in 4A.

This week…..is **HOMECOMING!** More information will be placed on the school website Monday.

The carpet in the main office and counseling center is temporary. Over the Winter Break, CSAS experienced significant flooding due to frozen pipes breaking. The carpet installed is to get us through the rest of the school year and will be replaced with a more appropriate choice over the summer.

Dress Code is an ongoing issue. Thank you to everyone that completed the survey. The responses will be read and every voice considered. If you are willing to serve on a parent committee to review dress code and all of the data received through the survey, please contact the school to add your name to a list. Classen will work with PTSA at the next meeting to review this data and determine a course of action.

Applications to Classen School of Advanced Studies are being accepted through **January 27, 2017**. Any current student wishing to change majors must go through the application process. Any student wishing to apply to attend Classen SAS must complete the application process. Tours for interested new applicants will be held Monday, **January 23, 2017** at 4:00 and 5:30. Current students that are interested in conducting tours with interested applicants, please stop by the main office. Incoming 6th grade testing will be **January 28, 2017** at 8:15 AM. Auditions are **February 10, 2017.**

The cafeteria design contest had some fantastic entries! All were great, and will even work well together. Four students will have their ideas incorporated into a design working with Ms. Rodriguez! Congratulations Evelin Alvarado, Ariana Weir, Claire Holloway and Aleisha Doan!

The new fencing began being installed Friday. These fences will help provide safety for our students while on campus behind the school and moving between the main building and the annex.

Study Hall is here! Many students have enrolled and all are welcome. The cost is $30 for second semester. Students are able to do their homework, seek help from teachers or even other students in the room that may be able to assist. All students may eat breakfast for free! **Students that are not in study hall can arrive at campus at 8:50 AM.**

Many students are being dropped off at school that are not reporting to study hall. Remember, students can only be on campus early if attending study hall. All other students may begin arriving at 8:50 AM. PLEASE drop off students on Ellison, in front of the school. Dropping off students in the parking lot has resulted in many “near misses”. **For the safety of our students, please drop off in the designated area.**

We are still having incidents of students having lunch delivered to the school using an APP. We are seeking to allow students more freedom and be outside more, and are asking for parental support to stop the delivery of food from strangers to our campus. Parents delivering any food should report to the main office and not ask their student to meet them outside. **This is a safety issue**. It is critical that we maintain as many safety precautions as possible.

Parent volunteers are sought to hang bulletin boards at school!

School Report Cards have been released by the state. CSAS is actually 2 schools: CSAS Middle and CSAS High.

Classen SAS High School is an A+ with a score of 100!

Classen SAS Middle School is an A- with a score of 90!

We have work to complete to maintain those scores. We are in the process of identifying our bottom 25% of student scores in measured areas to work with those students to improve their scores. As a bragging point…..we have students that scored “Advanced” in the bottom 25%! If your student scored well and is assigned to a study group you will know that we have to work to maintain the A’s. More information will be coming. Changes to some students advisories did occur in January.

**School Goals**

1. Improve attendance and reduce tardies.
   1. Did you know that attendance is a factor in our school report card? Research shows that attendance in class greatly impacts student success.
   2. Attendance is calculated for middle and high school.
      1. See attendance table at the end of this newsletter.
2. Promote a clean campus.
   1. The art department has created and hung posters promoting cleanliness on our campus. Students have been doing a wonderful job being aware of the campus and taking ownership in keeping it clean.
3. Improve dress code compliance.
   1. Please assist the school to improve our compliance with dress code. The district has allowed Classen SAS to have a dress code and not a uniform. Please make sure to send your student to school in the appropriate attire. The school dress code can be found on the website.
4. Improve student support systems.
   1. Advisory has been implemented this school year. It serves several purposes:
      1. Announcements are delivered during advisory to protect instructional time during first period.
      2. Counselors are able to meet with groups of students during this time to not interrupt instructional time.
      3. No classes are being held during the lunch/advisory or advisory/lunch hour so that no classes are interrupted.
      4. Grade level specific instruction or information may be delivered to students during this time.
5. Appreciate staff, students, parents and patrons.
   1. Thank you to PTSA for providing monthly treats to the staff!
   2. PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) is being implemented this school year. It impacts all of our goals as we are making attempts to provide positive reinforcement to students making good choices.
      1. Students in dress code were given random Taco Bell certificates.
      2. This is a continuous process and the school welcomes parental suggestion for rewards when students are “caught doing the right thing”.
      3. Parent volunteers are sought to hang bulletin boards to display success data.
6. Artistic and Academic Excellence are the norm.
   1. Excellence is our day to day expectation. Our students are amazingly talented people that we celebrate and push to continue their path toward artistic and academic excellence.
   2. Student Engagement is our school practice where we are placing focus. Please ask your student how they are engaging in classes.
   3. Small focus groups are being created to assist students that may need help to improve standardized test scores.

**Weekly Calendar**

**Monday 1/23/17**

Middle School basketball @ Rogers

9th Grade basketball (home)

Applicant Tours

**Tuesday 1/24/17**

High School basketball (home)

Senior Class STUCO meeting 8:30 am room A207

Circle the State with Song Rehearsal 8am Ms. Wheeler’s room

**Wednesday 1/25/17**

Circle the State with Song Rehearsal 8am Ms. Wheeler’s room

**Thursday 1/26/17**

Middle School basketball @ Roosevelt

Circle the State with Song Rehearsal 8am Ms. Wheeler’s room

Chess Club in the Library 4pm-5pm

**Friday 1/27/17**

High School basketball (Homecoming)

Pep Rally at school

Saturday 1/28/17

High School basketball @ Carl Albert

6th Grade applicant testing