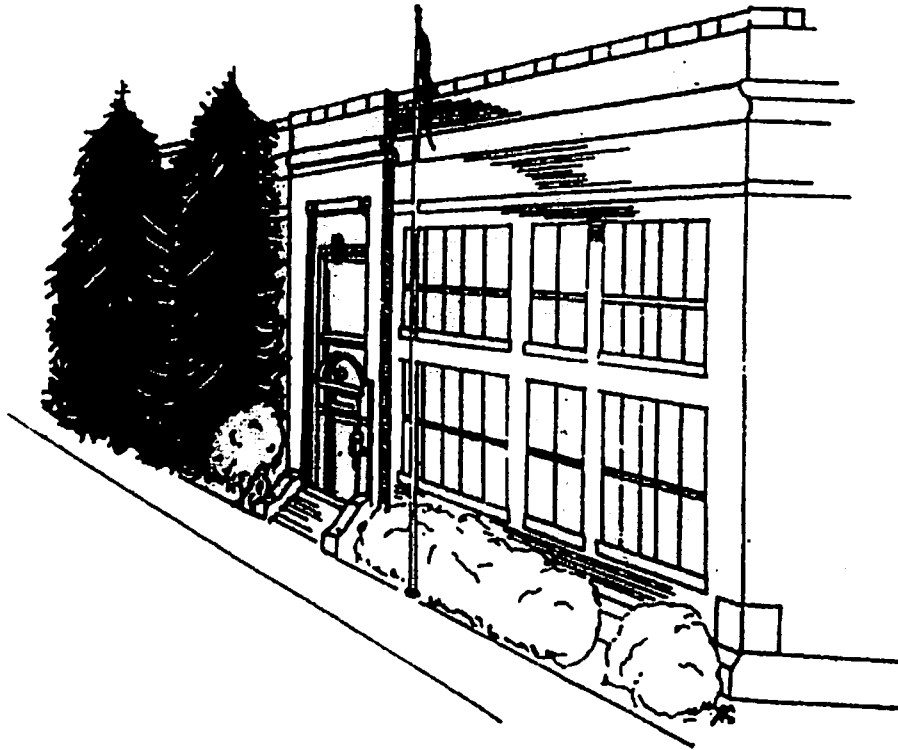


BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL



EIGHTH GRADE PARENTS' MEETING

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010

7:00 p.m.

**BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL
Eighth Grade Parents' Night**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2010
Butler High School Auditorium - 7:00 P.M.**

PROGRAM

1. Welcome - William A. Hanisch, Principal
2. Attendance/Discipline - Mr. John Vogel, Asst. Principal
3. Athletic Program - Mr. Jamie Manco, Athletic Director
4. Graduation Requirements - Mr. William A. Hanisch
5. Student Support Services - Mr. William A. Hanisch
6. Curriculum - Guidance Counselors, Mrs. Patricia Buntzen,
Ms. Julia Placko and Mrs. Sue Maurer
7. Question/Answer Session
8. Tour of School

REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

One hundred forty (140) credits are required for graduation from Butler High School. They must include the following subjects in grades nine through twelve.

- a) Four credit years of English.
- b) Three credit-years of computation.
- c) Three credit-years of Social Studies containing one credit-year of World History and two credit-years of American History.
- d) Three credit-years of natural or physical science.
- e) One credit-year of physical education and health for each year of enrollment.
- f) One credit-year of world languages.
- g) One credit-year of each of the following programs of study:
 - 1. Fine/Performing Arts
 - 2. Practical Arts
- h) One-half credit - year of Personal Finance

In order to graduate, a student must successfully pass the High School Proficiency Assessment in Language Arts, Computation Skills or other New Jersey State Designated Test. If a student fails one or more of these tests, he/she will be provided remediation and multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of the failed proficiency(s).

It is anticipated that students will also be required to pass a Biology EOC and Algebra I EOC Exam.

**BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL
INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS TEAMS**

FALL

Football (Varsity, J.V., Frosh)	Head Coach - Mr. Matsakis
Field Hockey (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Ms. Allison
Cross Country (Varsity) (Co-ed)	Head Coach - Mr. Flynn
Gymnastics (Varsity)	Head Coach - Mrs. Simoneau
Boys Soccer (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. Lakawicz
Girls Soccer (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. Duchensky

WINTER

Boys Basketball (Varsity, J.V., Frosh)	Head Coach - Mr. Simoneau
Girls Basketball (Varsity, J.V., Frosh)	Head Coach - Mr. Luciani
Wrestling (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. O'Shea
Bowling (Varsity, J.V.) (Co-ed)	Head Coach - Mr. Duchensky
Indoor Track (V., J.V.) (Co-ed)	Head Coach - Mr. Flynn
Fencing (Co-Ed Club)	Head Coach - Mrs. Pearce

SPRING

Baseball (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. White
Softball (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mrs. Marion
Girls Track (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. Guy
Boys Track (Varsity, J.V.)	Head Coach - Mr. Lomoriello
Boys/Girls Golf Varsity	Head Coach - Mr. Flynn

CHEERLEADERS

Football (Varsity)	Advisor - Mrs. Pizzano
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MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY

NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED TO

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>FIRST SEMESTER</u>	<u>SECOND SEMESTER</u>
2008-2009	9th Grade	*00	13.75
	10th Grade	27.5	13.75
	11th Grade	27.5	13.75
	12th Grade	27.5	13.75

*No credit requirements for incoming students from grammar school (8th grade)

**SOME OF THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
YOUR CHILD CAN JOIN AT
BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL**

Jerseymen

The Butler Jerseymen is a history and public affairs club. The members engage in a variety of activities. The organization is open to all students, freshmen through seniors. Interested students may come to a scheduled meeting or see Ms. Mueller.

Peer

The Butler Peer organization is a service organization designed to help other students with problems and provide information on current topics of interest. They run such functions as the new student reception and the freshman midterm review. Students who are interested in peer must submit an application in the spring of the year. Selections for peer are made in the spring following review of applications and personal interviews. Announcements will be made when applications are being handed out. The advisor is Mrs. Hoeflinger.

Key Club

Key Club is an internationally recognized service club. Any student, grades 9 - 12, is invited to be a member. Service includes planting flowers, selling lollipops, Make-A-Wish Foundation and nursing home visitations. Please see Ms. Ricca.

Yearbook

The 2010 Nugget Yearbook staff is in need of dedicated writers, proofreaders, artists, photographers and layout staff. Students who are not enrolled in the Yearbook class should see Ms. Mazzolani in the beginning of the year for further information about joining the staff.

Yearbook Business Staff

The Business Staff of the Yearbook is responsible for yearbook sales, the baby ads section, and the commercial ads section of the yearbook. We work with a small staff of five or six. The sales staff is responsible for selling yearbooks, the names that appear on the books, plastic covers, and yearbook distribution. The baby ads staff of the yearbook sells baby ads to the parents of the seniors and completes all layouts of this section. The staff sells ads to all the businesses in the community and completes all layouts of this section. See Mr. Macho if interested.

Student Council

Student Council is an organization whose primary design is to function as a coordinating unit between the school administration and the student body. The Student Council is responsible for running all dances, spirit week activities, holiday fundraisers, and the snack stand at the home football games. Student Council positions can either be elected or selected from each of the four classes at the high school. Please see Mrs. Fatzer or Ms. Tasker.

Drama Club

The Butler High School Drama Club meets after school. Yearly activities and trips are planned such as: The Annual Variety Show, which gives students an opportunity to showcase their talents in dance, voice, instrumental, gymnastics and more! Trips are planned to Broadway Shows!! Mrs. Abdelsalam is the advisor.

Prom Committee

Prom Committee meets every week to plan the annual Tricky Tray, which will be held in December to raise funds for the Junior/Senior Prom. The committee meets for the entire year to plan and organize an unbelievable and memorable event for all. Please see Mrs. Abdelsalam.

Vocal Music

All the areas of vocal music are Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Girls' Ensemble and Good-As-Gold. With the exception of Good-As-Gold, all the groups meet during the school day. All of the groups perform at our school concerts (minimum of three a year). Good-As-Gold is the "travel" group, which performs at the extra-curricular events. Good-As-Gold is by audition only, whereas the other vocal groups are open to everyone. Please see Mrs. Bocchino.

Marching Band

The Marching Band is open to all students grades 9 - 12 who take the Band class. Marching Band is an extension of the class by being a performing ensemble which participates at varsity football games, band competitions and parades. Basic marching and general musicianship is learned through after school and weekend rehearsals. Please see Mr. Dave Bychek.

Spring Musical

Announcements will be made for auditions and for joining stage crew at a later date.

Fall Drama

Mr. Dilts is the advisor for the Fall Drama production. Announcements will be made for auditions and for joining stage crew at a later date.

Audio Visual Club

The AV Club films both high school and local community events. They are also responsible for the programming of the Butler AV Channel. If interested, please see Mrs. Cathy Drexler.

Stage Crew

Stage Crew works with both the fall and spring student productions in the high school. They are responsible for putting together the scenery and all other staging including lighting for these productions. They also work with various community groups. If interested, please see Mrs. Cathy Drexler.

Environmental Alliance

The Environmental Alliance is implementing school-wide recycling as well as working with the community to clean up and beautify. If interested in joining, please see Mrs. Joann Roman.

PLANNING CALENDAR

The calendar which appears below is designed to give you general guidelines to follow as the normal progression through high school is made. It is strongly recommended that all students read this section very carefully and keep it for future reference.

FRESHMAN-SOPHOMORE CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

1. Review your schedule; make certain that you have been scheduled for all the courses which you requested last spring.
2. If you plan to attend college; pay strict attention to the accumulation of college units.
3. Study your student handbook; learn the rules of Butler High School.
4. Begin a program of outside reading.
5. Begin to develop long range goals.

OCTOBER

1. Visit your Guidance Counselor to learn about the services provided by the Guidance Department.
2. Sophomores - register for the PSAT

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

1. Interims - October
2. Start investigation career information available in the Guidance Office and the Career Resource Center.
3. Apply for a Social Security card if you don't already have one. Most colleges, career schools and employment applications require this information. You should know your Social Security number!
4. Keep your grades up! Colleges and career schools are interested in people who have performed well during all four years of high school.
5. Get involved in a school or community activity, volunteer service, etc.
6. Report card - November; Interim - December.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY

1. Plan your program for next year; meet with your counselor to select courses (your parents are welcome to attend this meeting).
2. Prepare for mid-year exams. They represent one-tenth of your final grade in a full year course.
3. If you are college bound, think of taking a typing or word processing course.
4. Report card - February

JANUARY - APRIL

1. Encourage your parents to investigate the programs available for financial planning for your anticipated education.
2. Begin talking seriously with your parents regarding your plans for the future - both career and educational.
3. Interims - March
4. Begin a serious review for the PSAT which are administered in the sophomore and junior years. Buy a review book to work from over the summer. Keep up your outside reading program.

MAY - JUNE

1. Interims - May
2. Evaluate your academic performance for the past school year, asking yourself what can be done to improve your academic performance in the next school year. Summer programs are available.

JUNE

1. Prepare for final examinations. Remember, they count toward your final grade. Review your credits and college units.
2. Make up any academic deficiencies in summer school. Do it now! Get it out of the way!
2. Continue your reading program over the summer. Book lists are available from the English Department.
4. Check your schedule for next year.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

You will be assigned a guidance counselor who shall be with you through the four years of high school. The counselor/student assignments are usually made through alphabetical distribution by the student's last name.

Your counselor can assist you in a variety of ways. Whether you have a question or a problem about school, or about a job, or about college, or whatever it is, your counselor is there to help you.

If you wish to talk to your counselor, you may visit during your study hall, or you may request a conference with him or her at a later date. If the counselor is unavailable, the conference can be made by leaving a message with one of the secretaries in the guidance office. You will receive an "appointment slip" the next day during homeroom period.

You are encouraged to visit your counselor whenever you have a concern - your counselor is there for your benefit. Make use of their expertise and willingness to help.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Student Assistance Program is designed to help teens, parents, and the school better deal with the issues of adolescents. The array of decisions that our young adults face often makes their lives complicated and vulnerable. The Student Assistance Program promotes better health choices and addresses concerns about drug and alcohol use. Closely related are the problems surrounding peer pressure, personal relationships, communication skills, and self-esteem issues. The Student Assistance specialists are available for students and their parents to discuss any of these topics.

ATTENDANCE

Absence from school jeopardizes the ability of a pupil to complete satisfactorily the prescribed course of study and violates the statutes requiring children to regularly attend school (NJSA 18A: 38.25-26-27). The Board accepts the responsibility of properly operating school within the context of prevailing laws and regulations. It cannot succeed in its paramount task of providing an education as proposed through accepted curriculums and courses of study unless the pupils for which it is intended are present for all regularly scheduled classroom learning activities. Poor attendance limits accomplishments and reinforces a habit which will handicap the individual in future education or employment. Consequently, there is an impelling responsibility upon the parents and pupil for the student to attend school as scheduled. Therefore, the Butler Board of Education cannot condone or permit excessive absences from school and will not issue credit if maximum pupil attendance is not accomplished.

ABSENCE VERIFICATION

When a student is absent, the parent should call the Assistant Principal's Office the day the absence occurs. The telephone number is 973-492-2000, extension 2, and then dial 600. Calls can be made at any time. A signed excuse is necessary upon the student's return to school. The note should define clearly the student's name, the date absent, and the reason for being absent. Notes shall be given to the Attendance Office. Excuse notes will not be accepted after five days. If the student does not have a note, the student will be considered truant and receive a zero in all his/her classes for each day of absence. Absence should be for valid reasons only. Continued absence without medical or legal necessity could result in failure or loss of credit.

Any student absent because of school sponsored activities shall not be considered absent for this policy while participating in the school sponsored activity.

Any absence because of extended illness shall be listed as bedside instruction. Pupils properly assigned shall be placed in a specific attendance register and will be considered in attendance. Bedside instruction status shall be instituted through procedures currently operable.

Parents with unlisted telephone numbers should give these to the school. Their confidentiality will be respected, but they are vital in case of emergency.

Students will be allowed sixteen (16) unexcused absences for the year. The seventeenth (17th) unexcused absence will result in loss of credit for that school year. Warning letters are sent at intervals of 4, 8, 12 and 16 days. A Loss of credit letter is sent for the seventeenth (17th) absence.

The difference between excused and unexcused absence

A parent note *does not* excuse absences if merely acknowledges that the parent was aware of the student's absence and was not truant.

A record of the specific dates of absences from school should be maintained by the parent or guardian. The Attendance Office policy is to not supply these dates. Excused absences are as follows:

- Medical excuses (must be presented to the Attendance Office within 10 days of the date(s) to be excused).
- Death in the family
- Approved religious holidays
- Suspension from school
- Court subpoena
- Excuses approved by the administration

Please note that Vacation days are not considered excused absences unless approved in advance by the Administration.

MAKE-UP WORK MISSED DUE TO ABSENCE

Pupils are provided an opportunity to complete assignments missed because of their absences. However, it would be unwise to believe that one can make up the learning activity of a total class section.

1. Students are allowed one day for each day absent to make up work. Responsibility for arranging make up work lies with the student.
Assignments given prior to an absence are due upon return to school.
2. Students may complete assignments for time missed because of actions initiated by school authorities, i.e. out-of-school suspension, exclusion, etc.
3. Students who are truant of cutting class will be issued zeros for work missed.

TARDY

Students who are tardy to school must report to the Assistant Principal's Office with a note regardless of the time of arrival. Students who miss more than FOUR periods of their scheduled classes will be counted absent for the entire day. Vo-Tech students and Work Study students who miss more than TWO periods will be marked absent for the entire day. Any student reporting late to school will be disciplined according to the following:

1st late = warning 2nd & 3rd late = 1 detention (excused with parent note) 4th late = 2 detentions, one of which may be excused with parent note.

Excused tardiness without consequence include the following:
doctor's note, religious holiday, DMV, or those approved by Administration.

THE PASSPORT

Anytime a student wishes to leave a room while school is in session, he/she must have his/her PASSPORT. The PASSPORT must include the date, destination, time of departure and the teacher's signature in ink.

PASSES

Passes to the Guidance Office will be distributed to students upon request from their counselor. Students are to obtain these passes in the morning prior to the homeroom period. If a student wishes to see a teacher, the student must make prior arrangements to receive a pass from said teacher in order to be excused from study hall. Teachers are not to issue passes to the Guidance Office. Students not in possession of their PASSPORT when out of class will be subject to disciplinary action.

LATE (to class)

Four minutes passing time is provided for students between class periods.

The orderly conduct of class activity is predicated upon the prompt and precise beginning of the program. Lateness hinders the proper conduct of such activity, imposes a distraction which leads to a loss of instruction time for pupils properly in attendance, and denotes school time loss by the pupil. Students more than 20 minutes late to class will be considered absent from that class.

Students who arrive after the bell are considered late to class. When a student is late to class, a pass is always necessary. The student must report to the Assistant Principal's Office to secure an "admit to class" pass even if a pass has been issued by a staff member.

PERSONAL BUSINESS

Personal business is expected to take place after the school day has ended.

NOTICE OF ABSENCE

It may be necessary for you to pick up your child before the end of the school day. All requests for early dismissal from school must be accompanied by a signed note from the student's parent. These requests must be confirmed through the Assistant Principal's Office before such requests will be honored. Reasons for notice of absence include medical appointments, death in the family, approved religious holidays and court appearances.

Sign Out Procedures

The administration must undertake great care and concern for security, safety and well being of the students in our care; therefore, your cooperation and understanding regarding the following regulations is greatly appreciated.

1. The Attendance Office requires a written signed request from you when your child comes to school in the morning before 8:00 a.m.
2. In the event of some crisis or emergency, a phone call to us will expedite the matter.
3. In all cases the parent or guardian must present herself or himself at the Attendance Office. We will not release the children to wait outside.
4. Children will meet you in the Attendance Office. Parents or guardians are not, under any circumstances, to go to the student's classroom and take his/her child from class.
5. If no one in the Attendance Office knows you, then we will require you to present proof of identification, specifically a valid driver's license. We simply must know, in fact, that you are the parent or guardian.

6. You are required to sign the child out, including date, time, child's name, reason, and your signature. The responsibility may be met at any time prior to the student leaving school.

7. We will not release your child to anyone other than parent or guardian. A neighbor or relative may pick up your child only after we call you and verify their identity.

8. Under no circumstances will a child be released if the child does not identify and recognize the person who is there to pick up the child.

TRUANCY

Truancy is against the law, and cutting an individual class is merely being truant for one class rather than the entire day. Students who are truant, face immediate disciplinary action, including the possibility of suspension, parent conference, and court appearance. The referral to court can be at a local court, with the parent held liable, and facing a possible fine, or a referral to a juvenile court agency at the county level, with the possibility of similar penalties plus involvement with county probation officials. Students who are truant or who cut a class automatically receive a zero for that particular class they have cut, or the day they have been truant.

CUTTING CLASS

Any student cutting class will be referred to the Assistant Principal. All cut slips will be checked and the appropriate disposition will be made by the administration. A zero will be recorded for this unexcused absence in the event that the entire class was graded for a specific activity.

LOSS OF COURSE CREDIT

A student accumulating more than sixteen days of absences in the school year WILL NOT BE GRANTED CREDIT FOR THE YEAR. In addition, students accumulating more than 16 unexcused absences from a particular class WILL NOT BE GRANTED CREDIT FOR THAT COURSE. (1/4 AND Semester courses allow just four and eight absences respectively). Parents and students will be notified by letter of cumulative absences from school and class in four day increments (4,8,12,16) and will be notified of class absences through the quarterly report card.

This is not a permissive policy establishing or licensing a limit which may be missed with no harm, but rather assumes absences will occur for personal illness, religious observance days, serious personal or family problems, and professional appointments which cannot be scheduled in non-school times. It is recognized that certain extreme and unavoidable circumstances may prevent a student from attending school. Appeal for review of non-credit status is provided for in the following section.

APPEALS FOR LOSS OF CREDIT

Appeal Process for Reinstatement of Credit

- a. Committee: The Attendance Review Committee, comprised of the Assistant Principal, a designated guidance counselor, the nurse, and two designated teachers will hear appeals of the denial of credit.
- b. Procedure:
 1. The appeal should be made in writing to the Principal within five (5) school days of notification of credit loss.
 2. The pupil and parent/guardian will meet with the Attendance Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing their attendance record and to present any further information relative to absences. This meeting should take place within five (5) school days of the receipt of the request for appeal.
 3. The Attendance Review Committee will review all pertinent information and will render a decision within two (2) school days of the hearing as to whether or not credit will be denied for each course or courses. Both pupil and parent will be notified in writing within five (5) school days of the results.
 4. The decision of the Attendance Review Committee may be further appealed (each within five (5) days of the notification of the respective decision) to the following, in this order:
 - I. Principal
 - II. Superintendent
 - III. Board of Education
 - IV. Commissioner of Education