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CLASSICAL
High School



NEWSLETTER
2008-2009
November 21

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I am excited to write about Herron High School students' continuous involvement in the arts. Just this week, the Herron High School Concert Choir had an opportunity to show off all of their hard work. The concert choir performed during halftime at the Indianapolis Pacers' Game Tuesday evening. Many of our parents and staff sat in the crowd and cheered on the concert choir, which always exceeds our expectations. Mr. Jonathan Harris directs the concert choir. If you missed out on this wonderful performance, please read about our choir's upcoming concerts. Come and celebrate music alongside us!

The ability to appreciate art is something we encourage in all of our students by introducing them to various artistic forms, whether that be theatre, music, fine arts, and so forth. Thus, on

November 7th, our 11th grade students traveled downtown to the Indiana Repertory Theatre to view a modern performance of *Macbeth*. The IRT, as part of the *Shakespeare for a New Generation* national theatre initiative and with funding through the National Endowment for the Arts, has a tradition of producing very high-quality Shakespearean performances. Mr. Greg Lineweaver, our 11th grade English teacher, adds his own account of the performance and student response below.



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Janet H. McNeal
Principal

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE MACBETH

“That was tight, but what was up with those rock star witches?” exclaimed a student. In keeping with Herron’s ever-increasing commitment to provide students with opportunities to explore culturally and artistically-relevant academic experiences in our community, our 11th grade students attended a performance of *Macbeth* at the nationally-recognized Indiana Repertory Theatre. Herron High School’s English 11 and AP Language and Composition classes have recently revolved around this IRT production. Since attending the performance, 11th grade students have engaged in a careful follow-up reading and study of the play. Students had strong responses to the IRT’s production, but what has been even more exciting is encouraging and listening to their informed critique as they continually explore the differences between Shakespeare’s original text and the IRT’s modernized adaptation.

UPCOMING CHOIR CONCERTS

The Herron High School Concert Choir will be performing their Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 11th, 6:00 p.m. at Redeemer Presbyterian Church. We welcome all Herron High School families and friends to join us for this Holiday celebration!

In addition, we are delighted to announce that our concert choir has the opportunity to sing with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. This concert will take place on Saturday, December 6th, 8:00 p.m. at Saint Peter’s Saint Paul. There is a minimal fee of \$5 for students and \$20 for adults. All fees go to the Symphonic Choir, as they are hosting the event and Herron’s choir is an honored guest.

(An important reminder for all Concert Choir families: there will be a mandatory rehearsal on Saturday, December 6th from 12 noon until 3 p.m.)

COMMUNITY SERVICE – CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Herron High School’s community service club is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive. This season, all of our city’s food banks are reporting a record number of Indianapolis citizens needing food. Those who run the food banks are worried there will not be enough food for all those who desperately need assistance.

Please encourage your student to ask neighbors and family members to donate canned goods. It is so important that our students realize the value of community service, and this year it is even more important to reach out to others.

Bernardin's last day was November 14, 2008. Mr. Bernardin has worked tirelessly to manage our school's data. Josh has decided to devote his full attention to his own education. We will miss him, and we appreciate all he has done for us. We will always consider him part of the Herron High School family. Ms. Cynthia Browning has assumed the Data Specialist's position; we happily welcome Ms. Browning!

BOOK RENTAL FEES

We want to notify our parents/guardians that all textbook rental and lab fees were mailed to your home last week. For those who received an additional letter about last year's unpaid fees, the 2008-09 textbook rental and lab fee "Total Due" includes that balance as well. **Please pay all fees by December 12th.** Contact Katie White, HHS Business Manager, with any questions: 317.231.0010 or kwhite@herronhighschool.org.

CHEERLEADING TEAM CALL-OUT

There will be a call-out for all Herron High School students interested in joining a cheerleading team next Tuesday, November 25th in Mrs. Dorsey's room (Rm. 120). The call-out will take place immediately following school's dismissal and will be hosted by Denitra Lockhart, a proud parent of two Herron High School students. For further details or information, please contact Mrs. Lockhart at denitrasong@aol.com.

HERRON HIGH SCHOOL REINFORCES DRESS CODE POLICY

Herron High School's administration and faculty have developed a revised disciplinary policy for dress code infractions. As a school, we believe our dress code policy creates the most appropriate and effective environment for students to learn.

Our administration and faculty has and will continue to enforce the following disciplinary steps:

- 1) For the first dress code violation, a student will receive a detention
 - 2) For the second violation, an additional detention
 - 3) For the third violation, a Saturday School
 - 4) For the fourth violation, a Discipline Hearing
- If a student does not fix a dress code violation that can be immediately addressed, such as sagging pants, he or she may receive multiple detentions in one day for the repeated violations.
 - For violations that cannot be addressed immediately, one detention will be issued, but the student is responsible for returning to school the following school day having properly addressed the violation. Examples include no ID or wearing cargo pants to school.
 - Violations of dress code are cumulative, meaning that a student could end up at a discipline hearing for not having an ID, then wearing cargo pants, then having a hat on in the school, etc. The escalation of policy is not limited to repeated instances of a particular dress code violation.
 - Our Assistant Principal, Dr. Cooney, collects and records every detentions. An administrator will assign a Saturday School when he or she sees a student with more than

o has already received detentions and still has not
for dress.

school, is a Discipline Hearing. The point of the Discipline
hearing is to determine, with students and their parents, an appropriate punishment or
consequence after all other steps have been taken.

- Students are accountable to every administrator and faculty member in the school, not
just to their specific teachers.

We appreciate the support of our parents/guardians in this joint effort!

HHS CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE: STREET SAFETY

The Herron High School Crisis Response Team works to insure the safety of our students,
faculty, and staff.

One of our HHS Crises Response team members is an officer with IMPD. At our last meeting, he
said that the risk of a student being hit and severely injured on Pennsylvania Street is incredibly
high. "I've seen the kids run across the street when you tell them not to, and I've clocked the
speed of cars trying to make the light at the corner," he said. "It's a recipe for disaster and you
need know that it will happen."

We try to tell the students to cross at the corner with the light rather than go out into traffic to get
into a car on Pennsylvania Street. Often, however, we are not heard. Herron High School faculty
and staff try to prevent students from running into the street, but we simply cannot be there to see
and stop everyone.

We need students to think about their own safety, and we need parents to encourage them to
think about their safety! Parents, you can help by not pulling up along the curb on Pennsylvania
Street.

Let's work together to prevent harm to any student at Herron High School.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS OPPORTUNITY: RED CROSS COURSE

If you would like to take the Red Cross course for First Aid/CPR/AED adult & child/Bloodborne
Pathogens, we are opening to this course to Herron High School parents/guardians. The class will take
place at Herron High School on December 13th from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lunch will not be provided,
so please bring a sack lunch. The cost for the course will be \$15.00; if you choose to purchase your own
books, there will be an additional cost of \$18.00. If you are interested please contact Rita Dennis, the
Herron High School Safety Specialist, as soon as possible. Mrs. Dennis can be reached at 317.231.0010
or rdennis@herronhighschool.org. *This is a great opportunity at a great price for our school families!*

BOARD MEETINGS

Our board meetings take place in Herron High School's library at 7:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of every
month. Thus, our next meeting will be on December 15, 2008. These meetings are open to the public.