Print

parents pass THE word

FRIENDS OF PAYTON

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR WALTER PAYTON COLLEGE PREP PARENTS

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WPCP Sports Schedule

Payton Image Gallery

April/May Calendar

4/1-2: Freshman Registration - See website for information.
4/02: FOP Meeting - 6 PM - Literacy Center
4/03: Seminar Day - Half Day
4/04: International Night - 5PM-9PM WPCP
4/05: Payton Auction - 6:30 - Alhambra Palace Restaurant
4/08: CPS Choir Contest
4/11: No School: End of 3rd Quarter/Professional Development Day
4/14: Japanese Exchange Pancake Dinner & Fundraiser - 6PM, Cafeteria
4/16: No School: Report Card Pick-Up, LSC Elections and AP Fair: WPCP 12 PM-6 PM
4/18: Payton 2008 Student Talent Show - 6PM
4/23: Local School Council - 6 PM - Literacy Center
4/23-24: PSAE (ACT & Work Keys) Junior Testing at Payton
4/23-24: No School - Freshman, Sophomore and Seniors
4/24: Sophomore Parent College Planning Workshop - 6PM Literacy Center
4/25: All Night Dance-A-Thon 7PM-7AM WPCP
4/30: Jazz Orchestra Performing at the Museum of Science and Industry's 75th Anniversary

5/01: Seminar Day - Half Day
5/01: FOP Roundtable: Drugs and Alcohol - 7PM-8:30PM
5/02: Spring Dance: 6PM, Atrium
5/07: FOP Meeting: 6PM, Literacy Center
5/08: Seminar Day - Half Day
5/09: Annual Battle of the Bands - 6PM- 9PM
5/12: Progress Reports Mailed
5/15: Seminar Day - Half Day
5/16: Spring Band Concert - 7PM Recital Hall
5/17: Empty Bowl Project & Fundraiser - 5PM-8PM Atrium
5/21: Local School Council Meeting - 6PM Literacy Center
5/22: Seminar Presentation Day - Half Day
5/22: Spring Choral Concert - 7PM Recital Hall
5/26: No School - Memorial Day
5/27-28: Senior Final Exams

Check out what's going on around Payton at

Gallery 34

Student Directory

Parents, your student will be receiving the 07/08 Student Directory this month. It will not be mailed home, but will be given to him/her during Advisory. Sorry for the delay (due to the September system crash of the website) and thank you for your patience!

Payton 2008 Talent Show!

The Payton 2008 Talent Show will be held on April 18th at 6PM!

Come see all that Payton students have to offer!

Student Council needs parent chaperones for this event! Please contact Paytonstudentcouncil@yahoo.com for details.

Payton Parent Book Club

5/30: Prom: Westin Hotel - 320 N. Dearborn

ACT/SAT Testing

4/01: Registration deadline for 5/3 SAT Exam
4/12: ACT Exam
4/23-24: **PSAE (ACT & Work Keys) Junior Testing at Payton**
5/03: SAT Exam
5/06: Registration deadline for 6/7 SAT Exam
5/09: Registration deadline for 6/14 ACT Exam

In January, Walter Payton teachers began offering Act Review sessions on Mondays from 3:00p.m. - 5:15p.m. The Monday classes focus on a specific subject area for each meeting. Students may sign up in the counseling department for a particular session. Following is the remaining schedule for the program:

English/Reading: 4/7
Math: 4/14

More information can be found on the College page of the WPCP website: click here.

For more information on the ACT/SATs, contact your child's counselor or Mike Hermes, Asst. Principal. You may register on-line for the ACT Exam at www.act.org and for the SAT Exam at www.collegeboard.com.

Paper registration forms are available in the Guidance Office from 8AM - 1PM.

An Important Message from the Principal

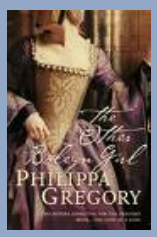
I can only imagine how shocked and dismayed our community must feel after the news of the arrest of our former coach. At Payton, or any other school, where the mission is to nurture the young minds in our charge, it seems inconceivable that such an incident could possibly occur.

This event is painful and challenging for every member of our community, in particular for the students. We are providing counseling and additional resources for students and staff. Our crisis intervention team is available to care for anyone requiring support.

Due process must prevail during this course of action and the rights, privacy and confidentiality of the individuals involved must be protected. We will stand together and draw upon the values

Come Join Us!

The April book selection will be **The Other Boleyn Girl, by Philippa Gregory.**



The April meeting will take place Thursday, 4/17, at 7PM at Eileen Murphy's house, 841 Junior Terrace Chicago, Il 60613

The May book selection will be **Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.**

The May meeting will be held Thursday, May 15, at 7PM at Eileen Murphy's house (address above.)

All Payton parents are welcome to attend. Please contact Eileen Murphy, gudmurph@netscape.net or Cheron Stern at sternarch1@sbcglobal.net with questions and to get directions. Or you may call Eileen at 312-282-1559.

Join Our Mailing List!

Mark Your Calendar

save the date

Graduation 2008
Friday, June 6th
The Moody Church

CPS/Payton Alumni Website

that are deeply imbedded in our Payton community: Courage, Character, and Compassion. While this is a difficult moment in our journey, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our students' continued well-being and achievement.

Ellen Estrada - Principal

It's not too late to Alhambra!

We need your support!
You need a fun night out!
Saturday, April 5th

To RSVP contact Jo Ann Potashnick, H:773.883.4441, F:773.883.9885, jarp@rcn.com.

Mark your calendar for...

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT!

Friday, April 4th, 5-9PM
Payton Atrium

Bring the whole family to the cultural event of the spring! It's Payton's very own "International Night." The students in the cultural clubs have been hard at work planning a special evening for you.

To enrich cultural awareness and appreciation within the Payton community, the clubs will offer a vast array of cuisine and entertainment. The event will include a fashion show, Latin, Indian and Asian dance performances, musical performances and a short play, "Esther," performed by the Jewish Student Union.

Food booths will feature Indian, Mexican, Chinese and other types of International cuisine.

Admission is $3. Food tickets are 50¢ each. Funds raised will be

Did you know that there are over 3 million living CPS alumni? Click on the following link to register and find old friends!

CPS/Payton Alumni

Please Note:

Principal Ellen Estrada has a new e-mail.

ecestrada@cps.edu

Service Learning Opportunities

The Service Learning section of the WPCP website is now operational.

It has been updated to include an extensive month-by-month list of Service Learning Opportunities available to your student.

Please use the links below to find out more about specific opportunities and service learning graduation requirements.

Service Learning Graduation Requirements

Service Learning Calendar

If you know of any additional service learning opportunities for Payton students, please contact us at friendsofpayton@gmail.com.

distributed to the participating clubs in support of their ventures.

34% of Payton Students Travel in 2007-2008!

Students returned safely from China, Ecuador, France, Hungary, Italy and Switzerland this past month of March, as well as several other individual destinations. Many more will be traveling to China, Japan and Mexico later this year. We are proud of all of Payton's global ambassadors.

Upcoming Trips:

Japanese language: 16 students are traveling to Japan on June 7th.
Chinese language: 15 students are traveling to China on June 12th.
Spanish language: 12 students are traveling to Oaxaca in June.

Teens and Substance Abuse: Information and Aid

Thursday, May 1, 7-8:30PM
Literacy Center

Please join us for the third and final Friends of Payton Parent Roundtable evening. These informal sessions provide an opportunity for parents to share valuable information to help us help our students.

This Roundtable will feature the latest facts on adolescent substance abuse and provide practical advice for parents to help their teens deal with the pressures involving alcohol and drugs. Our speaker for this series will be Payton parent, Dr. Marla Kushner, family physician and Medical Director for Hazelden Chicago. Joining Marla will be her colleague Kelly Dinsmore, National Outreach Manager for Hazelden Recovery Services.

There will be plenty of time to ask questions.

Questions about the Roundtables?
Contact Connie Williams, parent of Aramide and Ebun Tinubu, by email at connie9@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 773-383-1951, or contact Lori Cole, parent of Ian Cole, by email at lorid.cole@comcast.net or by phone at 773-975-4023.

How to Submit Articles

Please send us current Payton news to share with other parents. Follow these guidelines when sending your stories:

Less is more. 200 words or less works best in an e-newsletter. If that's not enough room to tell the whole story, include a phone number, email address, or Web link for more info.

Send text as a Word attachment or type it into the body of your email.

Include a picture or two if you have them; send pictures as .jpg attachments, not embedded in a Word document.

All submissions are due the 25th of the prior month.

Send your submissions to
friendsofpayton@gmail.com

Attendance Hotline!
To record your child absent, call:

(773) 534-0042

Student Government

One of the main student-run organizations at Payton is Student Government. It is made up of about 50 students from the four classes. The Student Gov't works to maintain a positive and school-spirited student population at Payton. It also supports Payton clubs and has a loan program to lend out money to clubs in need.

Student Government works together to plan events for the school year such as: homecoming, the holiday canned food drive, toy drive, holiday movie night and numerous spirit days, such as Homecoming and 34 Day. The talent show, dance-a-thon, logo competition and independent film festival are some upcoming events.

The **talent show** will be on Friday, April 18th at 6:00pm, featuring our outstanding students.

The first ever Dance-A-Thon will go **all night** on Friday April 25th from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am. Participating students will need to form teams of at least 5 people and raise at least $150 a team. Funds raised will go to the Walter Payton Liver Center. There will be food, dancing, games and fun! **Parents, if you would like to chaperone the Dance-a-Thon, for any portion of the evening, please contact the student government at PaytonStudentCouncil@yahoo.com. Thank you!!!**

Finally, the Student Government is working on installing a school-wide calendar to inform students of club meetings, sports games and other Payton events.

CPS & Sports

Did you know that the Chicago Public Schools DOES NOT provide funding for extra-curricular activities? It is an unfortunate truth that not many people are aware of and is becoming more of a trend across the nation. Because of this, all the extra-curricular programs at Payton must be self-funded and are dependent on your contributions.

The Walter Payton Athletic Department encourages the parents or guardians of student-athletes participating in interscholastic sports to make a $60 contribution to the Friends of Payton Athletic Fund, per sport, prior to the first practice. Friends of Payton **does not** contribute additional money to individual teams, and in many instances this $60 fee will not cover the costs of running the program. In these situations, the team

must raise funds through additional fees and fund-raising activities. All funds collected will be held and directed toward the individual sports team, in which the athlete is participating, not a general sports fund.

We ask that parents be part of the team. In addition to attending games and cheering on your son or daughter, volunteer to be one of the Team Parents who help coaches with fund-raising as well as with the administrative activities associated with their child's team.

In the event a family cannot or elects not to make a contribution to the team for any reason, we ask that the parent or guardian contact the Friends of Payton Spirit Committee requesting that the $60 fee be deposited in the Payton Athletic Fund for that team in the name of that athlete.

What happens if a student gets sick or injured at school? is there a school nurse?

Yes, there is a nurse at school. Students who become ill at school are sent to the nurse's office by their classroom teacher. Students must secure a pre-typed pass from their teacher in order to go to the nurse's office.

Once the student enters the nurse's office, the type of illness is determined and the student is given health counseling. Students have the option of resting in a chair or lying down on a cot for 1 period or they may elect to go home.

A parent is notified when the student wants to go home or becomes too ill to remain in school.

If the school nurse is not in the building, the Principal has designated Kenna Whitley, Registrar, to provide first aid/health services.She is located in the counseling suite.

The current health care policy for CPS states that for minor injuries (scratches, slight cuts, etc.), first aid is administered and students are permitted to remain in school. For injuries requiring medical attention, the school shall notify the student's parent/ guardian and take further action at their direction. If the parent cannot be contacted, then the school will assume the responsibility for prudent action. They will call 911, safety and security (553-6900), and the area office.

about the Student handbook?

Each Fall, every student is given a hard copy of the handbook. This booklet outlines all of the rules, guidelines and expectations of the school for the student as well as practical day-to-day information for Payton families. While there is not currently an electronic version of this booklet, you can pick up an additional copy in the main office.

The following is a list of all of the topics covered in the handbook:
Mission Statement
Belief Statement
Administration
Faculty Facts
Museum and Community Resources
Academic Planning
Curriculum Overview
Student Services
Programming
Graduation Requirements
National Honor Society
Promotion Policy
Schedule Changes
Service Learning
Grading and Evaluation
Homework Policy
General Information
Attendance
Illness or Injury at School
Early Dismissals
Health Care Services
Medication Policy
Visitors
Computer Use Policy
Use of CPS Network Services
Academic Conduct
CTA Bus Passes
Identification Cards
Library Resource Center
Textbooks, Materials and Equipment
Discipline Code
Dress Code
Locks/Lockers
Emergency Information
School Spirit Information
Athletics/Athletic Eligibility
Fundraising

Activities
Physical Examinations
Weekly Schedule
Block Time Schedule
CPS School Year Calendar
Special Calendar Dates
Directions to Walter Payton College Prep

Can't Attend FOP Meetings but Want to Help?

The Parent Network Committee is seeking two or three more parents to work on this newsletter! There are things going on at Payton that we would love to cover but can't because we don't have enough manpower. A specific area will be assigned to you and this job can be done primarily via email. This is a perfect opportunity for the working parent who can't get super involved in FOP but would like to volunteer in some way.

Interested? Contact Lee Morava at FriendsofPayton@gmail.com.

Bears Concession Stand 2008-2009

Did you know that over the last 3 years the Soldier Field concession stand, manned by volunteer parents from Payton, has contributed over $30,000 towards the school? Volunteering at the Payton stand is an opportunity to see the world from the 'other' side as well as a place to meet some great Payton parents. Last year, the concession stand to raise $10,134.17. Mary Lisa Weimers, the parent who has run the program for the last 2 years, is 'graduating' in June. We are looking for a few more parents to make up the 'management team' to replace her to continue this tradition.

The stand is not hard to manage. The people are great, the instructions are well laid out, and the day goes by fast.If you would like to sign up for this team and/or have any questions regarding the managing activities, please contact Jim Maguire, Chairman of the Spirit Committee, at jim.mag@comcast.net or call him at (773) 580-4131.

This newsletter is brought to you by the **Friends of Payton (FOP)**. Friends of Payton is a parent-run organization that raises funds and provides volunteer assistance to support Walter Payton College Prep. Our mission is to enrich educational and extracurricular activities with outside resources to supplement the limited funding allotted to Payton through the public school system.

PLEASE NOTE: Adding or deleting e-mail addresses within this newsletter format will only affect the delivery of this newsletter and NOT the contact information you have on file with the school.

Newsletter Team
Lee Morava - Editor
Kathy Randolph - Graphics/Content
Karen Kao - Ask a Parent X-Pert
Meribeth Mermall - Music
Andres Schcolnik - International
Kathy Monk - International
Gail Warner - Calendar
Marlene Welch - Sports
Cindy Yeung - Clubs and Activities
Agneta Rosenberg - Liaison to Student Council
Chris Stockwell - Chair, Parent Network Committee

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