

Charger Pride



AMOS ALONZO STAGG HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 2016



Before registering for classes for the 2016-2017 school year, students had the opportunity to explore the wide variety of curriculum offerings at Stagg High School at our yearly Curriculum Fair.

2015-2016 School Calendar

Dates to Remember

February

- 3 Late Start
- 4 Education Committee Meeting
- 6 Winter Dance
- 9 Student Services Committee Meeting
- 9 FAFSA Completion Night
- 10 Late Start
- 10 Senior Recognition Night
- 10 Music Booster Meeting
- 11 Athletic Booster Meeting
- 15 Presidents Day, no school
- 16 Building and Finance Meeting
- 17 Late Start
- 17 SCO Meeting, 6:30 pm
- 21 Stagg vs. Andrew Basketball Game at United Center
- 24 Late Start
- 25-27 Winter Show
- 25 Board of Education Meeting at Stagg, 7 p.m.
- 27 SCO Candlelight Bowl



CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 230

Richard Nogal, President
Melissa Gracias, Vice President
Susan Dalton, Secretary
Kate Murphy-Peterson
Patrick O'Sullivan
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Dr. James M. Gay, Superintendent
Eric Olsen, Principal

Charger Pride is published by the Consolidated High School District 230 School Board.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Second semester is in full gear as we enter into the short month of February. Although our shortest month, February is a very busy month at Stagg. Our Student Council is busy preparing for their annual Turnabout Dance, many of our winter athletic teams will begin state series competition, and our administrative team is busy with master scheduling building and staffing for the 2016-2017 school year!

As always, this newsletter is filled with important information so pay close attention! Last year, District 230 made changes to graduation dates that we will continue to follow this year. These changes have been made in order to accommodate rain dates for our schools instead of trying to switch locations at the last minute in the case of severe weather. Most important for our Stagg families is that the 2016 Stagg's Graduation will be held on Monday, May 16th at 7 p.m. The rain date will be Friday, May 20th at 7 p.m. Please make sure you make note of this important information and plan accordingly!

Parent Participation

We need you! Stagg High School offers a number of different opportunities for parents to actively participate in the Stagg Community. One of the ways is by joining one or more of our parent organizations. Make one of your New Year's Resolutions to get involved today!

Stagg Community Organization (SCO)

The SCO is a general parent organization that contributes to the school in a number of ways. If you are not sure where to start your high school experience as a parent, this is a great place to begin. The next meeting is February 17 at 6:30 p.m. in room 605.

Save the Date! Saturday, February 27, 2016 the SCO is hosting a Mardi Gras Candlelight Bowl at Oak Forest Bowl. Check your email for information previously sent on this event or contact the SCO at staggSCO@gmail.com

Stagg Athletic Boosters

Is your child involved in high school athletics? Are you a fan of high school sports? This organization is for you! The Stagg Athletic Boosters meet the second Thursday of each month. Their next meeting is February 11 at 7 p.m. For more information contact our Athletic Department at 974-7439.

Stagg Music Boosters

The Stagg Music Booster Organization is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, and more specifically to support music education for the public high school students attending A.A. Stagg High School. Finally, the Music Boosters support and promote vocal and instrumental music education within the community and general public. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

Eric Olsen
Principal



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 3 from 12 noon until 8 p.m. This is a great opportunity to discuss with the teacher how your student is performing within a curriculum and communicate face to face ways to work on skill deficiencies.

Scheduling an appointment with the teachers you would like to meet is easy and can be accomplished in one of two ways. The format more convenient to your personal schedule is the online scheduler.



Online scheduling will be available from the school's home page at district.d230.org/stagg:
Friday, February 26 at 9 a.m. through Wednesday, March 2 at 12 noon.

Phone in scheduling to 708-974-7400 will only be available:
Friday, February 26 and Monday, February 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on each day.
Phone requests for assistance with scheduling appointments will only be taken on these days.

Links to the online website will be on each school's homepage along with step by step instructions that will walk you through the process. If you need assistance with the online process, please contact the school directly at 708-974-7400.

All District 230 Students Must Prove Residency within the District Each Year

In the district's ongoing efforts to be fiscally responsible, all District 230 students need to show proof of residency within the district boundaries on an annual basis, similar to when students first enrolled at the high school.

This procedure was put into place to protect the financial interest of taxpayers in District 230 by assuring that the students who receive an education in our schools are legally entitled to do so.

All families will need to provide one document from Category I and three documents from Category II. All of the documents must be presented at one time, partial paperwork will not be accepted.

A series of dates and times will held throughout second semester for parents/guardians to provide the necessary documentation:

- **Thursday, March 3**
during Parent Teacher Conferences
noon - 8:00 pm
- **Saturday, March 19**
8:00 am - noon
- **Wednesday, April 13**
8:00 am - noon and 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- **Saturday, May 7**
8:00 am - noon

Category I (one document required)

- Most recent property tax bill and proof of payment, e.g. canceled check or form 1098 (homeowners)
- Mortgage papers (new homeowners)
- Signed and dated lease and proof of last month's payment, e.g. canceled check or receipts (renters)
- Letter from manager and proof of last month's payment, e.g. canceled check or receipt (trailer park residents)
- Housing letter (military personnel)
- Letter of residence from landlord in lieu of lease (7:60-E1)
- Letter of residence to be used when the person seeking to enroll a student is living with a District resident (7:60-E2)

Category II (3 documents showing proper address are required)

- Driver's license/state ID card
- Vehicle registration
- Voter registration
- Most recent cable television and/or credit card bill
- Current public aid card
- Current homeowners/renters insurance policy and premium payment receipt
- Most recent gas, electric, and/or water bill
- Current library card with address listed
- Receipt for moving van rental
- Mail received at new residence

Local Scholarships

Local scholarship applications are available for seniors online on the Guidance Department web page. Interested students should complete the application and return it to the Guidance Office by 3:00 p.m., March 2, 2016. Upon completion of the application, seniors will be eligible for up to 10 scholarship opportunities donated by local organizations, businesses, or individuals. Many other local scholarships have their own applications which can also be found on the Guidance Department web page.

Graduation Requirements/ Credit Recovery

Students must successfully complete 18 academic credits plus the mandatory Physical Education courses to meet District 230 graduation requirements. Please refer to the 2016-2017 Course Selection Guide for specific credit requirements. Students have received a copy from their counselors. Access to the Course Selection Guide can be found at <http://chsd230.eduk8.me/>

If students fail a required academic class, it will be necessary for students to repeat the class by re-taking it in summer school. Classes are sequential and cannot be taken without meeting the prerequisite or sequential requirements. Students will not be able to move to the next level class without successfully completing the prior level. For example, a student cannot proceed to sophomore English without successfully passing freshman English. To stay on track for graduation, it is imperative for students to attend summer school for credit recovery. There are also accelerated level classes offered in summer school. Summer school registration opens February 1, 2016 and closes March 26, 2016 for Session I and closes May 24, 2016 for Session II. Please contact your son or daughter's counselor for specific information. Counselors have sent home notifications to families.

Dates for Upcoming Testing

ACT Testing

All Stagg juniors will take the ACT on Tuesday, April 19th as an in-school exam. This test can be used for college entrance eligibility to all colleges and universities. This test is designed to measure a student's academic achievement in English, math, reading, and science reasoning. Many colleges across the country require students to take this test and submit their test scores to them when they apply for admission. There is no cost to the student for the April 19th in-school test. Students may retake the ACT as many times as they wish. There is a test fee for additional tests taken on national test dates. Students can register online at www.actstudent.org

AP Testing

Students in Advanced Placement (AP) classes will have the opportunity to take AP exams in May. The Advanced Placement testing program is a way for students to earn college credit while in high school by earning a score of 3, 4, or 5 on a particular AP test. It is up to the student to forward their test score to the college of their choice to be awarded credit based on the standards of that particular college. It should be noted that standards for awarding credit vary from college to college, and is strictly a decision of that particular college. This month AP teachers are distributing exam registration forms in their classes.

Registration is now open for the 2016 AP exams. These exams will be given May 2nd through May 13th; however, you must register and pay prior to Monday, March 7, 2016.

Online Exam Registration for AP Testing

Stagg High School is excited to offer families the convenience of paying exam fees online at the time of test registration. Please be sure to have a credit card or debit card available before beginning registration.

- In order to register, students should click on the link provided on the school Guidance website or visit www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/143357 to register. To complete registration, students must answer all of the required questions. Registration is not complete until payment is made and students have printed the PDF of the confirmation page that is provided at the end. We know that parents may desire to register their students for exams. We strongly recommend that parents and students are both present while registering to ensure that the correct exams are ordered.
- This year each AP exam costs \$93.00. Students who qualify for Free Lunch can indicate this on the online registration site.
- Test registration is cancelled if the payment is not made by the deadline.
- Registration Deadline - Monday, March 7, 2016 at 9:00 p.m.
- Registrations that have not been paid for will be cancelled and exams will not be ordered.

ACT

National administrations of the ACT are offered on several Saturdays throughout each year. Upcoming dates include April 9th and June 11th. Students can register for this test at www.actstudent.org. The Saturday, April 9th test is hosted at Stagg.

SAT

The SAT will have test dates on March 5th and May 7th. Testing does not take place at Stagg. Students can register for this test at www.collegeboard.com.

ACT vs. SAT: What is the difference?

The ACT is used by colleges across the country as part of their admissions criteria. We recommend for juniors to test in the spring and for seniors to utilize the fall test dates to improve their scores if necessary. If you are considering Ivy League schools, we encourage you to consult each school's admissions webpage for additional testing requirements.

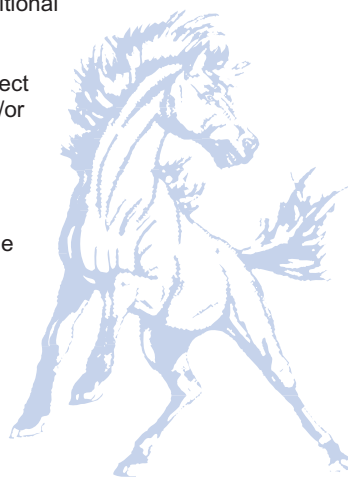
Guidance Department Financial Aid Information

This is a reminder to college bound seniors and any juniors looking to graduate early to apply for financial aid now. You must complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly referred to as the FAFSA form, to apply for federal student aid for college and for most state and institutional aid. The quickest way to apply is online using FAFSA on the web at: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Back by popular demand, the Guidance Department along with ISAC is once again proud to host FAFSA Completion Night on February 9, 2016. This is a great opportunity to get one-on-one assistance filing your online FAFSA. There will be two time slots to choose from: 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Space is limited and a reservation is required to attend. If you are interested, please contact Erin Samec, Guidance Counselor, at 708-974-7445 or email: esamec@d230.org to reserve your spot.

Additionally, we will continue to offer Financial Aid Fridays to all students and parents seeking additional financial aid information. Representatives from ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission), will be available during the lunch periods on select Fridays each month to speak with students and/or parents in our College/Career room. These advisors are recent college graduates who can share with students at their level. ISAC's goal is to assist in making college accessible and affordable for all Illinois students. We encourage any students and parents who have questions on how they will be able to afford college to take advantage of these opportunities!

As always, additional information regarding college and financial aid can be accessed on our Guidance Department web page. Any questions regarding Financial Aid Fridays can be directed to Mrs. Samec, Stagg counselor at (708) 974-7445.



Deans' Office

Prom Parent Meeting

Is your son or daughter planning to attend Prom?

**A required Prom Parent Meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m.
in the Performing Arts Center.**

Information regarding Prom events and making positive choices to ensure a successful evening will be discussed. This is also an opportunity to network with other parents to assist students in making safe plans for the evening. Students will not be allowed to begin the process for purchasing tickets without a parent signature at the meeting. Guest pass information will be discussed in detail at the Prom Meeting. Please note that any guest must be under the age of 21 years old in order to attend a school dance. If you have any questions, please contact the Deans' Office at (708) 974-7494.

Health Services Department

Attention Parents/Guardians of the Class of 2017!

All children entering 12th grade in the State of Illinois are required to show proof of having received one dose of Meningococcal (Meningitis) conjugate vaccine on or after their 16th birthday or two doses of the vaccine at least 8 weeks apart. If your child received a dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine before the 16th birthday, he/she will need a second dose. The following action is needed from you at this time:

Proof of one of the following::

- A dose of Meningococcal vaccine was given on or after your child's 16th birthday (only one dose is needed)
- OR
- Your child received two doses of the meningitis vaccine at least 8 weeks apart.

Proof of having received the Meningococcal vaccine is required and must be submitted to the School Nurse as soon as the vaccine is given. We ask that completed forms be turned in no later than April 13, 2016.

It is important to note that your child will not be able to receive a schedule, begin the school year on the first day of class, participate in athletics or apply for a parking spot on campus until proof of having this vaccine is received in the Nurse's Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Nurse's Office at (708) 974-7426.

Attention Incoming Freshman - Class of 2020

It's never too early to start thinking about the required school physical and immunizations for high school. Call your doctor to schedule your appointment early to avoid delays in schedule pick up in August.

Forms can be located on the Stagg Nurse's Page on the school website:
<http://stagg.d230.org/resources/nurses-office/>

A packet with information and required forms were handed out to students at Freshman Registration on Saturday, January 30, 2016. Any student who did not attend Freshman registration will have the forms mailed to their home. Completed forms are due in the Nurse's Office by May 1, 2016.

Wellness Tips

The cold and flu season is in full swing. Please have your student stay home from school if:

- they have been vomiting overnight or in the morning before coming to school
- if they have a fever of 100 degrees or higher or any other symptoms that are flu related
- students should not come to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without using fever reducing medications such as Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)

Thank you for your cooperation as we try to keep our student and staff populations as healthy as possible.

Athletic Department Spring Sports 2016

Due to liability concerns and I.H.S.A. regulations, no student will be allowed to participate (including tryouts) in athletics unless the on-line registration process is completed and a current physical is on file.

All student athletes must be registered online at our athletic website at:

www.athletics2000.com/stagg
(click on Registration: at top of page)

Or via the registration website at:
<https://stagg.8to18.com>.

All students will need a current physical on file. Freshmen can use their entering school physical for athletics as long as it is current (13 months from date of examination). Students are welcome to check the date of their physical at the Athletic Office. They can pick up a blank physical and return their completed physical to the Athletic Office.

In order to participate in athletics at Stagg, each athlete must receive clearance from the Athletic Director's Office prior to tryouts. To be cleared for participation, the following items must be on file:

- A current sports physical (incoming freshman can use their school physical).
- All parents of student athletes must complete the on-line registration at: www.athletics2000.com/stagg (click on Registration: at top of page)
Or via the registration website at: <https://stagg.8to18.com>.
- All returning student athletes must have passed 25 hours of work in the semester prior to competition.

Tryout dates for spring sports:

Girls' Track	January 18, 2016
Boys' Track	January 18, 2016
Boys' Gymnastics	February 16, 2016
Girls' Badminton	February 29, 2016
Boys' Baseball	February 29, 2016
Girls' Soccer	February 29, 2016
Girls' Softball	February 29, 2016
Boys' Tennis	February 29, 2016
Boys' Water Polo	February 29, 2016
Girls' Water Polo	February 29, 2016
Boys' Volleyball	March 7, 2016

Some coaches may have an informational meeting one to two weeks prior to tryouts. Please check the daily announcements for specifics.

If you have any questions, please contact the Athletic Office at 708-974-7439 or the coach directly.

Catch a Rising Star



Dear Friends of Stagg High School:

"Evening with the Stars" is a recognition program unique to Stagg High School and a complement to the various other end-of-the-year celebrations. The purpose of this program is to recognize individuals (teacher, staff, administrator, student, or community member) who have helped to make Stagg High School a great place.

The following lists of criteria are examples of reasons individuals have received this recognition in the past::

Students:

- ★ Exceptional student effort and/or exceptional improvement in life-long learning skills
- ★ Be creative thinkers and have problem solving skills
- ★ Organizational effectiveness and leadership
- ★ Interpersonal skills
- ★ Good team player/cooperative

Staff:

- ★ Positive role model for both staff and students
- ★ Works outside the boundary of regular school day
- ★ Undisputed positive attitude towards others
- ★ Exceptional teacher mentor
- ★ Life-long learner, risk taker
- ★ Someone who loves helping others, never thinking twice about it

Community Members:

- ★ Volunteers unconditionally: committees, sports, boosters, etc.
- ★ Shares in the growth of Stagg High School
- ★ For distinguished work



Parents can nominate staff and vice-versa. Students can nominate staff and vice-versa.

Once the "nominees" have been selected, a reception will be held on Wednesday, April 13th to recognize them. Honorees are encouraged to invite their families to join them during the evening. The "nominator" will present a one-minute speech sharing the reason for this person's contributions to Stagg High School!

Sincerely,

The Evening with the Stars Committee

**Nominations are due to the Main Office by Wednesday, March 23rd by 1 p.m.
The reception will be Wednesday, April 13, 2016.**



Amos Alonzo Stagg High School
"Evening with the Stars"



Person being nominated: _____

Nominee's address: _____

Please give a detailed explanation about this person's exceptional contributions to making Stagg High School a better place! You are not limited to this space.

Nominator Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: Home _____

Work _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Nominations can be mailed to:

Amos Alonzo Stagg High School
8015 W. 111th Street
Palos Hills, IL 60465
Attn: Mary Ventura

Nominations can also be

dropped off in the Main Office
or sent as an email attachment to
mventura@d230.org

Nominations are due Wednesday, March 23, 2016.

What's Going On In The Music Department

Jazz Band in Full Swing

Like Jazz? Then mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 2nd and come out and enjoy some great music provided by the Stagg Jazz Ensemble at the Pops Concert (Jazz Ensemble and Business Casual) in the PAC. Performance starts at 7 p.m., and no ticket is required. Hope to see you there!

On Saturday, February 6th, the Jazz Ensemble will perform at the New Trier Jazz Festival, held at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois. This festival is one of the premier jazz festivals in the state, and it will feature the Chris Potter Big Band, along with the Northern Illinois University Jazz Orchestra!

Also, you won't want to miss the Jazz Ensemble's performance at Hackney's Restaurant on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:30 p.m.!



Notes from the Wind Symphony

The Wind Symphony is busy preparing for their annual Spring Concert, to be held on Tuesday, March 8th! Along the way, they will spend time in sectionals perfecting their music, and will also work with guest directors and clinicians along the way!

Pit Orchestra Tryouts

Oh the Thinks You Can Think! We are holding tryouts for the pit orchestra for Seussical the Musical on Wednesday, March 9th. For more information, see Mr. Mecozzi.

Student Recognition

Congratulations to Steven Bomar on being selected to participate at the Future Music Educators Seminar at the 2016 Illinois Music Education Conference, held from January 27th through 30th in Peoria, IL. Congratulations Steve!

Thanks to all for your continued support of the Music Department!!! Don't forget our Music Boosters Meeting on Wednesday, February 10th at 7 p.m.!!!

Please visit our websites for more information:
www.staggbands.org
www.staggchoirs.org

SCO

Stagg's parent booster club, Stagg Community Organization, will hold a candlelight bowl this month to benefit its scholarship fund and has begun work on the annual party for seniors.

Candlelight Bowl

SCO's second annual Candlelight Bowl is scheduled for Saturday, February 27 at Oak Forest Bowl, 15240 S. Cicero Ave. The event is our main fundraiser, allowing us to award four scholarships, and provides a fun opportunity for parents to socialize. Invite friends, family and neighbors! Bowling starts at 10 p.m. Attendees may check in and get shoes starting at 9:30 p.m. Cash bar, split-the-pot raffle and numerous raffle baskets will be available. Teachers, staff, parents and community members are invited.



The cost per person is \$25, which includes two games of bowling, rental shoes, a buffet and dessert. Non-bowlers are \$15 per person. All tickets must be bought in advance so the teams of six can be determined or participants can create their own teams. For ticket information, visit Stagg Community Organization's Facebook page or e-mail [Stagg SCO@gmail.com](mailto:StaggSCO@gmail.com).

Senior Party

The SCO works with a committee of parents and staff volunteers who organize the annual celebration for Stagg seniors. The date for this year's party is Saturday, May 14 from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight. The committee is open to all those interested in helping with the event, whether they have a senior or not. Volunteers help solicit donations, decorate, chaperone, serve food, help at the event, and remove decorations afterward. Senior Party planning meetings have begun. To learn more, e-mail StaggSCO@gmail.com.

Next Meeting

The next SCO meeting is Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 605, left of the North Entrance desk. All parents are invited.

Join the Team

The SCO will hold elections for board members in the spring and additional members are needed! The organization provides a forum for parents to make connections, supports students and staff by promoting positive change at Stagg and offers scholarships. SCO also hosts two teacher/staff appreciation events each year. Consider joining to support all Chargers.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

"Oh baby its cold outside!" So make sure you have your Stagg Athletic Wear. New items include hats and lanyards, plus a full stock of hoodies, t-shirts, and sweatpants.

Upcoming "Lunch Sale" dates are Thursdays; February 18th, March 10th, April 14th, and May 5th. Contact Betsy at egarbrecht@d230.org for orders and information.

Considering becoming a Booster? We invite you to join to work together to help support our Athletes to look good, feel good and play good. We welcome volunteers to help with

our goal to improve our school and community each and every day.

The Athletic Boosters offer scholarship opportunities to Senior students of members. The membership fee is \$30 per year. Contact us on Facebook, visit our website, or e-mail us at staggboosters@gmail.com. "Like" us on "Facebook" and follow us on "Twitter."

And always, thank you for your continued support!

Go Chargers!

MUSIC BOOSTERS

Greetings! Do you have a Senior that was in Marching Band, including Color Guard, or currently in Band or Choir? If yes, the Music Boosters need 3-4 pictures of your Senior student. Please scan 3-4 pictures of your Senior from childhood to his/her Senior year and e-mail boostermusicbox@gmail.com. These photos will become part of your Senior's recognition at the Annual Music Award Banquet this May.

Also, we could use help with the Banquet (especially the Senior picture presentation). If you would like to help, please let us know.

Mark your calendar for the Music Booster's Spring Craft show to be held on Saturday, March 19th and Sunday, March 20th.

Thank you for your continued support. Happy Valentine's Day!
On behalf of the Stagg Music Boosters,
Dorothy Lennon, President



AMOS ALONZO STAGG HIGH SCHOOL

111th Street and Roberts Road
Palos Hills, IL 60465
(708) 974-7400
<http://stagg.d230.org>

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ORLAND PARK



Congratulations to our Special Olympic basketball team qualifying for the State tournament.
Good luck downstate Chargers!