

**QUINCY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
**100 South 14<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Quincy, Illinois 62301**



**NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2010-2011**  
**Volume 14 Issue 3**

***LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL***



Have you checked out our new website yet?

If not, here is the link <https://sites.google.com/site/qjhschool/> to get to all of your son / daughter's daily assignments. The credit for the website goes to our teachers. The site was designed by a team of teachers. Staff trained for one hour on how to update their pages and now, here we are with a fabulous tool for staff, students, and parents. Even WGEM thought it is worth doing a story. Thank you to all who played a part in creating and publicizing the website.

Throughout the school year, teachers and students work daily to prepare for the Illinois State Assessment Test. Much of our school's performance is measured by this test. This year, teachers and students all contributed to ensuring a great testing environment. The format for testing this year was called "Stop, Drop, and Test". Students in 7th and 8th grades tested at the same time on four separate days – March 8, 9, 10, and 15, with make-ups being completed on Friday, March 18. Testing times were chosen to provide the best possible testing environment. While the lower grades were testing, ninth graders participated in several educational activities (tours and orientation at QHS, as well as presentations at JH on underage drinking, dating, and drug use). We can only hope that this increased emphasis on testing protocol has given every student the greatest opportunity for success. Thank you to all the parents who continue to make sure their son/daughter is prepared to learn on a daily basis. We are extremely proud of our entire JH community.

Several things to be watching for this quarter:

- Student schedules – It is our goal for each student to have his/her schedule for the 2011-2012 school year before leaving for summer.
- Summer school for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who need to make up credits – If your son/daughter failed at least one semester of math, science, English, and/or history, you will need to contact his/her counselor for enrollment information.

We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for our students. Unfortunately, these difficult financial times have and will continue to affect the support individual students may receive. Class size continues to rise and the opportunities for interventions are limited. Parents, we need your support now more than ever. Continue to communicate and support your son/daughter regarding his/her education. A daily place and time to work on homework is essential. We also need you to talk with your son/daughter frequently about the choices he/she makes regarding effort and behavior. We have wonderful young men and ladies walking our halls every day who sometimes get distracted by outside influences.

Our staff continues to collaborate with their colleagues to make sure all students are pushed and, at the same time, supported. I am so proud to be working with such dedicated, hardworking professionals!

Thanks for your continued support.

Ms. Glaub



***MESSAGE FROM MR. OWSLEY***  
***Assistant Principal for Student Services***

***Dress Code ~ Safety ~ Tardies***

**DRESS CODE REMINDERS**

With warm weather approaching, we realize that some students will want to wear summer type clothing to school. The following list of what is acceptable and what is not acceptable will help you when you shop for spring clothing for your son/daughter.

- ❖ Clothing must cover undergarments at all times.
- ❖ Bra straps must not be visible and no underwear may be showing at any time.
- ❖ Shirt tops may not rise above the top of the pants. The bottom of shirt tops and the top of the pants must meet when arms are at sides.
- ❖ Shirts, that have spaghetti straps or reveal cleavage, will not be allowed.
- ❖ Shorts must fit properly and be reasonable in length. This means not too tight and not too short.
- ❖ Modesty and neatness are expected in all attire.
- ❖ **Clothing, which displays acts of violence or has a display of weapons, will be deemed a distraction to the learning environment and, therefore, is not acceptable to be worn by students at school.**

We appreciate parents' help in making sure your son/daughter comes to school wearing proper attire. If inappropriate clothing is worn to school, he/she will not be allowed to attend class until he/she is appropriately dressed. Please be aware of what your son/daughter wears to school when the weather becomes warmer so he/she will not miss out on instruction. A full review of the dress code policy may be found on pages 24 and 25 in the student handbook.

**SAFETY - STUDENTS WHO MUST CROSS BROADWAY STREET**

There is a shuttle bus available to students each day. We would like to encourage all students who must cross Broadway Street before and after school to utilize this service.

- ❖ Coming to school: Bus #47 picks up at 7:20 a.m. at 14<sup>th</sup> & Spring.
- ❖ After school: Bus #47 picks up in the Morrison Parking Lot at 2:47 p.m. and drops off at 14<sup>th</sup> & Spring.

**TARDIES**

Regular school attendance and promptness is an extremely important matter at QJHS. We believe it is important for students to develop good habits of attendance at school. In order to maximize academic achievement and to minimize class disruption, we require all students to be ON TIME for school each day and to be ON TIME for each class. It is the responsibility of the student to be in class ON TIME each period. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian and student to be at school ON TIME each morning.

**SPECIAL NOTE**

It is our goal to provide each student with quality learning experiences. We need your help to get this goal accomplished. If your son or daughter is experiencing any problematic issues, please communicate these concerns to the appropriate staff member. The QJHS staff does an outstanding job of problem-solving individual situations. However, we can only problem solve if we are informed of the situation.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Rick Owsley



***MESSAGE FROM MRS. BESWICK***  
***Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction***

Soon, we will be starting our last academic quarter of the year. Our seventh and eighth graders have finished ISAT testing and registration for next year's classes. Our ninth graders are nearing their final days at QJHS and are getting ready to continue their high school careers at QHS. As the weather starts to turn warmer, students' (as well as teachers' and parents') thoughts sometimes drift away from school and homework. It is easy to get distracted by the warmer weather and the variety of spring activities. Below are some tips to help keep students focused during these last two months of school:

- Routine – If possible, try to keep the students in the same routine that they have been following all school year.
- Homework – Most Junior High students will have some homework every night. Set aside a quiet place and a set time for homework each evening.
- Involvement – The more parents are involved in and interested in school, the better students perform. Ask your students about school, about homework, and about the classes they like and/or do not like. Call your student's teacher if you have a question or concern. Keep current by using Home Access to check grades and progress.
- Reinforcement – Reinforce and emphasize the importance of doing well in the final few weeks of school. It would be a shame to negate three quarters of a school year with a poor performance at the very end.
- Motivation – Help your student with motivation. Reinforce the importance of final exams and the knowledge and skills that can be gained in the final few weeks of school. Find small ways to motivate them and keep them focused.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Eryn Beswick



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT JUNIOR HIGH?

### CHECK YOUR STUDENT'S GRADES

Both parents and students can access current academic progress via the internet – <http://esp.qps.org/homeaccess>. For more information about **parental** Home Access, contact Kathy Peters in the Attendance Office, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. For information about **student** Home Access, contact Leigh Stotts in the Counselors' Office, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



## CHECK OUT THE NEW QJHS HOMEWORK WEBSITE

Parents and students can now access daily homework assignments on-line. The website includes assignments as well as upcoming quizzes, tests, and retake opportunities.

Go to: <https://sites.google.com/site/qjhschool/>

- Click on your teacher's name(scroll box on the right of the screen) to find the list of assignments for the week
- Some teachers may include attachments (found at the bottom of the week) to support the assignments

Notice the link to Home Access located in the top right corner under the picture of the grade book. Now, you and your son/daughter can check his/her grades and assignments from the same location. Students unable to access the website at home will be able to print out their assignments before or after school in the library.

## STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- ✓ Attend class regularly.
- ✓ Ask for assignments when you DO miss class and ask when it is due.
- ✓ Do assignments and hand them in on time.
- ✓ Ask to meet with the teacher for additional help.
- ✓ The library is open until 3:30 Monday thru Friday for appropriate computer usage.
- ✓ Use your planner to keep organized and know what you need to take home to complete.
- ✓ Clean out your locker once a week during Connections and get it organized.
- ✓ Talk to your parents/guardians and let them know if you are struggling.
- ✓ Get a "study buddy". It is always more fun to study with friends, as long as you study!
- ✓ Study early and just study! Make flash cards, review notes a few nights before the test. That way, you don't have to cram the night before or an hour before the test.
- ✓ RETAKE tests. Contact your teacher as soon as you find out you are not happy with the test grade to set up a time to retake. You get two retakes per quarter per class. **We want you to be successful!**

## ON THE FRESHMEN SCIENCE SCENE VOLUME III...

Environmental Science students produced some quality national park brochures this past quarter. Maybe one day they can visit their researched national park! This last quarter will be focused on resources obtained through mining and renewable and non-renewable energy resources. Plan to see another project...an advertising campaign to promote a renewable energy resource. Please mark your calendar for Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Environmental Club sold Earth Day T-shirts and we hope that everyone plans to Go Green on Earth day and every day!



## NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Fifty one seventh and eighth grade students from Quincy Junior High School were inducted as new members of the National Junior Honor Society in a ceremony on Tuesday February 22, 2011. They join 86 other active members at Quincy Junior High School.

To be eligible for membership, students must have a GPA of 3.8. In addition, candidates must meet high standards of leadership, service, citizenship, and character. Students were evaluated and selected by the Faculty Council. This year's service projects include: the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, and Bridge the Gap Race.

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious national organizations for students. Chapters exist in more than 6,000 schools and, since 1929, millions of students have been selected. NJHS is sponsored nationally by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

### 7<sup>th</sup> grade inductees include:

Gabrielle A.	Caitlyn H.	Lauryn S.
Emily B.	Cole H.	Samantha S.
Robyn B.	Haley H.	Jack S.
Andrew B.	Scott J.	Lauren S.
Elliott B.	Kelsi K.	Jensen T.
Breann Burghart	Madison K.	Kayla V.
Harrison C.	Madelyn K.	Jasmin W.
Raevianna D.	Breanna L.	Clayton W.
Amy E.	Bridget M.	Ashley W.
Jordan E.	Claire M.	Austin W.
Abbigail E.	Jennifer N.	Mackenzie W.
Emma F.	Michael P.	Savannah W.
Logan F.	Taylor R.	McKenzie W.
Zachary H.	Nathan R.	

### 8<sup>th</sup> grade inductees include:

Gentry D.	Taylor M.
Ashley D.	Brittany N.
Chandler F.	Madison R.
Mackenzie F.	Olivia W.
Sophia F.	
Colleen M.	

Please call Greta Heck, NJHS chapter advisor, with any additional questions.  
222-4334  
heckgr@qps.org

# QJHS SPORTS

## WRESTLERS ADVANCE TO STATE

The following 8<sup>th</sup> graders qualified for state: Stephen W., Jimmie T., Calvin C., Julian L., Brody F., and David B. Trevor S., Collin P. and Bryant M. finished fourth place and were alternates for the state tournament. We finished fourth as a team in the sectional tournament with fifteen wrestlers competing. We also finished 2nd place at regionals.

## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team on an outstanding season. The girls finished with a 21-4 record after losing a tough three-game match to Rochester in sectionals.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE QJHS 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM! IESA 4A Fourth Place Finishers

The QJHS 7th grade Comets basketball team had a very successful season this year. The Comets put together quite a run late in the year, earning 4th place at the state tournament. They were able to defeat three Springfield schools in their regional, Taylorville at the sectional, and Rantoul Eater in the first round of state, advancing them to the IESA 4-A Final Four. The Comets were upended by Bolingbrook Jane Addams in the semis and one-loss Channahon in the 3rd place game. Congratulations to the Comets on their season!



## MOBILE DENTIST



Junior High will be hosting *Smile Illinois/Mobile Dentists* on May 10, 2011. Mobile dentists will set up a mini-dental office in our building to provide dental examinations, cleanings, fluoride treatments, and sealants (if needed) for students who return the completed forms. Forms will be distributed to students during the week of March 21. Please notify the Nurse's Office, 228-7132, if you did not receive a form.

## PTA NEWS



### Shop for Schools continues to grow!

Shop for schools continues to make money for QJHS. We will be announcing our profits by way of a check presentation to the QJHS PTA in March.

We are going to have another Connections Room Contest. Beginning now, and continuing through April 15, the Connections room with the most overall sales will win a free pizza party! Again, we will recognize by grade level, so get ready to sell. Turn in forms right away, as we will fill them weekly. Keep in mind that grocery cards are the easiest to use and pay us 5%! Also, they can be used for gas and with prices on the rise a \$100 card gets used quickly! Contact family, friends, and neighbors and invite them to participate!

Look for us on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Quincy Mall. KHQA is sponsoring a fundraising day at the mall and we will be there with cards on hand! If you visit us there, credit will be given to your Connections total.

**Staff Appreciation** is the week of May 2 – 6, with our famous luncheon on Thursday, May 5! PTA would like to thank Sheri Dennis for hosting and planning this event. For those who signed up to help, expect phone calls and emails to be coming. We need donations of desserts, salads, supplies, servers, and a few surprises for our wonderful staff. If you have not signed up but would like to help, email me and I will forward the information to Sheri ([bethsassen@yahoo.com](mailto:bethsassen@yahoo.com)).

**Spring Book Fair** is May 5 – 10. This is our half-price book fair, so stock up for summer reading! PTA would like to thank Diane Marks for planning and organizing the workers. She did such a great job with the Fall Book Fair, so we are lucky to have her help again.

As we look toward the end of the school year, PTA will be doing what we love the most- helping our school with **special projects**. Special projects are any extra needs of the school not covered by the school budget. In the past, we have supplied book sets, drying racks for the art classes, equipment for special education classes, Elmo audio visual equipment, and many others. Did you know that the drinking fountains and ceiling fans were purchases by the PTA years ago? Keep purchasing cards through **Shop for Schools** and who knows what great things we could do for our school!

Beth Sassen  
President

## SUPPLIES FOR STUDENTS



Fourth quarter begins on Monday, March 21, and many students have run out of school supplies. This is a friendly reminder to parents to stock up on pencils, pens, and paper for your son/daughter.

### ~ **IMPORTANT DATES** ~



- *March 22*      *Spring pictures*
  - *March 25*      *Students dismissed @ 11:00 for Teacher SIP Day*
  - *March 29, 30*      *Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders register for 8th grade classes*
  - *April 6*      *9:30 PTA Meeting*
  - *April 8*      *International Day (lower gym)*
  - *April 14*      *1:20-2:40 and 7:00 p.m. Talent Show (auditorium)*
  - *April 15*      *Midterms distributed in Connections*
  - *April 19*      *EXPLORE Test for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders*
  - *April 21-25*      *Spring Break*
  - *April 28*      *6:30-9:00 p.m. Spring Dance for 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> graders (upper gym)*
  - *May 5-10*      *PTA Book Fair*
  - *May 10*      *Mobile Dentist*
  - *May 25*      *Last day of school*
- *Note: The April calendar and menu will be distributed to students in Connections at the end of March.*

## FREE AND REDUCED BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

This is a reminder that it is not too late to sign up for the free and reduced lunch program. If you haven't filled out an application this year or if your circumstances have changed, you may qualify to receive benefits through the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program. Your child(ren) may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls within the guidelines listed on the chart below. If you think you may qualify for these services, feel free to drop by Junior High between 7:30-4:00. You are not required to show proof of income; however, if your family already qualifies for TANF or food stamps, it would be necessary to have your case ID number with you. If you are unable to make it to your child's school, you may also call Jean Kinder, Food Service Manager, at 217-223-8700, to receive information on how to qualify.

(Continued on next page)

**Income Eligibility Guidelines  
Effective from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010**

<b>Reduced Price Meals</b>					
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Twice Per Month</b>	<b>Every Two Weeks</b>	<b>Weekly</b>
1	20,036	1,670	835	771	386
2	26,955	2,247	1,124	1,037	519
3	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
4	40,793	3,400	1,700	1,569	785
5	47,712	3,976	1,988	1,836	918
6	54,631	4,553	2,277	2,102	1,051
7	61,550	5,130	2,565	2,368	1,184
8	68,469	5,706	2,853	2,634	1,317
For each additional family member, add	6,919	577	289	267	134

