January 2022

Principal Morris

Dear Como Senior High Families:

Happy New Year! I hope you all had time to rest and connect with family during this past holiday season. Returning to school in January is always filled with renewed energy and resolve to make a positive difference in the lives of all the members of our school community. I'm very hopeful that 2022 is finally the year that we get past COVID-19. I know we had the same wish and hope this past year. The number of cases continue to grow at rapid rates. At Como Park Senior High, we continue to require proper mask wearing for staff and students. We also continue to request that students and staff stay home if they are sick with COVID-19 like symptoms. Please help stop the spread of COVID-19 by keeping your student home if they are sick. If your student is ill with COVID-19 symptoms, please fill out the SPPS COVID-19 form. St. Paul Public Schools is committed to providing in-person learning with the belief that in person learning provides the best instructional experiences for the majority of our students.

We continue to use public transportation, rides, or driving as the main ways for our students to get to and from school. Our students were given bus cards this past fall at the expense of our school district. If a bus card has been lost, the cost is $10 to replace it. Our school is also no longer directing traffic at Grotto and Maryland as requested by the City of St. Paul. However, we will continue to support our students as they cross the streets at that busy intersection. Please continue to follow the flow of traffic that we have already established as you drop off and pick up your students.

In observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., there is no school on Monday, January 17th. Also, the end of second quarter is Thursday, January 27th. Please remind students to get their assignments in on time. Work submitted after the quarter ends will not be accepted. Please remind students that if they need extra time, they should work with their teachers to request the extension before the end of the quarter. Not all extensions will be honored. There is no school on Friday, January 28th. This is a grading day for teachers. Thank you for your continued support of Como Park Senior High School.

In partnership,

Kirk Morris
If you haven't been to the library in a while, a mural has been completed by Artist Shane Anderson. We are so proud and excited about the amazing story this wall tells about our students, our beauty, and our struggles. Students had input on the content for the mural and were even quoted.

Details:

- "Hello" in the top 10 languages (by population) spoken at Como and Lakota/Ojibwe are included in MN
- The globe shows the counties where most of our immigrant students have heralded from.
- The wood background is intended to replicate the new remodel and the forum.
- The boy's t-shirt has a rainbow and PRIDE on it and his hat says embRACE and the girl's shirt says L - Life G - Goes B - By T - To Q - Quickly and her hat says, St. Paul.
- Students provided the quote in the banner, the words Strive and Restore, and wanted the protest and masks included.
- BEAST- the acronym for Belong, Explore, Achieve, Succeed,Together is on our school's homepage as our motto.
Several MCJROTC Cadets were able to get their polar qualifications after swimming indoors at Como Park Senior High School, Happy Brrrrrrr Year!

Brrrrrr - It was not that cold! The Como Park MCJROTC cadets ensure they row into the new year staying fit during a tradition they have done for years conducting physical fitness with canoe on Como Lake. Row the boat cougars. Semper fi - Always faithful.
On December 14, 2021, 37 Como students had the wonderful opportunity of visiting the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. For many, this was their first time visiting a college campus and to be able to envision one potential option for life after high school. Greeted by the Undergraduate Admission team, the students learned about the many academic opportunities that awaited them, the criteria for admission consideration, and participated in a campus tour. While there was no doubt that the buffet style lunch was the highlight of the visit, many students cited the new knowledge that they learned about the eight distinct colleges and multiple campuses that made up the U of M Twin Cities campus network. Knowing that students could avoid the MN winter cold with the underground tunnels that connected 90% of the buildings was a plus. The visiting group, consisting of 9th-12th graders, were excellent ambassadors for Como Park Senior High School as they engaged staff and students with their questions and inquiries. Roughly 85% of the participating students indicate that they have plans to continue their postsecondary education at college or university after high school.
New PSEO Course Offered

Here is the link to sign up - https://forms.gle/ckAoVyMnDTeoCWHj8

!! New Course for Como Senior !!

Bethel University will offer an entry level course to Como Senior students in grades 11 and 12 this Spring Semester

WHO - juniors and seniors are welcome - students with a 3.0 GPA or better are likely to be successful, students with a 2.8 or 2.9 can join as well

WHAT - PSEO Course through Bethel University called Intro to Healthcare
- introduces students to the broad careers in healthcare besides a nurse and doctor
- this course offers 3 college credits
- this is entry level but will be a challenge and will involve writing
- student support provided for you to be successful
- you’ll create a Bethel account (email and moodle) - feels like “real” college

WHEN - Spring Semester 2022, one section, period 7 only

WHERE - at Como! A Bethel instructor will come to Como 2 days per week (MW) for in-person class, 1 day is virtual (F) and the remaining are self-directed (TTTH)

WHY - Why prepare for a healthcare career?

In this part of the country, we are known around the world as "Medical Alley" - We are home to the largest healthcare organization in the world (UnitedHealth Group), the world’s foremost clinical innovator (Mayo clinic) and the birthplace of the entire medical device industry (Medtronic). The Twin Cities metro area is also home to the 3rd largest concentration of health-related start-up companies in the country.

This creates a robust healthcare ecosystem with tremendous career potential.

HOW - to get in this class, fill out this form
Career and Internship Opportunities

Genesys Works application is opening soon for juniors only. This is an internship in the area of IT (information technology), starting this summer with training and then a full year of paid interning your senior year. This is a highly successful internship. Fill out the link in schoology showing your interest. Look for reps from GW in the lunchroom next week (T,TH)

Interest Link to share: https://rebrand.ly/GWTCClass2023

How do I join Genesys Works?

**STEP 1**
Attend an Information Session with GW Staff...Coming in January 2022

**STEP 2**
Fill out the Interest Link
rebrand.ly/GWTCClass2023

**STEP 3**
Learn more by visiting
genesisworks.org/twin-cities/

**STEP 4**
Apply! Application Closes March 13th, 2022

Contact us at GWTCRecruitment@genesworks.org
ROCK THE STREET, WALL STREET

ENROLLMENT OPEN NOW!

SPRING MENTORSHIP

JAN-APRIL 2022

Awesome Snacks!
Make New Friends

Learn How To Be Your Own Boss, Build Your Resume, Create a LinkedIn Profile, Practice Interviews, Advocate For Yourself and more!

For More Info See:
Teacher __________________________
Room __________________________

TO REGISTER GO TO:
app.rockthestreetwallstreet.com

RTSWS is for female or those who identify as female students only.
Get your daughter financially literate, comfortable with financial math, started on career exploration into the M of STEM and on the road to a successful launch into college. This program is free of charge to your student.

Como Senior is offering a program this Spring, Rock The Street, Wall Street (RTSWS). RTSWS is a financial and investment literacy program designed to spark the interest of a diverse population of high school girls into careers of finance. The program is facilitated 100% by local female financial professionals who will be joining our students in their classrooms.

We are recruiting now for the RTSWS Spring Mentorship component at Como Senior High School. This component of the program consists of 5, 1-hour sessions (roughly 1x/month), wherein your child will learn about personal and professional development, goal setting, interview skills, stock market analysis and social media etiquette all while being paired with a mentor in a 2:1 setting. We will meet 5 Wednesdays during period 3 in room 1603:

Wednesday January 26
Wednesday February 16
Wednesday March 9
Wednesday March 30
Wednesday April 20

Mentors will help guide them, establish a professional network and help build their social capital. They will be offered guidance on high school and college course selection. Students will create resumes, build a LinkedIn profile, and apply business skills to real world situations. The goal is to encourage the growth of women to become financially literate, independent and equally represented in the field of finance.

Deadline to sign up for the Spring Mentorship is January 19th

Please contact the RTSWS Team directly by clicking here with any questions. Your child can register directly for the program via the Rock The Street, Wall Street app. Be sure she/they indicate(s) which school she/they attend(s).

Visit our website: www.rockthestreetwallstreet.com for more information.

We need a minimum of 20 girls to participate! This is a great opportunity. You don't have to commit to a career in finance to join this group.

Miss Colestock is the contact at Como for this program - erin.colestock@stpaul.k12.mn.us
We are strongly seeking candidates that have a passion for art, design, social media, videography, set design, marketing, research etc. Open to juniors and seniors. Application deadline is February 18th.

[The BrandLab Summer 2022 High School Application]

**Attention Seniors!**

Mrs. Vang, graduation coordinator, has posted on the seniors schoology page the link for cap and gown measurement: https://forms.gle/rDhrJgNd7Pp8QYyw7. **Please encourage your child to get the form filled out before Friday, Jan. 21st.** It has been asked of students to verify their full name (first, middle and last name) in student portal to make sure that the spelling is correct as that will be printed on their diploma. If the spelling is incorrect, Ms. Mills will need either a passport or birth certificate to make that change.

Submit your senior’s baby pictures!

Attention Como Senior Parents,

The Como Park yearbook team is requesting a baby picture of your senior! Please complete the form below to have your senior’s baby photos included in the yearbook. Deadline is January 14th!!

Link to attach baby pictures: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdAD_xqjixRGKJ1wTmKxr48zo8e0JLFyTbnyKhTH6DKP3pmUQ/viewform?usp=sf_link
Webinar for College-Bound Student-Athletes

LIVE WEBINAR

UNDERSTANDING INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETES

DATE
» Tuesday, Jan. 11.

TIME
» 6:30-7:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Encourage your student-athletes to join the NCAA Eligibility Center on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 6:30 p.m. Eastern time for our webinar for college-bound student-athletes and their families. Students will learn about the latest initial-eligibility news, requirements they must meet to be ready when they get to campus, and the best resources for them as they pursue their dreams of studying and competing at an NCAA Division I or II school. Please share this link with your student-athletes and encourage them to attend this important event.

Student-Athlete Webinar Registration

877-622-2321
eligibilitycenter.org

PRE-ORDER YOUR 2021-2022 COMO YEARBOOK!

Buy at Yearbookforever.com
Coupon Code: Cougars for $10 off
**STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

Please welcome our new ELL Teacher, Ms. Amy Haugen

I am an ELL teacher. Prior to St. Paul, I have taught in Shakopee Public Schools, and the New York City Department of Education (Bronx, NY).

I love to walk, hike, and explore new places around the country. I also like to study the history of languages and genealogy.

Everyone has been so welcoming and friendly! I immediately felt welcome here by both students and staff.

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**ATTENTION PARENTS!**

Como Park Senior High School will be hosting our first annual Como Career and Trade Fair on-site, to help students discover and explore potential career opportunities. We are seeking volunteers in a variety of professions to table and share their professional experiences during our first annual career and trade fair. We encourage volunteers to dorn their uniforms (if applicable) and/or bring easily transportable equipment or informational material that can be used to show or share with our youths. Women in male-dominated fields and BIPOC professionals are highly encouraged to volunteer! If you’re interested in volunteering your time to share your profession with our Como community, please respond to Mai Chue Moua at mmoua.getr@spps.org or call/text her at 651-706-6032.

Como Career and Trade Fair
Wednesday, February 23, 2022
10:45 AM - 1:30 PM
On-Site: 740 Rose Ave W. St. Paul, MN 55117

Sponsored in collaboration with the Como Career Pathways Center (CPC), Career Pathways Coordinator, Counseling Department, and the Get Ready Program.
Attention Parents and Students…

School has been challenging this year! Help us identify what supports to implement next semester by completing this Form.

Como will offer a new Engineering course this Spring!

You can earn both high school and college credit - Introduction to Engineering is a course designed to help students understand the field of engineering and the related career pathways. Students are introduced to engineering fundamentals and the knowledge and skills necessary for success as professional engineers and engineering technologies. Topics include an overview of the engineering profession, engineering design, manufacturing, use of computer packages, and technical communication. Engineering graphics and solid modeling will be presented including the use of a solid modeling software. Students who complete this course will receive high school tech credit and college credit from Saint Paul College. Fill out this interest form to be considered.

Como Park Booster Club
Grant Applications now available!

Deadline is January 21, 2022 at 5:00 PM