

Ansonia High School

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Guidance

Book of the Month

Time Somebody Told Me

That I am lovely, good
and real
That I am beautiful inside
If they only knew
How that would make me
feel.

A poem from...

YOU HEAR ME?
poems and writing by teenage boys
edited by Betsy Franco

Available in the Media Center.

Time Somebody Told Me

That my mind is quick,
sharp
And full of wit
That I should keep on
trying
And never quit.



Time Somebody Told Me

How they loved and
needed me
How my smile is filled
with hope
And my spirit sets them
free

How my eyes shine, full
of light

How good they feel when
they hug me tight.

Time Somebody Told Me

So, I had a talk with
myself
Just me, nobody else
'cause it was time
Somebody Told Me.

What It Takes to be Student of the Month

Each month at AHS, student are nominated by faculty and the Student of the Month advisors review the nominations and faculty votes on a single student to be recognized as the Student of the Month. Some of the criteria to be nominated for Student of the Month are:

- Acceptable classroom standards
- Satisfactory attendance, including being on time for class.

- Continuous display of appropriate behavior or has made a significant positive change in his/her behavior
- Has a positive effect on others

The Student of the Month program recognizes students for excellence outside the boundaries of classroom achievement.

Dates to Remember

October 8	SATs
October 10	Columbus Day No School
October 12	PSATs at AHS
October 14	Teacher's Professional Day No School
October 17	"Ghosts" by Lorraine Warren At AHS
October 18	Principal's Conference Night By Appointment
October 24	Battle of the Classes Bombardment Tournament
October 31	Halloween

Guidance News, Con't.

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get together with a group to study.

A desire to work independently, think of extra-credit projects and suggest them to your teachers.

Source: Susan Abel Lieberman, *The Real High School Handbook*, 1997 (Houghton Mifflin Company, 222 Berkeley St, Boston, MA 02116, 1-800-225-3362), ISBN: 0-395-79760-8, paperback.

October 2005

Ansonia High School



The Charger Times

Back-to-School Night: A New Twist

Mission Statement

To prepare every learner to meet ever-changing personal and global challenges, the primary mission of Ansonia High School is to cultivate the emotional, physical, social, and intellectual growth of each student. The success of our mission requires the active participation of students, faculty, parents, and community in the learning process.

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For a number of years, the staff of Ansonia High School, in collaboration with the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), has sponsored a Back-to-School Night for parents/guardians of our students. At its inception, there was resentment by some, but over time the night has evolved to a much-anticipated event by most stakeholders. Not only did all parents/guardians have the chance to experience a condensed "day in the life" of their children, **but** the parents/guardians of freshmen (and students new to Ansonia High) were afforded a forum to learn about the transition from middle school to high school.

The latter began an hour earlier than Back-to-School for the masses. The PTSO president greeted

those in attendance and invited them to become members of the organization. School counselors and administrators spoke on a variety of subjects, with an emphasis on the difficulty of beginning this phase of one's education and the importance of awareness and planning ahead.

At 7:00 p.m., everyone was greeted in the cafeteria. Parents were then released to follow their child's/children's Day 1 schedule. From homeroom through seven periods of classes, parents scurried from class to class to meet teachers and to learn about the expectations for the class. If a student had a study, parents were free to browse the Media Center, the Charger Health Clinic, to partake of the refreshments in the cafeteria, etc.

By all accounts, the

night was a success. Of course, most of the parents who could benefit the most were not in attendance. Nevertheless, a respectable number did come, and we were glad to have them.

Hopefully, the numbers will grow because research tells us that students perform better when parents are involved.

September Student of the Month

Ashley Koundry is the AHS September Student of the Month. Ashley has been recognized as a leader by her teachers. Her positive attitude and willingness to get involved, especially with the recent history club project, set her apart this month.

Ashley is also an active member of the volleyball team. Congratulations, Ashley!
[NOTE: See related article on page 4.]

Visit from the Class of 1955

On September 16, 2005, the class of 1955 came to meet the class of 2006. Students in the History Club were able to interview men and women who graduated in 1955. From the class president to the class valedictorian, they shared their experiences on how great and different their high school years were. Many shared their opinion on how school has changed from when they attended school, describing their

stricter and less involving for females.

One woman compared the High School to being at home. She said she felt comfortable at school and enjoyed going everyday. Another woman mentioned that the school in 1955 and the school in 2005 are like night and day—very different in ways such as technology, discipline and the way people dress. Activities such as football and baseball were as much a big deal back then as they are now.

Guidance News

PSATs

PSATs will be given on Wednesday, October 12. The PSAT is a practice test simulating the SAT, which many students need for college admissions. All

sophomores or juniors interested in taking the PSAT may do so by paying a \$12 fee and signing up in the guidance office until October 11.

CAPT

Eleventh grade students have received CAPT results. Counselors have reviewed graduation requirements as they relate to CAPT along with social and civic responsibilities.

COLLEGE VISITS

Please sign up in the guidance office to attend any of the college representative visits this fall. Students must obtain a teacher's permission in order to miss a class. College visits for

October are as follows:

10/4	University of New England
10/5	Castleton State College of Vermont
10/6	Trinity College
10/7	Central Connecticut State University
10/7	Western Connecticut State University
10/17	Iona College
10/26	Springfield College
10/27	Post University
10/27	Johnson & Wales
10/28	Western New England College
10/31	University of New Haven

USE YOUR BEST LEARNING STYLE WHEN STUDYING

You may know that researchers have identified at least seven different kinds of intelligence or ways a person learns best. Take a look at the

strengths below and determine the best way to study. If you have:

- **Strong language skills,** read work aloud to yourself.
- **Strong math and logic skills,** look for the “why?” in every assignment. Why did a character from history act as she did? Was his reasoning sound?
- **Strong musical skills,** study to music. You could even sing your work to yourself.
- **Strong spatial skills,** draw pictures and diagrams whenever possible. People with strong spatial skills are good at picturing things in their heads. They understand things by seeing them, either in real life or in their minds.
- **Strong movement skills,** study while moving about the room, or change study spots often.
- **Strong people skills,**

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Literary Elements

Students in AP English Literature and Composition have been busy engaging in discourse and collaborative group research to examine how literary elements function in a given novel. Collaborative groups discussed how structure and setting, syntax and diction, persona and narrative voice, and figurative language and symbolism work to develop character, tone, and theme in Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*.

Ultimately, each group was responsible for deciding how a pair of particular devices “work” in the novel. Once the groups decided on a theory, they had to prove it by choosing a variety of passages from the novel to substantiate their thesis.

In informative and insightful presentations, students were able to share with their peers main points, citations, and explanations that supported each literary device. Each group created a

fact sheet in order to present the analysis.

The dedication of each group was displayed in their final presentations. Not only were presentations well organized and impressive, but also the fact sheets provided by each group will serve as a reference tool for future endeavors of this kind.

CISP

The Cooperative International Studies Program (CISP) has begun yet another year of great programs and activities.

Opening ceremonies were held recently at East Haven High School. More than 20 students from our high school participated in various activities centered around international film. Everyone, both students and staff, thoroughly enjoyed meeting students from other schools, creating an original film trailer, eating a delicious international snack, and viewing pre-selected foreign film clips.

We look forward to an enjoyable first semester.

Student Ambassadors

The Student Ambassador Program what is that? Well it is a new founded club, by Carlos Gómez and Jeffery Rivers. The purpose of a Student Ambassador will be to guide new students coming into Ansonia High School and/or to those students that plan to go to Ansonia High School. The Ambassador would spend the entire day with the new student to make sure that he or she gets to his or her class and gets familiarized with building. They would have lunch with the new student and explain the rules and regulations of the school. Therefore, the new student will know what the school is like and



The History Club created a bulletin board that compared the Flood of 1955 with Hurricane Katrina

DRAMA CLUB UPDATE

Casting and rehearsals are about to begin at Ansonia High School. This year, students will be putting on *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. After last year's break, both students and staff are eager to get moving on this endeavor. The play will be performed in early March of 2006. Keep tuned for further details.

the new student will also make a new friend which is always a positive experience to have when one is at a new school. The Ambassador would also be shadowed by a new student, when a student is considering coming to Ansonia High School. In addition, the student Ambassador will be representing AHS in events outside the school.

So, if you want to join the Student Ambassador Program come to the next meeting or sign up at the office, we are looking for new members.