



The Pioneer News

Pioneer High School will welcome, value, educate, guide, and inspire all students as they develop the skills and knowledge necessary to be responsible, contributing citizens who can achieve growth and success.

April

2008-09 Issue Eight

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PIONEER PARENTS	2	From the Principal's Desk
JUST A SHOUT OUT FROM YOUR ATTENDANCE OFFICE-CONT'D	2	<p>As Pioneer continues to experience downsizing due to the opening of Skyline High School, it is important to explore policies that are no longer consistent with the changes in Pioneer's culture and climate. At this time, student behavior during the transitional times of the day at Pioneer is not at the level that our staff would consider satisfactory. Transitional times include the beginning of school, passing times, lunchtime, and school dismissal at the end of the day. It is our impression that our school climate and transition times can be improved by closing campus at lunchtime.</p> <p>A meeting with the class of 2011 Student Council, a parent meeting, and prior notification in this publication, has taken place. A meeting with the entire class of 2011 will occur soon.</p> <p>Michael White Principal</p> <p>Just a friendly shout out from your Attendance Office...</p> <p>Hopefully (or hopefully not!) you have noticed that we are regularly calling home for unverified absences. We are attempting to do this in a timely fashion so the calls are happening the SAME day as the absence. If you think you should be receiving these calls and you aren't, please verify your home phone number with your grade office. Please understand that the Attendance Office cannot correct individual class period absences if they are marked in error. The student must talk with the teacher to get the absence corrected. Absence correction forms are available in the Attendance Office.</p> <p>Some of your students may have told you about the inactment of tardy sweeps. Mr. White asked for my assistance several times this semester for 1st and 4th hours. We hope to stress the importance of arriving to school and to each and every class ON TIME! Each student is required to be in class when the bell rings. A reminder bell rings 2 minutes before the start of each class. Those 11th and 12th grade students who eat lunch off-campus must return with enough time to arrive at their 4th hour class before the bell rings! Please encourage your child to be responsible and to be on time. Tardiness is disruptive to the whole class.</p> <p>Another clarification is that a doctor's note is no longer needed for a medical appointment, however, a call from the parent is required! Please make sure you notify the Attendance Office when your student will be missing class due to a medical or other appointment. Long-term or extended illnesses should be communicated to the grade offices and should be documented. Each student is responsible for signing in and/or out of school in the Attendance Office whenever they leave or arrive during the school day, regardless of the reason for their absence. When a parent calls in, they should provide the student identification number, student name, date of absence, hours of absence, and <u>reason</u> for absence. The caller should also identify her/himself and indicate their relation to the student. Calls from students are NOT acceptable (no matter what their age!). If you are unsure of the exact hours your student will miss, please notify us <u>after the fact</u> with the exact information.</p>
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Get School Information via EMAIL— FREE!— Subscribe to PIONEER Announcements

The Yahoo Groups Internet Announcement Service for Pioneer families is open for subscription. This FREE service allows the Main Office the ability to send out school announcements and other information to anyone who chooses to "subscribe" to the group. To subscribe, simply send an email to A2PioneerAnnouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com (you do not need to send a subject nor a body to the message). You can unsubscribe at any time by sending an email to A2PioneerAnnouncements-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please note that the group is for announcements only. Replies to messages sent via the group will not be forwarded to subscribers, nor will they be answered by anyone. We are very excited about the extra benefits this additional communication tool offers our Pioneer families!

Important Information for Pioneer Parents

WANTED: Caring parents who want to make a difference in the lives of the students at Pioneer High School!

Come to the final Pioneer PTSO Meeting of this academic year on Tuesday, April 1st, 7:30 PM in the Media Center to see how you can apply your available time and talents in assisting the students of Pioneer. We will be discussing budget and begin planning for next school year. The commitment is small; the rewards are life-long!

PTSO Newsletter Editor Position– I am looking for anyone interested in taking over this position for next year. My daughter will be a Senior and I would like to train my replacement before the end of the year. The best thing I can say about this job is you will always be informed on what is going on around Pioneer. The time commitment is about 4-5 hours a month putting the newsletter together and another 2 hours once a month getting the newsletters ready for mailing. Lots of fun. Please email me to volunteer: adamsl@aaps.k12.mi.us Thanks so much for all help given this year to make the newsletter a good source of information.

Watch for volunteer opportunities soon with Teacher Appreciation and in the Book Depository for end of year gathering of books.

Just a friendly shout out from your Attendance Office...(cont'd)

Calls regarding absences should be made within 2 school days of the absence. For absences more than 2 school days old, parents must call their grade level office within 2 weeks. No changes will be made beyond the 2 week period. For example, an absence on November 15th must be reported on or before November 29th. FYI, the grade office numbers are: 9th – 994-2128, 10th – 994-2145, 11th – 994-2141, and 12th – 994-2130.

Be reminded, parents can check their student's attendance at any time by using the PowerSchool system. A PowerSchool logon and password is provided to each family on all grade & progress reports. If you have questions about how to access attendance and grade information, please contact your student's grade level office. There is also a PowerSchool guide available online at: http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/powerschool.home/powerschool_family_access

Please understand that the Attendance Office receives up to 100+ calls/day. Voice messages will be responded to as quickly as possible. Urgent matters are best communicated to your student's grade level office.

News From the Preschool

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center is a program that serves a wide range of students and families throughout the Ann Arbor area. We are dedicated to the health and well being of children from the ages of 0 to 5 years old. As a new part of our curriculum, we have begun a partnership with Growing Hope, a community based organization that will help our school learn about gardening. The reason for our interest is the fact that many of our students have not been exposed to gardening and good nutritional practices. Many of the families we serve are of low socio-economic status. They do not have the means or space to grow gardens. Our families also are at a higher risk for obesity and diabetes due to the lack of fresh produce and sound nutritional practices.

The Ann Arbor Preschool is very concerned with these issues, as you can well understand. We are hoping that you share this concern. This is why we are asking for your support. We would appreciate donations in any amount. Donations can be made by check made out to: The Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center and mailed to above address. You may also donate supplies and equipment such as: pickle buckets, whisky barrels, peat moss, vermiculite, organic insecticides, material for making signs, garden trowels, trellis, or lattice material for vine growing plants, gardening gloves and other planting needs. All donations will receive an in kind letter which will allow you to deduct donations from your taxes. Donations of equipment or supplies can be dropped off at the Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center.

Our teachers and families are excited about the prospect of helping our children learn more about science, health and nutrition. Please consider making a donation to the Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center to our new "Seedlings" gardening program. Your support will be helping children and their families learn and grow with the knowledge of science, health and nutrition.

If you would like more information about our Seedlings program, please contact us at: 997-1245 ext. 56504/56206 or 56300. Thank you for your help and caring.

Sincerely,
Susan Dziedzic, Jill Koeppe,
Nancy Polmear-Swendis, Polly Salvato,
Judy Slone and Sue Westbrooks

News From the Youth Senate

SPRING ADVANCED LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Youth Empowerment Project's Youth Senate will host two more Advanced Leadership Training (ALT) sessions for youth leaders in the next two months. Interested students should email their *name, age, grade, school, email, phone, and leadership roles* to alt@youthempowerment.com

1-3:30pm, Wed, April 29, 2009: ALT #4 "Dialogue for Social Justice"

*The Newest Topic in the Series for **all youth leaders** made possible with help from the U of M School of Social Work! Learn how to communicate across social and economic lines.*

May, 2009 (Date/Time TBD): ALT #5 "Stress Prevention"

Youth leaders can come learn how to manage their stress. Relax and slide through finals!

SPRING ACHIEVEMENT SOLUTIONS TEAMS

The Youth Senate's Achievement Solutions Teams (AST) use positive peer influence to help students increase their academic success. With help from an adult facilitator students help each other identify barriers and step-by-step solutions to achieve success in school, class by class, and week by week when necessary. This is implemented in a manner that fosters personal ownership and support for improved academic success.

Students who can commit to spring AST weekly meetings until exams should come to room C227 every Monday during lunch. For more information: email ast@youthempowerment.com or call 761-3005.

SPRING VOLUNTEER PROJECT

The Youth Senate's Fight Poverty in Africa Project invites students to come help plan our spring walk-a-thon. Meetings are every Wednesday in room C227 at lunch. For more information: email

africa@youthempowerment.com or call 761-3005.

News From the Art Department

This entry is made with special thanks to the Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation for their generous Grant money, allowing the purchase of five professional quality Artist portfolios for my Art & Design students.

The Grant money @ \$ 250.00 made it possible to purchase these (5) full size Artist portfolio cases this past December, 2008.

The Art portfolios are being used for storage of student 2-D Art works (especially handy with renovation preparations going on in E-Hall), presentation of Art works to Exhibitions and competitions, and to give the students a grasp of what goes into the professional presentation of their physical project works.

The Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation Grant is sincerely appreciated, and can only enhance the already very fine Art work being made by our Pioneer High School Art students.

Thank you Wendy Correll and the Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation for your generosity!

Sincerely,
Corrine Gignac

ART 9-12: Pioneer H.S. 6th & 7th Hrs. Art & Design E-105

Counseling Corner

We are entering in to the last nine weeks of school. Please remind your students to stay focused on school. Finals are June 8 through June 11.

SENIORS – Many students have heard from the colleges that they applied to. Hopefully your son/daughter has made a choice and you have sent in your deposit to be a freshman somewhere next fall. Remember that most of the financial aid comes from the school your child is attending. If you think your package is not enough or would like to discuss your financial aid award, please call the financial aid department at the university or college your student will attend. If your student would like to attend Washtenaw Community College, please come to the counselor's office to apply online. The application is free. Senioritis is in full swing! Please remind your son/daughter that colleges can rescind their acceptance if grades decline significantly second semester. The last day for seniors is May 22. They have approximately 30 more days of school. Please encourage them to finish up strong.

JUNIORS - Congratulations on completing the MME. Pioneer is proud to announce that we had 98% participation from the class of 2010! Please return Parent Brag Sheets and Student Profiles to your counselor as soon as possible. The deadline is May 1st. Counselors will not write a recommendation without this information. AP testing is the first two weeks in May. There will be an orientation in your student's classroom on Thursday, April 23. The schedule will be handed out and questions can be answered at this time.

SOPHOMORES - Results from the PLAN test will be in soon. Counselors will meet in small groups to go over the results.

FRESHMEN - Final exams are coming. It is a good time to get organized, clean out folders and lockers and gather notes from February. It is never too early to start studying for finals. If you need help or strategies to improve your study skills talk with your teachers, organize study groups or come and see your counselor.

Freshmen – If you need extra assistance with course work please see your teachers. We have a list of tutors available in the counseling office. The Neural Zone also provides free tutoring in all subjects Monday – Thursday from 3pm-5pm. No appointments are necessary.

News For the Class of 2009– Please Read Important Information Below

2009 Senior Calendar Items



ASSEMBLY: ALL STUDENTS MUST ATTEND! MANDATORY ATTENDANCE! Tuesday, May 5, 2nd hour in Schreiber Auditorium. Alcohol Abuse Prevention Speaker.

MAY 1ST DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CREDIT FROM NON-PIONEER SOURCES: Any credits that are coming from outside Pioneer must be to the Records Office by May 1st.

OBLIGATIONS: All past due obligations (from previous semesters, **not** this semester) must be cleared by May 22nd -- Seniors' last day in the building. Obligations incurred this semester, media center materials, athletic materials, books, calculators, elevator keys, music money, etc. must be cleared by Tuesday, June 2nd at noon. **If all obligations are not cleared, you will not receive your diploma at commencement.**

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PROM: This formal affair is Saturday, May 9, 2009, 9:00 p.m.- midnight (no admittance after 11:00 pm) at the Eastern Michigan University Student Center, 900 Oakwood Street, 48197. The theme for prom is "A Red Carpe Premiere." Senior input on music has been communicated to the DJ, so all genres will be played. In addition, a jazz quartet will entertain in the mezzanine lounge all evening. This venue is brand new, air conditioned, spacious and inviting -- so plan to come early and spend the evening with your friends. Refreshments have been selected by your Student Council and promise to be delicious and plentiful. Convenient surface lot parking is adjacent to the Student Center. The "Red Carpet" entrance is on the west side of the Student Center and is also the *limo* drop off.

Security will be provided by both EMU officers and Pioneer's police liaison officer, and will be highly visible both indoors and out. Officer Foster declares that there will be "zero tolerance" toward alcohol abuse -- abusers will be arrested, not sent home. *Take heed.*

PROM TICKETS : Tickets will be sold Thursday, April 30th - Friday, May 8th during lunch in A Hall. The price is \$25 per person. If you are bringing a non-Pioneer guest, you must complete a Guest Form. **Guest Forms will be available starting April 21st** at the Attendance Office and in the Senior Class Office. You must present the Guest Form when you purchase your Prom tickets.

JOSTENS GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEMENTOS ETC: If you ordered graduation announcements and related items (**not cap & gown**), they were disbursed on Tuesday, April 7 and Wednesday April 8. If you have any questions about them contact the company in Chelsea at (734) 475-9721.

SENIOR FAILURE NOTICE DEADLINE: Wednesday, May 27th noon due to counselors. If failure notices are not turned in by noon the student will pass the class.

ALL SENIOR ALL NIGHT PARTY TICKET SALES: Tickets will go on sale at the Flagpole entrance during lunch time please have ID with you. April 27th - May 1 for \$20 (entered in a prize drawing for buying early) and May 12th-15th for \$30; on May 18th -22nd for \$30. June 4th at EMU after rehearsal for \$40; and at the door on June 4th for \$50. It pays to purchase early, even if you are not positive you will attend. This all night post-graduation party is always a blast -- the ultimate Ice Cream Social! It is put on completely by parents and ASAN volunteers at Pioneer. You will receive an invitation in the mail. A student ID must be presented.

CULMINATING ACTIVITIES WEEK MAY 18th - 22nd

Exams:

Monday - 7th hour; Tuesday - 1st & 2nd hour; Wednesday - 3rd & 4th hour; Thursday - 5th & 6th hour; Friday - make-ups. **FRIDAY, MAY 22ND IS THE LAST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL FOR SENIORS!**

Class Picture:

Friday, May 22nd report to the Big Gym right after 2nd hour (8:43 am) for the Class Photo. The photographer will provide information at this photo session about ordering your copy of the class photo.

Cap & Gown Distribution:

Friday, May 22nd right after the class photo in the Big Gym you will receive your cap & gown & tassel.

Senior Exit Survey: May 22

Obligations:

Clear all remaining obligations by June 2 or risk not receiving your diploma on graduation day.

Yearbooks: May 22nd in the Big Gym

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL: Thursday, June 4th 10:00 am - 12 noon (ish) at Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center, 799 Hewitt Rd (between Washtenaw and Clark), Ypsilanti, MI 48197. You can take either Packard or Washtenaw to Hewitt. **If you plan to participate in Commencement you must participate in Rehearsal.**

GRADUATION CEREMONY: Thursday, June 4th at 7:00 pm - 9 (ish) pm at EMU Convocation Center, 799 N Hewitt Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Graduates are to arrive by 5:30 pm. The ceremony will begin at 7:00 sharp. In keeping with the formality of the commencement ceremony, please dress up -- no shorts or flip flops, please! Tickets are not necessary. **Noise makers will not be tolerated; disruptive graduates or guests in the audience will be removed.** Contact Marcy Szabo at EMU 734-487-8198 (mszabo1@emich.edu) if you are interested in reserving a private suite (approximately \$250) for the commencement ceremony.

News From the Pioneer Choirs— State Solo & Ensemble Results

Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28 17 members of the Pioneer Choirs sang at the Michigan School Vocal Music Association State Solo & Ensemble festival at Walled Lake Central High School. Those singers and their results follow:

Anna Benson, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing advanced level
 Laura Chodoroff, 1 for solo, 1 for solo sight singing primary level
 Evan Clark, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Robert Eisentrout, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Elizabeth Goldstein, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level, 1 for solo,
 1 for solo sight singing intermediate level
 Charlotte Grenier, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Alyson Halpert, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Jenny Herzog, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Katherine Keller, 2 for solo, 1 for solo sight singing primary level
 JinYoung Lee, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Rachel Mann, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Emilio Mateo, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Hannah Nathans, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Ashley Park, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing, 1 for solo, 1 for solo sight singing advanced level
 Max Rasmussen, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Alexander Rigney, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level
 Schuyler Robinson, 1 for large ensemble, 1 for sight singing intermediate level

In addition to those ratings Ashley Park was selected the outstanding soloist in one of three sections over the two days and will sing at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Saturday, May 9th.

News From the Pioneer Choirs—District Choir Festival Results

190 members of the Pioneer Choirs received excellent ratings in two days of singing at the Ford Fine Arts Facility in Dearborn, Michigan. This is the second time since 1972 that all of the Pioneer Choirs received excellent ratings at District Choir Festival. Prior to that time all of the Pioneer Choirs did not attend District Choir Festival.

A Cappella, Singers, Bel Canto & Cantando each qualify for State Festival!

Choir, three performance ratings, one sight singing rating, = overall rating, and level.

Three performance scores, sight singing score, 5 to 20, with 5 best possible, total 20-100 with 20 best possible.

A Cappella 1,1,1,1 = 1, advanced 5,6,7,5 = 23

Bel Canto 1,1,2,1 = 1, intermediate 7,7,8,5 = 27

Cantando 1,1,1,1 = 1, primary 6,6,6,6 = 24

Singers 1,1,2,1 = 1, primary 5,7,8,7 = 27

A Cappella members include:

Spencer Baily, Zhe Bao, Olivia Bassett-Kennedy, Morgan Bell, Anna Benson, Zoe Berman, Stephanie Bielek, Sophia Blumenthal, Bryana Boos, Katrina Braun, Gabriel Casher, Darren Chiang, Evan Clark, Joseph Deliso, Jennifer Diep, Kelsey Duerksen, Lia Dykstra, Clare Eisentrout, Robert Eisentrout, Michael Ferrara, Spencer Finegold, Annemarie Friedo, Claire Gaynor, Elizabeth Goldstein, Kathryn Graham, Kelly Grahl, Charlotte Grenier, Lee Gunderson, Elizabeth Haller, Alyson Halpert, Jenny Herzog, Lydia Hiller, Samuel Hubbard, Alex Kulick, Jea Hyung Lee, Jin Woo Lee, Jin Young Lee, Kiel Lerch, Vicki Li, Emilio Mateo, Melissa McClure, Ryan McCoy, Daniel Merritt, Michael Metcalfe, Ashley Park, Hannah Pearlman, Max Rasmussen, Alexander Rigney, Rory Scott, Sarah Shubin, Matthew Smith, Olivia Songer, Cassie Stanzler, Clara Teall, Cory Toomasian, Timothy VanRiper, Erin Walker, Andrew White, Dorothy Yarrington, Eric Zinn

Bel Canto members include:

Marissa Alaniz, Emma Bedard, Jenna Brooks, Mary Carolyn Buckingham, Elizabeth Bush, Megan Chaperon, Alina Charniauskaya, Nishita Conjeevaram, Catrin Dowd, Rebecca Fisher, Stephanie Garris, Chelsea Hanson, Morgan Hertz, Miriam Holzman, Katherine Keller, Emily Kloska, Elizabeth Lloyd, Rachel Mann, Haley McNabb, Iliana Mendoza-Nava, Dylan Mierzwinski, Jessa Miller, Morgan Minger-Szyniszewski, Sarah Monosso, Hannah Nathans, Cara Pardon, Hope Parow, Lydia Pavach, Vaishnavi Premkumar, Liane Racelis, Stephanie See, Mara Sevig, Samantha Slottow, Emily Stearns, Shira Steiner, Erin Strader, Cristina Tamer, Sasha Tarasev, Ruth Wei, Katherine Wright, Emma Zinn

Cantando members include:

Mara Abramson, Dana Anderson, Elena Arnett, Justine Bartlett, Kaitlyn Beaugrand, Ashley Belen, Jade Bishop, YooJin Chang, Libing Dong, Shira Elyakin, Sara Flannerey, Sarah Gallagher, Sophia Garris, Genevieve Goldberg, April Hadwick, Emma Hamstra, Yazmin Ibrahim, Ravine Isa, Meghan Jarrett, Alyssa Jeffries, Allison Kennedy, Rebekah Lauer, Julie Lawrence, Christine Lim, Suh Eun Lim, Morgan Lucot, Michaela Martin, Julia Massey, Amber Miller, Kaitlyn Mills, Isobel Mouat, Te'Love Page, Keanna Parks, Tori Parks, Victoria Pearson, Nora Pierson, Christa Pok, Savannah Sargent, Audrey Slizewski, Katie Smith, Emily Steward, Taryn Thomas, Karen Toomasian, Elizabeth Uribe, Asia Vanhorn-Lee, Ayona Vanhorn-Lee, Elisabeth Walker, Wilniqua White, Shavon Willis, Sara Yi, Zijun Zhao

Singer members include:

Michael Barbour, Kearney Betts, Eric Bissett, Charles Brewer, Scott Burdick, Roderick Casey, Jedediah Davis, Jonathan Evans, Anthony Garcia, Taylor Gest, Nicolas Gonzalez, Julian Jocque, Matthew Jong, Yongmin Jung, Michael Kundrat, Seth Lacombe, Chewon Lee, Benjamin Lehman, Keith Leonard, O'Dell Marshall, Alex Massingill, William Matteson, Jacob Merrell, Stephen Merritt, Eric Miller, Daniel Mozurkewich, Reilly Quigley, Paul Reece, Aaron Rosano, David Rose, Jeffrey Rousseau, William Russell, Jonas Schmid, Michael Shack, John Spalding, Robert Vanderpluijm, Joshua Weiland, Callaghan Wise

Athletic Booster Club Information



The Pioneer Booster Club's mission is to support athletic and academic excellence in all student athletes. There are over 30 sports teams available to our students. These create smaller communities, afford a way for parents to get to know each other, and help students develop discipline and make long lasting friends.

The last Booster Club meeting of the year is Monday, May 18 at 7:00 pm in the Athletic Classroom. A representative from each team is required to be there. We will be reviewing the activities of the current school year and conducting the lottery for the 2009-2010 school year fundraisers.

A HUGE thank you to all who attended, helped with, and donated to the annual Gala held on March 27. Everyone had a great time and had the opportunity to bid on some wonderful baskets donated by the teams. We appreciate all of your support!

Go, Pioneers!

News From the PTSO Student Store

T shirts for the spring - short sleeved Pioneer T shirts \$12 every Friday lunchtime outside main office.

Plus Pioneer high quality insulated travel coffee mugs - great for your coffee especially for parents supporting outdoor sports \$18

Orders also taken at ajanethompson@comcast.net

News From the Pioneer Bands- 2009 Michigan Youth Arts Festival Results

Our Pioneer Bands students participated in State Solo & Ensemble Festival Saturday, March 28, 2009 at Chelsea High School. State certified MSBOA Adjudicators evaluated each performance.

As a result of their performance at the STATE Solo and Ensemble Festival, the following Pioneer Band students were nominated to participate in the MSBOA Youth Arts Festival **CONCERTO SOLOIST** auditions: **Meekyoung Lee** (Flute), **Saunders Hayes** (Flute), **Victoria Tillman** (Oboe), **James Campbell** (Bb Clarinet), **Ryan J. King** (Bb Clarinet), **Dylan Larkins** (Trumpet), **Hope Wilson** (Trombone), **Jonathan Bower** (Trombone), **Skye Hookham** (Marimba).

As a result of their performance at the STATE Solo and Ensemble Festival, the following Pioneer Band students were nominated to audition for the MSBOA Youth Arts Festival **OUTSTANDING SMALL ENSEMBLE**: **Woodwind Duet** featuring **Lindsay Hall** (Flute), **Andrew Johnson** (Bb Clarinet); **Woodwind Quintet** featuring **Meekyoung Lee** (Flute), **Dana Wilson** (French Horn), **Abby Lewis-Lakin** (Oboe), **Ryan J. King** (Bb Clarinet), **Victoria Fingerle** (Bassoon); **Brass Quintet** featuring **Helen DeMarsh** (French Horn), **Amin Lanseur** (Tuba), **Jeff Johnson** (Trumpet), **Mackenzie Miller** (Trombone), **Miriam Michaels** (Trumpet); **Brass Quartet** featuring **Jay Yamakado** (French Horn), **Amin Lanseur** (Tuba), **Devin Webster** (Trombone), **Jonathan Bower** (Trombone); **String Trio** featuring **Jacob Joyce** (Violin), **Ryan King** (Bb Clarinet), **Leah Latterner** (Piano).

The following Pioneer Music students were nominated to participate in the **MSBOA YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL HONORS BAND**: **Meekyoung Lee** (Flute), **Ryan J. King** (Clarinet), **Michael Sullivant** (Bass Clarinet), **Jeff Johnson** (Trumpet), **Joshua Stein** (Trumpet), **Hope Wilson** (Trombone), **Adam Graves** (Tuba).

The following Pioneer Music students were nominated to participate in the **MSBOA YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL HONORS ORCHESTRA**: **Dylan Larkins** (Trumpet), **Dana Wilson** (French Horn), **Elizabeth Cvercko** (French Horn), **Jay Yamakado** (French Horn), **Margaret Morgan** (French Horn), **Jonathan Bower** (Trombone), **Scott Hulbert** (Snare).

These students were nominated from over 10,000 MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival participants from the entire State of Michigan.

Heartiest congratulations to all these fine musicians!!!

News From the Pioneer Orchestras

Spring Orchestra Concert:

A performance featuring all three orchestras will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14 in Schreiber Auditorium. The concert also includes performances by some selected small ensembles and will conclude with a piece played by all orchestra members. It is free and open to the public.

Pioneer Orchestras in New York City:

The Pioneer Chamber and Symphony Orchestras will be traveling to New York City to perform and be coached by a member of the New York Philharmonic from April 22-26. The group will also experience many educational aspects of New York City, including seeing a musical on Broadway, getting a tour of the Lincoln Center, Ellis Island, and much more.

For more information about the Pioneer Orchestras, please visit our website: www.phsorchestra.com

News From the Pioneer Bands

Pioneer Band students received **72 first division** and **21 second division** ratings in **SOLO** performance, as well as **64 first division** and **14 second division** ratings in **ENSEMBLE** performance at the **STATE Solo and Ensemble Festivals** held on March 28.

The following Pioneer High School Band students participated in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) **STATE Solo and Ensemble Festival** on March 28. Students prepared a solo and/or an ensemble and performed for an MSBOA Certified Adjudicator. Their performance was evaluated and a rating between "I" (Excellent) and "V" was assigned.

Sophomores through seniors who performed solos were also eligible to participate in Proficiency Examinations, requiring scales and sightreading, as well as performance on their solo. The symbol (2) after a student's name indicates that they had two events receiving that rating in the same category.

Pioneer High School Band students receiving a "I" (Excellent) rating for their performance of a SOLO were: Emily Arsen, Alex Baum, Joella Bennett, Rachel Bielajew, Jonathan Bower, James Campbell, Julia Chen (2), Andrew Jae Hyun Choe, D'Arcy Cook, Katie Copp, Elizabeth Cvercko, Jonathan Evans, Kerryann Fingerle, Kevin Flannagan, Patrick Lamont Fleming, Sachi Gianchandani, Adam Graves, Christopher Haddlesey, Christopher Hass, Saunders Hayes, Andrew Hess, Leila Hofer, Skye Hookham, Lauren Houser, Skye Huerta, Scott Hulbert, Max Hully, Vijay Ilankamban, Andrew Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Ryan King, Dylan Larkins, Leah Latterner (2), Meekyoung Lee, Julia Markey, Aidan Mase-Kemnitz, Karen Matsuo, Megumi Matsushita, Jack McKarns, Isabel McKay, Cailey Miller, Margaret Morgan, Sowdeepya Nadimpalli (2), Emily Northrup, Julia Pakela, Duncan Polot, Linda Relson, Niko Rombes, Sarah Rontal, David Shao, David Shapiro, Jeff Shipan, Daniel Siler, Andrew Smith, Joshua Stein, Michael Sullivant, Jacob Swanson, Victoria Tillman, Emily Topham, Xiao Wang, Devin Webster, Aaron Wilson, Dana Wilson, Hope Wilson, Matthew Winick, Eric Yamakado, Jay Yamakado, Ryan Yunck, Kevin Zhang

Pioneer High School Band students receiving a "II" (Good) rating for their performance of a SOLO were: Maddie Allen, Caitlin Berrigan, Helen DeMarsh, James Fitzpatrick, Christopher Fleming, Prasanth Ganesan, Lindsay Hall, Scott Hulbert, Alexander Jaeckel, Jae Jung, Mia Kaartinen, Amin Lanseur, Younkyoung Lee, Yuming Liu, Sara Long, Katherine McKarns, Miriam Michaels, Veronica Olszewski, Rachel Simon, Malaika Whitney, Thea Yagerlener

Pioneer High School Band students receiving a "I" (Excellent) rating for their performance of an ENSEMBLE were: Jonathan Bower (2), Elizabeth Bush, Katie Centurione, D'Arcy Cook, Katie Copp, Elizabeth Cvercko (2), Helen DeMarsh, Nick DeMarsh, Meera Desai, Tory Fingerle, Kevin Flannagan, Sachi Gianchandani, Adam Graves, Lindsay Hall, Saunders Hayes, Max Hully, Esther Hur, Vijay Ilankamban, Andy Johnson, Jeff Johnson (2), Ryan King (2), Caroline Laman, Amin Lanseur (2), Dylan Larkins, Leah Latterner, Meekyoung Lee (2), Aidan Mase-Kemnitz, Karen Matsuo, Megumi Matsushita (2), Isabel McKay, Miriam Michaels (2), Cailey Miller, Mackenzie Miller, Margaret Morgan, Jeni Nao, Alyssa Natoci, Kayla Oh, Duncan Polot, Niko Rombes (2), David Shapiro, Jeff Shipan, Andrew Smith, Jacob Swanson (2), Emily Topham, Manisha Verma, Xiao Wang, Devin Webster (2), Aaron Wilson, Dana Wilson, Hope Wilson, Jay Yamakado, Angela Yang, Ryan Yunck

Pioneer High School Band students receiving a "II" (Good) rating for their performance of an ENSEMBLE were: Caitlin Berrigan, Rosie Curtis, Elizabeth Etter, Monica Fink, Ali Hassani, Lauren Houser, Vijay Ilankamban, Cailey Miller, Veronika Olszewski, Rahul Puttagunta, Natalie Roll, Rachel Teeter, Aaron Wilson, Thea Yagerlener

Jeff Kass Performance

Stages Theater Company presents *Wrestle the Great Fear: A Performance Poetica* written and performed by Jeff Kass. As the new White House administration grapples with how to formulate educational policy and what to do about No Child Left Behind, Pioneer H.S. teacher and writer Jeff Kass debuts a one-man show consisting of 28 poems that excavate and explore the complexity of student-teacher relationships.

“Everybody’s been in a classroom,” Kass says, “but our public discussions often seem to skip over the human element, the face-to-face interactions that make up every school day. *Wrestle the Great Fear* attempts to shine a spotlight on what it means to teach and what it means to learn in today’s fast-paced and challenging world.”

The show will debut on Wednesday, April 29th @ 7pm at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater in the Michigan League. It will be directed by Ben Cohen, choir and drama teacher at The Greenhills School and will include musical performances from local musicians Nick Ayers, Sean Duffy and Greg Burns. The show will also feature original video created by local video and film production company Siegemedia.

“It’s been really exciting to collaborate with so many talented artists to make this show happen,” Kass says. “I hope teachers and students and people who just care about language and learning and life will come check it out.”

Kass teaches Creative Writing at Pioneer High School and Eastern Michigan University and directs the Literary Arts Programs at The Neutral Zone. Both his teaching and writing have won numerous awards and his short story collection *Knuckleheads* is forthcoming from Dzanc Books.

Event: *Wrestle the Great Fear: A Performance Poetica*

Place: Lydia Mendelssohn Theater in the Michigan League, 911 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 29, 2009 @ 7pm. Doors open @ 6:30.

Admission: \$5 general admission. Contact Jeff Kass @ 734-223-7443 or eyelev21@aol.com for more info or to reserve tickets.

News From the Theatre Guild

Pioneer Theatre Guild Presents URINETOWN

Directed by **Robert Hartwell**

Assistant Directed by **Amanda Choate**

Music Direction by **Brian Buckner**

Choreographed by **Sadie Yarrington**

All direction by students in the University of Michigan Musical Theatre and Dance Programs

Music and Lyrics by **Mark Hollmann**

Book by **Greg Kotis**

Nominated for 10 Tony Awards, this groundbreaking contemporary musical comedy has redefined the world of musical theater. URINETOWN satirizes many contemporary issues, and holds the mirror up to society showing us what can happen when a greedy political system has to deal with an ecological crisis. A twenty-year drought causes all restroom activities to be done in public toilets, which are controlled by the government or big business. Strictly enforced laws ensure that people must pay to pee, or else they will be sent to Urinetown where culprits are sent but never

return. A new fee hike, instituted by corrupt corporation Urine Good Company, triggers a revolutionary revolt by the poor. This ultimately leads up to a head to head battle between these two opposing forces, but with an ending that will shock and surprise!

All performances in Schreiber Auditorium.

Tickets (general admission):

Adults \$12, Students/Seniors/Teachers \$8

There will be reserved seating (rows G-K) available for \$25 a ticket. Please contact **Jacqui Grisdale** for more information regarding these seats at ptguild@gmail.com. All other tickets will be available at MORGAN & YORK (1928 Packard Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104) by Thursday, April 9.

Performance Dates:

- * **Saturday, April 25 - 7:30 p.m.**
- * **Sunday, April 26 - 2:00 p.m. matinee**
- * **Friday, May 1 - 7:30 p.m.**
- * **Saturday, May 2 - 7:30 p.m.**
- * **Sunday, May 3 - 2:00 p.m. matinee**

News From the ASAN Grocery Program

IMPORTANT: KROGER GROCERY PROGRAM FOR ASAN IS CHANGING

As of **May 1st**, please do NOT reload your Kroger Gift Card for the ASAN event. Any balance on the card may still be used for purchases, but the new program requires only your **registered Kroger Plus card**. Please register soon as it may take 7-10 days before registration is activated.

(If you don't already have one, Kroger Plus cards are available at any Kroger customer service desk. If you use a phone # at the register, call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card #.)

Note there's a pop-up screen often during the following process. Click so that **all** content is shown.

TO REGISTER YOUR KROGER PLUS CARD:

- * Go to *www.krogercommunityrewards.com*
- * Click *Michigan*.
- * Click *enroll* under Participant.
- * As a new online customer, click ***Sign up today!*** in the 'New Customer?' box on the right.
- * Under Preferred Store, enter zip code, click *find*.
- * Pick preferred store, click *select*.
- * Enter email address, create a password, click *confirm*.
- * Agree to the terms and conditions, click *confirm*.
- * You will get a message to check your email and click on the link within the body of the email.
- * Enter your email address and password, click *sign in*.
- * Click *Edit Kroger Community Rewards information* and enter your Kroger Plus card number
- * Click save changes.
- * Update or confirm your information, click *save changes*.
- * For organization, enter NPO number **82622** or ***Pioneer***, select from list and click *save changes*.
- * To verify correct enrollment, *Pioneer High School ASAN* should be on the right side of the page
- * Logout

Although it may take a few minutes to register, it will now be so easy to support ASAN using just your Kroger Plus card every time!

ALL SENIOR ALL NIGHT JUNE 4TH 2009



Every year families and communities are devastated by tragic accidents killing seniors on graduation day. Pioneer High School has been hosting an all night party on graduation night for 15 years to prevent these tragedies. **Your donations will save lives!** Over 90% of our graduates buy tickets to come to school and are locked in for a night without access to alcohol and drugs.

With your help, we transform the building and provide a safe environment with novelty games, a casino, prizes, gifts and food. This party acknowledges the student's hard work but more importantly it gives parents and the community peace of mind.

If you have been a part of the grocery program thank you for your support! If you have not we need your support in order to keep this tradition alive for this class and future classes. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution (tax ID # 38-3342241). Thank you on behalf of Pioneer High School, the class of 2009 and future senior classes.

Make Checks Payable to ASAN and send to:

Julie Weintraub, ASAN Chair, 1832 Chicory Ridge Road Ann Arbor, MI 48103 JulesWW@aol.com

We would like to support the 2009 ASAN party with a tax-deductible contribution of:

_____ \$25 or over _____ \$50 or over _____ \$100 or over

Name or Business Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED Great Way to see the Party! Thank you to the 425 parents who completed Volunteer Forms at the beginning of the school year! ASAN callers are currently in the process of contacting these volunteers to confirm their jobs.

If you did not sign-up to volunteer at this party for graduating seniors (a safe, drug and alcohol-free, supervised lock-in celebration), we are still looking for help in the following areas:

Decorations		
Friday, May 29th	3:30 - 6:00 pm	Move decorations from storage
Thursday, June 4 th	3:30 – 6:30 pm	Decorate
	5:00 – 8:00 pm	Decorate
	6:00 – 10:00 pm	Decorate
Closing/Clean-up		
Friday, June 5 th	3:30 – 7:30 am	Take down and store decorations
	3:30 – 6:00 am	Kitchen Clean-up
	5:00 am – 6:00 am	Return items to restaurants and/or transport leftover food to Food Gatherers (as needed)
Safety/Security	1:00am – 3:00am	Important job of sitting by exits, so that students are discouraged from leaving early
	3:00 – 5:00 am	Sit by various exits
“The Late Shift”	1:00 – 4:00 am	Various jobs (food, casino, safety, etc.)
Medical	10:00pm -1:00 am	Need doctor/nurse on-site at all times
	1:00 -4:00 am	

To sign up, contact Cathy Pardon at cpardon@comcast.net (preferred method) or call 662-1576.

The Pioneer News

Ann Arbor Public Schools
2555 South State Road • Ann Arbor • MI • 48104
Pioneer High School General Office: 994-2120

2008-09 PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL PTSO BOARD

Eric Macke	665-6169	macke@aaps.k12.mi.us
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Fakhri Farokhna	972-0707	fakh04@gmail.com
Stephanie Freeman	213-5292	saf2124@yahoo.com
Cynthia Freter	997-0772	
William Penner-Hahn, Student Rep		william@penner-hahn.net

Non-Discrimination Policy: No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any educational program or activity available in any school on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, creed, political belief, age, national origin, linguistic and language differences, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, height, weight, marital or familial status, or disability.

Pioneer PTSO News items are to be submitted *via email* to Laurie Adams at adamsl@aaps.k12.mi.us, via campus mail to **Laurie Adams Skyline HS**, or left in the *PTSO mailbox* in the main mailroom before 2:00 pm on the deadline dates indicated below. The PTSO sends the *Pioneer News* via bulk mail to all Pioneer families. The *News* usually arrives within a few days of mailing, but the US Post Office will not guarantee a timely delivery. Bulk rate mail can take as long as 3 weeks to be delivered, so please make sure your most time-sensitive announcements and events are submitted WELL IN ADVANCE of your event date!
NEXT DEADLINE
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009 2:00PM

Non-Profit
US Postage
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Ann Arbor, MI
Permit No. 140

To:

Look for the PTSO on the PIONEER Website:

<http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/pioneer.home>

Parent Volunteer Opportunities — Contact PTSO or Grade Office to Help:

5/9 SENIOR PROM

6/4 ALL SENIOR ALL NIGHT PARTY

Important DATES Mark your Calendar!

April

4/9 3rd Marking Period Grades Mailed Home
4/9 Spring Break Begins at End of Day through 4/19
4/20 School Resumes
4/21 PTSO Business Mtg, Officer Elections, Lt Th, 7:30PM
4/23-24 State Choir Festival
4/25 Th Guild Presents Urinetown, Schreiber, 7:30 PM
4/26 Th Guild Presents Urinetown, Schreiber, 2:00 PM
4/28 Senior Class Assembly, Schreiber, 2nd Period
4/29 Early Release Day, students released at 12:35 PM
4/30 Spring Sing Concert

May

5/1 Multicultural Food Fair, Cafeteria, Lunch Time
5/1 Th Guild Presents Urinetown, Schreiber, 7:30 PM
5/2 SAT Testing (With Subject Tests), PHS, 7:45 AM
5/2 Th Guild Presents Urinetown, Schreiber, 7:30 PM
5/3 Th Guild Presents Urinetown, Schreiber, 2:00 PM
5/4 Advanced Placement Testing Through 5/15/09
5/8 Fourth Interim Progress Period Ends
5/9 Senior Prom, EMU Student Center, 9PM - 11:30 PM
5/13 Early Release Day, students released at 12:35
5/14 Fourth Interim Progress Reports Mailed Home
5/15 Theatre Guild Student Productions, Lt Th, 7:30 PM
5/16 Picnic Pops on the Lawn - all day
5/16 Theatre Guild Student Productions, Lt Th, 7:30 PM
5/17 Theatre Guild Student Productions, Lt Th, 2:00 PM
5/18 Senior Culminating Activities Through 5/22/09

5/18 7th Period Senior Exams
5/19 1st & 2nd Period Senior Exams
5/20 3rd & 4th Period Senior Exams
5/20 Jazz Band Summit Concert, HHS Meyer, 7:30 PM
5/21 5th & 6th Period Senior Exams
5/21 Senior Awards Banquet (tentative)
5/22 Last Day for Seniors - Exit Survey
5/25 Memorial Day Holiday - No School
5/27 Student Council Elections for 2009-2010

June

6/4 PHS Commencement, EMU Convocation, 7PM
6/4 All Senior All Night Party
6/6 SAT Testing (With Subject Tests)
6/8 7th Period Exams and Shortened Schedule
6/9 1st and 2nd Period Exams
6/10 3rd and 4th Period Exams
6/11 5th and 6th Period Exams
6/12 Make up Exams by Appointment
6/12 Semester Two Ends
6/13 ACT Testing - PHS & HHS, 7:45 AM - 1:00 PM
6/14 Choir Bon Voyage Concert, Schreiber, 2:00 PM
6/19 Second Semester Grades Mailed Home

For updates to the calendar, go to:

<http://ical.aaps.k12.mi.us:16080/pioneer>