

# The Pioneer News

PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL PTSO · 2011-2012 · September · Issue One



**Welcome Back!**

**Students · Teachers · Counselors**

**Administration · Parents**

**Support Staff · Coaches**

**Everyone In The Pioneer Family!**

## Pioneer Theater Guild is proud to announce it's 2011-2012 show season

**The Phantom of the Opera**, Broadway's longest running show, tells the story of a masked phantom who haunts the famed Paris Opera House. The phantom's obsessive love for the innocent young soprano, Christine, drive him to spin an elaborate scheme to make her the star of the Opera. Andrew Lloyd Webber's sensational score and the captivating special effects make this famous show a must-see. **Five Performances: November 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>**

### Comedy Troupe

Looking for a fun night of skits and improv comedy to make you laugh your head off? Come to the performances by Pioneer Theater Guild's Comedy Troupe. **Three Performances a year.**

### Competition Drama: Spring Awakening

This is Pioneer's 2011 entry into the state-wide forensics play competition. A 45 minute adaptation of Frank Wedekind's 1890 play, edited both for the one-act play competition rules as well as for content, this intense drama will test the skills of our students. The students and crew will work together every day for two months to prepare for the competition, hosted at other schools around the state. **Competitions on Saturdays Jan 28<sup>th</sup> - Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. Two Public Performances Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>**

### FutureStars

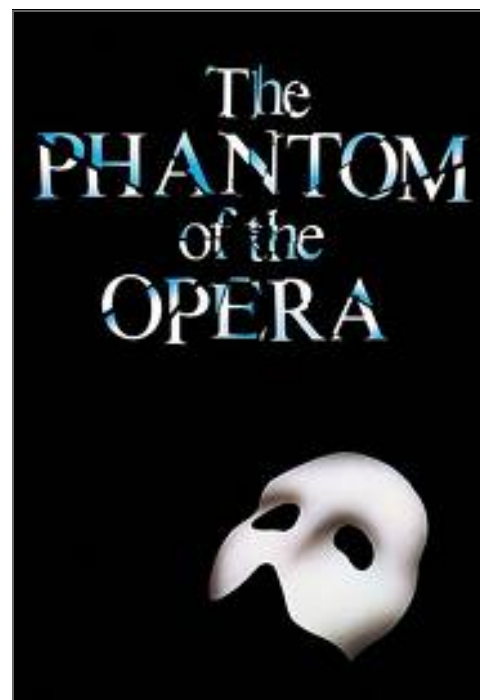
One of the most popular talent shows in the area, FutureStars 2012 is going to be better than ever as we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> year. This singing and dancing competition is open to any Ann Arbor public high school student, so we welcome any Skyline, Huron, and Community students. We encourage our under-classmen to audition for the show's Rising Star ensemble. **Preliminary Shows, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Finals Competition, Jan 21<sup>st</sup>**

### West Side Story

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is transported to 1950's New York City, as two young idealistic lovers find themselves caught between warring street gangs, the Jets and Sharks. Their struggle to survive in a world of hate, violence, and prejudice is one of the most innovative love stories of our time. The fantastic work of Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim give it the acclaimed title of the "perfect musical." **Five Performances, April 28<sup>th</sup>-May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

### Student Productions

Affectionately called "Stud Pros" by students, this show gives students the unique experience to write, direct, act in, produce or manage a play. This one-of-a kind show produces phenomenal shows that are a joy—and a laugh—to watch. **Two Performances May 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>**



*For any questions or updates, please refer to our website, [www.ptguild.org](http://www.ptguild.org)*



Thank you for the dues payments and additional contributions during registration week... In these challenging economic times, we know it can be difficult to make such contributions....Please be assured all funds are used to benefit your student's experience at Pioneer!



**PIONEER PTSO DUES ENVELOPE**  
FOR: PTSO NEWSLETTER, STUDENT PLANNER, STUDENT NEWSPAPER, TEACHER APPRECIATION AND OTHER BUDGET NEEDS

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT(S) NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

PTSO DUES \$30.00 PER PIONEER FAMILY  
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS  
TOTAL ENCLOSED (Make check payable to PIONEER PTSO)

**RETURN THIS ENVELOPE AT REGISTRATION**

If you missed the PTSO Dues envelope during the registration process and you would like to make a dues payment or an additional contribution, please complete the form to the left and send it to Pioneer PTSO, 601 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

# **MEDIA CENTER/TEXTBOOK DEPOSITORY**

## **HOME ACCESS VIEW RIGHTS**

Students and parents may now view their Pioneer Media Center and Book Depository loan records from home. Utilizing Destiny, a web based program, and their student log-in name and student ID number, students and parents may now review at any time what items are still on loan and what fines or obligations, if any, have been applied. Please note: obligations must still be cleared from wherever the item was borrowed – either the Media Center or the Book Depository.

### **DIRECTIONS FOR HOME ACCESS**

From the Pioneer website home page:

- Click on the MEDIA CENTER link in the left navigation bar.
- Click on the CATALOG link in the next webpage.
- Click on the LOG-IN box in the upper right hand corner to open a new webpage.

LOG-IN using the same information that students use to access student server space. Remember that it is case sensitive.

Log In: Graduation year-last name-first name-middle initial [2012SmithJohnM]

Password: Student ID number

### **VIEWING THE CHECKOUT RECORD**

By default, the screen opens to search the catalog of PHS Media Center. In the top navigation bar on the left side, beneath Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor MI, is the MY INFO button.

Clicking on this button will allow you to view the ITEMS OUT from both the Media Center [Library Materials] and Book Depository [Textbooks].

It will also give you information on fines posted to your account. Media Center fines are 10 cents per day and max out at \$1.00 for each book that is late, while textbook fines represent replacement cost for a damaged or lost textbook. Both our Media Center and Book Depository charge for lost or damaged books. Receipts are provided for payment by cash or check only. Checks must be payable to: Pioneer High School. No credit cards are accepted at this time.

Under ITEMS OUT you will see: date due; title of item; book price and date checked out. The Pioneer Media Center and Textbook Depository utilize different due dates.

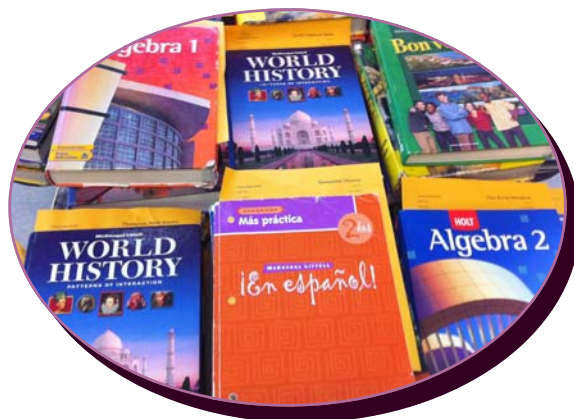
Questions or inquiries are always welcomed so please feel free to contact us during the school day at the following phone numbers for assistance.

Pioneer High School Media Center:

734-994-2160 Deborah Young

Pioneer High School Book Depository:

734-994-2186 Kathy Robenalt





734.996.9155

2280 S INDUSTRIAL HWY  
Ann Arbor #6 AATA BUS LINE



www.a2ptothriftshop.org

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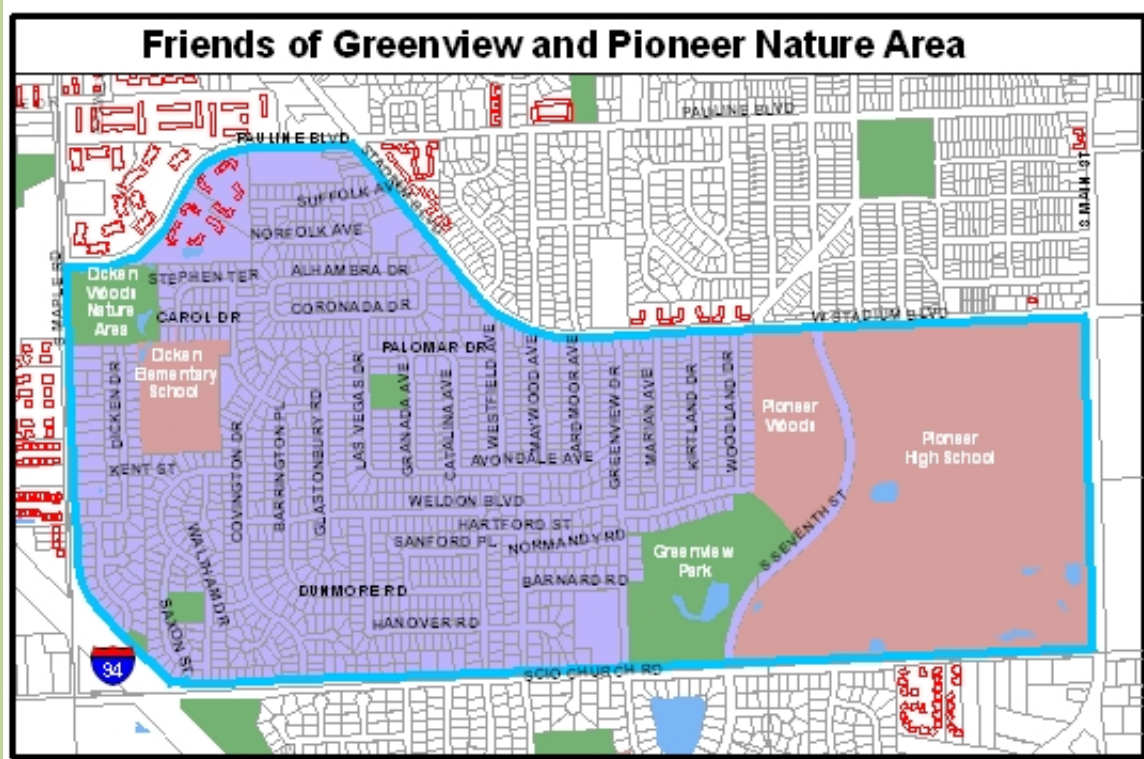
A non-profit resale shop supporting  
Ann Arbor Public Schools & Students

**SHOP & DONATE**

Donating furniture?  
We offer free furniture pick-up!  
Call for details. 734-996-9155.



**TOYS • VINTAGE TREASURES  
FURNITURE • MUSIC • ATHLETIC GEAR  
CLOTHING • HOUSEHOLD GOODS • BOOKS**



The board of Friends of Greenview and Pioneer Nature Areas are excited to be working with Dave Szczygiel, the naturalist for AAPS, and David Mifsud, the local herpetologist for the city of Ann Arbor, to try to enhance the pond area at Greenview in order to eventually introduce Northern Leopard frogs. They are also creating a native edible landscape for local students and the public. These will be great educational tools for Mr. Szczygiel to use when working with our AAPS children at the park. The Friends are also controlling invasive species like buckthorn, working on meadow restoration and planting trees. The Friends of Greenview and Pioneer Nature areas are having a fundraiser at Max and Erma's Sept. 22, 2011, to raise money for these various enhancements to the park—please see below...

**Max & Erma's** Presents

Friends of Greenview  
and Pioneer Nature Areas  
FUNdraiser!

Thursday, September 22nd, 2011

20% of you lunch, dinner &  
carry out sales will benefit  
Friend of Greenview Foundation

Flyer distribution on Max & Erma's property is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of your organization's entire donation.

Friends of Greenview  
& Pioneer Nature  
Areas FUNdraiser!

Present this ticket to your server and  
20% of you lunch, dinner &  
carry out sales will benefit  
Friend of Greenview Foundation

**Max &  
Erma's**

Ann Arbor  
445 E. Eisenhower Pkwy., 734-998-0505

Visit [maxandermas.com](http://maxandermas.com)  
to view our menu & learn about our  
Good Neighbor Rewards program.

Proceed donation does not include  
gift certificate sales.

*Eat at Max and Erma's  
on September 22 and help  
us with our upcoming  
projects. Please bring this  
coupon with you to Max  
and Erma's on the 22nd*

## Rec& Ed workshops

### Study Skills Fall 2011

#### ACT SUCCESS

**Grades 10-12.** ACT SUCCESS prepares students for all five sections on the ACT Test: English, Math, Reading, Science Reasoning, and Writing. Utilizing effective teaching methods and completing relevant weekly homework, students learn the rules, strategies, and test-taking skills necessary for success. Students will work with real ACT practice tests, as well as, numerous skill builders to further enhance their test-taking abilities. Of the students who complete the ACT SUCCESS class, 95% increase their ACT scores! Book and material fee (\$45) will be collected on the first day. Scholarship recipients pay \$45. Instructor: Great Lakes Educational Group staff. **7 weeks.**

ID# 1329.111	1/12/2012-3/1/2012	Thursday
FEE: \$389	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Pioneer, Room D212

#### ACT Preparation Workshop

**Grades 10-12.** Enrolling in the ACT Preparation Workshop helps you prepare to successfully take the ACT test. This workshop is for students taking the ACT during the remainder of the calendar year. The best method for scoring well on the ACT and replacing anxiety with confidence is to be knowledgeable and well prepared. Information and strategies for each section of the test are included. Bring a CALCULATOR and a WATCH WITH A SECOND HAND. A manual is provided for each participant as part of the fee. Scholarship recipients pay \$20. Instructor: Great Lakes Educational Group staff. **1 class.**

ID# 1329.101	10/15	Saturday
FEE: \$79	9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON	Clague, Media Center
ID# 1329.102	12/3	Saturday
FEE: \$79	9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON	Clague, Media Center

#### SAT/ACT Essay Workshop

**Grades 10-12.** Learn how to organize and write a persuasive essay within the allotted time. The scorer's rubric will be analyzed so you will understand exactly what is expected within your essay. You will practice writing an essay and receive instructor feedback about ways to improve your writing for the test. Scholarship recipients pay \$20. Instructor: Great Lakes Educational Group staff. **1 class.**

ID# 1335.101	10/8	Saturday
FEE: \$79	9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON	Clague, Media Center

#### Finding for the College that Fits

**Parents & Students (Grades 9-12) together.** Parents and students are faced with a myriad of choices about college. Let John help you and your student find and identify the resources in your family's search for the right college. Discussion will include what your student needs and wants from school, location, admissions possibilities and finances. This class is intended for parents and students to attend together. Instructor: John B. Boshoven, M.A., M.S.W. **1 class.**

ID# 1337.101	10/12	Wednesday
FEE: \$29	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Community, Room 213

#### Paying for the College that Fits

**Parents & Students (Grades 9-12) together.** Find out where money for college comes from and how to get your fair share. Families will learn about sources of aid, the FAFSA, the College Scholarship Search Profile (CSS), and

(Continued on page 8)

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scholarship searches. Instructor provides resources to help find financial assistance for college. Instructor: John B. Boshoven, M.A., M.S.W. **1 class.**

ID# 1341.101	10/19	Wednesday
FEE: \$29	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Community, Room 213

Instructor: Debbie Eisenberg Merion, M.S.W, is the owner of Essay Coaching ([essaycoaching.com](http://essaycoaching.com)), which has helped thousands of students write winning college application essays since 2005. She is the author of *Solving the College Admissions Puzzle: A Guide for Students and Families About College Selection, Essay Writing and High-Stakes Testing* with co-authors John Boshoven, M.S.W, and Geri Markel, Ph.D. Debbie's students have been admitted to Harvard, Yale, Columbia and other prominent universities. Her supportive, clear and effective techniques evolved from her experience in counseling, teaching college English, and 30 years of professional writing as an award-winning journalist and essayist.

### **The Art of Writing a Winning College Application Essay**

**Parents and Students Grades 9-12.** College admissions officers spend minutes reading an essay, so how can yours be as impressive as Mt. Everest—strong and memorable—and not an anonymous anthill? Learn the answer in this one-session class. You'll discover easy techniques to bring out your unique writing voice, and engaging ways to emphasize your strengths without bragging. Discuss and take home samples of winning essays. Expect to leave class energized, with a jumpstart on your essay. Instructor: Debbie Eisenberg Merion. **1 class.**

ID# 1339.101	10/13	Thursday
FEE: \$35	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Community, Room 213

### **Write and Edit a Winning College Application Essay**

**Parents and Students Grades 9-12.** College admissions officers spend minutes reading an essay, so how can yours be as impressive as Mt. Everest—strong and memorable—and not an anonymous anthill? In the first session of this two-session class, learn the secrets to bringing out your unique writing voice and emphasizing your strengths without bragging, and then start writing. Continue drafting essays at home after the first session and bring your drafts to the second session for feedback and editing tips. Handouts include samples of winning essays. Instructor: Debbie Eisenberg Merion. **2 classes.**

ID# 1339.102	9/27, 10/4	Tuesday
FEE: \$69	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	Community, Room 213

### **Write Your Best Possible College Admission Essays and Applications**

**Grades 12-10 (Parents welcome!).** What do you say in an essay and application that will reveal your unique, positive qualities? What are colleges looking for (and not looking for)? With the competition for college admission tougher than ever, well-composed essays and applications can often make the difference. The instructor has helped students gain admission to dozens of colleges including UM, MSU, Harvard, MIT, and many others. With actual examples, find out what makes a compelling essay and application and how to strengthen yours. Bring 2 copies of an essay you have started, or if you haven't begun, this class will get you going. The end of class may be spent discussing your individual essay or ideas. Instructor: Liza Atreya, editor and consultant ([www.essayandapp.com](http://www.essayandapp.com)). **1 class.**

ID# 1338.101	9/28	Wednesday
FEE: \$39	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Pioneer, Room D210
ID# 1338.102	10/22	Saturday
FEE: \$39	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Clague, Media Center

**Get School Information via EMAIL  
Subscribe to PIONEER Announcements**

The Yahoo Groups Internet Announcement Service for Pioneer families is open for subscription. This FREE service allows administration 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).

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!

**PLEASE NOTE:** To successfully UNSUBSCRIBE you must unsubscribe using the same e-mail address you used to subscribe. It is recommended that if you are switching e-mail carriers—unsubscribe before you make the switch.

**Important Dates!  
Don't Forget to Mark Your Calendar**

For a complete calendar of key events at Pioneer please visit

[http://www.a2pioneer.org/pioneer.calendar/phs\\_google\\_calendar](http://www.a2pioneer.org/pioneer.calendar/phs_google_calendar)

## PTO THRIFT SHOP NEWS

### "Show Your Support" Fundraising Program:

- Your organization makes a 12 inch wide by 18 inch tall poster to showcase your school group in the store.
  - Shoppers show *their* support by shopping and - for every \$5 spent in the shop - dropping a token into your collection jar.
  - Token totals at the end of each week determine the amount of funds your group receives.
    - Sign up soon – slots are filling fast! (see below)
    - **Sept. 18 - 24: Pioneer Women's Water Polo**
    - **Oct. 9 – 15: Pioneer Men's Hockey**

Shop at the Thrift Shop these weeks and support PHS teams!

***ANN ARBOR PTO THRIFT SHOP***  
***2280 S. INDUSTRIAL HWY.***

All proceeds benefit Ann Arbor Public School Students!  
Parent rep: Martha Kershaw      [mdkershaw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdkershaw@sbcglobal.net)

## PTSO STORE PIONEER WEAR ORDER FORM

Please fill out this order form COMPLETELY and either mail it to the address below, take it to the General Office or e-mail it back to **PioneerPTSOstore@gmail.com**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print your e-mail address clearly since we use this to contact you when your order is available)

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Order: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Rec'd	Item	Price	Color (circle one)	Size (circle one)	Logo (circle one)	Total \$
<input type="checkbox"/>	T-shirt Short-sleeve	\$12	Gray   Purple Black   White	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	T-shirt Long-sleeve	\$17	Gray   Purple	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooded Sweatshirt	\$36	Gray   Purple Black	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sweatpants	\$20	Gray   ONLY	S, M & L ONLY	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Girls Shorts	\$14	Gray   Purple			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lanyard	\$3	Purple w/white letters			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shoe Laces	\$4	Purple w/white letters			
<b>SPECIALS ORDER</b>						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crew Neck Sweatshirt	\$36	Gray   Purple Black	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hooded Windbreaker	\$40	Purple   Black	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Pioneer ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacket	\$36	Purple   Black	S, M, L, XL, XXL	Ann Arbor Pioneer or Pioneer	

**Do you want a name or class year on the back of your shirt or under Pioneer on the Windbreaker?**

**Cost is \$12.00 per item.**

Print VERY clearly please: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Total    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment must be made with the order.** Make checks payable to **PIONEER PTSO STORE**

You can mail orders to: PTSO, c/o Mary Tobin, Ann Arbor Pioneer HS, 601 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Questions? Email: PioneerPTSOstore@gmail.com

You will be called or e-mailed when your order is ready.

For Store Staff ONLY:    Special: \_\_\_\_ In-stock: \_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_ Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Completed by PTSO Store Staff (please initial): \_\_\_\_\_  
 This section must be completed before the order can be processed. Thank you!

# Welcome Transfer Students and Families

My name is Barbara Zinser and I have been a Parent Volunteer at Pioneer for the last 7 years. My mission is to welcome students that transfer into the school from other towns, states or countries. These students can be at any grade level and often times just want to be assured that they are not alone. It is my understanding that approximately 145 students this year fall into the "New" category.

I have attended registration and met some; I have held a get together at Pioneer and met a few more; and last Friday, I invited all of the latest Pioneers to an open house at the Neutral Zone. The staff there was welcoming and inviting, as always, and facilitated ice breaker games to help the students better know one another.

The administration will be hosting a Pizza Luncheon this month and I will be sure to have invitations sent to each "New Transfer/Foreign Exchange Student" in advance of the date (which will be during the school lunch period).

If you would like to contact me personally, to make sure that your student is recognized, you may do so to: [zinserb@hotmail.com](mailto:zinserb@hotmail.com)

Thank you and I hope you make this year a great one.

Sincerely,

Barbara Zinser



# October 2011

**PTSO · The Pioneer News · Article-Info Deadline**

**Friday—Sep 30** (might change)

**To: [gsicorp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsicorp@sbcglobal.net)**



## **Athletic Booster Club**

*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 the 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.*

### **2011-12 PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL**

#### **PTSO BOARD**

Mary Tobin—Pres.	<a href="mailto:wroben3357@aol.com">wroben3357@aol.com</a>
Colleen Creal	<a href="mailto:creal@aaps.k12.mi.us">creal@aaps.k12.mi.us</a>
Helen Starman	<a href="mailto:hstarman@comcast.net">hstarman@comcast.net</a>
Julie Weintraub	<a href="mailto:julesww@aol.com">julesww@aol.com</a>
Judy Kaplan	<a href="mailto:judykapa2@aol.com">judykapa2@aol.com</a>
Paul Hughes-Cromwick	<a href="mailto:paul.hughes-cromwick@altarum.org">paul.hughes-cromwick@altarum.org</a>
Gerry Humes	<a href="mailto:gsicorp@sbcglobal.net">gsicorp@sbcglobal.net</a>

Pioneer PTSO news items are to be submitted via e-mail to Gerry Humes at: [gsicorp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsicorp@sbcglobal.net) before 5:00 P.M. on the deadline date which will be circulated each month. The PTSO sends the Pioneer News via electronic mail to all Pioneer families who have signed up. Please make sure your most time-sensitive announcements and events are submitted well in advance of your event date!

*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.*

### **The Pioneer News**

Ann Arbor Public Schools  
601 W. Stadium Blvd  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Pioneer High School General Office:  
734.994.2120

Please look for the PTSO  
on the Pioneer web site:  
[www.a2pioneer.org](http://www.a2pioneer.org)

**From the Editor**—Be sure to spot errors and typos and send them my way :) Also, and much more importantly - please let me know what you would like to see in future newsletters. My e-mail address is just above on the left.

*Gerry Humes*